



Flavours of Vietnam & Cambodia

Hanoi, Halong Bay, Hoi An, Saigon, Siem Reap



Enjoy a visit to Indochina where you will experience a unique mix of colonial towns with evocative war memorials and lost temple cities. We travel along the east coast from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City and cross the border to the temples of Angkor Wat. Along the way you will enjoy a cruise across the UNESCO world heritage site of Halong Bay, discover vibrant river life along the Mekong Delta and explore the historic sea port of Hoi An.

Day 1: Hanoi Arrival (D) – 8th November 2016

Welcome to Vietnam!

You will be met at at Noi Bai airport; it takes us 35 minutes driving to the centre of Hanoi to check-in at your hotel. (Early check in on request)

Note – A complimentary transfer from Hanoi airport will be arranged at 1030 hours. For any other timings, an additional cost will be applicable.

You will be booked at the **Hotel Flower Garden** or similar for a stay of 2 nights.

Let's have an overall view of the capital by a "cyclo" visit, which will start around the Old Quarter of Hanoi, stop at Ngoc Son Temple located on the Hoan Kiem Lake (the "Sword" Lake).

Late afternoon we will enjoy a unique fascinating show of Water Puppetry, a traditional stage art of Northern Vietnam.

Dinner and overnight in Hanoi.

Note: Check-in time is normally at 14:00

Day 2: Hanoi City tour (B/D) - 9th November 2016

After breakfast at the hotel, you'll be picked up and taken on a full day city tour. We will visit Ho Chi Minh Complex which includes Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum, the Presidential Palace, House-on-Stilts, and the Ho Chi Minh Museum. We scroll down to The Temple of Literature, the 1st university of Vietnam. Transfer back to hotel to relax.

After lunch, we will visit the **Bat Trang Pottery Village**

Located just 30 km from Hanoi, Bat Trang is one of the most well-known handicraft villages in Vietnam, where you can find a whole world of pottery and ceramic items. They are reproduction of various traditional styles which are renewed to the world thank to their harmonious beauty, original shape, enameled screen and drawing stroke. They come in many forms and size, from dinner services and bowls to vases and lamp bases, from statue of Buddha to small figures of wildlife animals. You will be witness to the whole production procedure, starting from making a clay, shaping the item to drawing on and putting them in the oven. On top of that, they are at an amazingly low cost.

Dinner at a local restaurant and overnight at hotel in Hanoi.

Day 3: Hanoi – Halong (B/L/D) – 10th November 2016

In the morning, you travel to the World Heritage site of Halong Bay (approx 3 hours) where our boat and sumptuous seafood feast awaits us.

You will be booked for a stay of 1 night on **Grayline Cruises** or similar.

Cruising amongst the limestone islets, you will have a chance to explore various caves including Dinh Huong Island, Fighting Cock Island, Dog Island, Sail Island, Cave of Surprise - the natural cave of beautiful stalactites and stalagmites. Enjoy swimming at Titov Beach. You will pass across a fishing-floating house and bargain for some fresh shrimps, crabs and fishes.

Overnight on board.

Day 4: Halong – Hanoi – Danang – Hoi An (B/L/D) - 11th November 2016

After a night on board our deluxe junk, you will awake to see daylight filtering through the early morning mist and the towering rock formations, leaving you with an unforgettable memory of your visit. Lunch on board.

You will then drive back to Ha Noi International Airport for a short flight to Danang. Welcome at the airport and then transfer along the coast to reach Hoi An.

Diner at a local restaurant before Checking-in.

You will be booked at the Hotel **Green Heaven Resort** or similar for a stay of 2 nights.

Overnight in Hoi An.

Day 5: Hoi An (B/D) - 12th November 2016

After breakfast, we will discover Hoian ancient town. When walking over the tile-roofed Japanese Bridge, visit taciturn Chinese Assembly Halls and Trading Houses, Pagodas, and stroll around the market located by Thu Bon river, you may find out the same feelings of the artists, who see the charm of Hoi An a magical old world of Oriental feel and source of inspiration.

Afternoon enjoy a Cooking class in Hoi An

Visit Hoi An's colourful market, and experience the amazing sights, sounds and aromas of this busy market. We will have the opportunity to interact with the local sellers and learn about all the ingredients to be used in the cooking lesson later.

We board the Red Bridge boat for a leisurely cruise (25 minutes) along the Hoi An River to the Red Bridge Cooking School. This is a chance to view local river life, so make sure your camera is handy.

On arrival, we explore the cooking school's herb garden, before learning about some of Hoi An's and Vietnam's well-known dishes. The cooking lesson runs for about 2 hours – the Red Bridge chefs first demonstrate each dish before we prepare the same dish ourselves. Included in the class is a brief introduction to Vietnamese food carving (plate decoration). After the lesson, we sit down and eat what we have cooked.

End of the day, you may spend some time at a coffee shop along Thu Bon River to take a great view of the sunset.

Dinner at a local restaurant and overnight in Hoi An.

Day 6: Hoi An – Danang – Saigon (B/D) - 13th November 2016

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for a flight to Saigon.

Welcome to the airport and then transfer to hotel for checking-in.

You will be booked at the **Hotel Paragon** or similar for a stay of 2 nights. (Early check in on request)

In the afternoon, we start the city tour at the Reunification Palace, the witness of the fierce Vietnam War which ended in 1975. The grand building today is a Museum and Hall of official receptions. Nearby the Palace are the colonial-styled Post Office and the Notre Dame Cathedral, built between 1877 and 1883 and one of the city's major landmarks. The visit will end at Ngoc Hoang (the "Jade Emperor") pagoda before we headback to District 1 and drop off at Ben Thanh Market for some shopping.

Dinner with delicious local foods of Saigon. Overnight in Saigon.

Day 7: Saigon – Mekong Delta – Saigon (B/D) - 14th November 2016

Morning transfer from Saigon to Ben Tre, a province near Saigon but full of the exciting life of the Mekong people. Being one of several mighties rivers in the world, the Mekong flows into Vietnam at its lowest part before coming to the Pacific and leaving behind a hectic life of "Mekong people". Upon arrival, go between coconut lines by boat to reach some gardened houses where people run their family factories producing candy, feed honey bee or plant orchards. You can taste some wine or tea with honey right at the gardens here.

Return to Saigon late afternoon for dinner. Overnight at hotel.

Day 8: Saigon – Cu Chi Tunnels – Siem Reap (B/D) - 15th November 2016

After breakfast, we visit Cu Chi Tunnels, one of the few remaining monuments to the fierce Vietnam War. We can even crawl a part of the tunnel to experience the real life of the Vietnamese guerrillas, who used to use and live inside this system during the wartime. (not suitable for those who are claustrophobic)

In the afternoon, fly to Siem Reap.

Welcome at the airport and then transfer to hotel.

You will be booked at the **Angkor Paradise Hotel** or similar for a stay of 2 nights.

This evening, visit the Night Market in Angkor. It was the first of its kind to open in Cambodia. Today, more than 240 shops line the halls of this massive warehouse, selling handmade crafts, local silk, traditional jewelry and Khmer-style wood and stone carvings. It's the perfect place to spend an evening wandering the stalls in search of souvenirs. And it's also one of the best spots to sample traditional Cambodian cuisine. Travelers can explore the well-curated stalls, sip steaming hot bowls of spicy soup, relax over shisha and a cold beer or unwind with a traditional massage.

Dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant.

Overnight in Siem Reap

Day 9: Siem Reap (B) - 16th November 2016

After breakfast at the hotel, explore South Gate of Angkor Thom known as Big Angkor, a walled and moated royal city and was the last capital of the Angkorian Empire. The famous Bayon Temple was an architectural muddle, in part because it was constructed in a somewhat piecemeal fashion for over a century. Terrace of the Elephants is an impressive, 21/2m tall, 300 meter long terrace wall adorned with carved elephants that spans the heart of Angkor Thom in front of Baphuon – a huge temple mountain in the heart of Angkor Thom, the Royal Palace Area and Phimeanakas - impressive rite and sandstone pyramid. You will visit the terrace of the Leper King at the north end of the Terrace of the Elephants, a double terrace wall with deeply carved nag as, demons and other mythological beings. Last you will visit Ta Prohm temple which is a wonderful combination of human genius and natural beauty! Giant trees have grown here for centuries and lunch at local restaurant!

In the afternoon, you will visit Angkor Wat temple: the founder of the temple was Suryavarman II who reined Cambodia from 1113 to 1152 and built the five towers in the 12th century to dedicate to the Hindu God Vishnu. The plan of the pyramidal conception of the temple combined with spaces, alleys, ditches is an ancient masterpiece of architectural design and construction. It is time to visit Pre Rup temple for a romantic sunset view.

Dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant.

Overnight in Siem Reap

Day 10: Siem Reap – Departure (B) – 17th November 2016

After breakfast at hotel, the transfer to the airport will be arranged for you (see below)

On the way **if there is time** we will visit Puok, the real and original place of the Artisans d'Angkor silk, where you will see the full process of silk producing, from the silk worms munch on the Mulberry leaves to spin their cocoons which used to make silk warp. You of course will see the weaving work and purchase the high quality silk products as a beautiful Cambodia souvenir.

Straight to Siemreap airport for your departure!

Note – A complimentary transfer to Siem Reap airport will be arranged at 1100 hours. For any other timings, an additional cost will be applicable.

***** Return home with wonderful memories *****

Price per person on a twin-sharing basis: Rs. 105,900

Single supplement: Rs. 29,500

INCLUSIONS

- Accommodations in 4 star hotels
- Daily Breakfast
- Daily Dinners
- 2 lunches
- Arrival and Departure transfers as mentioned
- Transportation in an air-conditional vehicle
- Porterage at the hotels (1 bag pp)
- 3 Internal flights in economy class including taxes: Hanoi – Danang – Saigon – Siem Reap (*subject to change*)
- Local English speaking guides
- Bottled water during the tours
- A Vietnamese cooking Class
- Cruise in Halong Bay on Full Board including all onboard activities
- All entrance fees and sightseeing as mentioned in the program.
- Services of an Odyssey Tour escort

EXCLUSIONS

- Airfare and airport taxes (International)
- Visa for Vietnam and Cambodia
- Overseas Medical Insurance
- Early check-in and late check-out
- Tip, drinks, personal expenses and others
- Any service not clearly mentioned in the program

Approx airfare for travel to Vietnam is between Rs 40000 and Rs 45000 on Thai and Bangkok Airways or Jet Airways.

Notes:

- Standard check in at hotels is at 14h00 onwards. Where necessary we will request an early check-in however, this is not guaranteed. The same applies to check out, which is at 12h00.
- **Rates subject to change without prior notice due to circumstances beyond our control e.g. fuel increases, rate of exchange fluctuations.**
- Please note that your passport should be valid for more than 6 months beyond the date of travel and that you must have atleast 2 blank pages on your passport.
- Please contact us if you would like to book pre-tour accommodation in Hanoi or post tour accommodation in Siem Reap.
- ROE calculated at 1 USD = Rs. 66. Any fluctuations at the time of payment will alter the cost
- **Price based on a minimum of 12 people travelling together**

Terms & Conditions

BOOKINGS AND PAYMENTS

1. A deposit of Rs 10,000 per person will be payable before 31st July 2016. If paying by cheque, please make the cheque payable to Odyssey Tours & Travels.
2. At the time of making the booking, please send a copy of the first page of your passport
3. Balance payment is to be made by 15th September 2016.
4. All rates are subject to a revision if there is a fluctuation in the currency rates.

CANCELLATION & REFUNDS

1. Should you be forced to amend / cancel the booking you must fill and sign the amendment / cancellation advice, which will entail cancelling your particular reservation, thereby the cancellation charges will apply. Should you wish to cancel any part of a confirmed booking / reservation all such cancellations must be advised in writing. Given below is the cancellation policy.
2. Payment of the booking deposit constitutes acceptance of our terms and conditions.
3. Cancellation of a reservation due to any visa being rejected will amount to cancellation charges being levied as per the scale mentioned below and Odyssey Tours & Travels will not be responsible for any visa rejection by the respective consulates.
4. Cancellation of any reservations are subject to the following conditions:
 - a. Cancellation effected before 15th September 2016 will attract a service fee of Rs 3000 p
 - b. Cancellation effected between 45 to 30 days prior to departure will attract a cancellation charge of 30% of the tour cost.
 - c. Cancellation effected 29 – 15 days prior to departure will attract a cancellation charge of 50% of the tour cost
 - d. Cancellation effected 14 days prior to departure will attract a cancellation charge of 100% of the tour cost.
 - e. No refund will be due after commencement of travel.
5. Refunds due can take upto 5 weeks to process.

Map of Vietnam & Cambodia

