

**Insiders Asia**

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## Vietnam & Cambodia - 12 Days

### DAY 1: USA - HANOI

Trans-Pacific flight to Hanoi.

### DAY 2: ARRIVAL - HANOI

Arrive in **Hanoi**, the capital of Vietnam, a beautiful city of lakes, public parks and temples. Meet your tour director and transfer to the hotel. You will have time to unpack and relax before kicking off your exciting tour of Hanoi. Enjoy a special **Welcome Dinner** featuring exquisite **Vietnamese cuisine** and traditional music. **Hanoi Elegance Hotel** (D)

### DAY 3: HANOI - GUIDED TOUR

With its French colonial architecture, narrow tree-lined streets, green parks, and tranquil lakes, **Hanoi** has been described as the most European-like city in Vietnam, if not all of Asia. Look for this layering of European and Asian styles on your guided tour of the city today. Highlights: **One Pillar Pagoda**, **Army Museum** and **Quan Thanh Temple** and **Temple of Literature**. After lunch break, enjoy a guided visit to **Vietnam Fine Arts Museum**. **Hanoi Elegance Hotel** (B/L/D)

### DAY 4: HANOI - HA LONG

This morning, drive east to **Ha Long**, a **UNESCO World Heritage Site**. Visit **Bat Trang**, the ceramic village en route. Arrive in Halong and embark on a **4-hour boat cruise**. Ha Long Bay comprises over 3,000 small jagged limestone islands (called "karsts") that rise out of **South China Sea**. These dramatic rock formations are the backdrop of your boat cruise that comes complete with a fresh seafood lunch. Stop to visit some beautiful grottoes filled with spectacular stalactite formations. Overnight in Ha Long. **Novotel Hotel** (B/L/D)

### DAY 5: HA LONG - HANOI - DANANG - HOI AN

After breakfast, transfer to Hanoi to board a flight bound for Danang. If time permits, we will stop for a visit at Tho Ha village en route. Arrive in Danang late afternoon and transfer to your hotel in **Hoi An**. **Ancient House Resort** (B/L)

### DAY 6: HOI AN - GUIDED CITY TOUR

Set out to explore this charming medieval city on foot. **Hoi An**, once a busy port which attracted Dutch, Portuguese and Japanese trading vessels in centuries past. This quaint town comprises 844 designated historical landmarks and was designated a **World Cultural Heritage Site** in 1999. Wander the charming, narrow streets, many of which remain intact. Marvel at the 200-year-old wooden-front houses, temples, exotic food markets and open-air cafés. Enjoy lunch at **Brother's** café with the tranquil river and lush tropical garden for your view. **Ancient House Resort** (B/L)

#### DAY 7: HOI AN – DANANG - HO CHI MINH CITY

Touch down in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), Vietnam's largest city is the industrial, commercial and cultural center of the country. After hotel check-in, set off on a guided sightseeing tour amidst the French colonial architecture of Ho Chi Minh City, the **Central Post Office**, former US Embassy, former Presidential Palace. Tonight enjoy an exquisite dinner at **Indochine** restaurant. **Duxton Hotel** (B/L/D)

#### DAY 8: HO CHI MINH CITY - MEKONG DELTA - HO CHI MINH CITY

Today's excursion will take you to the heart of the **Mekong Delta**. After breakfast, you'll take a two-hour drive to visit the prosperous town of **Mytho**, known for its extensive orchards and immense rice fields. You'll visit the **Vinh Trang Pagoda**, built in 1849. The pagoda combines elements of Vietnamese, Chinese and French colonial architecture. You'll then get on a sampan, a flat-bottom wooden boat suitable for crossing the complex maze of the **Mekong River**. Stop to visit an island where you'll explore some fruit orchards and talk with the villagers. A horse-drawn carriage will take you to your waiting coach on the other side of the island. Enjoy lunch in a beautiful Delta garden en route to Saigon. Return to **Saigon** late afternoon after a visit to **Chinatown** and **Thien Hau pagoda** en route. **Duxton Hotel** (B/L/D)

#### DAY 9: HO CHI MINH CITY – SIEMREAP (CAMBODIA)

After breakfast, take a walk around Dong Khoi Street and Ben Thanh market where you can take in the sound and sight of this tireless city. This afternoon board an one-hour flight to **Siemreap, Cambodia**. Arrive in Siemreap and transfer to your hotel. Unpack, relax and be ready for an evening of entertainment. Tonight, enjoy a special dinner with **Apsara Dance**, a traditional **Khmer** art form, at Angkor Village Theater. **Angkor Village Resort** (B/D)

#### DAY 10: SIEMREAP - ANGKOR WAT.

As the Coliseum is to Italy and the pyramids are to Egypt, so are the temples of **Angkor to Cambodia**. Spend the day exploring these massive stone temples dating back to the 9th through 13th centuries, and learn about this ancient civilization, which, at its height, was home to more than one million people. Discover the famous **South Gate of Angkor Thom, Bayon, Baphuon, Phimeanakas, Elephant Terrace** and the **Terrace of the Leper King**. Continue to explore **Angkor Wat** until **sunset**. Tonight, visit **Angkor night market** for souvenir shopping. **Angkor Village Resort** (B/L)

#### DAY 11: SIEMREAP - PHNOM PENH

Contemplate the mysteries surrounding **Angkor** on a morning visit to **Banteay rei** and **Banteay Samre** temples. After lunch at the hotel, transfer to Siemreap airport for departure to **Phnom Penh**, Cambodia's capital. Arrive in Phnom Penh late afternoon. **Amanjay Pacam Hotel** (B/L/D)

**DAY 12: PHNOM PENH - DEPARTURE.**

This morning a local guide shows you the city's most famous monuments: **National Museum, Silver Pagoda, Royal Palace** and **Wat Phnom**. Alternately, you could opt for a more sobering visit to **Choeng Ek** killing field or **Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum**. Transfer to Phnom Penh International Airport for your departure flight. (B)