



15 DAYS - VIETNAM HIGHLIGHTS & CAMBODIA THROUGH MEKONG RIVER

(15 DAYS/ 14 NIGHTS)

OVERVIEW

In this holiday you will be led on a well-combined itinerary of river cruise and land trips from Vietnam to Cambodia. Begin in Hanoi, enjoy a performance of traditional water puppetry. Cruise around Halong Bay on a legendary odyssey among thousands of limestone outcrop. The midpoint of the trip in central Vietnam will impress you with interesting historical, cultural sites of the grand imperial city of Hue, the ancient ruins of My Son and Hoi An town. Your Vietnam part will end at the verdant and tranquil Mekong Delta, one of the world's great rice baskets. Despite not being as spectacularly beautiful as Halong or compellingly charming as Hoi An, here you will find yourself in touch with the heart and soul of Vietnam rural life. You then travel up the Mekong River by boat to Cambodia. Tour the major sightseeing highlights of the bustling old French colonial capital of Phnom Penh before exploring the ancient, jungle-fringed Khmer temples in Siem Reap with its crowning jewel at Angkor Wat. Vietnam and Cambodia are places you never seem to tire of. Let's join us on one of the world's greatest waterways!

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

Day	Itinerary
1	HA NOI ARRIVAL - HALF DAY CYCLO TOUR
2	HA NOI FULL DAY CITY TOUR
3	HA NOI - HA LONG OVERNIGHT ON BOAT
4	HA LONG - BUT THAP PAGODA - TAKE FLIGHT TO HUE
5	HUE FULL DAY CITY TOUR - HOI AN
6	HOI AN HALF DAY ANCIENT TOWN & MY SON
7	HOIAN - DANANG - HO CHI MINH - CITY TOUR
8	HO CHI MINH - CUCHI TUNNELS - HALF DAY FREE IN HO CHI MINH
9	FULL DAY MY THO - CAN THO
10	CAI RANG FLOATING MARKET - TRANSFER TO CHAU DOC
11	CHAU DOC TRANSFER TO PHNOM PENH BY SPEED BOAT
12	PHNOM PENH - SIEM REAP
13	SIEM REAP - ANGKOR THOM - ANGKOR WAT
14	SIEM REAP - BENG MEALEA - BANTEAY SREI

PRICE IN USD PER PAX BASED ON TWIN OR DOUBLE SHARING

RATE VALID FROM NOV TO 31 MARCH & OCT TO 31 DEC

Description	2 pax	3-5 pax	6-8 pax	9-11 pax	12-15 pax	16-19 pax	20-24 pax	Single Supp
Three stars	\$1,554	\$1,271	\$946	\$904	\$844	\$791	\$747	\$434
Four stars	\$1,874	\$1,590	\$1,266	\$1,223	\$1,164	\$1,110	\$1,066	\$746
Five stars	\$2,500	\$2,217	\$1,892	\$1,850	\$1,790	\$1,737	\$1,693	\$1,333

RATE IS VALID FROM APR TO SEP

Description	2 pax	3-5 pax	6-8 pax	9-11 pax	12-15 pax	16-19 pax	20-24 pax	Single Supp
Three stars	\$1,526	\$1,243	\$918	\$876	\$817	\$763	\$719	\$402
Four stars	\$1,804	\$1,521	\$1,196	\$1,154	\$1,095	\$1,041	\$997	\$668
Five stars	\$2,348	\$2,065	\$1,740	\$1,698	\$1,638	\$1,585	\$1,541	\$1,182

SURCHARGE FOR INTERANAL TICKET

Hanoi (HAN) to Hue (HUI) by Vietnam Airline	USD 115 per person
Danang (DAD) to Ho Chi Minh (SGN) by Vietnam Airline	USD 115 per person

SUPPLEMENT FOR SET MENU

Standard Vietnamese Set Menu	USD 12 per person
Standard Cambodia Set Menu	USD 12 per person
Standard Western Set Menu	USD 15 per person

QUOTATION IS QUOTED BASED ON ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE: SURCHARGE FOR OTHER GUIDE

Supplement for German Speaking guide	USD 15/day per group
Supplement for Spanish Speaking guide	USD 20/day per group
Supplement for Italian Speaking guide	USD 35/day per group

INCLUSIVE

- Accommodation in a double or twin room with daily breakfast
- One night cruise on a wooden junk in Ha Long Bay
- Speed boat ticket from Chau Doc to Phnom Penh
- Lunch or dinner as specified in the itinerary (B=Breakfast/ L=Lunch/ D=Dinner)
- Services of a driver and private air-conditioned vehicle during all tours and transfers.
- Experienced English speaking guide during all tours and transfers
- Private board for sightseeing as mentioned in the program,
- Entrance fees for all visits as mentioned in the itinerary
- Mineral water is available as complementary

EXCLUSIVE

- International & Domestic flight tickets
- Visa stamping fee at the airport (US\$ 30 in Cambodia)
- Personal expenses, such as laundry, telephone, drinks, etc. All other services not specified in the itinerary
- Meals, if not specified in the itinerary
- Tipping for guides, drivers, hotel staff, restaurant staff, boat rider, etc.
- Surcharge for Peak season, Tet Lunar New year holidays and compulsory dinner at some hotel & resort on Xmas and New year's Eve
- Travel insurance (we highly recommend that you purchase adequate insurance).

LIST OF HOTELS

Destination	Three stars	Four stars	Five Stars
Ha Noi	LAROSA HOTEL www.hanoilarosahotel.com	SUNWAY HOTEL www.hanoi.sunwayhotels.com	SOFITEL HANOI PLAZA HOTEL www.sofitel.com
Ha Long	ORIENTAL SAILS www.orientalsails.com	BHAYA CLASSIC CRUISE www.bhayacruises.com	PARADISE CRUISE www.paradisecruises.vn
Hue	GOLD HUE HOTEL www.goldhotelhue.com	MOONLIGHT HOTEL HUE www.moonlighthue.com	PREMIER INDOCHINE PALACE www.bwp-indochinepalace.com
Hoi An	LOTUS HOI AN www.hoianlotushotel.com	MERCURE HOIAN ROYAL www.accorhotels.com	ROYAL HOI AN HOTEL www.mgallery.com
Ho Chi Minh	ELIOS HOTEL www.elioshotel.vn	PARAGON SAIGON HOTEL www.royallotushotelsaigon.com	SOFITEL PLAZA SAIGON HOTEL www.sofitel.com
Can Tho	SAIGON CANTHO HOTEL www.saigoncantho.com.vn	VAN PHAN FORTUNE LAND www.vanphathotels.com	VICTORIA CAN THO RESORT www.victoriahotels.asia
Chau Doc	CHAU PHO HOTEL www.chauphohotel.com	VICTORIA NUI SAM LODGE www.victoriahotels.asia	VICTORIA CHAU DOC HOTEL www.victoriahotels.asia
Phnom Penh	ASIA TUNE HOTEL www.asiatunehotel.com	SUNWAY HOTEL www.sunwayhotels.com	HIMAWARI HOTEL www.himawarihotel.com
Siem Reap	SEAM SIEM REAP HOTEL www.saemsiemreaphotel.com	TARA ANKOR HOTEL www.taraangkorhotel.com	SOKHA ANGKOR HOTEL www.sokhahotels.com

ITINERARY IN DETAIL

Day 1 : HA NOI ARRIVAL - HALF DAY CYCLO TOUR

Arrival Hanoi airport, warm welcomed by our guide & driver then transfer to the city. Hanoi or “River-bound City” as its name literally means is Vietnam’s capital with a thousand-year-old history dating back to 1010. The city’s fascinating beauty which is characterized by unique cultural relics, ancient streets of antique houses, elegant French colonial buildings, tree-lined boulevards and romantic lakes has made it one of the most charming cities of Asia.

Check in hotel then take an hour cycle tour of the Old Quarter of Hanoi with its ancient streets representing traditional trades from the past.

Overnight at hotel in Ha Noi

Day 2: HA NOI FULL DAY CITY TOUR

The city tour begins with a visit to the Ho Chi Minh Complex which features the life of Ho Chi Minh, the nation’s founder. At the complex, visit the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, where the nation’s founder’s body is preserved (closed on Monday, Friday and through October - November), the colonial Presidential Palace, originally the French Governor Office and a fine example of French architecture in Hanoi, and the rural style Ho Chi Minh’s house on stilts where Ho Chi Minh lived and worked. Stop by one of Hanoi’s icons, the One Pillar Pagoda, built in the 11th Century in dedication to Bodhisattva Avalokiteshvara or Buddha of Compassion and reminiscent of a lotus blossom rising from a pond. Continue to the Temple of Literature, known as the first university of Vietnam built in 1070 by the Ly Dynasty to honor Confucius, sages and outstanding Vietnamese scholars.

Afternoon, continue the tour to one of the following museums of choice namely the Museum of Fine Arts, the National Museum of Vietnamese History, the Museum of Revolution, the Museum of Military History or the Museum of Ethnology. Next, head for Hoan Kiem Lake, the center point of Hanoi whose name “The Return Sword Lake” originated from a legend of a sacred sword and home to a rare endangered giant turtle species and visit Ngoc Son Temple on the lake. Finish the tour at the Thang Long Opera Theatre with a traditional Vietnamese water puppet show.

Meal: Breakfast

Overnight at hotel in Ha Noi

Day 3: HA NOI - HA LONG OVERNIGHT ON BOAT

Morning pickup at 8:00 AM from your hotel for transfer to Ha Long Bay, which is about 160 km or 3.5-hour drive away. The transfer is approximately 3 hours. You will see some rural areas of the Red River Delta with plenty of chances to take photos of Vietnamese farmers working in paddy fields and you may stop on the way to admire the local scenery.

Arrive in Ha Long City at 11:30 AM and check in aboard the booked junk when your journey across Ha Long Bay starts. Ha Long Bay meaning Descending Dragon Bay in Vietnamese as legend has it that it was where a holly dragon landed down from sky. The bay, famous as one of the world's wonders and heritage sites whose formation dates back 500 million years, consists of around 2,000 karst islands and islets scattered over an area of 1,553 km².

After lunch, take a short trek to a nearby summit for a panoramic view of the bay dotted with golden sails, go swimming on a quiet beach or sunbath on the sundeck. Later in the afternoon, you will visit an interesting fishing village with an opportunity to interact with local people who have been living in the bay for almost three generations. An optional kayaking trip is available weather permitting. Back onboard enjoy a lavish dinner and enjoy the bay view at sunset. Spend a night on board.

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Overnight on cruises in Ha Long Bay

Day 4: HA LONG - BUT THAP PAGODA - TAKE FLIGHT TO HUE

In the morning, refresh your body and mind with a Tai Chi exercise on the sundeck at the break of dawn. Have tea and coffee onboard and continue exploring Ha Long Bay sailing across its 2000 islets and visiting some of its major highlights. Normally, check out at 09:30, have a buffet brunch while cruising back to shore. Disembark at 11:00 AM to transfer to Hanoi capital.

One the way from Halong to Hanoi, you will stop to visit But Thap pagoda - the country's cultural historic relic. The pagoda was built under the dynasty of King Tran Thanh Tong (1258-1278) and rebuilt in 1647 in the Le Dynasty. Admire magnificent architecture of the most typical pagoda in Vietnam with 4 hundreds year statues.

When you arrive Hanoi International airport, check in broad and take fight to Hue

Arrival Hue airport, meet our guide & driver then transfer to hotel in Hue for check in.

Meal: Brunch

Overnight at hotel in Hue

Day 5 : HUE FULL DAY CITY TOUR - HOI AN

Morning, take full day tour of Hue City, the former Imperial Capital of Vietnam for the 1802-1945 period and the last refuge of Vietnamese feudalism. The city's beauty is characterized by a natural scenic landscape and an extensive variety of historical relics. Begin with Hue Citadel, a well-known UNESCO-recognized World Heritage Site which is a 520 ha fortress-like grand complex built in the early 1800s and featuring three enclosures separated by heavy ramparts namely Kinh Thanh Hue (Civic City) as the outer, Hoang Thanh (Royal City) as the middle and Tu Cam Thanh (Forbidden City) as the inner. Continue to Khai Dinh Tomb, the burial site of Vietnam's second-to-last king, and the most elaborate compared to other kings' tombs. The tomb shows a vivid European influence in architecture despite its Asian style. Next, visit Tu Duc Tomb, one of the Nguyen Dynasty's finest architectural works nested in a pine forest where the 4th emperor of the Nguyen family was laid to rest.

We continue to take a boat cruise along the Perfume River to enjoy the open view of the river and its surroundings. Stop along the way and land on shore to visit two prominent historical landmarks namely the Minh Mang Tomb, where the 2nd Emperor of the Nguyen dynasty was buried, and Thien Mu Pagoda, an active Buddhist monastery overlooking the river from a vantage point with its origin dating back to 1601. Afterwards, transfer to Hoi An via the Hai Van Pass (Ocean Cloud Pass). Enjoy a stunning headland-and-bay panoramic view from the pass, which for miles hugs the mountainside along the shoreline and overlooking the Pacific Ocean. Arrival Hoi An, check in hotel for overnight

Meal: Breakfast

Overnight at hotel in Hue

Day 6: HOI AN HALF DAY ANCIENT TOWN & MY SON

Morning, meet our guide at your hotel and transfer about 40 km West of Hoi An to visit My Son Sanctuary, another UNESCO-recognized world heritage which was once a religious center of Cham people where royal ceremonies and burials were performed. The site now is a colony of partially ruined Hindu temples from the total of 70 constructed by Cham Kings between the 4th and the 14th Centuries in dedication to god Shiva. It is regarded one of the foremost Hindu temple

complexes in Southeast Asia and is often compared with other temple heritages of Southeast Asia such as Angkor in Cambodia, Ayuthaya in Thailand or Borobudur in Java.

Afternoon, discover the charm of Hoi An as a renowned World Heritage Site. Once a bustling maritime commercial port of Asia between 15th and 19th centuries, Hoi An is now a peaceful town of exceptionally well-preserved architecture, lifestyles and traditions. The town exemplifies a fascinating fusion of cultures between Vietnam and the outside world including China, Japan, Thailand and the Philippines. Highlights for sightseeing include the town's iconic 400-year-old Covered Bridge with a small temple attached to one side as a prominent example of Japanese architecture, the Museum of Trade Ceramics which is an elegant Vietnamese style wooden house built in 1858 showcasing antique ceramic artifacts, the 200-year-old Tan Ky House typifying an ancient Chinese merchant residence and the Ong Temple built in 1653 by Chinese settlers to worship Guan Yu, an ancient Chinese general whose character stands for loyalty, bravery and justice.

Meal: Breakfast

Overnight at hotel in Hoi An

Day 7: HOIAN – DANANG – HO CHI MINH – CITY TOUR

Free at leisure until transfer to Da nang international airport for flight to...

Arrive at Tan Son Nhat International Airport, welcome by our guide and transfer to your hotel. Ho Chi Minh City formerly named Saigon is the largest city and economic center of Vietnam always bustling with activities of modern life. It is where businesses converge and shoppers indulge themselves into unlimited choices. However the city also carries with it a rich historical legacy in contrast with its dazzling glamor.

We will start city tour to visit the War Remnants Museum, which features an extensive collection of exhibits including weaponry, photos and documentation on Vietnam's wars with the French and Americans. Continue to the Reunification Palace, which was formerly the South Vietnam President's residence and symbol of the Southern Administration's reign until end of April 1975. Next, call in Sai Gon Post Office, a fine colonial building which was designed and built in the early 20th Century by the famous French architect Gustave Eiffel. Stop at Saigon Notre-Dame Basilica, a neo-Roman cathedral built over 130 years ago by the colonial French with materials entirely imported from Marseilles. Move on to Cho Lon or the city's China Town where you will visit the Jade Emperor Temple (Phuoc Hai), a rare Taoist structure in Vietnam built in 1909 in dedication to the Lord of Heaven.

Meal: Breakfast

Overnight at hotel in Ho Chi Minh

Day 8 : HO CHI MINH – CUCHI TUNNELS – HALF DAY FREE IN HO CHI MINH

Morning, meet your guide and transfer about 75 km North-west of downtown Ho Chi Minh City. Discover the famous Cu Chi Tunnels, which were once a major underground hideout and resistance base of Viet Cong forces during the two wars against the French and the Americans. The tunnels, entirely hand-dug, formed a highly intricate network of interlinked multilevel passageways at times stretched as far as the Cambodian border and totaling over 120 km in length. Its complexity was beyond imagination containing meeting rooms, kitchens, wells, clinics, schools, depots, trenches and emergency exits all aimed for guerrilla warfare. The tunnels were deep and strong enough to withstand destructive bombings and self-contained enough to outlast prolonged sieges. Return to the city at noon time for a rest. Have breakfast in your hotel then enjoy a free day in Ho Chi Minh.

Meal: Breakfast

Overnight at hotel in Ho Chi Minh

Day 9: FULL DAY MY THO – CAN THO

Morning, you will be picked up and travel past miles of flat rice fields, along a bustling road to the Mekong Delta, the world's largest delta and Vietnam's largest rice bowl.

On arrival in My Tho City, board a motorboat and navigate through intricate canals while observing the local daily life up close as well as the landscape of waterways and lush islands. Land on Thoi Son Island where you can listen to Southern traditional music performed by native artists. Next, you will change to a paddle boat to cruise through the narrow canals and visit households with traditional occupations of home-based coconut candy and rice-wine making. Continue travel by motorized boat to another island to visit a bee farm and taste tea with fresh honey from the beehives and enjoy fresh fruits. On the return to My Tho, stop to visit the Vinh Trang Pagoda, a prominent local Buddhist structure built in 1850 with a

unique architectural mixture of Vietnamese, Roman, Chinese and Cambodian styles characterized by a highly ornate façade. You might enjoy a lovely lunch at a local Vietnamese restaurant

Afternoon, transfer to Can Tho, check in your hotel and spend time at leisure.

Meal: Breakfast,

Overnight at hotel in Can Tho

Day 10: CAI RANG FLOATING MARKET – TRANSFER TO CHAU DOC

Morning, depart Ninh Kieu wharf by shuttle-boat, you can see bustling activities along Can Tho riverbanks. Particularly, you may know how local people go fishing with plenty of fish traps and how they transport passengers as well as products by the waterway. Approaching Cai Rang floating market, you witness the trading activities in the past using a traditional “offering pole” exchanging consumer goods hanging on the pole for Mekong fruit and vegetables with local sellers. Keep cruising and moving into the small canals called Rach Nho for more sightseeing and close observation of the Southern countryside lifestyle.

Return to Ninh Kieu Quay. Then you are transferred to Chau Doc city, check in hotel & free in the rest of day

Meal: Breakfast,

Overnight at hotel in Chau Doc

Day 11: CHAU DOC TRANSFER TO PHNOM PENH BY SPEED BOAT

Morning, transfer to Chau Doc Pier, take speed boat from Chau Doc to Phnom Penh. The speed boat time is approximately 6 hours. Start from Chau Doc at 6:00 AM and arrive in Phnom Penh at 12:00AM Arrival in Phnom Penh, warm welcome by our tour guide then transfer to hotel for check in.

Afternoon, take a half day city tour to visit Royal Palace, built by King Norodom in 1866 on the site of the old town, and the Silver Pagoda. Located within the Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda is so named because of its floor, which is made up of 5000 silver tiles. The treasures found inside include a solid gold Buddha encrusted and weighing 90kilograms and a small 17th century emerald and baccarat crystal Buddha.

Meal: Breakfast,

Overnight at hotel in Phnom Penh

Day 12: PHNOM PENH – SIEM REAP

Morning, we today drive to Siem Reap. The driving distance is approximately 6 hours. En route, stop to see an ancient bridge called “Spean Kompong Kdei” that was built in the 13th century and it is 87 meters long. The balustrades are carved to look like the bodies of giant snakes. Upon arrive Siem Reap transfer to hotel for check in.

Meal: Breakfast,

Overnight at hotel in Siem Reap

Day 13: SIEM REAP – ANGKOR THOM – ANGKOR WAT

Today, visit to the antique capital of Angkor Thom, built in the 12th century: the South Gate with its huge statues depicting the churning of the ocean of milk, the Bayon Temple, unique for its 54 towers decorated with over 200 smiling faces of Avolokitesvara, the Phimeanakas, the Royal Enclosure, the Elephants Terrace and the Terrace of the Leper King.

After a short your rest, you will visit the most famous of all the temples on the plain of Angkor: Angkor Wat. The temple complex covers 81 hectares and is comparable in size to the Imperial Palace in Beijing. Its distinctive five towers are emblazoned on the Cambodian flag. This masterpiece is considered by art historians to be the prime example of classical Khmer art and architecture. Angkor Wat’s five towers symbolize Meru’s five peaks - the enclosed wall represents the mountains at the edge of the world and the surrounding moat, the ocean beyond. End of day take a relaxing stopover at Prasat Chrung visiting Tadev Hole and temple with the best Sunset. Return to your hotel and end of the tour

Meal: Breakfast

Overnight at hotel in Siem Reap

Day 14: SIEM REAP – BENG MEALEA – BANTEAY SREI

Morning, start your tour at 8:00AM, visit an ancient Hindu temple at the countryside, BANTEAY SREY (citadel of women, 35Km north of Siem Reap), building began in the year 968- and was competed in the year 1,001 AD. Dedicated to Shiva God.

In Cambodia, it is a unique pink sandstone temple which has most beautiful deep carvings.

Afternoon, visit Beng Mealea built in the 12th century, the layout and style of Beng Mealea is very similar to Angkor Wat. It's current state, however, is dominated by jungle. Trees have grown out of the towers and vines entangle columns. Lintels and others building blocks lay around in a tumble and require visitors to climb up and down as they approach the completely collapsed central towers. Ancient capital of Khmer Empire of Rolouse group such as Lolei, Bakong and Preah Ko temples.

Meal: Breakfast

Overnight at hotel in Siem Reap

Day 15 : SIEM REAP - DEPARTURE

Breakfast at the hotel

Morning time, after breakfast in hotel restaurant, free for own leisure until transfer to Siem Reap International Airport for flight departure.