Vietnam & Cambodia Cultural Journey: Mekong Delta to Angkor Wat – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Moderate	Private	USD 1,699 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Experience a 13-day adventure through the cultural heartlands of Southern Vietnam and Cambodia. Discover vibrant cities, serene river landscapes, historical war sites, and the majestic ancient temples of Angkor.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

Ho Chi Minh City → Chau Doc → Phnom Penh → Battambang → Siem Reap

TOUR OVERVIEW

Overview

Combine Vietnam's energetic south with Cambodia's profound history on this carefully curated journey. This 13-day itinerary offers a blend of bustling urban exploration, tranquil river excursions, and visits to ancient archaeological wonders. It's designed for travelers seeking a deep dive into the region's diverse heritage and stunning landscapes.

Highlights

Explore the historic Reunification Palace and War Remnants Museum in Ho Chi Minh City.

Journey through the intricate Cu Chi Tunnels, learning about their wartime significance.

Discover the unique architecture and spiritual practices at Cao Dai Temple in Tay Ninh.

Cruise the Mekong Delta, visiting traditional craft villages and fruit orchards.

Witness the bustling activity of the Cai Rang Floating Market at sunrise.

Ascend Sam Mountain in Chau Doc for panoramic views and ancient temples.

Visit the Royal Palace, Silver Pagoda, and National Museum in Phnom Penh.

Experience a ride on Battambang's distinctive bamboo train through rural landscapes.

Observe millions of bats emerging from the Battambang Bat Caves at dusk.

Marvel at the grandeur of Angkor Wat, Bayon, and Ta Prohm temples in Siem Reap.

Route Summary

The journey begins in Ho Chi Minh City, venturing to the Cu Chi Tunnels and the picturesque Mekong Delta. From there, travel to Chau Doc before crossing into Cambodia. Explore the capital, Phnom Penh, then continue to Battambang for unique local experiences, concluding with the iconic temples of Siem Reap.

Who it suits

This private tour is ideal for seniors and couples looking for a romantic escape or a culturally enriching experience. It provides opportunities to connect with local life and discover historical sites at a comfortable pace.

Practical Information

Daily breakfasts are included, along with several lunches and one dinner, ensuring a taste of local cuisine. All internal transportation within Vietnam and Cambodia, including private car transfers and a speedboat journey, is covered. Accommodation is provided in hotels for 12 nights, offering comfort throughout your travels. A local English-speaking guide accompanies you on tours, and all listed entrance fees are included.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

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* Discover the unique architecture and spiritual practices at Cao Dai Temple in Tay Ninh.
* Cruise the Mekong Delta, visiting traditional craft villages and fruit orchards.
* Witness the bustling activity of the Cai Rang Floating Market at sunrise.
* Ascend Sam Mountain in Chau Doc for panoramic views and ancient temples.
* Visit the Royal Palace, Silver Pagoda, and National Museum in Phnom Penh.
* Experience a ride on Battambang's distinctive bamboo train through rural landscapes.
* Observe millions of bats emerging from the Battambang Bat Caves at dusk.
* Marvel at the grandeur of Angkor Wat, Bayon, and Ta Prohm temples in Siem Reap.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Ho Chi Minh City Arrival & Evening Exploration

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

Upon landing at Tan Son Nhat International Airport in Ho Chi Minh City, a dedicated guide and driver will greet you, facilitating a smooth transfer to your accommodation. After checking in, you'll have ample time to settle in and unwind following your journey.

The evening offers freedom to discover Vietnam's largest metropolis at your leisure. Consider a visit to the bustling Ben Thanh Market, a central hub where you can browse local delicacies, handicrafts, and souvenirs. This initial evening allows for a relaxed introduction to the city's dynamic atmosphere.

Activities: Airport pickup and hotel transfer
Relaxation after arrival
Optional evening exploration of Ho Chi Minh City
Visit Ben Thanh Market for local goods

Day 2 — Ho Chi Minh City Historical & Cultural Tour

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

Start your day with breakfast at the hotel before embarking on a comprehensive city tour. The morning begins with a visit to the Reunification Palace, formerly the presidential residence of South Vietnam. Next, gain insights into the Vietnam War at the War Remnants Museum, viewing compelling exhibits of documents, photographs, and artifacts illustrating the conflict's impact. Continue to admire the French colonial architecture of Notre Dame Cathedral and the historic Old Post Office. Although the cathedral is currently under renovation and can only be viewed from the exterior, its grandeur remains evident. Enjoy a local

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lunch and a brief rest.
The afternoon delves into the city's eastern side with a visit to Giac Lam Pagoda, Ho Chi Minh City's oldest pagoda. Explore the vibrant Chinatown, Cho Lon, and its significant Thien Hau Pagoda, built by Chinese immigrants in 1760. Conclude the day with some shopping at Ben Thanh Market, offering a variety of local products, before returning to your hotel for the evening.

Activities: Visit Reunification Palace
Explore War Remnants Museum
View Notre Dame Cathedral and Old Post Office
Discover Giac Lam Pagoda
Explore Chinatown (Cho Lon) and Thien Hau Pagoda
Shop at Ben Thanh Market

Day 3 Cao Dai Temple & Cu Chi Tunnels Exploration

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

After breakfast, travel to Tay Ninh province to visit the unique Cao Dai Temple, also known as Tay Ninh Holy See. This remarkable structure is notable for its vibrant colors and distinctive blend of architectural styles, resembling a church but incorporating diverse religious symbols and imagery inside and out. Take time to observe its spiritual splendor and unique construction.
Following lunch, embark on a half-day excursion to the Cu Chi Tunnels, a significant relic from the Vietnam War. Here, you'll gain an understanding of how Vietcong soldiers lived and operated underground. Begin with a documentary explaining the tunnels' role in the war, then proceed to explore the site, which features weapon and booby trap exhibitions.
Navigate a section of the authentic tunnels, discovering various underground bunkers, including kitchens, meeting rooms, and ammunition storage. An optional shooting range offers the chance to try firing an AK-47 or M16 (at an additional cost).
Conclude the visit by tasting tapioca and hot tea, staple foods for soldiers during the conflict, before returning to Ho Chi Minh City for a relaxing evening.

Activities: Visit Cao Dai Temple (Tay Ninh Holy See)
Explore the unique architecture and symbolism of the temple
Tour the Cu Chi Tunnels war relic site
Watch a documentary on tunnel history
Navigate authentic tunnel sections and bunkers
Taste tapioca and hot tea
Optional shooting range experience (additional cost)

Day 4 Mekong Delta River Life & Can Tho Transfer

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

Your day begins with breakfast, followed by a journey to Cai Be tourist wharf, the starting point for your Mekong Delta adventure. Board a boat to cruise along the Cai Be River, observing the lush green riverbanks and the daily life of local communities residing along the waterway. You'll visit traditional craft villages, where you can sample delicious local specialties

Vietnam & Cambodia Cultural Journey: Mekong Delta to Angkor Wat – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Moderate	Private	USD 1,699 / pax
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like rice paper, candies, and dried longan.
Stroll through a village to your next stop, where you can enjoy honey tea. Here, the abundant fruit gardens have fostered a thriving beekeeping industry, and you'll learn about honey production. The cruise continues upstream on the Tien River, leading to Tan Phong Island, renowned for its verdant fruit orchards. Transfer to a smaller rowing boat for a serene paddle through a narrow canal, allowing you to explore a fruit garden and savor fresh, seasonal fruits.
Afterward, return to the main boat and continue on the Tien River before disembarking for lunch at a charming garden house.
In the afternoon, you'll be transferred from Vinh Long Wharf to Can Tho, often referred to as "the Western Capital" due to its strategic location. Upon arrival in Can Tho, check into your hotel and enjoy the evening exploring the city and its local culinary offerings.

Activities:
Cruise Cai Be River
Visit local traditional craft villages
Sample local specialties (rice paper, candy, dried longan)
Enjoy honey tea and learn about beekeeping
Explore Tan Phong Island's fruit gardens
Take a rowing boat through small canals
Have lunch at a garden house
Transfer to Can Tho City
Evening exploration of Can Tho

Day 5 Cai Rang Floating Market, Chau Doc & Sam Mountain Sunset

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Chau Doc

Wake early to experience the famous Cai Rang Floating Market, a vibrant hub where local life unfolds on the water. Witness the unique spectacle of boats trading goods, sample Mekong Delta specialties, and capture the beautiful sunrise over the river. After this memorable experience, return to your hotel for breakfast and check out.
Your driver will then transfer you to Chau Doc, a fascinating city known for its diverse ethnic communities, including Khmer, Cham, and Chinese. In the afternoon, you'll be driven to Sam Mountain, a significant tourist attraction celebrated for its natural beauty and numerous temples. Explore approximately 200 relics scattered across the mountain, such as Ba Chua Xu Temple and Tay An Pagoda.
Consider taking a cable car ride for breathtaking aerial views of Sam Mountain. As evening approaches, ascend to the summit to witness a magnificent sunset, providing a perfect romantic backdrop. Return to Chau Doc for your overnight stay, with the evening free to explore the city's unique charm.

Activities:
Visit Cai Rang Floating Market at sunrise
Observe local life on boats and sample specialties
Transfer to Chau Doc
Explore Sam Mountain
Visit Ba Chua Xu Temple and Tay An Pagoda
Optional cable car ride for panoramic views
Witness sunset from Sam Mountain

Vietnam & Cambodia Cultural Journey: Mekong Delta to Angkor Wat – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Moderate	Private	USD 1,699 / pax
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Day 6 Chau Doc to Phnom Penh via Speedboat

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Phnom Penh

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel in Chau Doc. You'll have some free time before being transferred to the pier to board a speedboat bound for Cambodia. This exciting journey will take you across the border and along the river to Phnom Penh, the capital city of Cambodia. Remember to keep your visa and passport readily accessible for border formalities.
Upon arrival in Phnom Penh, you will be met and transferred to your hotel for check-in. The remainder of your afternoon and evening is free for you to explore the city at your own pace. You might choose to discover Phnom Penh's vibrant nightlife or simply relax at a rooftop bar, enjoying the city views with your companion.

Activities: Transfer to pier in Chau Doc
Take a speedboat to Phnom Penh, Cambodia
Complete border crossing formalities
Transfer to hotel and check-in
Free afternoon and evening for personal exploration or relaxation

Day 7 Phnom Penh Historical City Tour

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Phnom Penh

After breakfast, prepare for a full-day exploration of Phnom Penh's most significant sites. Begin with the Royal Palace, the heart of Cambodia, constructed in 1866. Admire its gilded roofs and intricate Khmer architecture, exploring the complex which houses various buildings, including the renowned Silver Pagoda, famous for its floor tiled with solid silver.
Next, visit the Cambodia National Museum, housed in a beautiful old building, showcasing an extensive collection of art and artifacts from the pre-Angkorian era. Continue to Wat Phnom, a pagoda situated atop a hill, which lends its name to the capital city. Climb the stairs for excellent views of the city below.
In the afternoon, travel to the city's outskirts (a 30-minute drive) to visit Tuol Sleng Prison, now the Genocide Museum. This site serves as a poignant memorial and a testament to the atrocities committed by the Khmer Rouge, aiming to promote peace.
Conclude your historical journey at Choeung Ek Museum, also known as The Killing Fields, where over 17,000 civilians were tragically killed and buried in mass graves. This former orchard stands as a stark reminder of the genocidal regime's brutality.
Afterward, return to your hotel for rest, with the evening free to spend as you wish.

Activities: Explore the Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda
Visit Cambodia National Museum
Ascend Wat Phnom for city views
Tour Tuol Sleng Prison (Genocide Museum)
Visit Choeung Ek Museum (The Killing Fields)

Day 8 Phnom Penh to Battambang Road Transfer

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Battambang

Enjoy a delicious breakfast at your hotel in Phnom Penh. Your driver will then pick you up for a scenic road transfer to

Vietnam & Cambodia Cultural Journey: Mekong Delta to Angkor Wat – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Moderate	Private	USD 1,699 / pax
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Battambang, a journey that typically takes approximately five hours. This drive offers glimpses of Cambodia's rural landscapes and local life as you travel through the countryside.

Upon reaching Battambang, you will check into your hotel. The rest of the day is yours to unwind and relax after the transfer. You have the freedom to spend the afternoon and evening as you wish, perhaps exploring the immediate vicinity of your hotel or simply enjoying some downtime.

Activities: Scenic road transfer from Phnom Penh to Battambang
Hotel check-in and relaxation
Free afternoon and evening

Day 9 Battambang Bamboo Train & Bat Caves

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Battambang

After breakfast at your hotel, you'll be transferred to the unique Bamboo Train, locally known as "Nori." Experience a ride on this distinctive mode of transport, enjoying the natural scenery and observing local daily life as you travel through the Cambodian countryside. The journey includes a stop at a fishing village, where you can interact with friendly inhabitants and visit fruit farms to learn about Battambang's agricultural specialties.

Following lunch, you'll be driven towards the Battambang Bat Caves. The route offers picturesque views of rural fields. As the sun begins to set at the base of Phnom Sampeau mountain, gather with others to witness the spectacular phenomenon of thousands, if not millions, of bats emerging from a cave to commence their nightly hunt. This awe-inspiring natural display is a memorable highlight. After the bat exodus, return to your hotel for a relaxing evening.

Activities: Ride the unique Battambang Bamboo Train (Nori)
Visit a local fishing village
Explore fruit farms and local specialties
Drive through scenic countryside fields
Witness the evening exodus of bats from Battambang Bat Caves

Day 10 Battambang to Siem Reap & Apsara Dance Show

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

Following breakfast, your driver will transfer you from Battambang to Siem Reap. This scenic three-hour road trip allows you to observe the verdant landscapes and charming villages along the way. Upon arrival in Siem Reap, check into your hotel and take some time to refresh and prepare for the adventures ahead.

In the evening, you'll be picked up for a delightful dinner accompanied by a captivating Apsara Dance show. This traditional Khmer performance tells stories through elegant movements and elaborate costumes, providing a rich cultural experience. After dinner, you have the option to return to your hotel for relaxation or venture to Pub Street to experience Siem Reap's lively nightlife and bustling energy.

Activities: Scenic road transfer from Battambang to Siem Reap
Hotel check-in and relaxation
Enjoy dinner with a traditional Apsara Dance show

Vietnam & Cambodia Cultural Journey: Mekong Delta to Angkor Wat – 13 Days

13D / 12N	Moderate	Private	USD 1,699 / pax
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Optional evening exploration of Pub Street or relaxation

Day 11 Angkor Wat & Angkor Thom Complex Full Day Tour

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

After breakfast, your driver will collect you for a full-day excursion to the magnificent Angkor Archaeological Park, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Your first stop is the expansive Angkor Thom complex. Within its ancient walls, you will discover the intricate beauty of the Bayon Temple, with its serene stone faces, and the iconic Ta Prohm Temple, famously known as the "Tomb Raider" temple, where massive tree roots intertwine with ancient stonework.
Enjoy a delicious Cambodian lunch at one of the local restaurants situated within the Angkor Complex. The afternoon is dedicated to exploring Angkor Wat, Cambodia's most famous symbol. Spend time marveling at this architectural masterpiece, exploring its 398 rooms connected by corridors and its five lotus-shaped towers. This vast temple complex offers an incredible experience for history and architecture enthusiasts.
Conclude your day by traveling to the summit of Phnom Bakheng to experience a romantic sunset over the ancient temples. This panoramic view provides a breathtaking end to your exploration of Angkor. Around 18:30, your driver will transfer you back to your hotel to freshen up.

Activities:
Explore Angkor Thom complex
Visit Bayon Temple
Discover Ta Prohm (Tomb Raider) Temple
Enjoy lunch within Angkor Complex
Explore Angkor Wat temple
Witness sunset from Phnom Bakheng

Day 12 Ta Prohm, Tonle Sap Lake & Khmer Crafts

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

Begin your day at 8:00 with a visit to the iconic Ta Prohm Temple, a mystical Buddhist site dedicated to Jayavarman VII's mother. Marvel at the dramatic sight of massive tree roots intertwining with ancient stone ruins, creating a scene that feels straight out of an adventure story. After exploring Ta Prohm, you'll have time to visit nearby temples to further enrich your Angkor experience. Enjoy a delicious lunch at a local restaurant, savoring authentic Cambodian flavors.
At 13:30, embark on a scenic boat tour of Tonle Sap Lake, Southeast Asia's largest freshwater lake, to discover its unique floating villages. Observe stilted houses, floating schools, and the daily lives of locals adapted to a water-based existence. On your return journey, stop at Artisan D'Angkor, a renowned workshop dedicated to preserving traditional Khmer crafts. Here, you can watch skilled artisans carving wood, sculpting stone, and painting silk, gaining insight into Cambodia's rich artistic heritage.
Return to your hotel to unwind before spending your evening in Siem Reap. Conclude your day with a soothing traditional Khmer couples massage at a trusted local spa, offering the perfect way to relax and rejuvenate after a day of exploration. Let the tranquil ambiance and expert therapists melt away any stress.

Activities:
Visit Ta Prohm Temple and nearby temples
Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant

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Take a scenic boat tour of Tonle Sap Lake
Discover unique floating villages
Visit Artisan D'Angkor workshop
Observe traditional Khmer crafts
Enjoy a traditional Khmer couples massage

Day 13 Siem Reap Departure

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: NA

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel on your final morning in Siem Reap. You'll have some free time to do some last-minute souvenir shopping, perhaps at the Central Market, before your departure. After checking out from your accommodation, a transfer will be arranged to Siem Reap International Airport for your flight back home, concluding your memorable journey through Vietnam and Cambodia.

Activities: Enjoy breakfast
Optional souvenir shopping at Central Market
Hotel check-out
Transfer to Siem Reap International Airport

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v 12 Breakfasts, 8 Lunches, 1 Dinner
- v Accommodation in twin/double sharing hotel rooms for 12 nights
- v All transport within Vietnam and Cambodia as per itinerary (Car, Cruise)
- v All in-tour stationed local English speaking guide
- v Entrance fees as per itinerary

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 12 Breakfasts, 8 Lunches, 1 Dinner
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- v All transport within Vietnam and Cambodia as per itinerary (Car, Cruise)
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AVAILABLE DEPARTURES

Departure Date	Return Date	Price / Person	Availability	Languages
07 Nov 2025	20 Dec 2026	**USD 1,699**	Available	–
07 Nov 2025	20 Dec 2026	**USD 1,929**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 1,750**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 1,987**	Available	–

CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-FFE656431A69