
10 DAYS – AMAZING SOUTHERN VIETNAM & CAMBODIA

- Route: Ho Chi Minh – Cu Chi Tunnels – My Tho – Can Tho – Phnom Penh - Siem Reap – Angkor Wat
- Travel style: History & Culture
- Duration: 10 Days/19 Nights
- Tour Code: VC10D-01
- Start: Hanoi
- Finish: Siem Reap

OVERVIEW:

Vietnam and Cambodia are two jewels in Indochina peninsula; we design this 2-country tour for those who do not have plenty of time for traveling. During only 10days, you can visit almost the must-see destinations of the South Vietnam and Siem Reap, Cambodia. From Ho Chi Minh City to historical Cu Chi tunnels. Afterwards, immerse yourself into the local lifestyle in the floating market on the Mekong Delta River to experience the life in Mekong Delta between Vietnam & Cambodia. Enjoy your time on a speedboat to Phnom Penh. From here travel by private car to Siem Reap, you can visit one of the most astounding archaeological sites nowhere in the world: Angkor Temples and learn about the history of Khmer kings at their highest and wealthiest power. This tour helps you to have an outlook of Vietnam – Cambodia but will give you a deeper understanding of Indochina region.

BRIEF ITINERARY

Day 1: Ho Chi Minh Arrival
Day 2: Ho Chi Minh - Full day city tour
Day 3: Ho Chi Minh - Cu Chi Tunnels – Tay Ninh
Day 4: Ho Chi Minh - My Tho – Can Tho
Day 5: Can Tho – Cai Be - Chau Doc
Day 6: Chau Doc (Border Crossing) - Phnom Penh
Day 7: Phnom Penh – Full day city tour
Day 8: Phnom Penh – Siem Reap
Day 9: Siem Reap - Angkor Wat – Angkor Thom
Day 10: Siem Reap Departure

ITINERARY:

DAY 1: HOCHIMINH ARRIVAL

Arrive at Tan Son Nhat International Airport, welcome by our guide and transfer to your hotel. Ho Chi Minh City formerly named Saigon is the largest city and economic center of Vietnam always bustling with activities of modern life. It is where businesses converge and shoppers indulge themselves into unlimited choices. However the city also carries with it a rich historical legacy in contrast with its dazzling glamor.

Accommodation: Elios Hotel or similar in Ho Chi Minh

DAY 2: HOCHIMINH - CITY TOUR

Meet our guide at your hotel and take a full city tour. Start with a visit to the War Remnants Museum, which features an extensive collection of exhibits including weaponry, photos and documentation on Vietnam's wars with the French and Americans. Continue to the Reunification Palace, which was formerly the South

Vietnam President's residence and symbol of the Southern Administration's reign until end of April 1975. Next, call in Sai Gon Post Office, a fine colonial building which was designed and built in the early 20th Century by the famous French architect Gustave Eiffel. Stop at Saigon Notre-Dame Basilica, a neo-Roman cathedral built over 130 years ago by the colonial French with materials entirely imported from Marseilles. Move on to Cho Lon or the city's China Town where you will visit the Jade Emperor Temple (Phuoc Hai), a rare Taoist structure in Vietnam built in 1909 in dedication to the Lord of Heaven.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

Accommodation: Elios Hotel or similar in Ho Chi Minh

DAY 3: HOCHIMINH – CU CHI TUNNELS – TAY NINH

Today you're transferred by private car to Tay Ninh province, 99 km Northwest of Ho Chi Minh City to explore the Great Temple also considered to be the Holy See Temple of a rare religion named Cao Dai native to the province. Cao Dai was established in 1926 as a monotheistic religion with its meaning "Way of the Highest Lord" and its symbol of the left eye standing for Highest Lord's clairvoyant power and wisdom. However it incorporates some aspects of Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism and even Catholicism. The Great Temple, which was built in 1933, has a unique cross-architectural style akin to the religion's blended nature.

Afternoon, discover the famous Cu Chi Tunnels, which were once a major underground hideout and resistance base of Viet Cong forces during the two wars against the French and the Americans. The tunnels, entirely hand-dug, formed a highly intricate network of interlinked multilevel passageways at times stretched as far as the Cambodian border and totaling over 120 km in length. Its complexity was beyond imagination containing meeting rooms, kitchens, wells, clinics, schools, depots, trenches and emergency exits all aimed for guerrilla warfare. The tunnels were deep and strong enough to withstand destructive bombings and self-contained enough to outlast prolonged sieges.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

Accommodation: Elios Hotel or similar in Ho Chi Minh

DAY 4: HOCHIMINH – MY THO – CANTHO

Today we take an excursion to My Tho. We will be traveling past miles of flat rice fields, along a bustling High Way. On arrival at My Tho, we board a Mekong cruise boat to Thoi Son Island where we will be entertained with traditional music. We will then change to a paddle boat to cruise through the narrow canals and visit home grown industries like coconut candy and rice-wine making. We next travel by motorized boat to another Mekong island to visit a bee farm and try tea with fresh honey from the beehives and enjoy fresh seasonal fruits. As we return to My Tho there will be a visit to the Vinh Trang Pagoda. Afternoon, drive to Can Tho & check in and free at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

Accommodation: Fortuneland Hotel in Can Tho

DAY 5: CANTHO – CAI RANG FLOATING MARKET – CHAU DOC

Morning, depart Ninh Kieu wharf by boat, you can see bustling activities along Can Tho riverbanks. Particularly, you may know how local people go fishing with plenty of fish traps and how they transport passengers as well as products by the waterway. Approaching Cai Rang floating market, you can reappear the selling activities in the past using a traditional "offering pole" exchanging consumer goods hanging on the pole for Mekong fruit and vegetables with local sellers. To understand more about lifestyle over here,

keep on going into the small creeks called Rach Nho in which the Southern countryside can be seen clearly before cruising back to Ninh Kieu Wharf.

Afternoon, drive to Chau Doc & check in and free at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

Accommodation: Chau Pho Hotel in Chau Doc

DAY 6: CHAU DOC – SPEED BOAT TO PHNOM PENH

Morning, free leisure until transfer to Ninh Kieu boat ferry for departure to Phnom Penh

Arrival Phnom Penh, meet your driver for an airport transfer with a private vehicle and English speaking guide. Check in your hotel and free at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Asia Tune Hotel in Phnom Penh

DAY 7: PHNOM PENH – CITY TOUR

Morning start a half day city tour including the Victory Monument, and the National Museum (called as Musee des Beaux-Arts). Next, you'll visit a French archaeologist and painter, Georges Groslier, designed it in Khmer style in 1917. The museum contains a collection of Khmer art - notably sculptures – from throughout the ages. You'll also discover the Royal Palace, built by King Norodom in 1866 on the site of the old town, and the Silver Pagoda, located within the grounds of the Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda is so named because of its floor, which is made up of 5000 silver tiles. The treasures found inside includes a solid gold Buddha encrusted and weighing 90 kilograms and a small 17th century emerald and baccarat crystal Buddha.

Afternoon, continue to visit Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum (S 21) then explore the Killing Fields of Choeung Ek, the driving distance is approximately 15Km from the city. You'll visit as well Russian market (Psah Tuol Thom Pong), a lively outdoor market where you will find antiquities, silver and gold jewelry, gems, silk, kramas, stone and wood carvings, T-Shirts, CDs and lots of other local souvenirs. End of day stop at the Central market and in right time to views over the tree-lined avenues of the city during sunset

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

Accommodation: Asia Tune Hotel in Phnom Penh

DAY 8: PHNOM PENH – SIEM REAP

Morning, free at leisure for shopping and sightseeing until transfer with a private vehicle and English speaking guide to airport for flight to Siem Reap. The driving distance is approximately 6hours.

Arrival Siem Reap, meet your driver and transfer with a private vehicle and English speaking guide.

In the afternoon you begin to visit Prasat Kravan with its unique brick sculptures and Ta Prohm. One of the area's most remarkable temples, Ta Prohm had been relatively untouched since it was discovered and retains much of its mystery. It reveals the fact that, unlike the other monuments of Angkor, it was abandoned and swallowed by the jungle, similar the ways most of the Angkor temples appeared when European explorers first stumbled upon them. Walk around to visit as well Takeo, Chau SayTeveda and Thommanon. Continue to visit Preah Khan temple, built by the King Jayavarman VII, Preah Khan is, like Ta Prohm, a place of towered enclosures and shoulders-hanging corridors. Unlike Ta Prohm, Preah Khan is in a reasonable state of preservation and ongoing restoration efforts should maintain and even improve this situation. If time permit, you visit Neak Pean, a fountain built in the middle of a pool and representing the

paradisiacal Himalayan mountain-lake and visit the temple of Ta Som as well as Srah Srang ("The Royal Baths"), undoubtedly used in the past for ritual bathing before return to hotel.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

Accommodation: Royal Empire Hotel or similar in Siem Reap

DAY 9: SIEM REAP – ANGKOR WAT

Today you'll visit the most famous of all the temples on the plain of Angkor: The temple complex covers 81 hectares and as wide as the size of the Imperial Palace in Beijing. You'll explore its distinctive five towers considered to be the prime example of classical Khmer art and architecture. Angkor Wat's five towers symbolize Meru's five peaks - the enclosed wall represents the mountains at the edge of the world and surrounding moat and the ocean beyond. Lunch at local restaurant

Afternoon you will visit the ancient capital of Angkor Thom (12th century masterpieces), you'll encounter the South Gate with its huge statues, the Royal Enclosure, Phimeanakas, the Elephants Terrace and the Terrace of the Leper King and Bayon Temple (unique for its 54 towers decorated with over 200 smiling faces of Avolokitesvara). Afterwards, drive back to Prasat Bey Temple located in the north of Phnom Bakheng south gate of Angkor Thom in TONLE OUM behind Prasat Bey temple, you'll depart from ports visits south gate of Angkor Thom and the wall along the Tonle Oum while listening romantic traditional music and histories of the Khmer. End of day take a relaxing stopover at Prasat Chhng visiting Tadev Hole and temple with the best Sunset.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

Accommodation: Royal Empire Hotel or similar in Siem Reap

DAY 10: SIEM REAP DEPARTURE

Leisure time until transfer to Airport in Siem Reap for departure

Group Size	1	2	3 - 4	5 - 6	Single supplement
Value (3 stars)	1,560	920	812	727	206

WHAT IS INCLUDED

- Accommodation in a double or twin room with daily breakfast
- One night cruise on a wooden junk in Halong Bay
- Speed board from Chau Doc to Phnom Penh
- Services of a driver and private air-conditioned vehicle during all tours and transfers
- Experienced English-speaking guide during all tours and transfers
- Private board for sightseeing in My Tho, Can Tho
- Entrance fees for all visits as mentioned in the itinerary
- Lunch or dinner as specified in the itinerary

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED

- International & Domestic flight tickets
- Vietnam Visa Approval letter & Vietnam visa stamping fee at the airport
- Cambodia Visa Approval letter & Cambodia visa stamping fee at the airport
- Meals, if not specified in the itinerary
- Travel insurance (we highly recommend that you purchase adequate insurance)

- Gratuities for guides and drivers
- Personal expenses, such as laundry, telephone, drinks, etc.
- All other services not specified in the itinerary

HOTEL CATEGORY

Place	3star hotel	Website
Ho Chi Minh	Elios hotel <i>or similar</i>	www.elioshotel.vn
Can Tho	Fortuneland Hotel <i>or similar</i>	www.fortunelandhotel.vn
Chau Doc	Chau Pho Hotel <i>or similar</i>	www.chauphohotel.com
Phnom Penh	Asia Tune Hotel <i>or similar</i>	www.asiatunehotel.com
Siem Reap	Royal Empire Hotel <i>or similar</i>	www.royalempirehotel.com

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- All prices are quoted in USD/ per person, based on Double/Twin occupancy
- Supplement for standard Vietnamese menu meals: US\$ 10 for lunch & US\$ 15 for dinner
- Private services & daily departure
- Surcharge for Compulsory dinner for Xmas and New Year Eve
- Surcharge for booking during Chinese New Year from 18 – 24 Feb 2015: 25% of adult prices
- Surcharge for domestic flight tickets with taxes:
 - Flight from Luang Prabang to Siem Reap: US\$ 225/ person

SPECIAL OFFER

- [Free] Mineral water is available.
- [Free] Vietnam visa approval letter on arrival
- [Free] Vietnam Traditional Gift