



Tours

THE WONDERS OF INDOCHINA

15 Days / 14 Nights



Day 1: Arrive in Luang Prabang

Meet upon arrival at Luang Prabang airport in late morning, transfer and check-in at your hotel. In the afternoon, you visit Vat Visoun temple with its Singhalese-style stupa, That Makmo and Vat Aham, one of the city's major tutelary shrines housing the puppets of the Lao ancestors. Then you will enjoy the sunset along the Mekong River at Vat Siphouthabath. Overnight in Luang Prabang.

Day 2: Luang Prabang - Pak Ou - Khouang Sy - Luang Prabang (B)

After breakfast, you visit Vat Xieng Thong, considered as the most beautiful temple of Luang Prabang with roofs that sweep low to the ground. Then take a traditional riverboat for a 2-hour cruise upstream the Mekong River towards Pak Ou, at the confluence of the Nam Ou and Mekong Rivers, to visit the sacred caves of Tham Ting and Tham Phoum, home to hundreds of Buddha statues. On the way, visit Vat Longkhoun temple, famous for its 18th century frescoes, and then Ban Xang Hai village where sticky rice wine distillation can be seen. Return to Luang Prabang and excursion by car to the beautiful waterfalls of Khouang Sy nestled in the lush tropical vegetation. Overnight in Luang Prabang.

Day 3: Luang Prabang / Vientiane / Hanoi (B)

After breakfast, visit the National Museum (former King's Palace) displaying a collection of personal artifacts of the Royal Family. Continue to visit the nearby Vat Mai temple, which was the residence of a Buddhist patriarch before 1975 before transfer to airport to catch the early afternoon flight to Vientiane. Time at leisure at airport till connecting the early evening international flight to Hanoi. Meet at airport and transfer to hotel to check-in. Overnight in Hanoi.



Day 4: Hanoi (B)

Have a full day sightseeing tour of Hanoi. Morning visit President Hochiminh's Mausoleum, the former President Palace (from outside), HCM's house, Tran Quoc (the most beautiful pagoda in Hanoi), Quan Thanh temple (dedicated to the guardian genie of North Hanoi). Afternoon visit the Museum of Ethnology (where you can find out many interesting things about the life and culture of Vietnam's people), Temple of Literature (the first university in Vietnam founded in 1070). Then you will take a Cyclo ride to visit the Old Quarter of Hanoi. Enjoy the unique Water Puppet Show in the evening. Overnight in Hanoi.

Day 5: Hanoi - Halong (B,L,D)

Drive to Ha Long. Embark the Bhaya junk boat at 12h00 for a cruise among the 3,000 spectacular limestone islands. The boat is one of the more traditional varieties that sail through the magnificent UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy a fresh seafood lunch on board while the captain heads out for the horizon. Visit Dinh Huong Island and others, stop to wander around the impressive Sung Sot Cave famed for its remarkable stalactites and stalagmites. There will be time for an easy kayaking or swimming if weather permits. Lunch, Dinner & Overnight on boat.

Day 6: Halong - Hanoi / Hue (B)

After breakfast, you continue the cruise past rock formations named after their unusual shapes. Enjoy the magnificent view of the bay before disembark the boat in mid morning. Drive back to Ha Noi with stop en route to visit the famed But Thap pagoda. Then transfer to airport to catch the early evening flight to Hue - the ancient capital of Vietnam where the Nguyen Kings reigned from 1802 to 1945. Meet and transfer to hotel to check-in. Overnight in Hue.



Day 7: Hue - Danang - Hoian (B)

Today you have a city tour in Hue. In the morning, you take a Dragon boat cruise on the romantic Perfume River to visit Thien Mu pagoda and then drive to visit the famed tomb of King Tu Duc. Then you have an exploration of the Royal family's life through by visiting the Royal Citadel before being driven to Da Nang with stops at Cloudy Pass and Lang Co beach to enjoy and take photographs of their breath-taking scenery. Proceed to the ancient town of Hoian, one of Vietnam's most prosperous port town in 15th century. Overnight in Hoian.

Day 8: Hoian (B,L)

We start the day at 08h45 with a drink at Hai Scout Cafe - our meeting point. Visit Hoi An's colourful market, and experience the amazing sights, sounds and aromas of this busy market. We will have the opportunity to interact with the local sellers and purchase some of the ingredients to be used in the cooking lesson later. We board the Red Bridge boat for a leisurely cruise (25 minutes) along the Hoi An River to the Red Bridge Cooking School. This is a chance to view local river life, so make sure your camera is handy. On arrival, we have a chance to explore the cooking school's herb and vegetable garden, before learning about some of Hoi An's and Vietnam's well-known dishes. The cooking class is an interesting and fun way to learn about the local cuisine - the class runs for about an hour and 15 minutes, and includes demonstrations from the school's chefs as well as the chance for us to help prepare some dishes. Included in the demonstration is a brief introduction to Vietnamese food carving (plate decoration). Lunch is the food we prepare. After the cooking class, we will have a walking tour to explore Hoi An town, visit Hoi An museum, old merchants' house, assembly hall, Japanese covered bridge... walking along the bank of the lively Thu Bon River, once prosperous and famous as a trading port. Overnight in Hoi An.

Day 9: Hochiminh City (B)



Free at leisure until transfer to airport for the noon flight to Hochiminh city. Have an afternoon sightseeing tour in Ho Chi Minh include: Notre Dame, Central Post Office, Vinh Nghiem pagoda and then doing some shoppings at the busy Benthanh market. Overnight in Hochiminh City.

Day 10: Ho Chi Minh City - Vinh Long - Ho Chi Minh City (B)

Transfer southwest to Vinh Long town in the Mekong Delta and cross the Australian funded My Thuan bridge. Have a boat trip on Mekong river to visit the green canals, pop rice and pop corn workshop, ceramic and porcelain workshop, an orchard or a bonsai garden. Back to Hochiminh city in late afternoon. Overnight in Hochiminh City.

Day 11: Hochiminh City / Siem Reap (B)

Transfer to airport to catch the morning flight to Siem Reap. Meet & transfer to hotel to check-in. In the afternoon, you begin exploring the kingdom of Angkor by visiting the Rulous Group from the early Angkor period dating from the 9th & 10th centuries. The three temples of Preah Ko, Bakong & and Lolei represent the first application of the temple-mountain architectural formula on a grand scale and set the architectural stone for the next 400 years. Overnight in Siem Reap.

Day 12: South Gate of Angkor Thom and Angkor Wat temples (B)

In the morning, we will explore to the kingdom of Angkor by visiting the last capital of Angkorian Empire, Angkor Thom via the South Gate, the giant stone faces city temple of Bayon, Baphoun, Phimeanakas, the Royal Palace, the Elephant Terrace and the Lepper King Terrace. In the afternoon, we continue to visit the epic centerpiece of Angkor Wat temple with its extraordinary architecture and bas-reliefs. End of the day by enjoying the sunset view over Angkor Wat from the top of Phnom Bakheng Hill. Overnight in Siem Reap.



Day 13: Banteay Srei & Ta Prohm temples (B)

This morning, we explore the most dedicated beauty of the Khnmer temple carvings of Banteay Srei in the 11th century. Continue to visit Banteay Samre, the three-tiered temple-hill of Pre Rup and Lake of Sras Srang. In the afternoon, we explore Ta Keo, Chau Say Tevada, Thommanon and the impressive Ta Prohm temple, where the famous film Tomb Raider was shot and brought the Angkor Wonders to the world. Overnight in Siem Reap.



Day 14: Siem Reap / Phnom Penh (B)

In the morning, transfer to Siem Reap airport for a short departure flight to Phnom Penh. On arrival, sightseeing to the most remarkable sites of Phnom Penh, including of the Independence Monument, the Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda, and Wat Phnom Temple. In the afternoon, we visit the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, the notorious Khmer Rouge Killing Fields and the Russian Market. Overnight in Phnom Penh.

Day 15: Departure (B)

This morning is free time at own leisure for shopping or exploration the city till transfer to airport for departure flight. End of services.

***Note: B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner**