



Route: **Hanoi - Ninh Binh - Halong Bay overnight on junk - Hanoi City Tour - Luang Prabang - Kuang Si Waterfalls - Siem Reap (Angkor Wat) - Ho Chi Minh - Cu Chi Tunnels - Private Trip to Mekong Delta River - Hochiminh**

Duration: **13 days**

### **DAY 1: HANOI ARRIVAL (-/-)**

All guests are warmly welcomed upon arrival at **Noi Bai International Airport** by our local guide then transfer to check in the hotel. Overnight at hotel in Hanoi.

### **DAY 2: HANOI - NINH BINH (B/L)**

After breakfast, start 100km modern bus-journey through verdant landscape of country side. Short -break en route. Arrive **glimmering Bai Dinh Pagoda complexes**, the largest pagoda, not only in Vietnam but also in Southeast of Asia. Scenically set on the foot **hill of Dinh Mountain** surrounded by amazing views of the exquisite river valley below and dotted and the limestone karsts dotted around which will take your breath away. This pagoda complexes stunningly boast an array of the most massive and magnificent architecture of Vietnamese tradition refined ever built that it take a full day to explore all. So you will visit some of the highlights that owned the national:

- ✓ 500 stone statues of "La Han" (Arhats)
- ✓ 2 huge bronze bells, one weighs 27 tons, other weighs 36 tones
- ✓ Three bronze statues of Tam The (50 tons each)

The visit ends with a walk-up the summit mountain to see the 100 tones statue of Buddha Sakyamuni made of bronze and enjoy the panoramic view of picturesque landscape dotted with Limestone Mountains.

12:30 enjoy lunch at the local restaurant.

After lunch, leave for the **Trang An Grottoes**, an out-standing natural beauty of majestic limestone massif at 20 square kilometer rise dramatically out from rice paddy fields. Deep

into the linked chains of towering mountain are pristine places of mystical valleys, numerous fresh water ponds, and jungle.

Embark on a traditional sampan gently rowed down the exquisite river through numerous caves: **Hang Toi** (Dark) cave, 320 meter long, **Sang** (light) cave, 90 meter long, and **Hang NauRuou** (Cooking wine) cave, 250 meter long... Every passages bring new surprise of mystery hidden inside isolated valleys of tranquility that likely transformed to the other world and time. The fauna and flora is rich and a scene of a goat jumping from one cliff to the other is a common sight.

Then you will transfer back to the hotel and spend the rest of the afternoon is at leisure. Overnight in NinhBinh.

### **DAY 3: NINH BINH - HALONG BAY (B/L/D)**

NinhBinh to Halong Bay (200km): 4hrs

Following an early breakfast, leave NinhBinh for a 4-hour (approximately) drive to **Halong Bay**, Vietnam's most popular UNESCO World Heritage site! The name 'Ha Long' means 'Bay of Descending Dragons' and owes its origins to a Vietnamese myth. The towering limestone karsts represent the dragon's back, surrounded by jade green water creating an unforgettable site. There are more than 1,600 limestone islands and islets with different shapes jutting out from the sea.

Arrive at the Halong Bay jetty around noon and proceed with check-in formalities before boarding a boat for an unforgettable overnight cruise on Halong Bay. After being welcomed onboard, a lunch of Vietnamese food is served while cruising towards the bay itself. In the afternoon, enjoy some visits and/or activities (depending on each boat's itinerary) or just spend some time relaxing on board. Towards the end of the day the boat sets anchor for the night among karst formations. Dinner is served on board. Overnight on board the boat in Halong Bay (private cabin on-board the join-in boat cruise).

### **DAY 4: HALONG BAY CRUISE - HANOI (B/L OR BRUNCH)**

Halong Bay to Hanoi (160 km): 2.5 - 3.0hrs

Enjoy the fresh morning in the middle of the bay, the sun rises on Halong in the morning and breakfast is served (brunch on some boats) while the vessels cruise slowly through the magnificent rock formations and back towards port. Disembark and transfer back to Hanoi and check in the hotel. Free at your own leisure. Overnight at hotel in Hanoi

### **DAY 5: HANOI - FULL DAY CITY TOUR (B/L)**

After breakfast, you will visit the **Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum** to explore the architectural and historical aspects of Uncle Ho's final resting-place. Just next door is **Ho Chi Minh's house on stilts** and lying to one side of the Mausoleum is the **One Pillar Pagoda**, which was founded by King Ly Thai To in 1049 - the structure has become an important symbol for the people of

Hanoi. Then continue on to the **Buddhist Tran Quoc Pagoda** at **West Lake** (One of the oldest pagodas in Vietnam). Lunch at local restaurant.

After lunch proceed to visit the **Ethnology Museum** where you have great chance to know about culture, custom, languages, houses of 54 ethnic groups in Vietnam, **the Literature Temple** and **QuocTuGiam**, see Vietnam's first university, constructed in 1070 - its gardens and well-preserved architecture will offer a relaxing glimpse into Vietnam's past.

Take you past **HoanKiem Lake** to see the peaceful waters, and the beauty of **Ngoc Son temple**. At the end, journey through **Dong Xuan Market** and **Hanoi old quarter on 36 streets** where you can purchase souvenirs for your beloved ones. Dinner will be serve at local restaurant. Overnight at hotel in Hanoi.

#### **DAY 6: HANOI - LUANG PRABANG, LAOS (B)**

*Airfare from Hanoi to LuangPrabang is not included, as today's date, the airfare is US\$ 200/person.*

Morning free at your own leisure until pick up and transfer to **Noi Bai Airport** for a flight to LuangPrabang - Laos. Upon arrival at LuangPrabang Airport, you are warmly welcomed by our local guide and transfer to check in the hotel for check in. Rest of the day free at your own activities. Overnight at hotel in LuangPrabang

#### **DAY 7: LUANG PRABANG (B/D)**

Today, you will first visit **Royal Palace Museum**, which hosts a range of interesting artifacts. We then embark on a leisure cruise upstream on the **Mekong River**, which also gives us a breathtaking view of the tranquil countryside, before reaching the mysterious **Pak Ou Caves**, two linked caves crammed with thousands of gold lacquered Buddha statues of various shapes and sizes left by pilgrims. Along the way, we stop at the village of **Ban Xanghai**, where they make the local rice wine.

On arrival back in the city, we will visit magnificent **WatXiengthong** with its roofs sweeping low to the ground, which represents classical Laotian architecture. Afterwards, we will visit the **Traditional Art and Ethnology Center** (closed on Monday) to learn about Laos' many ethnic cultures. From there, we will transfer to visit **WatPrabath** to admire the sunset; this is the really peaceful place to catch the last beauty of the day. The tour ends after a visit to the famous **Night Market**, where you can find a lovely collection of handmade textiles made by local and hilltribe people surrounding LuangPrabang. Overnight in LuangPrabang

#### **DAY 8: LUANG PRABANG - KUANG SI WATERFALLS - SIEM REAP (B/L)**

*Airfare from LuangPrabang to Siem Reap is not included, as today's date, the airfare is US\$ 130/person.*

*Pls be noted that the flight from LuangPrabang to Siem Reap is not available on every Tuesday & Sunday*

An early start gives you the fantastic opportunity to participate in the daily morning rituals of **saffron-clad monks** collecting offerings of Alms (ubiquitous sticky rice) from the faithful residents. This tradition is very unique in Laos, being the only Buddhist nation still preserving the procession. From there, we will take a short visit to the **morning local market** near the Royal Palace. At the market, you can find anything from rice, to fresh vegetables, to steamed fish, frogs, and anything else that might be the day's catch, just set up on the ground, this is what the locals do every day. This is really the chance for you to get a real flavor of the local culture.

After breakfast at the hotel, we ascend the 329 steps to the top of **Phousi Hill** for a panoramic view of the city and the Mekong River. We then visit **WatVisoun**, dating back to 1513 during the reign of King Wisunarat (Visoun), this is LuangPrabang's oldest temple and was once home to the PrabangBuddhas.

We then transfer directly to the beautiful **Kuang Si Waterfall** where you can cool off with a refreshing swim in the pools or walk along the forest trails. You can also see up close Asiatic bears at the **Bear Rescue Centre** along the jungle walk to the waterfall.

Before returning to LuangPrabang, we stop to visit the Kuang Si Falls **Butterfly Park** (closed on Tuesday, and from 03rd May to 19th June every year), one of the must-visit spots, where you can have an optional 15-minute tour to learn about butterflies and local flora.

Laos is also known for its traditional crafts, we will take a short visit to the **Ock Pop Tock** Living Craft Center, where you will have a short tour so you get information about Silk, about weaver, about the Women that work in the Centre.

Afterward, you will be transferred directly to **LuangPrabang International Airport** for your flight **Siem Reap - Cambodia**

Upon arrival in **Siem Reap**, your local English speaking guide will greet you and accompany you to the hotel for check in. Overnight at hotel in Siem Reap

#### **DAY 9: SIEM REAP (B/L)**

After breakfast this morning, explore the temples of the Small Circuit by 'remork' (similar to the Thai 'tuktuk'). Start your tour with a visit to **Ta Prohm Temple**, built in the mid-12th to early 13th centuries. Ta Prohm is unique in that it has been left largely as it was found: overgrown by jungle trees and vines, with many parts of the temple crumbling to the ground. This makes Ta Prohm one of the most picturesque and memorable of the Angkor temples. Your visit will also include **BanteayKdei**, a Buddhist monastery from the late 12th Century, and SrahSrang, also known as the "pool of ablutions". Return to the hotel for a relaxing break during the midday heat.

After a rest at your hotel, depart on a very special sightseeing tour of the **famous Angkor Wat**. Built during the reign of King Suryavarman II in the early 12th century, Angkor Wat is constructed following the model of the temple mountain symbolizing the Mount Meru, home

of the gods. The divine residence of Vishnu, the King himself was to reside here after his death. Inside the temple, the walls are covered with stone carvings and bas-reliefs depicting Hindu mythology and the wars Suryavarman II fought during his reign. Moreover, Angkor Wat is well known for the more than 2,000 Apsara dancers decorating the temple. Construction is thought to have taken around thirty years of intensive labor. Today, Angkor Wat is figured on Cambodia's national flag as the temple symbolizes the soul of the Khmer people. Return to the hotel. Overnight in Siem Reap.

#### **DAY 10: SIEM REAP - HO CHI MINH CITY (B/L)**

*International Airlines ticket is not included. As today's date, surcharge for airlines ticket Siemreap - Saigon is US\$150 per pax*

Siem Reap Airport - Hotel (10 km): 20 mins & Tan Son Nhat Airport to hotel (7km - 30 minutes)

Breakfast at hotel, you will visit to **Angkor** by visiting **the ancient city of Angkor Thom**. Angkor Thom was the last capital of the Great Khmer Empire under the reign of Jayavarman VII. This city is surrounded by an 8 m high wall, with each side of the city being 4 km long, drawing a perfect square. You will enter the city through the ancient South Gate, an impressive stone gate carved with Elephants and four giant. On each side of the entrance path a row of 54 gods or demons is holding the sacred Naga snake.

From here, continue to **Bayon Temple** in the exact center of the city. The particularity of this monument is the 54 towers with four faces representing the 54 provinces of the then Great Khmer Empire. The Terrace of the Elephants and the Terrace of the Leper King are also must-visits as they are both known for their intricate bas-reliefs.

Afterward you will be transferred directly to **Siem Reap International Airport** for your international flight onward to Ho Chi Minh City. Upon arrival at **Tan Son Nhat International Airport** by our local guide then transfer to check in the hotel. Overnight at hotel in Ho Chi Minh

#### **DAY 11: SAIGON - CU CHI TUNNELS - SAIGON CITY TOUR (B/L/D)**

Saigon - Cu Chu Tunnels (67km - 2 hours)

Morning you will enjoy the journey to of 75 km from Saigon to **Cu Chi Tunnels** - a complex of an incredible underground tunnel network constructed by Vietnamese resistance fighters (Viet Cong) during both the French and American wars. There are more than 200 km of tunnels, comprising a main axis system with many branches connecting to underground hideouts, shelters and other tunnels. You have the chance to crawl through this amazing system of tunnels. For a more "thrilling" experience, you can even test your shooting skills on original AK47s and other guns from past war times (subject to a surcharge).

Lunch will be served at local restaurant before journey back to Ho Chi Minh. Tour continues to to visit **Independence Palace (Reunification Palace)**, **War Remnants Museum** (closed Mondays). Afterwards, stroll through the major sights of colonial Ho Chi Minh City: the **Old**

**Saigon Post Office, Notre Dame Cathedral** inaugurated in 1880 became the spiritual and cultural crucible of the French presence in the Orient as was the Post office designed by Gustav Eiffel and resembling a grand railway station, **Dong Khoi Street** (formerly Rue Catinat), Continental Hotel, **Opera House** and **Ho Chi Minh City People's Committee (formerly Hôtel de Ville)** which is one of the most photographed buildings in Vietnam - notable for its gardens, ornate facade and elegant interior lit with crystal chandeliers.

Evening you will enjoy the Buffet dinner (*included food and 01 welcome drink, excluded waters soft drinks, alcohols*) on the floating restaurant - **Bonsai Cruise** which offers a **Vietnamese dining experience with a difference and the perfect way to soak up the atmosphere along the Saigon River.** Upon arrival the captain will welcome you aboard with a **welcome drink**; an introduction will then be given on the European and Asian cuisine on offer which have made this Ho Chi Minh City dinner cruise a must-do culinary experience. Relax on the decks and enjoy the panoramic view during the 90-minute journey cruise of the Saigon River. The food, organic and fresh is presented and prepared on interactive buffet stations and a live band is on board to entertain.

Afterward, the cruise will return to the pier where your driver is waiting to take you back to your hotel. Overnight in Saigon

#### **DAY 12: SAIGON - PRIVATE TRIP TO MEKONG DELTA RIVER (MY THO - BEN TRE) (B/L)**

Saigon - My Tho (70km - 2hrs) Morning meet our local guide in the lobby of your hotel and drive to **My Tho** the heart of the Mekong delta, famous for its coconut production and quiet, peaceful waterways and the most beautiful landscapes, the pristine natural beauty that is **Ben Tre Province**. Known as "Coconut Island," many of its people still rely on tradition and centuries old methods of production. Our program focuses on **the Giong Trom and Phong Nam districts**, areas untouched by commercial tourism.

We showcase the amazing local people, the villages they call home and the peaceful Rivers they use as a part of their daily lives.

Upon arrival, take a **XeLoi** ride through the local village of HuuDinh to enjoy the green fields and gardens. Continue with a short walk to **HuuPhuoc Bridge**, where you will start your boat trip through small canals with beautiful tropical scenery. On board the boat, enjoy a welcome drink and tropical fruits while cruising.

The cruise will first stop at a **Coconut processing family owned business**. Here you will learn what **Ben Tre** is known for and the hundreds of uses of each single coconut. Return to your boat and cruise across the water to a **brick making factory**, where the locals still use centuries-old traditional methods to make the bricks by hand. Enjoy a casual **cycling trip** that will take you to visit a **local rice noodle factory** which produces **Hu Tieu noodles**, one of the most popular dishes in the region.

After your visit take a short walk to one of our friends, **Mrs. Huong**, who lives with her 3 children and grandson - they live on fishing, shrimp and fruit orchards. Enjoy fresh fruits and tea and then **board a rowing sampan** taking you through a lush narrow canal, displaying the tranquil nature of the region.

After our team rows you through the quiet canal, reconnect with your Day Cruiser and enjoy a cruise to **a private riverside restaurant**. It is time for you to relax and enjoy a **5-course lunch of local specialties**. Relax and have a walk around the lush garden setting.

Then continue your cycling trip to **My Long** to visit **Mr. SauTuong**, a former Vietcong soldier who survived two years fighting the Khmer Rouge in Phnom Penh. Now he and his wife live on making rice paper which is the most famous specialty of My Long village. Have a chat with him and enjoy the crispy rice paper made by his wife, and see how it is made.

Then visit the nearby house of **Mr. Hung**, who is a famous sticky rice maker in the village. You can also feed his stock of catfish and walk through his fruit garden.

After the visit, the boat will be waiting for you at the pier nearby to bring you back to Ben Tre city where your car will be ready to take you back to Saigon. Overnight in Saigon

#### **DAY 13: HOCHIMINH - DEPARTURE (B)**

**Fee at your own leisure time until transfer to Tan Son Nhat International Airport** for your international flight home. We hope you had an exciting holiday with us. Making it an affair to remember!

#### **INCLUSION & BENEFITS:**

- ✓ Accommodation in a twin or double room with daily breakfast
- ✓ Lunch or dinner as specified in the itinerary
- ✓ Services of a driver and private air-conditioned vehicle during all tours and transfers.
- ✓ Experienced English speaking guide during all tours and transfers
- ✓ Private board for sightseeing as mentioned in the program,
- ✓ Entrance fees for all visits as mentioned in the itinerary
- ✓ Mineral water is available as complementary
- ✓ Visa letter arrangement come to Vietnam

#### **EXCLUSION:**

- ✓ International & Domestic flight tickets
- ✓ Meals, if not specified in the itinerary
- ✓ Gratuities for guides and drivers
- ✓ Visa stamping fees for both Vietnam & Cambodia
- ✓ Travel insurance (we highly recommend that you purchase adequate insurance)
- ✓ Personal expenses, such as laundry, telephone, drinks, etc. All other services not specified in the itinerary
- ✓ All other services not specified in the itinerary

- ✓ Not included VAT

**CHILDREN POLICY:**

- ✓ Infant below 2 years old sharing same room with parents is free of charge.
- ✓ Child below 12 yrs old sharing same room with 1 ADL is charged for 90%.
- ✓ Child below 12 yrs old with extra bed and sharing same room with parents is charged for 65%.
- ✓ Child below 12 yrs old No extra bed & sharing same room with parents is charged for 55%

*Group tour of full paying 15pax, one (01) tour leader is given complimentary on twin sharing basis include breakfast (domestic air ticket is not applicable)*

**TIPPING POLICY:**

- ✓ US\$ 5/ person/per day/ group up to 4 pax
- ✓ US\$ 4/ person/per day/ group up to 9 pax
- ✓ US\$ 3/ person/per day/ group from 10 pax

**BUS POLICY**

Group Size	Kind of Transportation	Kind of vehicle
1- 3 pax	7 seater	Fortune
4 - 8 pax	16 seater	For Transit
9 - 14 pax	24 - 29 seater	Hyundai County
15 - 22 pax	35 seater	Samco/ Thaco
23 - 42 pax	45 seater	Huyndai Aero Hi-class Huyndai Universe

**NOTE:**

- ✓ The timing of sightseeing points shall be fixing by local operator due to traffic and weather conditions, however all points must cover unless amendment or cancellation make by clients themselves (Non-refundable for any cancellation that made by clients)
- ✓ Small deviations in the tour program are sometimes necessary, depending on weather, road conditions, flight schedules and room availability.
- ✓ Supplement charge for room rate in peak dates depends on the hotel category used. Compulsory gala dinner on X'mas, New Year's Eve & Lunar New Year's Eve to be advised upon booking. Prices for group of 15 persons up in 5 stars hotels sometime requires to re-quote bases on the hotel policy