



Itinerary

Kingdoms of Southeast Asia Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand

Aug 15, 2020 - Sep 3, 2020

Pre Night: Mercure La Gare Hanoi



Would you like to begin your vacation with an additional Hotel in Hanoi?

Day 1: Hanoi, Vietnam - Tour Begins



Set out on a journey that reveals the best of Southeast Asia. From the villages of Vietnam and the temples of Cambodia to the friendly locals of Laos and the lively energy of Thailand, embark on an unforgettable cultural adventure. Start your journey in Vietnam – where lush valleys and verdant fields create a beautiful country with a long and rich history. Your tour opens in Hanoi. Layers of the city's complex past can be found interwoven into its modern culture. Known for its French colonial architecture, tree-lined streets, and vibrant street food scene, Hanoi is Vietnam's dynamic capital and second most populous city.

Hotel

Mercure Hanoi La Gare
Hanoi

Weather

High 32°
Low 26°
Rain 12"

Day 2: Hanoi



Start your morning with a city tour of Hanoi. Visit Ba Dinh Square and the Temple of Literature. Follow the meandering streets, decorated with temples and pagodas, and feast on the history before you. After working up an appetite, enjoy a walking food tour featuring some of Vietnam's most famous dishes such as banh mi and pho. Enjoy coffee and views of Hoan Kiem Lake – the "Lake of the Restored Sword" – at a rooftop café. Later this evening, join your fellow travellers for a welcome dinner at a local restaurant.

Hotel

Mercure Hanoi La Gare
Hanoi

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 32°
Low 26°

Day 3: Hanoi



Rise early to walk around Hoan Kiem Lake. Watch Tai Chi practitioners moving along the waterfront in this peaceful respite as the city comes to life for the day. Your day continues at the infamous Hoa Lo Prison. This historic site, dubbed the "Hanoi Hilton" by American POWs, is now a museum that tells the story of Colonial history from the Vietnamese perspective. Following your visit, sit down with a local veteran from the Vietnam War to chat and connect with him as he recounts his history.

Hotel

Mercure Hanoi La Gare
Hanoi

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 32°
Low 26°
Rain 12"

Day 4: Hanoi - Ha Long Bay



Journey to Ha Long Bay and board a charming junk boat for an overnight cruise - the perfect vantage point for soaking up the landscape. Once on board, enjoy a feast of fresh seafood as you sail past vistas of low green mountains, small villages, hundreds of islands, and limestone peaks jutting out from the sea. Disembark to discover the wonders of nature, history, and archaeology. Back on board, sit back and relax as the sounds and peaceful sway of the boat lull you to sleep.

Hotel

Hanoi

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 32°
Low 25°
Rain 13"

Day 5: Ha Long Bay - Hanoi - Hue



Awaken as the fog gently lifts above the emerald surface of Ha Long Bay. The day begins with a Tai Chi lesson on the sundeck. Then, it's your choice! Explore vibrant waters by traditional row boat - OR- see it from the seat of a kayak. Cruise back to the harbour and return to Hanoi to board your flight to Hue.

Hotel

Pilgrimage Village Hue
Hue

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 34°
Low 24°
Rain 5"

Day 6: Hue



At the shores of the Perfume River, board a traditional dragon boat and sail to Thien Mu Pagoda, a 17th-century temple better known as the "Heavenly Lady Pagoda." Continue to Hue's legendary Imperial City, enclosed within a stone citadel. Stop at a local nunnery for a lunch featuring fresh Vietnamese flavours. Conclude your day at the mausoleum of Tu Duc, an elaborate royal tomb dedicated to the former emperor.

Hotel

Pilgrimage Village Hue
Hue

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 34°
Low 24°
Rain 5"

Day 7: Hue - Hoi An



On your way to Hoi An, travel the coast and countryside via the breathtaking Hai Van Pass. Pause for a glimpse of Lang Co, a quaint fishing village. Arrive in the trading port of ancient Hoi An, a UNESCO World Heritage site. On a walking tour of the old town, stroll by the ornate Chinese-style temple Phuc Kien Assembly Hall and a 400-year-old Japanese covered bridge. End at the vibrant

riverside market on the banks of the Thu Bon. Tonight, enjoy another memorable meal at a local restaurant.

Hotel

La Siesta Hoi An Resort And Spa
Hoi An

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 33°
Low 26°
Rain 4"

Day 8: Hoi An



Explore the flavours of Hoi An today. Board a basket boat for a journey along the Thu Bon River to your kitchen for an immersive cooking class. Learn how to catch fish and crabs in the river and grind rice into flour. Use your ingredients to cook four classic Vietnamese dishes which you'll enjoy for lunch. Once you've learned the secrets to Vietnam's cuisine, embark on a moving experience at Reaching Out Vietnam. Celebrate the work of a talented team of artisans that create original pieces of sustainable and fair-trade products. Here, amongst new friends and enlightened minds, take part in an immersive lantern-making experience. Working together, create colourful beacons of prosperity in a place that is a beacon of hope for the community.

Hotel

La Siesta Hoi An Resort And Spa
Hoi An

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 33°
Low 26°
Rain 4"

Day 9: Hoi An



Enjoy a full day at leisure to explore the magic of Hoi An. Perhaps you will walk along the canals that cut through Ancient Town, finding that history is very much alive in this preserved city on the central coast.

Hotel

La Siesta Hoi An Resort And Spa
Hoi An

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 33°
Low 26°
Rain 4"

Day 10: Hoi An - Ho Chi Minh City



Leave Hoi An and fly to Ho Chi Minh City, the energetic urban capital formerly known as Saigon. On an eye-opening city tour, see the Post Office, Notre Dame Cathedral,* and the Reunification Palace. Head over to explore treasures from local vendors on display at the Old Market in District 1.

Hotel

Novotel Saigon Centre
Ho Chi Minh City

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 32°
Low 24°
Rain 10"

Day 11: Ho Chi Minh City - Mekong Delta - Ho Chi Minh City



Take to the waters of the famous Mekong Delta. As you sail along, your guide will delve into the history and culture of the region. Find lush tropical gardens, floating markets, and a bustling energy that gives an intriguing peek into everyday life. Discover the region's cottage industry with a visit to a coconut candy factory and learn how this confection is made. Enjoy lunch featuring southern Vietnamese cuisine before Travelling back to Ho Chi Minh City.

Hotel

Novotel Saigon Centre
Ho Chi Minh City

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 32°
Low 24°
Rain 10"

Day 12: Ho Chi Minh City



Spend your morning at the Cu Chi Tunnels, a maze of underground passageways used as hideouts by the Viet Cong during the Vietnam War. Enjoy an afternoon at leisure in metropolitan Ho Chi Minh City before your dinner at a local restaurant.

Hotel

Novotel Saigon Centre
Ho Chi Minh City

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 32°
Low 24°
Rain 10"

Day 13: Ho Chi Minh City - Siem Reap, Cambodia



Enjoy free time this morning before your flight to Siem Reap, Cambodia's gateway to the wonders of Angkor. In this ancient city, you'll discover a world where colonial and Chinese architecture melds into a sophisticated urban and culinary scene. Tonight, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant whilst enjoying a traditional Apsara show.

Hotel

Tara Angkor Hotel **
Siem Reap

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 32°
Low 26°
Rain 6"

Day 14: Siem Reap - Angkor Wat - Siem Reap



Depart by tuk-tuk for Angkor Wat in time to see a sunrise shining over the area. A perfect example of classic Khmer architecture, Angkor Wat is the Kingdom of Cambodia's most-heralded treasure. Enter its eastern gate and exit at its west to watch the light of the sun play on its otherworldly stones. Have breakfast back at the hotel before returning to Angkor. This afternoon, visit Ta Prohm, a sprawling monastic complex that is partially overgrown with jungle debris. At Angkor Thom, the last capital of the Khmers, visit the Terrace of the Leper King and the temples of Baphuon and Bayon, 11th- and 12th-century masterpieces at the centre of the city.

Hotel

Tara Angkor Hotel **
Siem Reap

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 32°
Low 26°
Rain 6"

Day 15: Siem Reap - Kampong Khleang - Siem Reap



The day begins at Kampong Khleang, a permanent community built on the floodplain of Tonle Sap Lake. Meet local residents and learn about their fishing-based economy and daily lives. After lunch, continue to Les Artisan d'Angkor Workshop, a development project that teaches the Khmer arts – such as stone and wood carving – to young adults. Later this afternoon, visit the JWOC Community Centre to learn about their ongoing projects.**

Hotel

Tara Angkor Hotel **
Siem Reap

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 32°
Low 26°
Rain 6"

Day 16: Siem Reap - Luang Prabang, Laos



This morning, board your flight to Luang Prabang, the spiritual capital of Laos. Sit down with new friends in a traditional Laotian village this evening, where a home-hosted dinner introduces you to the best of authentic local cuisine.

Hotel

Souphattra Hotel Luang Prabang
Luang Prabang

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 31°
Low 23°

Day 17: Luang Prabang - Ban Xang Hai - Luang Prabang



Enter the heart of Laos this morning via a local tuk-tuk. Visit the temples of Wat Xieng Thong and Wat Visoun before spending time in a different Buddhist temple where you'll take part in an exclusive private blessing ceremony delivered by one of the monks. Learn about everyday life in rural Laos when you visit the "Whiskey Village" of Ban Xang Hai, a riverside weaving and fishing village. Be welcomed to the village with a special Baci ceremony – a Laotian tradition that brings good luck and vanquishes bad spirits. After visiting Pak Ou Buddha Cave, home to thousands of Buddha statues, you'll get to relax as you cruise down the Mekong in a private boat with lunch on board.

Hotel

Souphattra Hotel Luang Prabang
Luang Prabang

Culinary

Breakfast & Lunch

Weather

High 31°
Low 23°

Day 18: Luang Prabang - Ban Long Lao - Luang Prabang



Journey through the idyllic countryside to a traditional Hmong hill tribe village in Ban Long Lao. Spend time exploring the village and get to know the tribe and their daily way of life. Set out on an easy hike*** through lush jungle and panoramic mountain scenery to the incredible Kuang Si Waterfall. Enjoy the rest of the day at leisure back in Luang Prabang.

Hotel

Souphattra Hotel Luang Prabang
Luang Prabang

Culinary

Breakfast

Weather

High 29°
Low 22°
Rain 1"

Day 19: Luang Prabang - Bangkok, Thailand



Board your flight to Bangkok, the capital of Thailand. A feast for the senses, this bustling city on the banks of the Chao Phraya River blends cosmopolitan sophistication with a strong sense of history and tradition. Tonight, join your fellow travellers and toast to the end of your adventure on a Klong dinner cruise.

Hotel

Rembrandt Hotel **
Bangkok

Culinary

Breakfast & Dinner

Weather

High 32°
Low 25°
Rain 12"

Day 20: Bangkok - Tour Ends



Return home with memories of your travels through the kingdoms of Southeast Asia.