

Indo China Empires

Experience Vietnam and Cambodia with us as we sample the rich heritage of these two ancient empires. Begin this *touring style* journey in Ha-Noi then head inland to the hill tribe region of Mai Chau to explore villages and countryside. We make an overnight junk cruise on stunningly scenic Ha Long bay then head south to the Imperial city of Hue and the World Heritage listed city of Hoi An on the central coast. From Ho Chi Minh City we embark on a Mekong cruise upstream to Phnom Penh. Rural Cambodia, Tonle Sap and the majestic temples of Ankor are highlights of our Cambodia tour.

Visit Ha Noi, Halong Bay, Mai Chau, Hur, Da Nang, Hoi An, Ho Chi Minh City, Mekong cruise, Phnom Penh, Ankor Wat, Siem Reap.



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| Length of trip | 24 days |
| Accommodation | Hotels. |
| Meals included | Yes |
| Travel Style | Tourist Coach, train, charter boats 1 domestic flight. |
| Escort | SRA tour leader for more than 6 travellers. Local English speaking escort for 6 or less travellers. |
| Sightseeing and entry fees | Included |
| Maximum group | 12 |
| Commences | Ha Noi 29th October 2012 |
| Concludes | Siem Reap 21st November 2012 |
| COST | NZ\$7900 based on twin share. Single Rm Sup NZ\$1530 <i>(prices subject to change)</i> |



Itinerary at a Glance :

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| Mon, 29 October 2012 | Commence Hanoi | Sun, 11 November 2012 | Cruise to SaDec |
| Met on arrival by our representative and transfer to the hotel. | | Rise early to the morning sights and sounds of the Delta. Early breakfast, board riverboats to the Cai Be floating market. Back to the boat for lunch and onto Sa Dec; an important agricultural and trading hub in Colonial times. Visit the Chinese house before dinner on board. | |
| Tue, 30 October 2012 | Hanoi | Mon, 12 November 2012 | Cruise to Vinh Xuen |
| We have a full day to visit Hanoi. We spend the morning to visit Ho Chi Minh Complex and the Ethnology Museum. In the afternoon, we visit the Old Quarter, Hoan Kiem Lake and Temple of Literature. Tonight, we watch the famous water puppet performance at Thang Long Theatre. | | The boat departs early this morning and cruises towards the town of Chau Doc near the Vietnam/Cambodian border. On arrival at the pier in Chau Doc disembark and enjoy breakfast at the Victoria Resort Chau Doc followed by a tour of the district. This afternoon, continue cruising, cross the border completing border formalities before anchoring near the island of Koh Dek Chau. | |
| Wed, 31 October 2012 | To Mai Chau | Tue, 13 November 2012 | Cruise to Phnom Penh |
| We leave Hanoi at 8am for the scenic drive to Mai Chau. On arrival, a briefing on the activity options and Lodge facilities is followed by lunch. After lunch take a village walk. | | Continue cruising this morning towards Phnom Penh the capital of Cambodia arriving late morning. On arrival in Phnom Penh transfer to the hotel, followed by a visit to the local market and dinner in local restaurant. | |
| Thur, 1 November 2012 | To Mai Chau | Wed, 14 November 2012 | Phnom Penh |
| This morning visit a cave system and walk to a local ethnic H'Mong village. After lunch free afternoon to walk or cycle or just relax by the pool. | | Today we have a full day sightseeing to include the Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda and the National Museum. Also climb to Wat Phnom, the city's main temple. This afternoon, visit Toul Sleng Genocide Museum which documents the atrocities of the Khmer Rouge. | |
| Fri, 2 November 2012 | To Hanoi | Thur, 15 November 2012 | To Kompong Cham |
| After breakfast, a walk to two nearby Thai villages - Pom Coong and Lac, to see traditional village life and meet the locals. Lunch is served after check out. Depart for Hanoi later this afternoon. | | Morning at leisure, before transferring by road to Kompong Cham. Arriving mid afternoon visit some of the temples here including the unique Angkorian temple of Wat Nokor and the hilltop shrines of Phnom Pros and Phnom Srey. Kompong Cham is a peaceful provincial capital spread along the banks of the Mekong and was an important trading post during the French period. | |
| Sat, 3 November 2012 | To Halong Bay | Fri, 16 November 2012 | To Kratie |
| To Halong Bay for a cruise in the UNESCO heritage site – Halong Bay to the famous islands of Ha Long Bay and onto Bai Tu Long Bay, aside from the cave visit and swimming, there is a chance to explore this stunning area by sea kayak. Dinner on board. | | Today on the drive to Kratie we get to grips with rural Cambodian countryside. After lunch head further up the Mekong River to see the rare Irrawaddy dolphins. Enjoy the sunset over the Mekong from the mountain top of Phnom Sambok before returning to the Hotel. | |
| Sun, 4 November 2012 | Overnight Train to Hue | Sat, 17 November 2012 | Kratie |
| Enjoy an early morning swim followed by breakfast. We visit the "Cave of Surprises" before cruising back to the main harbour for the return drive to Hanoi. Expect to be in Hanoi by 4pm, we have arranged a day-use room to freshen up before transferring to the railway station for the overnight train.. | | This morning time to cycle around the village. Option to visit Vihear Sarsar Mouy Rouy Pagoda, well known as a place of pilgrimage for residents of Kratie. Set out for a countryside tour and then board a boat in the afternoon to try and catch a glimpse of the endangered, Irrawaddy dolphins. | |
| Mon, 5 November 2012 | Hue | Sun, 18 November 2012 | To Kompong Thom |
| Arrive Hue at 10am, transfer to hotel. Afternoon city sightseeing tour including the ancient walled Citadel and the Imperial Palace. We will also visit the Emperor Tu Duc and Khai Dinh's tombs. | | Drive to Kampong Thom via rubber plantations and the historical hills of Phnom Srey and Phnom Pros. Visit Sambor Prei Kuk a pre Angkorian site dating from the 7th century believed to be the first temple city in SE Asia. Time to explore before returning to the hotel. | |
| Tue, 6 November 2012 | To Hoi An | Mon, 19 November 2012 | To Siem Reap |
| This morning, we drive over the Hai Van Pass, a scenic coastal road passing the famous China Beach (or Hai Van tunnel weather dependant). We continue to the UNESCO World Heritage Listed town of Hoi An. In the afternoon have a walking tour to see the highlights of this charming town. | | Transfer to Siem Reap. After lunch visit Angkor Wat, the best preserved of all the Angkor Temples. Finish the day watching the sun set from Pre Rup Temple. | |
| Wed, 7 November 2012 | Hoi An | Tue, 20 November 2012 | Siem Reap |
| Today we will have a cooking class. Visit Hoi An's colourful market, and experience the amazing sights, sounds and aromas of this busy market. We board a small boat for a leisurely cruise (25 minutes) along the Hoi An River to the Red Bridge Cooking School. Remainder of the afternoon at leisure. | | We commence with a visit to the exquisite Banteay Srey <i>Citadel of the Women</i> home to some of the finest examples of classical Khmer art followed by a tour of Banteay Samre. Also visit the Bayon enclosing 54 towers decorated with more than 200 enigmatic smiling faces. Also included in the mornings tour is the Royal Enclosure, Phimeanakas, the Terrace of Elephants and Terrace of Leper Kings, as well as the Ta Prohm Temple. We'll conclude the day with a visit to the Royal Enclosure, Phimeanakas, the Terrace of Elephants and Terrace of Leper Kings as well as Ta Prohm Temple made famous by the <i>Tomb Raider</i> movie. | |
| Thur, 8 November 2012 | To Ho Chi Minh City | Wed, 21 November 2012 | Conclude |
| This morning transfer to Danang Airport for the short flight to Ho Chi Minh City. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel and in the afternoon take in the city highlights including Ben Thanh Market, Notre Dame Cathedral, Reunification Palace, Dong Khoi Street and the War Remnants Museum. | | Free time until your transfer to the airport.. | |
| Fri, 9 November 2012 | Ho Chi Minh City | | |
| This morning drive through the countryside to the remarkable Cu Chi Tunnels, home to 5,000 VC troops during the Vietnam/U.S. War. Afternoon at leisure. | | | |
| Sat, 10 November 2012 | Saigon—My Tho—Toum Tiou cruise | | |
| Today start the Mekong River cruise to Cambodia. Board the 3 star Toum Tiou early this morning and cruise downstream towards My Tho and Cai Be where the boat is anchored overnight. We'll stop at My Tho to visit the local market and Vinh Trang Pagoda. Return to the boat and sail to An Thoi Island. | | | |

Link from : Discover Yunnan

JOIN Kunming 13th October
CONCLUDE HaNoi 29th October

Get behind the scenery on this *touring style* journey to uncover the fascinating cultures and stunning landscapes of China's most diverse region. Follow the historic trade route from the Tibet plateau to tropical Ha Noi by way of Yunnan's

World Heritage cities of Lijiang and Dali, the stunning terrace fields of Yuanyang and the spectacularly diverse ethnic district of Sapa in Vietnam's Hoang Lien Son mountains.

Visit Kunming, Zhogdian, White Terraces, Tiger Leaping Gorge, Lijiang, Dali, YuanYang, Sapa, Ha Noi.