

CAMBODIA & VIETNAM TOUR



MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE

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1300 168 910



Classic Cambodia & Vietnam Tour with Flights

Duration: 18 days

Departs: 2022 & 2023, Mondays & Wednesdays

Stay: 17 nights hotels (4-star rating)

Travel style: Independent & guided tour with Flights

Booking code: VTCG18M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

18 Days Cambodia & Vietnam Tour with Flights

About the holiday

Vietnam boasts stunning natural beauty, historic sites and a rich culture. Combine this with the awe-inspiring temples and picturesque countryside of Cambodia and in you're in for a real Asian travel treat!

This tour starts in Siem Reap, where you'll get to witness a beautiful Angkor Wat or Ta Prohm sunrise and spend a full day visiting the famous Temples of Angkor Archaeological Park. Travel by bus to Phnom Penh for a comprehensive city tour that includes the Royal Palace and helps you learn about the country's traumatic history.

Fly to Vietnam and travel from Ho Chi Minh City in the south, to Hanoi in the north. Enjoy a walking tour in the ancient town of Hoi An and drive over the towering mountains to Hue. Cruise spectacular Halong Bay and experience the cultural highlights of Hanoi, including the world-famous Water Puppet Show.

Expert local guides, all your transport and premium accommodation, as well as free time to explore at your leisure, make this an ideal Indochina adventure.

Why you'll love this trip...

Discover Siem Reap's floating villages and local communities

Tick off your bucket list the World Heritage-listed Temples of Angkor

Visit Notre Dame Cathedral & the magnificent Saigon Opera house in Ho Chi Minh City

Old City of Hoi An was an important trading port in the 15th century

Tour the Imperial City and 19th century Citadel in Hue

Cruise Halong Bay & view the thousands of limestone islands rising out of the sea

Museum of Ethnology and Water Puppet Show in Hanoi

Travel with an English-speaking tour manager in Vietnam

Call our office on 1300 168 910 for current rates & travel info.



Travel Dates:

2022 & 2023 - Departs Mondays & Wednesdays

Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking - see the website for details.

Tour package includes:

Flights - International return economy airfares to Siem Reap & from Hanoi

All intra-flights: Phnom Penh - Ho Chi Minh City - Da Nang & Hue - Hanoi

Accommodation - 17 nights First Class accommodations (typically 4-star)

4 nights Siem Reap

2 nights Phnom Penh

2 nights Ho Chi Minh

2 nights Hoi An

2 nights Hue

1 night Halong Bay

4 nights Hanoi

Meals - 22 meals: 16 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners

Sightseeing - Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned coach

Tours conducted by professional local guides

Entrance fees per itinerary

Comfortable wireless earphones for enhanced touring in Vietnam

Escorted tour in Vietnam - Services of English-speaking tour manager

Package excludes:

Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary

Optional tours & activities

Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry etc.

Gratuities for tour managers & drivers

Video & camera permits

Travel insurance is essential

Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

Subject to confirmation by hotels, tour company & local operators. Conditions apply.

Itinerary:

Day 1 - Arrive in Siem Reap

Arrive at the airport and be transferred to the hotel. **Overnight: Siem Reap**

Day 2 - Floating Village Half Day

In the afternoon, visit one of Siem Reap's authentic floating villages. Located on the north-western tip of the Tonle Sap, Me Chhrey village allows for an authentic floating village experience. The small village is home to families who unlike other floating communities still live in wooden house boats. The village moves throughout the year, depending on the water levels of the lake. At the end of the dry season when the lake's water levels are at its lowest, the villagers move closer to shore and live primarily from agricultural activities on land. By visiting a local home you get a better understanding of life on the lake and your guide would be more than happy to translate your questions to your hosts. Return to the port and visit the Silk Farm of Artisans d'Angkor, located a 15-minute drive away. Here people with underprivileged backgrounds are given an opportunity to improve their livelihoods by reviving the ancient crafts of making art and producing silk. A local representative accompanies you and walks you through the farm and explains all the steps necessary to produce quality silk. Return to town for a free evening.

Meals: Breakfast. Overnight: Siem Reap

This tour sometimes may be changed into the morning because of the level of water (high or low level), your guide will re-confirm the time for the tour.

Day 3 - Angkor Temples

We spend a full day visiting the well-known Temples of Angkor Archeological Park. Wake up early at 05:00 am to witness the beautiful Sunrise at Angkor Wat or Ta Prohm, then head back to hotel for breakfast and continue the tour to visit:

Southern Gate of Angkor Thom

Bayon, late 12th century

Baphuon, middle of 11th century

Phimeanakas, early 11th century

Northern & Southern Khleang, beginning of the 11th century

Terrace of the Elephants, late 12th century

Terrace of Leper King, late 12th century

Angkor Wat, first half of 12th century

Ta Prohm, early 13th century

Meals: Breakfast and lunch. Overnight: Siem Reap

Day 4 - Day at Leisure in Siem Reap

Enjoy a free day in Siem Reap. See your hotel tour desk to arrange a day trip or wander the town at your leisure. **Meals: Breakfast. Overnight: Siem Reap**

Day 5 - Phnom Penh (travel by bus - 7 hours)

After breakfast at the hotel, we will transfer you to the bus station to go to Phnom Penh. The bus trip will pass through the countryside, so you can see local house during the way. Upon arrival at the bus station pick up and transfer to the hotel. Check in and relax.

Meals: Breakfasts. Overnight: Phnom Penh

Day 6 - Phnom Penh - City Tour

The Royal Palace was built by the French in 1866 on the site of the old town. The main building on the compound is the Throne Room. It was built in 1917 in the traditional Khmer style and has a tiered roof and a 59-meter tower, which is influenced by Angkor Thom's Bayon Temple. On the compounds of the Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda stands out in its own distinctive way. The Pagoda's steps are of Italian marble. On the inside, the floor is comprised of more than 5000 silver tiles, which together weigh nearly 6 tonnes. The pagoda houses a magnificent 17th century Emerald Buddha statue and a 90kg gold Buddha studded with 9584 diamonds. Right next to the palace, the National Museum of Phnom Penh was designed by French historian George Groslier also following traditional Khmer architecture. Finally visit the Wat Phnom located on a man-made hill, 27m high. Then, have lunch. Although far from pretty, learning more about Cambodia's recent history is essential and helps to increase one's perception of Cambodia's development and the people's mentality. When on 17 April 1975 Phnom Penh fell, the Khmer Rouge evacuated the city with force leaving and left the capital as a ghost city. Pol Pot turned the former High School of Chao Ponhea Yat into the S-21 (Tuol Sleng) prison camp where "enemies of the regime" were tortured and later killed. All of its prisoners were registered and photographed and nowadays these pictures deck the narrow halls of the Genocide Museum of Tuol Sleng. It is believed that over 17.000 people were imprisoned at Tuol Sleng, all of them but seven known survivors, eventually found their death. Prisoners who did survive the torture of Tuol Sleng were brought to Choeung Ek, which is known as "The Killing Fields". This seemingly peaceful area located 17km from Phnom Penh was for everyone entering the site the end of the line. Nowadays it is home to a memorial stupa containing over 5000 skulls, which allows the Khmer people to return and honour their ancestors who died by the Pol Pot regime. **Meals:**

Breakfast and lunch. Overnight: Phnom Penh

Day 7 - Phnom Penh - Departure

Check out and make your way to the airport your departure flight to Ho Chi Minh in Vietnam.

Meals: Breakfast

DAY 7, Arrive Vietnam

Arrive in Ho Chi Minh (formerly Saigon), the largest city in Vietnam. Make your way to your hotel and enjoy the balance of the day at leisure

Overnight: Ho Chi Minh

DAY 8, Ho Chi Minh City Tour

Spend the morning at leisure or, join the *optional* half day tour to Cu Chi Tunnels. They were part of an underground tunnel network built by the Viet Cong to control a large rural area near Saigon. The Cu Chi network includes 125 miles of tunnels with many branches connecting to underground hideouts, weapon factories, hospitals, shelters and other tunnels. In the afternoon, participate in a guided tour in Ho Chi Minh City, which includes the neo-Romanesque Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office with its French style architecture, City Hall, and the magnificent Saigon Opera House. From here, visit lively Ben Thanh Market - where an unbelievable assortment of wares and crafts are sold under one roof. Continue to Dong Khoi Street, a major shopping thoroughfare in the centre of the city. Early in the evening, enjoy a Welcome Drink and briefing by your Tour Manager on the exciting journey that lies ahead. Remainder of the evening is at leisure. Be sure to check out the diversified dining scene in this culinary rich city

Optional: Half Day Cu Chi Tunnels (AM)

Overnight: Ho Chi Minh **Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 9, Flight to Da Nang, Hoi An Walking Tour

Depart Ho Chi Minh on your flight to Da Nang, one of Vietnam's major ports on the coast of the South China Sea. Travel south to the picturesque town of Hoi An, where people still wear the "*ao dais*", Vietnam's traditional dress. The ancient town of Hoi An, a World Heritage Site, was the most important trading port in Southeast Asia in the 15th century. Its past is superbly preserved in an enchanting collection of temples, pagodas, shop houses and magnificent private homes in the town's Old Quarter. Walking tour of this artistic jewel, with its centuries-old architecture includes gorgeous Phuoc Kien Pagoda, the 400 year old bright-red Japanese Covered Bridge and the Ancient House. Afterwards, continue to dinner at a local restaurant

Overnight: Hoi An **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 10, Full Day in Hoi An

Spend a full day at leisure discovering all of the delights of Hoi An independently. Walk through the Old City, stopping at one of the city's many museums, or see artisans using age-old techniques to fashion a variety of crafts. Of special interest are the colourful and elaborate paper lanterns created by lantern artisans for which Hoi An is well known. Or, join the *optional* boat trip on the Thu Bon River visiting the Organic Village, including lunch. The boat trip begins at a local pier in the Old Town. You'll cruise down streams and past many fishing areas before arriving in Kim Bong village, home of traditional woodworking and boat building. Return to the mainland and drive to the Traque Organic Village for lunch. Here, you'll learn about the many vegetables and herbs organically grown to support the people of Hoi An. After a Vietnamese culinary lesson and tasting, return to Hoi An

Optional: Boat Trip on the Thu Bon River & Organic Village with Lunch

Overnight: Hoi An **Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 11, Travel to Hue, Hue Imperial City Tour

This morning, travel to Da Nang, with stunning views of bowl-shaped Da Nang Bay. Drive by Marble Mountain, a village well-known for its sophisticated hand-made marble products. Journey over the towering mountains to Hue, home to a wealth of palaces, temples, libraries and museums. Afternoon tour of this former Imperial capital, modelled after the Forbidden City in Beijing. Enter the Ngo Mon Gate, principal entrance to the Imperial Enclosure and the central passageway reserved for use by the Emperor. Continue to the Thai Hoa Palace with its spacious hallways and ornamental roof, the Halls of the Mandarins, the Nine Dynastic Urns, and the ruins of the Forbidden Purple City, once home to the royal family. Tonight, spend time at leisure to explore on your own or join the *optional* Cyclo Ride with Dinner at the Citadel. Enjoy a panoramic view of both the daily life and the architecture of Hue with a Trishaw (Cyclo) Tour. Later arrive at a family run restaurant within the Citadel and savour a multi-course dinner replica of the Royal Feast

Optional: Cyclo Ride with Dinner at the Citadel

Overnight: Hue **Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 12, Full Day in Hue

Today is at leisure to explore Hue independently. Or, participate in the not-to-be-missed *optional* boat excursion on the gentle Perfume River, which explores the life along the banks of the ancient royal capital city. The river, with its shimmering blue colour is dotted with a poetic landscape of boats, gardens, pagodas, towers and temples. The tour continues to the legendary Thien Mu Pagoda, on the north bank of the Perfume River, built in seven successive tiers. Then, a drive to the Tomb of Emperor Tu Duc, final resting place of Vietnam's longest reigning emperor and to Khai Dinh, the last monument of the Nguyen dynasty. Here, a vegetarian lunch will be prepared by Buddhist nuns of the Dong Thien Pagoda. Return to Hue

Optional: Perfume River Boat Trip and Lunch at Dong Thien Pagoda

Overnight: Hue **Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 13, Flight to Hanoi, Sightseeing en route to Halong Bay

Depart Hue on the flight* to sparkling Hanoi, cultural centre of the country. Upon arrival, travel overland and through the lush Vietnamese countryside to picturesque Halong Bay, considered one of Vietnam's most celebrated attractions. As you approach, you'll see thousands of limestone islands rising out of the sea creating a truly magical scene. Arrive at your hotel in Halong Bay for overnight

**On some departures, the flight Hue-Hanoi may be changed to depart from Da Nang-Hanoi. Details will be provided locally by your Tour Manager*

Overnight: Halong Bay **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 14, Cruise Halong Bay, Travel to Hanoi

Incredible views await you today! Halong Bay is considered one of the most breathtaking places on the planet, added to the list of UNESCO Heritage sites and declared recently as one of the "New Seven Natural Wonders of the World".

There are over 3000 islands in the emerald waters and over 1000 have their own names. Numbers of caves and grottos of all sizes and shapes are filled with small waterfalls, stalactites and stalagmites. Sail on a traditional wooden boat on the tranquil bay with lunch served on board. Visit to one of the caves. Afterwards, drive to Hanoi, Vietnam's vibrant capital and check in to your hotel. This city's history is tied to French colonialism - its architecture, cuisine and local culture still bear evidence of the French influence

Overnight: Hanoi **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

DAY 15, Hanoi City Tour & Evening Water Puppet Show

Today, visit the Museum of Ethnology, centre for the preservation and exhibition of cultural heritage for over 50 ethnic groups in Vietnam. In the evening, attend a performance of the world-famous Water Puppet Show, accompanied by a traditional Vietnamese orchestra and Cheo (*a form of opera*). The show depicts a series of ancient Vietnamese folktales, acted out by puppets over a pool of water

Overnight: Hanoi **Meals:** Breakfast

DAY 16 & 17, Free Days in Hanoi

Spend the next two days at leisure discovering Hanoi on your own, or, take the *optional* tour to the stunning Thai Pagoda and So Village, including lunch, also known as the "Pagoda of the Master". Nestled against the hillside in Sai Go Village, it shares its compound with the smaller Ca pagoda. Here, you'll also see Thuy Dinh Stage, a water palace on Long Tri Pond, where the ancient form of water puppetry is performed. Continue to So Village, a well-preserved ancient village. Walking tour around the village with its traditional layout and small alleyways in-between the houses. Stop at one of the communal houses to meet villagers who earn their living from making noodles. Tonight, your journey to Vietnam ends with many lasting memories. Farewell dinner with your fellow travellers and Tour Manager

Optional: Thai Pagoda & So Village with lunch (AM)

Overnight: Hanoi **Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

DAY 18, Depart Vietnam

Make your way to the airport for your departure flight

Meals: Breakfast

Please note: The day by day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

Any questions? Call our office on 1300 168 910

Optional Tours:

Book your Optional Tours before you travel. See more, save time, save money.

- Tours purchased while travelling may cost an extra 10% or more
- Tours often sell out. Avoid disappointment
- Save your cash. Credit card processing may not be possible locally
- Travel insurance might only cover services purchased prior to departure
- Contact us to book these tours up to 1 week before your departure
- The day the optional tours operate varies by the day of the week

Half Day Cu Chi Tunnels

The Cu Chi tunnels were part of an underground tunnel network built by the Viet Cong to control a large rural area near Saigon. These tunnels were first used during the French/Vietnamese War (1946-1954) and later used by the Viet Cong as a base of operations during the 1968 Tet offensive. The Cu Chi network includes 125 miles of tunnels with many branches connecting to underground hideouts, weapon factories, hospitals, shelters and other tunnels. The entire structure was dug out of the rock by hand tools without the use of cement. On this tour, you'll learn about the tunnels and other aspects of the war. Opportunity for a brief view of life underground as you enter areas that have been enlarged to create easier access for visitors. The majority of the tour will be above the tunnels.

Please note: This tour is presented from a Vietnamese perspective, based on past wars with France and the United States. If you are uncomfortable with the expressed point-of-views and prefer not to hear this discussion, then we recommend that you do not participate.

Approximate tour duration is 5 hours.

Full Day Mekong Delta River Tour

The Mekong River is the lifeblood of Southeast Asia. It starts from Tibet, running through 5 countries before entering Vietnam and created a great basin via its 9 tributaries. Today's journey into the Mekong Delta region will take us along the newly built highway, picturesque countryside and seemingly endless paddy fields. Upon arrival at My Tho, you will board a private motor boat for a fascinating cruise along the river, observing the daily life of local people on the waterways. The tour includes a sampan ride through the winding canals, a visit to a coconut factory, handicraft workshop, honey bee farm. You will be introduced to the daily life of the local people, learning about local fruit and plants as well as an opportunity to sample some local tropical fruit in an orchard. The tour ends with a great lunch at a local restaurant by the river bank.

Return to H Chi Minh City by bus.

Approximate tour duration is 8.5 hours

Boat Trip on the Thu Bon River & Organic Village with lunch

Begin the boat trip at a local pier in the Old Town, cruising down streams and passing many fishing areas before cruising out to the main river. Stop at Kim Bong village, home of traditional woodworking and boat-building families. Return to the mainland and drive to the Traque Organic Village for lunch. Here, meet local farmers and learn about the many vegetables and herbs that are organically grown here to support the people of Hoi An. Walk through the gardens and see how, even today, local farmers work their fields using the traditional methods used hundreds of years ago. A culinary lesson follows on the traditional ways of preparing and cooking Vietnamese food, plus the local specialty called Banh-xeo. Once the lesson is over, enjoy the food you helped to prepare.

Departs at 8:30 am. Pick-up and drop-off at the hotel. Approximate tour duration is 6 hours.

Cyclo Ride with Dinner at the Citadel

Enjoy a panoramic view of both the daily life and the architecture of Hue with a Trishaw (Cyclo) Tour. (The Cyclo is a very common mode of transportation in Vietnam.) Begin at the French Quarter with its beautiful French villas. Pass by the school where former presidents Ho Chi Minh and Ngo Dinh Diem, as well as Vo Nguyen Giap - a prominent Vietnamese politician - were educated. Continue via the market to the former Royal Palace. Then, arrive at a family-run restaurant within the Citadel walls; its owner is the descendant of a high ranking Mandarin official, and thus considered "a master of Royal cuisine." Savour a multi-course dinner - each dish will be presented in the shape of a peacock, dragon or turtle. This feast is a replica of the Royal Feast presented to the royal families in the past.

Approximate tour duration is 3 hours.

Perfume River Boat Trip with lunch at Dong Thien Pagoda

Enjoy a boat trip on the beautiful and serene Perfume River with a stop to a local village to learn about the daily life of local people in one of the most traditional parts of North Central Vietnam. Continue to the Thien Mu Pagoda, situated on Ha Khe hill, on the north bank of the Perfume River. The temple complex stretches north from the river banks in seven successive tiers, each of which is dedicated to a human form taken by the Buddha, or a step to enlightenment. Then, drive to the Tomb of Emperor Tu Duc, the final resting place of Vietnam's longest reigning emperor, set among forested hills and lakes. Lastly, proceed to Khai Dinh, the last monument of the Nguyen dynasty. A vegetarian lunch prepared by Buddhist nuns of the Dong Thien Pagoda is a very special experience, with time to interact with the Buddhist nuns, learning more about their lives in the pagoda.

Departs at 8:30 am. Pick-up and drop-off at the hotel. Approximate tour duration is 7 hours.

Book with Confidence!

New safety measures, more flexibility and greater peace of mind.

The wellbeing and safety of our passengers and staff is always a priority, especially as we adjust to a new world for travellers. My Travel Experience is committed to ensuring your peace of mind with customer-friendly booking practices and enhanced health & safety standards on our trips. We work closely with tour operators that have received the Safe Travels stamp by the World Travel and Tourism Council (WTTC), which enables travellers to recognise companies around the world that have adopted health and hygiene global standardised protocols. We are also able to offer our clients as much flexibility as possible when making bookings, will let you know of all travel operator conditions and will help you if any unexpected situations arise.

Affordable Holidays - How do we do it?

With over 30 years' in the business, we know the travel industry better than anyone and have tracked down the best experiences around the world. We go directly to local suppliers to source the best price and holiday for you. Dealing directly with local operators is why our holidays are more affordable. We work with reputable travel professionals that offer exceptional service and safe travel policies. If you think you are paying too much for your travel arrangements, please give us a call, we will work hard to find the ideal holiday for you - that's My Travel Experience!

My Travel Experience is a full-service travel agency

Want flights, car hire, escorted tours, airport transfers, travel insurance & more?

My Travel Experience offers personalised service and unlike other online booking companies, we are not a one-size-fits-all travel agency. Our experienced travel consultants can design an itinerary or provide a quote for wherever you want to travel and include whatever travel services that you want to pre-book.

Plus, we are with you all the way - from your first enquiry, until your departure and when you safely return home. You will always be able to reach us. Email us today on reservations@mytravelxp.com with your preferences for any of our travel packages!

**Call 1300 168 910 to speak to us about
planning your personal holiday.**



MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE BOOKING CONDITIONS

Please read the following information prior to making your reservation

Our full set of terms and conditions can be [viewed and downloaded on our website](#), or supplied on request from our office. We highly recommend you read My Travel Experience booking conditions prior to making your holiday reservations. This is the contract under which both parties enter, therefore we request that you only make a booking if you agree with these conditions.

This is a summary in brief for our customers:

1. Upon making a reservation with My Travel Experience you will receive a booking form, which needs to be filled out and signed to confirm that you agree to the terms and conditions.
2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.
3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.
4. 90 days prior to departure you will be asked to make the balance payment for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).
5. 10 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents via email.

My Travel Experience operates a Client Trust bank account. This means that we do not hold your money. We pay the ultimate travel providers (Suppliers) of your travel services the funds for your holiday. The Suppliers include airlines, tour operators, cruise lines, transport companies, hotels etc. We are required to pay the Suppliers deposits and final payments to secure your booking and in some instances these items are non-refundable.

If you wish to cancel you must notify us of your cancellation in writing. We will then write to the Suppliers to cancel your booking and request a refund (if applicable) for any elements of your holiday that are refundable. You will need to make an insurance claim for any travel arrangements that are non-refundable. If you have any issues during the refund or cancellation process, you have 30 days to contact our office in writing to lodge a complaint so an immediate resolution can be found for you.

Phone 1300 168 910

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