



TRAVELLING TO NEW PLACES WITH CONFIDENCE

# Best Of Vietnam & Cambodia

## 13-Day, 12-Night Journey

*Hanoi, Ha Long Bay, Hoi An, Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC), Siem Reap*

Discover the delightfully captivating blend of Vietnam and Cambodia. Experience the magic of cruising on Ha Long Bay with amazing limestone caves. Explore the dynamic cities of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon). Enjoy live cooking classes in scenic Hoi An. Marvel at the ancient wonders of Angkor.



Ha Long Bay Overnight Cruise



Japanese Bridge, Hoi An



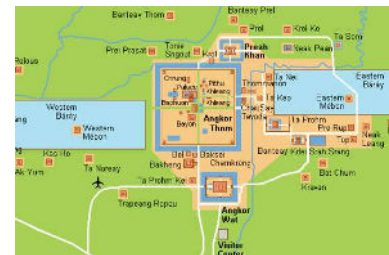
Tran Quoc Pagoda, Hanoi



Angkor Wat, a UNESCO World Heritage site



Preah Khan Jungle Temple (Raiders of the Lost Ark film location)



Angkor Temple Complex

## Inclusions

- Private Airport Transfers
- Hotel Accommodations
- Daily Breakfast & Selected Meals  
(See tour plan for details)
- English-speaking Local Guide
- Entrance Fees to Monuments and Attractions per Itinerary

## Exclusions

- International & Domestic Airfares
- Travel Insurance
- Medical Expenses
- Visa Fees
- Gratuities
- Personal Expenses

## Nearby Airport

Hanoi - Noi Bai International Airport (HAN)

Siem Reap - Siem Reap Angkor International Airport (SAI)

## Itinerary

### 2 NIGHTS IN HANOI

#### DAY 1: HANOI

Welcome to Vietnam! Your driver will meet you at the airport for a transfer to your hotel. The remainder of the day is free.

**Hanoi** is one of the most ancient capitals in the world. Travelers can find well-preserved colonial buildings, ancient pagodas, and unique museums within the city center. This French colonial city is known for its delectable cuisine, vibrant nightlife, silks and handicrafts, as well as a multi-cultural community with Chinese, French and Russian influences.

[Meals: None]

**OPTIONAL ADD-ON:** Dinner

#### DAY 2: HANOI CITY AND OLD QUARTER TOUR

Enjoy a day tour of this historic city that is full of charming lakes, relaxing parks and shaded boulevards.

**Old Quarter:** Explore the maze of narrow streets. Each street was historically dedicated to a specific trade, from silk and spices to hardware and handicrafts.



**Ngoc Son Temple & Hoan Kiem Lake:** Located in the heart of Hanoi. Cross the iconic red bridge to visit the temple.

**Local lunch:** Enjoy typical local dishes include Banh Mi (Vietnamese sandwich), Bun Cha (grilled pork with noodles), coffee.

**Temple of Literature:** Vietnam's first national university with preserved grounds in a traditional architecture.

**Tran Quoc Pagoda:** The oldest Buddhist temple in Hanoi, stands serenely on a small island in West Lake

**Evening Street Food Walking Tour:** Immerse yourself in Hanoi's renowned street food scene and sample a variety of local delicacies.

[Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner]

## 1 NIGHT IN HA LONG BAY

### DAY 3: HANOI - HA LONG BAY | OVERNIGHT CRUISE

Depart for your overnight cruise on **Ha Long Bay** which is often called Vietnam's eighth wonder of the world. Ha Long means Descending Dragon. The bay is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore the bay with adventure excursions such as kayaking, visiting a sea cave or a floating village, swimming, and fishing. Settle onto your deck chair to witness a spectacular sunset amongst the bay's rock formations. Join in a cooking demonstration featuring traditional Vietnamese cuisine, followed by a gourmet dinner. Retire to your cabin to enjoy a restful night's sleep as the waves lap gently against the hull.

**Note:** *Ha Long Bay activities may change without prior notice, due to cruise, sailing and weather conditions.*

[Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner]

## 2 NIGHTS IN HOIAN

### DAY 4: HA LONG BAY - HANOI – HOI AN

Greet the morning with a sunrise Tai Chi lesson with a beautiful view of the bay. Breakfast on the boat followed by a choice of activities. After the cruise, we transfer to the airport for your late afternoon flight to Da Nang. Arrive in Da Nang airport and transfer to **Hoi An** for hotel check-in.

[Meals: Breakfast, Brunch]

### DAY 5: COOKING CLASS & HOI AN ANCIENT TOWN TOUR

**Hoi An** had been acquiring a rich cultural heritage from Chinese, Japanese and European traders since 16<sup>th</sup> century, no wonder it is a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The local shops offer inexpensive silks, express custom-made outfits as well as handicrafts. Hoi An is also a magnet for foodies with lush neighboring farms and fishing villages.

This morning, start off your **cooking class** with a visit to the market. Learn about local ingredients and how to choose them. Hands-on cooking session to prepare several Vietnamese dishes under the guidance of a chef. Enjoy the delicious meal you've prepared for lunch.

This afternoon we explore the key historical and cultural sites in **Hoi An Ancient Town**, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

**Japanese Covered Bridge:** First constructed in 1593 by the Japanese community in the city as a link to the Chinese quarter across the stream.

**Old Merchant Houses:** Like Tan Ky House or Phung Hung House, showcasing traditional architecture.

**Chinese Assembly Halls:** Such as the Fujian Assembly Hall or Cantonese Assembly Hall, reflecting the influence of Chinese traders.

**Hoi An Market:** A bustling local market offering a glimpse into daily life here.

**Museums:** Like the Museum of Trade Ceramics or the Museum of Folk Culture.

(Note: your guide will pick the merchant house, assembly hall and museum depending on the crowds and best route for the day.)

[Meals: Breakfast, Lunch]

#### 4 NIGHTS IN HO CHI MINH CITY

##### DAY 6: HOI AN – HO CHI MINH CITY (HCMC), STREET FOOD TOUR

Depart to Da Nang airport and fly to **Ho Chi Minh City** (formerly Saigon). On arrival, your driver will meet you at the airport for a transfer to your hotel. The remainder of the day is free.

**Evening Street Food Walking Tour:** Experience HCMC's renowned street food scene firsthand on an immersive evening walking tour. Sample a variety of local specialties that reflect the city's bold and diverse culinary landscape.

[Meals: Breakfast, Dinner]

##### DAY 7: HCMC CITY TOUR

This morning, immerse yourself in the heart of **HCMC on a guided tour**, uncovering the stories behind architectural gems like the Post Office and Notre Dame Cathedral, reliving history at the Reunification Palace, and experiencing the bustling energy of the Old Market in District 1.

The rest of the day is free.

[Meals: Breakfast]

##### DAY 8: MEKONG DELTA EXCURSION

This morning we travel from HCMC to **Ben Tre** in the **Mekong Delta**. Transfer to a **boat excursion** to visit a traditional brick kiln, coconut processing and sleep mat workshops along the canal. Take a motor cart (xe lô) or bike on shady road. Pass by rice fields and vegetable gardens to see daily life and learn about tropical agriculture from the locals.

In the afternoon we ride on a rowing boat along a water palm creek.

[Meals: Breakfast, Lunch]

##### DAY 9: CU CHI TUNNELS

Ho Chi Minh City has risen since the Vietnam War to become a modern city with sleek skyscrapers while still retaining its elegant French architecture and broad boulevards. It is dotted with ornate temples and pagodas.

A half-day excursion to **Cu Chi Tunnels** about 1.5 hours outside the city. This is where the Viet Cong lived and fought during the war. It has over 75 miles of underground tunnels, with trapdoors, living areas, kitchens, storage facilities, armories, hospitals, and a command center. Transfer back to HCMC.

The rest of the day is free.

[Meals: Breakfast]

### **3 NIGHTS IN SIEM REAP**

#### **DAY 10: HO CHI MINH CITY – SIEM REAP**

Depart to the airport and fly to **Siem Reap**. Upon arrival, transfer and check in at the hotel. The rest of the day is free.

[Meals: Breakfast]

#### **DAY 11: SIEM REAP | THE TEMPLES OF ANGKOR**

Early morning start to witness the sunrise at Angkor Wat.

Followed by a full day Angkor Temple Complex excursion (UNESCO World Heritage Site). We see an astonishing profusion of ancient monuments in both size and number. Not to mention the intricate artistry of an idealized representation of the Hindu cosmos carved in stone.

Your guided tour continues to:

Angkor Wat: Marvel at the iconic five towers of Angkor Wat

Ta Prohm: Famous for the massive tree roots engulfing its stone structures, Ta Prohm offers a captivating glimpse into nature's reclamation of ancient wonders.

Banteay Srei: Known as the Citadel of Women, Banteay Srei showcases incredibly intricate carvings in pink sandstone, a jewel of Khmer art.

Banteay Kdei: Meaning Citadel of Chambers. Banteay Kdei is a large, monastic complex with a more relaxed and less restored atmosphere. (if time allows)

Preah Khan: A vast and atmospheric temple complex, Preah Khan was a significant city and features a diverse array of structures and carvings. (if time allows)

[Meals: Breakfast]

**Note:** *Dress code for visiting the Bakan tower at Angkor Wat Temple*

- *Visitors are required to wear proper attire, covering shoulders and knees (no shorts, miniskirt or short trousers).*

- *Visitors need to wait in a queue to climb up to the Bakan tower.*

- *Children under twelve years old are not allowed entry, due to the steep stairs up this tower.*

- *Closed on Buddhist religious days (four days a month).*

#### **DAY 12: ANGKOR THOM, SIEM REAP FLOATING VILLAGE**

After breakfast we enjoy a half-day **Angkor Temple Complex** guided excursion (UNESCO World Heritage Site).

Angkor Thom complex: The last capital of the Khmer Empire, Angkor Thom is a sprawling walled city encompassing numerous temples and monuments.

South Gate: The grand entrance to Angkor Thom, the South Gate is adorned with massive stone faces and flanked by deities.

Bayon Temple: Famed for its serene faces carved into numerous towers, Bayon Temple stands at the heart of Angkor Thom, radiating an enigmatic aura.

Terrace of the Elephants: A long, ornately carved terrace, the Terrace of the Elephants served as a royal viewing platform for ceremonies and processions.

Terrace of the Leper King: This terrace features detailed carvings, including a prominent statue, and is shrouded in mystery regarding its purpose and the identity of the "Leper King."

This afternoon we visit the **floating village of Chong Khneas** located 6 miles south of Siem Reap. We take a boat trip in a **traditional wooden boat** on **Tonle Sap Lake**, the "Great Lake" of Cambodia and one of the largest lakes in Asia.

[Meals: Breakfast]

### DAY 13: SIEM REAP | END OF TOUR

After breakfast, the tour comes to an end. Hotel check-out and transfer to **Siem Reap Angkor International Airport (SAI)** for your flight home.

[Meals: Breakfast]

## Hotels

We carefully handpick our hotels to ensure they provide you with the best comfort and experience. For Private Tours, you may request a specific hotel as one of the customizable options.

