# Southeast Asia Capitals & Halong Bay Cruise – 10 Days

| 10D / 9N | Moderate | Private | USD 1,559 / pax |
|---|---|---|---|
| Duration | Difficulty | Tour Type | Starting From |

*Experience a diverse 10-day private tour across Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam, visiting vibrant cities and ancient wonders. Explore Bangkok's grand temples, marvel at Angkor Wat's intricate ruins, delve into Hanoi's rich history, and cruise the stunning limestone karsts of Halong Bay.*

## DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

**Bangkok → Siem Reap → Hanoi → Ha Long**

## TOUR OVERVIEW

Tour Overview: Southeast Asia City Explorer

This 10-day private journey through Southeast Asia offers an immersive cultural experience across Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam. From the dynamic streets of Bangkok to the awe-inspiring ancient temples of Angkor Wat, and the historic charm of Hanoi leading to the serene waters of Halong Bay, this itinerary is crafted for those seeking a comprehensive introduction to the region's most iconic destinations. Travelers will enjoy a blend of guided explorations and opportunities for personal discovery, uncovering both famous landmarks and local treasures.

Journey Highlights

Witness Bangkok's Grand Palace and the revered Emerald Buddha.

Explore Wat Pho, home to the magnificent Reclining Buddha statue.

Journey through the ancient city of Angkor Thom and its iconic Bayon Temple.

Marvel at the architectural splendor of Angkor Wat, a UNESCO World Heritage site.

Discover the unique jungle-embraced ruins of Ta Prohm.

Visit Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum and the historic Temple of Literature in Hanoi.

Cruise through the breathtaking limestone formations of Halong Bay.

Ascend Ti Top Island for panoramic views of Halong Bay's seascape.

Experience a traditional cooking class or fruit carving demonstration aboard a Halong Bay cruise.

Stroll around Hanoi's Hoan Kiem Lake and visit Ngoc Son Temple.

Route Summary

The adventure begins in Bangkok, Thailand, with two days of city and temple exploration. Travelers then fly to Siem Reap, Cambodia, for two days dedicated to the magnificent Angkor temple complex. The journey continues with a flight to Hanoi, Vietnam, where four nights are spent exploring the capital and embarking on an overnight cruise in the spectacular Halong Bay. The tour concludes with a final day of leisure in Hanoi before departure.

Who This Tour Suits

This private tour is ideal for travelers interested in the rich history, diverse cultures, and stunning landscapes of Southeast Asia. It caters to those who appreciate a structured itinerary with expert guidance, yet desire flexibility for personal exploration. History enthusiasts, culture seekers, and sightseers will find this journey particularly rewarding.

Practical Information

This private tour includes two international flights within the region (Bangkok to Siem Reap, Siem Reap to Hanoi), comfortable air-conditioned ground transportation, and an overnight cruise in Halong Bay. Accommodation is provided in a selection of

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hotels ranging from 3-star to 5-star categories, depending on your preference. Meals are included as specified in the itinerary, ensuring a taste of local cuisine throughout your travels.

## TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

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* Explore Wat Pho, home to the magnificent Reclining Buddha statue.
* Journey through the ancient city of Angkor Thom and its iconic Bayon Temple.
* Marvel at the architectural splendor of Angkor Wat, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
* Discover the unique jungle-embraced ruins of Ta Prohm.
* Visit Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum and the historic Temple of Literature in Hanoi.
* Cruise through the breathtaking limestone formations of Halong Bay.
* Ascend Ti Top Island for panoramic views of Halong Bay's seascape.
* Experience a traditional cooking class or fruit carving demonstration aboard a Halong Bay cruise.
* Stroll around Hanoi's Hoan Kiem Lake and visit Ngoc Son Temple.

## DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

### Day 1 — Bangkok Arrival & Leisure

*Meals: NA | Stay: Overnight in Bangkok*

Welcome to Thailand! Upon your arrival at Bangkok International Airport, you will complete the necessary immigration and customs procedures. Afterward, a friendly local guide will be waiting in the arrival lobby to greet you and assist with your comfortable transfer to your hotel in the city. After checking in, the rest of your day is free. You can use this time to relax and recover from your journey, settling into your accommodation and preparing for the exciting adventures that lie ahead in the coming days.

**Activities:** Arrive in Bangkok
Transfer to hotel
Relax at leisure

### Day 2 — Bangkok's Grand Palaces & Temples

*Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Overnight in Bangkok*

Your day of discovery begins around 08:00, meeting your guide at MRT Sanamchai Exit 1 (Museum Siam Exit). Please arrive 15 minutes early for a prompt start. The first stop is Wat Pho, one of Thailand's oldest and largest temples, renowned for its

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impressive gold-leaf-covered Reclining Buddha. You'll have time to explore the expansive courtyards and halls, home to over a thousand Buddha images that reflect centuries of Thai artistry. The journey continues to the Grand Palace, a former royal residence showcasing a harmonious blend of Thai and European architectural styles. Wander through the ornate grounds, appreciating the exquisite craftsmanship of traditional Thai-Buddhist structures that symbolize the monarchy's deep connection to national identity. Within the palace complex, you will also visit Wat Phra Kaew, which houses the revered Emerald Buddha, discovered in 1434.

Afterward, experience a traditional tuk-tuk ride, passing significant Bangkok landmarks like the City Pillar Shrine and the Ministry of Defence. The final destination is Kor Panich, a legendary dessert shop famous for its authentic mango sticky rice, a beloved Thai treat perfected through an 80-year-old family recipe. At the tour's conclusion, your guide can suggest local street food spots or assist with directions back to your hotel. Please remember to wear respectful clothing—long pants, closed-heel shoes, and sleeved tops are required for temple entry.

**Activities:** Visit Wat Pho and the Reclining Buddha
Explore the Grand Palace and Wat Phra Kaew
Enjoy a tuk-tuk ride past city landmarks
Taste traditional mango sticky rice at Kor Panich

## Day 3 — Journey to Siem Reap & City Exploration

*Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Overnight in Siem Reap*

Today marks your transition from the vibrant streets of Bangkok as you board a flight to Siem Reap, Cambodia. Upon your arrival, a local representative will be ready to welcome you and assist with your transfer to the hotel for check-in. The remainder of the day is yours to unwind or begin exploring the charming city of Siem Reap at your own pace. You might choose to relax by the hotel pool, stroll through local markets, or simply prepare for the extensive temple explorations scheduled for tomorrow.

**Activities:** Fly from Bangkok to Siem Reap
Transfer to hotel
Explore Siem Reap at your own pace

## Day 4 — Ancient Angkor Thom & Angkor Wat Discovery

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Overnight in Siem Reap*

After being picked up from your hotel in the morning, your exploration begins with Angkor Thom, the final capital of the Khmer Empire. You will enter through the South Gate, where imposing stone faces create a powerful first impression. Next, marvel at Bayon Temple, with its intricate carvings depicting historical and mythological scenes of Khmer life. Your guide will then lead you to the Elephant Terrace, a grand stage once used by ancient kings for important events, and nearby, the Terrace of the Leper King, adorned with fascinating bas-reliefs that invite curiosity and interpretation.

In the afternoon, the journey continues to the magnificent Angkor Wat, recognized as the world's most extensive religious monument and a profound symbol of Cambodia. Constructed in the 12th century, this masterpiece of classical Khmer art and

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architecture invites you to wander through its galleries and lose yourself in incredible artwork that narrates tales from the past. As the day concludes, you will return to your hotel, filled with memories of these ancient wonders.

**Activities:** Enter Angkor Thom through the South Gate
Admire the faces of Bayon Temple
Walk along Elephant Terrace and Terrace of the Leper King
Explore the jungle-entwined Ta Prohm temple
Discover the magnificent Angkor Wat complex

## Day 5 Flight to Hanoi & Old Quarter Introduction

*Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Overnight in Hanoi*

This day serves as your transition between Cambodia and Vietnam. From Siem Reap, you will board a flight to Hanoi, preparing for the next segment of your journey. Upon landing in Vietnam's capital city, a local guide will be waiting to greet you and assist with your transfer to the hotel. After checking in, the rest of the day is yours to spend as you wish. You might consider taking a leisurely walk through the historic Old Quarter to get your first impressions of Hanoi's unique atmosphere and vibrant street life.

**Activities:** Fly from Siem Reap to Hanoi
Transfer to hotel
Stroll through Hanoi's Old Quarter

## Day 6 Hanoi Historical & Cultural Landmarks

*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Overnight in Hanoi*

Gather in the hotel lobby to meet your tour guide for a brief introduction to today's itinerary. The morning is dedicated to learning about one of Vietnam's most revered figures, Ho Chi Minh. You will visit his Mausoleum, his humble house-on-stilts, and the Presidential Palace, gaining insight into the simple lifestyle of this beloved national leader. Next, you will stop at the unique One Pillar Pagoda, an iconic structure erected on a single wooden pole, embodying national cultural essence through its design, sculpture, woodcarving, and painting.
Your next destination is the Temple of Literature, known as Vietnam’s first university. Founded during the Ly dynasty and dedicated to Confucius, this temple has long symbolized intellectual heritage and is considered the birthplace of many generations of scholars. Take time to capture photos of these significant moments. After your explorations, you will enjoy a delicious meal at a nearby restaurant, savoring traditional Vietnamese cuisine.

**Activities:** Visit the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and Presidential Palace
See the unique One Pillar Pagoda
Explore the Temple of Literature
Enjoy a traditional Vietnamese lunch

## Day 7 Halong Bay Cruise & Island Exploration

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*Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Halong Bay Cruise*

Between 08:00 and 08:30 this morning, a driver will pick you up from your hotel in Hanoi's Old Quarter for the transfer via the new Hanoi - Hai Phong Expressway to the ferry port. Upon arrival at Halong Bay, you will board your cruise ship, where you'll be welcomed with a refreshing drink and a brief safety orientation from the crew. As the vessel sails past stunning rock formations into this natural heritage site, you will enjoy a delicious lunch at the upscale onboard restaurant.
In the afternoon, you might consider reserving a relaxing massage or spa treatment (reservations recommended). Subsequently, you will climb over 50 steps to enter Sung Sot Cave, gazing upon its enormous chambers adorned with beautiful stalagmites and stalactites, along with views of lush vegetation around the entrance. Your journey continues to Ti Top Island, a crescent-shaped island known for its tranquil atmosphere and pristine waters. You can spend 1 to 2 hours ascending to the summit for a breathtaking 360-degree panorama of Halong Bay or simply enjoy a swim at the beach.
As evening approaches, you'll have the opportunity to participate in a cultural activity, such as a traditional Vietnamese cooking class or a fruit and vegetable carving demonstration, a signature experience on most overnight Halong Bay cruises. Afterward, a delightful dinner will be served on board. Optional evening activities include night squid fishing, playing board games or cards, or simply relaxing at the bar and embracing the peaceful ambiance. Please note that the exact itinerary may vary depending on your chosen cruise package.

**Activities:**
Transfer from Hanoi to Halong Bay
Board the cruise and enjoy lunch
Explore Sung Sot Cave
Visit Ti Top Island for views or swimming
Participate in a cooking class or carving demonstration
Enjoy dinner and evening activities on board

## Day 8 Halong Bay Sunrise & Return to Hanoi

*Meals: Breakfast, Brunch | Stay: Overnight in Hanoi*

Wake early to witness the magical sunrise over Halong Bay from the cruise deck, an ethereal sight capturing the bay's beauty. Enjoy a light breakfast with coffee and tea, then join a peaceful Tai Chi session on deck to start your day harmoniously with nature. Later, the cruise anchors at Ti Top Island, known for its crescent-shaped beach and calm waters. You will have approximately 1-2 hours to hike to the island's panoramic viewpoint for a stunning 360-degree vista of the bay, or simply relax and swim at the beach.
Back onboard, savor a hearty brunch as the cruise slowly makes its way toward the harbor. Use this time to pack your belongings or soak up the final moments on the sundeck. In the afternoon, disembark at Tuan Chau Port and meet your driver for the return transfer to Hanoi. You will arrive at your hotel in the early evening, carrying serene memories of Halong Bay with you.

**Activities:**
Witness sunrise over Halong Bay
Join a Tai Chi session on deck
Hike Ti Top Island or swim at the beach
Enjoy brunch on the cruise
Transfer back to Hanoi

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## Day 9 Hanoi Free Day for Personal Discovery

*Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Overnight in Hanoi*

Today is entirely yours to explore Hanoi at your own pace, allowing you to tailor the experience to your interests. Whether you are drawn to the vibrant energy of the Old Quarter, the tranquil beauty of Hoan Kiem Lake, or the charm of local cafés and bustling markets, Hanoi offers something for every traveler. You might choose to visit historical landmarks such as the Temple of Literature, experience a traditional cyclo ride through colonial boulevards, or delve into the rich flavors of Vietnamese street food.

If relaxation is what you seek, enjoy a leisurely morning at a local spa or find a quiet garden café to unwind with views of the city's timeless architecture. Optional activities, such as a cooking class or a guided city tour, can also be arranged upon request, providing further opportunities for deeper engagement with Hanoi's culture.

**Activities:** Explore Hanoi's Old Quarter
Visit Hoan Kiem Lake and Ngoc Son Temple
Discover local cafes and markets
Consider optional activities like a cooking class

## Day 10 Hanoi Departure

*Meals: Breakfast | Stay: NA*

After enjoying breakfast at your hotel, you will have some free time to relax or engage in any last-minute explorations of Hanoi. Depending on your flight schedule, you might do some souvenir shopping or revisit a favorite spot. When it is time for your onward journey, our driver will pick you up from your hotel and transfer you to the airport for your departure flight.

**Activities:** Enjoy free time in Hanoi
Transfer to Hanoi airport for departure

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

### INCLUDED

- v 9 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 1 Brunch, 2 Dinners
- v Accommodation in air-conditioned rooms (shared Twin/ Double) at selected hotels.
- v All ground transfers in air-conditioned vehicles as per itinerary (including airport pick-up and drop-off).
- v All entrance fees for sites mentioned in the itinerary.
- v Two international flights: Bangkok to Siem Reap and Siem Reap to Hanoi.

### NOT INCLUDED

- x International airfare (excluding Bangkok-Siem Reap-Hanoi flights).
- x Early hotel check-in and late check-out fees.
- x Surcharges for peak season or compulsory gala dinners.
- x Visa fees (passport must be valid for at least 6 months with 3 blank pages).
- x Personal expenses (tips, laundry, gratuities).
- x Meals and beverages not specified in the itinerary.

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## CANCELLATION POLICY

*Tour Code: IMP-CDADBD52FD20*