

Vietnam and Cambodia

Finesse Travel's Exclusive Tour giving you a Dream Holiday

Two countries of contrasts where pleasant surprises await at almost every turn”

A country of beautiful diversity, Vietnam entices travellers with soaring mountains, thousands of kilometres of unspoilt beaches and one of the best street food scenes anywhere in the world.

Anchored by Hanoi in the north with its 1,000 years of history, and the modern, French-influenced metropolis of Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) in the south,

In between these hotspots are rural towns and idyllic landscapes where buffalo and farmers in conical hats work the fields of the Mekong Delta, junks drift through the morning mist on Halong Bay and cyclo drivers peddle along the narrow streets of Hoi An's Ancient Town.

A pleasing mix of contrasts, Vietnam beguiles with the warmth, openness and positivity of its people, an abiding memory of an alluring country

Cambodia

Stand in awe of the architectural achievement of Angkor Wat and contemplate the horrors of the Killing Fields at Phnom Penh. Soak up the colours, culture, and history of this incredible region. Its natural beauty coupled with tumultuous history make Cambodia a truly fascinating destination.

Tour Highlights

- Fascinating city tours of Hanoi, Hoi An, Saigon, Phnom Penh and Siem Reap
- Meander through the towering limestone karsts of Ha Long Bay with an overnight cruise
- Overnight sleeper train from Hanoi to Hoi An
- Visit the traditional Japanese merchant houses and the Pagoda Bridge in Hoi An
- Navigate the vast underground network of the Cu Chi tunnels used by the Viet Cong
- Cruise along the waterways of the Mekong Delta, witnessing the Cai Rang floating market
- Visit the harrowing S21 Genocide Museum and the notorious Killing Fields of Cambodia
- Visit the incredible temple complexes of Angkor Wat and Angkor Thom
- Explore local markets and sample the street food these countries are famous for

All Excursion and Entrances Included (except the 3 optionals mentioned)

Minimum 4* Hotels Throughout

Local Guides Throughout

Some Meals are included (see daily schedule)

WEATHER SUMMARY

Vietnam has a tropical climate with two distinct seasons: wet and dry.

Wet season is generally from April to October and dry season from November to March. It is good to note that Vietnam's climate varies depending on the time of year and geographic location.

Overall, when the weather isn't ideal in one area, it may be great in another.

ITINERARY OVERVIEW

Max Group Size: 12

Dates	Destinations	Accommodation
Day 1 – Day 2	Depart the UK	
Day 2 – Day 3	Hanoi	La Siesta Premium Hang Be
Day 3 – Day 4	Halong bay	Bhaya Classic Cruise
Day 4 – Day 5	Hanoi	La Siesta Premium Hang Be
Day 5 – Day 6	Overnight train	New Deluxe Livitran Train
Day 6 – Day 7	Hoi An	Almanity Hoi An Wellness Resort
Day 7 – Day 8	Saigon	Liberty Central Saigon CityPoint
Day 8 – Day 9	Can Tho	Can Tho Ecolodge
Day 9 – Day 10	Chau Doc	Victoria Chau Doc Hotel
Day 10 – Day 11	Phnom Penh	Baitong Hotel and Resort
Day 11 – Day 13	Siem Reap	FCC Angkor managed by Avani (F. Fcc Angkor Boutique Hotel)
Day 14 – Day 15	Depart Siem Reap	
Day 15 – Day 16	Arrive UK	

DETAILED ITINERARY



Day 1: Depart the UK (Thursday 28 March 2024)

Day 2: Hanoi

Upon arrival at Hanoi airport, after clearing all customs procedures. You will be met your guide and transfer you to hotel.

Meals: None

Accommodation: La Siesta Premium Hang Be/ Deluxe room

Address: 27 Hang Be Street, Old Quarter, Hoan Kiem Dist.

Tel: 84 24 3929 0011. Fax:

<https://lasiestahotels.vn/hangbe/>



Day 3: Hanoi - Tuan Chau marina - Halong bay

08:30

- Pick up at your hotel
- Start 2,5-hour road journey via 5B highway to Tuan Chau pier.

Main attraction: **Trinh Nu Area**

Things to do: Kayak around Trinh Nu Area / Sip between sights in Happy Hour/ Try Masterchef "Halong Bay Edition" / Squid fishing like a local

*Depending on weather conditions, this activity might be replaced by kayaking in Luon Cave.

Departs: 12:30 PM

Attraction:

Trinh Nu Area

Trinh Nu Area includes Trinh Nu Cave, which is the finest sunlight-filled cave in Halong Bay, and a stunning private beach surrounded by Ha Long Bay's crystal water. This is where visitors will have a chance to unwind in a quieter neighborhood and be in touch with raw nature.

Activities (on-board & off-board):

Kayak in the tranquil Trinh Nu Area

Take in the stunning views of Trinh Nu Area by kayaking in the jade-colored water. This activity is highly recommended to all guests. Or sunbathe on a private beach nestled behind Trinh Nu Cave.

Taste our most exquisite drinks varied vastly in the selection while enjoying the scenic panorama view of Halong Bay during Happy hour, time to rejoice with the buy 1 get 1 promotion.

Squid fishing like a local after dinner

After dinner, try out the technique like a local to get the squids from the ocean while having a wonderful time together.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Bhaya Classic Cruise / Deluxe cabin

<http://aclasscruises.com/>

Day 4: Halong bay – Hanoi / Hanoi Half Day city tour

Main attraction: Sung Sot Cave

Things to do: Tai Chi on sundeck/ Explore Sung Sot Cave

Attraction:

Sung Sot Cave

The most popular and largest cave in Ha Long Bay, Sung Sot Cave keeps up to its reputation by constantly wowing any visitor, regardless of new or old. Its marvelous structure tells an incredible history that you don't want to miss.

Activities (on-board & off-board):

Tai Chi on Sundeck

Rejuvenating the body and spirit with a refreshing Tai Chi lesson as the sun rises over the acclaimed UNESCO Heritage Site is one of the most relaxing experiences that passengers have. Practicing this beautiful art regularly can help treat a number of human ailments.

Be amazed by Sung Sot Cave's beauty

Paying a visit to the largest and most renowned cave will definitely awe you with many good surprises. Behold the impeccable creation by Nature and use your imagination to connect with ancient folklore.

Check-out: 10:30 AM

Meet with your guide at the pier and transfer to Hanoi.

Upon arrival Hanoi, tour the city of Hanoi, with its ochre-colored colonial buildings, tree-lined boulevards and scenic lakes. Stop at the old coffee shop in the Old Quarter to get sharing from your tour guide about daily life of Hanoian. Then visit the historic **Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum (outside visit)**, an imposing monument of marble and granite built to house the preserved body of beloved revolutionary leader Ho Chi Minh, affectionately known to the Vietnamese as "Uncle Ho". Tour the **One Pillar Pagoda**, a Buddhist temple built in 1049 of wood in the shape of a lotus blossom and set on a single stone pillar, considered by many to be one of Vietnam's most iconic pagodas. Visit **Ho Chi Minh's House** nearby, a simple wooden house in a tranquil setting where Ho Chi Minh lived and worked. Some of his belongings are on display and visitors can walk up the steps to see his bedroom. Continue on to the **Temple of Literature**, Vietnam's first national university built in the late 11th century. The picturesque temple is an example of well-preserved traditional Vietnamese architecture and is featured on the back of the 100,000 Vietnamese dong banknote.

NOTES:

- Tour duration: 3.5 hours.

Meals: Light Breakfast, Vietnamese menu brunch

Accommodation: La Siesta Premium Hang Be/ Deluxe room

Day 5: Afternoon Street food tour / Hanoi water puppet show / Hanoi – Da Nang by overnight train

Free at leisure in the morning.

12:00 check-out hotel. Then meet with your guide for the afternoon street food tour.

Eating on the street is a very typical activity for Hanoians and makes up an important part of the city's unique culture. Take a leisurely walk with your tour guide to **the Old Quarter**. Make your way through streets lined with food vendors tending steaming vats of **Pho Ga (Vietnamese noodle soup with chicken)** and line up with the other hungry customers to try this tasty cuisine. Pho Ga is practically Vietnam's national dish,

consumed almost religiously throughout the day. After experiencing Hanoi's insatiable demand for Pho, head to a nearby street market, alive with the sights and sounds of Hanoi - it is the essence of Vietnamese street culture. Sit down at a tiny shop to try a bit of **Banh Duc** - cooked rice powder with Vietnamese spices, served cool or hot depending on weather. Your next stop is another little shop selling many different types of traditional Northern cakes, such as **Com cake (young rice)**, considered to be a part of every Hanoians' childhood. Follow your guide into a small alley to get an idea of a typical "tube house" in Hanoi and then stop for a tasty **banh mi at Banh My Lan Ong and try their famous bread with Pâté**. Your savory appetite sated, enjoy some che - a Vietnamese sweet soup. Cap off your trip by tasting a cup of Vietnamese egg coffee before transferring to a public theatre for a **water puppet performance**.

NOTE:

- Duration: approx. 4 hours
- Total walking distance: 4 km

Water puppet show is a uniquely northern Vietnamese art form said to have originated in the flooded rice fields of the Red River Delta where villagers entertained themselves by manipulating puppets over the water. Modern performers stand chest-deep in water behind a screen and use long rods to move the colorful wooden puppets in a life-like way to depict scenes based on Vietnamese folklore. The skits are set to traditional music using drums, wooden bells, horns, bamboo flutes and cymbals. Scenes may also be accompanied by operatic songs narrating the action.

NOTES:

- Availability: Late afternoon.
- Suggested departure time: 17:00.
- Duration: 01 hour

After show, transfer to the train station for overnight train to Da Nang.

Depart from Hanoi at 19:25 (SE3/4)

Meals: Breakfast, Street food

Accommodation: New Livitrans Train / Deluxe cabin with 4 soft berths

<http://newlivitrans.com/>



Day 6: Danang arrival / Half Day Hoi An walking tour

12:02 Upon arrival at Danang train station. Your guide will come to meet you up and transfer you to hotel in Hoi An.

The regular check-in time is at 14:00; early check-in is NOT included and subject to availability

15:00 take walking tour around Hoi An town.

Between the 15th and 19th centuries, Hoi An known then as 'Faifo', was a prosperous trading port, attracting Chinese, Japanese, Dutch, Portuguese and Spanish ships amongst others. Today, this World Heritage ancient town is recognized for its well-preserved architecture, pedestrian-only streets and distinctive local cuisine, allowing visitors a glimpse of its illustrious past. Hoi An's narrow lanes are ideal for a guided walking tour of its many atmospheric sights including: the **old merchant houses** with influences from Chinese, Japanese and Vietnamese architecture; the 400-year-old **Japanese Covered Bridge**, first built in the 1590s by the Japanese community to link them with the Chinese quarters across the stream; the **Assembly Hall of the Chaozhou Chinese Congregation** with its intricate woodcarvings; and **the colorful market** with stalls brimming with local specialties including silk, which can be turned into fashionable garments within a day or two.

NOTES:

- Tour duration: 2 hours.
- The Hoi An entrance ticket is valid for entry to 5 sightseeing spots in Hoi An including merchant houses, the Japanese Covered Bridge, museums, pagodas and assembly halls for 24 hours. It also provides entry into Hoi An Ancient Town for as long as you are in Hoi An. Please keep the entrance ticket with you at all times should you independently visit Hoi An later in the evening or on another day.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Almanity Hoi An Wellness Resort/ Superior Town

Address: 326 Ly Thuong Kiet Street, Tan An Ward

Tel: 84 235 3666 888. Fax: 84 235 3666 110

<http://www.almanityhoian.com/>



Day 7: Hoi An – Da Nang airport / Da Nang – Ho Chi Minh city via Vietnam Airline #VN133 @1625/1755 (Economy Class / TOI books) /

Free at leisure in the morning.

Optional tour: Buffalo cart and fishing life tour

The flat, quiet roads around Hoi An's countryside are ideal for exploring by **traditional buffalo cart**. In Vietnam, farmers and buffalo working the fields have become a symbol of countryside life, with the buffalo being the most valuable possession of poor farmers, and therefore treated almost as a member of the family. Enjoy a scenic **buffalo cart ride** passing by rice paddies, shrimp ponds, and vegetable farms with excellent photo opportunities. At the dock, **board a local river boat** and start cruising down the Hoi An River. The boat will stop along the shore where you can try your hand at **casting traditional fishing nets**, a common fishing method still practiced today. Also learn the art of paddling the unique Vietnamese **round basket**

boats. Return to your river boat and **enjoy light seafood dishes and a refreshing drink** as you head back up the river and return to town for walking tour.

NOTES:

Availability: Morning, Afternoon

Suggested departure time: 08:00, 13:00

Tour duration: 4.5 hours

Lunch included

Capacity: Min. 2 pax - Max. 20 pax

This trip is not recommended from October - January due to weather conditions.

The regular check-out time is at 12:00; late check out is NOT included and subject to availability

14:00 meet with your guide and transfer to Danang airport for departure flight to Ho Chi Minh city.

Upon arrival **Tan Son Nhat airport**, please proceed to exit gate and look for your guide who will be waiting at the lobby, holding the Trails of Indochina signboard with your name on it. If you cannot locate your guide, please come to the closest Information booth and have them call the emergency number **(+84) 9 1871 3456**. Your guide will come to meet you and transfer you to city center for the city highlight tour.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Liberty Central Saigon CityPoint / Premier room

Address: 59 Pasteur, Ben Nghe Ward, District 1, Ho Chi Minh city

<https://www.libertycentralsaigoncitypoint.com/>

Day 8: Visit Cu Chi tunnels / Half Day city highlight tour

08:30 From Saigon, take a 2hr drive northwest to the famous **Cu Chi Tunnels**, an immense network of connecting underground tunnels started in 1948 to protect the Viet Cong guerrillas from the French air and ground sweeps. The tunnels also served as living quarters, communication and supply routes, and housed hospitals, food and weapons caches. Touring **the underground compounds** will provide a better understanding of the history of the tunnels, the hardship of life in the tunnels and the Vietnamese resilience during combat. Return to Saigon.

NOTES:

- Tour duration: 05 hours

Afternoon, take a half day city highlight tour.

With over eight million inhabitants and four million motorbikes, Saigon is truly a city that never sleeps. Despite its modernity, Saigon maintains a strong link to the past and our city tour takes in some of Saigon's most historic landmarks including the **Notre Dame Cathedral**, a red brick edifice with twin spires constructed from materials imported from France (entrance is only permitted when no services are being performed). Then head across the square to the **Central Post Office**, completed in 1891. A short drive away is the former **Presidential Palace**, the headquarters of the Saigon Government during the American War. Continue to the **War Remnants Museum** for a vivid perspective of the American War through the eyes of the Vietnamese. (Please note that some of the displays are very graphic.) Experience Saigon's famed street coffee culture while your guide provides a brief language lesson as well as insights into daily life of a Saigonese before returning to your hotel.

The regular check-in time is at 14:00; early check-in is NOT included and subject to availability

NOTES:

- Tour duration: 04 hours
- Outside visit only due the renovation at Notre Dame Cathedral until late 2027

Optional Tour in the evening: Saigon after dark by Vespa

Immerse yourself into the cosmopolitan nightlife of this busy city by night. Soak up the energy of this urban metropolis at a top-ranking stylish rooftop venue of Saigon in central city location where we sip on our first drinks and try out some tasty snacks while watching the sunset Saigon from the above. Your expert driver will then zoom through the busy streets of Saigon as you check out some of the famous highlights in this bustling city. Feel like a local as we feast on authentic, fresh seafood dishes, eating streetside and then enjoy the local favorite that is the delicious Banh Xeo, a traditional Vietnamese savory pancake. We then ride off into the night again to experience live music at two very different venues. Firstly, the laid-back atmosphere of quieter, softly lit coffee shop with live music before heading to another live music venue where a new generation of Vietnamese flaunt their style. Bring a healthy appetite and a sense of adventure as our guides show you their city by night.

NOTES:

- Available time: Evening only
- Duration: 4.0 hours
- Starting time: 18:00.
- Special note: the itinerary is subject to change during Tet holidays.
- The stops can be modified depending on availability and on client's dietary.
- This tour is a street food adventure; some stops are not as tidy as in formal restaurants. Yet we have inspected and chosen the best shops with acceptable hygiene, to make sure you can experience the best local street food possible.

Remark about traffic in Saigon:

If you have never visited Saigon - the city on the move, then it is a good idea to discover this city by motorcycles. Get well prepared that the traffic moves in a different way that at home. The roads are always busy with motorbikes, cars and buses. But take it easy, Saigonese knows how to handle all the turns. You will sit behind experienced drivers who understand their vespa and the traffic like the back of their hands. Only by sitting on a motorcycle that you can zig zag through the narrow alleys, bustling residential area to capture the real night life of Saigonese.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Liberty Central Saigon CityPoint / Premier room



Day 9: Ben Tre in depth / Can Tho – Chau Doc

Depart Saigon for a 1.5hr drive to **Ben Tre Province** in the Mekong Delta, famous for its tropical fruit gardens and traditional products made of coconuts. Visit a **brick factory** to learn how bricks are made by hand using centuries-old traditional methods before boarding your **private local boat** and cruising along the waterways to observe the way of life on the river. Shore excursions include a **coconut workshop** where almost every part of the coconut is used for candies and crafts, and a **family-run mat workshop** where you can try your hand at weaving the ubiquitous straw sleeping mats. A 3km (2mi) ride by tuk-tuk or bicycle takes you to the **home of a fruit farmer** where you can sample tropical fruits. After lunch at a local restaurant, board a **rowing sampan** for close up views of the water palm-lined waterways of the Delta. Travel back to the Hung Vuong pier by boat before transferring to **Can Tho**.

NOTES:

- Suggested departure time: 08.00
- Tour duration: 08 hours
- Biking distance: approx. 3km (2mi)
- Advance notice required if using local bicycle

Continuing on a 2 hours' drive to **Can Tho** hotel where you will have the evening free.

NOTES:

Suggested departure time: 08:00.

Estimated arrival time at Can Tho: 17:00

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Can Tho Ecolodge/ Junior Deluxe

Address: 542, Area No.3, Ba Lang ward, Cai Rang dist.

Tel: 84 292 365 6567

www.cantho.ecolodge.asia

Day 10: Can Tho – Chau Doc – Tra Su Nature Reserve

Rise early and board a local boat to explore the famed **Cai Rang floating market**, where dozens of boats laden with fruits, vegetables and fish from all over the Delta jostle for trade. Notice the long poles with sample products for sale tied to the top. This vibrant wholesale market on the water makes for excellent photo opportunities as your boat navigates close to the action. Check out of your hotel and make the 3hr drive northwest towards **Chau Doc**. Situated on the border with Cambodia, Chau Doc enjoys a unique cultural mix of Vietnamese, Cham and Khmer ethnic groups. Transfer to your hotel for check-in and lunch. In the late afternoon, we drive 45mins **Tra Su Nature Reserve**. (Open year round, breeding birds are most plentiful between July and Feb). The enchanting submerged forest is home to many unique water birds and colonies of bats and is best explored by motor boat and rowing sampan through spectacular living carpets of water plants. On the way to the nature reserve, we visit a Khmer village and witness how all parts of the palm tree are used by ethnic Cambodians to make palm juice, palm sugar and more. Return to your hotel in the early evening.

Overnight in Chau Doc.

NOTES:

Suggested departure time: 06:00.

Duration of afternoon tour: 03 hours.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Victoria Chau Doc Hotel/ Deluxe

Address: 32 Le Loi Street

Tel: 84 296 3865 010. Fax: 84 296 3865 020

www.victoriahotels-asia.com



Day 11: Chau Doc – Phnom Penh by speed boat (SIC) / Ancient, Royal and recent history of Phnom Penh

Leaving Chau Doc by the express boat from Chau Doc to Phnom Penh.

In Chau Doc: 7.30 A.M

In Phnom Penh: 12.30 P.M

Upstream route from Chau Doc to Phnom Penh, the boat will arrive Phnom Penh port at 12:30 P.M

Upon arrival, meet with your guide and transfer from the pier to a local restaurant for lunch (your own expense).

Home to about 1.5 million people, Phnom Penh has been Cambodia's capital since French colonization of the country. Located on the banks of the Tonle Sap and Mekong River, Phnom Penh was once known as the "Pearl of Asia", one of the loveliest French-built cities in Indochina. Spend a half day exploring some key attractions in this charming city which boasts a rich blend of Khmer and colonial architecture. Explore the hillside **Wat Phnom** with its big trees and mischievous monkeys and hear about the legend of Lady Penh, the founder of the city; the **Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda**, two of the most striking buildings in the capital and considered as some of the finest examples of Khmer architecture. At the Silver Pagoda, notice the small green crystal Buddha (the "Emerald Buddha") and a life-sized solid-gold Buddha, which weighs 90kg (198lb) and is adorned with 2086 diamonds; and the **National Museum**, designed in Khmer style by a French archaeologist and painter in 1917. The museum's collection includes over 14,000 items, making it one of the world's largest collections of Khmer art, including sculptural, ceramics, bronzes, and ethnographic objects. Return to your hotel.

NOTES:

- Suggested departure time: 14:00
- Tour duration: 04 hours
- The Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda are open from 08:00 to 10:30 and 14:00 to 17:00 but are subject to closure at short notice in the event of official ceremonies. If the sites are closed, the guide will make changes to the itinerary on the day.
- At religious sites, women should cover their shoulders and both men and women should cover their knees.

The regular check-in time is at 14:00; early check-in is NOT included and subject to availability

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Baitong Hotel and Resort/ Superior Pool View

Address: No. 10, St 282. BKK1, Khan Chamkarmon,

Tel: +855 23 223 838

<https://www.baitonghotel.asia/>

**Day 12: Phnom Penh highlight historical tour / Phnom Penh - Siem Reap via Angkor Airline
2.30pm/3.25pm (Economy class)**

Located on the banks of the Tonle Sap and Mekong River, Phnom Penh was once known as the “Pearl of Asia”, one of the loveliest French-built cities in Indochina. After the Khmer Rouge regime, the city was sadly left a shadow of its former self. Now, due to a strong, young dynamism, the city is once again a vibrant, growing capital. Spend a half day learning more about the turbulent Khmer Rouge years with visits to **Tuol Sleng**, a high school turned interrogation prison known as **S-21** during the Khmer Rouge era and now a **genocide museum**; and **Cheung Ek**, a large memorial commemorating the 17,000 victims who died there under the reign of Khmer Rouge leader, Pol Pot, made famous by the movie “The Killing Fields”. While sombre reminders of the cruelty of the Khmer Rouge regime, these visits will also provide an appreciation of the struggle that Cambodian people have faced and their tremendous courage to move on and rebuild their nation.

NOTES:

- A respectful and humble demeanor is requested when visiting the Toul Sleng Genocide Museum and the Killing Fields.

After lunch, transfer to airport for departure flight to Siem Reap.

The regular check-in time is at 14:00; early check-in is NOT included and subject to availability

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: FCC Angkor managed by Avani/ Deluxe room

Address: Pokambor Ave, next to the Royal Residence

Tel: (855-63) 760 280. Fax: (855-63) 760 281

<https://www.avanihotels.com/en/angkor-siem-reap>

Day 13: Well off the beaten track

Wake up early and transfer by private vehicle to the **West Gate of Angkor Wat** from where the sunrise can be best observed. Enter the temple complex. Angkor Wat (early 12th century) is surrounded by 190-metre-wide moat 1.5 kilometers by 1.3 kilometers and is claimed to be the largest religious building in the world. It is certainly one of the wonders of the ancient world. You will be amazed by the sheer size of the temple, which took 30 years to construct & used the labors of up to 300,000 workers. **Angkor Wat** was built as the earthly representation of the universe with its' central tower symbolizing Mt Meru which, Hindus believe, is at the center of the Universe. Return to the **West Gate** and breakfast can be enjoyed just outside of the Angkor complex at a local restaurant (own cost).

Drive to visit **Banteay Kdei** built between the 12th and 13th centuries. The ruined condition of the temple in no way detracts from the grandeur of this walled temple. Banteay means fortified monastery and refers to the double wall surrounding it.

Continue to **Ta Prohm**, this beautiful temple, built in 1186 as a Buddhist temple dedicated to the mother of Jayavarman VII, is one of Angkor's jewels and is overgrown with fig trees, giving a haunting yet exotic atmosphere. The magnificent roots of the trees have merged over the centuries with the temple's huge stone blocks, creating a 'forgotten city' feeling. Pause at **Ta Keo**, which would have been the finest temples in Angkor had it been completed. A short distance further are the twin temples of **Chau Say Tevoda** and **Thommanon**. Return to town for a rest and relaxation at the hotel in the midafternoon. Drive to **Angkor Thom**, not a temple, but an entire walled city of 9 sq km and served as the ancient royal **Capital of the Khmer Empire** from approx. 1181. With a probable population of 1 million, it was far bigger and grander than any city in Europe at the time. Your guide will take you to the **Terrace of the Elephants** and the **Terrace of the Leper King**. The center piece of Jayavarman VII's Capital is the Bayon temple and, as you approach, you will notice the 216 giants, enigmatic, smiling faces looking into every direction. Return to the South gate where you will board a small, private boat out to **Prasat Chrung Temple** to watch the amazing sunset.

NOTES:

- Suggested time: 04:45
- Duration: 8 hours
- Note: 4pax/boat

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: FCC Angkor managed by Avani/ Deluxe room

Day 14: Siem Reap

Take time to relax, shop and discover the street life in Cambodia's most pleasant tourist town by your own.

Optional: Farewell dinner with Apsara dance performance

7:00pm depart from your hotel for dinner.

Traditional Apsara dancing has a long history in Cambodia, dating back to the 7th century according to some stone temple carvings. In Hindu mythology, Apsaras were beautiful female creatures who descended from heaven to entertain gods and kings with their dancing. This traditional dance is meaningful in many ways as it constitutes a link between the different religions prominent in Cambodia, including Animism, Hinduism, and Buddhism. Also notice symbolic and elegant **finger gestures** and the **ornate silk costumes** inspired by the wall carvings of the Angkor temples. Tonight, spend an evening at **Angkor Village Apsara Theatre**, the **only air-conditioned theatre in town**, as dancers, singers and musicians bring ancient Khmer culture to life while you enjoy the best of Cambodian cuisine.

NOTES:

- Availability: Evening
- Tour duration: 2-3 hours
- **Performance daily from 19:30 on every Wednesday and Saturdays.**

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: FCC Angkor managed by Avani/ Deluxe room

Day 15: Siem Reap departure

Meet with your guide and transfer from your accommodation to the airport for your flight home.

Day 16 : Arrive back in the UK (Friday 12 April 2024)



Price per person in USD (NET price)	
Saigon after dark – Vespa	116
Buffalo cart and fishing life tour – Hoi An	81
Dinner with Apsara dance performance	40

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

Inclusions:	Non-inclusions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International Flights from London Heathrow Other airports with a supplement • Overnight accommodation including daily breakfast, hotels tax and service charges • 2 days 1-night Bhaya Cruise (Shared cruise/private cabin) • Overnight train from Hanoi to Da Nang • Private transfers and transportation on tour • Sightseeing with local English-speaking guides (one guide in each city) • Entrance fees and boat rides • Meals as specified (meals only, no drinks/ water) • Airfares: Da Nang – Saigon / Phnom Penh – Siem Reap (Economy class with airport tax) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Airport Assistance Service • Separate luggage truck • Visa • Other meals where not mentioned in the program • Drinks/water at included lunches and dinners • Other flights & airport taxes • Hotel early check in/ Late check-out • Overweight luggage • Personal expenses • Travel insurance • Tips & gratuities • Other services not listed in inclusive column

- | | |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cold towels and water on sightseeing days• Speed boat (SIC) from Chau Doc to Phnom Penh | |
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Useful Information

Currencies: Dong, Reil

Flight time: Approx. 11 hrs 30 mins to 13 hrs 10 mins

Languages: Vietnamese, Khmer

Time zone: GMT+7

Countries: Vietnam, Cambodia

Visa Information

Along with a valid passport, UK citizens must have a visa in order to travel to Cambodia. For the most up-to-date passport and visa information visit <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice/cambodia/entry-requirements>

Visa cost is USD \$35 per person. Full details of how and when to apply will be sent with your booking confirmation.

UK Citizens do not require a visa to enter Vietnam.

We are unable to accept responsibility if you are unable to travel because you have not complied with any passport/entry/immigration requirements.

Please note that visa costs may be subject to change.

Health

Whilst the travelling schedule shall pose no problems for people of any age in normal physical health, we would point out that in visiting a number of historical sites, paths may be uneven and we often enjoy walking tours of the main sights, therefore this holiday may not be suitable for clients of greatly impaired mobility. In the tropics temperatures and humidity levels are quite high for most of the year. Please consult your GP regarding the appropriate inoculations required for Vietnam & Cambodia at least a month before departure.

Prices: £3999pp

Single Supplement: £650

Supplement for 2 Sharing a cabin on the overnight train: £65pp

Supplement for 1 in a cabin on the overnight train: £130

Initial Deposit: £200pp to secure your booking

Further Deposit: £1500pp required by 1 September 2023

Balance Due: 18 January 2024

Airport Supplements: Manchester £150pp