



## **The Best of Vietnam & Cambodia (Using 4 star hotels) - 13 Days (#18358)**

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **16-11-2024** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

### **Trip Highlights**

Hanoi-Halong Bay-Danang-Hoi An-Saigon-Mekong Delta-Can Tho- Chau Doc-Phnom Penh-Siem Reap

### **Detailed Itinerary**

**Day 01**

**Day 01: HANOI ARRIVAL**

Upon arrival into Hanoi, be met by your guide who will transfer you to your hotel.

Please note:

\* Estimated distance from hotels in the Old Quarter to the airport or v.v:

~25-30 km

Estimated driving time: ~30 mins - 40 mins.

\* International arrivals: Please proceed through immigration and customs, and make your way to the exterior arrivals area,



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using the exit indicated for your flight on the arrivals marquee (either exit A1 or A2). Our representative will be waiting here for you holding a Pick-up sign. He will then escort you to your vehicle to take you to your hotel.

\* Domestic arrivals: Please collect your baggage, proceed through the baggage check, and then make your way into the arrivals hall. Our representative will be waiting here for you holding a Pick-up sign with your name. He will then escort you to your vehicle to take you to your hotel.

**Hotel:** The Lapis Hotel (Superior Room/ City View)

**Meal:** No Meal

## Day 02

### Day 02: HANOI FULL DAY CITY TOUR

Today, start your journey to the highlights and hidden gems of Hanoi at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, an imposing structure that houses the remains of the revered former president who led Vietnam's campaign for independent from colonial rule.

Next, head onward to the Temple of Literature, an ancient collection of courtyards, gardens and architecture built in homage to the Chinese scholar Confucius. Considered the oldest university in Vietnam, the Temple of Literature dates back nearly one thousand years!

Follow your guide's lead while you weave through some of the Quarter's 36 streets named for the products historically sold here. Along the way, pass by some of the only remaining streets that continue selling the goods of their namesake, including Tin and Bamboo Street. Head through labyrinthine back alleys well off the tourist trail and see Hanoi at its authentic best. Peer into temples and traditional houses, hear the stories of the ancient city and meet the people who call this fascinating city home. Head to your next stop at Ngoc Son Temple on the tiny island on the lake before wrapping up your guided walk with a cup of egg coffee at a local café. Enjoy a water puppet show for a look at traditional performance art in Vietnam before heading back to your hotel.

**Hotel:** The Lapis Hotel (Superior Room/ City View)

**Meal:** Breakfast

## Day 03

### Day 03: HANOI - HALONG BAY

We travel on to the mysterious Halong Bay, which literally means 'where the dragon descends into the sea'. Upon arrival, board your Halong bay overnight cruise, set in your cabin and follow cruise's itinerary. In the afternoon we take a boat trip through Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This beautiful nature reserve is the result of centuries of erosion and



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is unique in the world. The bay contains no less than 1969 beautiful and photogenic islands, often consisting exclusively of mysterious rocks, even more mysterious caves and beautiful tropical beaches. It is not surprising that many poets, painters and writers found their inspiration here for their works. The lunch and dinner will be on the ship.

**Hotel:** Emeraude Classic Cruise Halong (Superior)

**Meal:** Breakfast, lunch and Dinner

## Day 04

### Day 04: HALONG BAY - HANOI - DANANG - HOI AN

Enjoy the view of the bay one last time, it's time to travel to Hanoi for your flight to Hue. Then, transfer to Hanoi airport for the flight to Danang. Upon arrival, be met by your guide who will transfer you to your hotel in Hoi An.

**Hotel:** Emerald Hoian Riverside Resort (Deluxe)

**Meal:** Breakfast and Lunch

## Day 05

### Day 05: HOI AN FULL DAY TOUR

Enjoy a full-day tour of Hoi An with your local guide. Learn about this former port town and the influence of many international cultures on the aesthetics of this UNESCO town. Begin with a visit to the 17th century Chua Ong Pagoda before visiting the Jinshang Temple at the Phuc Kien Assembly Hall. Take a short walk to Tam Ky House, a 200 year old ancestral house before visiting Hoi An's most recognizable sight - the Japanese Covered Bridge which dates back to the 17th century.

After lunch (at your own expense), take a short boat trip down the river to visit local artisans making ceramics at a craft village. End your tour with a visit to the docks where you will see the traditional fishing boats and iconic bamboo basket boats.

Please note: Estimated pick up time: between 8AM and 9 AM - Estimated duration: appx. 8 hours.

**Hotel:** Emerald Hoian Riverside Resort (Deluxe)

**Meal:** Breakfast

## Day 06

### Day 06: FLY TO SAIGON



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~~Be met by your guide and transfer by road to the airport for your onward flight.~~

Please note: Estimated distance from the airport to hotels in Hoi An old town or vice versa: around 30 - 35 km - Estimated driving time: appx. 45 - 50 minutes.

Upon arrival, our guide and driver will transfer you to your hotel.

Optional Tour

**SAIGON AFTER DARK WITH VESPA GROUP TOUR** By the time this tour commences, you will have noticed there is only really one way the locals travel in Vietnam, by motorbike! Tonight you'll combine a wonderful city tour and sampling some fantastic street food all from behind the handlebars of your very own Vespa scooter and driver. Your evening starts with a cocktail and appetizer at a local cafe. Next you'll meet your driver and vintage Vespa scooter with to set off into the bustling streets of Ho Chi Minh. First stop is Chinatown, famous for its eclectic and gritty social fabric and its incredible street seafood. This is a quiet part of town and you'll experience a true local hotspot. Few tourists ever make it this far out of town. Locals will be getting their fix of street food and winding down the day.

Back on the scooter you'll head over to District 1, with a chance to see some of Ho Chi Minh City's most iconic cultural highlights. Legendary local dish banh xeo, is next on the menu. This southern Vietnamese specialty which looks a lot like a pancake, actually has a unique savoury flavour. Take a short hop to sample some live music, and sip a traditional Vietnamese coffee alongside the locals. You'll end the evening at one of Ho Chi Minh City's best live music venues.

Please note: \* Duration: 6.30 - 10.30 PM. \* Pick-up and drop-off point at hotels in Saigon. \* This group tour departs with a minimum of 2 people and a maximum of 7. \* Minimum age of children travel with parents is from 6 years of age. \* Safety is always our priority, so all clients must ride pillion behind experienced drivers - they may not drive their own motorbike for safety reasons \* You will be required to sign a waiver form at the meeting point before beginning the tour. This waiver is compulsory for guests going on the tour. If you choose not to sign, you may not continue on the tour and will not be provided a refund. \* Black out date: Lunar New Year period (Exactly dates will be updated on yearly basis)

**Hotel:** Gracy R&J Hotel (Lessini Premier)

**Meal:** Breakfast

**Day 07**

**Day 07: SAIGON - FULL DAY SIGHTSEEINGS**

Start your day trip with a visit to Vinh Nghiem Pagoda, one of Saigon's most notable pagodas. Built in traditional Vietnamese architecture style, the main building boasts intricate wood carvings. The main hall is home to a huge Buddha statue whilst the backside hall is dedicated to Mother Goddesses, venerable monks and spirits.

Continue visit the Reunification Palace, once a symbol of the South Vietnamese Government. It was here on 30 April 1975, that the war ended when a North Vietnamese Army tank crashed through its gates. See the war room, the banquet hall and the presidential office with the unusual gifts which have been received.



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Next you are driven to the city's Central Post Office, which was designed by the renowned French architect Alfred Foulhoux.

Take a short stroll along Dong Khoi Street to the Opera House. From a bomb shelter to housing the parliamentary Lower House, the Opera House has had an interesting history. Restored in 1995 the Opera House has returned to its roots and is once again a theatre.

In the afternoon continue on to the War Remnants Museum. Here, your guide will tell the story of the city's darkest and most tragic hours during the Vietnam War. The museum contains displays of military aircraft, weaponry and many photographs - some that are quite graphic in nature.

Head to Cholon the city's Chinatown and Thien Hau Pagoda which is dedicated to the Goddess of the Sea. With intricate friezes, carved tableaus and impressive incense coils make for some great photos. Then observe street life with a walk through the narrow streets to Binh Tay market that sells everything from hats to dried squid!

Special note:

\* Estimated pick-up time:08.00AM - Estimated duration: 8hrs.

**Hotel:** Gracy R&J Hotel (Lessini Premier)

**Meal:** Breakfast

**Day 08****Day 08: VISIT THE MEKONG DELTA – TRAVEL TO CAN THO**

This morning, you will be transferred to Cai Be tourist boat station and welcomed with cold towels, fresh coconut. Boating and enjoying the fresh air on the Mekong river, the tourists visit the Cai Be floating market, the original style of commerce on the Mekong river. Visiting the local poprice, coconut candy workshop and knowing the ways bee-breeding tasting honey tea by breezy river. Boating to visit the local fruit gardens and a way of horticulture and listening to the traditional music, is the best chance for relaxation. Taking about 20 minutes for rowing sampan with discovery feelings. Crossing the Mekong River to An Binh Island to see the daily life along the river. Visiting the brick & pottery factory where the tourist know how to make the brick and the pottery from the local clay and styles with the traditional technique. End the tour in Vinh Long. You will then be transferred to Can Tho for one night stay.

**Hotel:** Muong Thanh Luxury Can Tho Hotel (Deluxe King/Twin)

**Meal:** Breakfast and Lunch

**Day 09****Day 09: CAN THO - CHAU DOC**

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No place gives a better insight into the life on the Mekong Delta than the Cai Rang Floating Market. Learn about the history and culture of the Southern Vietnams most unique and vibrant market and have the chance to buy fresh produce from one of the local sellers. Do not forget to look at what is tied to the long poles above the boats to see what it is they are selling! Then drive to the town of Chau Doc, a sleepy Mekong town which is approximately three hours by road.

\* Estimated distance from Can Tho to Chau Doc: ~110km - Estimated driving time: 3hrs.

This afternoon go back to nature and visit Tra Su nature reserve, a sanctuary for over 80 different species of birds. The observation tower enables you to see over the reserve and the stunning countryside that surrounds it. Relax on a small paddle boat through the river ways after your lunch at a local restaurant. On the way to the forest you will visit a small village of ethnic Khmer, where you will learn about the importance of Buddhism in the community and have the opportunity to chat with monks at the local monastery.

**Hotel:** Victoria Chau Doc Resort (Superior)

**Meal:** Breakfast

### Day 10

### Day 10: CHAU DOC - PHNOM PENH

After breakfast, you will be transferring to the pier for your speedboat trip to Phnom Penh.

Upon arrival, meet your guide and driver for your transfer to hotel.

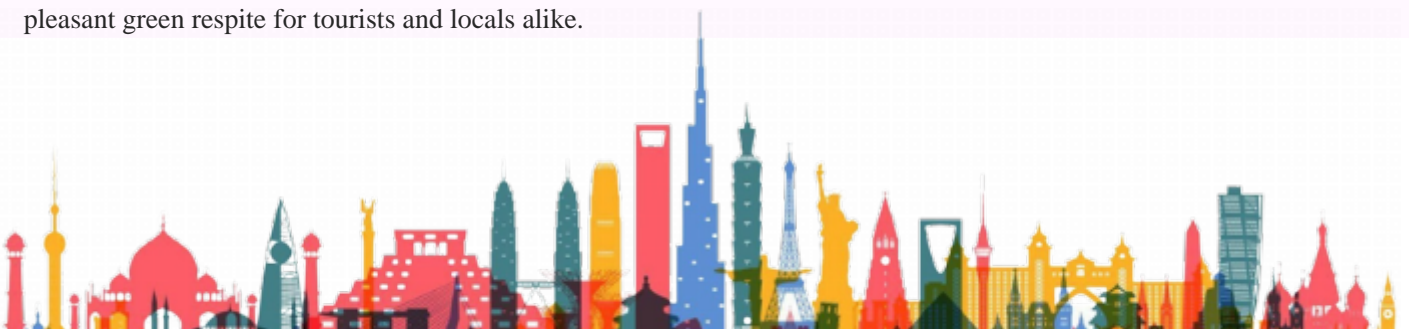
**Hotel:** Anik Palace Hotel (Deluxe Room)

**Meal:** Breakfast

### Day 11

### Day 11: PHNOM PENH - CITY TOUR - FLY TO SIEM REAP

This morning, meet your guide and driver for your exploration the rich heritage of capital city Phnom Penh. Considered the 'Pearl of Asia,' Phnom Penh has an exotic post-colonial culture. Situated on the banks of the Ton Le Sap and Mekong Rivers, Phnom Penh was largely constructed in the 1920s and boasts some of Asia's best-preserved Art Deco architecture. Set off from your hotel to the majestic Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda complex. Admire the elaborately constructed palace buildings, some of the 5,000 silver floor tiles that give the Silver Pagoda its name, as well as spectacular gold and bejewelled Buddha statues that are considered national treasures. Walk to the nearby National Museum, a beautiful sandstone museum that showcases the world's largest collection of Khmer art. After wandering around the museum, continue on to Wat Phnom, the most important temple in Phnom Penh. Situated atop a 27- meter high knoll, the temple overlooks the city and offers a pleasant green respite for tourists and locals alike.



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~~In the afternoon, you will be picked up and transferred to airport for your flight to Siem Reap.~~

Upon arrival, your guide will meet you at the airport and transfer you to your hotel.

Optional Tour

DINNER WITH TRADITIONAL DANCE SHOW Enjoy an evening filled with traditional Aspara dance. The show brings ancient Khmer culture to life while you enjoy a dinner of traditional Cambodian cuisine

**Hotel:** Lotus Blanc Resort (Deluxe Dbl/Twin)

**Meal:** Breakfast

### Day 12

### Day 12: SIEM REAP - ANGKOR TEMPLE TOUR

Start your visit at the South Gate of Angkor Thom, where statues of the gods of good and evil line the entrance. Your next stop is Bayon, a richly decorated temple. Its most distinctive feature is the hundreds of smiling faces that grace the towers. Impressive bas-reliefs tell stories of daily life and of the great battles that were fought between the Khmers and ancient Thais. Move on to Phimeanakas, shaped like a pyramid with two ponds in the rear. Walk to the top of the temple for impressive views of the Angkor complex.

Take a short drive to Ta Prohm, one of Cambodia's most beloved temples. Unusually, Ta Prohm is in much the same condition in which it was found. The combination of large trees growing out of the ruins and the surrounding jungle give the temple a truly magical feel. Return to Siem Reap for lunch and to escape the hot sun. Spend the rest of the afternoon exploring magnificent Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious monument and best-preserved temple in the complex. This visually spectacular massive three-tired pyramid has become a symbol of Cambodia, appearing on its flag. Admire the grandeur of its architecture and its extensive decoration of bas-relief friezes. Return to Siem Reap.

**Hotel:** Lotus Blanc Resort (Deluxe Dbl/Twin)

**Meal:** Breakfast

### Day 13

### Day 13: SIEM REAP - DEPARTURE

Your guide will pick you up at your hotel and transfer you to the airport.

Optional Tour

TONLE SAP LAKE HALF DAY TOUR (CHONG KNEAS) Take a short 15-kilometer drive to Tonle Sap Lake, located south of Siem Reap. The lake is the largest freshwater lake in Southeast Asia and the lifeblood of Cambodia as three million people depend upon it for their food and livelihoods. Each year, millions of fish come to spawn in the seasonally flooded



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—forest surrounding the lake, attracting a myriad of water birds. Take a boat tour and see the floating village of Chong Kneas. Here you will get to see first-hand what life is like on the water, the floating market, the local fishery, and crocodile farm. Enjoy the scenery of the lake and keep an eye out for wildlife.

**Meal:** Breakfast

## Inclusions

- Accommodation is based on a shared Double room including breakfast unless otherwise mentioned.
- Meals as mentioned (B= Breakfast, L= Lunch, D= Dinner).
- Local English-speaking guide (supplements may apply for other languages and group national guides).
- Tours and transfers as mentioned by private air-conditioned vehicle unless stated otherwise.
- Transfers as mentioned.
- Entrance fees for mentioned visits.
- Activities as outlined in the itinerary.
- Service charge and current government VAT/GST tax.

Check-in time is usually 2pm and check-out time is 12pm for Asia. This is subject to individual hotel regulations. Early or late service is subject to availability, often with a surcharge.

## Exclusions

- Visa (we can help with visa on arrival in certain destination upon request).
- Services and meals not mentioned in itinerary.
- All drinks; including water, soft drinks and alcohol.
- Early/late check in/out service at hotels (surcharge if requested).
- Optional excursion/tours.
- International and Domestic Flights unless mentioned.
- Laundry, telephone calls and expenditure of a personal nature.
- Tips and gratuities.
- Travel insurance.
- Camera/video entrance fees.

## Note





**Hotels Envisaged or Similar:**

Hanoi-The Lapis Hotel (Superior Room/ City View)  
Halong Bay-Emeraude Classic Cruise Halong (Superior)  
Hoi An-Emerald Hoian Riverside Resort (Deluxe)  
Saigon-Gracy R&J Hotel (Lessini Premier)  
Can Tho-Muong Thanh Luxury Can Tho Hotel (Deluxe King/Twin)  
Chau Doc-Victoria Chau Doc Resort (Superior)  
Phnom Penh-Anik Palace Hotel (Deluxe Room)  
Siem Reap-Lotus Blanc Resort (Deluxe Dbl/Twin)

Low season: May – September 2024

High season: February – April 2024 and October – December 2024.

**AIRFARE (PER PERSON, in AUD)**

One-way Hanoi to Danang - AUD 262 Per Person  
One-way Danang to Saigon - AUD 262 Per Person  
One-way Phnom Penh to Siem Reap - AUD 278 Per Person  
(Airfare is subject to change without prior notice)

**HOTEL PEAK SEASON DATES, RATES ON REQUEST**

Hotel Emeraude Classic Cruise - Compulsory dinner - 24 and 31 Dec 2024  
Hotel Emerald Hoian Riverside Resort - Compulsory dinner - 29 Apr until 02 May 2024, 02 Sep 2024, 24 Dec 2024 and 31 Dec 2024  
Victoria Chau Doc Hotel - Compulsory dinner - 24 Dec 2024 and 31 Dec 2024  
Lotus Blanc Hotel & Resort - Compulsory dinner - 24 Dec 2024 and 31 Dec 2024 & Peak season surcharge from 26-31 Dec 2024.

Optional tour rates available on request.

Please note that, unless otherwise specifically stated in your itinerary, airfares, airport transfers, departure taxes, early/late hotel check-ins, gratuities, personal expenses and some meals are excluded from the tour price. We would be happy to provide you with a quote for airport transfers, early check-in or any additional services you might require.

## Program Touring / Guide

Private touring



## Periodic Departure

**01 Oct, 2024 to 25 Dec, 2024**

2-3 pax

AUD 3,864 P P twin share

AUD 5,152 P P single

AVAILABLE

4-5 pax

AUD 2,956 P P twin share

AUD 4,244 P P single

AVAILABLE

6 plus

AUD 2,621 P P twin share

AUD 3,908 P P single

AVAILABLE

