



ENCHANTING VIETNAM & CAMBODIA WITH OPTIONAL LAOS EXTENSION, JAN 13-27, 2018

JOIN LINDA MEADORS AND BLUE HORIZON TRAVEL
TO VISIT THREE FORMER KINGDOMS OF INDOCHINA

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Dear Travel Friends,

This custom trip to Asia has been developed based on the special requests from you, our savvy, physically active Blue Horizon travelers with a passion for the more exotic corners of the world. I have designed Enchanting Vietnam and Cambodia with no more than 16 participants in mind. Additionally, I have included an optional two day pre-tour Vietnam War study in Hanoi for those wishing to re-visit the war years through the eyes of knowledgeable local guides. This focused pre-tour will take you to memorials, museums and remaining historic structures within Hanoi to help set the scene for the remaining days of your country visit.

For those wishing to extend their time in Indochina after the main tour, a post-tour package including a flight up to Laos and a cruise on the Mekong River has been developed. You will find a day-by-day itinerary for both optional tours within this informative brochure.

Talk with me about your international air options. You may wish to book your own air with points from your preferred carrier, or have Blue Horizon Travel handle your booking.

I can assure you that you will be welcomed into this beautiful region of the world by some of the kindest people you will ever meet. Please consider joining me.



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PRICE

LAND PACKAGE MAIN TOUR with internal air: \$4,099 pp dbl

Jan 15-27, 2018

Small group tour, Min. 10 participants, Max 16 participants, including internal air and guide gratuities, and Vietnam visa approval letter.

Not included: international air and in country visa fees.

Single supplement: \$1,180

HANOI VIETNAM WAR STUDY PRE-TOUR: \$449 pp dbl

Jan 13-15, 2018

Min 6 participants Single supplement \$190

LAOS POST TOUR with internal air: \$1,749 pp dbl

Jan 27-31, 2018

Min 6 participants Single supplement \$520

INCLUSIONS

- Accommodation based on double occupancy at hotels mentioned in the itinerary or similar
- Internal Airfare
- Meals as mentioned in the itinerary (B-Breakfast, L-Lunch & D-Dinner). Please note B, L, D as provided next to the date within the itinerary
- All transfers and sightseeing as mentioned in the itinerary on private basis by an Air-Conditioned vehicle
- Boat trips as mentioned
- Entrance fees to the sites mentioned in the itinerary
- Local English Speaking guides for sightseeing
- Tipping & Gratuities

NOT INCLUDED

- International airfare and airport taxes
- Visa fee & insurance
- Expenditure of a personal nature, such as beverages, souvenirs, etc
- Other tours, meals and services not mentioned in the program
- Necessary Inoculations - please also see Terms & Conditions

PASSPORT AND VISA

US Passport holders require a tourist visa to visit Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos. You must hold a passport valid for at least six months beyond your return date and with at least 4 blank visa page.

Visa Cost per person

- Vietnam: \$25
- Cambodia: \$30
- Laos: \$35

TRAVEL INSURANCE

TBD



Ho Chin Min's Wooden Stilt Cottage

ITINERARY

MAIN TOUR (Depart USA Jan 13, 2018)

Monday Jan 15, 2018 Hanoi

After your arrival at Hanoi International Airport, you will be met and transferred to your hotel.

Accommodation: The Silk Path Hotel, 4-star is located at the edge of Hanoi's old quarter.

Tuesday Jan 16, 2018 Hanoi Sightseeing Tour (B,D)

Wake up to a full day to explore Hanoi's illustrious history. In the morning, visit the imposing marble edifice housing the Ho Chi Minh mausoleum before moving onto his wooden stilt house and the One Pillar Pagoda. You will then explore the first university of Vietnam, the Temple of Literature, which is heavily influenced by the profound philosophies of Confucianism. In the afternoon, visit the Hoan Kiem Lake and the Ngoc Son Temple. A one-hour cyclo tour of Hanoi's Old Quarter allows you to catch a glimpse of ancient Hanoi and learn about traditional Vietnamese architecture. The tour includes a stop at an ancient Vietnamese "long house."

In the evening, enjoy Dinner at Ly Club Restaurant and watch a traditional water puppet performance whose origin dates back over a thousand years.

Accommodation: The Silk Path Hotel



Wednesday Jan 17, 2018 Ninh Binh Excursion (B,L)

Drive to Ninh Binh. Upon arrival, you will take delight in a scenic bicycle ride around paddy fields, pagodas, small villages and markets. A visit to Vuon Thi Village will offer you a chance to interact with the local people by partaking in their daily activities. Discover the lifestyle, hospitality and friendliness of the Northern people when you prepare lunch with a local family. Later, work alongside the farmers in the field and learn how wet rice is cultivated. Sit back and take in the mesmerizing limestone cliffs while cruising on the Van Long reservoir. Drive back to Hanoi in the late afternoon.

Accommodation: Silk Path Hotel

Thursday Jan 18, 2018 Hanoi to Ha Long Bay (B,L,D)

Drive through rice paddy fields to Ha Long Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. The limestone in this bay has gone through 500 million years of formation in different conditions and environments. Board a junk for a cruise among the hundreds of islets of Ha Long Bay. Enjoy a seafood lunch and a swim (if weather permits). Drop anchor in the late evening for an overnight stay among the dramatic limestone peaks rising out of the sea.

Paradise Luxury was built according to the traditional Vietnamese junk design. The vessel features a stylish restaurant and bar for an exclusive dining experience on the third deck. The top deck serves as a perfect place to enjoy a splendid beauty of Ha Long Bay with a 360° view.

Accommodation: Paradise Luxury Junk (1 Night, on Full Board Basis)





Ngoc Son Temple, Hanoi

Friday Jan 19, 2018 Ha Long to Hanoi / Hue (B)

Spend the morning cruising through the limestone cliffs and emerald waters of Ha Long Bay before returning to the wharf. Return to Hanoi and transfer to the airport for the flight to Hue. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel.

Hue was the capital from 1802 - 1945. During the Republic of Vietnam Huế's central location very near the border between the North and South put it in a vulnerable position in the Vietnam War. In the Tết Offensive of 1968, during the Battle of Hue, the city suffered considerable damage not only to its physical features, but its reputation as well, due to a combination of the American military bombing of historic buildings held by the North Vietnamese, and the massacre at Hué committed by the communist forces.

After the war's conclusion, many of the historic features of Hué were neglected. There has since been a change of policy, however, and many historical areas of the city are currently being restored.

Accommodation: Saigon Morin Hotel (1 Night)

Saturday Jan 20, 2018 Hue to Hoi An (B)

Take a morning boat cruise on the peaceful Perfume River to visit the Thien Mu Pagoda and then take a car to the poetic mausoleum of Emperor Tu Duc. In the afternoon, proceed to visit the Imperial Citadel and the Dong Ba Market.

Drive along the coast and via mountain passes to Hoi An with a stop en route at the photogenic village of Lang Co Beach. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel.

A UNESCO World Heritage Site, old Town Hội An, the city's historic district, is recognized as an exceptionally well-preserved example of a South-East Asian trading port dating from the 15th to the 19th century. Its buildings and street plan reflect a unique blend of influences, indigenous and foreign. Prominent in the city's old town, is its covered "Japanese Bridge" dating to the 16th-17th century.

Accommodation: Hoi An Historic (2 nights)

Sunday Jan 21, 2018 Hoi An (B)

Pay a visit to one of Hoi An's famous lantern workshops and learn how to make one yourself before setting out on a walking tour to explore this World Heritage Site. Highlights include an ancient merchant house, the Phuc Kien Assembly Hall, the 400-year-old Japanese Covered Bridge and the vibrant riverside market. Take a peaceful boat trip on the Thu Bon River and afterwards enjoy free time to further explore the old town.

Accommodation: Hoi An Historic

Monday Jan 22, 2018 Hoi An/ Danang/ Saigon (B,D)

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Saigon. Ho Chi Minh City, formerly named and still often known as Saigon is the largest city in Vietnam by population. It was once known as Prey Nokor prior to annexation by the Vietnamese in the 17th century. Under the name Saigon, it was the capital of the French colony of Cochinchina and later of the independent republic of South Vietnam 1955–75. On 2 July 1976, Saigon was officially renamed Ho Chi Minh City after the famous revolutionary leader. Upon arrival, visit the Reunification Palace (photo stop), the Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office, Chinatown, and either the Thien Hau Temple or the Quan Am Pagoda. In the evening, enjoy Dinner at Indochine Restaurant.

Accommodation: Liberty Central Saigon Riverside Hotel (2 nights)

Tuesday Jan 23, 2018 Saigon (B)

In the morning, drive to the amazing Cu Chi Tunnels where Vietnamese guerrillas built a labyrinth of narrow tunnels as hideouts during the war. Return to Ho Chi Minh City with stop to visit the crash site of the C-5 aircraft participating in the Operation Baby lift. In the afternoon, drive to see the actual site where the famous photo of the evacuation of Saigon was taken and then continue to a meeting with the Vietnamese Veterans for a talk about the war.

Accommodation: Liberty Central Saigon Riverside Hotel

Wednesday Jan 24, 2018 Transit Vietnam to Cambodia (B)

Transfer to the airport for the flight to Siem Reap. Upon arrival, visit Angkor National Museum before transfer to the hotel.



Japanese Bridge, Hoi An

Siem Reap is the capital city of Siem Reap Province in northwestern Cambodia. It is the gateway to the Angkor region. Siem Reap has colonial and Chinese-style architecture in the Old French Quarter, and around the Old Market.

Accommodation: Victoria Angkor Resort & Spa (3 Nights)

Thursday Jan 25, 2018 Angkor Thom & Angkor Wat (B)

Enter Angkor Thom via the Southern Gate and explore the ancient city. Then proceed to visit the ruins at Bayon, Baphoun, Phimeanakas, the Royal Palace, the Elephant Terrace and the Leper King Terrace. In the afternoon, visit the magnificent Angkor Wat. Explore its extraordinary architecture for an opportunity to experience a spectacular sunset over the monuments.

Accommodation: Victoria Angkor Resort & Spa

Friday Jan 26, 2018 Siem Reap Sightseeing (B,D)

After breakfast, visit the graceful 11th century Temple of Shiva – Banteay Srei – and the Banteay Samre Temple. On the way back, swing by the Ta Prohm Temple which is mystically enveloped in the jungle. In the afternoon, we drive to a local monastery and meet the resident monks and participate in a private good luck blessing ceremony and wishing you good health and a safe journey, performed by local monks. Sit on the mat while the monks chant blessings and sprinkle holy water on you – a traditional way which is believed to pass on the good luck of the gods. Afterwards, a sacred thread will be tied around your wrist. This will protect you from any evil spirits or accidents – a memorable experience!

Tonight, enjoy Dinner at a local restaurant with a Khmer Traditional Apsara Dance Show.

Accommodation: Victoria Angkor Resort & Spa

Saturday Jan 27, 2018 Siem Reap / Departure

In the morning, we visit local villages and have a boat cruise on Tonle Sap Lake to witness the daily lives of Cambodia's rural population living in floating villages.

Transfer to the airport for your flight back home. Rooms will be available till 1200N.



Monks at Angkor Wat



Luang Prabang

POST TOUR EXTENSION TO LAOS (including intl. air)

Saturday Jan 27, 2018 Siem Reap / Vientiane (B)

Transfer to the airport for the flight to Pakse and connecting flight to Vientiane. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel.

Vientiane is the capital and largest city of Laos, on the banks of the Mekong River near the border with Thailand. Vientiane became the capital in 1563 due to fears of a Burmese invasion but was later looted then razed to the ground in 1827 by the Siamese (Thai). Vientiane was the administrative capital during French rule and, due to economic growth in recent times, is now the economic center of Laos.

Accommodation: Green Park Boutique Hotel (2 nights)

Sunday Jan 28, 2018 Vientiane (B)

After breakfast visit the Cultural Park, Friendship Bridge and Buddha Park, 15 miles South of Vientiane. Take an afternoon city tour including Wat Simuang, Vientiane's most sacred site and the religious museum at Wat Sisaket. The tour includes a stop at Wat Pra Keo, the original home of the Emerald Buddha that now resides in Bangkok, the 16th century That Luang Golden Stupa and the Patuxai Victory Gate. The day ends with watching the sunset on the banks of the Mekong River.

Accommodation: Green Park Boutique Hotel

Monday Jan 29, 2018 Vientiane / Luanprabang (B)

Transfer to the airport for the flight to Luang Prabang. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel. In the afternoon, take a city tour to Wat Sen and Wat Visun. Enjoy sunset on top of Mount Phou Si, overlooking Luang Prabang. Afterwards, enjoy visiting the Street Night Market where local people and surrounding hill tribes display their textiles, silk worms and hand-made traditional garments and wares.

Luang Prabang means: "Royal Buddha Image". It is a city in north central Laos, consisting of 58 adjacent villages, of which 33 comprise the UNESCO Town Of Luang Prabang World Heritage Site. It was listed in 1995 for its unique, well preserved architectural, religious and cultural heritage, a blend of the rural and urban developments over several centuries, including the French colonial influences.

Accommodation: *Maison Souvannaphoum* (2 nights)

Tuesday Jan 30, 2018 Luang Prabang (B,L)

Take a full-day boat trip on the mighty Mekong River. Then we will cross the Mekong River to explore the villages at Ban Xiengmene and Ban Chan. Explore another royal temple at Wat Longkhoun, which once belonged to the royal family. And the nearby Sackarine Caves. Continue cruising on the river until reaching Pak Ou Caves. Explore the caves and cross the Mekong River at Ban Ou for lunch at a local restaurant. On the way back, also stop at the villages of Ban Xangkhong and Ban Xienglek, well known for their hand weaving and handmade Jute Sar paper.

Accommodation: *Maison Souvannaphoum*

Wednesday Jan 31, 2018 Depart Luang Prabang (B)

This morning, you may rise early if you wish to participate in the daily morning ritual of saffron-clad monks with their black alms-giving bowls receiving offerings from the local people, including the ubiquitous sticky rice. After breakfast visit several local highlights, including the Former Royal Palace, now the National Museum. If time permits, visit the Luang Prabang Market and a number of shops selling antiques and silver jewellery made by mountain tribes.

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight back to the USA.



Hoa Lo Prison (Hanoi Hilton)

PRE TOUR Hanoi Vietnam War Study

Saturday Jan 13, 2018 Arrive Hanoi

After arrival at the Hanoi airport, you will be transferred to your hotel.

Hanoi is the capital of Vietnam and the country's second largest city by population. From 1010 until 1802, it was the most important political center of Vietnam. It was eclipsed by Hué, the imperial capital of Vietnam during the Nguyễn Dynasty (1802–1945). From 1954 to 1976, it was the capital of North Vietnam, and it became the capital of a reunified Vietnam in 1976.

Accommodation: Silk Path Hotel (2 Pre nights with tours)

Sunday Jan 14, 2018 Hanoi (Pre Tour) (B)

Your morning is at leisure.

In the afternoon, take a half day Hanoi tour back to the time of the Vietnam War by driving to the Army Museum. Visit the museum and Hanoi Flag tower where once soldiers tied themselves to the top of the flag tower to report bombing locations. Continue walking to another historical structure in the Thang Long Citadel. Built during the war (1954-1975), the D67 Building was the place where the Politburo of the Workers' Party of Vietnam (now the Communist Party of Vietnam) and the Central Military Party Commission held regular meetings from 1967 to 1975. Explore the D67 Building and the Military Operation Bunker (General Command Headquarter). Drive to visit a small downed Aircraft Memorial commemorating McCain's shoot-down and the B52 Bomber Wreckage at Huu Tiep Lake.

Accommodation: Silk Path Hotel

Monday Jan 15, 2018 Hanoi (Pre Tour) (B)

In the morning, visit the Hoa Lo Prison, later known to American prisoners of war as the "Hanoi Hilton". It was a prison used by the French colonists in Vietnam for political prisoners and later by North Vietnam for prisoners of war during the Vietnam War.

Located in downtown Hanoi, the infamous Hoa Lo Prison was built by the French administration in 1896. Originally intended to hold around 450 prisoners, by the 1930s the number of detainees had soared to almost 2,000, the majority of them being political prisoners. During the Vietnam War, Hoa Lo Prison achieved notoriety as a place of incarceration for downed US pilots, who nick-named it the Hanoi Hilton.

Afternoon at leisure.

Accommodation: Silk Path Hotel



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TERMS & CONDITIONS:

Airfares / Taxes: Based on current fares and subject to change without notice UNTIL TICKETED. Airfares are based on the current lowest fare and subject to availability of the applicable class of service. It may be necessary to re-quote a fare at the time of booking, depending on availability. At time of final payment, please check for any applicable increase in taxes and fuel surcharges. Airfares are subject to different rules and cancellation fees. Some airfares may be non-refundable once ticketed. Details will be provided on request.

Baggage: International flights have varying baggage allowances. Please check the baggage allowance with your international carrier. Most domestic flights allow one check-in bag up-to 44 pounds.

Insurance: We strongly recommend Travel Insurance. Pre-existing conditions are covered PROVIDED Insurance premium is paid with deposit or within 21 days thereof. Alternatively, premium may be paid with final payment. Insurance cannot be purchased after final payment has been received by SITA. Insurance is non-refundable. A signed Acknowledgement, provided by SITA, is required by the passenger whether accepting or declining SITA's insurance.

Inoculations: We recommend that you contact Passport Health at 1-888-499 7277 or www.passporthealthusa.com for questions regarding country-specific health counseling.

Tour Reservations: We will require a \$500 advance deposit per person towards the land package cost & the internal airfare to initiate the reservation. Final payment in full is due Oct 15, 2017.

Payments: SITA accepts payments by client's Visa, Master & American Express credit cards. Signed statement on SITA form required by each client charging on credit cards. SITA does not accept 3rd party credit cards.

Cancellation Policy (Land Cost): If a cancellation is received after SITA is in possession of the initial deposit, but more than 60 days prior to departure, the cancellation fee incurred will be \$250 per person. If cancellation is received between 59 and 45 days prior to departure the fee incurred will be 25% of the entire tour price. If final payment has been received before 60 days prior to departure, and cancellation occurs, the fee incurred will be 25% of the entire tour price. Cancellations received between 44 days and 30 days prior to departure will be charged a fee of 50% of the entire tour price. NO REFUNDS whatsoever will be made for cancellations received within the last 30 days prior to departure. You may also refer to SITA's brochure, online, for applicable details (<http://sitatours.com/terms.php>). Your deposit for the tour is your acceptance of these Terms and Conditions.

Tour documents: Invoice shall be sent on receipt of deposit. Final tour documents including day-by-day itinerary, hotel listing, air tickets & vouchers are sent within 30 days prior to departure.