

# VIETNAM, CAMBODIA AND LAOS-

## 18 DAYS

**Depart: 22/02/2024, 25/04/2024, 01/09/2024, 10/11/2024**

**Return: 10/03/2024, 12/05/2024, 18/09/2024, 27/11/2024**

**Adult: £3599 per adult on twin / double / triple sharing basis**

### ITINERARY:

#### **Day 1: London to Hanoi:**

Take flight from London Heathrow airport to Hanoi.

#### **DAY 2: ARRIVE IN HANOI – CITY TOUR (B/D)**

Welcome to Vietnam! Upon arrival at Noi Bai airport, warmly welcome by our tour guide and driver and transfer privately by the comfortable van to the centre of Hanoi (around 35 minutes). Early check in and breakfast at hotel. Then the morning is at leisure for relaxing. This afternoon, take a “green car” tour for 35’ around the Old Quarter, stop to visit Ngoc Son Temple and Hoan Kiem Lake. Later, enjoy a unique fascinating show of Water Puppetry, a traditional stage art of Northern Vietnam. Evening Dinner at Indian restaurant. Overnight in Hanoi.

#### **DAY 3: HANOI – HALONG – OVERNIGHT ON BOARD (B/L/D)**

After breakfast and check out hotel, we journey east for 4 hour through picturesque rice-farming villages of the Red River Delta, where we see everyday Vietnamese village life to reach to Halong Bay, a Natural World Heritage as designated by UNESCO since 1994 and 2006.

12:30 Receptionists welcome guests at the International Tuan Chau harbour.

12:45 Captain welcomes guests to Syrena cruises by tender. Check in cruise, whilst enjoy a welcome drink, safety briefing and check in cabin.



13:00 Leaving International Tuan Chau harbour, discover the Halong Bay - natural wonders of the world. Have lunch with special foods while cruising through famous sights Ba Hang fishing village, Đỉnh Hương island, Chó Đá islet, Gà Chọi islet...

14:30 Cruises stops at Bồ Nâu cave, the core area of the world natural heritage. Transfer by tender to Surprise cave - one of the most beautiful caves in Halong Bay.

15:45 Leaving Surprise cave, transfer by tender to the Titov island was named by Uncle Ho, after Gherman Stepanovich Titov - the Soviet astronaut who visited in 1962 Enjoy swimming, relaxing on the beach or climb the steps of the Rock to the top of the island. On the top of the mountain, you can see corner of magical Halong Bay ...

16:45 Back to the cruise. Relax and enjoy sunset on the sun deck. Go to the overnight place.

18:00 – 19:00 HAPPY HOUR - Buy 1 drink get 1 free (wine excluded).

18:30 Enjoy Vietnamese cooking demonstration.

19:00 Acquaint yourself with the set menu dinner.

20:30 Evening activities include: film entertainment (in the dining room); squid fishing; massage (contact with cruise manager for service price)...

#### **DAY 4: HALONG BAY – HANOI (B/D)**

06:00 Morning call (if you request).

06:30 Enjoy Tai Chi instructions on the sundeck in 30 minutes whilst cruising to Luồn cave.

07:00 Enjoy light breakfast in the restaurant (coffee, tea, fresh milk, water, pastries, bread, egg, fresh fruit, cereals will be served in the dining room).

08:00 After breakfast, take a guided tour to visit Luồn cave - .one of the cave open to the form beautiful about endemic the vegetation of the Halong Bay. Visit Luồn cave by a traditionally woven (bamboo) boat rowed by a local boatman.

08:30 Then come back to Syrena cruise, relax and check out of cabin. Please put your luggage outside the door. Our porters will collect and get them ready on the Pier for you. Finally, the cruise disembarks in International Tuan Chau harbour.

09:15 Enjoy brunch buffet menu served in the dining room. Settle bills in the dining room after brunch (if you have).

10:45 Transfer by tender back to Tuan Chau harbour and disembarkation. Farewell to guests. Return to Hanoi. On arrival, check in hotel and relax.

Evening Dinner at Indian restaurant. Overnight in Hanoi.

#### **DAY 5: HANOI CITY TOUR – FLY TO HUE (B/D)**

After breakfast and check out hotel, visit the Ho Chi Minh Complex, inclusive of Ba Dinh Square, Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum, 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 you will see the One Pillar Pagoda, founded by King Ly Thai To in 1049. This structure has become an important symbol for the people of Hanoi. Our next stop will be 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. This afternoon, transfer to the airport in Hai Phong or Hanoi for our flight to Hue. Upon arrival, pick up at the airport by

our local guide and driver and transfer to our hotel in Hoian. Evening Dinner at Indian restaurant. Overnight in Hue.

#### **DAY 6: HUE CITY TOUR (B/D)**

Being recognized by UNESCO as the 1st Cultural World Heritage for Vietnam, Hue is highlighted by the old royal architectural works and the most traditional Vietnamese lifestyle.

After breakfast, pick up by our tour guide and driver at the hotel, we will discover the charm of the city from the Citadel Complex of Hue, set up by Nguyen Dynasty from 1805 to 1945, is now one amongst the relics of the Hue ancient Capital – the World

Cultural Heritage. This is a huge complex covering an area of 520ha and comprising three circles of ramparts, Kinh Thanh Hue (Hue Capital Citadel), Hoang Thanh (Royal Citadel) and Tu Cam Thanh (Forbidden Citadel). Also visit the Dong Ba bustling market. This afternoon, take a boat trip to Thien Mu pagoda and then visit the Tombs of King Minh Mang and Khai Dinh – two best-reserved monuments of the Nguyen Emperors since early 19th and early 20th centuries. Evening Dinner at Indian restaurant. Overnight in Hue.



#### **DAY 7: HUE – DANANG – MY SON – HOIAN (B/D)**

After breakfast and check out hotel, we will depart from Hue, passing Lang Co Beach and enjoy the landscape of Hai Van (the “Ocean Cloudy Mountain Pass”) before arriving in Danang. Go on to the Marble Mountain, a cluster of five hills made from limestone and marble. Continue to My Son, where you can discover the hidden treasure of the Cham culture that once brightly developed in the area of present Central Vietnam. Thanks to the beauty and secrets of building the Cham Towers hereby, My Son had been also designated by UNESCO as one of the five World Heritages in Vietnam. On arrival in Hoian, check in our hotel and relax. Evening Dinner at Indian restaurant. Overnight in Hoian.

#### **DAY 8: HOIAN ANCIENT TOWN (B/D)**

After breakfast, this morning is for 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. The rest of the day is for shopping in Hoian. Hoian’s shopping scene is legendary for its plethora of affordable yet quality tailoring services. The streets of Hoian Ancient Town are also lined with shophouses and makeshift stalls selling handicrafts, jewellery, traditional apparel, and shoes while its central marketplace is filled with locals bargaining for fresh produce and foodstuffs. Evening Dinner at Indian restaurant. Overnight in Hoian.

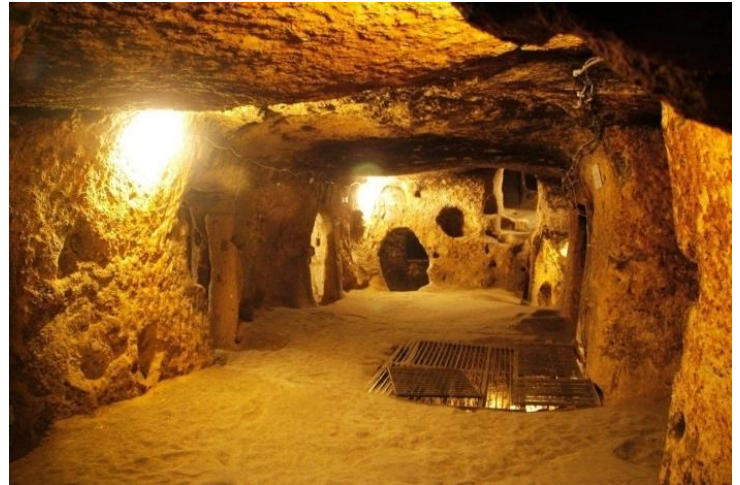
#### **DAY 9: HOIAN – DANANG – FLY TO SAIGON – CITY TOUR – DINNER CRUISE (B/D)**

After breakfast, the morning is at leisure in Hoian before check out hotel at noon time. Transfer to Danang airport for our flight to Saigon. Upon arrival, pick up at the airport by our local guide and driver and transfer to check in hotel. Evening enjoy Dinner on board Saigon River Cruise

with Indian food. Admire the beauty of Saigon at night and enjoy traditional music. Overnight in Saigon.

#### **DAY 10: SAIGON – CU CHI TUNNELS – CITY TOUR (B/D)**

After breakfast, we visit to Cu Chi tunnels. Located 60km from Saigon, Cu Chi is now a popular spot for both Vietnamese & foreign tourists - the network of over 200km of tunnels became legendary when they played a vital role in the War. In their heyday, the tunnels were functioning underground cities including numerous trap doors, specially constructed living areas, storage facilities, weapons factories, field hospitals, command centers & kitchens. After a short introduction video showing how the tunnels were constructed, you will have a chance to crawl into a short section of the tunnels to feel the oppressive narrowness and heat inside.



Return to Saigon this afternoon and begin our city tour at the Reunification Palace. Formerly the Independence Palace of the South Vietnamese president, this 60s style was famously stormed by tanks on April 30, 1975 signifying the fall of South Vietnam. It has been preserved in its original state, and the original tanks remain on display near the entrance gates. Pass by classic European-style landmarks such as the ornate City Hall (Hotel De Ville), the old Opera House (both may only be viewed from the outside), and pay a quick visit to the neo-Romanesque Notre-dame Cathedral and the Central Post Office. End your tour at the central Ben Thanh Market, where vendors display a vast array of goods and handicrafts, appealing to every taste. Evening Dinner at Indian restaurant. Overnight in Saigon.

#### **DAY 11: SAIGON – CAI BE FLOATING MARKET – SAIGON (B/L/D)**

After breakfast, we drive to Cai Be, get on the boat and transfer to visit colourful floating market of Cai Be with vendors and buyers exchanging goods on the water. Continue to a local village to visit a rice-paper and coconut candy factory. Take a free taste of honey tea as you watch local life going on around. Lunch to be at the Ancient House, in the laden fruits orchard, and upon the splendid view terrace. Taste great healthy cuisine of Southern Vietnam prepared by dedicated people.

After local lunch, relax on the garden and enjoy traditional Southern Vietnamese “don ca tai tu” music. Continue explore the river life of Mekong people by using their daily vehicle, hand-rowing boat for 30’ among the meandering rivers and criss-crossed canals. Drive back to Saigon, drop off for relaxing at the hotel.

Evening Dinner at Indian restaurant. Overnight in Saigon.



**DAY 12: SAIGON – LUANG PRABANG – DINNER CRUISE (B/D)**

After breakfast and check out hotel, transfer to the airport for our flight to Luang Prabang. Arrival, Pickup and private transfer to hotel. Check-in at hotel. Enjoy Traditional Dinner on Sunset Cruise. Overnight stay.

**DAY 13: LUANG PRABANG – WATERFALLS & ELEPHANT CAMP – LUANG PRABANG (B/D)**

After Breakfast, proceed visit Sacred caved by Cruise. Afternoon visit Waterfalls and Elephant Camp. Return back to Luang Prabang. Overnight stay.

**DAY 14: LUANG PRABANG CITY TOUR (B/D)**

After Breakfast, Proceed for Luang Prabang city tour. Visit Royal City Tempe, Vat Aham, Vat Senna. Visit Mount Phousi for Sunset view. Overnight stay.

**DAY 15: LUANG PRABANG – FLY TO SIEM REAP – SUNSET VIEW (B/D)**

After breakfast and check out hotel, transfer to the airport for our flight to Siem Reap. Upon arrival, pick up at the airport by our local guide and driver and transfer to check in hotel. This afternoon, visit West Baray Big Pond, a “baray” is a water reservoir built by the ancient Khmer people. Evening Welcome buffet dinner with Apsara Dance Show. Overnight in Siem Reap.

**DAY 16: SIEM REAP – ANGKOR TEMPLES TOUR (B/D)**

After breakfast, we visit Angkor Wat temple, the Cambodia's ancient temple is one of the wonders of the oriental world. Masterpieces of decorative details as well as of architectural style, its awe-inspiring ruins survive as testament to the spectacular achievements of Southeast Asia's greatest civilization. It is a replica of the universe according to the Hindu mythology. It is composed by the Mount Meru, surrounded by the continents and the oceans. Its extraordinary bas-reliefs, describe some Khmer epics and myths. Angkor Wat's five famous towers rise into the sky, a geometrical arrangement of numerous galleries, adorned with beliefs and the stone images of celestial Apsara dancers, as well as portals, chambers and courtyards. Afternoon, we explore South Gate of Angkor Thom known as Big Angkor, 3km<sup>2</sup> 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, two and a half meter tall, 300 meter long terrace wall adorned with carved elephants and gradual that spans the heart of Angkor



Thom in front of Baphuon - huge temple mountain in the heart of Angkor Thom, Royal Palace Area and Phimeanakas - impressive rite and sandstone pyramid. Terrace of the Leper King is 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 visit Ta Prohm temple which is a wonderful combination of human genius and natural beauty! Giant trees have grown here for centuries! Enjoy sunset at at Phnom Bakheng.  
Evening Dinner at Indian restaurant. Overnight in Siem Reap.

#### **DAY 17: SIEM REAP CITY TOUR & FLOATING VILLAGE – DEPARTURE (B)**

After breakfast, morning visit Wat Thmei (Killing Field) contains a unique glass-walled stupa containing the bones of victims of the Khmer Rouge. Some of the bones were recovered from a nearby well while others are the remains of soldiers who died on a nearby battlefield. Continue to visit the "Les Artisans d'Angkor – Chantiers Ecole" the Finest Authentic Khmer Arts and Crafts. Check out hotel at 12h00.

This afternoon we visit Chhongneas Floating Villages, located 10 kilometers south of Siem Reap. Take a ride in a traditional wooden boat on the Tonle Sap, the "Great Lake" of Cambodia and the largest in Asia. Here we will see plenty of examples of the Khmer way of life on the Tonle Sap. Then visit Wat Bo founded in the 18th century, a highly respected pagoda contains very unique wall paintings of the Reamker (Ramayana) that are said to be late 19th century. We continue to one of the city's lively open markets, Psar Chars, also called the "Old Market", where anything and everything is for sale.

After the visit, transfer to the airport for our departure flight. On the way, stop en route to visit Puok, the real and original place of the Artisans d'Angkor silk, where we 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. We of course will see the weaving work and purchase the high quality silk products as a beautiful Cambodia souvenir. Continue to Siem Reap Airport for our flight back home.

#### **DAY 18: LONDON ARRIVAL**

Arrival at London Heathrow airport.

<b>Price Include:</b>	<b>Price does not include:</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Economy class air ticket (London Heathrow to Hanoi and Siam Reap to London Heathrow)</li> <li>✓ Internal Economy class air ticket (Hanoi to Hue / Danang to Saigon / Saigon to Luang Prabang / Luang Prabang to Siam Reap)</li> <li>✓ Accommodation in 4-star hotel in standard room on Twin / Double / Triple Sharing basis</li> <li>✓ Meals as per itinerary (B – Breakfast, L – Lunch, D – Dinner)</li> <li>✓ Local English-speaking Guide for sightseeing as per itinerary</li> <li>✓ Services of tour manager or local representative</li> <li>✓ All sightseeing and airport transfer as per itinerary by private vehicle basis</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✗ Visa Fee</li> <li>✗ Travel Insurance</li> <li>✗ Any meals not mentioned</li> <li>✗ Expenses of personal nature like laundry, telephone bills, drinks etc.</li> <li>✗ Any entrance fees not mentioned in “Price Includes” section</li> <li>✗ Porterage</li> <li>✗ Any transfers not mentioned</li> <li>✗ Any items not mentioned</li> <li>✗ Guide Services not mentioned</li> <li>✗ Single room supplement: £795</li> </ul>

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Return: 10/03/2024

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Return: 12/05/2024

From £3599    Depart: 01/09/2024

Return: 18/09/2024

From £3599    Depart: 10/11/2024

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