Cambodia, Vietnam & Laos Cultural Journey: Temples, Mekong & Halong Bay – 22 Days

22D / 21N	Moderate	Private	USD 3,269 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Embark on an extensive 22-day private tour through Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos, uncovering ancient temples, vibrant cities, and serene natural landscapes. Experience diverse cultures, local life, and culinary traditions across three captivating Southeast Asian nations.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

Siem Reap → Phnom Penh → Chau Doc → Can Tho → Ho Chi Minh City → Hoi An → Hue → Hanoi → Mai Chau → Ha Long → Vientiane → Vang Vieng → Luang Prabang

TOUR OVERVIEW

Overview of Your Indochina Adventure

This comprehensive 22-day private tour invites you to explore the diverse landscapes and rich cultural heritage of Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos. From the ancient wonders of Angkor Wat to the tranquil waters of Halong Bay and the spiritual serenity of Luang Prabang, this journey offers an intimate look into the heart of Southeast Asia. Designed for those seeking a deeper connection with local traditions and natural beauty, the itinerary balances iconic landmarks with authentic community experiences.

Journey Highlights

Your expedition is filled with unique and memorable moments. In Cambodia, you'll marvel at the intricate carvings of Angkor Wat and the tree-entwined ruins of Ta Prohm. Vietnam reveals its charm through an overnight cruise on the Mekong Delta, the historical depth of Ho Chi Minh City, the lantern-lit streets of Hoi An, and the majestic karsts of Halong Bay. Laos offers spiritual insights in Vientiane, breathtaking limestone formations in Vang Vieng, and the sacred almsgiving ceremony in Luang Prabang, complemented by visits to the stunning Kuang Si Waterfalls. Throughout the trip, enjoy opportunities to engage with local communities, savor regional cuisines, and witness traditional crafts.

Route & Experience

The journey begins in Siem Reap, Cambodia, with its legendary temple complexes, before moving to the capital, Phnom Penh. From there, you'll venture into Vietnam's Mekong Delta for a unique river cruise experience, culminating in the bustling metropolis of Ho Chi Minh City. The route then takes you north to the charming ancient town of Hoi An, the imperial city of Hue, and the vibrant capital of Hanoi. A detour to the serene Mai Chau valley offers a glimpse into rural life before a memorable overnight cruise on Halong Bay. The final leg of the tour explores Laos, visiting the capital Vientiane, the scenic Vang Vieng, and the spiritual hub of Luang Prabang, renowned for its temples and waterfalls.

Who is this tour for?

This private tour is particularly well-suited for seniors and travelers who appreciate a comfortable yet immersive travel style. With a focus on cultural engagement, natural beauty, and local interactions, it provides a relaxed pace while ensuring a thorough exploration of each destination. The private nature of the tour allows for flexibility and personalized attention, making it ideal for those who prefer a tailored travel experience.

Practical Information

Accommodation throughout the tour includes a mix of comfortable hotels, a unique overnight stay on a Mekong Eyes cruise, a traditional communal stilt house or bungalow in Mai Chau, and an unforgettable night aboard a Halong Bay cruise.

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Transportation primarily involves air-conditioned vehicles, domestic flights between major cities, and local modes like motorcycles and boats, ensuring efficient and comfortable travel across diverse terrains. Meals are a highlight, with 21 breakfasts, 12 lunches, 1 brunch, and 5 dinners included, offering a taste of authentic regional cuisine.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

* Explore the ancient wonders of Angkor Wat and Ta Prohm, Cambodia's iconic temple complexes.
* Cruise the Mekong Delta overnight on a boutique riverboat, observing local life and lush landscapes.
* Delve into Ho Chi Minh City's historical sites, including the War Remnants Museum and Presidential Palace.
* Cycle through Hoi An's Tra Que Vegetable Village, engaging with local farmers and traditional practices.
* Discover Hue's Imperial Citadel and Thien Mu Pagoda during a scenic Perfume River boat trip.
* Experience Hanoi's vibrant Old Quarter, historical landmarks, and a unique motorbike city tour.
* Cycle through Mai Chau's tranquil rice paddies and visit remote ethnic minority villages.
* Spend a night aboard a traditional junk boat, navigating the breathtaking limestone karsts of Halong Bay.
* Uncover Vientiane's sacred temples, including Wat Sisaket and the revered That Luang Stupa.
* Journey through Vang Vieng's dramatic karst scenery, exploring Tham Phoukham Caves and the Nam Song River.
* Participate in the morning almsgiving ceremony in Luang Prabang and visit the stunning Kuang Si Waterfalls.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Siem Reap Arrival & Apsara Dinner Show

Meals: Dinner | Stay: Hotel in Siem Reap

Upon your arrival at Siem Reap International Airport, a dedicated tour guide will greet you and provide a comfortable transfer to your centrally located hotel. After completing the check-in process, you will have leisure time to unwind or begin your independent exploration of Siem Reap's charming surroundings. This evening, prepare for a delightful welcome dinner featuring a traditional Apsara Dance performance, offering an authentic taste of Cambodian culture and hospitality. Following the captivating show, you will be transferred back to your hotel for an overnight stay in Siem Reap.

Activities: Airport greeting and hotel transfer
Free time for relaxation or independent discovery
Enjoy a welcome dinner with Apsara Dance

Day 2 — Angkor Temples: Ta Prohm & Angkor Wat Exploration

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Siem Reap

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Your day of discovery begins at 8:00 AM with a visit to the iconic Ta Prohm Temple, famously known for its ancient ruins intertwined with massive tree roots, a setting that has captivated filmmakers and travelers alike. Following this, you will explore other magnificent temples within the Grand Circuit, including Rre Rup, East Mebon, Ta Som, Neak Pean, and Preah Khan, each offering unique architectural styles and historical significance. A local restaurant will host you for lunch, providing a moment of rest amidst your morning explorations.

The afternoon is dedicated to immersing yourself in the grandeur of Angkor Wat, the most renowned temple complex in the Angkor region. Its distinctive five towers are a national symbol, even gracing the Cambodian flag. You'll have ample time to wander through its vast courtyards, intricate galleries, and majestic towers, absorbing the profound history and spiritual ambiance. Conclude your day by returning to your hotel to relax and spend another night in Siem Reap.

Activities: Visit Ta Prohm Temple
Explore Grand Circuit temples: Rre Rup, East Mebon, Ta Som, Neak Pean, Preah Khan
Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant
Discover the iconic Angkor Wat

Day 3 Siem Reap Leisure & Flight to Phnom Penh

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Phnom Penh

The morning offers a relaxed pace, allowing you to enjoy free time at your discretion. You might choose to unwind at your hotel's amenities, or perhaps venture out independently to experience more of Siem Reap's local charm. Consider a traditional Tuk Tuk ride through the city or browse the vibrant local markets for unique souvenirs and handicrafts, engaging with local vendors.

In the afternoon, you will be transferred to the airport for your domestic flight to Phnom Penh, Cambodia's capital city. Upon arrival, a vehicle will be waiting to take you to your hotel for check-in. The rest of the evening is free for you to settle in and prepare for the next day's explorations in Phnom Penh.

Activities: Enjoy a free morning in Siem Reap
Optional Tuk Tuk ride or market visit
Transfer to airport for flight to Phnom Penh
Check into your hotel in Phnom Penh

Day 4 Phnom Penh City Tour & Speedboat to Chau Doc

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Chau Doc

Your morning in Phnom Penh begins with a captivating sightseeing tour, starting with the impressive Royal Palace compound, a stunning example of Khmer-style architecture. Adjacent to it, you'll visit the Silver Pagoda, renowned for its floor covered with over 5,000 silver tiles and its collection of Buddha statues adorned with precious gems. The tour continues to the Independence Monument, a symbol of Cambodia's freedom, and the National Museum, home to a vast collection of Khmer art and artifacts. The final stop for the morning is Wat Phnom, a sacred site perched atop the city's only hill, offering serene views and spiritual significance.

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Around midday, your guide will transfer you to the boat station. Here, you'll board a speedboat for a scenic journey across the border into Vietnam, heading towards Chau Doc. Upon arrival in Chau Doc, a transfer will take you to your hotel for check-in. You will then have the evening free to relax and spend the night in Chau Doc, reflecting on the day's transition from Cambodian grandeur to Vietnamese charm.

Activities: Explore the Royal Palace compound
Visit the Silver Pagoda
See the Independence Monument and National Museum
Discover Wat Phnom
Take a speedboat to Chau Doc, Vietnam
Transfer to your hotel in Chau Doc

Day 5 Mekong Delta Cruise to Can Tho

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Mekong Eyes Cruise

Following breakfast, you will embark on a scenic journey by car or bus to Cai Be or Can Tho, departing between 8:00 AM and 8:30 AM. Upon arrival, you will receive a warm welcome aboard your Mekong Eyes Cruise ship, where you'll settle into your comfortable cabin and begin to familiarize yourself with the vessel. Lunch will be served on board as the boat gracefully navigates through the intricate network of branches and canals that define the Mekong Delta, offering your first glimpses of this unique aquatic landscape.

The afternoon invites you to relax on the sundeck or in the ship's lounge, observing the lush vegetation and the vibrant daily life unfolding along the Mekong Delta's banks. Later, you'll disembark for a fascinating land excursion, strolling through verdant orchards or expansive rice fields. This provides an opportunity to witness local food processing techniques or observe traditional boat building, offering insights into the region's resourceful culture. As evening approaches, return to the cruise and enjoy your favorite drink at the bar, watching the magnificent sunset paint the water landscape. Dinner will be served on board, followed by an overnight stay on the Mekong Eyes Cruise.

Activities: Travel by car/bus to Cai Be/Can Tho
Board the Mekong Eyes Cruise and check into your cabin
Enjoy lunch while cruising the Mekong canals
Relax on the sundeck and observe local life
Disembark for a land excursion through orchards or rice fields
Witness food processing or boat building
Watch the sunset from the cruise bar
Have dinner on board

Day 6 Cai Be Exploration & Transfer to Ho Chi Minh City

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh

Your morning on the Mekong Eyes Cruise begins with a refreshing tea break served on board. At 8:00 AM, it's time to check out from your cabin. You'll then embark on an excursion aboard a traditional rowing sampan, allowing you to explore the

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smaller, more intimate canals of the Mekong Delta while enjoying local folk music performances. Following this serene boat ride, you'll have the opportunity to cycle or walk through charming small villages situated along the Mekong River, interacting with local residents and perhaps practicing your bargaining skills.

Depending on the day of the week, your lunch will be served either at the Mekong Rest Stop (Monday/Wednesday/Friday) or in Vinh Long City (Tuesday/Thursday/Saturday). In the afternoon, you will disembark in Can Tho or Vinh Long and transfer by shuttle bus to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam's bustling southern metropolis. Upon arrival, you'll check into your hotel, with the remainder of the evening free to relax or begin your independent exploration of this dynamic city.

Activities: Enjoy morning tea on board
Check out from the cruise
Explore small canals by rowing sampan with folk music
Cycle or walk through Mekong River villages and interact with locals
Have lunch at Mekong Rest Stop or in Vinh Long City
Transfer by shuttle bus to Ho Chi Minh City

Day 7 Ho Chi Minh City Landmarks Discovery

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh City

Today, you'll embark on a comprehensive sightseeing tour of Ho Chi Minh City, beginning with a visit to the bustling Cholon, the city's vibrant Chinatown, followed by the colorful Ben Thanh Market, where you can observe local life and commerce in full swing. Next, explore Thien Hau Pagoda, one of the oldest Chinese pagodas in the city, renowned for its exquisite Chinese architectural art and serene atmosphere.

The tour continues to significant historical landmarks, including the Notre Dame Cathedral (currently undergoing renovation), an impressive structure inaugurated in 1880 that served as a spiritual and cultural hub during the French colonial era. Adjacent to it is the Old Post Office, designed by Gustave Eiffel, which resembles a grand railway station. You will also visit the former Presidential Palace, a site of immense symbolic importance during the fall of Saigon in 1975, and the War Remnants Museum, which offers a poignant and educational insight into the Vietnam War. After a day of exploring these pivotal sites, you will return to your hotel for the evening.

Activities: Explore Cholon (Chinatown) and Ben Thanh Market
Visit Thien Hau Pagoda
See Notre Dame Cathedral and the Old Post Office
Tour the former Presidential Palace
Visit the War Remnants Museum

Day 8 Flight to Da Nang & Hoi An Ancient Town Arrival

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An

After enjoying breakfast at your hotel in Ho Chi Minh City, you will be transferred to the airport for your domestic flight to Da Nang. This flight will take you from the bustling south to the central coast of Vietnam. Upon arrival in Da Nang, a comfortable transfer awaits to take you on a short scenic drive south, passing the renowned Non Nuoc Beach, famous for its white sands

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and marble mountains.
Your destination is the enchanting town of Hoi An, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site celebrated for its beautifully preserved Ancient Town, unique architecture, and tranquil atmosphere. Upon arrival, you will check into your hotel, where you'll have the remainder of the day free to settle in and perhaps take a preliminary stroll through the charming streets of Hoi An, anticipating the discoveries of the days ahead.

Activities: Enjoy breakfast at your Ho Chi Minh City hotel
Transfer to the airport for a flight to Da Nang
Scenic drive past Non Nuoc Beach to Hoi An
Check into your hotel in Hoi An
Free time to explore Hoi An Ancient Town

Day 9 Tra Que Vegetable Village Cycling & Local Farming

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An

This morning, you'll embark on a picturesque cycling tour along scenic country roads just outside Hoi An. Your destination is a local farm nestled within the Tra Que Vegetable Village, an area renowned for its organic produce and traditional farming methods. Upon arrival, you'll take a brief guided tour around the lush vegetable gardens, gaining valuable insights into the local produce and sustainable farming techniques employed by the villagers.
A unique highlight of the day involves joining the local farmers in their daily activities, participating in the preparation and fertilization of the land, offering a hands-on experience of Vietnamese rural life. Following your farming immersion, you will enjoy a delicious lunch right in the village, featuring fresh, local ingredients. After a short period of rest, you will cycle back to Hoi An, leaving the remainder of the afternoon free for you to explore the ancient town at your leisure, perhaps browsing its artisan shops or relaxing by the river.

Activities: Cycle along country roads to Tra Que Vegetable Village
Take a guided tour of the vegetable gardens
Participate in local farming activities
Enjoy lunch in the village
Cycle back to Hoi An
Free time to explore Hoi An Ancient Town

Day 10 Hai Van Pass Scenic Drive & Hue Food Tour by Cyclo

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hue

Today, you will be transferred from the charming town of Hoi An to the imperial city of Hue, either by private car or shuttle bus. This journey offers a scenic transition, showcasing the diverse landscapes of Central Vietnam. Along the way, you'll have the opportunity to stop at the majestic Hai Van Pass, a stunning coastal mountain pass offering breathtaking panoramic views of the coastline and surrounding mountains, perfect for capturing memorable photographs.
Upon your arrival in Hue, prepare for a unique culinary experience: a food tour by cyclo. Your friendly local guide will lead you through the city's streets, introducing you to the authentic and delicious flavors of Hue cuisine, much like a local would discover

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them. As you savor each dish, your guide will share fascinating insights into the history and cultural background of the local delicacies. After this gastronomic adventure, you will check into your hotel for an overnight stay in Hue.

Activities: Transfer from Hoi An to Hue
Stop for photos at Hai Van Pass
Join a food tour by cyclo in Hue
Learn about local dishes from your guide
Check into your hotel in Hue

Day 11 Hue Imperial City & Flight to Hanoi

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

Your morning in Hue is dedicated to exploring the city's major attractions. Begin with a relaxing boat trip along the serene Perfume River, which sets a peaceful tone for your explorations. The boat will take you to Thien Mu Pagoda, one of Hue's most ancient and captivating pagodas, known for its lush surroundings and distinctive architecture. Following this, you will visit the magnificent Hue Citadel, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Here, you'll marvel at its intricate design and learn about Vietnam's rich imperial history through compelling stories.

Before concluding your city tour, you'll have the chance to stop by a local market. This is an excellent opportunity to browse for unique souvenirs and perhaps sample more of Hue's renowned cuisine. The afternoon offers free time at your leisure until it's time for your transfer to the airport for a short evening flight to Hanoi, Vietnam's vibrant capital. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel for check-in and an overnight stay in Hanoi.

Activities: Enjoy a boat trip along the Perfume River
Visit Thien Mu Pagoda
Explore the Hue Citadel (UNESCO World Heritage Site)
Stop by a local market for souvenirs and food
Transfer to the airport for a flight to Hanoi
Check into your Hanoi hotel

Day 12 Hanoi Half-day Discovery By Motorbike

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

At 8:00 AM, you will be picked up from your hotel for an exhilarating half-day city tour of Hanoi by motorbike. This unique perspective allows you to navigate the city's vibrant streets and observe famous landmarks from the outside, gaining a dynamic understanding of Hanoi's pulse. You'll pass by iconic sites such as the bustling Hanoi Old Quarter, the tranquil Hoan Kiem Lake, the grand Hanoi Opera House, the solemn Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, the historic Temple of Literature, and the scenic West Lake.

During the tour, you'll also ride through some of Hanoi's most exclusive real estate areas, offering insights into the lifestyle differences between the central districts and other parts of the city. Lunch will be a culinary highlight, enjoyed at an authentic Vietnamese restaurant, where you can savor local flavors. The remainder of the afternoon is free for you to relax, explore further independently, or revisit any areas of particular interest.

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Activities: Embark on a Hanoi city tour by motorbike
See Hanoi Old Quarter, Hoan Kiem Lake, Opera House
View Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, Temple of Literature, West Lake
Observe exclusive real estate areas
Enjoy lunch at an authentic Vietnamese restaurant
Free afternoon for leisure

Day 13 Mai Chau Valley Cycling & Traditional Dinner

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Communal stilt house or Bungalow in Mai Chau

After breakfast at your Hanoi hotel, you will be picked up and begin your scenic journey by van to Mai Chau, a picturesque valley known for its lush rice paddies and traditional stilt houses. Arriving around midday, you'll be greeted with a refreshing welcome drink before enjoying a traditional lunch in the village, with vegetarian options available to cater to all preferences. The afternoon invites you to embark on a cycling tour around the village, offering a tranquil way to observe local life. You'll see farmers diligently working in their fields and locals expertly weaving scarves, providing a glimpse into their daily routines. The tour includes visits to surrounding peaceful villages, allowing for deeper cultural immersion. As evening falls, return to your accommodation to enjoy an outdoor BBQ party in the garden, accompanied by captivating Thai traditional dance performances and a taste of the local liquor, “ruou can.” You will spend the night in a communal stilt house or a charming valley-view bungalow.

Activities: Travel by van from Hanoi to Mai Chau
Enjoy a welcome drink and traditional lunch
Cycle around the village to observe local life
Visit surrounding peaceful villages
Participate in an outdoor BBQ party
Watch Thai traditional dance and taste local liquor

Day 14 Mai Chau Rural Villages & Return to Hanoi

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

This morning, accompanied by your local tour guide, you will venture further to explore more remote rural villages, including Na Meo and Na Mo. These visits offer a unique opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the distinct cultures and customs of the ethnic communities residing in these secluded areas, observing their daily lives and traditions firsthand. You'll have the chance to interact with villagers and appreciate their way of life.
Following your village explorations, you will return to your homestay for lunch and complete the check-out process. The afternoon is then free for you to indulge in some last-minute shopping for local crafts or simply relax and soak in the serene atmosphere of Mai Chau. Around 3:00 PM to 3:30 PM, it will be time to bid farewell to your hosts and board the shuttle bus for your return journey to Hanoi. Upon arriving in the capital, the driver will drop you off at your hotel, where you will spend the night.

Activities: Visit remote rural villages like Na Meo and Na Mo
Learn about local culture and customs

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Return for lunch and check out from accommodation
Enjoy free time for shopping or relaxation
Transfer back to Hanoi by shuttle bus

Day 15 Halong Bay Cruise & Overnight on Board

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Overnight on board in Halong Bay

Between 8:00 AM and 8:30 AM, you will depart from Hanoi for a scenic journey to Halong Bay, a breathtaking UNESCO World Heritage site renowned for its thousands of magnificent limestone karsts rising dramatically from emerald waters. Arriving at Halong Bay around noon, you will be welcomed aboard a beautiful cruise boat for an overnight stay. The friendly crew will greet you with a welcome drink and provide essential safety instructions, ensuring a comfortable and secure voyage.
An excellent menu of fresh seafood will be served for lunch as you begin to cruise through the stunning bay, admiring the picturesque views from your restaurant window. The afternoon is dedicated to engaging in various activities, which may include visiting spectacular caves, kayaking through calm waters, or swimming in the ocean, depending on your cruise's specific itinerary. As evening approaches, return to the main cruise ship for a delicious dinner on board. Afterward, you can partake in fun night activities such as squid fishing, adding an adventurous touch to your evening. You will have an overnight stay on the cruise, surrounded by the serene beauty of Halong Bay.

Activities: Travel from Hanoi to Halong Bay
Board your overnight cruise and receive a welcome drink
Enjoy a fresh seafood lunch while cruising
Participate in afternoon activities like cave visits, kayaking, or swimming
Have dinner on board
Engage in evening activities such as squid fishing

Day 16 Halong Bay Sunrise & Return to Hanoi

Meals: Breakfast, Brunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

Wake up early to experience the magnificent sunrise over Halong Bay, a truly unforgettable sight. Begin your day with a refreshing Tai Chi lesson on the sundeck, a peaceful way to embrace the morning. A light breakfast will then be served as the boat continues its tranquil journey through the spectacular limestone formations, allowing you to savor the serene beauty of the bay.
Your final excursion in Halong Bay will take you to another captivating attraction, such as Trung Trang Cave, Sung Sot Cave, or Viet Hai Village, with the specific activity depending on your cruise's program. A delightful brunch will be served on board as the boat cruises back to the port. Upon arrival, a driver will be waiting to transfer you back to your hotel in Hanoi. The remainder of the day is free for you to relax, reflect on your Halong Bay experience, or explore Hanoi at your leisure.

Activities: Witness the sunrise over Halong Bay
Join a Tai Chi lesson
Enjoy a light breakfast while cruising
Embark on a final excursion to a Halong Bay attraction
Have brunch on board

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Transfer back to your hotel in Hanoi
Free time for leisure in Hanoi

Day 17 Hanoi Leisure & Flight to Vientiane City Tour

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner | Stay: Hotel in Vientiane

Enjoy a leisurely morning in Hanoi, allowing you time for any last-minute souvenir shopping or simply relaxing at your hotel. Please note that the standard check-out time is 12:00 PM; should you desire a later check-out, please arrange this with your travel consultant in advance. You will then be transferred to Hanoi airport for your onward flight to Vientiane, the charming capital of Laos. Upon arrival in Vientiane, a comfortable transfer will take you to your hotel for check-in.
The afternoon is dedicated to exploring Vientiane's significant cultural sites. You will visit Wat Sisaket, the city's oldest Buddhist temple, renowned for its thousands of miniature Buddha statues. Next, discover the former royal temple of Wat Prakeo, which once housed the revered Emerald Buddha Image. Witness the sacred and famous That Luang Stupa, a national symbol, and capture photographs of the imposing Patuxay Monument, often referred to as Vientiane's Arc de Triomphe, on your way back to the hotel. Conclude your day with a welcome dinner at a local restaurant, featuring traditional dance and folk songs, offering a wonderful opportunity to experience local Lao culture.

Activities: Enjoy leisure time in Hanoi
Transfer to Hanoi airport for flight to Vientiane
Check into your Vientiane hotel
Visit Wat Sisaket and Wat Prakeo
See That Luang Stupa and Patuxay Monument
Savor a welcome dinner with traditional dance

Day 18 Vientiane to Vang Vieng & Cave Exploration

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Vang Vieng

After breakfast, you will depart from Vientiane, the capital, and travel north to Vang Vieng, a town celebrated for its dramatic limestone karst landscapes. The journey itself is picturesque, passing through spectacular countryside. Along the way, you'll stop at the bustling and colorful KM52 market, offering a glimpse into local trade, and make photo stops at points of interest such as Hin Heup Bridge and the fish market in Ban Tha Heua. Upon arriving in Vang Vieng, you'll be captivated by the stunning scenery of unspoiled limestone outcrops.
In the afternoon, your adventure continues with a visit to Tham Phoukham Caves, home to one of the most beautiful and famous limestone caverns, naturally surrounded by verdant forests. You'll explore the cave and also venture into the surrounding paddy field areas, interacting with local villagers to learn about their daily lifestyles. A highlight of the cave visit is the opportunity to swim in a small natural pool located in front of the caves. After your cave exploration, you will return to town and enjoy a leisurely boat trip along the Nam Song River, perfectly timed to admire the sun setting behind the majestic mountains, creating a truly memorable vista.

Activities: Travel from Vientiane to Vang Vieng
Visit KM52 market and make photo stops

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Explore Tham Phoukham Caves
Discover paddy fields and interact with local villagers
Swim in the natural pool at the cave entrance
Enjoy a sunset boat trip on the Nam Song River

Day 19 Vang Vieng Caves & Journey to Luang Prabang

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Luang Prabang

Your morning begins with a walk around the local market in Vang Vieng, providing an authentic glimpse into the everyday life of a typical Lao rural community. Following this, you will head to Tham Jang Cave, a historically significant site that served as a defense against Chinese invaders in the early 19th century. Continue your exploration with a visit to Ban Phathau, a charming village where you can observe different local lifestyles and engage with the community.
After bidding farewell to the local village, you will embark on a scenic drive along a new road towards Luang Prabang, a city recognized as one of Southeast Asia's best-preserved traditional urban centers. The journey itself is a highlight, passing through stunning landscapes featuring a mixture of steep terraced fields and picturesque hill villages, offering numerous photo opportunities. You'll also have the chance to admire panoramic views over the surrounding area from a peak exceeding 2000 meters. Before reaching Luang Prabang, a brief stop will be made to visit a local school at Ban Nasala, providing insight into rural education in Laos. Upon arrival, you will check into your hotel for an overnight stay in Luang Prabang.

Activities: Walk around the local market in Vang Vieng
Visit Tham Jang Cave
Explore Ban Phathau village
Drive to Luang Prabang, enjoying scenic landscapes
Stop for panoramic views and photos
Visit a local school at Ban Nasala

Day 20 Luang Prabang Cultural Sites & Pak Ou Caves

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Luang Prabang

After breakfast at your hotel, your tour guide will lead you to the major attractions of Luang Prabang. Begin with a visit to the Royal Palace Museum, a historical residence built during the French colonial era for King Sisavang Vong and his family, now showcasing royal artifacts and history. Next, embark on a leisurely cruise upstream on the Mekong River, a serene journey that takes you to the mysterious Pak Ou Caves. These sacred caves house thousands of miniature Buddha images, left by pilgrims over centuries, creating a truly spiritual atmosphere.
On your return journey, you'll stop at Ban Xanghai, a village famous for producing local rice wine, where you can observe the traditional distillation process. Continue to the magnificent Wat Xiengthong, considered the most popular and historically significant temple in Luang Prabang, known for its exquisite architecture. In the afternoon, visit the Traditional Art and Ethnology Center (closed on Mondays) to learn about Laos' diverse ethnic cultures. As the day concludes, admire a beautiful sunset from Wat Prabath, followed by a visit to the famous Night Market, where you can find a lovely collection of handmade textiles and crafts by local and hill tribe artisans.

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Activities: Visit the Royal Palace Museum
Cruise the Mekong River to Pak Ou Caves
Explore the Buddha images within Pak Ou Caves
Stop at Ban Xanghai, the rice wine village
Visit Wat Xiengthong temple
Learn about ethnic cultures at the Traditional Art and Ethnology Center
Watch the sunset from Wat Prabath
Explore the Luang Prabang Night Market

Day 21 Luang Prabang Almsgiving & Kuang Si Waterfalls

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Luang Prabang

Begin your day early by waking up before sunrise to participate in the daily morning almsgiving ceremony, a deeply sacred tradition in Laos where monks collect offerings from devout locals. After this profound experience, your sightseeing tour continues with a visit to the temporary morning market near the former Royal Palace, observing local people selling their fresh catches and produce.

Return to your hotel for breakfast. Afterwards, you have the option to climb 329 steps to the summit of Phousi Hill, offering a breathtaking panoramic view of the city and the majestic Mekong River. You'll then visit Wat Visoun, the oldest temple in Luang Prabang, which once housed the revered Prabang Buddhas. The tour then takes you directly to the stunning Kuang Si Waterfalls, a natural wonder where you can admire the magnificent cascades and swim in the cool, turquoise pools. While there, explore the Bear Rescue Center, which provides sanctuary for animals saved from poachers. In the afternoon, visit the Ock Pop Tok Living Craft Center, where you can experience the charm of Laos' traditional culture and artistic crafts. The day concludes with your return to your hotel in Luang Prabang.

Activities: Participate in the daily morning almsgiving ceremony
Visit the morning market
Optional climb to Phousi Hill for panoramic views
Visit Wat Visoun, the oldest temple
Transfer to Kuang Si Waterfalls for swimming and exploration
Explore the Bear Rescue Center
Visit Ock Pop Tok Living Craft Center

Day 22 Luang Prabang Departure

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: NA

Enjoy a final morning at your leisure in Luang Prabang. This provides an opportunity for any last-minute independent exploration, perhaps revisiting a favorite spot, enjoying a final Lao coffee, or picking up some souvenirs to remember your journey. Depending on your flight schedule, you will then be transferred to the airport to catch your departure flight. We hope your extensive journey through Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos has created many happy and lasting memories.

Activities: Free time for personal exploration or shopping
Transfer to Luang Prabang airport for departure

Cambodia, Vietnam & Laos Cultural Journey: Temples, Mekong & Halong Bay – 22 Days

22D / 21N	Moderate	Private	USD 3,269 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v Overnight in a shared Twin/Double room with air-conditioning at hotels.
- v All transport during the tour in an air-conditioned vehicle as per itinerary (including airport pick up & drop off).
- v All in-tour stationed local English-speaking guides.
- v Meals as indicated in the program: 21 Breakfasts, 12 Lunches, 1 Brunch, 5 Dinners.
- v Entrance fees as per itinerary.
- v 3-day/2-night Mekong Eyes cruise ship along Mekong Delta from Phnom Penh to South Vietnam.
- v 4 domestic flights: Siem Reap – Phnom Penh; Ho Chi Minh – Da Nang; Hue – Hanoi; and Hanoi - Vientiane (20kg luggage inclusion).

NOT INCLUDED

- x International airfare.
- x Early check-in and late check-out.
- x Peak season surcharges and compulsory gala dinners (if applicable).
- x Visa fees (passport valid for at least 6 months with a minimum of 3 blank visa pages required).
- x Personal expenses (tips, laundry, gratuities, etc.).
- x Meals and drinks not mentioned in the itinerary.

PRICE INCLUDES

- v Overnight in a shared Twin/Double room with air-conditioning at hotels.
- v All transport during the tour in an air-conditioned vehicle as per itinerary (including airport pick up & drop off).
- v All in-tour stationed local English-speaking guides.
- v Meals as indicated in the program: 21 Breakfasts, 12 Lunches, 1 Brunch, 5 Dinners.
- v Entrance fees as per itinerary.
- v 3-day/2-night Mekong Eyes cruise ship along Mekong Delta from Phnom Penh to South Vietnam.
- v 4 domestic flights: Siem Reap – Phnom Penh; Ho Chi Minh – Da Nang; Hue – Hanoi; and Hanoi - Vientiane (20kg luggage inclusion).

CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-004DD670487B