Indochina Heritage & Mekong Discovery: Cambodia, Laos, Vietnam – 26 Days

26D / 25N	Moderate	Private	USD 3,059 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Embark on an extensive 26-day exploration across Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam, uncovering ancient wonders, vibrant cultural traditions, and breathtaking natural landscapes. This immersive journey takes you from the majestic temples of Angkor to the tranquil waters of Halong Bay and the bustling life of the Mekong Delta, offering a profound insight into Southeast Asia's rich heritage.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

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

TOUR OVERVIEW

Overview: Indochina's Enduring Charms

This comprehensive 26-day expedition invites travelers to delve deep into the heart of Indochina, connecting three distinct nations: Cambodia, Laos, and Vietnam. From the moment you arrive in Siem Reap, a tapestry of history, spirituality, and natural beauty unfolds. Experience the grandeur of ancient empires, the serene spirituality of Buddhist traditions, and the dynamic energy of modern Southeast Asian life, all while traversing diverse landscapes and engaging with local cultures.

Journey Highlights

Explore the magnificent Angkor Wat complex and the ancient city of Angkor Thom in Siem Reap.

Cruise through the unique Chong Kneas Floating Village on Tonle Sap Lake, observing daily life on water.

Experience a traditional overnight cruise amidst the stunning limestone karsts of UNESCO-listed Halong Bay.

Discover the vast geological formations of Phong Nha and Paradise Caves in Quang Binh.

Gain insights into Vietnam's wartime history at the Vinh Moc Tunnels and the DMZ.

Wander through the Imperial Citadel and Thien Mu Pagoda in the historic city of Hue.

Stroll the lantern-lit streets of Hoi An Ancient Town and visit the sacred My Son Sanctuary.

Navigate the vibrant Cai Rang Floating Market and local workshops in the Mekong Delta.

Witness the spiritual architecture of Vientiane, including Wat Sisaket and That Luang Stupa.

Relax in the scenic natural beauty of Vang Vieng, surrounded by limestone mountains and the Nam Song River.

Immerse yourself in the spiritual atmosphere of Luang Prabang, visiting temples and the Pak Ou Caves.

Route Summary

The adventure commences in Siem Reap, Cambodia, before flying to Vietnam's capital, Hanoi. The journey through Vietnam continues to Mai Chau, Halong Bay, Quang Binh, Hue, Hoi An, and Ho Chi Minh City, concluding with an exploration of the Mekong Delta. From Ho Chi Minh City, a flight transports you to Vientiane, Laos, followed by travel to Vang Vieng and the spiritual hub of Luang Prabang, where the tour concludes.

Who Is This Tour For?

This extensive tour is ideally suited for seniors and couples seeking a deep cultural and historical immersion. With a mix of guided explorations and leisure time, it caters to those who appreciate detailed insights into local traditions, ancient sites, and diverse natural environments. The pace allows for thorough discovery, appealing to travelers eager to uncover the authentic essence of each destination.

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Practical Information

Accommodations range from comfortable 3-star to 5-star hotels, alongside unique experiences like an overnight cruise in Halong Bay, a communal stilt house stay in Mai Chau, and an overnight train journey. Transportation includes domestic flights, private cars, vans, trains, and boats, ensuring seamless travel between destinations. Meals are predominantly breakfasts, with several lunches and dinners included, offering opportunities to savor local cuisine.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

* Explore the ancient wonders of Angkor Wat and Angkor Thom in Siem Reap.
* Experience an overnight cruise through the breathtaking limestone landscape of Halong Bay.
* Discover the colossal Phong Nha and Paradise Caves within Vietnam's Quang Binh province.
* Gain historical perspective at the Vinh Moc Tunnels and Vietnam's Demilitarized Zone.
* Wander through the Imperial Citadel and Thien Mu Pagoda in the former imperial capital of Hue.
* Stroll through the UNESCO-listed Hoi An Ancient Town and visit the Cham ruins of My Son Sanctuary.
* Navigate the bustling Cai Rang Floating Market and traditional craft villages in the Mekong Delta.
* Visit significant Buddhist temples and the golden That Luang Stupa in Vientiane, Laos.
* Enjoy the serene natural beauty and explore Tham Jang Cave in Vang Vieng.
* Discover the spiritual Pak Ou Caves and the vibrant Night Market in Luang Prabang.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Siem Reap Arrival and Leisure

Meals: NA | Stay: Hotel in Siem Reap

Upon landing at Siem Reap Airport, you will be greeted by a local guide and driver who will facilitate your transfer to the hotel. After checking in, the remainder of the day is yours to unwind or begin your independent exploration of this fascinating city. Take time to adjust to your new surroundings and prepare for the adventures ahead in the heart of Cambodia.

Activities: Airport transfer to hotel
Check into accommodation
Leisure time for relaxation or independent exploration

Day 2 — Angkor Wat, Angkor Thom & Ta Prohm Exploration

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Siem Reap

Your morning begins with a meeting with your guide at the hotel, setting off for an immersive tour of the Angkor complex. The

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first stop is Angkor Wat, a renowned Hindu-Buddhist temple celebrated for its ancient allure and grand scale. Within this archaeological park, you will encounter the impressive Angkor Thom, entering through its South Gate, famously adorned with colossal statues depicting the Churning of the Ocean of Milk.

Next, proceed to Bayon Temple, a unique Cambodian temple featuring 54 towering structures, each intricately carved with over 200 smiling faces of Avolokitesvara. The tour continues past other notable sites such as the Royal Enclosure, Phimeanakas, the Elephant Terrace, and the Terrace of the Leper King. Lunch will be at a local restaurant, at your own expense.

The afternoon brings an exciting visit to Ta Prohm, an ancient Buddhist temple dedicated to Jayavarman VII's mother. This temple captivates visitors with its distinctive jungle ambiance, where enormous tree roots intertwine with cracked stone walls and corridors, creating a photogenic setting. The exploration offers a deep dive into the architectural and natural wonders of Angkor.

Activities:
Visit Angkor Wat temple complex
Explore Angkor Thom and its South Gate
Discover Bayon Temple with its smiling faces
Pass by the Royal Enclosure, Phimeanakas, Elephant Terrace, and Terrace of the Leper King
Have lunch at a local restaurant
Visit Ta Prohm temple, known for its jungle integration

Day 3 Chong Kneas Floating Village & Artisans d'Angkor

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Siem Reap

Today offers flexibility, with your guide and driver picking you up from your hotel between 8:30 AM and 1:00 PM to commence an enriching tour to Chong Kneas Floating Village. Boarding a traditional wooden boat, you will glide across the waters of Tonle Sap Lake, often referred to as Cambodia's "Great Lake." As the boat traverses Chong Kneas, observe the unique daily life on the water, passing by floating homes, schools, and various community structures.

After docking, disembark to explore the village on foot, gaining deeper insights into the ingenuity and customs of the lake-dwelling communities. The journey continues with a visit to Les Artisans d'Angkor – Chantiers Ecoles, where skilled craftspeople demonstrate traditional Cambodian artistry, including wood carving, stone sculpture, and silk painting. This experience provides a profound appreciation for the nation's rich artistic heritage. Following your exploration, you will return to your hotel for an evening at your leisure.

Activities:
Take a boat tour to Chong Kneas Floating Village
Observe daily life on Tonle Sap Lake
Explore the village on foot
Visit Les Artisans d'Angkor – Chantiers Ecoles
Witness traditional Cambodian crafts like wood carving and silk painting

Day 4 Siem Reap Departure & Hanoi Arrival

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

Following breakfast at your hotel, you will have some free time to relax or conduct any last-minute activities in Siem Reap.

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Later, a transfer will take you to Siem Reap Airport for your flight to Hanoi, Vietnam's charming capital city. Upon arrival at Hanoi, your local guide and driver will extend a warm welcome and provide transportation to your hotel for check-in.
The remainder of the day is yours to settle in, refresh, or begin your independent exploration of Hanoi at your own pace. Take this opportunity to absorb the initial impressions of Vietnam's bustling yet historic capital, perhaps enjoying a leisurely walk around the vicinity of your accommodation.

Activities: Enjoy leisure time in Siem Reap
Transfer to Siem Reap Airport
Fly to Hanoi, Vietnam
Meet guide and driver upon arrival in Hanoi
Transfer to hotel for check-in
Free time to relax or explore Hanoi independently

Day 5 Hanoi Historical Landmarks & Old Quarter Discovery

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

Begin your day with breakfast at the hotel before embarking on a half-day sightseeing tour of Hanoi. At 8:00 AM, your guide will meet you to commence a journey to the city's most significant historical sites. Your first stop is the Temple of Literature, Vietnam's inaugural university, a symbol of Confucianism during the Ly Dynasty and a birthplace of many prominent Vietnamese scholars across generations.
Proceed to Ba Dinh Square, where you can admire the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and learn about the pivotal historical moment when President Ho Chi Minh declared Vietnam's independence. A stroll along the picturesque Thanh Nien road leads you to the 6th-century Tran Quoc Buddhist Pagoda, beautifully situated in the middle of West Lake, offering excellent photo opportunities of its architecture and serene setting.
After a morning of historical discovery, enjoy a delicious lunch at an authentic Vietnamese restaurant. The afternoon is dedicated to rest and refreshment at your hotel, preparing you for an evening of independent exploration to discover Hanoi by night, perhaps venturing into the vibrant Old Quarter.

Activities: Visit the Temple of Literature
Explore Ba Dinh Square and view Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum
Stroll along Thanh Nien road
Visit Tran Quoc Buddhist Pagoda on West Lake
Enjoy an authentic Vietnamese lunch
Free time to explore Hanoi by night

Day 6 Hanoi to Mai Chau Transfer & Valley Trekking

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

After breakfast, you will be picked up from your hotel in Hanoi and begin your scenic transfer by van to Mai Chau. The journey takes you through picturesque landscapes, arriving at Mai Chau around midday. Upon arrival, a traditional lunch awaits you in the village, with vegetarian options available to cater to all dietary preferences.

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The afternoon offers a range of optional activities, allowing you to engage with the local environment at your own pace. Consider cycling through the stunning terraced rice fields, an excellent way to explore the area's natural beauty and learn about the traditional customs and culture of the local communities. You will also have free time for walking or shopping for local handicrafts.

In the evening, savor a dinner featuring authentic Thai ethnic cuisine, providing a true taste of the region. For groups larger than five, the evening is enhanced with a traditional Thai dance performance and a tasting of 'ruou can', the renowned communal rice wine, offering a deeper cultural immersion.

Activities: Transfer from Hanoi to Mai Chau by van
Enjoy a traditional village lunch
Optional cycling through terraced rice fields
Free time for walking or shopping
Dine on authentic Thai ethnic cuisine
Experience traditional Thai dance performance (for groups over 5)
Taste 'ruou can' communal rice wine (for groups over 5)

Day 7 Mai Chau Village Exploration & Return to Hanoi

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

Your morning in Mai Chau begins with a guided tour alongside a local expert, venturing into the more secluded rural villages of Na Meo and Na Mo. This provides a unique opportunity to gain a deeper understanding of the local culture and customs of the ethnic communities residing here. Observe daily life, traditional practices, and the serene environment that defines these remote areas.

Following your village exploration, return to your homestay for lunch and to complete the check-out process. The afternoon is reserved for your leisure, allowing for some last-minute souvenir shopping or simply relaxing and soaking in the tranquil atmosphere of Mai Chau.

Between 3:00 PM and 3:30 PM, bid farewell to your host family as you board the bus for the return journey to Hanoi. The drive typically lasts between 3.5 to 4 hours. Upon arrival in Hanoi, you will be dropped off at your hotel, concluding your refreshing escape to the Mai Chau valley.

Activities: Guided visit to Na Meo and Na Mo villages
Learn about local culture and customs
Enjoy lunch at the homestay
Check out from accommodation
Free time for shopping or relaxation
Transfer back to Hanoi by bus

Day 8 Hanoi to Halong Bay Cruise & Overnight Experience

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

Your day begins with a luxury limousine pick-up from your Hanoi hotel between 8:00 AM and 8:30 AM, after a satisfying

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breakfast. Enjoy a comfortable 2.5-hour transfer to the World Heritage Site of Halong Bay, with a brief stop halfway. Upon reaching the cruise's waiting lounge in Halong, you will be warmly welcomed by the staff and swiftly checked in.

A speedboat will then transfer you to the main cruise vessel, where the cruise manager will share intriguing stories about the bay. Boarding commences at 12:15 PM, met with a friendly welcome from the captain and crew, accompanied by a refreshing welcome drink. After settling into your room, a delicious lunch is served in the restaurant, offering stunning views of thousands of limestone karsts dotting the emerald waters.

The afternoon is dedicated to water activities that bring you closer to Halong Bay's natural splendor. Depending on the cruise itinerary, you might conquer an island peak, explore caves, or kayak through hidden islets and grottoes. Returning to the cruise, take a short rest before participating in a Vietnamese cooking class with the chef, or enjoy cocktails during Happy Hour from 5:00 PM to 5:30 PM, as the sun begins to set.

The evening culminates with a deluxe dinner served in the restaurant. The night on board offers various vibrant activities, including squid fishing, watching movies, engaging in board games, or simply relaxing at the night bar, ensuring a memorable experience amidst the bay's serene beauty.

Activities:
- Luxury limousine transfer from Hanoi to Halong Bay
- Check-in at cruise lounge and transfer to cruise by speedboat
- Embark on the cruise with a welcome drink
- Enjoy lunch while cruising through Halong Bay
- Participate in water activities: island trekking, caving, kayaking
- Attend a Vietnamese cooking class
- Enjoy Happy Hour with cocktails
- Savor a deluxe dinner on board
- Engage in evening activities: squid fishing, movies, board games

Day 9 Halong Bay Morning Activities & Overnight Train to Dong Hoi

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Overnight on train

Wake early to participate in a Tai Chi class at 6:00 AM, or simply enjoy the fresh morning air from your cabin. A light breakfast is served to energize you for the day's continued exploration. Discover more hidden spots, gaining insight into the lifestyle of the local fishing villages, or simply relax and swim in the bay's refreshing waters.

Return to the cruise for a final, comprehensive brunch. Check-out procedures will be completed between 10:00 AM and 10:30 AM as the cruise makes its way back to the pier. A speedboat transfer will take you ashore, where you'll bid farewell to the captain and crew, arriving at the port around 11:15 AM.

The afternoon involves a luxury limousine transfer back to Hanoi. You will have free time upon arrival in Hanoi before being transferred to the Hanoi train station for an overnight journey to Dong Hoi, preparing for the next leg of your adventure.

Activities:
- Participate in a Tai Chi class or enjoy the fresh air
- Enjoy a light breakfast
- Explore more of Halong Bay or swim
- Have a final brunch on the cruise
- Complete check-out procedures
- Transfer by speedboat to the pier

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Luxury limousine transfer back to Hanoi
Free time in Hanoi
Transfer to Hanoi train station for overnight train to Dong Hoi

Day 10 Phong Nha & Paradise Caves Exploration

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

Arrive in Dong Hoi early in the morning, where you will be met by your driver at the train station. Your journey immediately takes you towards Phong Nha, with a stop at a local restaurant for breakfast. You'll soon reach the Phong Nha-Ke Bang attraction complex, venturing deep into the Vietnamese jungle, offering a unique opportunity to experience Vietnam's untouched wilderness.

After a 25-minute boat trip, you will arrive at the entrance of Phong Nha Cave. Take ample time to explore and marvel at the intricate beauty of this natural wonder, with its impressive stalactites and stalagmites. Following your cave exploration, a delicious lunch will be served at a local restaurant, providing a taste of regional cuisine.

The afternoon is dedicated to an excursion to Paradise Cave, renowned as one of the world's most beautiful caves and the longest dry cave in Asia. Wander through its vast chambers, admiring the spectacular formations. After this incredible underground adventure, you will be transferred back to your hotel in Dong Hoi, concluding a day filled with natural marvels.

Activities: Arrive in Dong Hoi and meet driver
Transfer to Phong Nha with a breakfast stop
Take a boat trip to Phong Nha Cave
Explore the natural beauty of Phong Nha Cave
Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant
Visit Paradise Cave, the longest dry cave in Asia
Transfer back to hotel in Dong Hoi

Day 11 Vinh Moc Tunnels, DMZ & Hue Transfer

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hue

Your day begins with a pick-up from your hotel in Dong Hoi, heading towards the historic Vinh Moc Tunnels. Along the route, you will make stops to observe a small church bearing the scars of mortar attacks and visit former US Bases, providing a poignant glimpse into the region's past conflicts.

The journey continues through the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ), an area that witnessed some of the most intense battles during the Vietnam War. You will walk across the Ben Hai River on the Hien Luong Bridge, which historically marked the division between North and South Vietnam from 1954 to 1975, offering a profound sense of historical significance.

In the afternoon, arrive at the fascinating Vinh Moc Tunnels and join a guided tour. Venture into the complex network of tunnels, exploring the tiny living quarters, food and weapon storage areas, and even a school, all carved underground where villagers sought refuge and survived. Observe the massive bomb craters and an amazing fighting trench above ground. The trip concludes with a transfer to Hue, where you will check into your hotel.

Activities: Visit a church with mortar attack signs and former US Bases

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Travel through the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ)
Walk across the Ben Hai River on Hien Luong Bridge
Explore the Vinh Moc Tunnels complex
Learn about the underground life of villagers during the war
Transfer to Hue and check into hotel

Day 12 Hue Imperial City & Market Tour

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hue

At 8:00 AM, embark on a half-day tour of Hue, beginning with a visit to Thien Mu Pagoda. This iconic pagoda is gracefully situated on a hill overlooking the serene Perfume River, offering picturesque views and a sense of tranquility. Explore its grounds and learn about its historical and spiritual significance.

Next, delve into the grandeur of the Imperial Citadel, the former capital of Vietnam during the Nguyen dynasty. Wander through its impressive gates, palaces, and temples, imagining the lives of emperors and their court. This sprawling complex provides a deep insight into Vietnam's last imperial family.

Conclude your morning with a visit to Dong Ba Market, the largest commercial center in Hue. Here, you can experience the vibrant local life, browse a wide array of goods from traditional crafts to fresh produce, and perhaps find unique souvenirs. The market offers a lively atmosphere and a glimpse into daily Vietnamese commerce.

Activities: Visit Thien Mu Pagoda overlooking the Perfume River
Explore the Imperial Citadel, former capital of Vietnam
Shop and experience local life at Dong Ba Market

Day 13 Hue to Hoi An Transfer & Ancient Town Arrival

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An

After enjoying breakfast and completing the check-out process at your hotel in Hue, you will be transferred to Hoi An. The journey will be by shuttle bus or private car, offering scenic views as you travel south towards the coast. This road transfer is approximately 3-4 hours, allowing you to relax and enjoy the changing landscapes.

Upon arrival in Hoi An Ancient Town, you will be taken directly to your hotel for check-in. The remainder of the day is free for you to settle in and begin to soak up the unique atmosphere of this UNESCO World Heritage site. Take a leisurely stroll through the charming streets, admire the ancient architecture, and prepare for further exploration in the days to come.

Activities: Check out from hotel in Hue
Transfer from Hue to Hoi An by shuttle bus or private car
Arrive in Hoi An Ancient Town
Check into hotel
Enjoy free time to relax or begin exploring Hoi An

Day 14 My Son Sanctuary & Thu Bon River Cruise

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

Today, journey from Hoi An to the historically significant My Son Sanctuary, where ancient Cham temples stand peacefully within a lush green valley. Take your time to explore the intriguing ruins, as your guide recounts the rich history of the Champa civilization. The visit is enhanced by a traditional performance, adding a cultural dimension to your historical discovery. Following the sanctuary visit, proceed to a local home to learn the traditional art of making rice paper. Engage in a hands-on experience, crafting your own rice paper, and then savor the taste of your creation. This offers a delightful insight into local culinary practices. Continue to another local residence for a relaxing meal, enjoying simple, freshly prepared dishes and herbal tea in a tranquil setting. (For the sunset option, this meal is replaced with a light local snack like banh mi and fresh coconut). Afterwards, embark on a serene boat ride along the Thu Bon River, appreciating the calm views as you make your way back to Hoi An. The tour concludes with a convenient drop-off at your hotel, leaving you with memories of ancient history and local life.

Activities:
Travel to My Son Sanctuary
Explore the ancient Cham temples and learn their history
Watch a traditional cultural performance
Visit a local home to learn rice paper making
Participate in a hands-on rice paper making experience and taste it
Enjoy a relaxing meal with local dishes and herbal tea (or snack for sunset option)
Take a boat ride along the Thu Bon River
Return to Hoi An hotel

Day 15 Hoi An Free Day

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An

After breakfast at your hotel, the entire day is yours to freely explore Hoi An at your own pace. This charming ancient town offers a myriad of possibilities for discovery. You might choose to wander through its lantern-lit streets, admiring the unique blend of Vietnamese, Chinese, and Japanese architectural influences, or browse the numerous tailor shops and art galleries. Consider taking a leisurely bicycle ride through the surrounding rice paddies, visiting local craft workshops, or simply relaxing by the Thu Bon River. For those seeking deeper cultural engagement, optional tours are available to further explore Hoi An's rich heritage and lifestyle, such as a My Son Sanctuary half-day tour or a 'Life as a Farmer in Cam Thanh Village' experience. Enjoy the freedom to tailor your day to your personal interests.

Activities:
Free day to explore Hoi An independently
Wander through the Ancient Town
Shop for souvenirs or visit tailor shops
Option to cycle through rice paddies
Consider optional tours like My Son Sanctuary or Cam Thanh Village experience

Day 16 Hoi An to Ho Chi Minh City Flight & City Discovery

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

Following a refreshing breakfast and completing your hotel check-out, your driver will transfer you to Da Nang Airport. Here,

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you will catch your flight to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam's dynamic southern metropolis. The flight offers a convenient way to travel between these two distinct regions of Vietnam.

Upon arrival at Tan Son Nhat Airport in Ho Chi Minh City, a transfer service will be waiting to take you to your hotel. After checking in and refreshing, the rest of the day is yours to begin uncovering the vibrant energy of this bustling city. You might choose to explore nearby areas independently or consider joining optional evening activities to experience South Vietnam's rich history or enjoy a special dinner cruise along the Saigon River.

Activities:
Check out from hotel in Hoi An
Transfer to Da Nang Airport
Fly to Ho Chi Minh City
Meet transfer at Tan Son Nhat Airport
Transfer to hotel for check-in and refreshment
Free time to explore Ho Chi Minh City independently
Consider optional evening activities like A O Show or Saigon River Dinner Cruise

Day 17 Ho Chi Minh City Historical Tour

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

Begin your day with breakfast in the rare tranquility of Ho Chi Minh City's morning. At 8:00 AM, meet your guide in the lobby for a comprehensive city tour, exploring numerous historical landmarks that narrate the story of the city once known as the 'Pearl of the Far East.' Your first destination is the Reunification Palace, formerly the official residence of the President of the Republic of Vietnam, showcasing striking French colonial architecture.

Next, visit the War Remnants Museum, the city's oldest museum, housing invaluable artifacts that depict the harsh realities of the Vietnam War. Continue to the Saigon Central Post Office and Notre Dame Cathedral, both iconic and historic buildings in this bustling city, renowned for their impressive French colonial design (note: Notre Dame Cathedral is under renovation until 2027).

Seek a moment of peace at the Jade Emperor Pagoda, a historic Chinese temple adorned with vibrant, decorative designs, offering a glimpse into Ho Chi Minh City's spiritual side. Conclude your morning by wandering through a local market, where you can practice your bargaining skills while shopping for everything from sandals to exquisite silk Ao Dai, and select unique souvenirs. You will return to your hotel around 12:30 PM, concluding an exciting morning of discovery.

Activities:
Visit Reunification Palace
Explore the War Remnants Museum
See Saigon Central Post Office and Notre Dame Cathedral (under renovation)
Visit Jade Emperor Pagoda
Wander and shop at a local market

Day 18 Mekong Delta Immersion & Can Tho Overnight

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Can Tho

After breakfast and checking out from your hotel, your driver and guide will meet you at 8:00 AM to commence your journey to

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Cai Be, a drive of less than two hours. Upon arrival at Cai Be dry market, you will observe the vibrant local trade and have the opportunity to purchase various local products, experiencing the authentic daily life of the region.
Next, board a traditional wooden boat and set sail into the captivating surroundings of the Mekong Delta. As you drift along the canals, you'll stop at a local family factory to witness the production of various regional specialties, including coconut candy, rice paper, pop rice, jackfruit wine, and banana wine. You'll gain hands-on insight into these traditional crafts and have the chance to buy some products.
Continuing by sampan, you will head to Tan Phong Island, where you can enjoy 'Don Ca Tai Tu', a traditional Southern Vietnamese music genre, sample tropical fruits, and listen to locals share insights into their culture. Lunch will be a memorable experience at Mr. Vo's ancient house, where you'll be served renowned dishes, including the famous elephant ear fish (fried giant gourami), a specialty of the Mekong Delta. Concluding the first day of your authentic Mekong Delta exploration, you will drive to your hotel in Can Tho by car to check in and relax. The evening offers the chance to taste varied local dishes at the night market at your leisure.

Activities:
- Travel to Cai Be dry market
- Observe local trade and purchase products
- Board a wooden boat to the Mekong Delta
- Visit a local family factory to see product making (coconut candy, rice paper)
- Learn how to make local products
- Take a sampan to Tan Phong Island
- Enjoy 'Don Ca Tai Tu' traditional music and tropical fruits
- Have lunch at Mr. Vo's ancient house, trying elephant ear fish
- Drive to Can Tho and check into hotel
- Explore Can Tho night market independently

Day 19 Cai Rang Floating Market & Return to Ho Chi Minh City

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

Begin your day early with breakfast and check out from your hotel in Can Tho. You will bid farewell to Can Tho as you make your way to the Cai Rang floating market in the early morning. Arriving at Cai Rang around 8:00 AM, you will be immersed in the bustling trading life along the riverbanks, observing how locals transport passengers and goods via the waterways.
A unique aspect of this market is how vendors advertise their products by hanging them on a tall pole, a fascinating sight to behold. Witness the lively exchanges and vibrant atmosphere of one of the Mekong Delta's most iconic floating markets. This experience offers a genuine glimpse into the region's traditional commerce and daily rhythm.
After exploring the floating market, you will begin your journey back to Ho Chi Minh City. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel, allowing you to settle back into the city environment after your immersive Mekong Delta adventure.

Activities:
- Early morning check out from Can Tho hotel
- Travel to Cai Rang floating market
- Observe bustling trade life and unique product advertising on the river
- Witness locals transporting goods and passengers by waterway
- Return transfer to Ho Chi Minh City
- Check into hotel in Ho Chi Minh City

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Day 20 Ho Chi Minh City Free Day

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

After enjoying breakfast at your hotel, you will have a full day to discover Ho Chi Minh City at your leisure. As dawn breaks, the city offers countless opportunities for personal exploration. You might revisit some favorite spots or delve into new areas that pique your interest.

Consider exploring the vibrant street art, enjoying local coffee culture, or indulging in some shopping at the city's numerous markets and boutiques. For those looking for more structured activities, several optional tours are available. These include a full-day excursion to the Cu Chi Tunnels and Cao Dai Temple, offering insights into Vietnam's wartime history and unique religious practices, or a Cu Chi Tunnels and Cooking Class experience for a blend of history and culinary adventure.

This free day provides the perfect chance to customize your Ho Chi Minh City experience, whether it's through cultural immersion, historical exploration, or simply enjoying the city's dynamic atmosphere at your own pace.

Activities:
- Free day to explore Ho Chi Minh City independently
- Explore street art, coffee shops, or local markets
- Consider optional tours to Cu Chi Tunnels and Cao Dai Temple
- Option for a Cu Chi Tunnels and Cooking Class experience

Day 21 Ho Chi Minh City to Vientiane Flight & Capital Exploration

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner | Stay: Hotel in Vientiane

Following breakfast at your hotel, you will have free time until your scheduled transfer to Tan Son Nhat International Airport for your flight to Vientiane, the tranquil capital of Laos. Upon arrival, you will embark on a new journey within this captivating city, beginning with a visit to Wat Sisaket, one of Vientiane’s most significant temples. Here, visitors can admire countless invaluable Buddha sculptures of various sizes.

Next, you will proceed to Wat Prakeo, named after the sacred Emerald Buddha statue it once housed, carved from a single piece of jade. En route, you will pass by the awe-inspiring That Luang Stupa, a magnificent gold-covered Buddhist stupa, and have the opportunity to take photographs of the Patuxay war monument, often referred to as Vientiane's Arc de Triomphe. A welcome dinner will be served at a local restaurant, offering a taste of Lao cuisine and a warm introduction to the country.

Activities:
- Free time in Ho Chi Minh City
- Transfer to Tan Son Nhat International Airport
- Fly to Vientiane, Laos
- Visit Wat Sisaket temple
- Explore Wat Prakeo museum temple
- Pass by That Luang Stupa and Patuxay monument for photos
- Enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant

Day 22 Vientiane Buddha Park & Vang Vieng Express Train

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

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Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

After savoring your breakfast, you will be transferred to Buddha Park, an intriguing sculpture park featuring over 200 large religious statues depicting both Buddha and Hindu deities. This unique park offers a fascinating blend of art and spirituality amidst a natural setting. If time allows, your itinerary may include visits to the Morning Market and the weaving village of Ban Nong Bouathong, where you can observe vibrant local life and traditional handicraft production.
In the afternoon, an express train will transport you to Vang Vieng, a serene town nestled on a bend of the Nam Song River. Vang Vieng is celebrated for its unspoiled, poetic beauty, characterized by lush forests and dramatic limestone mountains. It serves as an ideal retreat for nature enthusiasts and those seeking rejuvenation.
The day concludes with the breathtaking sight of a fabulous sunset reflecting over the Nam Song River, providing a peaceful and picturesque end to your travels.

Activities: Visit Buddha Park with its religious sculptures
Optional visits to Morning Market and Ban Nong Bouathong weaving village
Take an express train to Vang Vieng
Enjoy the scenic views of Vang Vieng
Witness the sunset over the Nam Song River

Day 23 Vang Vieng Caves & Lagoon Exploration

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

This day commences with an excursion to Tham Jang Cave, a pristine natural cave that historically served as a refuge for locals during invasions. Explore its unique formations and learn about its past significance. Following this, a scenic drive will take you through verdant rice paddy fields, leading to Tham Phoukham Caves.
Inside Tham Phoukham Caves, you can marvel at the beautiful formations of glimmering stalactites and discover a massive bronze reclining Buddha statue. The cave also features a small, crystal-clear pool at its entrance, inviting visitors to cool off and relax in its refreshing waters. This combination of natural wonder and spiritual artistry offers a memorable experience.
After exploring the caves and enjoying the serene surroundings, you will return to your hotel in Vang Vieng, having experienced some of the region's most captivating natural attractions. The day balances adventure with opportunities for relaxation amidst stunning landscapes.

Activities: Explore Tham Jang Cave and its historical significance
Drive through rice paddy fields to Tham Phoukham Caves
Discover stalactites and the reclining Buddha in Tham Phoukham Caves
Swim and relax in the pristine pool at Tham Phoukham Caves entrance

Day 24 Vang Vieng to Luang Prabang & City Sunset Views

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

After breakfast, you will board an express train for a scenic journey to Luang Prabang. Upon arrival, a transfer will take you to your pre-booked hotel. After a brief rest, begin your exploration of this UNESCO World Heritage city at the National Museum. Housed in the former Royal Palace, this museum once served as the residence of King Sisavang Vong during the French colonial era. Today, it stands as a timeless historical treasure, displaying artifacts that provide a deep understanding of Lao

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culture and history.
In the afternoon, embark on an adventure to Mount Phousi. Climb to the summit to witness a breathtaking panoramic view of the city as the sun sets, casting golden hues over the landscape. From Mount Phousi, descend to the vibrant Night Market, a must-visit attraction in Luang Prabang. The market offers an extensive array of local products, traditional handicrafts, unique mementos, and delicious street food, providing a lively cultural experience. (Note: Vehicles over 16 seats are restricted in Luang Prabang city).

Activities: Take an express train from Vang Vieng to Luang Prabang
Transfer to hotel and check in
Visit the National Museum (former Royal Palace)
Learn about Lao culture and history through artifacts
Climb Mount Phousi for panoramic sunset views
Explore Luang Prabang Night Market for local crafts and street food

Day 25 Mekong River Cruise, Pak Ou Caves & Local Villages

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

Day 25 begins with a captivating adventure upstream on the Mekong River aboard a cruise, offering a chance to appreciate the serene beauty of the countryside. En route, you will visit one of Luang Prabang's essential attractions: the Pak Ou Caves. Situated on the west bank of the Mekong River, these caves present a unique fusion of natural splendor and spiritual richness, housing a multitude of Buddha statues within their depths.
Following your cave visit, the journey includes stops at local villages. You will visit Ban Muangkeo, renowned for its flavorful local rice wine, providing insight into traditional production methods. Next, proceed to Ban Xiengmene. Another highlight is Wat Chomphet, a temple built atop a hill, from where you can relish spectacular views of Luang Prabang from above.
Returning to Luang Prabang, a short drive will take you to two small regional villages celebrated for their traditional crafts: Ban Xang Khong, known for its silk weavings, and Ban Xieng Lek, specializing in Saa (jute) papermaking. These visits offer a deeper appreciation for the artisanal heritage of Laos.

Activities: Cruise upstream on the Mekong River
Visit Pak Ou Caves with its multitude of Buddha statues
Stop at Ban Muangkeo village to learn about rice wine production
Visit Ban Xiengmene village
Explore Wat Chomphet temple for panoramic views of Luang Prabang
Visit Ban Xang Khong for silk weavings
Visit Ban Xieng Lek for Saa (jute) papermaking

Day 26 Luang Prabang Departure

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: NA

After breakfast at your hotel, take some time to absorb the tranquil charm of Luang Prabang one last time. You might enjoy a gentle morning stroll along the Mekong River, browse the small handicraft shops for last-minute souvenirs, or simply relax in a

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café, observing the slow rhythm of this UNESCO World Heritage city.
At the appointed time, your driver will provide a seamless transfer to Luang Prabang International Airport for your onward flight.
As you depart from this enchanting city, you will carry with you cherished memories of tranquil temples, golden sunsets, and the warm hospitality of Laos, concluding your extensive Indochina adventure.

Activities: Enjoy leisure time in Luang Prabang
Stroll along the Mekong River or browse handicraft shops
Transfer to Luang Prabang International Airport
Depart from Luang Prabang

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v 25 Breakfasts, 14 Lunches, 3 Dinner
- v Airplane, Car, Train, Cruise transport
- v Hotel (22 nights)
- v Communal stilt house or Valley View Bungalow in Mai Chau (1 night)
- v Overnight on board in Halong Bay (1 night)
- v Overnight on train (1 night)
- v Overnight in shared Twin/ Double room with air-condition (AC) at hotel.
- v Overnight on local train at a shared compartment with 4 soft berths (if any)
- v Overnight at local homestay in a shared room, private blanket and mosquito net (if any)
- v All transport during tour on air - conditioned vehicle as per itinerary (including airport pick up & see off)
- v All in-tour stationed local English speaking guide.
- v Entrance fees as per itinerary
- v 3 flights Siem Reap – Hanoi; Da Nang - HCMC, HCMC - 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 (passport valid for at least 6 months with a minimum of 3 blank visa pages)
- x Personal expenses (tips, laundry, gratuities, etc.)
- x Meals and drinks not mentioned in the itinerary

PRICE INCLUDES

- v 25 Breakfasts, 14 Lunches, 3 Dinner
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AVAILABLE DEPARTURES

Departure Date	Return Date	Price / Person	Availability	Languages
01 May 2025	20 Dec 2026	**USD 3,059**	Available	–
01 May 2025	20 Dec 2026	**USD 3,569**	Available	–
01 May 2025	20 Dec 2026	**USD 3,549**	Available	–
01 May 2025	20 Dec 2026	**USD 4,019**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 3,151**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 3,677**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 3,656**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 4,140**	Available	–

CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-9D8E835C7EE2