

Welcome to the
Combined Trip from Hanoi Capital-Saigon-Cruise Mekong River up to Cambodia 16 days
Tripcode: 1390
Tour length: 16

Links: <https://vietnampathfinder.com/tours/export/1390>

Generated at 12/03/23 17:27:35

DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1: ARRIVAL HANOI

Pick you up on arrival and transfer to the hotel, check in and free time at leisure on your own of exploration the city.
Overnight in Hanoi.

DAY 2: HANOI HALF DAY ART TOURS (UNIQUE AND SPECIAL)

Depart from hotel at 08.00 AM and start the half day of Art Tour by stopping over at the Museum of National Fine Arts. It has received many high ranking delegations of different countries, the Museum has sent many traveling thematic exhibitions to other nations to introduce to international friends the typical culture, heroic history of Vietnam. At the same time, it has linked local people with painting, photograph, and sculpture collections of international artists. The Museum has created chances for local art lovers to enjoy and learn about different fine arts school and tendencies of the world. Our next stop is at Home/studio of the well-known lady artist of Mai Hien, she is an expert in field of Contemporary arts of Lacquer painting and graduated from Hanoi college in 1985. Mai Hien is a full member of Hanoi Fine Arts Association.

Drive to the west lake where to visit our other famous artist Mr Pham Luc also a member of the Vietnam Fine Arts Association, Luc is graduated from Hanoi fine arts college in 1977. Participated in art exhibitions in Vietnam and foreign countries such as Russia, Japan, France, Italy, Poland and Czech. His paintings have been collected by the Vietnam's fine art museum and many foreigners, He is specializing in motherland, love and war subjects.

If the time is permitted, we will travel back to downtown to visit one of the art galleries such as: Viet Fine arts or Apricot.

Lunch will be served at finest local restaurant in town and Free time on your own shopping and have coffee in town down this afternoon.

Overnight Hanoi (B/L)

DAY 3: HANOI CULTURE TOUR HALF DAY

Pick you up from your hotel, then start the guided half-day tour to visit the most interesting places in [Hanoi Capital](#), We first visit the complex of 4 spots reflecting the simple life of the great leader, beloved Hochiminh President of Vietnam, Hero of national liberation and a great man of world culture. This complex (visit at our side only, Close on Monday & Friday and Oct + Nov of yearly)comprises of the Hochiminh mausoleum where the remains of The Hochiminh President is kept, then the house on stilts, at the heart of the capital, where he lived and worked Next is Presidential Palace, which was built in 1906 where the president of Vietnam works.

Continue the visit to the One Pillar pagoda (built in 1049).

Next, take a short drive to the Temple of literature (the first university of Vietnam built in 1070).

Meet back the car to transfer back downtown for walking in the old quarter to visit the old Catholic Church and some shopping before transfer back your hotel/ or you will be free your own to continue shopping at the old quarter. (half day tour will depart from 08.00 am to 12.00 noon).

This Pm, free time your ?n and Overnight Hanoi (B/L)

DAY 4: HANOI-HALONG BAY CRUISES/ BY PRIVATE CAR

Have breakfast

At 08.40 am, we will check out and drive for Halong city, some 175 km from Hanoi (new highway will take some 2 and half hours drive).

Our driving will pass the Red River Delta and see the daily life of local, rice fields, also with some stop over for visit local ceramic villages, hands craft centres.

On arrival Halong city (around noon time), transfer to the boat dock for 2days [Halong Bay Cruises](#). Whilst cruising the exquisite waters sample the regions fresh seafood. Visit the recently discovered Surprise Grotto with its great views, and on the next island see the yawning mouth of Bo Nau Cave. Alternatively journey to Dau Go Cave and nearby see the famous stalagmites and stalactites of Thien Cung Cave.

Enjoy a swim in the emerald waters of Halong Bay at any spot that you wish to visit. Watch the sunset over the bay whilst enjoying a delicious dinner.

Overnight on board junk (B/L/D)

DAY 5: HALONG BAY CRUISES- HANOI- HUE/ FLIGHT

Wake up to fresh coffee and a wholesome breakfast before cruising back to Halong City. En route, the junk weaves through strange-shaped rock formations that invite comparisons from fighting cocks to dragons and even General de Gaulle's nose! The Boat cruise back Halong dock and drive for 3 hours on the same road back Hanoi, Check in procedures at Noi Bai airport for one and half hours flying to Hue city in central parts of Vietnam.

Pick up at Phu Bai airport in Hue, transfer to your hotel and Overnight Hue tonight (B)

DAY 6: HUE CITY TOUR 1DAY

Depart from your hotel in Hue at 8.00 AM and start with our sightseeing tour of Hue ancient, Being the ancient capital, Hue is surrounded with ancient tombs of emperors past, and a visit to the most beautiful tombs will be the itinerary for today.

The charming Lady Pagoda (Thien Mu Pagoda) will be the first stop of the day. You will enjoy a great view on the Perfume River and surrounding area. Thien Mu Pagoda is considered the symbol of Hue, and of Buddhism in Vietnam.

Next will drive for the centre Hue to visit the Citadel and the Forbidden Purple City before going for lunch at finest local restaurant in town, this PM will visit the tombs of Khai Dinh and Minh Mang Kings, return back the town at around 4 p.m.

Overnight Hue (B/L)

DAY 7: HUE- HOIAN ANCIENT TOWN WALKING TOURS

Have breakfast in hotel before checking out and heading for Hoi an ancient town,

Hoi an is some 140km away and the town is just 35km from biggest city of central part of vietnam named Danang. We will pass the fishing village of Lang co, upon arrival in Da Nang visit Cham museum, one of the 5 oldest museums in The ASIA, containing the finest collection of Cham sculptures and visit marble mountains before continuing to hoi an ancient town. Check in the hotel on arrival for fresh up and next will transfer for lunch at finest local restaurant in town.

This Pm, we will continue our walking tour to sightseeing the Hoi an ancient town, From the 16th to 18th centuries, Hoi An was a thriving international commercial port for Chinese, Dutch, French, Japanese, Portuguese and Arab traders. These people came primarily to trade in the high grade silk, which is still produced in the area, as well as ceramics.

Today, Hoi An is a quaint riverside town, popular with tourists for its eclectic architecture, tailors shops, and numerous cafes.

Some of the buildings in the narrow streets have remained unchanged for more than a century. Some places that not to be missed in town are the former merchants'homes, the 400 year-old Japanese Covered Bridge and the colorful market.

Tour ends, transfer back your hotel and Overnight Hoian an (B/L)

DAY 8: HOIAN COOKING CLASS

Have breakfast at hotel and at 09.00 am, pick up at your hotel and transfer for The cooking class is set in the charming garden of Viettown Restaurant, in the ancient town of Hoi An. Depart from there to go to Hoi An market.

Enjoy a 15 min cyclo-ride through the lovely streets of Hoi An.

Arrive at the market and stroll through the local stalls, listening to your guide who explains the different ingredients you will need to make your pho. The transfer back to Viettown is a relaxing boat trip on the Thu Bon River. Walk few minutes to the restaurant

and start learning how to make the delicious pho soup. The chef will teach you how to make rice noodles in a traditional way. Then, you will make the beef broth, a mix of beef bone, ginger and different herbs and spices that needs to marinate and which is the secret of the pho. The final touch is to boil the rice noodles and cook the beef pieces. Once done, it is time to enjoy your homemade delicious pho!

Transfer back to your hotel. Overnight Hoian (B/L)

DAY 9: HOIAN FREE DAY

Have breakfast at hotel and next will be free your own relaxing, swimming Hoian Beach or Shopping sightseeing in ancient town Market.

Overnight Hoian (B)

DAY 10: HOI AN-DANANG-SAIGON

Free at leisure until transfer to Danang airport for flying some 2 hourS to Hochiminh city (former name Saigon), pick up at Tan Son Nhat airport and transfer to your hotel.

Overnight Saigon (B)

DAY 11: SAIGON CU CHI TUNNELS- CITY TOUR 1DAY

This morning, we pick you up at your hotel and depart for [Cu Chi Tunnels](#). By 1965, 250 km of tunnels criss-crossed Cu Chi and surrounding areas -just across the Saigon River was the notorious guerrilla power base known as the IRON TRIANGLE.

The Cu Chi tunnels played a vital part in the American war in that they allowed the Viet Cong to control a large rural area only 30 to 40 km from Saigon. At its height, the tunnel system stretched from Saigon to the Cambodian border. The network, parts of which were several levels deep, included innumerable trap doors, specially constructed living areas, storage facilities, weapons factories, field hospitals, command centres and kitchens. Today the remaining tunnels have become a major tourist attraction giving the visitor a unique experience and feel of what underground life in the American War must have been like. The tunnels have been widened for our benefit (otherwise we would not be able to enter them!) For those interested there's even the opportunity to fire off rounds from an AK47 or MK16 at the nearby rifle range.

Return back to Saigon for lunch, next will be visiting the [Reunification Palace](#), war Museum, China Town and [the Notre-Dame Cathedral Basilica of Saigon](#).

At early this afternoon, tour will be finished at your hotel at 5.00 PM. (B/L)

DAY 12: HO CHI MINH CITY – MY THO – CAI BE/ CRUISE (WITH THE JAYAVARMAN BOAT)

Special cruise 4days 3nights from HCM city to Phnompenh (Pearl of the Orient).

Bid farewell to the hustle and bustle of Saigon as we travel 70 kilometers south by land to My Tho to embark your boutique Ship.

We will be served refreshing drinks and light lunch as the Ship steadily glides along the Mekong.

We will bathe in the fading sunset on the balcony followed by a briefing at the lounge. Later, a welcome dinner awaits us.

When approaching Cai Be, the Ship drops anchor midstream.

Light lunch, afternoon tea and dinner are included. Overnight in Cai Be (B/L/D)

DAY 13: CAI BE – SA DEC – TAN CHAU

Everyday, our journey starts with an invigorating Tai Chi lesson on the Sundeck just as the sun begins its gentle glow. Coffee and tea awaits the early bird.

The day-tour starts with a visit to Cai Be's boisterous and colorful floating market on a traditional sampan (a flat bottomed traditional Vietnamese wooden boat). During the ride, discover breathtaking landscapes along the river and quaff the rustic life on the Mekong Delta. The cruise will halt intermittently to allow us to observe how rice paste, rice paper, rice cookies, rice pop,

rice wine and coconut candies are made, enjoy local life along the canals on the way back to the Ship for lunch. In the afternoon, we cruise to Sa Dec. Upon arrival, we embark a traditional sampan to tour Binh Thanh Island to visit an untouchable village. Here, every villager is involved in the process of making rattan mat and this give us the chance to interact with the old local people. We then board the Ship for a tranquil evening cruise towards Tan Chau. Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included. The Ship will moor midstream overnight near Tan Chau (B/L/D)

DAY 14: TAN CHAU – BORDER CROSSING – PHNOM PENH

Welcome to the fish sanctuary of Vietnam. Begin your day with a hearty breakfast at the Dining Hall of your balcony. Brace yourself for a short excursion in Tan Chau, a pleasant town near the Cambodian border with sizeable Chinese, Kinh and Khmer community.

Firstly, the journey takes you to the “evergreen” islands where you will be thrilled to learn the life of the locals. The inhabitants of these islands live on houses poised on high stilts – a centuries-old tradition in this part of the Mekong Delta. We stop to visit a fish farm located in the Tan Chau canal – this farm consists of floating houses and the villagers make their living by cultivating fish. You continue by boat to Tan Chau pier, disembark here and stroll around this colorful local market with lots of regional products. You return to the cruise Ship after your market visit.

Breakfast, lunch and dinner are included. Overnight we anchor midstream near Phnom Penh (B/L/D)

DAY 15: PHNOMPENH- CHECK OUT THE BOAT- SIEMREAP/ FLIGHT

Your journey with the floating sanctuary has come to an end, but will not be forgotten. Disembark after breakfast. Meet our local guide and transfer to Phnompenh airport for departure flight to Siemreap, upon arrival at Siem Reap airport, meets and transfers to hotel for check in and if there is time permits, we will start our visit to the most famous of all the temples on the plain of Angkor:

Angkor Wat. The temple complex covers 81 hectares and is comparable in size to the Imperial Palace in Beijing. Its distinctive five towers are emblazoned on the Cambodian flag and the 12th century masterpiece is considered by art historians to be the prime example of classical Khmer art and architecture. Enjoy wonderful sunset from the top of Pre Rup Temple.

Dinner not included and night at hotel (B)

DAY 16: SIEM REAP - ANGKOR WAT TOURS – DEPARTURE

Breakfast at hotel

Visit the antique capital of Angkor Thom (12 century): the South Gate with its huge statues depicting the churning of the ocean of milk, the Bayon Temple, unique for its 54 towers decorated with over 200 smiling faces of Avolokitesvara, the Phimeanakas, the Royal Enclosure, the Elephants Terrace and the Terrace of the Leper King.

Lunch not included

Visit to the unique interior brick sculptures of Prasat Kravan, Srah Srang ("The Royal Baths" was once used or ritual bathing), Banteay Kdei (surrounded by 4 concentric walls), Ta Prohm, one of the area's most beautiful temples. Ta Prohm has been relatively untouched since it was discovered and retains much of its mystery. Neak Pean, a fountain built in the middle of a pool (representing the paradisiacal Himalayan mountain-lake) and Preah Khan temple, Built by the King Jayavarman VII. Preah Khan is, like Ta Prohm, a place of towered enclosures and shoulder hugging corridors. Unlike Ta Prohm, however, the temple of Preah Khan is in a reasonable state of preservation and ongoing restoration efforts should maintain and even improve this situation.

Transfer to Siem Reap airport for departure home (B)

TOUR PRICES IN LOW SEASON/(PER/PERSON) (LOW SEASON FROM 1 MAY- 1 SEPT)					
Hotel rates/group	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star	4 Star	5 Star

2 Paxs	----	----	----	2,767 \$	3,762 \$
4 Paxs	----	----	----	2,195 \$	2,550 \$
6 Paxs	----	----	----	1,979 \$	2,334 \$
8 Paxs	----	----	----	1,891 \$	2,246 \$
Single Supplement	0 \$	0 \$	0 \$	968 \$	1,317 \$

**TOUR PRICES IN HIGH SEASON/(PER/PERSON)
(HIGH SEASON FROM 2 SEPT- 31 APRIL)**

Hotel rates/group	1 Star	2 Star	3 Star	4 Star	5 Star
2 Paxs	----	----	----	3,332 \$	4,332 \$
4 Paxs	----	----	----	2,759 \$	3,069 \$
6 Paxs	----	----	----	2,543 \$	2,852 \$
8 Paxs	----	----	----	2,457 \$	2,766 \$
Single Supplement	0.0 \$	0.0 \$	0.0 \$	1,166.3 \$	1,516.3 \$

HOTELS OR SIMILAR STANDARD

Hotel names	Category	Room type	Link website	Location
Belle Maison Hadana H?i An Resort & Spa	4	Executive	http://vietnampathfinders.com/hotel/73/VINH-HUNG-RIVERSIDE-Resort.html	HOIAN
PALM GARDEN BEACH Resort	5	Bungalow Garden View	http://www.palmgardenresort.com.vn	HOIAN
Ana Mandara Beach Resort and Spa Hue	5	Beach Front Villa	www.anamandarahue-resort.com	HUE

Century Riverside Hotel	4	Deluxe River View 1	www.centuryriversidehue.com	HUE
Sofitel Legend Metropole Ha Noi	5	Premium Room	http://www.sofitel.com	HANOI
REX SAIGON HOTEL- EAST & WEST WING	5	Executive Premier Suite	www.rexhotelvietnam.com	SAI GON
Silk Path Luxury Hanoi (Hang bong)	4	Deluxe Room	www.silkpathhotel.com	HANOI
Silverland Yen Hotel	4	Executive	www.silverlandhotels.com/silverland-yen-hotel.html	SAI GON

INCLUSION

All Private transportation and transfers (AC, New)

Private Deluxe Cabin Halong Bay (with 2seafood lunches, 1dinner and breakfast)-

Luxury Bhaya Boat (www.bhayacruises.com) for 4 star option and Luxury Paradise Boat (www.paradisecruises.vn) for 5 star option

Private Superior Cabin on The Jayavarman boat cruise Saigon- phnompenh 4days 3nights (<http://heritageline.com>)

English speaking guides in Vietnam-Cambodia (Halong bay cruises, Mekong delta, guide on boat only)

Meals as indicated in tour itinerary (**B=breakfast, L= Lunch, D= Dinner**)

Cooking class in Hoian

Relevant permits and fees

All accommodation based on twin share basis with daily breakfast

EXCLUSION

Domestic flights and Airfare:

+ Hanoi- Hue= 120 USD/ One way ticket (Eco Class)

+Danang-SG = 120 USD/ One way ticket (Eco Class)

+Phnomenh-Siemreap = 120 USD/ One way ticket (Eco Class)

Vietnam visa approval letter = 25 USD/ per person (Just send us copy of your passport, we obtain in 4 days)

Cambodia visa =60 USD/ per person (will obtain Cambodia visa when in Hanoi, takes for 1day)

Drinks on boat or in restaurants

Early check in and late check out

Travel insurance

Personal expenses

Tips and gratuities for local guides and drivers

NOTE

+ Check in time at 02.00 pm and check out at 12.00 am

+ Information for The Jayavarman boat cruise Saigon- phnompenh (4days 3nights)

General Inclusions

All cruises include group shore-excursions, entrance fees, transportation, tour guide services (English speaking), taxes, fuel, river pilots, port dues, transfers in Saigon and Siem Reap from/to the meeting point to/from embarkation/disembarkation point or vice versa. Meals are included full board. Drinking water, coffee/tea (from jug) is included all day. Fruit juices are included in addition during breakfast.

Exclusions

Port tax per passenger of 65 USD (levied by Port authorities and port taxes appear on our invoice). Crew gratuities (8 USD – 10 USD per passenger per day are recommended).

Cambodian Visa (available on Upstream cruise only/37 USD)

Important information

Upstream and Downstream indicate the direction, the Ships will travel. Downstream means from Siem Reap to Saigon. Upstream is the opposite direction from Saigon to Siem Reap.

Low water season: The water level goes down and very low in Tonle Sap, so the Ships have to dock in Kampong Cham, where the embarkation and disembarkation will take place. It takes 4.5 hours for our coaches to transfer to the meeting point in Siem Reap (Victoria Angkor Resort & Spa).

For downstream (REP-SGN) we will meet at 08:00am for the check-in formality.

For upstream (SGN-REP) the coaches will drop you off around 13:30pm at Victoria Angkor Resort & Spa.

Low water season is approximate from January to middle of September.

High water season: The Ship could cruise along in Tonle Sap and dock near Siem Reap pier. It just takes 45 minutes for our coaches to transfer to the meeting point (Victoria Angkor Resort & Spa). The embarkation and disembarkation of the Ship will take place near Siem Reap pier.

For downstream (REP-SGN) we will meet at noon (12:00pm) at the meeting point for check in formality.

For upstream (SGN-REP) the coaches will drop you off around 10:00am at Victoria Angkor Resort & Spa.

High water season is approximate from middle of September to the end of December.

High water and low water season just make itinerary timing schedule changeable in Siem Reap, there will be no changes at other destinations.

Visa in Saigon and Siem Reap

For most foreigners visa are needed for both countries. Please check with the Vietnamese and Cambodian embassies in your country.

During the upstream cruises (SGN-REP), Heritage Line could support to arrange Cambodia visa at the border. The visa fee of USD 37 per person (subject to change during public holidays and others terms) will be added to their onboard account.

For downstream cruises (REP-SGN), Heritage Line could support to arrange Vietnam visa as well. But as the visa has to be issued in Phnom Penh, the processes is difficult and expensive (visa fee will be advised at the time you request for). We strongly recommend arranging Vietnam visa before arrival in Vietnam or Cambodia.

E-Visa accepted in Vietnam and Cambodia

Please note that both Vietnamese and Cambodian E-Visas are not accepted for waterway entry to either country.

Passengers who wish to obtain their own Visas before the trip must apply directly at a Cambodian or Vietnamese Consulate or Embassy, or by other methods, that will allow them to receive a normal Tourist Visa-for the country they will enter into on the water.

For upstream journeys (Vietnam to Cambodia) a Vietnamese E-Visa is acceptable for entry by air to Vietnam-but for the water way entry to Cambodia, a Cambodian E-Visa is not acceptable.

For downstream journeys (Cambodia to Vietnam) a Cambodian E-Visa is acceptable for entry by air to Cambodia-but for the water way entry to Vietnam, a Vietnamese E-Visa is not acceptable.

Passengers who have obtained E-Visas-for the country that will be entered by water-will be required to apply for new onboard and pay all visa fees.

Boat information:

Technical figures

Built 2009

Length / Width / Height 57,8 m / 11,1 m / 10 m

Beam / Draft 11 m / 1,6 m

Gross tonnage 998 tons

Cruising speed 10 nautical knots

Electricity 220v

Capacity / Cabins 54 passengers / 27 cabins (three categories)

Water Reverse osmosis and UV water treatment plant, sewage treatment plant.

Safety Radio Comm., Radar, GPS, PA system, life jackets, life rafts, fire hydrants, flares and signals, fire extinguishers, smoke detectors in each cabin, CO2 engine room fire fighting system.

Particulars:

French-Colonial with Khmer artifacts

27 cabins (three categories)

Indochine Dining Hall

Club 1930 Funnel Bar & Lounge
Henry Mouhot Lobby Lounge with Boutique Shop
Apsara Spa
Sundeck with Jacuzzi

