



*... to all
the world*

INDOCHINE ~ Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos March 3 – 15, 2024

Itinerary At A Glance

DATE	DAY DESCRIPTION	ACCOMMODATION	MEALS*
Day 0 Saturday 2 nd Mar 2024	Acclimation Day in Hanoi (optional)	Hotel De L'Opera Deluxe Room	-
Day 1 Sunday 3 rd Mar 2024	Hanoi	Hotel De L'Opera Deluxe Room	B-D
Day 2 Monday 4 th Mar 2024	Hanoi	Hotel De L'Opera Deluxe Room	B-L
Day 3 Tuesday 5 th Mar 2024	Lan Ha Bay	Indochine Cruise Junior Suite	B-L-D
Day 4 Wednesday 6 th Mar 2024	Lan Ha Bay –Ho Chi Minh City	Hotel Des Arts Grand Deluxe	B-D
Day 5 Thursday 7 th Mar 2024	Ho Chi Minh City	Hotel Des Arts Grand Deluxe	B-L
Day 6 Friday 8 th Mar 2024	Ho Chi Minh City-Can Tho	Azerai Can Tho/River room	B-L-D
Day 7 Saturday 9 th Mar 2024	Can Tho-Ho Chi Minh City-Siem Reap	Park Hyatt Siem Reap Park View Room	B-D
Day 8 Sunday 10 th Mar 2024	Siem Reap	Park Hyatt Siem Reap Park View Room	B-L-D
Day 9 Monday 11 th Mar 2024	Siem Reap	Park Hyatt Siem Reap Park View Room	B-L-D
Day 10 Tuesday 12 th Mar 2024	Siem Reap / Luang Prabang	Sofitel Luang Prabang Garden Suite Room	B-L-D
Day 11 Wednesday 13 th Mar 2024	Luang Prabang	Sofitel Luang Prabang Garden Suite Room	B-L-D
Day 12 Thursday 14 th Mar 2024	Luang Prabang	Sofitel Luang Prabang Garden Suite Room	B-L-D
Day 13 Friday 15 th Mar 2024	Depart Luang Prabang		B

*B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner

Day 0 Saturday 2nd Mar 2024
Acclimation Day in Hanoi (Optional)

Optional service: Pre-night at hotel in Hanoi

Hotel De L'Opera
Deluxe Room

Day 1 Sunday 3rd Mar 2024
Hanoi Arrival

_ - _ - D

Arrive: Noi Bai International Airport, Hanoi, Vietnam, at
(International flights are under your own arrangements)

Welcome to Vietnam! You arrive in Hanoi, the cultural heart and capital of Vietnam. A city of surprising beauty, Hanoi is home to centuries-old traditional architecture that stand alongside elegant French-colonial mansions as well as traditional temples. The life of the city can be seen in the narrow streets of the Old Quarter, where small boutiques, Vietnamese coffee shops and lively street vendors create a vibrant and bustling atmosphere.



Upon arrival, you are greeted by your guide and transferred to your hotel. The remainder of your day is at your leisure with lunch under your own arrangement.

This evening, enjoy a welcome dinner at local restaurant.
Drink included: Mineral water and ½ bottle of wine per person

Hotel De L'Opera
Deluxe Room

2 nights

Day 2 Monday 4th Mar 2024
Hanoi

B - L - _

08:30 Delve into Hanoi's colorful history. Learn about the life and times of former President Ho Chi Minh, who played a key role in the nation's journey towards independence. Visit the mausoleum

where his body is embalmed and see his humble stilted house, which was built in the style of an ethnic village home. Continue to the One Pillar Pagoda, a unique 11th century structure dedicated to King Ly Thai To's son. Visit Hoa Lo Prison and discover why it became known as the "Hanoi Hilton" during the Vietnam War.

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before continuing to the Temple of Literature, where Vietnam's royal family and elite society were educated for almost 700 years. Take a cyclo (bicycle rickshaw) into the Old Quarter to explore its network of narrow, 15th century streets. Each street bears a name that reflects the business once conducted there, such as Silk Street, Rice Street, Paper Street and Jeweler's Street. Then take a stroll beside the beautiful Hoan Kiem Lake and visit the temple in the lake known as Ngoc Son. Return to your hotel at 17:30.

Please note: The Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum is closed every afternoon and all day on Monday and Friday. It is also closed from mid-June to mid-August for annual restoration and preservation works. However, it is still possible to walk around the complex and visit the stilted house and pagoda.



Hotel De L'Opera Deluxe Room

Day 3 Tuesday 5th Mar 2024
Hanoi – Ha Long Bay

B - L - D

Depart for an overnight cruise in majestic Ha Long Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage. The transfer from Hanoi takes about two and a half hours and you board your cruise at Tuan Chau Port at **12:15**.

Designed to reflect the style and elegance of old Indochina, Indochine Cruise delivers a comfortable and sophisticated cruising experience with premium hospitality and services. Featuring dark wood furnishings, colorful textiles and local art, each cabin creates a sense of space with floor-to-ceiling windows and private balconies offering enchanting views of the passing scenery. The lounge and bar, decorated with old-world trinkets, exude a classic, colonial character while the spa and gym offer a chance to keep fit and enjoy a little extra pampering while cruising.

The crew greet you on board with a welcome drink and a safety briefing. Watch scenes of the bay and its dramatic limestone karsts unfold around you while enjoying a buffet lunch on board. Explore a quiet area of the bay with a short speedboat transfer to Cat Ba Island. Walk through Viet Hai village, lined with rustic houses, and cycle or travel by electric car into the lush island jungle.

Return to the cruise for a Vietnamese cooking demonstration followed by a set menu dinner in the restaurant. In the evening, you try squid fishing, play a range of board games or simply stargaze from the sundeck.



**Indochine Cruise
Junior Suite Cabin**

1 night

**Day 4 Wednesday 6th Mar 2024
Ha Long Bay – Hanoi – Ho Chi Minh City**

B - D

Wake up to the peaceful sounds of a Lan Ha Bay morning and early risers can take part in a tai chi session on the sundeck, with light breakfast pastries, tea and coffee served in the dining room. Explore more wonders of the bay. Discover mysterious caves and remote islets by rowboat, including Dark and Bright cave, a picturesque grotto you might catch a glimpse of monkeys swinging among the fig trees and orchids.

09:30 Check out of your cabin and enjoy a leisurely buffet breakfast while cruising back to the port where you disembark at **11:15**.

***Please note:** Check out time is two hours prior to disembarkation. After this time, you will not be able to access your room, but you can continue enjoying the beautiful bay views from the sundeck. The above itinerary is dependent on weather conditions and is subject to change without prior notice. In the case of unsafe weather conditions as determined by the harbor master, arrangements will be made to re-accommodate you with the best alternative ground services available.*

Depart: Noi Bai International Airport, Hanoi, Vietnam at ... on day 4. **Flight No. VN (Vietnam Airlines)**

Arrive: Tan Son Nhat International Airport, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam at ... on day 4.

Ho Chi Minh City, commonly known by its former name of Saigon, is the bustling and vibrant economic center of the south. Full of contrasts, the city is known for its cosmopolitan vibe and energetic pace which is unlike any other city in Vietnam. Old French boulevards and colonial architecture stand beside traditional temples and modern skyscrapers, revealing a city of captivating diversity and charismatic charm.



On arrival at Tan Son Nhat Airport, you are met and transferred to hotel for check in. The driving distance is at approximately 40 minutes.

This evening, enjoy dinner at local restaurant.
Drink included: Mineral water

**Hotel Des Arts
Deluxe Room**

2 nights

**Day 5 Thursday 7th Mar 2024
Ho Chi Minh City**

B - L - _

Experience the trades and traditions of Chinatown, or “Cho Lon” as it is known locally. Drive past traditional Chinese medicine stores filled with dried ginger, ginseng and all manner of herbs and meet an old community of craftsmen who spend their days creating small amulets and religious statues. Chat with some of the artisans to learn about a way of life that has changed very little over the years. Explore a neighborhood market, taste traditional specialties and enjoy a Vietnamese coffee at a local café. Learn about Chinese religious rites and customs at an incense-filled temple from 1809 and light a spiral incense cone as an offering to the temple.

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. Then learn more about the city's history at the Reunification Palace, where the Fall of Saigon took place in 1975, and visit your choice of the History Museum or the War Remnants Museum. Built in 1929, the History Museum houses a collection of artefacts illustrating the evolution of Vietnamese culture since ancient times, while the War Remnants Museum displays wartime photographs and relics including an American tank, a 20th century French guillotine and a UH-1 “Huey” helicopter. Later, learn about southern Vietnamese

spiritualism at a colorful Cao Dai temple, which takes influences from Buddhism, Confucianism, Taoism, Hinduism, Vietnamese spiritism, Christianity and Islam.

Optional Tour: Quintessentially Saigon by Vintage Vespa (18:30-22:30)

18:30 Part night excursion, part street food adventure, this evening offers an authentic taste of Ho Chi Minh City's buzzing nightlife. Ride pillion on the back of a vintage Vespa and set off into the chaotic and fascinating scene that is Ho Chi Minh City at rush hour. Stop at one of the city's historical bridges to enjoy a signature drink and an enchanting view of the riverside. Then zip through side streets and alleyways to a popular local spot for street seafood. Take a seat on a low stool by the roadside, like locals do, and taste the fresh and beautifully-seasoned crab claws and clams. Head to a downtown area to try a Ho Chi Minh City specialty called banh xeo, a kind of Vietnamese pancake with savory fillings. Then round out the evening with cocktails at an intimate venue where you can mingle with locals and listen to live Vietnamese music, or head to a trendy place to sample Vietnamese hot chocolate.

**Hotel Des Arts
Deluxe Room**

**Day 6 Friday 8th Mar 2024
Ho Chi Minh City – Ben Tre – Can Tho**

B – L - D

Explore the natural wonders of the Mekong Delta with a scenic river day cruise by private sampan. After a two-hour drive, you arrive in Ben Tre, where the bustling streets of Ho Chi Minh City give way to open fields, meandering rivers and coconut farms. Take a xe loi (motorized rickshaw) for a ride around the town before exploring the scenic waterways by private sampan. Designed to easily navigate the smaller, less-traveled tributaries of the Mekong Delta, your intimate cruise boat comes complete with comfortable cushioned chairs, a private washroom and a bar.

Cruise through palm-lined canals, stopping to visit a local brick factory where blocks of solid red clay are shaped by hand in the traditional way. Cycle along meandering village paths to meet a coconut spirits maker. Then continue to a local family home to taste fresh fruits and tea in their garden and learn about their life of fishing, shrimping and fruit farming. Next, take a rowing sampan across the river and savor a five-course lunch of local specialties at a riverside restaurant.

Continue by bike to My Long where Sau Tuong, a former Viet Cong soldier who spent two years fighting the Khmer Rouge, now lives with his wife and makes rice paper. Sample their home-made crispy products while hearing more about their inspiring story. Later, transfer to your accommodation in Can Tho.



This evening, enjoy dinner at Azerai Can Tho Resort.
Drink included: Mineral water

**Azerai Can Tho
Garden Room**

01 night

**Day 7 Saturday 9th Mar 2024
Can Tho - Ho Chi Minh City – Siem Reap**

B - D

The early bird catches the worm, as they say, and mornings in the Mekong Delta start at the break of dawn. Take a boat to Cai Rang floating market, a traditional marketplace on water, where buyers and sellers haggle over fresh fruits and vegetables from their wooden boats. Filled with fresh, locally grown crops such as oranges, pineapples, coconuts and watermelons, the floating marketplace is at its best in the early mornings. After leaving the market, taste seasonal fresh fruits at a local fruit orchard before heading back to your hotel for breakfast.

After breakfast, check-out of your hotel and begin the journey back to Ho Chi Minh City. On the way, visit the house of Binh Thuy, a French colonial mansion built in 1870 which has been featured in films such as "The Silt Ways", "The Bac Lieu Mandarin's Son" and "The Lover." The drive back to Ho Chi Minh City takes about three and a half hours and you arrive in the late afternoon.

Transfer to Tan Son Nhat International Airport in time for your onward flight to Siem Reap.

Depart: Tan Son Nhat International Airport, Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam at **Flight No. (Vietnam Airlines)**

Arrive: Siem Reap International Airport, Cambodia at



A flourishing provincial town, Siem Reap is best known as the gateway to the treasures of Angkor. A collection of jungle-covered temples dating as far back as the ninth century, the Angkor Archaeological Park encompasses the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Angkor Wat, one of the most impressive examples of the lost Khmer civilization's architectural and artistic grandeur. The town is also an excellent base for exploring Tonle Sap, Southeast Asia's largest freshwater lake, and its floating fishing villages and bird sanctuaries.

Upon arrival at Arrival Hall of Siem Reap Airport, welcome by Ladies in traditional costume with Jasmine Bracelet.

Meet your guide and transfer directly to your hotel in Siem Reap, a 30-minute drive (subject to traffic).

Welcome dinner will be served at a local restaurant. (Drink included: 1/2 bottle of House wine per person)

**Park Hyatt Siem Reap
Park View Room**

3 nights

**Day 8 Sunday 10th Mar 2024
Siem Reap**

B - L - D

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel.

Explore Ta Prohm, a lost-in-the-jungle temple that was once a monastery for kings. Wander courtyards lined with stone-carved lintels that are cradled in the roots of tall trees and strangler figs. After a short drive, step off the tourist trail and take a 15-minute walk into the forest to encounter a small, rarely-seen temple called Ta Nei. Then continue on your journey towards Preah Khan, or the "Temple of the Sacred Sword." A series of criss-crossing passages with intricate carvings at every corner, this expansive complex was once a revered monastery and center of Buddhism during the reign of King Jayavarman VII.

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. (Drink included: Mineral Water)

In the afternoon, uncover more lost-world wonders at Angkor Thom, the great walled city that was the last and most enduring vestige of the Khmer empire. Enter through the South Gate which is flanked on both sides by an army of gods and demons. Visit the Bayon, a temple in the center of the city with large stone faces that look out in each direction. Explore the grand Baphuon temple and wander through shaded parkland that leads to Preah Palilay and Phimeanakas, the private temple of King Jayavarman VII. Stroll across the Terrace of the Elephants, which was used as a ceremonial stage, and admire intricate bas reliefs at the Terrace of the Leper King.

Please note: Please dress appropriately when visiting temples and religious sites. Short skirts or short trousers are not permitted as shoulders and knees should be covered.

Sunset Gondola

(16:30 – 17:30) Take time to slow down and enjoy a relaxing sunset gondola ride on the moat of Angkor Thom. Built in a style that dates back to Jayavarman VII, the traditional Khmer gondola takes you on a one-hour ride along the outer wall of the old, 12th-century city. Along the way, you may wish to stop and explore Prasat Chrung temple which offers beautiful twilight views, or simply continue on your gentle journey back along the moat.



Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. (Drink included: Mineral Water)

Optional service: Phare Cambodia Circus show

20:00 Delight in an evening of theater, dance, music and acrobatics at Phare, the Cambodian Circus. Bringing together tightrope walkers, contortionists and visual artists, the troupe supports local youth talent and celebrates Khmer arts and culture in a spectacular hour-long production. The circus show is connected with the Phare Ponleu Selpak school in Battambang, a non-governmental organization that provides brighter futures for aspiring young performers.

**Park Hyatt Siem Reap
Park View Room**



Witness the wonder of Angkor Wat, a UNESCO World Heritage Site from the 12th century. Explore the crowning achievement of Khmer art and architecture, walking through the temple's concentric courtyards to view its iconic lotus towers and intricate bas reliefs depicting important historical events and complex scenes of Hindu mythology.

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. (Drink included: Mineral Water)

Visit Banteay Srei, a pre-Angkorian temple located in the quiet countryside northeast of Siem Reap. Known as the "Citadel of Women," the pink sandstone temple was built by a Brahmin priest in the 10th-century and contains some of the finest examples of classical Khmer art.

Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. (Drink included: 1/2 bottle of House wine per person)

Park Hyatt Siem Reap Park View Room

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel. Your day is at leisure until your transfer time to the airport for your departure flight.

Enjoy lunch at hotel. (Drink included: Mineral Water)

After checking out of your hotel, meet your guide for a 30-minute transfer (subject to traffic) to Siem Reap Airport.

Depart: Siem Reap International Airport, Siem Reap at **16:55**

Flight No. VN930 (Vietnam Airlines)

Arrive: Luang Prabang International Airport, Luang Prabang at **18:25**

Flight time is subject to change without prior notice

(ticket in Economy class)



A land of enchantment surrounded by lush forested mountains, meandering rivers and an uplifting spiritual vibe, Luang Prabang is a UNESCO World Heritage filled with traditional temples and French-Indochinese architecture built around a sacred hill, Mount Phousi. Once the capital of the old Lan Xang kingdom, the laid-back city retains much of its royal charm and celebrates a rich artistic and cultural history.

On arrival at Luang Prabang Airport, meet your guide and transfer to your hotel.

Enjoy dinner at the hotel. (Drink included: Mineral Water)

Sofitel Luang Prabang
Garden Suite Room

3 nights

Day 11 Wednesday 13th Mar 2024
Luang Prabang

B - L - D

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel.



Uncover layers of history, culture and endless charm in Luang Prabang's meandering streets and iconic temples. Start with an overview of Lao history at the Royal Palace Museum, then visit Wat Visoun, the watermelon-shaped stupa. Continue to Wat Xiengthong, an iconic temple covered in glittering mosaic art and learn about life and tradition in Laos' remote communities at the Traditional Arts and Ethnology Center, which showcases a collection of tribal textiles, tools and traditional artifacts.

Please note: Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre is closed on every Mondays.

In the late afternoon, transfer to the Mekong Riverside to embark on a sunset cruise on the Mekong River. Enjoy a glass of prosecco & some local snacks and take in the breathtaking sceneries while the sun sets behind the hills.

Then you will be transferred to **Manda de Lao Restaruant** to enjoy dinner there. (Drink included: 1/2 bottle of House wine per person)

**Sofitel Luang Prabang
Garden Suite Room**

**Day 12 Thursday 14th Mar 2024
Luang Prabang**

B - L - D

Visit a working organic rice farm to learn all about the journey of rice, from seed to restaurant. This community enterprise, organized by local Lao farmers, grows eco-friendly vegetables, salad greens, herbs and rice and supplies them to leading restaurants and hotels in Luang Prabang. Learn about the traditional tools used on the farm and take part in the various stages of the rice journey, from plowing to planting and harvesting. Continue to Ock Pop Tock, a social enterprise that supports traditional textiles makers. Have lunch on the terrace beside the Mekong River and learn all about the traditional Lao silk weaving process.

In the afternoon, explore some of the scenic natural wonders that lie beyond the town. You have the option to visit some small villages on the way, where you can learn about the lifestyles and traditions of ethnic communities such as the Khmu, Hmong and Lao Loum. You then arrive at Kuang Si Waterfall, a scenic landscape of turquoise lagoons backed by lush, green vegetation. Here, you can take a quick dip in the crystal-clear pools or explore the forest trails.

After your excursion, you are transferred back to Luang Prabang. Enjoy farewell dinner at Gaspard Restaurant. (Drink included: 1/2 bottle of House wine per person)

**Sofitel Luang Prabang
Garden Suite Room**

**Day 13 Friday 15th Mar 2024
Depart Luang Prabang**

B



Experience a quintessential Lao morning, starting with a spiritual tak bat, or almsgiving ritual. Each morning, locals line the streets to make offerings and receive blessings from monks who walk through the town in single file. Join them in giving alms and taking part in this timeless tradition. After the ceremony, visit the morning market where locals pick up their daily supply of fresh fruits and vegetables. Return to your hotel for breakfast.

You may have leisure time until your departure time. Depart from your hotel and transfer to the airport.