

# INDOCHINA





Angkor Wat Temples, Siem Reap

*Indochina refers to a trio of centuries-old countries, Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos, a relatively undiscovered region of Asia where traditions and culture intermingle with a French colonial past. Following years of isolation Indochina is now open for all to see, including ten amazing UNESCO World Heritage sites, and the dignified people of these intriguing lands will welcome you with a genuine warmth and friendliness. Exotic, adventurous and absolutely never boring, now is definitely the time to visit these captivating destinations!*

### WHY VISIT INDOCHINA?

A genuine welcome awaits you throughout Indochina and you cannot fail to fall for its charms.

Vietnam is a beguiling blend of spellbinding scenery and incredible heritage. Its wonderful diversity and exceptional beauty are key to the appeal be it the verdant landscape of green paddy fields and soaring limestone peaks, attractive coastal resorts and tranquil rivers, fascinating hill tribe villages and vibrant cities, or the fragrant food and colourful local traditions.

Having put its complex past behind it Cambodia welcomes visitors with open arms to a mesmerising land of ancient treasures and mysterious intrigue. Brimming with legendary temples, iconic UNESCO World Heritage sites, historical treasures and glorious beaches, much of the country remains refreshingly untouched by tourism and is sure to leave an indelible impression.

Land-locked Laos combines enchanting landscapes with a refreshingly slow pace of life. Luang Prabang is a must see with its glittering temples and the early morning sight of saffron-robed monks silently collecting alms.

### INDOCHINA

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Koh Rong, Cambodia

### It's the perfect destination for...

Discerning travellers who have explored other Asian destinations and are keen to tour historic cities and ancient temples, cruise aboard boutique vessels and relax on beautiful, relatively undiscovered beaches. Couples and families alike seeking a truly unique and memorable experience will also not be disappointed.

### Classic Indochina

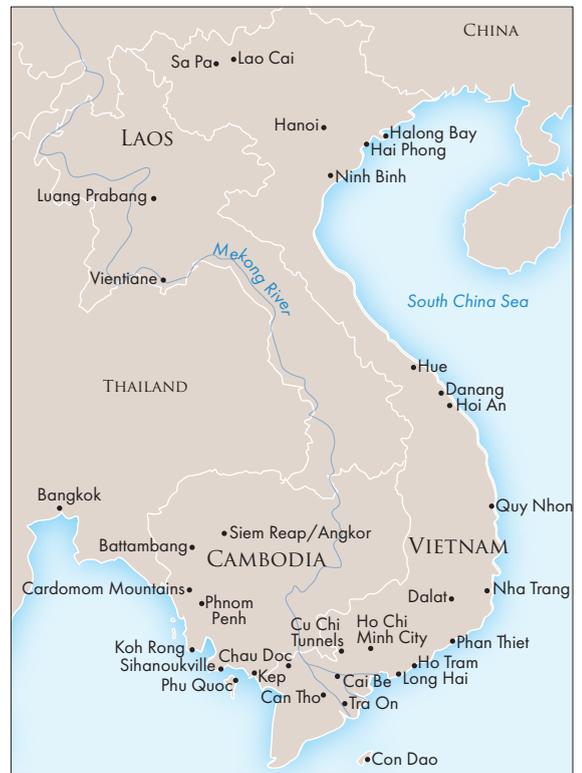
While a city and beach combination in Vietnam or Cambodia is wonderful, to limit yourself to this alone would be an injustice to the region. Touring is highly recommended and either Vietnam Your Way (page 180) or Colonial Cambodia (page 194) give an insight to each country, with travel by air-conditioned car and your own private guide. More intrepid travellers, may be tempted by the Flavours of Vietnam, a small group tour travelling by premium mini van along scenic back roads (page 182).

### Explore more...

If time allows take to the water and discover the Mekong Delta, stunning Halong Bay or cruise from Ho Chi Minh to Siem Reap. We also have a range of side trips which can be incorporated into your own tailor-made itinerary, choose from Phnom Penh, Siem Reap for Angkor Wat, the incredible Cardamom Mountain region or Luang Prabang. For the ultimate luxury experience, cast yourself away to Song Saa Private Island in Cambodia.

### Indochina and beyond

While it's very easy to stop over en route in a variety of Asian or Arabian capitals, Indochina is such a culturally-rich region that a holiday combining Vietnam and Cambodia or Cambodia and Myanmar (pages 202-207) is worthy of serious consideration. See page 176 for Indochina itineraries or pages 8-11 for alternative multi-country options.



### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

#### The prices

Our holidays include flights with scheduled airlines, accommodation, meals as detailed, onward domestic flights or boat journeys (where necessary) and private transfers (unless otherwise indicated). Room upgrades and meal supplements are per person per night. All prices shown are based on the best value travel dates in low season.

#### Flight upgrades

Why not travel in style and upgrade to a higher class cabin, where you will benefit from greater comfort and space. Indochina upgrade prices are: Premium economy from £329; business class from £799 or first class from £2799.

## OUR FAVOURITE COMBINATIONS

We have handpicked a few of our favourite itineraries to tempt you; however, these are just a guide to the many possibilities available. Prices are per person based on two sharing and include return international flights, onward domestic flights or road travel, accommodation as shown and hotel transfers.

### BOUTIQUE VIETNAM

Gain a genuine feel for these three captivating cities through our collection of boutique hotels. Full of character, they offer ultra-personalised service, home comforts and upscale design.

3nts Church Boutique, Hanoi  
including breakfast

5nts Boutique Hoi An, Hoi An including breakfast

3nts Liberty Saigon Parkview, Ho Chi Minh City  
including breakfast



10 nights from  
£1649

Halong Bay

### HANOI, HALONG BAY & PHU QUOC

Mix a colonial city with a cruise on majestic waters amidst breathtaking scenery and then time to unwind on a stunning beach and you've got all the ingredients for a fabulous holiday.

3nts Silk Path, Hanoi including breakfast

1nt Indochine Sails Cruise, Halong Bay

including full board

6nts Mercury Resort & Villas, Phu Quoc  
including breakfast



11 nights from  
£1465

Ho Chi Minh City

### CAMBODIA HIGHLIGHTS

We've cherry picked three contrasting destinations that will bring Cambodia alive through iconic temples, tropical beaches and fascinating city life.

3nts Tara Angkor, Siem Reap  
including breakfast

2nts La Rose Boutique, Phnom Penh  
including breakfast

7nts Sokha Beach, Sihanoukville  
including breakfast



12 nights from  
£1499

Angkor Wat

# VIETNAM



**Getting there:** Ho Chi Minh City or Hanoi are 11½ hours by air from the UK (non-stop). Smaller airports are dotted throughout the country with excellent flight links.

**Best time to go:** Travel to Vietnam is possible all year, although the seasons do vary across the country and you may encounter some rain, whatever the time of year. Northern Vietnam (eg Hanoi, Halong Bay and Sa Pa) is perhaps at its best between September-December when the weather is generally warm and sunny. March to August is ideal for the central region (Hue, Hoi An, Danang) and to avoid the heaviest rains in Southern Vietnam December to April is best.

*The beguiling blend of spellbinding scenery, incredible heritage, stunning beaches, fascinating hill tribe villages, genuinely warm friendly people and tantalising fragrant cuisine is sure to delight even the most seasoned traveller.*

This once turbulent land is steeped in history and culture making it one of Asia's most compelling destinations.

The capital, Hanoi, may be relatively small but oozes with energy and charm. Home to elaborate temples and pagodas, elegant tree-lined boulevards, inner city lakes and French colonial buildings, it's the perfect starting point.

Located on the banks of the Perfume River, Hue is Vietnam's former imperial capital and today a UNESCO World Heritage site. Perfectly picturesque with palaces and pagodas the old city is one of Vietnam's most important cultural and historical sites.

Formerly known as Saigon, vibrant Ho Chi Minh City is definitely not to be missed. Whilst the number of gleaming skyscrapers may be growing, there are lots of delightful districts to explore along with a plethora of attractions, markets and shopping malls. A tour to the nearby Cu Chi Tunnels is highly recommended.

When you've had your fill of bustling cities but aren't quite ready to hit the beach, head north to Sa Pa with its stunning vistas, colourful markets and intriguing ethnic hill tribes. Perhaps take an unforgettable cruise around the UNESCO World Heritage site of Halong Bay or soak up the scenic watery landscape of the Mekong Delta.

One of Vietnam's best-kept secrets has to be its beaches. However in recent years word has spread and many more people have been enticed by the wonderful stretches of sands that are scattered across 2000 miles of coastline. Resorts on the central coast include Hue, Danang and the ancient trading town of Hoi An, which is also a UNESCO World Heritage site with stunning beaches just 10 minutes drive away. The alluring south eastern coast is home to Nha Trang, Ninh Van Bay, Phan Thiet and Ho Tram, while close to the Cambodian border is the idyllic island of Con Dao.

## ENHANCE YOUR STAY *Excursions perfectly enhance your holiday and offer excellent value. Prices are per person.*

### Private evening Vespa Tour - Ho Chi Minh City from £85



Hop on the back of a vintage Vespa scooter and experience city life the way locals do. It's chaotic, noisy and fascinating! Explore the side streets and back alleys where people congregate after work and stop by street food restaurants to try some Vietnamese cuisine (included). Return back to your hotel at about 10.30pm. Available daily and can also be booked in Hanoi or Hoi An. Daytime tours are also available.

### Cu Chi Tunnels with boat transfers from £65



Enjoy a light breakfast on the boat as you travel to the amazing Cu Chi Tunnels. This labyrinth of narrow passages were used as hideouts during the war and you will explore sections of the extensive network that served as an underground city. Return to Ho Chi Minh City and enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Available daily from Ho Chi Minh City.

### Cooking Class from £49



What better way to immerse yourself in the culture of Vietnam than through its cuisine. You will begin with a visit to a local market, accompanied by the chef, where you'll learn about traditional ingredients. After the class, the dishes will be served for lunch and everyone can sample the various dishes prepared by the chef and students. Available daily in cities and some beach resorts across Vietnam.



Bayon Temple, Siem Reap

9 night privately escorted tour from  
**£2199** pp



**Hanoi** 2 nights ~ **Halong Bay** 1 night  
**Ho Chi Minh City** 2 nights ~ **Siem Reap** 2 nights  
**Phnom Penh** 2 nights

## VIETNAM & CAMBODIA

PRIVATELY ESCORTED TOUR BY AIR-CONDITIONED CAR

brehtaking array of temples • historic sights at almost every turn • cultural insights

**Day 1:** Fly to Hanoi.

**Day 2 Hanoi:** On arrival transfer to your hotel.

**Day 3 Hanoi:** Begin with a walk along the Hanoi back roads to see the real life of the city. Your morning concludes with a short train trip across the Red River. This afternoon, visit Ho Chi Minh's former residence, the One Pillar Pagoda, the Temple of Literature and the Lake of Restored Sword. A one-hour Cyclo tour of Hanoi's Old Quarter is a relaxing way to end the day and includes a stop at an ancient Vietnamese "long house." This evening, attend a water puppet show.

**Day 4 Hanoi/Halong Bay:** Drive to Halong Bay (approx 125 miles/4 hour drive), one of Vietnam's natural marvels, to board a wooden sailing junk. After lunch, (which is included) take an afternoon cruise through the bizarre limestone rock formations rising from the Gulf of Tonkin.

**Day 5 Halong Bay/Hanoi/Ho Chi Minh City:** Continue to cruise through the emerald waters of Halong Bay and arrive back at the wharf before noon. Continue by road to Hanoi airport, with a stop en route at the Phu Lang ceramic village. Fly to Ho Chi Minh City and then transfer to your hotel.

**Day 6 Ho Chi Minh City:** Morning drive to the Cu Chi Tunnels (approx 45 miles/1 1/2 hours drive), a labyrinth of narrow passages used by the Vietcong guerrillas as hideouts during the Vietnam War. In the afternoon return to Ho Chi Minh City for a tour to include the Reunification Palace, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Saigon Post Office, Chinatown, the Binh Tay Market and either the Thien Hau Temple or Quan Am Pagoda. This evening why not book an optional Vespa Tour (see page 177).

**Day 7 Ho Chi Minh City/Siem Reap:** Early morning flight to Siem Reap. In the afternoon enjoy a tour of the Angkor area - Angkor Thom, including the South Gate, the Bayon, the Terrace of the Elephants and the Terrace of the Leper King, ending the day at the Royal Enclosure. Finally, you will either visit Pre Rup or Angkor Wat to witness the sunset.

**Day 8 Angkor:** This morning visit the petit circuit, which includes Prasat Krayan, Srah Srang, Banteay Kdei and the jungle-clad temple of Ta Phrom. In the afternoon, the sightseeing continues with mesmerising Angkor Wat.

**Day 9 Siem Reap/Phnom Penh:** Morning departure for the airport and a 40 minute flight to Cambodia's capital. After transferring to your hotel, the rest of the day is free.

**Day 10 Phnom Penh:** A full day tour to visit the National Museum, Silver Pagoda, the Royal Palace, Wat Phnom and the central market. In the afternoon visit the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and the notorious Khmer Rouge "Killing Fields", the graphic nature of this dark period of history may cause distress.

**Day 11 Phnom Penh:** Your tour concludes with a transfer to the airport for your onward journey, or perhaps extend your holiday?

### Why not extend your stay?



#### MEKONG DELTA

After day 6 opt to visit the Mekong? (see page 186).



#### BEACH

Or, after day 6 perhaps extend your stay at Ho Tram or Phan Thiet (see pages 187), Con Dao (see pages 190) or Phu Quoc (see page 191) or before flying home add on time at a Cambodia beach (see pages 198-200).



### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily.

**Meals:** Breakfast. Lunch also included on day 4.

**Tour prices:** The price shown for this privately escorted tour by air-conditioned car is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes international flights, onward domestic flights, private transfers between your hotels, 4★ accommodation, sightseeing as outlined, private services of an English speaking guide and entrance fees.

5★ hotels, extensions and additional excursions available in each destination at a supplement. Please ask for details.

**Note:** Notre Dame cathedral in Ho Chi Minh City is undergoing renovation and maintenance until 2019.



13 night privately escorted tour from  
**£2499**pp

## JOURNEY THROUGH VIETNAM

PRIVATELY ESCORTED TOUR BY AIR-CONDITIONED CAR

glimpse of local Vietnamese life • hands on cooking class in Hoi An • eco lodge stay in Mai Chau

**Day 1:** Fly to Hanoi.

**Day 2 Hanoi:** On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure.

**Day 3 Hanoi:** Begin with a walk along the back roads of Hanoi for a glimpse of local life, followed by a short train trip across the Red river. This afternoon, visit Ho Chi Minh's former residence, the One Pillar Pagoda, the Temple of Literature and the Lake of Restored Sword. A one-hour cycle tour of Hanoi's Old Quarter is a relaxing way to end the day and includes a stop at an ancient Vietnamese "long house." In the evening, you will see a water puppet show.

**Day 4 Hanoi/Mai Chau:** Morning departure for Mai Chau. On arrival, take an afternoon walk around Mai Chau which is home to tribal villages of ethnic minority groups.

**Day 5 Mai Chau/Ninh Binh:** Drive to Pu Luong (approx 2 hours) and on arrival embark on a two hour walk down hill, taking in the views of the paddy fields. After lunch in a local village drive onwards to Ninh Binh.

**Day 6 Ninh Binh:** Morning at leisure before driving to But Cave. After lunch take a sampan ride through the But Cave complex, exploring the dry cave as well as the wet caves. The trip concludes at Thung Nham dock.

**Day 7 Ninh Binh/Halong Bay:** Depart by road for Halong Bay where you will board your boat for a cruise around this huge and magnificently beautiful bay.

**Day 8 Halong Bay/Hoi An:** Disembark and transfer to Hanoi airport for the evening flight to Danang. On arrival drive to Hoi An.



Hoi An

**Day 9 Hoi An:** This morning travel by coach to a local fishing village near the mouth of Thu Bon River to learn about the daily life of Vietnamese fishermen and their families. Later, board the Hoi An Eco-Tour boat and cruise on the Cua Dai River to witness fishing activities and then can try catching fish yourself. The fun really begins as you board a unique Vietnamese bamboo basket boat, grab a paddle and join in a basket boat race on the river!

Continue to explore the Bay Mau tranquil waterways before you row your basket boats back to the Hoi An Eco-Tour boat for a traditional fisherman's lunch. This afternoon is at leisure.

**Day 10 Hoi An:** Morning cooking class at Red Bridge Restaurant before an afternoon walking tour of this wonderful World Heritage Site. Highlights include an ancient merchant house, the Phuc Kien Assembly Hall, the 400-year-old Japanese Covered Bridge and the vibrant riverside market.

**Day 11 Hoi An/Ho Chi Minh City:** Morning at leisure before transferring to the airport and flying onwards to Ho Chi Minh City. Afternoon is free to relax before an evening Vespa tour for an exhilarating view of the city after dark.

**Day 12 Ho Chi Minh City:** Morning visit to the Cu Chi Tunnels, built by Vietnamese guerrillas as hideouts during the Vietnam War. Return to Ho Chi Minh City in the afternoon for a city tour which includes the Reunification Palace, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Saigon Post Office, Chinatown, the Ben Thanh Market and either the Thien Hau Temple or the Quan Am Pagoda.

**Day 13 Ho Chi Minh City/Can Tho:** Travel to Cai Be where you board your boat for a cruise to the Tan Phong islands. Here, you'll take a sampan ride before a walk along small village roads to glimpse local life. Cruise onwards to Vinh Long before disembarking and driving to Can Tho.

**Day 14 Can Tho/Ho Chi Minh City:** Enjoy a morning cruise to the Cai Rang Floating Market with goods from all over the Mekong Delta. Observe the merchants as they trade their produce and perhaps try some of the seasonal fruit. Continue to Ho Chi Minh City.

**Day 15 Ho Chi Minh City:** Morning at leisure before an afternoon drive to the airport where your tour concludes.



Hanoi 2 nights ~ Mai Chau 1 night ~ Ninh Binh 2 nights  
 Halong Bay 1 night ~ Hoi An 3 nights ~ Ho Chi Minh City 2 nights  
 Can Tho 1 night ~ Ho Chi Minh City 1 night

### Why not consider a beach extension?



Phu Quoc

Optional beach stays are available after day 11:  
**Hoi An or Danang** (see page 188 & 189) or before  
**flying home: Ho Tram or Phan Thiet** (see page 187),  
**Con Dao** (see page 190) or **Phu Quoc** (pages 190- 191).

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily

**Meals:** Breakfast. Lunch is also included on days 5, 6, 7, 8, 10, 11 & 14. Dinner is also included on day 5.

**Tour price:** The price shown for this privately escorted tour by air-conditioned car is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes international flights, onward domestic flights where indicated, private transfers between your hotels, 4★ accommodation, all sightseeing as outlined including coach tour on day 8, private services of an English speaking guide and entrance fees.

**Note:** Notre Dame cathedral in Ho Chi Minh City is undergoing renovation and maintenance until 2019.



Hoi An

9 night part-escorted tour from  
**£1599**pp

**SMART CHOICE**



**Hanoi 2 nights ~ Halong Bay cruise 1 night**  
**Hue 2 nights ~ Hoi An 2 nights ~ Ho Chi Minh City 2 nights**

**WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW**

**Departures:** Daily.  
**Meals:** Breakfast. Lunch and dinner also included on day 4.  
**Tour price:** The price shown for this part-escorted tour by air-conditioned car is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes international flights, onward domestic flights, private transfers (some with guide), 4★ accommodation, private sightseeing tours with guide as stated and entrance fees.  
5★ hotels also available at a supplement. Extensions and additional excursions available in each destination as highlighted in itinerary at a supplement. Please ask for details.  
**Note:** Notre Dame cathedral in Ho Chi Minh City is undergoing renovation and maintenance until 2019.

**VIETNAM YOUR WAY**

PART-ESCORTED TOUR BY AIR-CONDITIONED CAR

see all the main cities • free time to explore • optional sightseeing tours and beach extensions

**SMART CHOICE - a completely flexible tour which allows you to choose to book additional guided sightseeing or simply explore under your own steam with the help of our suggestions**

**Day 1:** Fly to Hanoi.  
**Day 2 Hanoi:** On arrival transfer to your hotel. This afternoon take a guided city tour including the Temple of Literature, One Pillar Pagoda, Quan Thanh Temple and Hoan Kiem Lake.  
**Day 3 Hanoi:** At leisure to explore independently. Alternatively, a selection of optional tours are available (additional expense), including a trip to Hoa Lu, an old Vietnamese capital brimming with temples; a half day railways walk to glimpse local life; half day cooking class or a vespa tour to experience Vietnam as the locals do (see page 177).  
**Day 4 Hanoi/Halong Bay:** Morning departure by road to Halong Bay and this afternoon board a wooden sailing junk for an overnight cruise. Magnificent UNESCO World Heritage Listed Halong Bay is a truly stunning bay scattered with over 3,000 limestone islets and cliffs.  
**Day 5 Halong Bay/Hue:** Soak up the enchanting vistas this morning before you disembark and transfer by road to Hanoi. En route visit Phu Lang ceramic village where you can walk around, watch the skilled potters at work and meet the locals. Fly from Hanoi to Hue and on arrival transfer to your hotel.  
**Day 6 Hue:** Morning at leisure in Hue, the former imperial capital of Vietnam. You may prefer to simply relax beside the hotel pool or head out and explore yourself. There are also several optional sightseeing tours available (additional expense), including a vespa tour, combined boat and road tour to Thien Mu and Minh Mang Tomb or perhaps you'd like to visit the home of a city resident and enjoy a hosted lunch. This afternoon, join your guide for a city tour which will include Hue Citadel and the Hue Royal Antiquities Museum.  
**Day 7 Hue/Hoi An:** Morning departure by car to Hoi An via Hai Van Pass. On arrival in Hoi An take an afternoon guided walking tour of this ancient trading town.



Halong Bay

**Day 8 Hoi An:** Full day at leisure. If you're happy to explore under your own steam you'll find lots to see. Once a major port, it boasts grand architecture and a beguiling riverside setting with merchant houses and temples. Optional excursions (additional expense) include historic My Son which dates back to the 3rd century; the chance to cycle through the stunning rural scenes of Kim Bong Village; or a half day cooking class to learn more about Vietnam's delicious cuisine.  
**Day 9 Hoi An/Ho Chi Minh City:** At leisure before you depart by car to Danang Airport and fly onwards to Ho Chi Minh City, formerly known as Saigon. On arrival you will be transferred to your hotel and can enjoy the rest of the day at leisure. This evening, there is the option of a fun-filled vespa tour of this vibrant city (additional expense).  
**Day 10 Ho Chi Minh City:** The day is yours to sightsee and explore at your leisure. If you prefer, optional tours are available (additional expense) and include a full day tour to enjoy the splendour of the Mekong Delta; a half day excursion to the nearby Cu Chi Tunnels, the impressive underground network built by the Vietnamese army; a fascinating cooking class or a half day guided city tour.  
**Day 11 Ho Chi Minh City:** At leisure before you are transferred to the airport for your onward journey.

**Why not extend your stay?**



Phan Thiet

**After day 9 why not add on an optional beach extension in Hoi An?** (see pages 188-189), or before flying home, beach extensions are available in **Ho Tram** or **Phan Thiet** (see page 187), **Con Dao** (see page 190), or **Phu Quoc** (see pages 190-191).



Mekong Delta

13 night privately escorted tour from  
**£2199**pp

## GLIMPSES OF VIETNAM

PRIVATELY ESCORTED TOUR BY AIR-CONDITIONED CAR

captivating cities • Halong Bay and Mekong Delta cruises • optional beach extensions

**Day 1:** Fly to Hanoi.

**Day 2 Hanoi:** On arrival transfer to your hotel, the rest of the day is at leisure. Why not book an evening Vespa Tour (see page 177).

**Day 3 Hanoi:** Begin with a walk along Hanoi's back streets for a true glimpse of city life and then enjoy a short train ride across the Red River. This afternoon, visit Ho Chi Minh's former residence, the One Pillar Pagoda, the Temple of Literature and the Lake of Restored Sword. A cyclo tour of the Old Quarter is a relaxing way to end the day and includes a stop at an ancient Vietnamese "long house". In the evening see a water puppet show.

**Day 4 Hanoi/Halong Bay:** Drive to Halong Bay (approx 125 miles/4 hours drive) and board a wooden sailing junk for a cruise among the hundreds of islets of Halong Bay.

**Day 5 Halong Bay/Hanoi:** Spend the morning cruising through the emerald waters of Halong Bay. Disembark at noon and en route to Hanoi, stop at a ceramic factory.

**Day 6 Hanoi/Hue:** Morning transfer to the airport for your flight to Hue. On arrival enjoy time at leisure.

**Day 7 Hue:** Once the capital of Vietnam, a city of pagodas, temples and royal tombs; enjoy a boat trip to Thien Mu Pagoda and tour the ancient Royal Citadel. This afternoon visit the tombs of Emperor Khai Dinh and Emperor Tu Duc.

**Day 8 Hue/Hoi An:** Drive to Hoi An (approx 90 miles/4 hours drive). En route you will stop in Danang to visit the Cham Museum and Marble Mountain, arriving in Hoi An later afternoon.

**Day 9 Hoi An:** Visit a family-run business making lantern, and design your own lantern before setting out on a walking tour to explore this World Heritage Site. Highlights include ancient merchants' houses, the Phuc Kien Assembly Hall, the 400-year-old Japanese Covered Bridge and riverside market.



Hanoi

**Day 10 Hoi An/Ho Chi Minh City:** Morning at leisure before you transfer to Danang airport for your flight to Ho Chi Minh City. The rest of the day is free to relax.

**Day 11 Ho Chi Minh City:** This morning drive to the Cu Chi Tunnels (approx 45 miles/1½ hours drive), used by the Vietnamese army as living quarters, hospitals and escape routes, with an option to join a guide to explore a short stretch of the tunnels. This afternoon visit the Reunification Palace, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office, Chinatown, either the Thien Hau Temple or the Quan Am Pagoda and the Ben Thanh Market.

**Day 12 Ho Chi Minh City/Mekong Delta cruise:** Depart by road for Cai Be (approx 70 miles/2½ hours drive) and board the Bassac riverboat. Cruise to Cho Lach where you stop for a brief walking tour. Dock at Tra On with an overnight stay on board.

**Day 13 Mekong Delta/Ho Chi Minh City:** Early morning cruise to the bustling floating market at Cai Rang. Disembark at Can Tho and explore the local market before driving back to Ho Chi Minh City.

**Day 14 Ho Chi Minh City:** Full day at leisure.

**Day 15 Ho Chi Minh City:** Transfer to the airport for your onward journey, or alternatively extend your holiday?



Hanoi 2 nights ~ Halong Bay cruise 1 night  
 Hanoi 1 night ~ Hue 2 nights ~ Hoi An 2 nights  
 Ho Chi Minh City 2 nights ~ Mekong Delta cruise 1 night  
 Ho Chi Minh City 2 nights

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily.

**Meals:** Breakfast. Lunch and dinner also included on days 4 and 11

**Tour price:** The price shown for this private tour by air-conditioned car is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes international flights, onward domestic flights, private transfers between your hotels, 3★ accommodation, private services of an English speaking guide, sightseeing as outlined and entrance fees.

**Note:** Notre Dame cathedral in Ho Chi Minh City is undergoing renovation and maintenance until 2019.

4★ and 5★ hotels also available at a supplement. Extensions and additional day and overnight excursions available in each destination at a supplement. Please ask for details.

### Why not extend your stay?



Con Dao

After day 10 why not add on an optional beach extension in Hoi An? (see pages 188-189), or before flying home, beach extensions are available in Ho Tram or Phan Thiet (see page 187), Con Dao (see page 190), or Phu Quoc (see pages 190-191).



Ho Chi Minh

11 night small group tour  
from **£2597** pp



Hanoi 2 nights ~ Ninh Binh 1 night  
Halong Bay cruise 1 night

Hue 2 nights ~ Hoi An 2 nights ~ Ho Chi Minh City 3 nights

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Tour operates on fixed departure dates. Please ask for details.

**Accommodation:** Chi Boutique, Hanoi; Tam Coc Garden Resort, Ninh Binh; Emeraude Classic cruise, Halong Bay; Eco Lodge, Hue; Maison Vy, Hoi An; Fusion Suites Saigon, Ho Chi Minh City.

**Meals:** Breakfast. Lunch also included on days 4-5, 7 & 11-12 and dinner also included on days 2-3, 5, 7-8, 10 & 12.

**Tour price:** The price shown for this escorted small group tour with Back-Roads Touring by air-conditioned premium mini-coach is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes international flights, onward domestic flights, private transfers on arrival and departure, accommodation and meals as outlined, sightseeing tours with guide as stated and entrance fees.

**Note:** The tour operates with a minimum of 4 passengers and maximum of 14. Luggage is restricted to one suitcase (up to 20kg) and one small carry-on bag per person.

A variety of additional tours with Back-Roads Touring are also available. Please ask for details.



## FLAVOURS OF VIETNAM

ESCORTED SMALL GROUP TOUR IN A PREMIUM MINI-COACH WITH BACK-ROADS TOURING

scenic back roads avoiding motorways • boutique hotels • authentic local experiences

**Day 1:** Fly to Hanoi.

**Day 2 Hanoi:** On arrival you will be met and transferred to your hotel. Join the rest of your group for an evening of Vietnamese cuisine together.

**Day 3 Hanoi:** Your guide will lead you through Hanoi today, where you will see the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, the Temple of Literature and the Imperial Citadel of Thang Long. In the city's Old Quarter, join a family who produce traditional papier-mache masks and this evening feast on street food as you tour the stalls and sample some of the local delicacies.

**Day 4 Hanoi/Ninh Binh:** Travel to the beautiful Ninh Binh Province where you'll take a short boat trip through the Van Long Nature Reserve, which is surrounded by breathtaking landscapes and rolling jungle hills. After a cooking demonstration and traditional lunch with a local family, you'll transfer to your hotel and enjoy an afternoon at leisure.

**Day 5 Ninh Binh/Halong Bay:** This morning's journey takes you through lush rural scenery to Halong Bay where you board a traditional paddle steamer for an overnight cruise. After a stop off at the Sung Sot Grotto, return to the boat for a delicious dinner.

**Day 6 Halong Bay/Hue:** Enjoy breakfast on board the boat before time to relax and explore. Later, catch a flight to the imperial city of Hue.

**Day 7 Hue:** After a free morning you'll explore Hue's famous royal tombs and the illustrious examples of grand dynasties past: the garden houses. Before lunch, take a boat trip on the Perfume River and visit the tombs of Emperors Khai Dinh (143 steps) and Ming Mang. This evening, dine at the 19th century Tha Om Garden House, which is owned by a local historian.

**Day 8 Hue/Hoi An:** Visit the Cham Museum before travelling along the Han Vai Pass to Hoi An.

This afternoon, take a walking tour before hopping on a boat trip along the Thu Bon River followed by an evening of delicious street food.

**Day 9 Hoi An:** You'll have the opportunity to learn the craft of coloured silk lanterns at the Lifestart Foundation, a local social enterprise.

**Day 10 Hoi An/Ho Chi Minh City:** Relax this morning before flying to Ho Chi Minh City. After heading to the magnificent Opera House to see the spectacular A O Show - a fusion of Vietnamese culture and performance art - you'll end the day with a culinary feast.

**Day 11 Ho Chi Minh City:** Today's journey begins with a ride to Cho Lon Chinatown, where you'll hop on board a cyclo to take in the Cha Tam Church and the Chua Ong Pagoda. After a chance to see a traditional herbal medicine street and stock up on herbal teas, visit the Reunification Palace, before lunch at Mandarine restaurant. The remainder of the day is at leisure.

**Day 12 Ho Chi Minh City:** Embark on a journey to the Cu Chi Tunnels, a strategic operation base during the Vietnam War. This evening, gather with your fellow travellers for a final street eats adventure.

**Day 13 Ho Chi Minh City:** At leisure before you are transferred to the airport for your onward journey.

### Why not extend your stay?



Phu Quoc

Alternatively, before flying home, beach extensions are available in **Ho Tram** or **Phan Thiet** (see page 187), **Con Dao** (see page 190), or **Phu Quoc** (see pages 190-191).



Ninh Binh



12 night river cruise & stay from **£2399**pp

## HO CHI MINH CITY TO SIEM REAP CRUISE

HERITAGE LINE JAYAVARMAN RIVER CRUISE

Heritage Line's Jayavarman is a 20th century luxury boutique-style period river cruiser combining French colonial design with enchanting Indochine architecture. On board facilities include an open air lounge, spa and free wifi, dining room, bar, pool and 27 expansive en suite cabins each with private balcony.

**Day 1:** Fly to Ho Chi Minh City.

**Day 2 Ho Chi Minh City:** On arrival transfer to your hotel.

**Day 3 Ho Chi Minh City:** Day at leisure to explore independently.

**Day 4 Ho Chi Minh City/Cai Be:** Travel by road to My Tho where you will board the Jayavarman.

**Day 5 Cai Be/Chau Doc:** Why not begin your day with Tai Chi on deck before visiting Cai Be's colourful market. Admire scenic landscapes as the ship cruises to Sa Dec and on arrival, board a sampan to tour Binh Thanh Island and its man-made canals. Here every villager is involved in the process of growing and processing water hyacinths into natural fibre floor mats and rattan baskets.

**Day 6 Chau Doc/Phnom Penh:** Board local vehicles called 'xeloi' to explore Chau Doc, near the Cambodian border. Visit the local market before travelling by boat to the floating villages and rustic fish farms. By mid-afternoon, the ship makes its way to the border for Phnom Penh.

**Day 7 Phnom Penh:** Visit the dazzling white and gold edifice of the Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda, then witness exceptionally beautiful Khmer craft at the National Museum, followed by lunch at a local restaurant. Continue to the Genocide Museum and Killing Fields, for a stark reminder of the dark days of the Khmer Rouge regime.

**Day 8 Phnom Penh/Kampong Chhnang:** Depart for Kampong Tralach and the Tonle River, which glides through leafy swathes of jungle. This afternoon, approach Kampong Chhnang, Cambodia's 'water world' where everything is on stilts. Travel by road to visit the Khmer-styled pottery at the Aundaung Russey village, before an adventurous excursion to the wetlands, floating houses and fish farms in the region. Moor near Phnom Penh.

**Day 9 Kampong Chhnang/Kampong Cham:** Early morning departure with a stop at the little known Silk Weaving Village. Cruise past tranquil Mekong villages, before an afternoon tour of rural Angkor Ban village where time has stood still. Cruise to Kampong Cham.

**Day 10 Wat Hanchey/Kampong Cham:** Travel by road to the pre-Angkorian temple of Wat Hanchey. Located at the top of a hill overlooking the river, it offers

one of the most breathtaking views in Cambodia. Return to the ship to witness a blessing ceremony performed by orange-clad local monks. Cruise towards Kampong Cham to visit Wat Nokor, which is built within the ruins of an ancient temple which holds a timeless story.

**Day 11 Kampong Cham/Siem Reap:** Disembark this morning and travel by coach to Siem Reap, home to the fabled Angkor temple complex. Transfer to your hotel.

**Days 12-13 Siem Reap:** At leisure to further explore the Angkor temples, the bustling town or simply relax.

**Day 14 Siem Reap:** At leisure before an onward drive to Siem Reap airport where your tour concludes. Alternatively, why not extend your stay with an optional beach stay (see pages 198-200).



Superior cabin

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** On selected Wednesdays.

**Accommodation:** 2 nights at Caravelle, Ho Chi Minh City; 7 nights on The Jayavarman in a superior cabin; 3 nights at Heritage Suites, Siem Reap.

**Meals:** Breakfast in hotels. Full board with free flow of mineral water, soft drinks, juices, tea, coffee, local beer & house wine by the glass with meals on the cruise.

**Tour price:** The price shown is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes international flights, private airport transfers in Ho Chi Minh City and Siem Reap, accommodation as shown and sightseeing as outlined.

*Itinerary may be subject to change due to water levels. Shorter 3 and 4 night cruises are also available.*



**Ho Chi Minh City** 2 nights ~ **Cai Be** 1 night  
**Chau Doc** 1 night ~ **Phnom Penh** 2 nights  
**Kampong Chhnang** 1 night ~ **Kampong Cham** 2 nights  
**Siem Reap** 3 nights

The same itinerary is also available on Heritage Line's flagship **The Jahan**.

Alternatively, why not consider a Pandaw river cruise?



12 night river cruise & stay from **£2249**pp

## CLASSIC MEKONG CRUISE

PANDAW RIVER CRUISE

We also offer the Classic Mekong itinerary with Pandaw Cruises whose voyages are all about exploring remote and often hard-to-navigate rivers in specially-designed handcrafted small ships. On board the atmosphere is informal and very friendly.

On this voyage, cruise from Ho Chi Minh city through the vast Mekong Delta visiting My Tho, Sa Dec and Chau Doc. Continue into Cambodia with a full day in charming Phnom Penh, then up the Tonle River to Kratie for an excursion to see Mekong dolphins. Finally, progress to the great monuments of Angkor.

The price shown includes 2 nights pre-cruise at Caravelle Ho Chi Minh City, 7 nights aboard the MV Mekong Pandaw or RV Tonle Pandaw, 3 nights post-cruise at Heritage Suites Siem Reap, international flights, private airport transfers, entrance fees, full board during cruise with local drinks and gratuities to crew.

A choice of upstream and downstream itineraries are also available. Please ask for itinerary details.

# HALONG BAY



Both mystical and magnificent, UNESCO World Heritage listed Halong Bay is truly stunning.

One of the natural wonders of the world, this huge bay encompasses some 579 square miles of indigo sea which is scattered with over 3,000 limestone islets and cliffs, almost all of them uninhabited. Oddly shaped rocky outcrops jut dramatically from the emerald blue waters and create a rather surreal, yet enchanting vista. Several islands boast beautiful grottos and caves while the waters are also host to coral reefs, freshwater swamp forests, mangrove forests, small lakes and sandy beaches.

By far the best way to tour, see and appreciate the sheer beauty of the bay is aboard a junk boat or boutique ship to cruise around the islands and our favourite itineraries are highlighted below. A cruise also offers the opportunity to visit one or more of the floating villages, usually by smaller bamboo rowing boat, for a glimpse of traditional Vietnamese life. These true water worlds that rise and fall with the tides are often home to many generations, with fishing the main source of income.



**Getting there:** Hanoi is the nearest large city to Halong Bay and the road journey takes about 3½ hours.

**Best time to go:** Halong Bay has two main seasons: hot with sporadic rain from April-October and cooler from November-March. However, while swimming in the Bay is better in the hot season, it's exceptionally scenic year round.

Around the bay there are countless places to visit for swimming, fishing, kayaking and snorkelling. Additionally, popular Cat Ba Island, a national park and part of the Cat Ba archipelago, offers trekking and cycling as well as wildlife to spot. A selection of our favourite itineraries and vessels are shown, however alternatives are also available. All cruise itineraries, excursions and schedules are subject to change due to weather, tide levels and operating conditions.



1 night cruise from  
**£239**pp

## INDOCHINA SAILS 1 NIGHT CRUISE

traditional wooden junks for a nostalgic sailing experience • choice of cabins • traditional style and ambience

**Day 1 Hanoi/Halong Bay:** Travel by road to Tuan Chau Port for an early afternoon embarkation of the Indochina Sails. Enjoy lunch as you set sail through Halong Bay passing beautiful areas such as Incense Burner and Dog Stone Islet. Late afternoon arrive at Surprise Cave, one of the most spectacular and largest grottoes of the bay and, should you wish to explore, the mouth of the grotto is reached by ascending about 100 stone steps. Set sail for the overnight anchor point and perhaps attend the fruit and vegetable carving lesson from the head chef before you dine. Evening activities include massages, a variety of board games and squid fishing, or perhaps enjoy Happy Hour at the bar (9-11 pm) where it's buy one drink and get another free (wine by the bottle excluded).

**Day 2 Halong Bay/Hanoi:** Early morning tea, coffee and pastries are served before a 30 minute Tai Chi lesson on the sundeck. Later this morning, you are transferred by tender to Titov Island, where you have an hour to climb to the peak for breathtaking 360 degree views of the bay. There is also an expansive viewing deck half way, should you not wish to climb to the top. Afterwards, there is time to relax on the beach or have a swim before returning to the ship for a full breakfast. Relax on the sundeck soaking up the last of the extraordinary bay scenery as the ship approaches the pier. Disembarkation is around 11 am and you will then be transferred by road back to Hanoi.



Deluxe cabin

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily

**Meals:** Full board.

**The ship:** Indochina Sails junks are built entirely of aged wood and incorporate traditional style and modern facilities, yet retaining a nostalgic ambience. There are large sundecks with comfortable lounging furniture, elegant dining room and a bar as well as contemporary, spacious cabins.

**Features:** 6 ships offering between 14-23 cabins • dining room • bar • massage cabin • sundeck

**Accommodation:** In superior cabins with shower, mini fridge and safe.

**Upgrade options:** Deluxe cabins, which have French windows leading to a balcony • larger suites which also have a bath and separate shower

**Tour price:** The price shown is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes private transfers from and to your Hanoi hotel, sightseeing as shown and one night in a superior cabin on Indochina Sails.



1 night cruise from  
**£339**pp

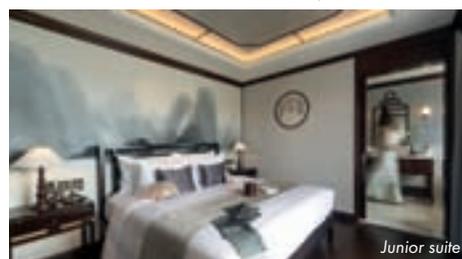
## HERITAGE LINE GINGER JUNK - HIDDEN WORLDS

1 NIGHT CRUISE

serene waters of Lan Ha Bay • village visit to meet the locals • all-suite vessel each with a balcony

**Day 1 Hanoi/Lan Ha Bay:** Travel by road to Hai Phong to board Ginger Junk, which sets sail around noon. Start your unique journey exploring Lan Ha Bay, a little known extension of Halong Bay, which stretches all around the eastern coast line. Relax on the sun deck, take a plunge in the pool or visit the spa to combine a relaxing treatment with dramatic outlooks. Disembark at Viet Hai Village on Cat Ba Island where you hop on bikes (electric car also available) for tour along small paved roads towards a village nestled in the valley. Here, you'll meet locals as they go about their daily work, see their homes and the village school. Return to the ship for an interactive cooking class in the open kitchen at the restaurant, before the ship reaches it's anchor point and dinner is served. Afterwards, kick back with a drink or watch a film at the cinema.

**Day 2 Lan Ha Bay/Hanoi:** Wake early and join the Tai Chi session on the sun deck, which is sure to ease mind and muscles as the first rays of the sun touch the water. After coffee and pastries, Ginger sets sail for Tra Bau, a secluded spot where you travel by kayak or bamboo boat for a closer view of the bay. Paddling through this dreamlike landscape with tree-topped islands is an unforgettable experience. Back on board, a hearty breakfast is served and the journey begins back to the pier where you arrive at around 11am. Disembark at Hai Phong and transfer by road to Hanoi.



Junior suite



Terrace deck

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily.

**Meals:** Full board.

**The ship:** Ginger Junk is Heritage Line's new vessel and boasts Indochinese-Vietnamese design with contemporary accents. With just three decks, this elegant all suite vessel features warm timber floors, an almost 360-degree light-flooded restaurant with an alfresco dining area. The pool is surrounded by comfortable shaded sunbeds, from which the views are spectacular.

**Features:** 12 suites • restaurant • bar • swimming pool • spa • library lounge

**Accommodation:** In main deck junior suites with bath and separate shower, mini bar, safe, lounge area and balcony.

**Upgrade options:** upper deck signature suites • larger regent suites with a jacuzzi

**Tour price:** The price shown is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes private transfers from and to your Hanoi hotel, sightseeing as shown and one night in a junior suite.



2 night cruise from  
**£499**pp

## THE AU CO

2 NIGHTS CRUISE

longer cruise to explore this UNESCO World Heritage site • choice of cabins • diverse range of activities

**Day 1 Hanoi/Halong Bay:** Travel by road to Halong Bay to board The Au Co, the most refined vessel in the Gulf of Tonkin and the first of its kind to offer a three day cruise to explore three bays. The voyage begins with lunch while the ship cruises leisurely southwest. Visit Cua Van floating fishing village by kayak or traditional rowing boat before returning to the ship. Join an exciting "Master-Chef Competition" and fruit carving demonstration as the sunsets over the enchanting bay. As the ship anchors for the night, dinner is served in the restaurant, after which you can watch a movie or perhaps try your hand at squid fishing.

**Day 2 Lan Ha Bay:** Early risers may wish to join a Tai Chi class on the sundeck which is a great way to start the day. Enjoy breakfast as the Au Co cruises through the bay, passing beautiful spots, so keep your camera at the ready! Arrive at a local island, where a pretty small village nestles

for you to explore by bike with a guide. Visit ancient houses and Bhaya Community Farm for an insight into agricultural life. Return to the ship for lunch and time to relax before the chance to kayak and discover sandy beaches in the Ho Ba Ham area. This evening there's a barbecue on the sundeck.

**Day 3 Halong Bay/Hanoi:** A further chance to join the Tai Chi lesson or simply watch the stunning sunrise on the bay. After an early breakfast discover Tien Ong Cave, which is also an archaeological site with amazing stalactites and stalgmities. Return to ship for a traditional Vietnamese tea ceremony while the ship returns to port and a mid-morning disembarkation. Transfer by road back to Hanoi.



Deluxe cabin

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily.

**Meals:** Full board.

**The ship:** The Au Co is a luxury ship with four decks that fuses modern Asian design with a French elegance. The numerous activities, the culinary experiences and on board atmosphere will suit active travellers or those seeking relaxation.

**Features:** 32 cabins • restaurant • bar • spa room • jacuzzi • sundeck • library • open-air cinema • free WiFi on the terrace deck

**Accommodation:** In main deck deluxe cabins with shower, fridge, safe and balcony.

**Upgrade options:** upper deck executive cabins • grand deluxe cabins (no balcony) • suites

**Tour price:** The price shown is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes private transfers from and to your Hanoi hotel, sightseeing as shown, a wide range of activities and two nights in a deluxe cabin.

## VIETNAM SIDE TRIPS



1 night river cruise  
from **£299**pp

### MEKONG DELTA CRUISE 1 NIGHT RIVER CRUISE

riverside life • floating market • walking tour

**Day 1 Ho Chi Minh City/Tra On:** Early morning private transfer by road to Cai Be. Upon arrival embark on the riverboat Bassac and cruise to Cho Lach whilst enjoying lunch onboard. As the Bassac slips into the Cho Lach Canal there's a unique opportunity to glimpse the very varied life on the banks as well as on the water itself. Enjoy a brief walking tour with a Bassac guide into the countryside, with a stop at a farm for fruit and tea. Return to the boat and perhaps sit back with a drink whilst enjoying the sunset. Dinner is served whilst the boat makes its way to Tra On where it will set anchor for the night.

**Day 2 Tra On/Ho Chi Minh City:** Early this morning the ship cruises past Tra On floating market, where locals congregate on a daily basis to sell their agricultural produce, before continuing towards Can Tho City. On arrival explore the colourful and bustling floating market at Cai Rang before disembarking. Private transfer by road to Ho Chi Minh City.



#### BASSAC BOATS

This Mekong Delta journey will be aboard one of the three Bassac boats; each are built of wood in the style of a traditional rice barge. Bassac I is 24 metres long and has two passenger decks with 6 cabins; Bassac II is 32 metres long, with two passenger decks and 10 cabins; Bassac III is also 32 metres long, has two passenger decks and 12 cabins. On board features include a dining room, bar, lounge (Bassac II and III only) and sundeck.

#### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily.

**Accommodation:** In air-conditioned cabins with bathroom.

**Meals:** Full board.

**Tour price:** The price shown is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes private transfers as outlined, sightseeing as outlined and one night on a Bassac boat. Itineraries may vary.



Hoan Kiem Lake



Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum

3 night independent tour from  
**£229**pp

### HO CHI MINH CITY

3 NIGHT INDEPENDENT TOUR WITH PRIVATE TRANSFERS BY AIR-CONDITIONED CAR

city sights • French Quarter • bustling markets

**Day 1 Ho Chi Minh City:** On arrival you will be transferred to your hotel.

**Days 2-3 Ho Chi Minh City:** Two full days in this fast-paced, thriving metropolis. The city's central area, District One, has most of the main shops, restaurants, bars and tourist attractions along with the original French Quarter. The more sedate District Three offers more colonial architecture, parks and wide boulevards while District Five incorporates Chinatown. Highlights in the city include Notre Dame Cathedral, the Reunification Palace, the Jade Emperor Pagoda and the 18th century Thien Hau Temple. No visit to the city is complete without a visit to the extraordinary Cu Chi Tunnels, located just over an hour's drive away. This labyrinth of narrow tunnels stretch for over 120 miles and were used as hideouts by the Vietnamese army during the war.

**Day 4 Ho Chi Minh City:** Your tour concludes.



#### CARAVELLE SAIGON

5★

Since 1959, Caravelle Saigon has been Ho Chi Minh City's landmark address. Combining French and Vietnamese architecture the property features 335 rooms and suites, a secluded free form swimming pool, fitness centre, spa and 7 restaurants and bars, including the iconic Saigon Saigon Rooftop Bar and Vietnam's first Champagne Corner. Spacious rooms and suites feature full-height windows allowing you to absorb the dramatic cityscape or Opera House views.

#### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily.

**Accommodation:** In deluxe rooms at Caravelle Saigon which feature bath/shower and safe.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Tour price:** The price shown is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes private transfers to and from the hotel and accommodation. Upgraded rooms and day excursions available at a supplement.

**Note:** Notre Dame cathedral in Ho Chi Minh City is undergoing renovation and maintenance until 2019.



3 night independent tour from  
**£389**pp

### HANOI

3 NIGHT INDEPENDENT TOUR WITH PRIVATE TRANSFERS BY AIR-CONDITIONED CAR

ornate temples • colonial buildings • Old Quarter

**Day 1 Hanoi:** On arrival you will be transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure to begin your explorations or perhaps enjoy time to laze poolside.

**Days 2-3 Hanoi:** Two full days to soak up the engaging atmosphere and wander the array of broad boulevards which house elaborate temples, ornate pagodas, glistening lakes and colonial buildings. Hoan Kiem Lake is the centrepiece of the city and within a short stroll of the bustling Old Quarter, a congested district where everything spills out onto pavements. The grand tree-lined boulevards and majestic buildings of the French Quarter are a welcome diversion and where you'll also find numerous shops and restaurants. In the Ba Dinh District you'll find the imposing Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, the city's most visited site and one of Vietnam's most revered places. Other sights include the One Pillar Pagoda, Ho Chi Minh Museum and the venerable Temple of Literature.

**Day 4 Hanoi:** Your tour concludes.



#### SOFITEL LEGEND METROPOLE

5★ LUXURY

This French colonial-style hotel has been a celebrated landmark since the turn of the last century and is an oasis of charm. It's perfectly located for Hanoi's fascinating Old Quarter with easy access to Hanoi Opera House and nearby Hoan Kiem Lake and offers 364 rooms and suites together with a choice of restaurants and bars, a swimming pool, a luxurious spa, complimentary WiFi and a unique Path of History Tour. Premium Opera Wing rooms have elegantly finished timber floors and high tech fittings.

#### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily.

**Accommodation:** In premium Opera Wing rooms at Sofitel Legend Metropole with bath/shower, mini bar and safe.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Tour price:** The price shown is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes accommodation as shown and private transfers to and from your hotel.



SMART CHOICE

Garden view bungalow

10 nts with flights from **£999**pp  
extra night from **£29**pp



## HO TRAM BEACH BOUTIQUE RESORT & SPA

4★ Ho Tram

**SMART CHOICE - 5★ location on a delightfully secluded beach and superb accommodation options, particularly the beachfront bungalows where sunsets can be enjoyed from the veranda**

This charming resort resides along a stretch of unspoilt beach on Vietnam's southern coast against a backdrop of blue seas and rich garden landscapes. Boasting a variety of uniquely designed bungalows and villas showcasing authentic Vietnamese architecture, each has a choice of sea or garden view.

**Features:** 92 rooms, bungalows & pool villas • restaurant • bars • 2 swimming pools (one salt water) • jacuzzi • spa • tennis • weekly cooking class • free shuttle to local towns • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In garden view rooms in the boutique two storey building with bath or shower, mini bar, safe and balcony.

**Room upgrades:** Deluxe garden view bungalows from £3 • sea view bungalows with separate bath and private garden from £16 • beachfront bungalows from £22 • beachfront suites from £72.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Private transfers:** 2 hours from Ho Chi Minh City airport.

### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**6 for 5 & 10 for 8:** On selected dates between Aug-Oct 18 & May-Oct 19.

**10 for 9 & 14 for 12:** 01 Nov-21 Dec 18, 10 Jan-05 Feb, 11 Feb-31 Mar & 01 Nov-21 Dec 19.

**Early booking 10% room discount:** On selected dates between Sep 18-Oct 19.

**FREE kayaking on Lotus Lagoon:** Every Wednesday.

**FREE yoga & meditation class:** Every Wednesday & Sunday.

**Fishing just for fun:** Every Sunday at Lotus Lagoon.



Deluxe garden view bungalow



7 nts with flights from **£989**pp  
extra night from **£37**pp

## BLUE OCEAN RESORT

4★ Phan Thiet

On the lovely white sands of charming Mui Ne surrounded by gardens and shady coconut palms. A stroll from local restaurants and bars, this hotel is ideal for a great value beach holiday or combined with a tour.

**Features:** 84 rooms • beach restaurant & bar • coffee shop • swimming pool • day spa • watersports

**Accommodation:** In standard rooms with shower, mini bar, safe and balcony or terrace.

**Room upgrades:** Larger superior rooms overlooking the gardens or reflection pond from £6 • more spacious garden view bungalows from £13 • sea view bungalows with outside bath and sun loungers from £31 • family bungalows which offer two bedrooms and two bathrooms from £8 (based on 4 adults sharing).

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Private transfers:** 4 hours from Ho Chi Minh Airport.

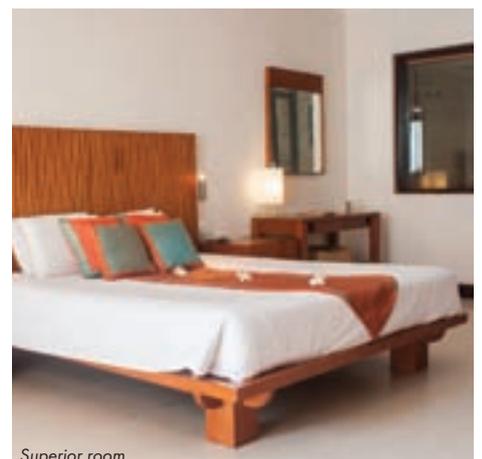
### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**5 for 4, 10 for 8 & 15 for 12:** Aug-Oct 18 & May-Oct 19.

**14 for 12:** Nov 18-Apr & Nov-Dec 19.

**Early booking 10% room discount:** On selected dates between Nov 18-Oct 19.



Superior room

## VIETNAM BEACH RESORTS



8 nts with flights from **£1199** pp  
extra night from **£56** pp

### BOUTIQUE HOI AN RESORT

4★ Hoi An

This charming colonial resort lies on a beautiful stretch of An Bang Beach, just five minutes drive from Hoi An town. A large swimming pool, surrounded by gardens, forms the centrepiece of the resort and next to the pool is the spa, a haven for pure relaxation and rejuvenation. Rooms offer a mixture of both modern and colonial design either in the main hotel building facing the sea, overlooking the pool and gardens or in smaller clusters within the grounds. Additionally, there are a choice of beachfront villas, some with a private pool. A highly recommended hidden gem.

**Features:** 112 rooms & villas • restaurant • 3 bars • swimming pool • spa • steam room • gym • cooking class • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In garden seafacing rooms with bath or shower, mini bar, safe and balcony or terrace.

**Room upgrades:** Premier deluxe rooms from £13

- larger ground floor boutique deluxe rooms from £52
- two bed beach villas, on the beach with a large terrace from £20 (based on 4 adults sharing). One bed pool and three bed grand beach villa with pool also available.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Private transfers:** 35 minutes from Danang airport.

#### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**8 for 7:** Aug 18-Oct 19. Free nights can be multiplied.

**7% room discounts:** On selected dates Sep-Oct 18, May-Jun & Sep-Oct 19.

**Spa, food & beverage and laundry discounts:** If you stay at least 5 nights. Receive 10% food & beverage discount, 25% spa treatment discount and 30% laundry discount.

**FREE shuttle to Hoi An town.**



Premier deluxe room



8 nts with flights from **£1199** pp  
extra night from **£56** pp

### PALM GARDEN BEACH RESORT & SPA

4★ PLUS Hoi An

Set on 12 acres of landscaped gardens in an enviable beach location, this award-winning resort provides a wide variety of leisure activities and guest accommodation. At the Terrace Cafe both traditional Vietnamese and international cuisine can be enjoyed; alternatively drink in the gorgeous ocean views while you dine at the Colibri Beach Restaurant. If you wish to totally unwind during your stay then why not indulge with a massage or therapy at the Palm Spa.

**Features:** 216 rooms • 3 restaurants • 2 bars • swimming pool • spa • sauna & steam room • tennis • gym

• watersports • bicycle rentals • beach activities • billiards and snooker • children's club • cooking classes • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In superior garden view rooms with bath/shower, mini bar, safe and balcony/terrace.

**Room upgrades:** Superior sea view rooms from £4

- larger deluxe garden view rooms from £9
- deluxe sea view rooms from £22 • garden and pool view bungalows which have an open-air bath from £38.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Private transfers:** 30 minutes from Danang airport.

**Note:** The beach can be subject to erosion at certain times of the year.

#### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**8 for 7:** Aug 18-Dec 19. Free nights can be multiplied.

**Early booking room discounts:** On selected dates between Sep 18-Dec 19.

**FREE shuttle to Hoi An town.**

**50% body massage discount:** One per person per stay.



Superior garden view room



6 nts with flights from **£1949** pp  
extra night from **£269** pp

## FOUR SEASONS RESORT, THE NAM HAI

5★LUXURY Hoi An

This stunning all villa resort sits on a kilometre-stretch of Ha My beach amid lush landscapes. Sleek minimalist villas combine stylish beachside living with easy access to three dazzling UNESCO sites: Hoi An Ancient Town, the Imperial City of Hue and My Son's temple sanctuary. Experience local heritage in the Cooking Academy and at the Heart of the Earth Spa; try thrilling watersports; lounge by three pools or chill on daybeds at the Beach Bar. Tennis, exquisite dining, a great children's club and nearby golf help make this an exceptional resort for all ages.

**Features:** 100 villas • 2 restaurants • bar • beach bar • 3 swimming pools (two for adults only) • cooking academy • UNESCO excursions • tennis • bicycles • health club • spa • watersports • free shuttle to Hoi An • children's club (4-12 years) • onsite herb & vegetable garden • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In one bedroom villas with bath and separate shower, mini bar, safe, lounge area and private garden with outdoor shower.

**Room upgrades:** One bedroom beachfront villas from £89 which are one or two rows from the beach • one-five bedroom pool villas from £168 which offer a living and dining area, private swimming pool, return airport transfers from Danang, butler service, premium internet, complimentary use of health club and other selected sports and recreational facilities.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Private transfers:** 30 minutes from Danang airport.



One bedroom villa



### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**3 for 2:** 01 Sep-22 Dec 18.

**4 for 3:** 01-31 Aug 18 & 07 Jan-31 Mar 19.

Free nights can be multiplied.

**Early booking room discounts up to 25%:** On selected dates Sep 18-Dec 19. Minimum stay may also apply.

**One FREE dinner** (for two): 01 Aug-22 Dec 18 & 07 Jan-31 Mar 19 if you stay at least 6 nights.

**FREE 60 minute massage** (for two): 01 Aug-22 Dec 18 & 07 Jan-22 Dec 19 if you stay 6 nights (7 nights from 01 Apr).

**FREE UK airport lounge:** For all bookings made at this property - see page 7 for details.



Pool villa

7 nts with flights from **£2165** pp  
extra night from **£199** pp

## FUSION MAIA DA NANG

5★LUXURY Danang

Resting on one of the world's most beautiful beaches, My Khe Beach, Fusion Maia Da Nang is a unique all pool villa resort with an intimate boutique feel where all spa treatments are included. Fusion Maia Da Nang is dedicated to relaxation and is perfect for those looking to escape amidst spectacular surroundings and a chic atmosphere. Your gourmet breakfast is served any time any place - on the beach, by the pool, in one of the restaurants or even at the Fusion Cafe in the heart of Hoi An, just 25 minutes away.

**Features:** 87 pool villas • 3 restaurants • bar • 2 swimming pools (one infinity) • gym • library • inclusive spa with 22 treatment rooms, jacuzzi, steam rooms, saunas and yoga studio with qualified yoga instructors • complimentary wellness activities such as yoga, meditation and Tai Chi with Natural Living Programme • Mini Maia children's club with daily supervised activities (2-4pm) • regular events and surprise pop ups • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In pool villas with bath and separate shower, open plan living room, mini bar, iPod, safe and private pool within an intimate garden.

**Room upgrades:** Two bedroom spa villas which have a kitchenette from nil (based on 4 adults sharing) • Three bedroom grand beach villas from nil (based on 6 adults sharing).

**Meals:** Breakfast any time any place.

**Private transfers:** 15 minutes from Danang airport.



### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**7 for 5:** On selected dates between Oct18-Feb 19.

**7 for 6:** On selected dates between Aug 18-Oct 19.

Free nights can be multiplied.

**Early booking room discounts up to 10%:** On selected dates between Sep 18-Oct 19.

**Guaranteed two spa treatments** (per person per day).

**Gourmet breakfast served any time any place:** Includes Fusion Cafe in Hoi An.

**FREE shuttle to Fusion Cafe in Hoi An.**

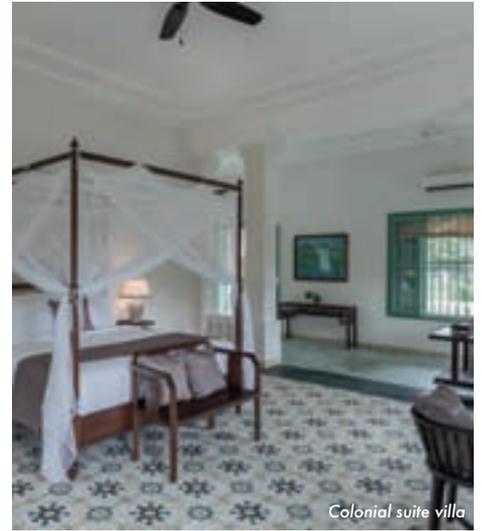
**FREE UK airport lounge:** For all bookings made at this property - see page 7 for details.

## VIETNAM BEACH RESORTS



Indochine pool villa

7 nts with flights from **£1285**pp  
extra night from **£86**pp



Colonial suite villa

### POULO CONDOR BOUTIQUE RESORT & SPA

4★ PLUS Con Dao

Ideally situated on a stretch of picturesque white sand Vong beach on Con Son, the main (and only inhabited) island on the Con Dao archipelago, this colonial-style hotel evokes an ageless elegance. Nestling between the Lo Voi Mountain and the private beach, the stylish suites and villas are set within lush surrounds and invite relaxation. The Yen Spa offers a range of holistic treatments and the gorgeous infinity pool provides an idyllic spot to bask. When dining, you can delight in authentic Vietnamese and French-influenced cuisine.

**Features:** 36 suites & pool villas • restaurant • poolside snack bar • bar • swimming pool • spa • reading room • free shuttle to town (twice a day) • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In junior suites with bath and separate shower, living area, mini bar, safe and mountain and garden views.

**Room upgrades:** Colonial suite villas from £45 with an outdoor shower and private terrace with garden • Indochina pool villas from £89, which have dining and living areas and a private pool with an expansive terrace • two bedroom Poulo Condor pool villas, from £24 (based on 4 sharing).

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Hotel shuttle transfers:** 10 minutes from Con Dao airport.

#### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**3 for 2, 7 for 5 & 10 for 8:** Aug-Oct 18 & May-Oct 19.

**10 for 9:** Feb-Apr & Nov-Dec 19.

**Early booking room discounts up to 10%:** On selected dates between Aug 18-Oct 19.

**Honeymoons:** Receive an upgrade to a higher room category, subject to availability.



7 nts with flights from **£1169**pp  
extra night from **£39**pp



### DUSIT PRINCESS MOONRISE BEACH RESORT

4★ Phu Quoc

Centrally located on Phu Quoc's stunning west coast, the Dusit blends contemporary resort style and traditional Vietnamese hospitality to great effect. The centrepiece of the resort is a large infinity pool which looks towards the ocean, while other facilities include a well-equipped gym and spa. Restaurants cater for all palates be it western, Vietnamese, Thai or fusion, all focusing on healthy ingredients with no artificial flavours, while the pool bar provides the perfect venue for refreshing drinks during the day or cocktails as the sun disappears over the horizon.

**Features:** 108 rooms and suites • 2 restaurants • 2 bars • swimming pool • spa • gym • children's club • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In deluxe garden rooms with shower, mini bar, safe and balcony.

**Room upgrades:** Deluxe ocean rooms from £4 • premium deluxe rooms from £7 which also offer a bath and are on the top floor to guarantee fantastic ocean views • junior suites from £13, which have a seating area • executive suites from £23, with a separate lounge and breathtaking ocean views.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

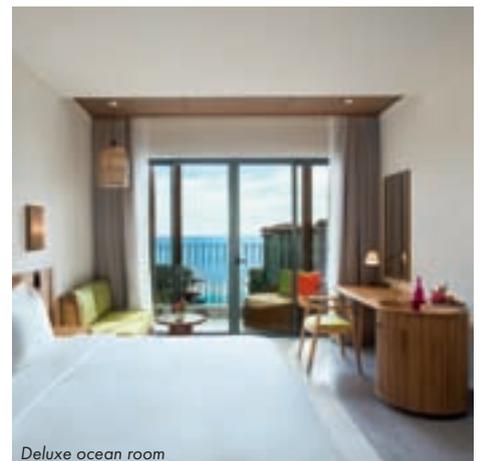
**Private transfers:** 10 minutes from Phu Quoc airport.

#### Premier Plus

**Early booking room discounts up to 7%:** On selected dates between Nov 18-Oct 19.

**Up to 20% room discount:** On selected dates between Aug 18-Oct 19. Minimum stay requirement applies.

**10% Food & beverage, spa & laundry discount:** Nov 18-Oct 19.



Deluxe ocean room



9 nts with flights from **£1449** pp  
extra night from **£89** pp



Deluxe garden room

## LA VERANDA RESORT PHU QUOC

4★PLUS Phu Quoc

Part of the MGallery by Sofitel, this resort nestles on the protected paradise island of Phu Quoc, amongst hills, forests, a white sandy beach and turquoise sea. Reminiscent of a French colonial seaside mansion with tiled roofs, dark woods and shaded alcoves you'll discover a traditional and elegant atmosphere along with all the ingredients you need to unwind. There are a choice of venues to feast on innovative cuisine including organic vegetables and herbs grown in their gardens.

**Features:** 70 rooms & villas • 2 restaurants • bar • swimming pool • wellness centre • kayaks • gym • yoga • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In deluxe garden rooms with ceiling fan, shower, mini bar, safe and balcony or terrace.

**Room upgrades:** Larger premier garden rooms from £16 • premier ocean rooms from £33 • spacious classic garden one bedroom villas which have a separate bath and shower from £44 • La Veranda ocean villa from £112 which has a large terrace and private garden.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Hotel shuttle transfers:** 15 minutes from Phu Quoc airport.

### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**3 for 2:** Sep-Oct 18 & May-Oct 19.

Free nights can be multiplied.

**Early booking room discount up to 25%:** On selected dates between Sep 18-Oct 19.

**Honeymoons:** Receive an upgrade to the next available room category, subject to availability.



One bedroom river pool villa

7 nts with flights from **£2075** pp  
extra night from **£159** pp

## FUSION RESORT PHU QUOC

5★ Phu Quoc

This exceptional beach resort resides on a stunning secluded private bay on the northern coastline of Phu Quoc Island. The resort boasts a selection of villas in a chic atmosphere of relaxed luxury with a breakfast any time, any place concept to take life at your own pace. Regardless of villa type, all have their own private pool and, as well-being is part of daily life at the resort, two spa treatments per person per day are included. Add to this a host of dining experiences with menus to suit every palate.

**Features:** 130 villas • 2 restaurants • bar • 2 swimming pools, one beachside and one in the spa gardens which is adult only • gym • Maia Spa • yoga • wellness journeys • steam room and sauna • shuttle bus to Phu Quoc • beach club • children's club • golf nearby (5 minutes drive) • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In one bedroom garden pool villas with sunken bath and separate shower, lounge area, mini bar, safe and expansive terrace with private plunge pool.

**Room upgrades:** One bedroom river pool villas from £31 • one bedroom ocean view pool villas from £53 • two bedroom pool villas from nil (based on 4 adults sharing).

**Meals:** Breakfast anywhere, anytime.

**Hotel shuttle transfers:** 40 minutes from Phu Quoc airport.

### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**4 for 3:** On selected dates between Aug 18-Oct 19.

**Early booking 15% room discount:** On selected dates between Aug 18-Oct 19.

**Guaranteed two FREE spa treatments** (per person per day).

**FREE yoga and Tai Chi class.**



## VIETNAM BEACH RESORTS



7 nts with flights from **£1389** pp  
extra night from **£63**



### MIA RESORT NHA TRANG

5★ Nha Trang

Set within manicured landscaped grounds this secluded beach retreat merges with the surrounds to offer a peaceful setting. Xanh Spa provides pampering and rejuvenation or, if you prefer adventure, you can kayak or paddle board amongst the rocks or visit the PADI dive centre to discover the amazing underwater world. The elegantly decorated rooms and villas, which are within the gardens, on the beach or a clifftop, let you immerse yourself in the beautiful natural landscapes while the restaurants offer a range of gourmet cuisines and mesmerising ocean views.

**Features:** 83 condos, suites & villas • 3 restaurants and bars • 2 swimming pools • spa • weekly yoga class • tennis • gym • non-motorised watersports • PADI dive centre • cooking class • children's club • free daily shuttle to Nha Trang

**Accommodation:** In garden view condos with bath and separate shower, lounge area, iPod dock, mini bar, safe and patio.

**Room upgrades:** Ocean view condos from £3, which are set on the beach edge • two bedroom family condos with small kitchenette from £34 • garden villas from £17, which sit behind the beachfront villas and a few have ocean view • beachfront villas from £43 with private splash pool and easy beach access.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Private transfers:** 15 minutes from Cam Ranh airport.

#### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**3 for 2:** 03-28 Sep & 07 Oct-20 Dec 18.

**Early booking 10% condo & villa discount:** On selected dates between Aug 18 & Jan-Dec 19.

**10% condo & villa discount:** Mar-Dec 19 if you stay at least 3 nights.



Garden view condo



Bay view pool villa

7 nts with flights from **£1799** pp  
extra night from **£189**



SEN restaurant

### AN LAM RETREATS NINH VAN BAY

5★ Ninh Van Bay

Nestled amidst the jungle on a secluded peninsula in Ninh Van Bay, this is the perfect destination for those seeking a genuine retreat in natural surroundings. The luxurious and spacious timber villas blend contemporary chic with Vietnamese elegance with a personal butler ensuring your comfort, generous outdoor seating areas and many villas also have a private plunge pool. Along with the glorious beach and pool, relaxation and rejuvenation can be found at the spa while at the stylish SEN Restaurant a variety of cuisine and majestic views await you.

**Features:** 34 villas • restaurant • bar • infinity pool • spa • sauna • gym • free daily shuttle to Nha Trang city • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In jungle rock villas, which are set within the jungle garden, with outdoor bath and separate rain shower, mini bar, wine cellar, safe and veranda.

**Room upgrades:** Elevated bay view pool villas from £53, which have a bay view and private pool • beach pool villas from £73 • beachfront pool villas from £94, which are just steps from the beach • treetop pool villas from £165 which offer panoramic views of the ocean and resort.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Transfers:** 1 hour from Cam Ranh airport to Nha Trang, then a 10 minute boat transfer.

**Note:** The resort is exclusively for adults. Children under 16 years are not permitted.

#### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**3 for 2, 5 for 3 & 7 for 4:** 01 Aug-23 Dec 18 & 06 Jan-31 Oct 19.

**Early booking room discounts up to 30%:** On selected dates between Aug-Oct 18.

**One FREE dinner:** 01 Nov-23 Dec 18 & 06 Jan-31 Oct 19 if you stay at least 7 nights.

**One 60 minute body massage for two:** 01 Nov-23 Dec 18 & 06 Jan-31 Oct 19 if you stay at least 10 nights.

# CAMBODIA



Angkor Wat



**Getting there:** Phnom Penh and Siem Reap are about 13½ hours by air from the UK (via Bangkok). The beach resorts can be reached by road and boat from Phnom Penh or flight from Siem Reap.

**Best time to go:** Cambodia enjoys a tropical climate with year round constantly high temperatures, with the least rainfall between November-April. The monsoon season is May-October; however, as the rain usually consists of short, heavy downpours, it is still possible to visit at this time. Humidity is lowest between November-December.

*Brimming with legendary temples, iconic UNESCO World Heritage sites, historical treasures and glorious beaches, much of this mesmerising land remains refreshingly untouched by tourism and is sure to leave an indelible impression.*

In the captivating capital Phnom Penh, broad tree-lined boulevards and colonial architecture provide an attractive backdrop to the colourful markets, bustling riverfront and roadside food vendors.

The magnificent legacy of the Khmer Empire is the highlight of any visit to Cambodia, most notably the incredible temple complex of Angkor, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Superbly preserved and visually entrancing, the centrepiece Angkor Wat was built to replicate the heavens on earth and is the world's largest religious monument. Gateway to the temples is the former backwater town of Siem Reap, now a lively city with sophisticated restaurants, bars and shops.

Within easy reach of Siem Reap are the string of floating villages and stilted houses on Tonle Sap, the largest freshwater lake in south east Asia. Between Siem Reap and Phnom Penh is Battambang, known for its striking colonial architecture and contemporary arts scene, it's also the departure point of the Bamboo 'Train'. In southwest Cambodia the Cardamom Mountains are a vast mosaic of interlocking eco-systems from wildlife-rich rainforest to coastal mangroves. It's a wonderful place to get back to nature with conservation activities, treks in search of wildlife, kayaking or simply sitting back and soaking up the incredible mesmerising vistas.

What better way to conclude an exhilarating tour of cultural delights than with time to unwind on Cambodia's southern shores? Sihanoukville is Cambodia's premier beach resort and easily accessible from Siem Reap by air or Phnom Penh by road. Surrounded by tropical beaches and undeveloped islands it offers something for all tastes. Kep, which was founded as a retreat for the French elite in 1908, has a tranquil atmosphere, relaxing beaches and is famed for its seafood, particularly crab. For pure escapism Song Saa Private Island, which is nestled in the warm sapphire waters of Cambodia's untouched Koh Rong Archipelago, is hard to beat.

## ENHANCE YOUR STAY *Excursions perfectly enhance your holiday and offer excellent value. Prices are per person.*

### Traditional Khmer Cooking Class from £45



This full day excursion begins with a visit to the local market in Phnom Penh where La Rose Restaurant chef will explain about Cambodian fruits, vegetables and herbs. Return to the restaurant and the chef will demonstrate the three dishes that you will then prepare and enjoy for lunch! In the afternoon prepare further dishes including a dessert. You will receive a booklet with recipes of the dishes cooked to take home.

### Vespa Tour from £55



What better way to explore the cities and countryside surrounding Phnom Penh or Siem Reap than from the back of a Vespa scooter, exactly as the locals do. The ride is exhilarating, but the skilled driver will ensure that you are safe and will point out sights and attractions along the way.

### Khmer Traditional Massage lesson from £99



Visit La Rose Spa in Phnom Penh for a fascinating Khmer Traditional Massage lesson during which you'll learn the process techniques and sequences of massage from head to toe, enabling you to perform a simple Khmer massage for relaxation. The course is from 9am-4pm and includes lunch along with a complimentary one hour massage for you after the lesson and transfers from your Phnom Penh hotel.



Angkor Thom, Siem Reap

12 night privately escorted tour from  
**£2369**pp



Siem Reap 4 nights ~ Battambang 2 nights  
Phnom Penh 4 nights ~ Kep 2 nights



Royal Palace, Phnom Penh

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily.

**Meals:** Breakfast. Lunch also included on days 3, 4, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12 & 13. Dinner also included on days 3, 4, 6, 8, 9 & 10.

**Tour price:** The price shown for this privately escorted tour by air-conditioned car is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes international flights, private transfers between your hotels, 3★plus accommodation, sightseeing as outlined, private services of an English speaking guide and entrance fees.

4★ and 5★ hotels are also available at a supplement.

Phare Ponleu Selpak and Provincial Museum in Battambang are closed Sat and Sun; PSE only opens Mon-Sat mornings.

## COLONIAL CAMBODIA

PRIVATELY ESCORTED TOUR BY AIR-CONDITIONED CAR

extraordinary temples • glimpse of local life at floating villages • UNESCO World Heritage sites

**Day 1:** Fly to Siem Reap.

**Day 2 Siem Reap:** On arrival you will transfer to your hotel.

**Day 3 Siem Reap:** Enter Angkor Thom via the South Gate and continue to the ruins of Bayon, Baphoun, Phimeanakas, the Royal Palace, the Elephant Terrace and the Leper King Terrace. In the afternoon visit the petit circuit: Prasat Kravan, Srah Srang, Banteay Kdei and the impressive jungle-enveloped Ta Prohm Temple. Also visit Ta Keo, Chau Say Tevada and Thommanon Temples.

**Day 4 Siem Reap:** Drive through the Khmer countryside to visit beautiful 10th century Banteay Srei temple dedicated to the Hindu god, Shiva. These buildings, known as the "jewel of Khmer art" are miniature in scale, unusually so when measured by the standards of Angkorian construction. Return via Banteay Samre temple before visiting the epic Angkor Wat to enjoy the sunset.

**Day 5 Siem Reap:** This morning take a boat to a floating village for a glimpse of local life on the great lake of Tonle Sap - the largest freshwater floodplain lake in the world, which increases and decreases in size annually creating an incredible environment for both wildlife and people. Return to town to visit an orphanage.

**Day 6 Siem Reap/Battambang:** Drive to colonial Battambang and visit the Provincial Museum and drive by the picturesque Sangker River to the 11th century Wat Ek Phnom. This afternoon experience a short ride on the very basic Bamboo 'Train', used by villagers in times past to transport themselves and their goods. Later, visit Phnom Banon Temple for magnificent views of the surrounding plains.

**Day 7 Battambang:** This morning visit a local NGO (non-government organisation), Phare Ponleu Selpak which gives circus, drawing and music classes to children from poor families. This afternoon visit the Phnom Sampov Pagoda and killing fields before watching the sunset at a hillside bat cave.

**Day 8 Battambang/Phnom Penh:** En route to Phnom Penh stop at fishing and pottery villages before proceeding to Oudong Mountain - Cambodia's former capital with royal tombs situated on Royal Fortune Hill. Visit a silversmith village then on arrival in Phnom Penh, visit La Rose Spa for a Khmer Traditional Massage.

**Day 9 Phnom Penh:** This morning's tour includes the National Museum, the Silver Pagoda, the Royal Palace, Wat Phnom and the Central Market. This afternoon visit the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and the notorious Khmer Rouge "Killing Fields" - the graphic nature of this dark period of history may cause distress.

**Day 10 Phnom Penh:** This morning enjoy a cyclo tour through the old colonial streets of Phnom Penh, a unique way to discover the city, which includes a visit to the Champey Academy of Arts, a non-profit professional art school working to preserve, protect and promote Cambodian culture. This afternoon drive along the Mekong River to Koh Dach Island to visit a traditional Khmer weaving village to see how they produce their own dyes and weave silk on old looms.

**Day 11 Phnom Penh:** At leisure. Or, take a cookery class or learn about traditional massage at the Cambodian Massage Academy, both additional expense (see page 193).

**Day 12 Phnom Penh/Kep:** This morning drive to Takeo Province stopping at Tonle Bati, Ta Prohm, Yeay Peou Temples and Prasat Neang Khmau before reaching Chiso Mountain to visit the 11th century Khmer Brahmanic temple. Continue to Kampong Trach to visit limestone caves and passages that shelter Wat Kirisan where you'll see various stalactites and stalagmites in the shapes of dragon heads, monkeys and whales. Continue to Kep, a coastal province located in the south west that has mountains, evergreen tropical forests, unspoiled islands, coral reefs, sandy beaches and fresh seafood.

**Day 13 Kep:** First stop today is La Plantation, an organic pepper and spice farm, for a guided tour and lunch. Continue to the sleepy town of Kampot, where there's time to explore the colonial style houses before boarding a boat to the entrance of the 'green cathedral' (a canopy of green over the Kampot River). Here, you have time to kayak before returning to Kep.

**Day 14 Kep/Phnom Penh:** Time at leisure before tour concludes with a transfer to the airport for your onward journey.

### Why not extend your stay?



**Why not extend your stay at the beach?**  
(See pages 198-200).



Angkor Wat

13 night privately escorted tour from  
**£2949**pp

## CAMBODIA CULTURAL DISCOVERY

PRIVATELY ESCORTED TOUR BY AIR-CONDITIONED CAR

captivating scenery • chance to visit small towns and villages off the beaten track • Angkor Wat

**Day 1:** Fly to Phnom Penh.

**Day 2 Phnom Penh:** On arrival transfer to your hotel. Afternoon at leisure before enjoying a traditional Khmer massage and relaxing treatment at La Rose Boutique Spa.

**Day 3 Phnom Penh:** Visit some of the capital's most impressive sights including the National Museum, the Silver Pagoda, the Royal Palace and Wat Phnom. This afternoon visit Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum and notorious Khmer Rouge Killing Fields (may cause distress).

**Day 4 Phnom Penh/Kratie:** Drive to Chhlong, a small town dotted with elegant French buildings. Continue to Kratie, which retains its colonial-era charm and is known as the best location to spot the rare freshwater Irrawaddy Dolphins (particularly from January-August).

**Day 5 Kratie/Mondulkiri:** Drive eastward to the elevated capital of Mondulkiri Province, Sen Monorom, where unique flora and fauna are abundant. Check-in to your hotel before visiting the impressive Bou Sraa waterfall, which boasts an unusual double drop into the jungle below. En route back to Mondulkiri visit the weaving village of Busra.

**Day 6 Mondulkiri:** Visit the Elephant Valley Project, spending the morning with the elephants and in the afternoon get your hands dirty helping out with a variety of tasks, including gardening, farming or small building projects.

**Day 7 Mondulkiri/Kompong Thom:** Drive to Kompong Cham on the banks of the Mekong River. See French colonial houses, nearby Chup rubber plantations and visit the unique Angkorian Temple of Wat Nokor. Later, stop at the hilltop temples of Phnom Pros (Man Hill) and Phnom Srei (Woman Hill) before visiting 11th century Wat Kohear Nokor to meet local monks and villagers. Continue to Kompong Thom.

**Day 8 Kompong Thom/Siem Reap:** Drive to 7th century Sambor Prei Kuk temple observing everyday rural life as you travel. Visit the ancient capital of Chenla with its 100 temples dating from the pre-Angkor period. The complex at Ishanapura is composed of four groups of temples that are among the most ancient surviving examples of Khmer architecture. Continue to Siem Reap.

**Day 9 Siem Reap:** Enter Angkor Thom and explore the ancient city before proceeding to the ruins at Bayon, Baphoum, Phimeanakas, the Royal Palace, the Elephant Terrace and the Leper King Terrace. This afternoon visit the Bantey Kdei with its rarely seen sculpted female deities, the Lake of Srah Srang and the impressive Ta Prohm Temple. Visit the Ta Keo, Chau Say Tevada and Thommanon Temples before returning to the hotel.

**Day 10 Siem Reap:** Drive to the graceful 11th century Temple of Shiva and the Banteay Samre Temple. This afternoon, visit magnificent Angkor Wat and explore its extraordinary architecture before enjoying the spectacular sunset over the monuments.

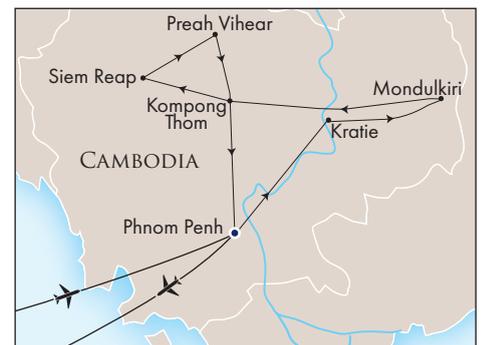
**Day 11 Siem Reap/Preah Vihear:** Depart early for Tbeng Meanchey, the provincial capital of Preah Vihear. Enjoy the Khmer countryside before you reach the remote Beng Mealea Temple, which has been partially reclaimed by the jungle. Proceed to Koh Ker Temple where the statues and reliefs convey a sense of power and grandeur rarely found in Khmer art. Proceed to Preah Vihear province.

**Day 12 Preah Vihear:** Travel deep into the Cambodian heartland to Preah Vihear, a 9th century temple dedicated to Shiva. Magically hidden and perched on the Dângrêk hilltop above the jungle plain, enjoy breathtaking views and the outstanding Khmer architecture.

**Day 13 Preah Vihear/Kompong Thom:** Early departure for Stung to visit the jungle temple of Preah Khan of Kampong Svay. Explore the most important temples at this massive monastic complex, including the four faces Bayon-style of Prasat Preah Stung and the central temple. Continue to Kompong Thom.

**Day 14 Kompong Thom/Phnom Penh:** Morning departure back to Phnom Penh. This afternoon visit Champey Academy of Arts for a variety of activities, including classical dance and music.

**Day 15 Phnom Penh:** Transfer to the airport for your onward journey.



Phnom Penh 2 nights ~ Kratie 1 night  
 Mondulkiri 2 nights ~ Kompong Thom 1 night  
 Siem Reap 3 nights ~ Preah Vihear 2 nights  
 Kompong Thom 1 night ~ Phnom Penh 1 night



Angkor Thom

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily.

**Accommodation:** La Rose Boutique Hotel & Spa, Phnom Penh; Rajabori Villas Resort, Kratie; Mayura Hill Hotel & Resort, Mondulkiri; Glorious Hotel & Spa, Kompong Thom; Tara Angkor, Siem Reap; Preah Vihear Boutique Hotel, Preah Vihear.

**Meals:** Breakfast. Lunch also included on days 3, 6, 11, 12 & 13; dinner is also included on day 2.

**Tour price:** The price shown for this privately escorted tour by air-conditioned car is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes international flights, private transfers between your hotels, accommodation as outlined, sightseeing as outlined, private services of an English speaking guide and entrance fees.

Elephant Valley Project open Tue-Fri only.

5★ hotels are also available at a supplement.

### Why not extend your stay?



**Why not extend your stay at the beach?**  
 (See pages 198-200).



Angkor Wat Temple

3 night privately escorted tour from **£285**pp

## SIEM REAP

3 NIGHT PRIVATELY ESCORTED TOUR BY AIR-CONDITIONED CAR

unforgettable temples • bustling town • optional excursions available

**Day 1 Siem Reap:** A sleepy backwater until a few years ago, Siem Reap now attracts many visitors as it is the gateway to the temples of Angkor, Cambodia's spiritual and cultural centre. Afternoon tour of Angkor Wat Temple, the largest in the world, with its intricate carving and sculptures of over 11,000 figures depicting life in the 12th century. It is an astounding architectural feat, a sumptuous blend of towers and sky.

**Day 2 Siem Reap:** At leisure to relax or sightsee independently. We highly recommend the spectacular Beng Mealea or Koh Ke, or perhaps book an optional excursion - see page 193.

**Day 3 Siem Reap:** A full day sightseeing at the vast Angkor Thom complex incorporating elaborate entrance gates and the pyramid temples of Baphuan and Pimeaneakas. Also visit other temples in the area, including Ta Phrom dating back to the 12th century which was used as a location for the film "Tomb Raider".

**Day 4 Siem Reap:** Onward to the destination of your choice.



3 nights from **£285**pp

### TARA ANGKOR

4★

Within walking distance of Siem Reap City, this hotel has a restaurant, bar, swimming pool with jacuzzi, fitness centre, sauna and complimentary bicycles. Rooms are stylishly decorated and there's free WiFi throughout the hotel.



3 nights from **£329**pp

### HERITAGE SUITES

5★

A sophisticated boutique retreat minutes away from the majestic Angkor temples. Its grand facade houses six intimate rooms and 20 suites, a bar, restaurant, spa and salt water pool. Room benefits when staying 3 nights include free mini bar upgrade to a bungalow suite (subject to availability).



3 nights from **£535**pp

### JAYA HOUSE RIVER PARK

5★

Set alongside the river, this 36 room gem is just a free tuk-tuk ride from the town and within easy reach of the temples. There are two pools, a spa, restaurant and each room has a balcony or garden and pool access. Guests also receive a variety of benefits including free mini bar. Until Oct 18 also receive a daily spa treatment.

#### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Tour prices:** The price shown is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes accommodation, private transfers to and from your hotel, sightseeing as outlined and services of an English speaking guide.

Additional day excursions available at a supplement.

Optional beach extensions are also available at the end of this side trip.

See pages 198-200 for our selection of Cambodia beach hotels.



Royal Palace, Phnom Penh



3 night privately escorted tour from **£299**pp

## PHNOM PENH

3 NIGHT PRIVATELY ESCORTED TOUR BY AIR-CONDITIONED CAR

colonial architecture • fascinating museums • intriguing culture

**Day 1 Phnom Penh:** Day at leisure in Cambodia's capital city, which retains an undeniable charm despite its tumultuous past. Crumbling colonial architecture makes an attractive backdrop to the bustling streetside cafes and riverfront. Maybe head to one of the riverfront cafes or haggle for bargains at one of the markets. Alternatively, take an optional excursion to a Khmer dance school to enjoy a performance of classical and folkloric dance by underprivileged children and orphans.

**Day 2 Phnom Penh:** At leisure. See page 193 for optional excursions.

**Day 3 Phnom Penh:** A full day tour taking in the National Museum housing a vast collection of Khmer antiquities, the Royal Palace, the extravagant Silver Pagoda and also visit Wat Phnom. Also a visit the central market for an opportunity to enjoy some shopping. A visit to the "Killing Fields" and Genocide Museum is optional.

**Day 4 Phnom Penh:** Onward to the destination of your choice.



3 nights from **£299**pp

### LA ROSE BOUTIQUE

4★

Close to landmarks, such as the Royal Palace, the hotel has just 10 lovingly decorated rooms, a restaurant and spa. Combining a contemporary design inspired by Angkor Wat with comfort this is delightful. Premier guests exclusively receive a free daily one hour Khmer traditional massage and free daily mini bar.



3 nights from **£399**pp

### LA ROSE SUITES

5★

Integrating top-class service and facilities, this luxurious boutique hotel enjoys a perfect location and features 68 spacious suites in two wings (some with balcony) with free daily mini bar, restaurant, a small swimming pool, spa (receive free daily 60 minute Khmer massage pppd) and cooking classes.



3 nights from **£589**pp

### RAFFLES LE ROYAL

5★ LUXURY

This tastefully restored unique French colonial hotel has welcomed travellers since 1929. Set in lush gardens and built around two inviting swimming pools it is an oasis in the heart of this dynamic city. There is also a gym, spa, restaurants, bars and choice of beautiful heritage rooms and suites.

#### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Tour prices:** The price shown is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes accommodation, private transfers to and from your hotel, sightseeing as outlined and services of an English speaking guide.

Additional day excursions available at a supplement.

Optional beach extensions are also available at the end of this side trip.

See pages 198-200 for our selection of Cambodian beach hotels.



2 nts with transfers from Phnom Penh  
from **£375**pp  
extra night from **£125**

## CARDAMOM TENTED CAMP

Cardamom Mountains

Located inside Botum Sakor National Park, this eco-camp is ideal for adventure enthusiasts keen to support the efforts of Wildlife Alliance and the local community by participating in conservation-related activities that protect the evergreen forest and its animals. Activities include guided hikes along abandoned poaching and logging trails through dense forest, home to macaques, gibbons, hornbills and more, along with kayaking on the Preak Tachan River. The comfortable safari-style tents are fully enclosed with bathroom facilities and spacious patios with sun chairs, and the open-air restaurant offers an assortment of delicious local Khmer and international dishes.

**Features:** 9 tents • restaurant • bar • free kayaks • hiking and wildlife watching tours • conservation projects

**Accommodation:** In safari-style tents, which are set up on a raised platform, with rain shower, fan and spacious deck. There is no air-conditioning or television in the tents. In addition, the solar-powered camp cannot support hairdryers; however, you can charge cameras and phones.

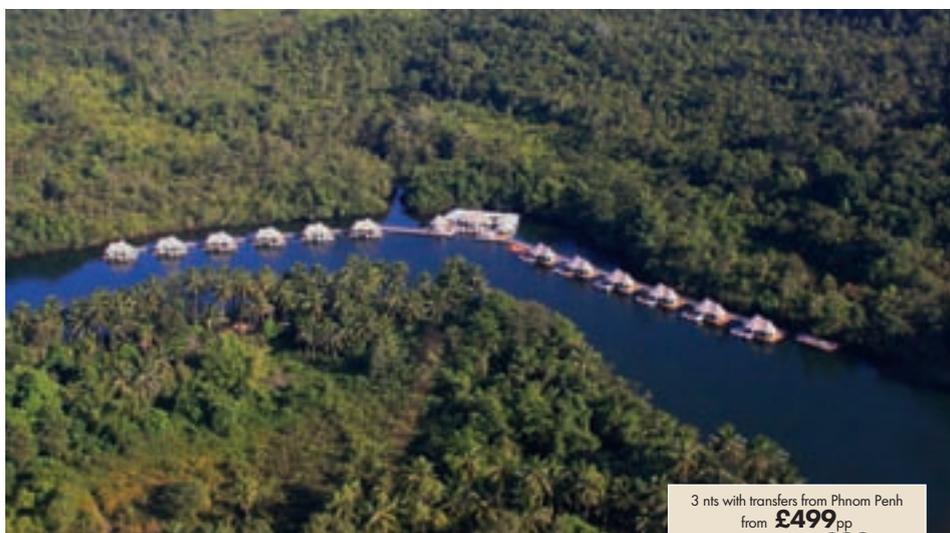
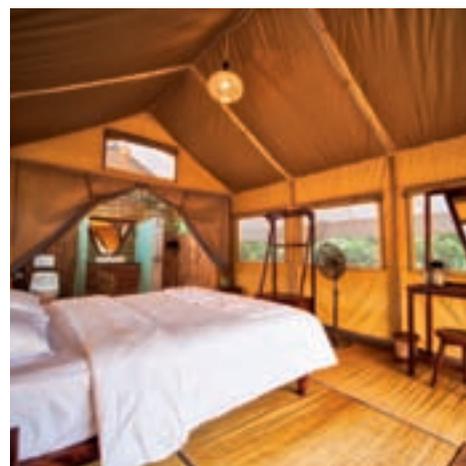
**Meals:** Full board including water, coffee and tea.

**Transfers:** 4 hours by road from Phnom Penh to Trapeang Rung and then 30 minutes by boat to the camp.

**Note:** Limited luggage capacity on the boat and in tents, but can leave large items at Trapeang Rung. Children 0-7 years not permitted.

### Premier Plus

**FREE guided half day hike:** With Wildlife Alliance Rangers.



3 nts with transfers from Phnom Penh  
from **£499**pp  
extra night from **£99**

## 4 RIVERS FLOATING LODGE

Cardamom Mountains

This fine ecolodge is hidden along the gentle waters of the mystical Tatai River in the unspoiled surroundings of the lush Cardamom Mountains and tantalisingly close to rainforests inhabited by over 100 mammal species. Whilst built to honour not deplete the world around it, comfort and luxury have not been abandoned with beautifully decorated spacious floating tents and a highly rated restaurant. A variety of tours and excursions include guided jungle treks, boat trips to Tatai Waterfall, kayaking on the remote stretches of river and village visits.

**Features:** 12 tented villas • restaurant • bar • free kayaks and fishing rods • tour and activities programme • library

**Accommodation:** In floating tents with ceiling fan, wooden bath, mini bar, DVD and terrace. There is no air-conditioning in the tents.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Transfers:** 4½ hours by road from Phnom Penh to Tatai and then 30 minutes by boat to the lodge.

**Note:** To enhance your stay a variety of optional excursions are available at additional expense. Please ask for details.

### Premier Plus

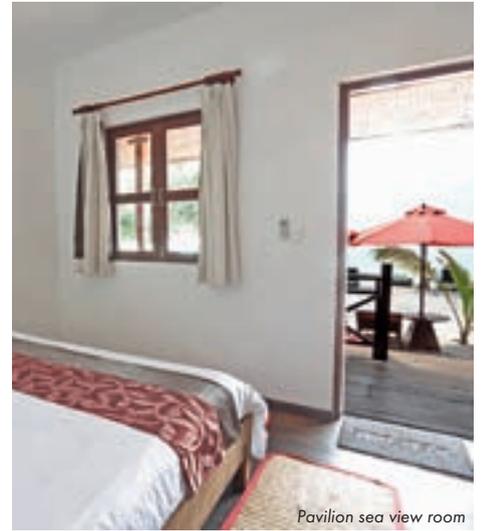
**FREE evening boat trip:** To see the fireflies (weather permitting).



## CAMBODIA BEACH RESORTS



7 nts with flights from **£1575**pp  
extra night from **£79**pp



Pavilion sea view room

### SOK SAN BEACH RESORT

3★ Koh Rong

Tucked away on Koh Rong island, this Khmer-style rustic resort is fringed by a stunning shoreline of glorious white sands and turquoise waters brimming with reefs. This quiet tropical getaway invites relaxation; however, there's also a wide range of activities allowing you to discover the island on foot and even by helicopter, or perhaps explore the surrounding sea and mangrove river by kayak. Accommodation options include a variety of comfortable rooms as well as larger chalets while the restaurant entices with both Khmer and western dishes.

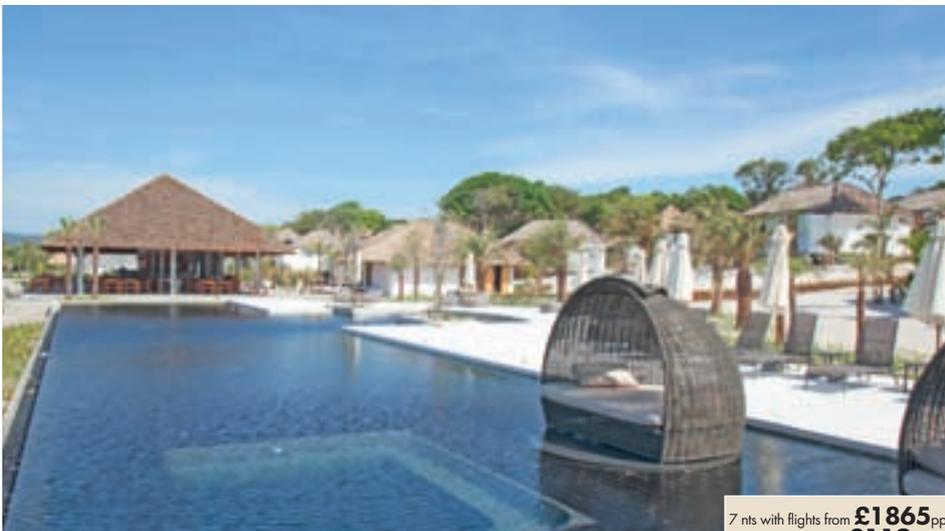
**Features:** 97 rooms • restaurant • 2 bars • massages  
• PADI dive centre • hobie cats • kayaks • fishing • bicycle hire • helicopter tours • cooking classes • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In pavilion garden view rooms with shower, mini bar, safe and deck.

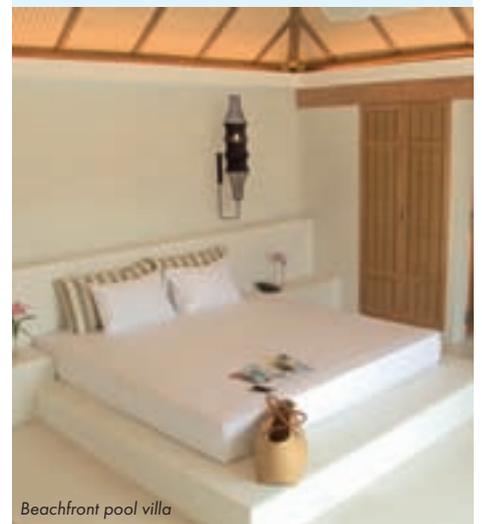
**Room upgrades:** Pavilion sea view rooms from £14, which sit just a few yards from the water's edge • garden view chalets from £24, with a separate living room and balcony that runs all the way round the chalet • sea view chalets from £38 .

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Transfers:** 30 minutes from Sihanouville airport to the port then 45 minutes by boat to the resort.



7 nts with flights from **£1865**pp  
extra night from **£119**pp



Beachfront pool villa

### THE ROYAL SANDS KOH RONG

5★ LUXURY Koh Rong

Take a step back in time and relive the beauty and calm of island life as it was meant to be at this all-villa resort, situated on the untouched island of Koh Rong beside a spectacular white sand beach. All the freestanding villas feature modern amenities with added touches for comfort, a sophisticated yet casual tropical decor and outdoor sala lounge area from which to enjoy the glorious views. An array of watersports and a variety of spa treatments may tempt you away from the beach or pool while the inviting restaurants focus on authenticity and quality.

**Features:** 67 villas • 2 restaurants • bar • swimming pool • spa • yoga sala • gym • watersports including kayaking, fishing, snorkelling and stand up paddleboarding • mountain bikes • PADI dive centre • activity centre

**Accommodation:** In ocean view villas, situated on the upper part of the property, with indoor and outdoor shower, mini bar, safe and outdoor sala with day bed.

**Room upgrades:** Beachfront villas from £19 • larger ocean view pool villas with a private pool from £59 • beachfront pool villas which overlook the beach from £79 • two bedroom ocean view pool villas from £57 (based on 4 adults sharing).

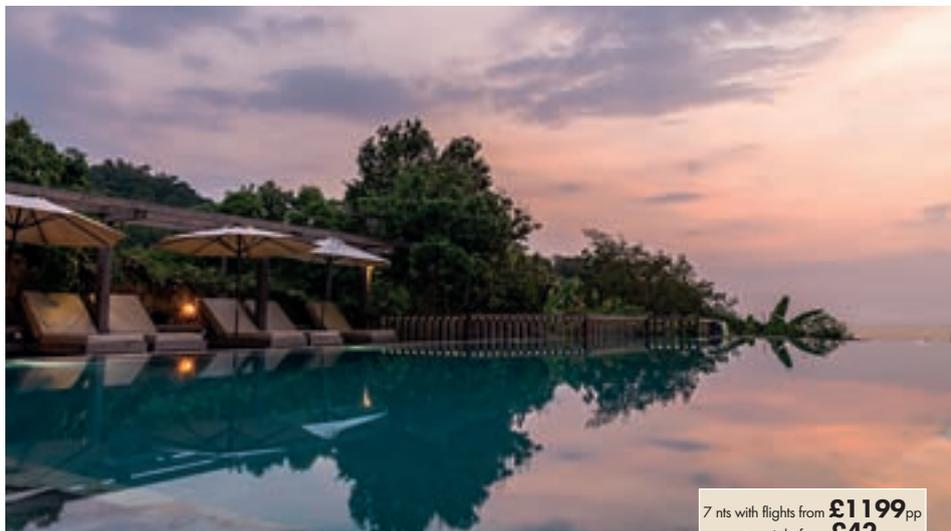
**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Transfers:** 30 minutes from Sihanouville airport to the port and then 1 hour by shuttle speedboat.

Premier Plus

**FREE UK airport lounge:** For all bookings made at this property - see page 7 for details.





7 nts with flights from **£1199** pp  
extra night from **£42** pp

## VERANDA NATURAL RESORT

4★ Kep

Perched atop a verdant slope of Kep National Park and overlooking the Gulf of Thailand, this welcoming retreat provides a unique place to relax and enjoy the enthralling scenery. Bask in the sun beside the infinity and garden pools, take the 15 minute stroll to the beach, be pampered at the spa or treat yourself to coffee and pastries at the Bakery. Later, perhaps indulge at the Secret Bar & Restaurant before retiring to your room, each contemporarily, rustic and uniquely created to be one of a kind, but all provide modern day comforts.

**Features:** 39 rooms, suites, bungalows & villas • restaurant • 3 bars • bakery • 2 salt water swimming pools (one infinity) • spa • children's activities (3 years and over) • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In Rosewood rooms with shower, mini bar, safe, living area and sitting area on the veranda, with views of the surrounding tropical forests.

**Room upgrades:** Large cave rooms from nil, which overlook the garden • hillside villa room from nil, which also have forest views • spacious vacation villa room from £4 • wooden suite bungalow from £8, which offer views of the sea.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Private transfers:** 2½ hours from Phnom Penh airport.



Vacation villa room



Rosewood room



7 nts with flights from **£1449** pp  
extra night from **£89** pp

## KNAI BANG CHATT

5★ Kep

This seaside resort features unique architecture, manicured gardens and astonishing views along with a superb location just a few minutes walk from the famous Kep Crab Market and the National Park. In the past, Kep was the ultimate beach destination of choice for French colonials and Cambodian elite and the bygone era has been elegantly recaptured. Knai Bang Chatt offers privacy, relaxation, wellness and soft adventure. Their sailing club offers pure beach culture and is the perfect place for sunset cocktails.

**Features:** 18 rooms • 2 restaurants • bar • salt water infinity swimming pool • small spa • yoga and meditation • adjacent sailing club with hobie cats, kayaks, surf and paddle boards • bicycle hire • beach volleyball • library • cooking classes • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In garden view rooms with shower and balcony or terraces which open to beautiful views of the lush tropical gardens with the sea as a backdrop.

**Room upgrades:** Sea view rooms from £13.

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Private transfers:** 2½ hours from Phnom Penh airport.

**Note:** The beach in front of the hotel is not for swimming. The public beach or Rabbit Island are best for swimming.

### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**3 for 2, 4 for 3 & 5 for 4:** Aug-Oct 18 & Apr-Oct 19.

**FREE UK airport lounge:** For all bookings made at this property - see page 7 for details.

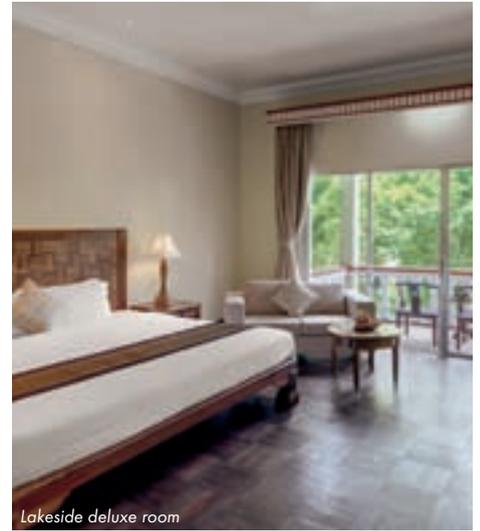


Sea view room

## CAMBODIA BEACH RESORTS



7 nts with flights from **£1249** pp  
extra night from **£58** pp



Lakeside deluxe room

### SOKHA BEACH

4★ Sihanoukville

Peacefully situated amidst beautifully landscaped gardens adjoining a private, pristine white sandy beach and within a short drive of the lively town of Sihanoukville. The hotel features low-rise, elegant Khmer style architecture crafted in wood and stone, a warm ambience and array of activities.

**Features:** 391 rooms • 3 restaurants • 6 bars • 2 swimming pools • fitness centre • Jasmine Spa • children's club • tennis • beach volleyball • internet access • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In lakeside deluxe rooms with bath and separate shower, mini bar, safe and balcony.

**Room upgrades:** Ocean Wing superior rooms from nil  
• Ocean Wing deluxe rooms facing the pool from £12.  
Villas are also available (prices on request).

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Private transfers:** 3½ hours from Phnom Penh airport.

#### Premier Plus

**FREE one hour massage or one set/buffet dinner** (per person per stay): Aug-Sep 18 & Aug-Sep 19 if you stay at least 7 nights.

**FREE 30 minute foot/back massage:** Aug-Sep 18 & Aug-Sep 19 if you stay at least 3 nights. Valid for up to two people per room.

**FREE set menu lunch:** Aug-Sep 18 & Aug-Sep 19 if you stay at least 5 nights. Valid for up to two people per room.

**FREE shuttle to Sihanoukville.**



Ocean view villa

8 nts with flights from **£3259** pp  
extra night from **£369** pp



Jungle villa

### SONG SAA PRIVATE ISLAND

5★ LUXURY Koh Rong

In Cambodia's untouched Koh Rong Archipelago, Song Saa spans the islands of Koh Ouen and Koh Bong and is connected by a footbridge over a marine reserve. Luxurious, intimate and harmonious, the beautiful pool villas, each with high-end creature comforts, promise a sanctuary where you can gaze out over the sea or sip cocktails at sunset. Consider an upgrade to premium all inclusive (which we recommend), and everything that passes your lips from sunrise to sunset is included, be it breakfast in your villa, lunch on the beach, or dinner at the overwater restaurant.

**Features:** 24 private pool villas • 2 restaurants and bars  
• infinity swimming pool • spa & wellness • yoga & meditation  
• watersports • PADI diving • free WiFi

**Accommodation:** In one bedroom jungle villas perched amongst the rainforest canopy with bath, indoor and outdoor rain showers, living area, safe and private pool.

**Room upgrades:** One bedroom ocean view villas from £189  
• one bedroom overwater villas from £379 • two bedroom jungle villas from £179 (based on 4 adults sharing)  
• two bedroom over water villas from £217 (based on 4 adults sharing).

**Meals:** Breakfast.

**Transfers:** 45 minutes by hotel shared boat from Sihanoukville port. Boat transfers only operate during daylight hours.

**Note:** Song Saa Private Island is very open to the environment with private pools, steep hills and overwater walkways without hand railings, and is, therefore, only suitable for children under strict parental supervision.

#### Premier Plus

**FREE nights**

**3 for 2:** On selected dates between Jan-Dec 19 if you book by 16 Feb 19.

**4 for 3:** 01 Aug-22 Dec 18. & 08 Jan-31 Oct 19.

Free nights can be multiplied.

**Early booking 10% room discount:** On selected dates between Aug-Oct 18 & Apr-Oct 19.

**Premium all inclusive from £199** (pppd): Includes breakfast, lunch, dinner and snacks in between, soft drinks, all wines, beers and spirits (except premium brands), mini bar replenished daily (including full size bottles of wine), one 15 minute head/neck/shoulder massage and one 15 minute foot ritual, yoga, non-motorised watersports including kayaks, paddleboards, windsurfing, hobie sailing boats & snorkelling, unlimited local calls and 3 pieces of laundry per person per day.

**FREE UK airport lounge:** For all bookings made at this property - see page 7 for details.

# LAOS



Wat Xieng Thong, Luang Prabang

*A land of ancient treasures and exotic intrigue; of smiling faces and saffron-robed monks; this is authentic Asia!*

Landlocked between Thailand and Vietnam, the long forgotten backwater of Laos is startlingly beautiful with rolling mountains, jagged limestone cliffs, brooding jungles, remote tribal villages and the mighty Mekong River. The pace of life is slow, centuries-old traditions are lovingly retained and the Lao people wonderfully welcoming.

The sleepy capital Vientiane has tree-lined boulevards crowded with frangipani and tamarind, ancient ruins, gleaming stupas and graceful colonial buildings. When you've had your fill of temples, you'll discover numerous cafes and patisseries, a tasty legacy of French rule.

Luang Prabang sits at the confluence of the Mekong and Nam Khan rivers. A UNESCO World Heritage Site, it is one of Southeast Asia's most alluring places and considered to be the religious heart of Laos. Wander the palm-lined riverbanks and tranquil streets, passing gilded wats, traditional wooden houses and maybe see saffron-clad monks collecting alms; and you'll have your own picture-perfect snapshot of bygone Asia.

The Mekong is the artery of life in Laos, so there is perhaps no better way to discover this stunningly scenic and culturally distinctive land than a river cruise (available on request).



Pak Ou Caves

**Getting there:** Luang Prabang is about 13½ hours by air from the UK (via Bangkok or Singapore).

**Best time to go:** Laos is always hot and humid. November-January are the cooler months; the wet season is June-October, while February-May is drier and very hot.



Luang Prabang waterfalls

## LUANG PRABANG

3 NIGHT PRIVATELY ESCORTED TOUR BY AIR-CONDITIONED CAR

snapshot of bygone Asia • absorbing city sights • local village visits

**Day 1 Luang Prabang:** The ancient royal capital of Luang Prabang is one of the most culturally exquisite places you could hope to visit. A delightful mix of traditional Buddhist culture and French colonialism, the city is a patchwork of palm-lined riverbanks, terracotta roofs, gilded temples, saffron-robed monks and traditional timber homes. Afternoon sightseeing includes the Royal Palace which is now a museum housing artefacts belonging to former rulers, Wat Sen, Wat Visun and stunning richly decorated Wat Xieng Thong.

**Day 2 Luang Prabang:** Full day boat journey on the Mekong River during which you'll visit the Pak Ou Caves, a pilgrimage site for Buddhists across Asia who come to pray and worship at the multitude of Buddha statues amassed here over the centuries. Continue to Ban Xang Hai village known for the manufacture of rice whisky and then after lunch visit the local village of Ban Xang Khong. The evening is free to enjoy the colourful night market where hilltribe traders converge to sell all manner of goods.

**Day 3 Luang Prabang:** Morning drive to the magnificent waterfalls where you can swim in the secluded turquoise pools or simply take in the surrounding views. Continue with a visit to some tribal villages and in the afternoon visit the village of Ban Phanom, which is famous for weavings.

**Day 4 Luang Prabang:** Enjoy a visit to a morning market before your tour concludes.

### WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

**Departures:** Daily.

**Meals:** Breakfast. Lunch also included on day 2.

**Tour price:** The price shown is based on the best value travel dates in low season and includes accommodation at one of the three properties shown, private transfers to and from your hotel, sightseeing as outlined and services of an English speaking guide.



3 nights  
from £425 pp

### BURASARI HERITAGE

4★

This charming boutique hotel is situated on a tranquil riverside lane and blends elegant French colonial design with the intimacy of traditional Lao teakwood houses. The 19 unique rooms feature antique furnishings, handcrafted textiles, complimentary mini bar (replenished daily) and complimentary WiFi. Tucked away in the garden is Spa Burasari, there are also complimentary bicycles (subject to availability) and at The Terrace, a culinary experience inspired by French cuisine and Lao cooking awaits you.



3 nights  
from £489 pp

### 3 NAGAS

4★

Blending contemporary style with century old traditional architecture this elegant boutique hotel, managed by Sofitel, lies in the heart of this charming town within easy reach of temples, rivers and the night market. Each of the 15 character-filled rooms and suites are beautifully furnished and the hotel also features a restaurant and a gorgeous courtyard garden.



3 nights  
from £599 pp

### SOFITEL LUANG PRABANG

5★

This secluded all-suite retreat, a century-old former governor's mansion, is a fusion of colonial charm and sleek style. Located in Ban Mano, a quiet residential area yet within easy walking distance of the wealth of temples and other attractions. Providing 25 suites, shimmering pools, fragrant gardens, an indulgent spa and fine dining, it's an ideal sanctuary of peace and tranquility.