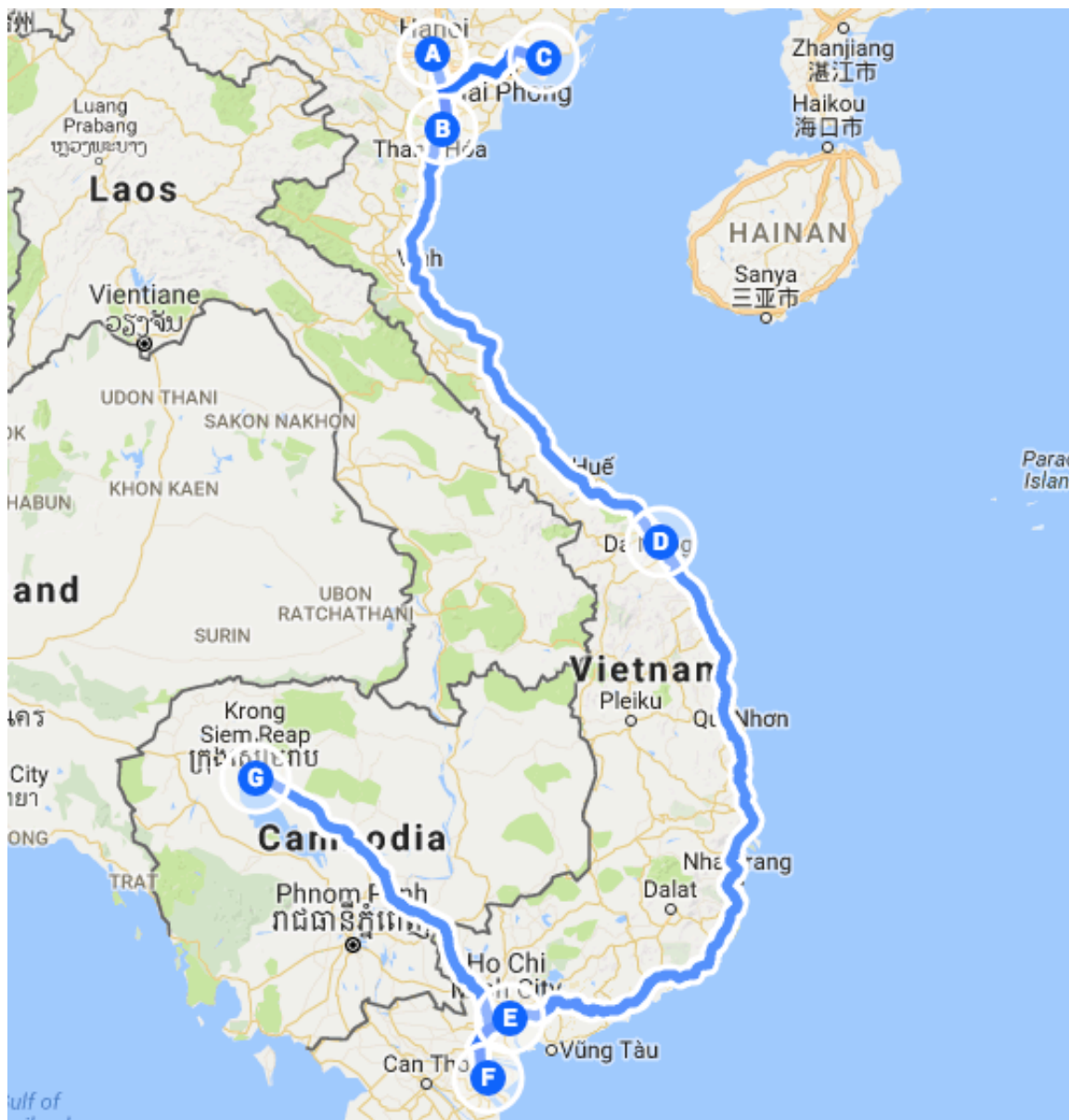




ADVENTURES IN INDOCHINA
VIETNAM AND CAMBODIA



Itinerary

Day 1: Arriving Hanoi

Expedited Vietnam Visa on Arrival

For expedited Vietnam Visa On Arrival with fast track service, our staff will wait for you at the airport within the immigration area with a board showing your name, and will take care of the whole immigration process with your passports while you take a private way to the luggage belt to collect your luggage. Your passport will be stamped in 5 minutes.

Upon arrival, you will be welcomed by your local guide at the airport, followed by a transfer to the city center. Since you are arriving early, your room may not be ready for check in.

Here are the suggested activities you can do on your own:

- *Old Town Cafe called Cafe Pho Co (11 Hang Gai, 4th Floor)
- *Hang Gai Street for tailor shops
- *La Siesta Spa, for post flight massages
- *Green Tangerine Restaurant (<http://greentangerinehanoi.com/en/>)

Day 2: Hanoi

In the morning, you will pay a visit to Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and see his traditional stilt house - now the Ho Chi Minh Museum and the revered One-Pillar Pagoda. After that, you



will explore the thousand-year-old Temple of Literature, also known as the first university of Vietnam.

You will have time to stroll through the shaded paths of Van Mieu Park to appreciate the architecture of this historical site.

This afternoon, you will see the remains of the former Hoa Lo Prison, ironically nicknamed the ‘Hanoi Hilton’ by US prisoners of war during the American War. Most exhibits relate to the prison’s use up to the mid-1950s, focusing on the Vietnamese struggle for independence from France.

Later, head to the city center to explore the Old Quarter. You will have the chance to experience the life of a Hanoian in the 1950’s and travel through the Old Quarter on a cycle rickshaw. During this ride (45-minutes), you will get to discover the bustling streets of the “Quarter of the 36 guilds” – a place of unique charm and endless activity: artisans, stalls, tinsmiths, jewelers, calligraphers, carpenters, mobile stalls, leather or rattan goods, vendors selling fans, votive objects, lacquer ware, silk, mats, paper, pipes and so much more.

Afterwards, have a short walk to further explore the old quarter. At the end of the walk, you will have time to enjoy a cup of coffee from one of the many small shops in the area. Here, you will be able to try many Vietnamese specialties such as banh cuon (steamed rolled rice pancake) and banh mi (the famous Vietnamese sandwich). Then stop at a bia hoi (beer club) on Ta Hien Street and taste the fresh Vietnamese beer that is so popular with locals and travelers. After that, you will head to a pho restaurant where you will be able to choose between regular pho or pho tron (pho noodle mixed with chicken without soup). Then, continue your way along Hoan Kiem Lake for a tasty ice cream. You will then say goodbye to your guide and go on to explore Hanoi by night on your own.

Meals included: Breakfast; street food in the evening.

Accommodation: Hanoi La Siesta Hotel Trendy

Remarks:

- The Mausoleum is closed on Monday and Friday - exterior visit only
- To be allowed to enter the mausoleum, you must cover your legs, stand in pairs in silence without crossing your arms, or putting your hands in your pockets



Day 3: Hanoi - Ninh Binh

In the morning you will travel to Ninh Binh province, to arrive around noon for lunch. In the early afternoon, you will travel to Gia Hung village for a pleasant bike ride along the dam of Boi river. Here, take your time to explore the typical villages of the Delta and meet their inhabitants. Upon arrival at Van Long Nature Reserve, you will set off on a small rowboat for 1 hour and 30 minutes passing slowly through rice fields and amidst the spectacular scenery of rocky peaks, meandering canals and luxuriant vegetation. Discover the temples of the Dinh and Le Kings, dating from the 10th century, before arriving your hotel. Check in and spend the balance of day at leisure.

Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch at a local house

Accommodation: Hotel in Ninh Binh

Address: Khu Bảo Tồn Vân Long,, Xã Gia Vân, Huyện Gia Viễn, Ninh Bình

Phone: +84 229 3658 333

Day 4: Ninh Binh - Hanoi - Halong Bay

In the morning, you will depart towards the famous Halong Bay. On the way, you will pass through Thai Binh province and the large port city of Hai Phong before arriving in Halong around noon. There, you will embark on a cruise in beautiful Halong Bay. This world-famous bay is one of the most stunning landscapes in Vietnam, with its giant rock islets covered in luxuriant vegetation overlooking the waters. Halong Bay includes some 1,900 islands and islets of rocky peaks, often uninhabited and unvisited. This scene creates a spectacular marine landscape, which earned it UNESCO World Heritage status in 1994. You will be served lunch and dinner aboard with excellent and freshly caught seafood from the bay. At the end of the day, you will have the chance to enjoy a night fishing session on the boat.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, dinner

Accommodation: Overnight on the boat (Indochina Sails Premium)

Distance Ninh Binh - Halong: 200km - 4-4.5 hours driving



Day 5: Halong Bay

Wake up early in the morning to enjoy the aquamarine water of the bay at its best. After breakfast, be transfer to the day boat with cruise's staff and continue to cruise quietly through spectacular limestone formations of Halong Bay. There has a plenty of time to enjoy this more isolated bay's spectacular and unique islands as well as relax on the beach. In the middle of afternoon, cruise back to the mother board for dinner and overnight. There is an option to do some sea kayaking which is included.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Overnight on board. (Indochina Sails Premium)

Day 6: Halong Bay - Hanoi - Danang - Hoi An

Depending on the season, you will get up early to admire the beautiful sunrise that gradually illuminates the bay and reveals all the wild beauty. Then the cruise will continue to tour around the heart of the bay until you disembark at the end of the morning. You will then return to Hanoi from Tuan Chau Marina on a Hai Au Aviation seaplane for a 60-minute sightseeing flight to Hanoi Airport. Then, wait for your flight to Danang City. Upon arrival at Danang Airport, welcomed by your guide and transferred to the hotel in Hoi An for check-in.

In the evening we have arranged a special dinner at Tra Que Eco-vegetable Village, a small farming community located about 2 kilometers northeast of Hoi An. The area is populated with fields, rivers, and lazy water buffaloes lounging in the mud. You will feel the rhythms of the countryside arriving at a local house where you are warmly welcomed by the host. You will then be treated to a banquet feast consisting of the best of local cuisine. One of the most

impressive aspects of this experience is knowing that the ingredients are the freshest they can possibly be because they've literally been picked that afternoon from the local farm just meters away. After the meal, transfer to Hoi An and check into your hotel.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hoi An Central Boutique Hotel and Spa

Address: 91 Hùng Vương, Phường Cẩm Phổ, Hội An, Quảng Nam, Vietnam

Phone: +84 235 3959 999

Day 7: Hoi An

In the morning, depart from your hotel to discover Hoi An on by bicycle. On arrival at Cua Dai Pier, embark for a boat ride to the mouth of Thu Bon river to enjoy the daily activities of fishermen such as throwing fishing net and trading their products. Your boat then continues cruising for about half an hour to a fishing village. Change to smaller bamboo boat (a coracle) to discover a distinctive mangrove forest and try your hand at fishing for crabs. Under the filtered sunlight inside the forest, you might feel a mysterious atmosphere covering this whole area. This excursion also gives you a chance to admire skillful fishermen who are working in the forest. Enjoy a delicious lunch at a lovely local house.

You will return to Hoi An in the early afternoon start visiting the old city, recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage site for its well-preserved ancient streets and houses. The town features a harmony of Vietnamese, Japanese, Chinese and French architecture elements, which can be seen from the famous Japanese Bridge, the Chinese Temple and Tan Ky trading house (which used to belong to a rich Vietnamese merchant 200 years ago and has been kept original ever since). This visit will be followed by a folklore show in one of the old houses. Round off the tour by a cup of coffee or tea at Reaching Out Tea House

– a special teashop where all the waiters and waitresses are deaf staff who are given a chance to have a self – reliant life and integrate into the community by well trained to be able to work here professionally. A peaceful time for you to enjoy the silence and taste of coffee.

Meals included: Breakfast, lunch.

Accommodation: Central Boutique Hotel and Spa in Hoi An

Day 8: Hoi An

In the morning, you will be picked up at the hotel and then go to the market with Ms. Linh, a cuisine expert living in Hoi An, who loves to share her passion for food, especially Central Vietnam food. The morning market is where you will be in the thick of the action. Here she will provide an overview of local ingredients and you can enjoy witnessing daily local life. After that, you can enjoy ice coffee before you go to the class. In the kitchen, she will demonstrate to you how to cook a dish of your choice. Her fun, enthusiast nature and her dedication will surely make the class more special than many others. The best thing about this class is you can choose one recipe from the list of dishes to learn. Everyone can try to cook their personal favorite recipe, not a preset menu! After the meal, transfer back to your hotel.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodations: Central Boutique Hotel and Spa in Hoi An

Day 9: Hoi An - Danang - Ho Chi Minh City

After check out in the morning, travel to Danang Airport and fly to Ho Chi Minh City.

Flight: VN117 DAD-SGN Departing Danang at 10:15 am, Arriving in Ho Chi Minh City at 11:45 am

Upon arrival, meet with your tour guide and head to your hotel in the city centre. After settling in, you will pay a visit to the historic landmarks of the colonial city once known as Saigon: the old Saigon Post office, Notre Dame Cathedral, Chinatown of Cho Lon and Ben Thanh market.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Liberty Central Saigon Riverside

Address: 17 Đường Tôn Đức Thắng, Bến Nghé, Quận 1, Hồ Chí Minh

Phone: +84 28 3827 1717

Distance:

- Hoi An - Danang Airport : 30km - 40min driving
- HCMC Airport - City center: 15km - 30-40min driving (depending on traffic jam)

Note: Notre-Dame Cathedral is closed for renovations until early 2020- Exterior only

Day 10 : Ho Chi Minh City

This morning, travel towards the Cu Chi Tunnels, located one hour from Ho Chi Minh City. Originally dug by hand by the Viet Minh Resistance force during the French Indochina War, this network of underground tunnels was expanded during the Vietnam War. At its peak, it was 200-kilometers long, 3-to-4-meters deep and was very well equipped, including meeting rooms, medical and sanitary posts. Today it is one of the largest historical sites of the Vietnam War. You will begin the visit by watching a documentary on the tunnels and the war in the 60s-70s, then you can pass through various narrow underground ducts in order to discover the rooms: offices, kitchens, meeting rooms, weapons stores and even hospitals.

At the end of the tour you will have the chance to taste the specialty of Cu Chi, the khoai my luoc (boiled cassava), a Vietnamese dish eaten daily during the war. After your visit, you will return to Ho Chi Minh City.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Liberty Central Saigon Riverside

Distance HCMC - Cu Chi Tunnels: 75 kilometers - 1h 30min

Note: The tunnels are not recommended for people with claustrophobia

Day 11: Ho Chi Minh City - Mekong Delta

In the morning you will depart from Ho Chi Minh City to explore Ben Tre in the Mekong delta. Upon arrival at Ben Tre, you will start a bicycle ride along peaceful countryside paths where you will discover the local people's way of life. Then board a rowboat to explore the canal. You will make a stop to visit the coconut gardens of a local house, where you will be able to taste the tropical fruits. You will then hop back on your bicycle to discover the village, before stopping for lunch in a beautiful local restaurant to taste some traditional dishes of the Mekong region.

In the afternoon you will continue your ride along the Ba Lai river, lined with palm trees. Stop along the way to visit a factory producing coconut-based goods, as well as several workshops. At the end of the tour, you will travel back to Ho Chi Minh City by car.

Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch

Accommodation: Liberty Central Saigon Riverside

Distance: 90 kilometers – 2 hours driving (per way)

Level: 0

Day 12: Ho Chi Minh City - Siem Reap

Free time before heading to the airport for your flight to Siem Reap. Upon arrival, you will be welcomed by your local guide and head to your hotel in the city center. Check in and spend the balance of day at leisure.

Flight: VN 3825 SGN-REP 12:25 -13:35

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Jaya House River Park in Siem Reap

Address: River Rd, Krong Siem Reap, Cambodia

Phone: +855 63 962 555

Day 13: Siem Reap

This tour is designed to provide access to the most famous Angkor temples. You will leave your hotel on a bicycle and start your trip by traveling along the riverside, then passing through a village and a forested area. You will arrive at Angkor Thom South Gate where you climb up the wall for one of the most charming rides within the Angkor complex.

Afterwards, you will visit a succession of historical sites located within Angkor Thom, including the Elephant Terrace, Royal Palace, Baphuon and the unique architectural wonder of the Bayon temple. You will finish your biking exploration by visiting the impressive and beautiful Angkor Wat, the largest religious monument in the world, capital of the Khmer empire and now an iconic symbol of Cambodia. After that, you will head to Srah Srang, a gorgeous spot to end the day in the Angkor complex watching the sun go down. You will enjoy a tasty white wine or beer and exotic finger food on the grass with a mat while watching the sunset over the water.

Meals included: Breakfast, Aperitif

Accommodation: Jaya House River Park in Siem Reap

Distance and duration of the cycling: 25 kilometers - 3 hours (excluding temple visiting)

Level: 1

Private car will be available for back-up during the ride.

Day 14: Siem Reap

Experience the unique Cambodian countryside by cycling along rural Cambodian villages, where you can both observe and participate in the Cambodians' daily activities: creating some local products and tasting some delicious food. This half day tour allows you to completely immerse yourselves in the daily life of the local villages that are situated on the outskirts of Siem Reap. Cycle from a local market, through villages on red sandy roads, and visit some truly remote ancient temples, far off the beaten path. During the tour, stop by some local houses to meet the families working on their daily tasks and take part in some activities like making rice noodles, tasting the traditional breakfast ‘Nom Bahn Chok’, learning how to make your own palm leaf handicrafts, and, of course, tasting some fresh coconut and some delicious bamboo sticky rice.

Later, travel further into the Angkor Archaeology Park (by bicycle or private car, up to your preference), where another beauty will be waiting for you. Banteay Srei (“The Women’s Citadel ”), is not the biggest temples in the Angkor complex, but obviously the most genteel.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch.

Accommodation: Jaya House River Park in Siem Reap

Distance & duration of cycling: 15 kilometers - 1 hour 30 minutes (5 hours including visits)

Level 1

Private car will be available for back-up during the ride.

Day 15: Siem Reap

Travel to the starting point and begin riding your bike until Chao Srey Vibol, a small charming temple blended into the lush vegetation. Continue your trip until reaching a pagoda where you will stop to admire its beauty before continuing your way into the middle of the beautiful countryside. On the way, you will see the locals harvesting and drying betel fruit front of their houses.

Afterwards, your journey will continue as you set off to explore the floating village of Kompong Phluk by boat, on the shores of the biggest lake of Cambodia: the Tonle Sap. The floating village is especially spectacular during and after the rainy season when the waters are high. You can rest there before heading towards one of the most ancient sites of the region: the Roluos group of temples. This group includes Lolei, Preah Ko and Bakong temples built in the late 9th century.

Distances: 72 kilometers (starting point of the boat tour changes from rainy to dry season)

Level: 2 or 3

Private car will be available for back-up during the ride.

Meals included: Breakfast; Lunch

Accommodation: Jaya House River Park in Siem Reap

Day 16: Siem Reap - Departure

Free time before transfer to the airport for your flight to next destination.

Meals included: Breakfast

Check-out from hotel: until 12pm

End of tour.

List of accommodations

Location	First Class	Room/ cabin category
Ha Noi	Hanoi La Siesta Hotel Trendy * * *	Trendy Suite
Ninh Binh	Emeralda Ninh Binh * * * *	Deluxe
Ha Long	Indochina Sails Premium (non-private cruise)	Superior (private cabin)
Hoi An	Hoi An Central Boutique Hotel & Spa * * * *	Grand Deluxe
Ho Chi Minh	Liberty Central Saigon Riverside * * * *	Deluxe City View
Siem Reap	Jaya House River Park * * * * *	Deluxe

For more details, please contact us:

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