

This tour offers the best of Vietnam exploring the wonders of Halong Bay, historical Hue, quaint Hoi An and the crystal waters of Nha Trang. Starting with the French flavour of traditional Hanoi and ending in Siem Reap, your journey will be enjoyed in comfort staying at many of Vietnam's and Cambodia's premium hotels. This tour suits those who are looking for luxury hotels while they travel with a full time leader on hand. The hotels chosen are based on level of comfort, location and service.

Starting Point Instructions

As you have an arrival transfer as part of this tour, a driver and customer liaison staff (when possible) will await you holding a sign with your name when you exit the airport terminal.

Arrival Complications

We don't expect any problems but if for any reason you are unable to commence your group trip as scheduled, please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your trip leader. If this is unsuccessful, please refer to our Emergency Contact person & phone number.

If your airport transfer has not made contact within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point Hotel. Should this occur, please apply to your travel agent for a refund of the transfer cost on your return.

Starting Point Hotel – Intercontinental Hotel

1 Nghi Tam St
Hanoi
Vietnam
Tel: +84 4 270 8888
Fax: +84 4 270 8887

Finishing Point Instructions As you have a departure transfer as part of this tour, a driver will collect you from the finishing point hotel 3 hours before your departure flight. If your airport transfer has not made contact within 30 minutes before the appointed time, we recommend that you make your own way to the airport. Should this occur, please apply to your travel agent for a refund of the transfer cost on your return.

Finishing Point Hotel – Victoria Hotel

Central Park
Siem Reap
Cambodia
Tel: +855 63 760 428
Fax: +855 63 760 350

Day 1 Hanoi

Today you can check into your hotel and spend the day exploring the streets of Hanoi. Look for the Wide Eyed Tours welcome note at reception, on it your leader will have arranged a time to meet with you to run through the tour itinerary. After the group meeting, walk around the lake to sample some of Hanoi's best at a well known Vietnamese restaurant.

Day 2 Halong Bay

After breakfast it's off to Ha Long Bay for the day (group tour for small group numbers). On the boat you will eat an array of fresh sea food whilst cruising through some of the thousands of limestone karsts within this World Heritage site. There is an opportunity to swim in the bay's emerald waters, explore caves with incredible formations of stalactites and stalagmites and enjoy this bay of wonders. Later, it's back to the harbor for your return journey back to Hanoi. Settle in time then off to dinner.



Important Note:

When traveling with Wide Eyed tours we hope to give you as much information as possible before your departure and we recommend that you read our Important Messages document which can be downloaded from our website. This will help you prepare and have a great journey in Vietnam

CULTURE SHOCK RATING!?

The trip includes 5 star accommodation. Days of being on the move are well interspersed, communication with the outside world is ever-present and a wide variety of food is commonly available.

Physical Rating

There may be times where you may be required to carry your own bag. Your itinerary may include easy paced walks or bike rides, but these are on mainly flat ground.

Here today, where tomorrow?

Day 1 Hanoi	Intercontinental Hotel
Day 2 Hanoi	Intercontinental Hotel
Day 3 Hanoi	Intercontinental Hotel
Day 4 Hue	La Residence
Day 5 Hue	La Residence
Day 6 Hoi An	Victoria Resort
Day 7 Hoi An	Victoria Resort
Day 8 Hoi An	Victoria Resort
Day 9 HCMC	Majestic Hotel
Day 10 HCMC	Majestic Hotel
Day 11 HCMC	Majestic Hotel
Day 12 Siem Reap	Victoria Hotel
Day 13 Siem Reap	Victoria Hotel
Day 14 Home	

Day 3 Hanoi

This morning involves a city tour followed by free time. In the evening attend a performance of traditional water puppetry followed by dinner & a night cyclo ride back to the hotel.

Day 4 Hue

This morning is an early flight to Hue. After transferring to the hotel, brief settle in time then onto lunch trying local dishes such as Banh Khoai. After lunch you get to visit the Imperial Citadel, followed by free time.

Day 5 Hue

The former Imperial Capital of Vietnam, you are sure to enjoy the many sights and slower pace of this tranquil city. Today you will visit two of the Nguyen Emperors' tombs, the famed Thien Mu Pagoda and also enjoy a dragon-boat cruise on the Perfume River. Hue, known as the centre of Buddhism and education in Vietnam, has a wealth of pagodas and monasteries to discover.

Day 6 Hoi An

You will leave Hue and head south through coastal rice paddies to the fishing village of Lang Co, before taking the scenic mountainous route over the spectacular Hai Van Pass. In the afternoon, you will arrive at the once bustling river port of Hoi An (approx. 4 hours driving time). Declared a World Heritage site, the architecture of Hoi An is being beautifully restored and preserved. It's also a shopping mecca, with much to browse over and buy. Choose from original paintings, handcrafted woodwork, ceramics, embroidery, lanterns and more. Hoi An has also become famous for its tailoring - there is a huge variety of fabrics to choose from.

Day 7 Hoi An

Free day for you to make the most of what Hoi An has to offer. Enjoy the local sea food and relax on the beaches.

Day 8 Hoi An

Today is a look into how food is prepared and made with a cooking demo (included) that includes a visit to the local market. The afternoon is free for you to have that last minute outfit made up!

Day 9 Ho Chi Minh City

A short flight of just over one hour takes you from Da Nang to Ho Chi Minh City. After transferring to the hotel, there is time to settle in, followed by a walking tour to some of Saigon's shopping spots. If shopping isn't your thing then maybe a relaxing drink at a roof top bar.

Day 10 Ho Chi Minh City

This morning is an early start to first go and visit the former Viet Cong stronghold at Cu Chi where the tunnel system provides a valuable insight into the tenacity and resourcefulness of the Vietnamese people. Back to HCM city, lunch followed by an orientation tour by cyclo of the main attractions, including the very sobering War Remnants Museum. Your hotel is centrally located to the city's main shopping district and Ben Thanh Market, so there is much for you to explore and discover during the afternoon.

Accommodation:

5 star hotels (13 nights). Breakfast is included in all hotels where you have stayed the previous night.

Included Activities

Halong Bay boat trip includes meals & entrance fee; Imperial Citadel, Tomb in Hue; orientation tour Hoi An, HCMC, Cu Chi Tunnels, cyclo tour, War Remnants museum, day tour to Mekong Delta, including boat tour. All airport transfers in Cambodia, tourist visa (Cambodia only) private tour of the Angkor Complex including guide, transport, and entrance fees.

All transport and meals included. All flights during the tour are included.

Bring along USD200 for optional activities not included in the trip.

Tipping Guide

For your leader we recommend \$2 USD a day. For drivers & local guides, we recommend \$1 USD a day.

Arrival & Departure transfer included.

Wide Eyed Tours Rules

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on our trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for Wide Eyed Tours travellers. Wide Eyed Tours philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make our destinations such special places. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our group leader has the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

Responsible Travel

We believe strongly in low impact or rather positive impact tourism. Broadly speaking this means that we try to minimise the negative aspects of tourism on the local cultures and environments that we visit and highlight the positive aspects.

Day 11 Ho Chi Minh City

Today it's off to the fascinating Mekong where you get to see how life is dependant on the river for survival. Taking a boat cruise on the mighty Mekong allows for numerous photo opportunities. Another highlight is you will also get to sample an array of tropical fruits that are grown locally. Back on the bus for the return journey back to HCM City and if time allows, some more shopping before dinner.

Day 12 Siem Reap

After one & a half hours flight time you will arrive into Siem Reap. Visas are processed at the airport before transferring to your hotel in Siem Reap. Your local Cambodian guide will meet you to discuss the itinerary for seeing the Angkor complex. If time permits take in the sunset from one of these historical sites, which includes Angkor Wat, Angkor Thom, and the Bayon temples.

Day 13 Siem Reap

Rise early to watch the sunrise over one of mankind's greatest achievements and continue your exploration of the temple complex. This afternoon take a boat ride on Tonle Sap Lake. In the evening you will feast on a buffet while taking in a cultural dance show.

Day 14 Siem Reap

In the morning, transfer to the airport for your onward journey.

N.B. International departure tax at Siem Reap Airport is currently \$25 USD (NOT INCLUDED - subject to change)

Angkor Wat

The temples of Angkor, built by the Khmer civilization between 802 and 1220 AD, represent one of humankind's most astonishing and enduring architectural achievements. From Angkor, the Khmer kings ruled over a vast domain that reached from Vietnam to China to the Bay of Bengal. The structures one sees at Angkor today, more than 100 stone temples in all, are the surviving remains of a grand religious, social and administrative metropolis whose other buildings – palaces, public buildings, and houses – were built of wood and are long since decayed and gone.

Emergency Contact in Vietnam 24 hours

Ms Nhung - +855 1291 3376 Hanoi

Ms Diep - +855 1189 3049 Hanoi

Emergency Contact in Cambodia 24 hours

Mr Hak - +855 1291 3376 Siem Reap

Mr Sophea - +855 1189 3049 Phnom Penh