



VIETNAM



Vietnam & Cambodia

DAY 1 Hanoi Arrival

On arrival, transfer to hotel. Rest of the day is at leisure.

Overnight in Hanoi.

DAY 2 Hanoi

Morning: Your guide will meet you at your hotel and take you to Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum (closed Mondays and Fridays), as well as his private residence from 1954 until 1969. The wooden ethnic minority style house, which was built on stilts, is surrounded by lovely peaceful gardens. In the same complex is One Pillar Pagoda, founded by King Ly Thai To in 1049, the structure has become an important symbol for the people of Hanoi.

The tour will continue to the National Fine Arts Museum, located in colonial France's former Ministry of Information, which has an eclectic mix of contemporary Vietnamese art, religious pieces, lacquer-ware and sculptures. In the same complex we will see the Temple Of Literature, Vietnam's first university. Constructed in 1070, the gardens and well-preserved architecture offer a relaxing glimpse into Vietnam's past.

Afternoon: Free at leisure.

Overnight in Hanoi. **(B)**

DAY 3 Hanoi - Hue

Transfer to the airport for flight to Hue.

On arrival transfer to hotel. Rest of the day is at leisure.

Overnight in Hue. **(B)**

DAY 4 Hue

A boat trip on the romantically named Perfume River visits Hue's best-known religious site, Thien Mu Pagoda, and the mausoleum of former emperor Minh Mang, in a tranquil setting of gardens and lakes. In the afternoon visit the elaborate mausoleums of emperors Tu Duc and Khai Dinh and the Imperial Citadel from where the Nguyen Dynasty ruled between 1802 and 1945. If time permits visit one of Hue's many garden houses or explore the lively Dong Ba Market. In the evening enjoy a home-cooked dinner at the home of a local family (groups of under 15 pax only).

Overnight in Hue. **(B, D)**

DAY 5 Hue-Danang-Hoi An

Leave Hue after breakfast by road for Danang via the scenic fishing village of Lang Co and the Pass of Ocean Clouds. Stop in Danang to visit the beautiful Non Nuoc Beach and the Cham



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Museum containing the finest collection of Cham sculpture in the world. On the road from Danang to Hoi An visit five sacred hills known as the Marble Mountains containing dozens of Buddhist shrines. On arrival in Hoi An transfer to hotel. Hoi An was a major Asian trading port in the 17th and 18th centuries and its architecture and relaxed lifestyle has changed little over the years. Take a walking tour of the ancient town centre to visit former merchants' houses, the 400 year-old Japanese Covered Bridge, a Chinese communal hall and the colourful market.

Overnight in Hoi An. (B)

DAY 6 Hoi An-My Son-Tra Kieu-Hoi An

A half day trip to visit the capital and religious centre of the former Champa Kingdom, My Son. Here, 40km southwest of Hoi An, in a lush green valley, are dozens of red brick towers and sanctuaries dating from between the 7th and 13th centuries. On the way back to Hoi An stop to visit Tra Kieu, formerly known as Simhapura or the Lion Citadel, the capital of Champa between the 4th and 8th centuries. Some of the finest sculpture in Danang's Cham Museum originated from here. On returning to Hoi An, the afternoon is free to relax perhaps browsing for souvenirs in Hoi An's art galleries and silk shops, or maybe cycling to the nearby Cua Dai Beach.

Overnight in Hoi An. (B)

DAY 7 Hoi An

Today is free at leisure for shopping and exploring this charming town, a protected UNESCO site. Hoi An is noted for its hand sewn tailored clothing and beautiful white sand beaches; an ideal day at leisure to simply enjoy the environment, relax by the pool, or people watch to your heart's content.

Overnight in Hoi An. (B)

DAY 8 Hoi An

Today is free at leisure for shopping and exploring this charming town, a protected UNESCO site. Hoi An is noted for its hand sewn tailored clothing and beautiful white sand beaches; an ideal day at leisure to simply enjoy the environment, relax by the pool, or people watch to your heart's content.

Overnight in Hoi An. (B)

DAY 9 Hoi An - Danang - Saigon

Transfer to the airport for flight to Saigon.
On arrival transfer to hotel. Rest of the day is at leisure.

Overnight in Saigon. (B)

DAY 10 Saigon - Mekong Delta - Saigon

Leave Ho Chi Minh City for Vinh Long. On arrival at Cai Be, board a boat to explore the floating market, typical of the Mekong Delta. Continue by boat to Binh Hoa Phuoc Island to visit orchards of tropical fruits and have lunch at restaurant in the famous Bonsai garden. After lunch continue by boat to Vinh Long Town for transfer back to Ho Chi Minh City.



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Overnight in Saigon. (B, L)

DAY 11 Saigon

Free at leisure.

Overnight in Saigon. (B)

DAY 12 Saigon - Siem Reap

Transfer to the airport for flight to Siem Reap. On arrival- visa formalities- welcomed by your English speaking guide and then transfer to the hotel for check in.

Then departure for the visit to the group of Ruluos located 16 km from Siem Reap on the road to Phnom Penh. The Ruluos was the first town created by the kings of Cambodia. The first edifice to be built was the temple of **Preah Ko** in 879 AD by King Indravarman I. This temple is composed of 6 brick towers still partly covered by stucco and was dedicated to his predecessor Jayavarman II. The king is represented as the god Shiva.

The second temple of the Ruluos is the **Bakong** temple, built in 881 AD by the same king. This was the state temple and also the largest of the city. The temple is the representation of the Mount Meru home of the gods. Finally the third temple is the **Lolei**, built in 893 AD and built by the successor of Indravarman I. This temple was supposed to be built in the center of an artificial lake and is composed of 6 brick towers originally but only 4 remain.

In the afternoon, continue to visit the Great City of Angkor Thom, the last capital of the Great Khmer Empire under the reign of Jayavarman VII. This city is surrounded by a 8 m high wall, each side of the city is 4 km long. It draws a perfect square you access this town through 5 gates; 4 of them represent the cardinal points and the 5th one the Victory Gate was the one leading directly to the Royal Palace Area.

You will arrive via the **South Gate**, an impressive stone gate carved with Elephants and 4 giant faces. On each side is a row of 54 gods or demons holding the sacred Naga snake. From here you continue and enter the city and arrive at the **Bayon Temple**.

This temple lies exactly in the center of the city. The particularity of this monument is the 54 towers representing the 54 provinces of the then Great Khmer Empire. Each tower has 4 faces. Continue by walk to the **Baphuon**, **Phimean Akas**, the **terrace of the Elephants** and the **Terrace of the Leper King**. Return to the hotel after watching sun set at Phnom Bakheng.

Overnight in Siem Reap. (B)

DAY 13 Siem Reap

After breakfast, start to visit the biggest religious temple in the world, the magnificent **Angkor Wat Temple**. Built by Suryavarman II, in early 12th century Angkor Wat is constructed following the model of the temple mountain symbolizing the Mount Merou, home of the gods. Considered as the masterpiece of the Khmer architecture, this Vishnuite temple is the King's funerary temple. These are the main reasons to explain the West exposure of the temple.

Inside the temple the walls are covered by carvings and bas-reliefs depicting the Hindu mythology and the wars Suryavarman II made during his reign. As well Angkor Wat is well known for the 2000 Apsaras dancers decorating the all temple.



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In the afternoon, visit **Srash Srang, Banteay Kdei, Chau Say Tevoda, Thommanon**, then you will visit one of the most popular temples of the Angkor Complex: The **Ta Prohm**. This temple like the Preah Khan, was built in the memory of the King Jayavarman VII's mother. When found by the French conservators at the end of the 19th century, they deliberately left this temple in

the same condition as it was discovered; overgrown by strangler fig and silk-cotton trees, giving the temple a mystical and romantic appeal.

Overnight in Siem Reap. **(B)**

DAY 14 Siem Reap - Saigon departure

After breakfast, start to explore the Grand Circuit including **Pre Rup, East Mebon, Neak Poan** and then continue to visit **Preah Khan** Temple, built approximately at the same period as the Ta Prohm and for the same purpose: In memory of a person Jayavarman VII's father while Ta Prohm is in memory of Jayavarman VII's mother. The particularity of this temple lies in the fact that on top of being a pantheon of divinities it was also a religious university with possibly as much as 15,000 people resident.

Then free till transfer from the hotel to the airport for departure flight from Siem Reap to Saigon. Arrive Saigon connecting the departure flight. **(B)**

-----END OF SERVICES-----

INCLUSIVE:

- Visa procedure fee if request
- Hotel accommodation with daily breakfast
- Land transportation by private air-conditioned vehicles
- **English** speaking local guide
- All admission fee at attractions as mentioned in the itinerary
- All meals as mentioned in the itinerary (B: Breakfast, L: lunch, D: Dinner)
- Boat trips as mentioned in the itinerary
- **Flights Hanoi - Hue// Danang - Saigon** & Vietnam domestic airport tax
- International flight tickets reconfirmation.

EXCLUSIVE:

- Vietnam entry visa stamping fee (USD25/ Person) if Not Norway citizen
- Visa for Cambodia (Visa issued on arrival, USD25/ Person, please bring 1 passport photo)
- International airport departure taxes in Vietnam (USD14/ Person)
- International airport departure tax Siem Reap (USD 25/ Person)
- Other flights NOT mentioned in the inclusive above
- Any other meals not mentioned above & Any kind of drinks
- Personal expenses (laundry, telephone, drinks, tip...)



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- Travel insurance. We strongly recommend purchase a travel insurance covering medical evacuation before your trip.
- All other services which are not mentioned in INCLUDING