Vietnam & Cambodia Highlights: Hanoi, Halong Bay, Saigon, Angkor Wat – 9 Days

9D / 8N	Moderate	Private	USD 1,139 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Explore the rich history and stunning landscapes of Vietnam and Cambodia over nine days. Journey from Hanoi's vibrant streets and Ha Long Bay's karsts to Ho Chi Minh City's wartime past and the majestic temples of Angkor Wat in Siem Reap.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

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

TOUR OVERVIEW

Journey Through Indochina: A 9-Day Adventure

This comprehensive nine-day journey invites you to explore the captivating cultures and breathtaking scenery of Vietnam and Cambodia. Beginning in Vietnam's capital, Hanoi, you'll discover ancient traditions and modern life before sailing through the iconic limestone formations of Ha Long Bay. The adventure continues south to Ho Chi Minh City, where you'll delve into historical sites and the serene Mekong Delta. Concluding in Cambodia, the trip culminates with an exploration of the magnificent Angkor temple complex, including the legendary Angkor Wat.

Tour Highlights

Experience the bustling energy of Hanoi with its historic Old Quarter and significant cultural landmarks.

Cruise through the emerald waters of Ha Long Bay, enjoying an overnight stay amidst its dramatic karst landscape.

Gain insight into Vietnam's wartime history with a visit to the intricate Cu Chi Tunnels.

Relax on a traditional sampan boat ride through the tranquil waterways and local villages of the Mekong Delta.

Witness the grandeur of Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious monument, at sunrise or sunset.

Explore the mysterious, tree-entwined ruins of Ta Prohm Temple in Siem Reap.

Route Summary

The tour begins in Hanoi, proceeding to Ha Long Bay for an overnight cruise. You then fly to Ho Chi Minh City to explore the city, Cu Chi Tunnels, and the Mekong Delta. The journey concludes with a flight to Siem Reap, Cambodia, for an immersive experience at the Angkor temple complex.

Who This Tour Suits

This itinerary is ideal for seniors and couples seeking a blend of cultural immersion, historical exploration, and natural beauty. It offers a comfortable pace with guided excursions and opportunities to engage with local life, making it suitable for those who appreciate both structured sightseeing and moments of relaxation.

Practical Information

Travel between cities is facilitated by domestic flights and comfortable private car transfers. Accommodation includes a mix of 3, 4, and 5-star hotels, along with an unforgettable overnight experience on a cruise in Ha Long Bay. Most meals are provided, ensuring a hassle-free culinary experience throughout your journey.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

* Discover Hanoi's historic landmarks, including the Temple of Literature and One Pillar Pagoda.

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* Spend a night aboard a traditional cruise ship, navigating the stunning karst islands of Ha Long Bay.
* Explore the underground network of the Cu Chi Tunnels, learning about their historical significance.
* Glide through the peaceful canals of the Mekong Delta on a sampan boat, observing local life.
* Marvel at the architectural splendor of Angkor Wat, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
* Wander through the ancient, jungle-embraced ruins of Ta Prohm Temple in Siem Reap.
* Engage with Vietnamese culture through a guided street food walking tour in Hanoi (optional).

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Hanoi Arrival & Optional City Exploration

Meals: NA | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

Upon your arrival at Hanoi's airport, a pre-arranged transfer will take you directly to your hotel for check-in. The remainder of your first day is flexible, allowing you to settle in and recover from your journey. You might choose to relax at the hotel, or for those eager to begin exploring, there are several optional activities available to experience the ancient charm of Hanoi's Old Quarter.

Consider joining a Hanoi Street Food Walking Tour to sample local delicacies, or perhaps a Hanoi Cooking Class for a hands-on culinary experience. Other fascinating options include a night tour of the Hoa Lo Prison or an evening exploration of the Imperial Citadel of Thang Long. Your airport pickup point will be Pole No.10 outside the terminal gate, where your guide awaits. Standard hotel check-in time is 2:00 PM; early check-in may incur an additional fee.

Activities: Transfer from Hanoi airport to hotel.
Check into your hotel.
Relax or choose an optional activity (e.g., Street Food Walking Tour, Cooking Class, Hoa Lo Prison Night Tour, Imperial Citadel Night Tour).

Day 2 — Hanoi's Cultural Landmarks & Historic Sites

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

Begin your day with a guided exploration of Hanoi's most significant cultural and historical attractions. Your tour includes a visit to the Temple of Literature, a serene complex that served as Vietnam's first national university. Here, you can admire the harmonious blend of traditional architecture and lush gardens, offering picturesque photo opportunities.

Next, proceed to the unique One Pillar Pagoda, an iconic Buddhist temple set gracefully on a single stone pillar, resembling a lotus flower emerging from the water. You will also view the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum from the outside, the final resting place of Vietnam's revered leader (please note it is closed on Mondays, Fridays, and from June to August). Conclude your morning with a visit to Tran Quoc Pagoda, Hanoi's oldest Buddhist temple, boasting over 1500 years of history on an island in West Lake. Enjoy lunch at a local Vietnamese restaurant before having free time in the afternoon.

Activities: Visit the Temple of Literature.

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Explore the One Pillar Pagoda.
View the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum from outside.
Discover Tran Quoc Pagoda.
Enjoy lunch at a local Vietnamese restaurant.
Relax during free time in the afternoon.

Day 3 Halong Bay Cruise & Kayaking Adventure

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Overnight on cruise | Transport: Car, Cruise

After breakfast at your hotel, your tour guide will pick you up for a scenic transfer to Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its emerald waters and thousands of towering limestone islands. The journey to the cruise port typically takes about 2.5 hours. Upon arrival, complete the check-in procedures before boarding your chosen cruise vessel.
You'll receive a warm welcome from the friendly crew with a refreshing drink. As you sail into the magnificent bay, a delicious lunch featuring fresh seafood will be served, allowing you to savor the stunning panoramic views. The afternoon offers various activities depending on your cruise's itinerary, such as kayaking through serene waters, swimming, or exploring impressive caves. After your excursion, return to the main boat for a delightful dinner. The evening is yours to relax on board, perhaps enjoying a drink on the sun deck or trying your hand at night squid fishing.

Activities: Transfer from Hanoi to Halong Bay cruise port.
Check-in and board your cruise.
Enjoy lunch with fresh seafood while cruising Halong Bay.
Participate in activities like kayaking, swimming, or cave visits.
Dine on board with a special dinner feast.
Relax overnight on the cruise, with options for sun deck relaxation or night squid fishing.

Day 4 Halong Bay Sunrise & Flight to Ho Chi Minh City

Meals: Breakfast, Brunch | Stay: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh | Transport: Car, Cruise, Domestic flight

Start your day early to witness a beautiful sunrise over Halong Bay, followed by an invigorating Tai Chi class on the deck. After a light breakfast, you'll embark on a guided exploration of one of the bay's impressive caves, discovering its unique geological formations. Once the morning tour concludes, return to the cruise to check out and enjoy an early lunch as the boat makes its way back to the port.
Between 12:00 PM and 12:30 PM, you will disembark at the cruise port and be transferred directly to Hanoi airport for your domestic flight to Ho Chi Minh City. Upon arrival at Tan Son Nhat Airport, a driver will be waiting to take you to your hotel. After completing the check-in process, the rest of the day is free for you to unwind and settle into Vietnam's southern metropolis.

Activities: Participate in a morning Tai Chi class.
Enjoy a light breakfast on board.
Explore an impressive cave within Halong Bay.
Check out from the cruise and have an early lunch.
Transfer to Hanoi airport for a flight to Ho Chi Minh City.
Transfer from Tan Son Nhat Airport to your hotel in Ho Chi Minh City.

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Check into your hotel and enjoy free time.

Day 5 Cu Chi Tunnels & Ho Chi Minh City Sightseeing

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

Your day begins at 8:00 AM with a trip to the Cu Chi Tunnels, located approximately 60 km north of Ho Chi Minh City. This extensive network of underground tunnels offers a profound insight into the Vietnamese War. You'll have the opportunity to explore parts of the tunnels, learning about the challenging conditions in which Vietnamese soldiers lived and fought during the conflict.

For an additional charge, you can experience a firing-gun service at the shooting range. After gaining a deeper understanding of this historical site, you'll enjoy a light lunch at a local restaurant before returning to Ho Chi Minh City. The afternoon tour, starting at 1:30 PM, includes a visit to the Reunification Palace, a significant symbol of Saigon's liberation. You'll also admire the colonial architecture of the Saigon Notre Dame Cathedral (currently under renovation) and the historic Old Post Office. Conclude your day with a stop at a local market, perfect for souvenir shopping and experiencing the warm hospitality of the local people.

Activities:
Travel to the Cu Chi Tunnels.
Explore the underground tunnel network.
Optional firing-gun service at the shooting range (additional charge).
Enjoy a light lunch at a local restaurant.
Visit the Reunification Palace.
See the Saigon Notre Dame Cathedral (exterior view).
Explore the Old Post Office.
Stop at a local market for souvenirs.

Day 6 Mekong Delta Riverine Exploration

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh | Transport: Car, Boat, Xe Loi, Sampan

At 8:00 AM, you will depart from your hotel for a full-day excursion to Ben Tre Province in the Mekong Delta. The journey offers picturesque views as you travel. Upon arrival, you'll embark on a boat trip along the Ham Luong River, observing the serene riverine landscape and stopping at various local workshops. Here, you can witness the traditional methods used by villagers to create local products, gaining insight into their daily lives and craftsmanship.

Take a leisurely stroll around the village, soaking in the peaceful and friendly atmosphere of the Mekong Delta. An authentic experience awaits as you travel to fruit orchards by 'Xe Loi', a unique motorized rickshaw, allowing you to explore the lush surroundings. In the afternoon, a sampan boat ride, expertly rowed by locals, will take you along narrow canals, offering a tranquil perspective of the Mekong's beautiful waterways. You will return to your hotel in Ho Chi Minh City around 5:00 PM, with the rest of the evening free for relaxation.

Activities:
Transfer from Ho Chi Minh City to Ben Tre Province.
Enjoy a boat trip on the Ham Luong River.
Visit local workshops to observe traditional product making.

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Wander through a Mekong Delta village.
Travel to fruit orchards by 'Xe Loi'.
Experience a sampan boat ride along small canals.
Return to your hotel in Ho Chi Minh City.

Day 7 Ho Chi Minh City Free Morning & Flight to Siem Reap

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Siem Reap | Transport: Car, Domestic flight

Enjoy a leisurely morning in Ho Chi Minh City, allowing you to explore at your own pace. You might revisit a favorite spot, discover a new café, or simply relax before your afternoon journey. Hotel check-out is scheduled for noon. Should you require a late check-out, a surcharge may apply, subject to room availability at the hotel.
In the afternoon, you will be transferred to Ho Chi Minh City Airport to catch your flight to Siem Reap, Cambodia. Upon arrival at Siem Reap Airport, a waiting transfer will take you to your hotel. After checking in, the remainder of the day is at your leisure, providing an opportunity to unwind and prepare for the upcoming exploration of the ancient Angkor temples.

Activities: Enjoy a free morning in Ho Chi Minh City.
Check out from your hotel.
Transfer to Ho Chi Minh City Airport.
Fly to Siem Reap, Cambodia.
Transfer from Siem Reap Airport to your hotel.
Check into your hotel and relax.

Day 8 Angkor Temple Complex Exploration: Ta Prohm & Angkor Wat

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

Your day of ancient discovery begins at 8:00 AM with a visit to the captivating Ta Prohm Temple. This impressive temple, one of the largest constructed during the Khmer Empire, is famously known for its integration with nature, as giant tree roots intertwine with its stone structures. A local expert will guide you through this mystical site, sharing insights into its history and significance, including its role as a filming location for a well-known Hollywood movie.
Following Ta Prohm, you'll proceed to Angkor Thom, the last capital of the Great Khmer Empire under King Jayavarman VII. The afternoon tour, commencing around 1:30 PM, focuses on the magnificent Angkor Wat. You'll witness the grandeur of this 12th-century masterpiece, the largest religious monument in the world, built by King Suryavarman II. As the day draws to a close, you might have the chance to experience a breathtaking sunset view from Angkor Wat or another suitable vantage point.

Activities: Visit Ta Prohm Temple with a local expert.
Explore Angkor Thom, the last capital of the Khmer Empire.
Discover Angkor Wat, the world's largest religious monument.
Potentially witness a stunning sunset over Angkor Wat.

Day 9 Farewell Siem Reap & Departure

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Meals: Breakfast | Stay: NA | Transport: Car

On your final day, enjoy a relaxed morning at your hotel in Siem Reap. You have the flexibility to unwind, enjoy a last Cambodian breakfast, or do some last-minute souvenir shopping before your departure. At the appointed time, you will be picked up from your hotel and transferred to Siem Reap International Airport for your onward journey.
This concludes your memorable 9-day tour through the highlights of Vietnam and Cambodia. We hope you depart with cherished memories of the rich cultures, historical wonders, and beautiful landscapes you've encountered.

Activities: Enjoy a leisurely morning in Siem Reap.
Transfer from your hotel to Siem Reap International Airport.
Depart from Siem Reap.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v 8 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 1 Brunch, 1 Dinner
- v Accommodation for 7 nights in hotels and 1 night on a cruise.
- v All transportation in air-conditioned vehicles as per itinerary, including airport transfers.
- v Domestic flights: Hanoi – Ho Chi Minh City, Ho Chi Minh City – Siem Reap.
- v Local English-speaking guides for all in-tour excursions.
- v All entrance fees for sites mentioned in the itinerary.

NOT INCLUDED

- x International airfare.
- x Early hotel check-in and late check-out fees.
- x Peak season surcharges and compulsory gala dinners (if applicable).
- x Visa fees (passport must be valid for at least 6 months with 3 blank pages).
- x Personal expenses such as tips, laundry, and gratuities.
- x Meals and drinks not explicitly listed in the itinerary.

PRICE INCLUDES

- v 8 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 1 Brunch, 1 Dinner
- v Accommodation for 7 nights in hotels and 1 night on a cruise.
- v All transportation in air-conditioned vehicles as per itinerary, including airport transfers.
- v Domestic flights: Hanoi – Ho Chi Minh City, Ho Chi Minh City – Siem Reap.
- v Local English-speaking guides for all in-tour excursions.
- v All entrance fees for sites mentioned in the itinerary.

CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-3B7CEFD1D630