Indochina Cultural Journey: Angkor, Mekong, Ha Long & Laos – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Easy	Private	USD 1,045 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Embark on a remarkable 13-day exploration across Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos, uncovering the rich history and vibrant cultures of Southeast Asia. Begin your adventure amidst the ancient temples of Angkor, including the majestic Angkor Wat. Journey through dynamic cities, cruise the serene Mekong Delta, and marvel at the limestone karsts of Ha Long Bay. Conclude your trip in the tranquil, UNESCO-listed town of Luang Prabang, experiencing local traditions and stunning natural landscapes. This tour

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

Siem Reap → Ho Chi Minh City → Hanoi → Ha Long → Luang Prabang

TOUR OVERVIEW

Overview: A Grand Indochina Expedition

This 13-day itinerary invites you to discover the essential highlights of three captivating Southeast Asian nations: Cambodia, Vietnam, and Laos. From the ancient wonders of Angkor to the natural splendor of Ha Long Bay and the spiritual tranquility of Luang Prabang, this journey offers a comprehensive cultural and historical immersion. Experience bustling urban centers, serene waterways, and breathtaking landscapes, all while enjoying comfortable transfers and expert guidance.

Journey Highlights

Witness sunrise over the ancient Angkor Wat complex from a less crowded eastern gate.

Explore the enigmatic faces of Bayon Temple and the jungle-entwined Ta Prohm.

Cruise the Tonle Sap Lake, observing local life on Cambodia's vast freshwater expanse.

Discover the vibrant history of Ho Chi Minh City, including the Reunification Palace and War Remnants Museum.

Navigate the intricate waterways of the Mekong Delta by private boat, enjoying local fruits and cuisine.

Experience an overnight traditional cruise through the stunning limestone karsts of Ha Long Bay.

Wander through Hanoi's Old Quarter and witness a traditional water puppet performance.

Journey by tuk-tuk and boat to the sacred Pak Ou Caves, filled with thousands of Buddha images in Luang Prabang.

Trek to the multi-tiered Kuang Si Waterfall and visit ethnic villages in Laos.

Route Summary

Your adventure commences in Siem Reap, Cambodia, where you'll spend three days exploring the magnificent Angkor temple complex and the unique floating villages of Tonle Sap Lake. A short flight then transports you to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, for an urban exploration and a memorable excursion into the Mekong Delta. From there, another flight takes you north to Hanoi, the capital, followed by an unforgettable overnight cruise in the iconic Ha Long Bay.

The final leg of your journey involves a flight to Luang Prabang, Laos. Here, you'll delve into the town's spiritual heritage, cruise the Mekong to the Pak Ou Caves, and trek to the stunning Kuang Si Waterfall, engaging with local ethnic communities. The tour concludes with your departure from Luang Prabang, leaving you with a profound appreciation for the diverse beauty and cultures of Indochina.

Who This Tour Suits

This tour is ideal for travelers seeking a rich blend of history, culture, and natural beauty across multiple countries. It appeals to those who appreciate ancient civilizations, vibrant city life, serene river landscapes, and dramatic natural wonders. With a

Indochina Cultural Journey: Angkor, Mekong, Ha Long & Laos – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Easy	Private	USD 1,045 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

balanced pace that includes both guided explorations and leisure time, it's suitable for individuals, couples, and small groups eager to experience the essence of Vietnam, Cambodia, and Laos without feeling rushed, utilizing domestic flights for efficient travel between key destinations.

Practical Information

This comprehensive tour includes all specified domestic flights, private ground transportation with chauffeurs, and local English-speaking guides at each major destination. Accommodation is provided on a double/twin share basis, with daily breakfast and other meals as indicated in the itinerary. Entrance fees to all listed attractions and boat trips are covered, ensuring a hassle-free experience. Travelers are responsible for international flights, visas for each country, travel insurance, and personal expenses.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

* Witness sunrise over the ancient Angkor Wat complex from a less crowded eastern gate.
* Explore the enigmatic faces of Bayon Temple and the jungle-entwined Ta Prohm.
* Cruise the Tonle Sap Lake, observing local life on Cambodia's vast freshwater expanse.
* Discover the vibrant history of Ho Chi Minh City, including the Reunification Palace and War Remnants Museum.
* Navigate the intricate waterways of the Mekong Delta by private boat, enjoying local fruits and cuisine.
* Experience an overnight traditional cruise through the stunning limestone karsts of Ha Long Bay.
* Wander through Hanoi's Old Quarter and witness a traditional water puppet performance.
* Journey by tuk-tuk and boat to the sacred Pak Ou Caves, filled with thousands of Buddha images in Luang Prabang.
* Trek to the multi-tiered Kuang Si Waterfall and visit ethnic villages in Laos.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Siem Reap Arrival and Leisure Time

Stay: Hotel in Siem Reap | Transport: Private transfer

Upon landing at the airport, a private transfer will greet you and take you directly to your hotel in Siem Reap. The remainder of your first day in Cambodia is free for you to settle in and relax. You might choose to explore the immediate surroundings of your accommodation, perhaps finding a local eatery for dinner or simply unwinding after your journey. This evening provides a gentle introduction to the cultural richness awaiting you in this historic region.

Activities: Airport reception and hotel transfer
Personal leisure and relaxation

Day 2 — Angkor Wat Sunrise and Temple Wonders

Meals: B, D | Stay: Hotel in Siem Reap | Transport: Private vehicle

Indochina Cultural Journey: Angkor, Mekong, Ha Long & Laos – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Easy	Private	USD 1,045 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Your day begins before dawn with a memorable journey to the magnificent Angkor complex. You will approach from the less-frequented eastern gate, allowing for a more serene experience as the sun ascends over the ancient structures, casting a golden glow on Angkor Wat. This early start ensures you witness the breathtaking spectacle as the temple awakens, avoiding the larger crowds.

After experiencing the sunrise and exploring parts of Angkor Wat, you'll return to your hotel for a refreshing break and breakfast. The afternoon is dedicated to further discoveries within the temple grounds, delving into the intricate carvings and historical significance of these incredible ruins. As evening approaches, prepare for a cultural highlight. You will attend a traditional Apsara Dance performance, accompanied by a delightful dinner at a local restaurant, providing a perfect end to a day of historical immersion.

Activities: Witness sunrise over Angkor Wat from the eastern gate
Explore Angkor temple complex
Enjoy a traditional Apsara Dance performance
Dine at a local restaurant

Day 3 Bayon, Ta Prohm, and Tonle Sap Lake Cruise

Meals: B | Stay: Hotel in Siem Reap | Transport: Private vehicle, boat

Today's exploration continues with visits to more iconic Angkor sites. First, marvel at the colossal stone faces adorning the Bayon Temple, each one holding a mysterious gaze. Next, you will venture to Ta Prohm, famously known as the "Tomb Raider" temple, where ancient tree roots intertwine dramatically with crumbling stone structures, creating a truly atmospheric scene of nature reclaiming architecture.

In the afternoon, the landscape shifts as you embark on a boat cruise across the vast Tonle Sap Lake. This excursion offers a unique perspective on local life, observing the floating villages and communities that thrive on the lake's waters. Following the lake adventure, you'll have the opportunity to browse the vibrant stalls of Siem Reap's old market, where you can find local crafts and souvenirs. For those seeking an off-the-beaten-path experience, an expedition to the overgrown ruins of Boeng Mealea awaits, offering a glimpse into a less-restored and more raw archaeological site, far from the typical tourist paths.

Activities: Visit Bayon Temple and its stone faces
Explore Ta Prohm, the "Tomb Raider" temple
Take a boat cruise on Tonle Sap Lake
Browse Siem Reap's old market
Undertake an expedition to Boeng Mealea ruins

Day 4 Flight to Ho Chi Minh City & Historic City Tour

Meals: B | Stay: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh City | Transport: Private transfer, flight

After breakfast, you will transfer to Siem Reap airport for a short flight to Vietnam's bustling Ho Chi Minh City. Upon arrival, a private transfer will take you to your hotel, allowing time to check in before your afternoon guided tour begins. This vibrant metropolis, formerly known as Saigon, pulsates with a youthful energy that is immediately palpable.

Your guided exploration will lead you through the city's lively streets, including the historic Dong Khoi Street, once known as

Indochina Cultural Journey: Angkor, Mekong, Ha Long & Laos – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Easy	Private	USD 1,045 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Rue Catinat, where colonial architecture blends with modern life. You will gain profound insights into Vietnam's recent history with visits to significant landmarks. The Reunification Palace, a symbol of the end of the Vietnam War, offers a glimpse into pivotal moments. Additionally, a visit to the War Remnants Museum provides a poignant and sobering perspective on the conflict through powerful exhibits and artifacts. The evening is then free for you to experience the city's dynamic atmosphere at your own pace.

Activities: Fly from Siem Reap to Ho Chi Minh City
Walk along historic Dong Khoi Street
Visit the Reunification Palace
Explore the War Remnants Museum

Day 5 Mekong Delta River Cruise & Local Life Discovery

Meals: B, L | Stay: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh City | Transport: Private vehicle, private boat

Today, you depart Ho Chi Minh City for a full-day excursion to the verdant landscapes of the Mekong Delta. Your journey takes you to My Tho, a gateway city to this fertile region. Here, you will board a private boat, embarking on a serene cruise through the intricate network of canals, surrounded by lush tropical vegetation.

The boat will transport you to a local orchard, where you'll be treated to a delicious lunch at a charming local restaurant, deep within the heart of the Mekong. This meal is complemented by an array of fresh tropical fruits, offering a true taste of the region.

Following lunch, your adventure continues with a visit to the Dong Tam snake farm. This unique facility is involved in breeding snakes for various purposes, including the production of snake wine. After an insightful experience at the farm, you will commence your return journey to Ho Chi Minh City, arriving back in the late afternoon.

Activities: Travel to My Tho in the Mekong Delta
Cruise canals by private boat
Enjoy lunch with tropical fruits at a local restaurant
Visit Dong Tam snake farm

Day 6 Ho Chi Minh City: Personal Exploration Day

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

Today is dedicated to independent exploration of Ho Chi Minh City, with no scheduled activities, allowing you complete freedom to discover the city at your leisure. The city offers a myriad of options to suit every interest. You might consider a thrilling ride on a traditional cyclo, navigating the winding streets and observing daily life unfold. This could take you past notable landmarks such as Tao Dan Park, a green oasis in the urban sprawl, en route to the impressive Notre Dame Cathedral, a striking example of French colonial architecture.

Alternatively, the city's culinary scene beckons with an endless selection of restaurants and cafes. You could spend your day sampling local street food, savoring Vietnamese coffee, or enjoying a leisurely meal in a more upscale setting. This free day provides a perfect opportunity to delve deeper into specific interests, indulge in some shopping, or simply relax and reflect on the experiences of your journey so far. You will spend another night in Ho Chi Minh City, ensuring ample time to unwind.

Indochina Cultural Journey: Angkor, Mekong, Ha Long & Laos – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Easy	Private	USD 1,045 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Activities: Independent city exploration
Optional cyclo ride
Optional visit to Tao Dan Park and Notre Dame Cathedral
Sampling local food and drink

Day 7 Flight to Hanoi & Old Quarter Discovery

Meals: B | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi | Transport: Private transfer, flight

Following breakfast, you will transfer to the airport for a domestic flight to Hanoi, Vietnam's elegant capital city. Upon arrival, a private transfer will take you to your hotel. The afternoon is dedicated to immersing yourself in the captivating charm of Hanoi, beginning with an exploration of its historic Old Quarter. This maze of narrow streets, each traditionally dedicated to a specific trade, offers a sensory overload of sights, sounds, and aromas.
Your tour continues with visits to significant cultural sites. You will contemplate the ancient Temple of Literature, Vietnam's first national university, a serene complex of courtyards and pavilions. Next, gain insight into a darker chapter of history at the infamous 'Hanoi Hilton,' the Hoa Lo Prison, which housed Vietnamese revolutionaries and later American POWs. As evening descends, a cultural highlight awaits: a delightful performance of Hanoi's renowned water puppets, an art form deeply rooted in Vietnamese tradition. This unique show provides an entertaining and authentic cultural experience before you retire for the night.

Activities: Fly from Ho Chi Minh City to Hanoi
Explore Hanoi's Old Quarter
Visit the Temple of Literature
Tour the Hoa Lo Prison ('Hanoi Hilton')
Attend a traditional water puppet show

Day 8 Scenic Drive to Ha Long Bay & Overnight Cruise

Meals: B, L, D | Stay: Onboard Cruise in Ha Long Bay | Transport: Private vehicle, cruise boat

After enjoying breakfast at your Hanoi hotel, you will embark on a scenic three-hour drive to the spectacular Ha Long Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage site renowned for its emerald waters and thousands of towering limestone islands. Upon arrival, you will board your traditional cruise boat, ready to begin your overnight adventure amidst this breathtaking seascape.
Your cruise commences with a delicious seafood lunch served on board as you gently sail through the bay's iconic karsts. The afternoon offers a chance to explore some of the magnificent limestone caves, revealing stunning stalactites and stalagmites. Later, you can choose to take a refreshing swim in the bay's calm waters, relax on the sun-drenched top deck, or try your hand at kayaking, paddling through secluded coves and around the dramatic rock formations. The evening concludes with dinner on board, followed by a peaceful overnight stay amidst the serene beauty of Ha Long Bay.

Activities: Drive to Ha Long Bay
Board an overnight cruise
Enjoy a seafood lunch on board
Explore limestone caves
Swim or relax on deck

Indochina Cultural Journey: Angkor, Mekong, Ha Long & Laos – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Easy	Private	USD 1,045 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Optional kayaking

Day 9 Ha Long Bay Morning & Return to Hanoi

Meals: B, L | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi | Transport: Cruise boat, private vehicle

Wake up to the tranquil beauty of Ha Long Bay this morning. The cruise continues its journey, seeking out more secluded areas within the bay. Here, you'll have another opportunity to indulge in swimming in the pristine waters or exploring hidden corners by kayak, further appreciating the natural splendor of this unique landscape.

Around midday, the boat will begin its return to the main harbor, allowing for a final panoramic view of the bay's majestic scenery. After disembarking, an awaiting vehicle will transfer you back to Hanoi. The journey typically takes a few hours, and you can expect to arrive at your hotel in the capital city around 3:00 PM. The rest of the afternoon and evening are then free for you to relax, perhaps revisit a favorite spot, or enjoy a quiet dinner at your leisure, reflecting on your memorable cruise experience.

Activities: Morning swimming or kayaking in Ha Long Bay
Cruise back to main harbor
Transfer back to Hanoi
Leisure time in Hanoi

Day 10 Flight to Luang Prabang, Laos & Riverside Arrival

Meals: B | Stay: Hotel in Luang Prabang | Transport: Private transfer, flight

After breakfast at your hotel in Hanoi, you will be transferred to the airport for a short flight to Luang Prabang, Laos. This charming town, a UNESCO World Heritage site, is nestled on the banks of the mighty Mekong River and exudes an atmosphere of profound tranquility and spiritual grace.

Upon arrival at Luang Prabang airport, a private transfer will be arranged to take you to your accommodation. The remainder of the day is free for you to settle into this peaceful environment. You might take a leisurely stroll along the Mekong River, observe the local way of life, or simply relax at your hotel. The town's unique blend of traditional Lao architecture and French colonial influences, combined with its many temples and natural beauty, makes it a truly enchanting destination to begin your exploration of Laos.

Activities: Fly from Hanoi to Luang Prabang
Transfer to hotel
Leisure time in Luang Prabang

Day 11 Pak Ou Caves & Mekong Riverside Village Exploration

Meals: B, L | Stay: Hotel in Luang Prabang | Transport: Private tuk-tuk, ferry, boat

Your day begins at 8:00 AM with your tour guide picking you up from your hotel. You'll then embark on a private tuk-tuk ride through the picturesque Laotian countryside, heading towards Ban Pak Ou, located approximately 27 kilometers (17 miles)

Indochina Cultural Journey: Angkor, Mekong, Ha Long & Laos – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Easy	Private	USD 1,045 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

from Luang Prabang. Upon arrival, a ferry will take you across the majestic Mekong River to reach the renowned Pak Ou Caves.

A climb of 250 steps leads you to the caves, offering fantastic panoramic views of the Mekong. Inside, you can explore Tham Ting (the lower cave) and Tham Theung (the upper cave), which house over 3,000 Buddha sculptures, some adorned with semi-precious stones. Your guide will explain the historical and spiritual significance of this remote site. Afterward, you'll reboard the boat and continue your journey along the Mekong, observing daily life along the verdant riverbanks. Disembark at Ban Xang Khong, a village known for its traditional mulberry paper making and intricate Lao textile weaving on ancient looms. The tour also includes a stop at Ban Xang Hai village, where Lao-Lao rice whisky is produced and bottled, sometimes with a snake or scorpion inside – an optional tasting awaits the adventurous. By 12:00 PM, you will return to Luang Prabang by boat, concluding a morning rich in cultural discovery.

Activities: Tuk-tuk ride to Ban Pak Ou
Ferry crossing to Pak Ou Caves
Explore Tham Ting and Tham Theung caves
Boat journey along the Mekong River
Visit Ban Xang Khong (mulberry paper and textile village)
Visit Ban Xang Hai (Lao-Lao rice whisky village)

Day 12 Kuang Si Waterfall Trek & Ethnic Village Immersion

Meals: B, L | Stay: Hotel in Luang Prabang | Transport: Private vehicle, trekking

At 8:00 AM, your guide and driver will pick you up from your hotel for an exciting day exploring the natural beauty and local cultures surrounding Luang Prabang. After approximately an hour's drive, your first stop is the ethnic Khmu village of Ban Longlao Neung. Following this, you'll continue trekking to the nearby Hmong village of Ban Longlao Song. This unique experience allows you to observe the distinct lifestyles of these two minority groups, witnessing how they coexist and even share a school despite their cultural differences.

The trail then leads through scenic rice paddies and vegetable fields before ascending into the mountainous forest. Along the way, you'll explore a cave that served as a bomb shelter for locals during the Second Indochina War, offering a poignant historical insight. After the cave visit, another hour of trekking brings you to one of the many springs feeding the magnificent Kuang Si Waterfalls, where a beautiful pool teeming with sacred fish can be admired. Descending from the top of the waterfall, you'll enjoy a delicious Lao-style lunch amidst the stunning natural surroundings.

The afternoon is dedicated to relaxation and enjoyment around the turquoise pools at the base of the waterfall, perfect for swimming and unwinding. You also have the option to visit the nearby bear conservation center, which provides a sanctuary for bears rescued from illegal farms. Before returning to Luang Prabang, a short walk takes you to Ban Thapene, another Khmu village situated near some of Kuang Si's most picturesque pools. You will be driven back to your hotel by car, arriving around 6:00 PM, concluding a day full of adventure and cultural exchange.

Activities: Visit Khmu village of Ban Longlao Neung
Trek to Hmong village of Ban Longlao Song
Explore a cave used as a bomb shelter
Hike to the springs of Kuang Si Waterfall

Indochina Cultural Journey: Angkor, Mekong, Ha Long & Laos – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Easy	Private	USD 1,045 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Enjoy a Lao-style lunch
Swim and relax at Kuang Si Waterfalls
Optional visit to a bear conservation center
Visit Khmu village of Ban Thapene

Day 13 Luang Prabang Departure

Meals: B | Transport: Private transfer

Enjoy your final breakfast in Luang Prabang. The morning is free for any last-minute souvenir shopping, a final stroll along the Mekong, or simply relaxing at your hotel. At the appropriate time, a private transfer will be arranged to take you to Luang Prabang airport for your onward departure flight, marking the end of your comprehensive Indochina journey.

Activities: Leisure time
Airport transfer for departure

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v Accommodation based on double/twin share
- v Daily breakfast at hotels
- v Private vehicles with chauffeurs
- v All specified domestic flights within the tour
- v Private local tour guides
- v Other meals as specified in the itinerary
- v Entrance and visiting fees
- v Boat trips as specified
- v Bottled drinking water during the tour
- v All taxes and service charges

NOT INCLUDED

- x Visas for Vietnam, Laos, and Cambodia
- x International flights
- x Airport departure taxes (if required)
- x Travel insurance (trip, medical, personal)
- x Daily personal expenses, shopping, and laundry
- x Early check-in or late check-out at hotels
- x Gratuities for local tour guides and drivers

PRICE INCLUDES

- v Accommodation based on double/twin share
- v Daily breakfast at hotels
- v Private vehicles with chauffeurs
- v All specified domestic flights within the tour
- v Private local tour guides
- v Other meals as specified in the itinerary

Indochina Cultural Journey: Angkor, Mekong, Ha Long & Laos – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Easy	Private	USD 1,045 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

- v Entrance and visiting fees
- v Boat trips as specified
- v Bottled drinking water during the tour
- v All taxes and service charges

CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-1B8CE4302181