Indochina UNESCO Heritage Journey: Laos, Vietnam & Cambodia – 15 Days

15D / 14N	Easy	Private	USD 1,395 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Explore a captivating 15-day adventure through the UNESCO World Heritage sites of Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia. Begin in the serene golden temples of Luang Prabang, cruise the iconic Halong Bay, delve into the imperial history of Hue, wander the ancient streets of Hoi An, experience the vibrant energy of Ho Chi Minh City and the Mekong Delta, and conclude with the majestic temples of Angkor Wat. This journey offers a rich blend of cultural immersion, historical exploration, and stunning natural l

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

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

TOUR OVERVIEW

Overview of Your Indochina UNESCO Heritage Journey

This comprehensive 15-day tour invites you to uncover the most significant UNESCO World Heritage sites across Laos, Vietnam, and Cambodia. From the tranquil spiritual heart of Luang Prabang to the dramatic karst landscapes of Halong Bay, the imperial grandeur of Hue, the charming ancient port of Hoi An, the bustling metropolis of Ho Chi Minh City, and the awe-inspiring temple complexes of Angkor, this itinerary promises an enriching exploration of Southeast Asia's historical and cultural gems.

Highlights of Your Expedition

Experience a diverse range of activities, including traditional alms giving, scenic river cruises, city explorations by cyclo, and an unforgettable overnight stay on a traditional junk boat in Halong Bay. Delve into the rich history of each destination with expert local guides, gaining insight into ancient empires, colonial influences, and vibrant contemporary life. This journey is crafted for those seeking a deep cultural dive combined with breathtaking natural beauty.

The Route Through Indochina

Your adventure commences in Luang Prabang, Laos, before flying to Hanoi, Vietnam. From there, you'll travel to Halong Bay, then take a night train to Hue, continuing by road to Hoi An. A flight transports you to Ho Chi Minh City, followed by an excursion to the Mekong Delta. The final leg involves a flight to Siem Reap, Cambodia, for extensive exploration of the Angkor temple complex. This carefully planned route ensures you experience the distinct character of each region.

Who Will Love This Tour

This tour is ideal for active travelers, families, and those interested in history, culture, and nature. With a mix of guided excursions and opportunities for personal leisure, it caters to various paces and interests. The journey provides an educational and relaxing experience, perfect for discovering the diverse heritage of Indochina.

Practical Information for Travelers

The tour includes accommodation based on double/twin sharing, specified meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner), all private ground transportation with chauffeurs, domestic flights within the tour, private local guides, entrance fees, and boat trips. Travelers should note that international flights, visas, personal expenses, and gratuities are not included. Prepare for varying climates and cultural experiences as you traverse these fascinating countries.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

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* Witness the sacred Alms Giving Ceremony and explore golden temples in Luang Prabang.
* Cruise the Mekong River to discover the spiritual Pak Ou Caves filled with Buddha images.
* Experience Hanoi's historical landmarks, including Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum and the Temple of Literature.
* Enjoy a traditional cyclo ride through Hanoi's Old Quarter and a captivating water puppet show.
* Spend a magical overnight on a traditional junk boat amidst the limestone karsts of Halong Bay.
* Explore the Imperial Citadel and royal tombs of Hue, followed by a serene Perfume River boat trip.
* Drive the scenic Hai Van Pass en route to the charming UNESCO Ancient Town of Hoi An.
* Discover the vibrant history of Ho Chi Minh City, visiting key sites like the War Remnants Museum.
* Journey through the lush canals of the Mekong Delta on a private boat, enjoying local life and fruits.
* Marvel at the ancient wonders of Angkor Thom, Bayon, Ta Prohm, and the iconic Angkor Wat in Siem Reap.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Luang Prabang Arrival and Leisure

Stay: Overnight in Luang Prabang | Transport: Private vehicle transfer

Upon your arrival at the airport in Luang Prabang, a welcoming transfer will be arranged to take you directly to your hotel for check-in. The remainder of your first day in this charming city is designated as free time. You can use this period to relax after your journey, begin to acclimate to the local environment, or take a leisurely stroll to explore the immediate surroundings of your accommodation. Luang Prabang offers a tranquil atmosphere, perfect for unwinding before your adventure truly begins. Consider a gentle walk along the Mekong River or simply enjoy the peaceful ambiance of this UNESCO World Heritage town.

Activities: Airport welcome and transfer; Free time

Day 2 — Luang Prabang Temples, Caves, and Local Craft

Meals: B, L | Stay: Overnight in Luang Prabang | Transport: Boat, Private vehicle

Your day in Luang Prabang commences with an early morning observation of the traditional Alms Ritual, a spiritual ceremony where monks collect offerings from local residents. Following this serene experience, you will embark on a comprehensive tour of the city's significant religious sites, including the revered Wat Sieng Thong, known as the Golden Monastery, and the historic Wat Visumalat. Later, a boat trip will take you to the famous Pak Ou Caves, which house thousands of Buddha images nestled within limestone cliffs overlooking the Mekong River. On the return journey, a stop at Ban Xang Hai village offers insight into the traditional production of Lao Lao, a local sticky rice alcohol. A picnic lunch will be provided during your excursion, offering a taste of local flavors amidst scenic surroundings, before heading back to Luang Prabang.

Activities: View Alms Ritual; Visit Wat Sieng Thong; Visit Wat Visumalat; Trip to Pak Ou caves; Visit Ban Xang Hai village; Picnic lunch

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Day 3 Luang Prabang Market Exploration & Flight to Hanoi

Meals: B, L | Stay: Overnight in Hanoi | Transport: Private vehicle transfer, Flight

Today begins with a visit to a bustling local market, providing an authentic glimpse into daily life and commerce in Luang Prabang. You will then explore the former Royal Palace, now a museum, offering insights into Laos' monarchical history and cultural heritage. A visit to Wat Mai, another significant temple, will also be part of your morning itinerary. Following these cultural explorations, you will be transferred to the airport to catch your flight to Hanoi, the vibrant capital of Vietnam. Upon arrival in Hanoi, a transfer will take you to your hotel for check-in, allowing you to settle in and prepare for the next phase of your Indochina journey.

Activities: Visit local market; Visit Royal Palace; Visit Wat Mai; Flight to Hanoi

Day 4 Hanoi Historical Sites and Cultural Immersion

Meals: B, L | Stay: Overnight in Hanoi | Transport: Private vehicle, Cyclo

Your full-day exploration of Hanoi begins with a visit to the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum complex, where you can learn about the life and legacy of Vietnam's revolutionary leader, including his historical presidential relics. Nearby, you will explore the Temple of Literature, Vietnam's first national university, a beautiful example of traditional Vietnamese architecture and a symbol of education. The afternoon continues with a visit to Ngoc Son Temple, situated on a small island in Hoan Kiem Lake, a picturesque and central landmark frequented by both locals and visitors.

Activities: Visit Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum; Visit historical presidential relics; Visit Temple of Literature; Visit Ngoc Son Temple; Visit Hoan Kiem Lake; Visit Museum of Ethnology; 1-hour cyclo ride; Water puppetry show

Day 5 Halong Bay Overnight Cruise and Exploration

Meals: B, L, D | Stay: Overnight on traditional junk | Transport: Private vehicle, Traditional junk boat

Today, you will embark on a scenic drive from Hanoi to the breathtaking Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage site renowned for its emerald waters and thousands of towering limestone islands. Upon arrival, you will board a traditional junk boat for an unforgettable overnight cruise. This immersive experience allows you to truly appreciate the bay's natural beauty. Throughout the day, you will indulge in sumptuous fresh, local seafood meals prepared on board.

Activities: Drive to Halong Bay; Board traditional junk; Overnight cruise; Seafood feast; Swimming; Explore limestone caves; Kayaking in lagoons

Day 6 Halong Bay Morning Cruise & Overnight Train to Hue

Meals: B, L | Stay: Overnight on train with A/C, soft sleeper cabin for 4 people | Transport: Traditional junk boat, Private vehicle, Night train

Wake up to the serene beauty of Halong Bay and spend the morning continuing your cruise through its captivating landscapes.

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Enjoy breakfast and lunch on board as you navigate through more stunning karsts and islets. After lunch, your junk boat will return to the harbor, and you will disembark for the transfer back to Hanoi, arriving in the late afternoon, typically around 4:00 PM. You will then have some free time to relax or explore Hanoi further before heading to the train station. In the evening, you will board a night train to Hue, departing around 7:00 PM, settling into your air-conditioned soft sleeper cabin for a comfortable overnight journey.

Activities: Morning cruise in Halong Bay; Transfer back to Hanoi; Free time in Hanoi; Board night train to Hue

Day 7 Hue Imperial City and Perfume River Tour

Meals: B, L | Stay: Overnight in Hue | Transport: Private vehicle, Boat

Upon arrival in Hue, you will begin a comprehensive city tour focused on its UNESCO World Heritage monuments. Your exploration includes the magnificent Imperial Citadel, a sprawling complex that once served as the administrative and cultural heart of the Nguyen Dynasty. You will also visit some of the elaborate Imperial Tombs of the Emperors, showcasing unique architectural styles and historical significance. In the afternoon, unwind with a relaxing boat trip along the scenic Perfume River, leading you to the iconic Thien Mu Pagoda, a seven-story pagoda considered the unofficial symbol of Hue.

Activities: City tour of UNESCO monuments; Visit Imperial Citadel; Visit Imperial Tombs of the Emperors; Boat trip on Perfume River; Visit Thien Mu Pagoda

Day 8 Scenic Coastal Drive to Hoi An via Hai Van Pass

Meals: B, L | Stay: Overnight in Hoi An | Transport: Private vehicle

Today features a picturesque drive from Hue to Hoi An, traversing Vietnam's stunning central coast. Your journey will take you along the famous Hai Van Pass, offering breathtaking panoramic views of the coastline and mountains. Along the way, you will pass through Danang and catch glimpses of the historic China Beach. A significant stop will be made at the Cham Museum in Danang, where you can explore a remarkable collection of Cham sculpture and artifacts, providing insight into the ancient Cham civilization. You will then continue to the charming UNESCO Ancient Town of Hoi An, known for its well-preserved architecture and tranquil atmosphere.

Activities: Drive along coastal road to Hoi An; Traverse Hai Van Pass; Pass through Danang and China Beach; Visit Cham Museum

Day 9 Free Day to Explore Hoi An Ancient Town

Meals: B | Stay: Overnight in Hoi An

Today is dedicated to your leisure, allowing you to fully immerse yourself in the enchanting atmosphere of Hoi An Ancient Town. This UNESCO World Heritage site is famous for its narrow streets, ancient merchant houses, and vibrant lantern-lit evenings. You might choose to wander through the charming streets, browse the local shops for tailor-made clothing or souvenirs, or relax at a riverside cafe. Consider taking a cooking class to learn about Vietnamese cuisine, cycling through the surrounding rice paddies, or simply enjoying the tranquil ambiance of this historic port town. The day is yours to explore at your own pace.

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Activities: Free time for leisure and exploration in Hoi An

Day 10 Hoi An Departure & Ho Chi Minh City Tour

Meals: B | Stay: Overnight in Saigon | Transport: Private vehicle transfer, Flight

After breakfast, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Ho Chi Minh City, formerly known as Saigon. Upon arrival in this bustling southern metropolis, you will embark on a half-day city tour to discover its key historical and cultural landmarks. Your tour includes a visit to the War Remnants Museum, offering a poignant look at the Vietnam War. You will also explore the Reunification Palace, the former presidential palace of South Vietnam. The tour continues with visits to the Old Post Office, a stunning example of French colonial architecture, and the iconic Notre Dame Cathedral, reflecting the city's rich past.

Activities: Flight to Ho Chi Minh City; Half-day city tour; Visit War Remnants Museum; Visit Reunification Palace; Visit Old Post Office; Visit Notre Dame Cathedral

Day 11 Mekong Delta Boat Trip and Local Delights

Meals: B, L | Stay: Overnight in Saigon | Transport: Private vehicle, Private boat

Today, you will journey from Ho Chi Minh City to the lush landscapes of My Tho, a gateway to the Mekong Delta. Here, you will board a private boat for a captivating cruise through the intricate network of canals, surrounded by verdant vegetation. The boat trip will take you to a local orchard, where you can sample fresh tropical fruits directly from the source. A delicious lunch will be served at a local restaurant situated in the heart of the Mekong, offering authentic regional flavors. Before returning to Ho Chi Minh City, you will visit the Dong Tam snake farm, an interesting facility that breeds snakes for various purposes, including traditional snake wine production.

Activities: Drive to My Tho; Cruise on private boat through canals; Visit an orchard; Enjoy local lunch with tropical fruits; Visit Dong Tam snake farm

Day 12 Ho Chi Minh City Departure & Siem Reap Arrival

Meals: B | Stay: Overnight in Siem Reap | Transport: Private vehicle transfer, Flight

Enjoy a leisurely morning in Ho Chi Minh City, with free time for any last-minute souvenir shopping or personal exploration. At the appropriate time, a private driver will pick you up from your hotel and transfer you to the airport for your flight to Siem Reap, Cambodia. Upon your arrival at Siem Reap airport, a Cambodian driver will be waiting to greet you and escort you to your hotel located in the city center. After checking in, the remainder of the day is yours to relax and prepare for your extensive exploration of the Angkor temples.

Activities: Free time; Transfer to airport; Flight to Siem Reap; Transfer to hotel; Free time

Day 13 Angkor Thom and Ta Prohm Temple Exploration

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Meals: B, L | Stay: Overnight in Siem Reap | Transport: Private vehicle, Tuk-tuk

Your morning tour of the ancient temples begins at the South Gate of Angkor Thom City, the last capital of the Khmer empire. Its impressive eight-meter-high walls enclose a vast area filled with numerous temples. At the heart of this complex lies Bayon, famous for its massive towers adorned with enigmatic carved faces. After a break at your hotel, the afternoon features a captivating tuk-tuk tour of the Small Circuit temples. Among these, the atmospheric Ta Prohm stands out, famously embraced and partially consumed by the jungle's powerful roots and trees, creating a truly unique and memorable sight.

Activities: Morning tour of Angkor Thom City; Visit South Gate of Angkor Thom; Explore Bayon temple; Tuk-tuk tour of Small Circuit temples; Visit Ta Prohm temple

Day 14 Banteay Srei, Kbal Spean & Angkor Wat Sunset

Meals: B, L | Stay: Overnight in Siem Reap | Transport: Private vehicle

This morning, venture out to Banteay Srei, a exquisite pink sandstone temple known for its intricate carvings and delicate artistry. Continue your journey to Kbal Spean, where you'll discover the 'River of 1000 Lingas,' a riverbed adorned with Hindu symbols carved into the stone, over which the water gracefully flows. In the afternoon, return to the central Angkor complex to explore the temples along the 'Grand Circuit,' including the evocative Preah Khan. Conclude your day at the magnificent Angkor Wat, exploring its intricate carvings and vast passageways. Witness a breathtaking sunset over Angkor Wat's iconic five towers, a truly awe-inspiring experience.

Activities: Visit Banteay Srei temple; Continue to Kbal Spean ('River of 1000 Lingas'); Visit Grand Circuit temples including Preah Khan; Explore Angkor Wat complex; Watch sunset over Angkor Wat

Day 15 Siem Reap Departure

Meals: B | Transport: Private vehicle transfer

Enjoy your final morning in Siem Reap with some free time to relax or do some last-minute souvenir shopping. At the appropriate time, you will be transferred from your hotel to the airport for your onward flight departure. This marks the conclusion of your memorable Indochina UNESCO Heritage journey.

Activities: Free time; Airport transfer for departure

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v Accommodation based on double/twin share
- v Meals as stated (B; breakfast, L; lunch, D; dinner)
- v All private vehicles with chauffeurs

NOT INCLUDED

- x Visa to Vietnam, Lao, Cambodia
- x International flights
- x Airport departure tax if required

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- v All domestic on-tour flights specified in the tour
- v Private local tour guides (on-spot)
- v Other meals included in the tour
- v Entrance and visiting fees
- v Boat trip if specified in the tour
- v Bottled drinking water during the tour
- v All taxes and service charges

- x Travel insurance (trip, medical and personal)
- x Daily personal expenses, shopping and laundry
- x Early check-in or late check-out at hotels
- x Gratuity for local tour guides and drivers during the tour

PRICE INCLUDES

- v Accommodation based on double/twin share
- v Meals as stated (B; breakfast, L; lunch, D; dinner)
- v All private vehicles with chauffeurs
- v All domestic on-tour flights specified in the tour
- v Private local tour guides (on-spot)
- v Other meals included in the tour
- v Entrance and visiting fees
- v Boat trip if specified in the tour
- v Bottled drinking water during the tour
- v All taxes and service charges

CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-A5B2D195F61B