

Girls On Tour: Cambodia | Laos | Vietnam - 25 days



Thursday 2 May, 2024 DEPART AUSTRALIA

Fly from Brisbane and other cities on Singapore Airlines for Siem Reap.

Fri 3 May – SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA

Arrive Siem Reap and transfer to our hotel located near the UNESCO World Heritage site of Angkor Wat Temples. Balance of day is free to relax and enjoy the surrounds.

Sat 4 May – SIEM REAP

Prasat Kravan with unique brick sculptures and the jungle covered temple of Ta Prohm is an incredible sight. There are enormous fig trees and gigantic creepers which embrace themselves in the stone foundations of the structure giving the impression of man's creation being reclaimed by the powerful forces of nature. (B,D)

Sun 5 May – SIEM REAP

After breakfast, a highlight as we visit Angkor Wat, the largest temples in the world and covers an area of 200 hectares and is surrounded by moat and an exterior wall measuring 1,300 metres x 1,500 metres. Next we visit Preah Khan temple, built by King Jayavarman VII dedicated to his father. It is a huge monastic complex and served as a Buddhist monastery and school, engaging over 1,000 monks. Tonight enjoy dinner at a local restaurant with the elegant Aspara dance show. (B,D)

Mon 6 May – SIEM REAP

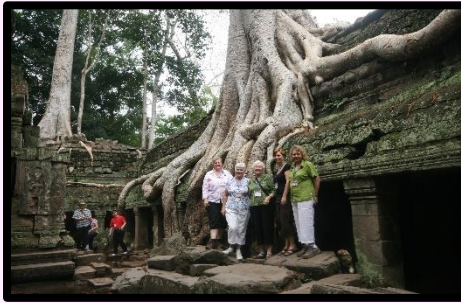
After breakfast we visit the floating village of Kompong Phluk of Tonle Lake, where we enjoy a boat tour around the village and soak in the culture of living life on the water. In the afternoon we visit Angkor Thom, the South Gate of Angkor Thom, Bayon Temple, built from the late 12th century to the early 13th century by King Jayavarman VII which consists of 54 towers, the Royal Enclosure, the Phimeanakas, the Elephants Terrace and the Terrace of the Leper King. (B,L)

Tue 7 May – LUANG PRABANG, LAOS

The morning is free before our departure to the airport for our flight to Laos. On our arrival we will transfer to the hotel and the rest of the day is free to relax or explore. (B,D)

Wed 8 May – LUANG PRABANG

An early morning today as we wake to experience the morning alms offering to monks and then back to the hotel for breakfast. Next we'll drive to Kuang Si Waterfall which though not very high is spectacular. Defined by its green aura, the waterfall's gentle cascades flow into turquoise pools, among the surrounding mists and create a surreal impression. En route we'll stop to visit a fresh



produce market of Talad Phosy and then continue to Ban Na Oune, a small village of a hill-tribe ethnic Hmong people, the best-known minority group in Laos. We'll also visit the village of Ban Tha Pane, home to the K'mu tribe. Lunch will be served at the village and there will be plenty of time for relaxing and swimming in the cool water before we head back to Luang Prabang. (B,L)

Thu 9 May – LUANG PRABANG

This morning we'll travel on a long-tailed boat on the Mekong River. En route we'll pass by quaint Laotian villages barely visible behind a screen of riverside foliage, as slender canoes bob by the shore and bamboo poles and floats mark the location of nets and fish traps. We'll visit the mysterious Pak Ou Caves which contain thousands of Buddha images in various sizes, shapes and colours. On our way back to Luang Prabang we will stop at the village of Ban Zangkhong which is known for its wood paper making and silk weavings with natural dyes. (B,L)

Fri 10 May – HANOI, VIETNAM

This morning we enjoy a private city tour including visits to the Royal Palace Museum and the magnificent Wat Xiengthong which with its roof sweeping



low to the ground, represent classical Laotian architectural style. We'll visit the impressive stupa of Wat Visoun and the shrines of Wat Aham and Wat Mai before transferring to the airport for our flight to Hanoi in Vietnam. (B)

Sat 11 May - HANOI

We start our visit with the most important attractions of Hanoi City. We'll explore the complex of cultural and historic sites of Ba Dinh Square, visit Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, the One Pillar Pagoda and the Temple of Literature. A break for lunch and some relaxation before a visit to Hanoi 'Hilton' and then a cyclo tour along the lake and around the Old Quarter before enjoying a Water Puppet Show in the evening and dinner at the famous (and delicious) Cha Ca La Vong restaurant. (B,D)

Sun 12 May - HANOI

Today is a free day to relax and explore this busy and bustling city. (B)



Mon 13 May – HALONG BAY

We leave Hanoi today and head towards one of the main highlights of the tour, Halong Bay where we will spend 2 nights cruising this stunning destination with its imposing cliffs and beautiful waters visiting the Light and Dark Cave. After dinner you might like to try your hand at squid fishing, karaoke or relaxing. (B,L,D)

Tue 14 May – HALONG BAY

Another day in paradise as we visit Viet Hai fishing village nestled between

Siem Reap | Luang Prabang | Hanoi | Halong Bay Hue | Hoi An | Mekong Delta | Ho Chi Minh City

jungle and limestone towers and Ba Trai Dao Beach for swimming. (B,L,D)

Wed 15 May - HUE

Greet the new day on the sundeck with a tai chi session or enjoy the bay while you sip an early morning cuppa on deck. We disembark after an early lunch and transfer to the airport for our flight to Hue (Wway). On arrival we'll transfer to our hotel located in a tranquil area of Thua Thien Hue and enjoy a relaxing afternoon. (Brunch)

Thu 16 May - HUE

This morning you will have a boat trip on the romantically named Perfume River to visit Hue's best-known religious site, Thien Mu Pagoda as well as the mausoleum of former Emperor Minh Mang. In the afternoon, visit to the Imperial Citadel complex and Dong Ba market. (B,D)

Fri 17 May - HOI AN

After breakfast we check out and leave Hue for Hoi An. On the way we will stop for sightseeing and to take photos at the wonderfully photogenic fishing village of Lang Co lagoon and then drive over the Pass of Ocean Clouds passing Da Nang city to Hoi An ancient town – a major

Asian trading port in the 17th and 18th centuries with a relaxed lifestyle that has changed little over the years. Don't forget this is a town that is famous for its great tailors. In the afternoon we will enjoy a walking tour of the ancient town through the narrow streets where we'll visit a home of a former merchant, the 400 year-old Japanese Covered Bridge, the ancient house and the exotic local market. (B)

Sat 18 May - HOI AN

A fun day today as we gather early for our cooking class. We'll visit the colourful market and experience the sights, sounds and aromas of this busy market. We will board the Red Bridge Boat for a leisurely cruise along the Hoi An River to the Red Bridge Cooking School. This is a chance to view local river life, so make sure your camera is ready. On arrival we explore the school's herb garden, before learning about some of Hoi An's and Vietnam's well-known dishes. After the lesson we sit down and eat what we have cooked. After our transfer back to the hotel the afternoon is free. (B,L)

Sun 19 May - HOI AN

Another highlight today as we enjoy a half day food tour of Hoi An with 'A Taste of Hoi An'. The afternoon is free for some retail therapy or rest, the choice is yours. (B,L)

Mon 20 May - HOI AN | GOLDEN BRIDGE

The highlights just keep coming as we set off today towards Ba Na Hills in Da nang to take a funicular up to the Golden Bridge, supported by the hands of "God". The surreal, glistening bridge dangles dramatically over the foggy mountainside reaching towards the sky. You can have your lunch in Ba Na Hills or back at Hoi An. The rest of the day is at leisure. (B)

Tue 21 May - HO CHI MINH CITY

Some free time this morning before our transfer to Da Nang airport for our short flight to Ho Chi Minh City. Upon arrival we will be met by our guide and transfer to our hotel where the afternoon will be free. (B)

Wed 22 May - HO CHI MINH CITY

We leave the city and head towards the Cu Chi tunnels, the infamous underground network from which North Vietnamese forces operated during the American War in Vietnam. On our

return to the city we will visit the former Presidential Palace, the Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office and the Opera House. We'll finish with a leisurely stroll down Rue Catinat of Graham Greene's 'The Quiet American' to reveal more colonial classics and through the bustling Ben Thanh Market. (B)

Thu 23 May - MEKONG DELTA

This full day excursion begins with a two hour drive from Ho Chi Minh City to My Tho. The first stop is to visit Vinh Trang Pagoda in Tien Giang Province. The pagoda is an ancient Southern gem with the combination of Asian and European architecture including Renaissance period and Romanesque. Next, continue a drive to My Tho City to take a boat trip on the mighty Mekong River. View the fishing port, the traditional stilt houses, boat building workshops and islands including Dragon, Phoenix, Unicorn and Tortoise. After lunch on one of the beautiful islands, ride a horse or take a carriage around villages to see the local life; taste tropical fruits and honey tea at a bee-keeping farm; listen to traditional music and visit a local coconut candy manufacturer. Roam on village paths with fruit orchards and bonsai gardens. Meet the locals to get a deeper understanding and appreciation of their daily life in the watery area. Back to Ho Chi Minh city late in the afternoon after an amazing day in rural Vietnam. (B,L)

Fri 24 May - HO CHI MINH CITY

A free day today to explore the city and pick up those last-minute souvenirs before our farewell dinner cruise on Saigon River for our last night in Vietnam. (B,D)

Sat 25 May - DEPART FOR HOME

After breakfast, depending on your flight time, you may have some free time for individual exploration of the city before our private transfer to the airport according to your home departure flight. (B)

**Sunday 26 May
- Arrive in
Australia.**

INCLUSIONS

- International flights from Australia
- Internal flights Vietnam & Cambodia, Laos.
- Full time tour escort
- Accom in 4 star hotels & boat
- Meals and show as shown on itinerary.
- 2 nights on Junk – Halong Bay
- All touring and transfers in Air-conditioned transport
- All entries, tours and entertainment as shown on itinerary.
- Professional Vietnamese guides

EXCLUSIONS

- Tips, gratuities and visas approx. \$125
- Air and departure taxes
- Other meals not on itinerary
- Personal items, travel insurance

**Contact Judy on 0409 057 417 or
info@girlsontour.com.au for
bookings or more details.**

Website: www.girlsontour.com.au

Cost - \$9,305* (subject to change).

Single supplement \$1,966

** based on minimum group of 10 and
subject to 2024 flight prices.*

