

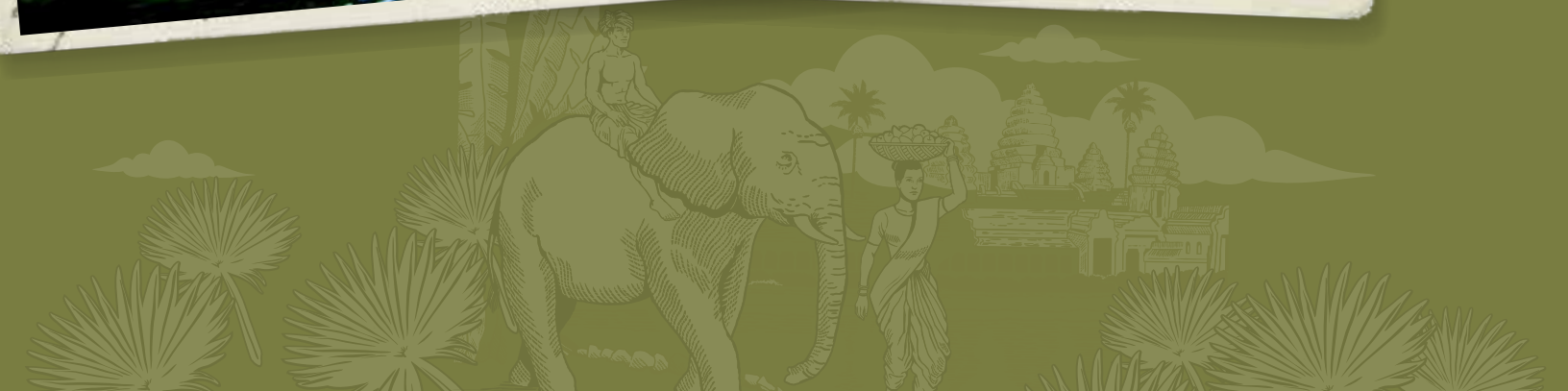


# TRAILS OF INDOCHINA

*Artisans of bespoke journeys to  
Southeast Asia & beyond*

*Small Group Departure*

ALL OVER VIETNAM &  
BEYOND



## ITINERARY MAP & OVERVIEW



**Trip Type:** Small Group Departure  
**Number of Guests:** Group of 5 – 10 Travellers  
**Room Type:** Single/ Double/ Twin Rooms  
**Travel Dates:** 04 Dec 2017 - 15 Dec 2017  
19 Mar 2018 – 30 Mar 2018  
**Travel Style:** Culture and Leisure  
**Destinations:** Vietnam and Cambodia

Date	Location	Accommodation
Day 1 – Day 3	Hanoi	Sofitel Legend Metropole Hotel
Day 3 – Day 4	Halong	Heritage Line's Jasmine Cruise
Day 4 – Day 6	Hue	La Residence Hue Hotel & Spa
Day 6 – Day 7	Danang	InterContinental Danang Sun Peninsula Resort
Day 7 – Day 9	Saigon	The Reverie Saigon Hotel
Day 9 – Day 12	Siem Reap	Park Hyatt Siem Reap
Day 12	Siem Reap	Departure for Home





### DAY 1 - HANOI

#### Arrival & Welcome Dinner

Upon arrival, as soon as you deplane, our Immigration Officer will meet you at the end of the jet bridge (or at the entrance of the terminal if there is no jet bridge), holding a signboard with your name(s) on it. The officer will assist you with immigration procedures. For those who already obtained their Vietnam visa, the estimated time to clear immigration is approximately 15-20mins per person. For those applying for a visa on arrival, the estimated wait time for the visa is usually 30mins, depending on the number of guests in the queue. (FYI: there is only one visa-on-arrival counter at Noi Bai Airport)

After clearing immigration, our Immigration Officer will escort you to the baggage claim to collect your luggage and introduce you to your guide who will be waiting outside the terminal.

Late this afternoon depart from your hotel to enjoy beautifully decorated dishes of innovative Vietnamese cuisine in a different approach at Cau Go Vietnamese cuisine restaurant – located on the top floor of old building which was built 90s with amazing view overlook to Hoan Kiem lake. Transfer back to the hotel after enjoying dinner at romantic scenery.

#### Meals: Dinner

**Accommodation: Sofitel Legend Metropole Hotel/ Luxury**

**Address: 15 Ngo Quyen Street, Hoan Kiem District**

**Tel: 84 24 3826 6919. Fax: 84 24 3826 6920**



**DAY 2 - HANOI****Full Day City Tour with Old Quarter Cyclo Ride**

Explore the charming city of Hanoi, often referred to as the 'Paris of the East', with its yellow ochre colonial buildings, tree-lined boulevards and scenic lakes. Visit the historic Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, an imposing monument of marble and granite built to house the preserved body of beloved Vietnam leader Ho Chi Minh, affectionately known to the Vietnamese as "Uncle Ho".

Visit the One Pillar Pagoda, a Buddhist temple built in 1049 of wood in the shape of a lotus blossom and set on a single stone pillar. Continue on to Ho Chi Minh's House nearby, a simple wooden house in a tranquil setting where Ho Chi Minh lived and worked. Some of his belongings are on display and visitors can walk up the steps to see his bedroom.

Next, visit the Temple of Literature, Vietnam's first national university built in the late 11th century. The picturesque temple is an example of well-preserved traditional Vietnamese architecture and is featured on the back of the 100,000 Vietnamese dong banknote.

In the afternoon, visit the fascinating Museum of Ethnology (closed on Mondays) which houses an extensive collection of traditional costumes and artefacts from Vietnam's 54 ethnic minority groups. Drive back to central Hanoi for a 1hr cyclo tour through the famed Old Quarter known for its '36 streets of 36 wares' named after the original 36 artisan guilds that date as far back as the 13th century. Explore the fascinating maze of back streets, fronted by narrow houses known as "tunnel" or "tube houses", built to avoid taxes based on the width of their frontage onto the street, a wonderfully eclectic glimpse into Hanoi street life.

Conclude the day by watching an entertaining water puppet performance, a uniquely northern Vietnamese art form said to have originated in the flooded rice fields of the Red River Delta. The show uses colorful wooden puppets to depict scenes of rural life and episodes of national history set to music.

**Meals: Breakfast**

**Accommodation: Sofitel Legend Metropole Hotel/ Luxury**





### **DAY 3 - HANOI - HALONG BAY** **Overnight Cruise on Halong Bay**

Depart for a 3.5hr journey to Halong Bay stopping for a break at Dai Viet Center - the best place to stop and stretch your legs en route. On arrival in Halong Bay, board your deluxe junk, settle into your cabin and prepare your appetite for an enjoyable lunch on deck.

In mid-afternoon visit the mysterious Tien Ong Cave - a wide cave but short entrance which is said to resemble the shape of frog's mouth. In 2007 a team of Vietnamese archeologist conducted extensive research which led to the discovery of human bones and artifacts dating to 10,000 - 8,000BC, and then continue to Cua Van area. It was once the fishing village, however most of them have moved on land for their children's future due to the lack of education system and access to vital information. Head back to the boat, participate in a cooking demonstration with the chef or enjoy sunset on the top deck before dinner.

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner**

**Accommodation: Jasmine Cruise (Shared Cruise)/ Private Deluxe Cabin - 2D1N**

### **DAY 4 - HALONG BAY - HUE** **Travel Halong Bay to Hue**

Rise early and greet the day with another refreshing Tai Chi demonstration on the upper deck. Then it is time for an early morning swim - in the Bay. By tender boat we bring the guests to a natural white sandy stretch. Sporty ones can also climb up to a hill top to have a last view from above over Halong Bay before we return to the boat and cruise slowly back to Halong City. During our trundle breakfast is served before we arrive at the jetty in late morning. Disembark at Heritage Line Lounge in Tuan Chau New Marina.

Transfer to Hanoi airport for your onward flight to Hue.

Upon arrival at Phu Bai Airport, after clearing all customs procedures, please proceed to exit gate and look for your guide who will be waiting at the lobby, holding the Trails of Indochina signboard with your name on it, if you cannot locate your guide, please go to the nearest Information counter and have them call the emergency number (+84) 9 1349 3398 for assistance. Your guide will come to meet you up and transfer you to hotel.

**Meals: Brunch**

**Accommodation: La Residence Hue Hotel & Spa/ Deluxe**

**Address: 5 Le Loi Street**

**Tel: 84 54 3837 475. Fax: 84 54 3837 476**

**DAY 5 - HUE****City Highlights and Duong No Village**

Once the imperial capital of the Nguyen Lords from the 17th to the 19th centuries, Hue's splendid emperors' tombs, ancient pagodas and the remains of the Citadel contribute to its undeniable royal charm.

Begin your exploration with a visit to the Thien Mu Pagoda, Hue's best-preserved religious monument. Built in 1601, the seven-storied tower pagoda, perched on top of on a hill overlooking the Perfume River, is one of Vietnam's most recognizable icons.

Next, choose to explore one of the following two sites:

(1) The Imperial Citadel at the center of the Complex of Hue Monuments inscribed by UNESCO as a World Heritage site. Enter through the towering main gate and appreciate the magnificent architecture and gardens while your guide explains the events and the intrigue surrounding the former royal court. Despite being heavily bombed during the Vietnam War, there are some incredibly well-preserved sections intact and others which are being carefully restored;

or (2) The Royal Tomb of Minh Mang. The second Nguyen Emperor, Minh Mang ruled from 1820-1841 and was known for his isolationist and conservative Confucian policies. He designed his tomb himself, but died before it was complete. His son and successor finished the tomb which is renowned for its symmetry and grandeur, situated in a picturesque forest setting.

In the afternoon, take a short drive into the Hue countryside to the village of Duong No, best known for being where a young Ho Chi Minh lived and studied. Walk along the river to the ornately decorated Thanh Toan Covered Bridge, with its Chinese and Japanese features and rare squared timber arch speckled with ancient ceramics. Note the calligraphy inscription in ancient Vietnamese and Chinese script. Return to your hotel.

**Meals: Breakfast****Accommodation: La Residence Hue Hotel & Spa/ Deluxe**



## DAY 6 - HUE - DANANG

### Walking & Boat Trip in Hoi An Ancient Town

This morning is free until time you meet your guide at the hotel lobby to transfer to Danang.

The regular check-in time is at 14.00; early check-in is NOT included and subject to availability.

This afternoon will transfer to Hoi An for your discovery.

Between the 15th and 19th centuries, Hoi An known then as 'Faifo', was a prosperous trading port, attracting Chinese, Japanese, Dutch, Portuguese and Spanish ships amongst others. Today, this World Heritage ancient town is recognized for its well-preserved architecture, pedestrian-only streets and distinctive local cuisine, allowing visitors a glimpse of its illustrious past.

Hoi An's narrow lanes are ideal for a guided walking tour of its many atmospheric sights including: old merchant houses with influences from Chinese, Japanese and Vietnamese architecture; the 400-year-old Japanese Covered Bridge, first built in the 1590s by the Japanese community to link them with the Chinese quarters across the stream; the Assembly Hall of the Chaozhou Chinese Congregation with its intricate woodcarvings; and the colorful market with stalls brimming with local specialties including silk, which can be turned into fashionable garments within a day or two.

Enjoy an hour-long boat trip on the Thu Bon River for up close views of fishing boats and country villages before returning to your hotel.

**Meals: Breakfast**

**Accommodation: InterContinental Danang Sun Peninsula Resort/ Classic Room**

**Address: Bai Bac, Son Tra Peninsula**

**Tel: 84 236 3 938 888. Fax: 84 236 3 938 887**



**DAY 7 - HOI AN - SAIGON****Cooking Class at Ancient Faifo Restaurant**

Let your culinary and artistic appetites be fulfilled as you enjoy a private cooking class and dinner at Ancient Faifo restaurant. Ancient Faifo is set in an ancient house that once inhabited and inspired two generations of prominent Hoi An artisans. The restaurant owns and displays the original collection of the family's heirloom ceramics and traditional furnishings. The cozy alfresco cooking venue offers tranquility & nostalgia where you can join the chef in an intimate hands-on experience learning how to prepare some tasty traditional dishes which you can enjoy with your meal at the end of the class.

Then transfer to Danang airport for your onward flight to Saigon.

Upon arrival Tan Son Nhat airport, after clearing all customs procedures, please proceed to exit gate and look for your guide who will be waiting at the lobby, holding the Trails of Indochina signboard with your name on it. If you cannot locate your guide, please come to the closest Information booth and have them call the emergency number (+84) 9 1871 3456. Your guide will come to meet you and transfer you to hotel.

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**

**Accommodation: The Reverie Saigon Hotel/ Deluxe**

**Address: 22-36 Nguyen Hue Street, District 1**

**Tel: 84 8 6268 1888. Fax: 84 8 3836 5170**



**DAY 8 - SAIGON****City Highlights Tour - Gala Dinner at Former US Ambassador's Residence**

With over eight million inhabitants and four million motorbikes, Saigon is truly a city that never sleeps. Despite its modernity, Saigon maintains a strong link to the past and our city tour takes in some of Saigon's most historic landmarks including the Notre Dame Cathedral, a red brick edifice with twin spires constructed from materials imported from France (entrance is only permitted when no services are being performed). Then head across the square to the Central Post Office, completed in 1891. A short drive away is the former Presidential Palace, the headquarters of the Saigon Government during the American War.

Continue to the War Remnants Museum for a vivid perspective of the American War through the eyes of the Vietnamese (Please note that some of the displays are very graphic). Experience Saigon's famed street coffee culture while your guide provides a brief language lesson as well as insights into daily life of a Saigonese before returning to your hotel.

In the evening, follow our trail through an alley dotted with colonial era mansions until you reach a gate, behind of which an enchanting home awaits. The US Ambassador to South Vietnam in the 1960s, Henry Cabot Lodge, lived in this stylish residence from '60 - '65 and today it has been restored to its former glory. A sophisticated Vietnamese meal will be served in the magnificent dining room and is accompanied by live music to create a memorable atmosphere.

**Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

**Accommodation: The Reverie Saigon Hotel/ Deluxe**





## DAY 9 - SAIGON - SIEM REAP

### Visit Cu Chi Tunnels

From Saigon, take a 2hr drive northwest to the famous Cu Chi Tunnels, an immense network of connecting underground tunnels started in 1948 to protect the Viet Cong guerrillas from the French air and ground sweeps. The tunnels also served as living quarters, communication and supply routes, and housed hospitals, food and weapons caches. Touring the underground compounds will provide a better understanding of the history of the tunnels, the hardship of life in the tunnels and the Vietnamese resilience during combat.

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight to Siem Reap

Upon arrival inside the arrival terminal, look for our Representative who will be holding a signboard with your names on it. Our Representative will collect your passport and one passport photo for the visa before leading you to the baggage claim where you can collect your luggage by the time you have collected your bag your visa should have been processed and your passport returned. Then, our representative will accompany you to meet the guide, who will be waiting outside the arrival terminal. Transfer from airport to your hotel.

**Meals: Breakfast**

**Accommodation: Park Hyatt Siem Reap/ Park Room**





## DAY 10 - SIEM REAP

### Well Off the Beaten Track

Wake up early and transfer by private vehicle to the West Gate of Angkor Wat from where the sunrise can be best observed. Enter the temple complex. Angkor Wat (early 12th century) is surrounded by a 190 meter wide moat 1.5 kilometers by 1.3 kilometers and is claimed to be the largest religious building in the world. It is certainly one of the wonders of the ancient world. You will be amazed by the sheer size of the temple, which took 30 years to construct & used the labors of up to 300,000 workers. Angkor Wat was built as the earthly representation of the universe with its' central tower symbolizing Mt Meru which, Hindus believe, is at the center of the Universe.

Return to your hotel for breakfast.

09.00am, drive to visit Banteay Kdei built between the 12th and 13th centuries. The ruined condition of the temple in no way detracts from the grandeur of this walled temple. Banteay means fortified monastery and refers to the double wall surrounding it.

Continue to Ta Prohm, this beautiful temple, built in 1186 as a Buddhist temple dedicated to the mother of Jayavarman VII, is one of Angkor's jewels and is overgrown with fig trees, giving a haunting yet exotic atmosphere. The magnificent roots of the trees have merged over the centuries with the temple's huge stone blocks, creating a 'forgotten city' feeling. Pause at Ta Keo, which would have been the finest temples in Angkor had it been completed. A short distance further are the twin temples of Chau Say Tevoda and Thommanon.

This afternoon, drive to Angkor Thom, not a temple, but an entire walled city of 9 sq km and served as the ancient royal Capital of the Khmer Empire from approx. 1181. With a probable population of 1 million, it was far bigger and grander than any city in Europe at the time. Your guide will take you to the Terrace of the Elephants and the Terrace of the Leper King. The centre piece of Jayavarman VII's Capital is the Bayon temple and, as you approach, you will notice the 216 giant, enigmatic, smiling faces looking into every direction.

Return to the South gate where you will board a small, private boat out to Prasat Chrung Temple to watch the amazing sunset.

**Meals: Breakfast**

**Accommodation: Park Hyatt Siem Reap/ Park Room**



**DAY 11 - SIEM REAP****Explore Banteay Srei Area & Dinner with Apsara Dance Performance**

Depart this morning for Banteay Srei temple, the only major temple that was not built by a monarch. It was constructed in the 10th century and was dedicated to the Hindu god - Shiva. Banteay Srei translates to "Citadel of the Women" and is one of Angkor's most significant structures as its walls are decorated with elaborate carvings which have been preserved remarkably well.

After a refreshing drink (own arrangements) at Prasat Banteay Srei Restaurant, head to the Banteay Srey Butterfly Center, an interactive butterfly farm nestled in a luxurious tropical garden. Morning is the best time of the day to spot as many butterflies as possible. Thousands of free flying Southeast Asian species will surround you. You will also be able to learn more about their life cycle, feed them and support knowledgeable local farmers.

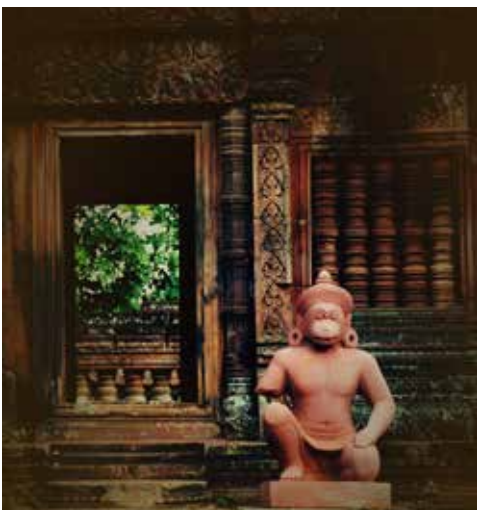
Finish this morning with a visit to the Cambodia Landmine Museum, a dive into the turbulent past of the country. Opened in 1999, it is home to a large number of unexploded ordnance (UXO) and shows maps and videos of demining activities. Learn more about the stories that can be confronting but important in understanding Cambodia's recent history. Then transfer back to town.

Tonight, we take you to one of the few places in town where you will savour delicious Khmer cuisine and have the privilege to watch a live Apsara Dance Performance by the top Apsara dancers of Siem Reap.

Situated in the serene gardens of the most iconic hotel in Cambodia, enter the Apsara Terrace by way of traditional Cambodian boundary stones with imposing wooden gates and enjoy a majestic performance with Cambodian dances and Khmer martial arts. The performance is viewed with a selection from the pan-Asian barbeque cuisine At Raffles Grand Angkor.

**Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

**Accommodation: Park Hyatt Siem Reap/ Park Room**





### DAY 12 - SIEM REAP

#### Departure

This morning is free at leisure until time you meet your guide at hotel lobby and transfer to airport for your onward flight to back home.

**Meals: Breakfast**



## YOUR QUOTATION



- Tour quotation is based on the suggested hotel/room categories. Price is subject to change due to availability and fluctuation in airfares.
- We will only proceed with making a booking upon receiving your written confirmation. We recommend your early confirmation to avoid disappointment of unavailability and varying prices.

<b>Tour Price - Departure in Dec 2017</b>	<b>Based on group of 5 – 10 travelers</b>
<b>Price per person on twin share</b>	<b>US\$ 4,603</b>
<b>Price per person in single room</b>	<b>US\$ 6,438</b>

<b>Tour Price - Departure in Mar 2018</b>	<b>Based on group of 5 – 10 travelers</b>
<b>Price per person on twin share</b>	<b>US\$ 4,795</b>
<b>Price per person in single room</b>	<b>US\$ 6,745</b>

### NOTES:

- All flight times are local.
- Flight times and the daily order of sightseeing are subject to change.
- Vietnam Airlines allow for advance seat assignment on some domestic and regional flights (those departing Hanoi/Danang/Saigon airports only) with advance seat assignment within 24 hours before departure by check-in online.
- Transfer times are approximate and subject to local conditions at the time of travel.
- Please refer to the pre-departure guide which has been provided with this proposal.



## TOUR INCLUSIONS:

### Inclusive of:

Overnight accommodation is inclusive of hotel tax, hotel service charges and includes daily breakfast

2D1N Jasmine junk (Shared cruise/private cabin)

Private transfers and transportation on tour (except stated join-in)

Sightseeing with Local English speaking guides (one guide in each city)

Entrance fees and boat rides

Water puppet show

Airport assistance services upon arrival in Hanoi & Siem Reap

Cambodia visa on arrival

Meals as specified (meals only, no drinks/ water)

Airfares: HAN – HUI/ DAD – SGN/ SGN – REP (Economy class with airport tax)

Cold towels and water on sightseeing days

Welcome pack

### Non-inclusive of:

Separate luggage truck

Vietnam visa

Other meals where not mentioned in the program

Drinks/water at included lunches and dinners

Other flights & airport taxes

Hotel early check in/ Late check-out

Overweight luggage

Personal expenses

Travel insurance

Tips & gratuities

Other services not listed in inclusive column

# GENERAL BOOKING CONDITIONS



## PAYMENT

- 20% of the total tour cost to be deposited upon commitment of the tour. This deposit is non-refundable.
- 80% of the total tour cost to be paid 46 days prior to arrival date.
- 100% of the total tour is required 45 days prior departure or within 24 hours of confirmation if travelling within 45 days from departure.

**CANCELLATION:** Any cancellations must be made in witting.

- 22 days or more prior to arrival date: 20% deposit
- 21 - 15 days prior to arrival date: 50% of the total tour cost
- 14 - 8 days prior to arrival date: 75% of the total tour cost
- 7 days or less prior to arrival date: 100% of the total tour cost

**Special conditions:** Depending on airlines, hotels, cruises' cancellation policies, the above conditions may be modified.



### VISAS

Please ensure your passport is valid more than 6 months from the date of return for every country you are visiting. Please also ensure there is sufficient space in your passport to allow for all immigration procedures, taking note that some South East Asian countries take up a full page for the visa sticker and need yet more space on a separate page for entry & exist stamps.

Kindly note that visa service is not included in our proposal. Please contact Trails of Indochina for any visa service or guidance. Please note the following general information is subject to change concerning visas from our part of the world.

**Vietnam:** A one month single entry visa is available on arrival with a pre-arranged visa invitation authorization letter. The visa invitation letter processing time is two weeks, rush service may be available at additional cost. The costs per person for the visa invitation authorization letter processing fee are \$50 and an additional \$25 per person must be paid in cash on arrival along with two passport photos at the Visa On Arrival Counter located in the International Airport. Selected nationalities can travel visa-free for 15 days if arriving by air or can apply e-visa (subject to change). Please refer for more details from Vietnam Predeparture Information

**Cambodia:** Visa available on arrival at the Airport with 1 passport photo. Cost: US\$ 30 per person - US\$ 37 per person in cash. Please refer to the details from Cambodia Predeparture Information

### TRIP & TRAVEL INSURANCE

The tour price does not include personal insurance. Travelers are highly recommended to purchase Trip Insurance & Travel Insurance upon commitment of the booking in case of force majeure. Trip Insurance covers the cost of your trip should you be forced to cancel your trip before you start the trip. Travel Insurance covers such costs as emergency and medical evacuation, hospital fees, property loss, etc. which could possibly happen during the trip. If you would like Trails of Indochina to have a copy of your Trip Insurance & Travel Insurance information in case of emergency, please forward these details to your agent who will in turn forward to our office.