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# 18 Day Classic Vietnam and Cambodia from \$2999 per person.



Departs every Monday or Wednesday 10 Oct to 30 Nov 2018 and **2019**  
**Dates:** 01 Feb to 25 March 2019. 01 May to 10 June 2019 or 01 Aug to 10 Sept 2019 and lastly 10 Oct to 30 Nov 2019.

**2020 Dates** - 01 Feb to 25 March 2020. 01 May to 10 June 2020 or 01 Aug to 10 Sept 2020 and lastly 10 Oct to 30 Nov 2020.

## Escorted Package Includes

- Return economy flights from All Australian Capital Cities Siem Reap, Ho Chi Minh, Hanoi-Sydney

- All intra-flights: Phnom Penh - Ho Chi Minh-Da Nang & Hue-Hanoi
- 17 nights First Class accommodations – 4 star hotels.
- 2 night Phnom Penh
- 4 nights Siem Reap
  - 2 nights Ho Chi Minh
  - 2 nights Hoi An
  - 2 nights Hue
  - 1 night Halong Bay
  - 4 nights Hanoi
- Hotel taxes, fees & service charges
- 14 meals: 10 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Services of English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Comfortable wireless earphones for enhanced touring
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### Special Features

- Visit the neo-Romanesque Notre Dame Cathedral and the magnificent Saigon Opera house in Ho Chi Minh City
- Old City of Hoi An one of the most important trading ports in Southeast Asia in the 15th century
- Tour the Imperial City & 19th century Citadel in Hue
- View the thousands of limestone islands rising out of the sea during the Halong Bay Excursion
- Museum of Ethnology & Water Puppet Show in Hanoi

## 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 Choeng 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 transfer 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. Transfer 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 center 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, situated on the coast of the South China Sea. Travel south to the picturesque ancient 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 ancient 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 century's old architecture includes the 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 colorful 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, modeled 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 savor 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 color 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 center 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, center 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 travelers and Tour Manager

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

**Overnight:** Hanoi

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

#### **DAY 18, Depart Vietnam**

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight

**Meals:** Breakfast



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**GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)**

The Australian GST does not apply to international travel. Any service fees, courier, cancellation and amendment fees are subject to GST. You will be charged GST where applicable.

**DEPOSIT**

A deposit is required to confirm your booking (varies depending on package booked). Receipt of deposit will be taken as an understanding by Destination International Holidays that the customer has checked their confirmed travel arrangements and has read and agreed to the terms and conditions.

**FINAL PAYMENT**

Payment in full must be made no less than 90 days before travel, unless required earlier by any supplier.

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**ITINERARY CHANGES**

Destination International Holidays reserves the right to amend the itinerary for reasons such as service requirements, road or weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances. Where a change is of a significant nature, it will be advised to our customers in writing. Destination International Holidays reserves the right to substitute hotels, lodges, inns and camps with properties of similar standard

**AMENDMENT FEES**

Any deviation to packages advertised or quotes will incur a fee of \$150 per person.

Should you need to alter your confirmed reservations, there will be an automatic fee charged of \$150 per amendment or transaction, plus any new arrangements made. Additionally, there may be cancellation fees levied by the tour operator or fees may be applicable where arrangements have been pre-purchased.

In addition, we charge

- \$50 per person for all airline seat reservations and baggage charges plus any airline fees.
- \$100 per person for all Tourist visa processing plus the cost for the visa fee.
- \$75 per person to reissue any travel documents lost in the mail.
- \$100 per person to process insurance claims when travel insurance has not been purchased from this office.

**CANCELLATIONS**

Cancellation fees will be levied relative to the amount of notice given as follows:

Days' Notice	90 or more	75-90	65-75	65-1
	Loss of Deposit and 50% loss of fare	75%	85%	100%

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**ACCOMMODATION**

There will be variations in the size, standard and presentation of rooms and facilities within the one hotel. This is beyond the control of Destination International Holidays.

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If you encounter any problems on your holiday, you should try and solve it directly with the supplier whilst overseas. If it is not possible to do so please do so in writing within 30 days of completing your Destination International Holidays arrangements.

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You must be insured for the duration of your trip. You need comprehensive travel insurance to cover cancellation, health requirements, luggage and additional expenses. Insurance policies rarely cover for loss of cash.

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