

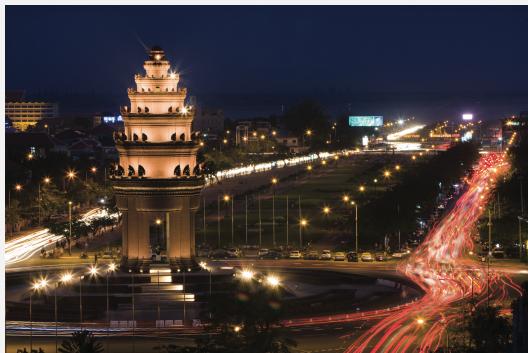
**PROPOSAL**

Classic Indochina

Cambodia – Laos - Vietnam

Duration	14 Days / 13 Nights
Travel Period	Anytime
Destinations	Cambodia, Laos & Vietnam
Tour Type	Private

Itinerary

Day 01
Phnom Penh - Arrival
(-)


Upon arrival in Phnom Penh transfer to the hotel. (Arrival before midday required) Start your Indochina experience with a half-day city tour through Phnom Penh. Start by visiting the National Museum where you will see many wonderful antiquities from the Khmer civilization. This will be followed by trips to the remarkable Silver Pagoda, as well as a tour of the Royal Palace with its ornate grandeur and colourful, steeply sloping roof. We visit Wat Phnom pagoda, followed by shopping at the Art Deco-Area Central Market and/or the Russian Market. **Overnight in Phnom Penh.**

Day 02
Phnom Penh – Siem Reap
(B)


Today you travel into a dark chapter in Cambodian history. Visit Tuol Sleng, the notorious prison where thousands were tortured opponents of the regime of the Khmer Rouge and the “Killing Fields” of Choeung Ek. Approximately 17km outside of Phnom Penh is Choeung Ek, which has gained 1975-1979 notoriety as one of 400 Killing Fields in Cambodia. Many of the executed were here before, in Toul Sleng torture, which is also known as S21. Before 1975 this place was a school and today houses the Genocide Museum.

Transfer to the Airport for your flight to Siem Reap. Upon Arrival in Siem reap, you will be transferred to your hotel.

Overnight in Siem Reap

Day 03
Siem Reap
(B)

We begin the day with a visit to one of the jewels of Cambodia: the awe-inspiring Angkor Thom or ‘Great City’. This will include many of the finest Temples of King Jayavarman VII. At the southern gate of Angkor Thom, you will marvel at the imposing high stone faces of Avalokiteshvara, featured in the Tomb Raider movie. These astonishing carvings inspire awe and wonder in all who view them. At the centre of this citadel lies the state temple of Bayon, which we will also visit. This temple-mountain, built at the end of the 12th century, is adorned with hundreds of gigantic stone faces. This tour also includes the Terrace of Elephants, the Terrace of the Leper King and the 12 identical towers of Prasat

Suor Prat. Later in the day you will discover the most famous temples from the 11th century: Baphuon, Phimeanakas, North Khleang and South Khleang.



In the afternoon you finally explore the highlight of your trip – Angkor Wat. Angkor Wat today is the largest sacred edifice on earth and of high importance for the Khmer itself. Constructed in 12th century by King Suyavarman II, Angkor Wat is dedicated to the Hindu God Vishnu.

Continue to the Ta Prohm temple, which was built in the late 12th century; it is unforgettable due to the massive trees with thick roots that entangle the walls. They were left here intentionally by the archeologists working on the site. While clearing back the forest it was decided to leave them in place to serve as a reminder of how the original discoverers found it and other temples.

Conclude your day by watching the sun go down over the Angkor area.

Overnight in Siem Reap

Day 04	Siem Reap – Luang Prabang	(B)
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Today we enjoy an excursion to Banteay Srei, the temple is dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva and is famed for its intricate friezes carved into its red sandstone walls. On the return we will visit Banteay Samre, built during Suryavarman II's rule in the middle of the 12th century. Next on the itinerary are impressive temples from the 10th century: Eastern Mebon, Pre Rup, Prasat Kravan and Takeo. From here you will drive direct to the airport for your flight to Luang Prabang.

Overnight in Luang Prabang

Day 05	Luang Prabang	(B)
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We will visit the vegetable market and the former King's Palace in the world heritage town of Luang Prabang, perhaps the best-preserved traditional city in Southeast Asia. The tranquility and charm of this town with its splendid natural scenery and cultural sights, like the Wat Xieng Thong, make it one of the most delightful places to visit in Laos.

Later we'll visit the impressive stupa of Wat Visoun and the shrine of Wat Aham. In the evening, climb up to the top of Phu Si Mountain for an enjoyable exploration of the sacred, gilded stupa. From this awe-inspiring vista, take in the beautiful sunset view of the city and the Mekong River.



At the Night Market, you can find a lovely collection of handmade textiles crafted by local and hill-tribe people surrounding Luang Prabang.

Overnight in Luang Prabang

Day 06
Luang Prabang
(B)


Today we board a cruise up the Mekong River, which gives us a beautiful view of the tranquil countryside as well as a fascinating visit deep within the mysterious Pak Ou Caves, crammed with thousands of gold lacquered Buddha statues.

Along the way, we stop at the village of Ban Xanghai , where they distill local rice wine (Lao Lao). Then we take a short drive to Ban Xang Khong and Ban Xienglek, well known for its handmade paper (Mulberry paper).

Overnight in Luang Prabang

Day 07
Luang Prabang - Hanoi
(B)

Join us to visit to the Kuang Si waterfall, one of the most famous and beautiful waterfalls in Laos. On the way we'll make some stops to visit local villages. At the waterfalls you can splash around in the pools or walk along forest paths, before returning to Luang Prabang in the afternoon direct to the airport for the flight to Hanoi. Flight to Hanoi and in Hanoi transfer to the hotel.

Overnight in Hanoi

Day 08
Hanoi
(B)

With a millennium-long history, Hanoi is a city of lakes, shaded boulevards and public parks dotted with French-style buildings and historical monuments. The city center is an architectural museum piece, retaining the air of a quaint and peaceful provincial town, contrary to the fast-paced atmosphere of Saigon.



During the city tour, you'll see cultural and historical highlights, comprising the Ho Chi Minh Complex (Mausoleum from the outside only), One Pillar Pagoda, Temple of Literature and the Old Quarter with Hoan Kiem Lake. The tour gives you time for shopping and socializing with local people.

Overnight in Hanoi

Day 09
Hanoi – Halong Bay
(B, L, D)


Transfer to Halong Bay in the morning. Halong Bay is one of the most magnificent scenic spots in all of Vietnam and was recognized as a world natural heritage site by UNESCO in 1994. Halong is a picturesque bay with almost 2,000 islets rising from the clear emerald waters of the Gulf of Tonkin. Cruise for 2 days in the tranquillity of Halong Bay.

Overnight on Cruise

Day 10
Halong – Hanoi
(B/BRUNCH)

Continue cruising and disembark in the late morning. Afterwards return to Hanoi Airport. On route, you will stop at But Thap Pagode. Around evening you will fly from Hanoi to Hue.

Overnight in Hue

Day 11
Hue
(B)

Hue was Vietnam's feudal capital from 1802 to 1945 under the Nguyen dynasty. It is widely known for the magnificent architecture of its citadels, palaces, royal tombs, pagodas and temples set in a poetic background of greenery on the banks of the Perfume River. Everything was laid out in harmony with nature and in accordance with the principles of Geomancy or Feng Shui. In 1993 Hue was declared by UNESCO as World Heritage Site. The Tomb of Tu Duc is one of the most beautiful works of royal architecture of the Nguyen Dynasty. In a sprawling, lush pine forest near Hue, this tomb is the final resting place of Emperor Tu Duc who enjoyed the longest reign of any monarch of the Nguyen dynasty. The construction of the tomb started in December 1864 and was completed in 1867.



Visit the Old Imperial Citadel, which construction begun in 1805 on the northern bank of the Perfume River.

Within the Imperial Enclosure is the Forbidden Purple City, which used to be the living quarters of the King. With more than 100 buildings such as palaces, temples and fortresses, the Citadel is one of the most interesting place to visit in Hue.

During this tour you will see all the important sights of Hue.

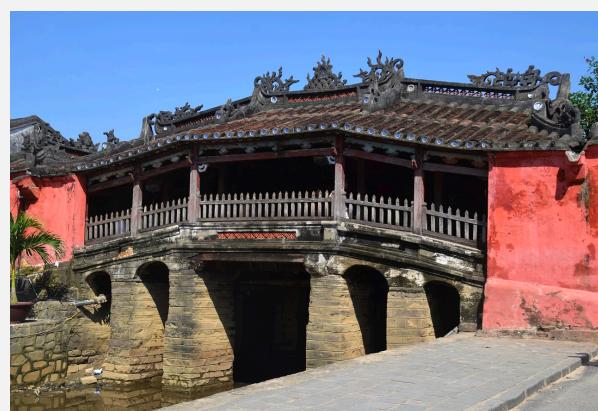
Overnight in Hue

Day 12
Hue – Danang – Hoi An
(B)

In the early morning you will start with a relaxing boat ride on the perfume river to the Thien Mu Pagoda and then continue to the Tomb of Emperor Minh Mang. The Thien Mu Pagoda was created in 1601 and is one of the most famous architectural structures in Vietnam. The most striking feature is the 21m-high octagonal tower, the 7-storeyed Phuoc Duyen Tower. The tower has become the unofficial symbol of Hue. The Tomb of Emperor Minh Mang is perhaps the most majestic of the Royal Tombs.

On the way to Hoi An you'll pass the Hai Van Pass. Hai Van pass means in Vietnamese the pass of ocean clouds. It is located on Highway 1 between Danang and Hue. One can see a spectacular stretch of scenery where mountains seem to fall into the sea.

Stop en route for a visit of Danang's Cham Museum. The museum houses probably the best collection of Cham art in the world. More than 300 artifacts, many dating to the 4th century are waiting to be explored.



After arriving in Hoi An you will join a city tour: Hoi An is an ancient trading post of seafaring Chinese, Japanese and European merchants. This picturesque town with colorful shops and temples was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1999. Walk along the main street to the Chinese Assembly Hall of Fujien Chinese community. Continue to the riverbank along narrow streets - on both sides are old houses transformed into beautifully decorated shops with colorful lanterns in different shapes. Next stop is to see the Japanese Covered Bridge built in the early 17th century by Japanese traders who settled eventually in the town. The special pagoda-shaped bridge is now the official symbol of Hoi An.

Overnight in Hoi An

Day 13
Hoi An – Danang - Saigon
(B)

In the morning transfer to Danang Airport and flight to Saigon. Ho Chi Minh City also known as Saigon is Vietnam's largest city with a growing population of around 8 million. This is a city on-the-go 24 hours a day, where everybody seems to be busy either buying, selling, studying, working or just enjoying themselves. Even though modern high-rise buildings have begun to dominate the skyline in recent years there are still many fine examples of French colonial architecture in Ho Chi Minh City.



The city tour will give you a general view of a developing city. You will get to know its history and culture with stops at the War Remnants Museum and at the Reunification Palace. See other places of interest such as the Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office, Opera House and the City Hall. Take the rest of the time for shopping activities around Dong Khoi Street and Ben Thanh Market.

Overnight in Saigon

Day 14
Saigon - Departure
(B)

After breakfast transfer to the airport or we can also extend your trip with a beach vacation in the South.

End of Service