

Trip Info

Group Size: Min: 5 | Max: 18

Transportation: River & Lake Cruise, Junk Boat, Cyclo, Coach, Plane

Tips: Payable locally, allow \$160 AUD pp

Destinations Visited: Bangkok, Luang Prabang, Phonsavanh, Vang Vieng, Vientiane, Halong Bay, Hanoi, Hue, Marble Mountains, Hoi An, Saigon, Phnom Penh, Angkor Wat

Come and discover the real Indochina... a land of welcoming smiles, buzzing markets, golden temples, ancient cultures, peaceful waterways and awe-inspiring natural scenery.



Discover the beauty of Laos

Our fantastic tour of Indochina starts in Thailand's capital Bangkok, highlights here include a visit to the Grand Palace, the Golden and Emerald Buddhas. From Thailand our Asia tour continues into Laos – where our first stop is the beautiful UNESCO world heritage town of Luang Prabang, famous for its historic temples and beautiful mountain setting. During our stay in Laos we also visit the surreal Plain of Jars in Phonsavanh and the colourful markets of Vang Vieng.

Relax as you cruise in Halong Bay

From Laos our tour of Asia continues to Vietnam. A real highlight of our time here is two relaxing days cruising in the beautiful Halong Bay on a traditional-style junk boat. On board we'll enjoy a dinner of the freshest and tastiest seafood while watching the sunset. Another highlight of our time in Vietnam is a visit to the picturesque town of Hoi An, also known as the city of lanterns.

Be amazed by Angkor Wat

The last country on our Asia tour is Cambodia. Here we visit the capital Phnom Penh before travelling on to Siem Reap and the amazing Angkor Wat Temple Complex. This is one of the world's must see attractions and we spend two days here exploring the ruins, which look much the same as when they were first discovered.

Itinerary

Day 1 Australia - Bangkok

On arrival we will be met by our friendly guide and transferred to our hotel.

Day 2 Bangkok

Today we enjoy a full-day tour of Bangkok. Highlights include the revered Grand Palace, the spectacular Golden and Emerald Buddhas, and an afternoon cruise through Bangkok's klongs (canals) where we get an insight into the traditional side of Thai life. Tonight we enjoy an unforgettable welcome dinner cruise on the Chao Phraya River. [B,D]

Day 3 Bangkok - Luang Prabang

We fly to Laos and the city of Luang Prabang, which is famous for its historic temples and its beautiful mountain setting. Upon arrival we enjoy a tour of the city which includes the Wat Xieng Thong Temple, Wat Wisunalat Temple, National Museum and the markets. [B]

Day 4 Luang Prabang

This morning our tour is by boat to the Pak Ou Caves. The caves are noted for their impressive Lao-style Buddha sculptures, assembled over the centuries by local people and pilgrims. Hundreds of mostly wooden Buddhist figures are laid out over the floors and wall shelves. We travel back via the village of Ban Xiang Hai, famous for the production of the local rice wine whisky. Here there is an opportunity to try this traditional liquor. [B]

Day 5 Luang Prabang

This morning we visit a local market to see the bustle and activity of daily life, before further exploring Luang Prabang. We then travel to the local village of Ban Muang Khai Kuang and a Khmu village at Ban Tha Pene, before continuing to Kuang Si Waterfalls. These beautiful multi-level falls tumble over limestone formations into clear turquoise pools. A great place for a swim! [B]

Day 6 Luang Prabang - Phonsavanh

Today we leave Luang Prabang and travel to Phonsavanh, along mountain roads with stunning views of the forested mountains, lush valleys and karst formations. We stop enroute at Muang Si, visiting Wat Ban Phong, the oldest temple in the province. We visit the scenic Nong Tang Lake, rimmed with limestone cliffs and the extensive cave network of Thom Pha Cave. Only discovered recently, this cave contains a 5m high Buddah image dating from 777AD, surrounded by gold and wooden statues of smaller size. Overnight in Phonsavanh. [B]

Day 7 Phonsavanh

We spend the day exploring the mysterious and ancient Plain of Jars. More than 300 huge stone jars carved out of solid rock are scattered around the plateau. The jars vary in size from 1 to 3.25 metres high and weigh up to six tons each. There are several different theories as to the purpose of the jars, which are estimated to be 2,500 to 3,000 years old. Afterwards we continue to Muang Khoun, an ancient capital which was destroyed during the Indochina War. The town was rebuilt after 1975 with rows of wooden Lao houses and a market area. It's surrounded by beautiful mountain scenery. [B]

Day 8 Phonsavanh - Vang Vieng

This morning we visit the lively open-air local market, before continuing to the scenic river town of Vang Vieng, stopping at local villages along the way. This afternoon there is some time to relax or enjoy an optional kayaking and caving adventure on the Nam Song River. [B]

Day 9 Vang Vieng - Vientiane

Vang Vieng is nestled in a bend in the Nam Song River. It is surrounded by striking limestone cliffs and has an abundance of fascinating tunnels and caverns. We enjoy a short trek through rice paddies, stopping at a Hmong village in Ban Pha Thao before continuing to some of the area's lovely caves. We depart Vang Vieng and travel to Vientiane; on the way we stop at the Talat Fish Market in Huay Mor and enjoy a boat ride on the Nam Ngum Lake. We also stop at Salt Field in Ban Keun, before continuing on this scenic journey. [B]

Day 10 Vientiane

Vientiane still feels like a sleepy city with its relaxed charm, tree-lined boulevards, interesting wats (temples) and colourful markets. This morning we tour the city, including a visit to Pha That Luang, a gleaming golden stupa which is perhaps the most important national monument in Laos. The afternoon is at leisure. [B]

Day 11 Vientiane - Hanoi

There is some free time this morning to relax before our flight to Hanoi. [B]

Day 12 Hanoi - Halong Bay

We are in for a real treat today as we travel to Halong Bay, a stunning water wonderland full of limestone outcrops and islands, all surrounded by calm emerald waters. We will overnight on a junk boat as it is the best way to see this water wonderland. We pass stunning islands and Sung Sot Cave, before stopping at Titov Beach for a swim. Dinner is served on board the boat as the sun sets. [B,L,D]

Day 13 Halong Bay - Hanoi

We enjoy breakfast on board, while continuing to cruise around the waters of the bays, visiting Man's Head and Turtle Island's and Luon Cave. Upon disembarkation from our Junk, we head back to Hanoi. [B,L]

Day 14 Hanoi

Today we tour Hanoi, the stately capital which features lakes, parks, grand boulevards and French colonial buildings. Our tour includes the History Museum, the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, the One Pillar Pagoda, the Temple of Literature and the famous St Joseph Cathedral. [B]

Day 15 Hanoi - Hue

This morning we fly to the ancient city of Hue which was Vietnam's capital for more than 140 years. Our tour includes the old imperial city which was modelled on Beijing's Forbidden City. [B]

Day 16 Hue - Hoi An

We enjoy a morning boat trip on the Perfume River before travelling over the spectacular Marble Mountains via the Hai Van Pass to Danang and Hoi An. [B]

Day 17 Hoi An

This morning we enjoy a walking tour of the picturesque riverside town of Hoi An where we also visit a lantern-making workshop. The afternoon is at leisure. [B]

Day 18 Hoi An - Saigon

Today we travel to Danang where we board our flight to Vietnam's largest city, Saigon. [B]

Day 19 Saigon

This morning we visit the Cu Chi Tunnel complex. In the afternoon we enjoy a tour of bustling Saigon, including the French-style Notre Dame Cathedral, the Reunification Palace, the moving War Remnants Museum and the lively Chinatown. Tonight we experience the vibrant city lights of Saigon when we join the Bonsai for a memorable dinner cruise on the Saigon River. [B,D]

Day 20 Saigon - Phnom Penh

Enjoy a day at leisure before our afternoon flight to Cambodia's beautiful capital Phnom Penh. [B]

Day 21 Phnom Penh

Free time this morning to possibly take an optional tour to the infamous Killing Fields. This afternoon we enjoy a city tour of Phnom Penh where we visit the Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda, the National Museum and the Russian Markets. [B]

Day 22 Phnom Penh - Siem Reap

This morning is at leisure before we fly to Siem Reap and start our sightseeing tour of the amazing Angkor Wat temples. In 1992, the whole of the Angkor Wat complex was granted UNESCO World Heritage status and it is considered one of the world's most amazing attractions. We spend two days touring this extensive complex of temples, palaces and monuments. Tonight we watch the sun set over the ruins from the upper terraces of an Angkorian temple. [B]

Day 23 Siem Reap

We continue our sightseeing at Angkor Wat and ponder how these grand temples would have looked when first built during the 12th century. [B]

Day 24 Siem Reap

This morning we continue our touring of Angkor Wat and visit Ta Prohm. Here the jungle has not been cleared and the monuments look as they did when European explorers first stumbled across them. This afternoon we enjoy an excursion to the floating village of Kampong Kleang with a boat trip on Tonle Sap Lake. This incredibly rich fishing ground in the heart of Cambodia swells up to seven times its original size during the monsoon season. [B]

Day 25 Depart Siem Reap

This morning is at leisure before we transfer to the airport for our journey home. [B]

Day 26 Arrive in Australia

Inclusions

- Pre-departure information dossier
- Economy class flights from Australia to Bangkok and from Siem Reap to Australia
- 6 economy class flights within Indochina
- 24 nights in good quality hotels with private facilities (3-4 star)
- 1 night on board a traditional junk boat. Each cabin has private facilities with hot and cold water
- 24 breakfasts, 2 lunches and 3 dinners
- English-speaking local guides in Thailand and Cambodia
- English-speaking national guides in Laos and Vietnam (based on minimum numbers)
- All airport transfers and touring in air-conditioned vehicles
- Enjoy a full-day tour of Bangkok, including the Grand Palace, the Golden and Emerald Buddhas and an afternoon cruise through Bangkok's klongs (canals)
- Welcome dinner cruise on Bangkok's Chao Praya River
- Spend three nights in beautiful Luang Prabang, the ancient capital of the Lan Xang Kingdom
- Tour Luang Prabang city including Wat Xieng Thong Temple, Wat Wisunalat Temple, the National Museum and the markets
- Travel by boat to the fascinating Pak Ou Caves
- A chance to swim in the beautiful Kuang Si Waterfalls
- Explore the fascinating Plain of Jars
- Visit the riverside town of Vang Vieng
- See Vientiane, the capital of Laos, including the Ho Pha Keo and Wat Si Saket temples
- Cruising in Halong Bay over two days on a traditional-style junk. This will include visits to a number of stunning islands and the chance to swim on one of the many beaches. Dinner is served on board as the sun sets over Halong Bay!
- Spend three nights in Hanoi, where our full-day tour includes the History Museum, the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, the One Pillar Pagoda, the Temple of Literature and St Joseph's Cathedral
- Stay overnight in the historic former Vietnamese capital Hue
- Visit Danang, the fourth-largest city in Vietnam
- Spend two nights in the picturesque town of Hoi An. Our tour includes the historic centre of this old trading port
- Experience bustling Saigon including the French-style Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office, the Reunification Palace, the moving War Remnants Museum and buzzing Chinatown
- Visit the Cu Chi Tunnel Complex.
- Experience the vibrant city lights of Saigon as we take a memorable dinner cruise on the Saigon River
- Visit the Cambodian capital Phnom Penh, considered the loveliest of the French-built cities in Indochina. Our tour includes the Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda, the National Museum and the chaotic Central or Russian Market
- Visit the awe-inspiring ruins of Angkor Wat - an absolute must-see. We spend two days exploring the ruins, including watching the sunset from the upper terraces of an ancient Angkorian temple. We also visit Ta Prohm where the ruins look much the way they did when they were first discovered

Dates & Prices

Start Date	End Date	Cost	Air Taxes	Total Cost	Status
12/09/2010	07/10/2010	\$5,450	\$418	\$5,868	On Request

Start Date	End Date	Cost	Air Taxes	Total Cost	Status
10/10/2010	04/11/2010	\$5,450	\$418	\$5,868	On Request
07/11/2010	02/12/2010	\$5,490	\$418	\$5,908	Available
02/01/2011	27/01/2011	\$5,850	\$418	\$6,268	Available
13/02/2011	10/03/2011	\$5,490	\$418	\$5,908	Available
13/03/2011	07/04/2011	\$5,490	\$418	\$5,908	Available

Price Valid From: Adelaide, Melbourne, Sydney & Perth
Other Cities: Also departs from Brisbane, clients will require an overnight in Singapore. Additional cost is from \$92pp twin-share
Single Supplement: From \$1,390 (subject to seasonality)
Day/Date Variations: Due to airline flight schedules day of arrival and departure may vary depending on your city of departure
***Taxes & Fuel Costs:** Change regularly so above levies shown as a guide only

Prices shown are per person based on twin-share.
 Prices and itineraries correct at current time but are subject to change.
 Please call for more details. View our [full terms & conditions here](#).

Accommodation

The hotels listed below are meant as an indication only and are subject to change.

Tara Angkor Hotel, Siem Reap

Experience all that Siem Reap has to offer in a luxurious resort in a fantastic location. The Tara Angkor is the ideal base to explore Siem Reap and the magnificent temples steeped in legend and history. The Tara Angkor is equipped with modern facilities and is elegantly furnished to make your stay something not to be forgotten.



Hoi An Hotel

Just 30km from Danang international airport, Hoi An Hotel occupies lush and spacious grounds in the heart of the old town. It is the ideal place to stay for anyone who comes to visit Hoi An and its surrounding attractions which include the area's other World Heritage sites, My Son Cham temple and many other top attractions which are within easy reach.



Kingston Hotel, Saigon

The Kingston Hotel (previously named the Tan Hoang Ngoc Hotel) is located right in the heart of the city, close to the Ben Thanh market and all sightseeing and entertainment. The hotel's spacious rooms comprise of a unique and modern design, with individually controlled air conditioning, satellite tv, private bathroom, IDD telephone, hairdryer, refrigerator, and tea and coffee making facilities. The hotel also provides services such as laundry and dry cleaning services, baggage storage area, safety deposit box, foreign currency exchange, internet and email services.



Add-ons

Long holidays are good holidays! To help you make the most of your holiday we offer a range of tour add-ons and stopover options. These can be done before or after your tour.



Koh Chang Add-on

4 Days from \$890



Tioman Island Add-on

4 Days from \$725



Phuket Add-on

5 Days from \$790

Weather

Bangkok	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Ave Max C	32	33	34	35	34	33	32	32	32	31	31	31
Ave Min C	20	22	24	25	25	24	24	24	24	24	22	20
Rainy Days	1	1	3	3	9	10	13	13	15	14	5	1

Saigon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Ave Max C	33	35	36	37	35	34	33	33	32	32	32	31
Ave Min C	20	23	25	26	26	25	25	25	24	24	22	20
Rainy Days	1	2	4	8	17	20	22	19	21	21	10	3

Luang Prabang	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Ave Max C	28	32	34	36	35	34	32	32	33	32	29	27
Ave Min C	13	14	17	21	23	23	23	23	23	21	18	15
Rainy Days	2	2	4	8	13	12	17	19	12	7	3	1

Currency

In Thailand:

The Thai currency is the baht (THB). ATMs can be found just about everywhere in Thailand, and most accept foreign cards. Look for the Cirrus or Visa symbol. They're the easiest way to exchange money and receive the best rate. Traveller's cheques and cash can be exchanged at banks and shops, as well.

In Laos:

The Lao Kip (LAK) is the legal currency, divided into 100 cents. There are no international ATM facilities in Laos. Major credit cards are accepted at some international hotels and tourist orientated establishments. Traveller's cheques can be cashed at most banks in Vientiane and major towns, though have limited acceptance. Most transactions are conducted in cash – American Dollars, Thai Baht or Lao Kip.

In Vietnam:

Dong (VND; symbol ?).

Notes are in denominations of ?500,000, 200,000, 100,000, 50,000, 20,000, 10,000, 5,000, 2,000, 1,000, 500, 200 and 100.

Coins are in denominations of 5,000, 2,000, 1,000 and 500.

In Cambodia:

The local currency is Riel. However, restaurants, taxis, buses and other service providers often prefer US Dollars. When purchasing something it is best to ensure that you ask for your change in the same currency that you pay, otherwise the exchange rate will not be in your favour. It is advisable to carry mainly US dollars and small denominations of Riel, as Riel is not allowed to enter or leave the country.

Disclaimer

Prices shown are per person based on twin-share. Prices and itineraries are correct at time of downloading from the website but are subject to change. Taxes and fuel surcharges change regularly so levies shown as a guide only. For full terms and conditions please visit our website or call 1300 664 170 for details.