



# VIETNAM, CAMBODIA & THAILAND

**ONE TRIP. THREE COUNTRIES. INFINITE STORIES.** Immerse in history, culture, and religion on an eye-opening and moving journey through time... travel by *cyclo*, buggy, boat, and on an elephant trek through a teak forest... visit three UNESCO World Heritage Sites... tour the ancient Khmer temples of Angkor, the imperial Forbidden Purple City of Hué, the streets of Old Hanoi... linger on the waterways of Bangkok and in the lush hills of Chiang Mai... see how locals really live – in traditional Thai tribes, in a Vietnamese home, in outdoor markets. And discover the most relaxing (and relaxed) Buddha ever!

## 1. ARRIVE HANOI

**Tour begins: 6:00 PM, Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi.** A transfer is included from Noi Bai Int'l Airport to Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi, set in the heart of the city. Tonight enjoy the welcome reception and dinner at Le Beaulieu. **Meals D**

## 2. HANOI: FRENCH HERITAGE, ASIAN TRADITION

Explore Hanoi on a buggy ride that takes you past old and new, a historic city turning stylish metropolis. Sightseeing begins in

Ba Dinh Square, a mecca for the Vietnamese in central Hanoi. Lined with architecture that speaks to the contrasts of the city's past, the square houses Ho Chi Minh's Soviet-style mausoleum, his simple teak home on stilts, and the French colonial palace once home to the governor general of Indochina. Nearby, visit the petite One Pillar Pagoda rising out of a lotus pond and Hoa Lo Prison (once termed the "Hanoi Hilton" by American POWs). Late afternoon, join us for a traditional water puppet show, an art form unique to Vietnam. Dine as you wish tonight. **Meals BL**



## Traveling Well Includes...

- Sightseeing by buggy in Old Hanoi and by *cyclo* in imperial Hué & historic Hoi An
- Multi-night stays in Da Nang, Ho Chi Minh City, Siem Reap, Chiang Mai and Bangkok
- Visits to UNESCO World Heritage Sites in Angkor, Hué and Hoi An
- A drive to 14th-century Wat Phra That temple, overlooking the landscape of Chiang Mai
- Hill tribe village visits to meet people of the Padong and Palong tribes of Chiang Mai
- Elephant trekking through a Thai teak forest
- Airport transfers upon arrival and departure as noted
- 37 meals, service charges, taxes, gratuities to local guides and portage

### 3. HUÉ, VIETNAM'S ANCIENT CAPITAL

Take a short flight to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Hué, where you will visit the tomb of Tu Duc en route to your hotel. After lunch, hop aboard a pedal-powered *cyclo* for an open-air tour of Hué's Imperial Citadel. Once the Vietnamese capital, the remains of this 19th-century city include an outer court of gardens, an inner court where the emperor once met with dignitaries, a Forbidden Purple City, and a palace – for use only by the royal family and trusted senior advisors. Dinner is at your leisure in the hotel this evening. **Meals BLD**

### 4. IMPERIAL SIGHTS / DA NANG'S CHINA BEACH

Visit the Thien Mu Pagoda, a seven-tiered Buddhist tower built in the 1600s, followed by a boat cruise on the Perfume River. Drive to the seaside village of Lang Co for a Vietnamese lunch at a family-owned restaurant and continue on through the emerald landscapes of Hai Van Pass to your China Beach resort. Dine at a choice of hotel restaurants this evening. **Meals BLD**

### 5. HISTORY AND CHARM IN HOI AN

Meeting the locals is one of the best ways to connect with the destination and today promises a close-up look at daily life in Vietnam from a stop at a kindergarten school to a *cyclo* tour of picturesque Hoi An and an insider visit in a typical house. Memorable highlights include the 18th-century Japanese bridge topped with a pagoda, the Phung Hung House and a riverside street market bustling with colorful sights and sounds. **Meals BD**

### 6. CU CHI TUNNELS AND SAIGON HERITAGE

An early flight brings you to Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), where you'll head from the airport straight to the Cu Chi tunnels. This immense underground network of tunnels was dug by hand; work began during the country's fight for independence from the French, then expanded during the Vietnam War to include bomb shelters and medical care and storage facilities for the Viet Cong,

deep under jungle terrain. A guided walk here invites up-close exploration. Dinner tonight is classic French fare, served at a fine restaurant in downtown Ho Chi Minh City! **Meals BLD**

### 7. HO CHI MINH CITY

Explore Ho Chi Minh City, known as Saigon until after the end of the Vietnam War. Visit Ben Thanh Market and the former presidential palace of South Vietnam, renamed "Reunification Hall" in 1975. An overview of the city's key sights follows, including the US Consulate; the former US Embassy, a witness to the crucial events of 1975; the Central Post Office designed by Paris' Gustave Eiffel; and Notre Dame Cathedral. The rest of the day is free for you to do as you wish. **Meals BL**





*In Thailand, visit with the residents of a Padong village and ride a gentle giant on a safari trek through a teak forest*

## 8. SIEM REAP'S ARCHAEOLOGICAL TREASURES

Fly to Siem Reap for a stay near the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Angkor. Inside are scores of temples and palaces, built by the Khmer people from the 9th – 15th centuries, tributes to an exemplary civilization. Your visit today focuses on the best-preserved temple, Angkor Wat; surrounded by a moat dug by thousands of workers, its towers are nested in an alignment precisely oriented along the Earth's north-south axis. **Meals BLD**

## 9. SCULPTED TEMPLES OF ANGKOR

Jungle-clad Ta Prohm temple is your first stop today. Left in the clutches of century-old vines, the effect of its delicate reliefs covered with creeping plants and massive stones cleaved by green is otherworldly but resplendent still. Sightseeing continues in Angkor Thom, at the Terrace of the Elephants, and at Bayon Temple, carved with more than 200 expressive images. Later enjoy time at leisure back at your hotel. **Meals BLD**



*See how Ta Prohm temple in Angkor defies both time and the jungle*

## 10. NORTH TO CHIANG MAI & UP TO DOI SUTHEP

Morning flights bring you to Chiang Mai; Thailand's "Rose of the North" is known for its artistic heritage. Upon arrival, venture into Doi Suthep-Pui National Park, a wildlife reserve set in a dense mountain forest. At the summit of Doi Suthep lies one of the north's most sacred sites, Wat Phra That temple; its golden-colored *chedi* (tower) overlooks the hills of Chiang Mai. Settle into your award-winning resort for three nights, nestled in terraced rice fields with scenic mountain views. **Meals BD**

## 11. ELEPHANTS IN A TEAK FOREST

Visit an elephant camp for an opportunity to feed sugar cane and bananas to these gentle giants. Watch them bathe and demonstrate their skills as valued workers in the teak industry and as artists, painting pictures by holding brushes in their trunks. Take a safari trek\* through a teak forest, riding atop an elephant, and see baby elephants in the nursery. **Meals BLD**

## 12. COLORFUL, CULTURALLY RICH HILL TRIBES

Become acquainted with the region's hill tribes who live in farming communities outside of Chiang Mai. Each tribe has its own language, beliefs, and customs, and many of them sell colorful handmade wares. Village hop today, see how a local school operates, and meet members of the Palong and Padong tribes; the "long-necked" Padong women are known for the distinctive brass rings they wear around their necks, making their necks look elongated. The rest of the day is free. **Meals BD**

## 13. ON THE RIVER OF KINGS IN BANGKOK

Your return flight to Bangkok touches down in late morning. Have lunch before checking into your hotel. From the balcony of your room, you'll be able to look out over the city's spectacular Chao Phraya River, the "River of Kings." Enjoy time at leisure, followed by a choice of dining venues this evening. **Meals BLD**

#### 14. A GRAND PALACE & A RECLINING BUDDHA

Take an express boat to Tha Chang Pier for a walking tour to Wat Pho temple, home of the golden Reclining Buddha, more than 141 feet long and 49 feet high. Visit the Grand Palace, where Thai royalty once lived, and go inside Wat Phra Kaew to see the revered small Buddha carved from a single piece of jade. Savor a flavorful Thai lunch before cruising back to your hotel for time at leisure for the rest of the day. **Meals BL**

#### 15. EXPLORING BANGKOK'S KLONGS

Get a close-up look at daily life along the busy Chao Phraya River on a cruise of Bangkok's canals or *klongs*. Stop to visit Wat Arun (Temple of Dawn), a striking riverside landmark, and the Jim Thompson House Museum, home of the American architect-entrepreneur credited with revitalizing the Thai silk industry. This evening enjoy a special farewell dinner. **Meals BD**



## WELL-PRESERVED HOI AN

In prosperous days, between the 16th and 19th centuries, world traders came to this historic port town in Vietnam seeking silk, precious metals, gems, and tea – and created a unique melting pot of architecture and lifestyles still largely intact today. Prepare to be charmed by this pedestrian-friendly living museum of zigzag streets, canals, yellow buildings, colorful lanterns, and an iconic Japanese bridge.



#### 16. JOURNEY HOME

**Tour ends: Bangkok.** A transfer is included from Shangri-La Hotel, Bangkok to Bangkok International Airport; please allow a minimum of 3 hours for flight check-in at the airport. **Meals B**

## 16 DAYS FROM \$6,090\* PLUS AIRFARE

(15 Breakfasts, 10 Lunches & 12 Dinners)

### BEGINS HANOI

Jan **6**, 9, ~~13~~, 30 Feb ~~3~~, 13, 20, **24** Mar **10** Sep **15**  
Oct **2**, 20, **30** Nov 17 Dec 11 **/= Sold Out!**

Dates in **blue** indicate **Small Group Departures** averaging 24 Tauck guests, priced from \$8190 per person double plus on-tour air; specific dates apply – inquire at time of booking.

**Special Solo Traveler Savings:** dates in **red** indicate special departures where you save \$400 on the single room price; inquire at time of booking.

Go to [tauck.com](http://tauck.com) for up-to-the-minute space availability; additional departures may become available as these sell out.

### PRICE PER PERSON

#### January – February; October – December

#### \*LAND PRICE + ON-TOUR AIR (5 flights) = TOTAL PER PERSON

Double	\$7090	+	\$1300	=	<b>\$8390</b>
Single	\$9166	+	\$1300	=	<b>\$10,466</b>
Triple	\$6711	+	\$1300	=	<b>\$8011</b>

#### March & September

#### \*LAND PRICE + ON-TOUR AIR (5 flights) = TOTAL PER PERSON

Double	\$6090	+	\$1300	=	<b>\$7390</b>
Single	\$8130	+	\$1300	=	<b>\$9430</b>
Triple	\$5715	+	\$1300	=	<b>\$7015</b>

**International Airfare is additional.** Call Tauck for special rates on international air, in coach or business, for travel originating in the US (subject to availability).

Please ask about additional hotel nights before or after your tour and about our comprehensive Guest Protection Product.

**Note:** For activities marked with an asterisk (\*), participation is at your own risk and a signed liability waiver will be required. See page 3 for activity and pace level details.

### FINE HOTELS / GREAT LOCATIONS

Night 1,2	<b>SOFITEL LEGEND METROPOLE HANOI</b>	Hanoi, Vietnam
Night 3	<b>LA RÉSIDENCE HOTEL &amp; SPA</b>	Hué, Vietnam
Night 4,5	<b>FURAMA RESORT DA NANG</b>	Da Nang, Vietnam
Night 6,7	<b>SHERATON SAIGON HOTEL &amp; TOWERS</b>	Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam
Night 8,9	<b>RAFFLES GRAND HOTEL D'ANGKOR</b>	Siem Reap, Cambodia
Night 10-12	<b>FOUR SEASONS RESORT CHIANG MAI</b>	Chiang Mai, Thailand
Night 13-15	<b>SHANGRI-LA HOTEL, BANGKOK</b>	Bangkok, Thailand