

A photograph of an ancient stone temple entrance, likely in Southeast Asia. The entrance is framed by highly ornate, carved stone pillars and lintels. Two Buddhist monks in orange robes are sitting on a stone platform in the distance, looking towards each other. The scene is captured through a series of nested doorways, creating a sense of depth.

# CLASSIC JOURNEYS

THE WORLD'S FINEST WALKING TOURS

## Vietnam, Laos & Cambodia

Halong Bay, Angkor Wat & the Best of Southeast Asia





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*Classic Journeys  
provides unbeatable  
access to experiences  
around the globe.”*

TRAVEL + LEISURE

## The Treasures & Cultures of Indochina

Most tourists never see Halong Bay in the morning. They miss the fishing junks sliding past limestone spires that thrust from the turquoise water. They can't imagine how the scent of fresh coffee hangs in the air as eagles float overhead. It's an extravagant sensory moment possible only because we spend the night on the water...on a luxury junk. And it's just one unique event we'll share with you in Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia. Of course we visit the great cities of Indochina. But we also stop at the simple homestead of a rice farmer...meet the enormous residents of a Laotian elephant preserve...wander the temples of Angkor with an expert guide...and stay in Indochina's finest hotels and resorts. Along the way, you'll wind your way through exotic markets, eat truly remarkable local specialties, and experience the traditional cultures you only find if you approach the region like a traveler, rather than a tourist.

DAY 1 »

## Hanoi

- Explore Hanoi's Old Quarter on foot
- Enjoy welcome cocktails overlooking Hoan Kiem Lake

Step right into the lively streets of Hanoi, where classic and modern Vietnam mingle on every corner. With your guide (think: local friend), set off on foot to wind through the city's storied '36 Streets'—home to silk sellers, fragrant spice dealers, and daily rhythms you can only experience on foot. You'll spot the majestic Quan Thanh Temple, watch daily life unfold on the Long Bien Bridge, and tap into Hanoi's vibe as you watch people shop, gather, and socialize.

After a lunch of local specialties in a favorite Old Quarter spot, stroll through leafy courtyards at the Temple of Literature and walk the ancient paths of the Thang Long Royal Citadel. At sunset, join a welcome cocktail reception at a rooftop bar overlooking the river. It's the perfect way to settle in, soak up the view, and celebrate the start of your journey with your Classic Journeys companions.

MEALS: L, D

OVERNIGHT: HANOI

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

DAY 2 »

## Duong Lam Village (Hanoi Countryside)

- Walk village lanes and rice paddies with locals
- Sit down to a home-cooked lunch in a 300-year-old house

A short drive brings you beyond the city clatter to a patchwork of rice paddies and winding lanes in Duong Lam. You'll walk beneath the broad canopies of ancient banyan trees, wave hello to gentle oxen, and pop into Mia Pagoda to discover a treasure trove of hand-carved statues and hidden caves. Along the way, your guide introduces you to families whose roots reach deep—often centuries—into this community.

Today's highlight? Lunch in a 300-year-old family home, where stories of ancestors mingle with home-cooked dishes. Expect hearty laughter, echoes of daily life from the kitchen, and warm hospitality that feels like family, not formality.

MEALS: B, L, D

OVERNIGHT: HANOI

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

DAY 3 »

## Halong Bay

- Cruise among limestone islands on a boutique junk
- Try Vietnamese cooking and spot floating fishing villages

Head for Vietnam's legendary Halong Bay, where the scenery isn't just a backdrop, but a perfect companion to every experience on the bay. Climb aboard your boutique junk and settle in for a slow cruise past limestone towers, sleepy floating villages, and the emerald sweep of open water. There's plenty of time to kayak hidden coves or simply stretch out on deck with good company.

As afternoon tea is served, join a hands-on cooking lesson—Vietnamese spring rolls, at your fingertips. The sun dips behind the karstic limestone islands while you enjoy an al fresco dinner, serenaded by the bay's gentle lapping water. Tonight, sleep rocked by the rhythm of Halong Bay itself—trust us, it's as peaceful as it sounds.

MEALS: B, L, D

OVERNIGHT: HALONG BAY

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

DAY 4 »

## Halong Bay / Yen Duc Village / Hoi An

- Greet sunrise with tai chi, then explore Me Cung Cave
- Meet a village family in Yen Duc and fly to Hoi An

Rise early for tai chi on deck—there's just something about morning light on the water. Then go ashore and explore on foot the mysterious chambers of Me Cung Cave. The countryside calls at Yen Duc Village: you'll wander lush gardens, pause at family

shrines, step into a multi-generational home for tea, and hear stories of how life has changed (and stayed the same).

Lunch is a relaxed, local affair—expect traditional flavors and plenty of welcome. Later, a short flight takes you to the riverside charm of Hoi An. You've likely heard that Hoi An is world-renowned for its tailors who use locally woven silk and linen. It's also home to artisans who craft custom shoes, bags, and belts with meticulous attention to detail. Many of the designs are unique to Hoi An, using local leather and traditional techniques. Additionally, the handmade silk lanterns and hand-painted pottery you'll see throughout the town are signature, collectible goods.

MEALS: B, L

OVERNIGHT: HOI AN

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

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## DAY 5 »

### Hoi An

- Wander Hoi An's alleys and morning market
- Cook (and eat) with a local chef in the countryside

Hoi An greets you with lanterns, laughter, and streets made for slow strolls. With your guide, explore quiet alleys and catch the local market before the day's bustle. Grab coffee on a rooftop, then venture out past French colonial facades, temples, and the riverside bustle where fishermen haul in their morning catch.

The countryside opens up during a cooking class at an organic farm. Pull herbs and roll local specialties under the friendly tutelage of a local chef. Treat your tired feet to an herbal foot massage, then cap the day with dinner overlooking rice paddies glowing at dusk—a proper taste of Hoi An hospitality.

MEALS: B, L, D

OVERNIGHT: HOI AN

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

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## DAY 6 »

### My Son Sanctuary / Hoi An / Siem Reap

- Walk the ancient Cham ruins at My Son
- Catch a flight to Siem Reap and relax poolside

Today's journey leads to My Son, an ancient sanctuary tucked into the hills. Here, your guide reveals the stories of vanished kingdoms—brick towers and intricate carvings tell tales of Cham kings and centuries-old rituals. Wander the site at your own pace, take in the haunting beauty, maybe catch a traditional dance performance—either way, these ruins are magic.

Pause for a lunch of crisp, spicy Vietnamese flavors along the Thu Bon River. Then, it's onward to Siem Reap. Check in to your grand hotel—take a dip, savor the tropical gardens, and enjoy a restful evening before the temple adventures ahead.

MEALS: B, L, D

OVERNIGHT: SIEM REAP

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

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## DAY 7 »

### Siem Reap (Angkor Temples)

- Watch sunrise at Angkor Wat before the crowds
- Walk tree-draped temples and meet Khmer artisans

Rise and shine early for one of travel's all-time greats: sunrise at Angkor Wat. With a bit of Classic Journeys magic, you'll beat the crowds and watch the temple's spires glow as a new day begins. After a traditional Khmer breakfast in a wooden house, continue on foot into the root-claimed ruins of Ta Prohm, where jungle and temple are intertwined.

Lunchtime brings a welcome break—think Khmer specialties tucked in a shady spot. In the afternoon, stride along the ramparts of Angkor Thom, meeting artisans and exploring the enigmatic faces of Bayon Temple. The day ends with a refreshing drink and a celebratory dinner where new friendships and unforgettable stories are shared.

MEALS: B, L, D

OVERNIGHT: SIEM REAP

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

DAY 8 »

## Banteay Srei & Preah Dak Village / Satcha / Luang Prabang

- Marvel at intricate carvings at Banteay Srei
- Join artisans in Preah Dak for hands-on crafts and a taste of local life

Travel out to Banteay Srei, renowned for its pink sandstone carvings—up close, details leap from the stones, earning it the title "Citadel of Women." Then shift gears and join in village life at Preah Dak: help make rice noodles, sample fresh coconut, and try weaving a souvenir from palm leaves. These hands-on encounters bring Cambodia's warm character right to the surface.

A stop at the Satcha Center highlights how local traditions are thriving with contemporary creativity. Later, fly north to Laos, arriving in Luang Prabang—where the vibrant night market awaits, its aisles lined with local families and artisans—many from the region's ethnic communities—selling handmade textiles, woodwork, silver, and crafts whose sales directly support their livelihoods. The market isn't just for visitors; it remains a cherished social hub for locals, who often come to shop, connect, and enjoy street food alongside travelers, ensuring your purchases help sustain the town's traditions and economy.

MEALS: B

OVERNIGHT: LUANG PRABANG

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

DAY 9 »

## Luang Prabang

- Get hands-on with elephants at a conservation camp
- Take in sunset views and share a Baci ceremony with local friends

Today's experience exemplifies Classic Journeys' commitment to thoughtful, regenerative travel. You'll visit an elephant sanctuary dedicated to the ethical care and long-term protection of Laos' gentle giants. Guided by devoted mahouts who have forged lasting bonds with the elephants, you'll have the chance to feed and observe these majestic animals in a setting designed for their wellbeing. Along the way, you'll gain meaningful insight into community-led conservation efforts that not only secure a future for the elephants but also support the livelihoods of local families—ensuring your visit helps sustain both the region's natural heritage and its vibrant culture.

This afternoon, explore the city on foot: browse the artisan market, peek into palm-shaded temples, and climb to Wat Phousi for sweeping city views. As evening falls, enjoy a private cruise on the Mekong before joining a local family for a moving Baci blessing ceremony—a soulful Lao farewell that feels both personal and unforgettable.

MEALS: B, L, D

OVERNIGHT: LUANG PRABANG

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART

DAY 10 »

## Luang Prabang (Departure)

- Experience morning alms with Buddhist monks
- Browse the bustling morning market and bid farewell

Begin your last day quietly—out before dawn to observe barefoot monks collecting alms in a centuries-old ritual. Then, stroll the nearby market as Luang Prabang wakes up around you: stalls stacked with sticky rice, handwoven baskets, and every color of tropical fruit.

Return to your villa for a leisurely breakfast—a final chance to laugh and reminisce with friends and guides before you part ways. You may also want to use this morning to find one last signature piece to remember your time in Indochina. Luang Prabang is famed for its naturally dyed silk and cotton textiles—especially traditional *sinhs* (skirts) and elegant scarves often found at markets such as Dara Market—alongside high-end silverwork and jewelry crafted by shops like Tithpeng Maniphone Silver using time-honored techniques, as well as handcrafted wooden carvings of Buddha statues, animals, and decorative objects that reflect Laotian cultural heritage.

MEALS: B

DAILY MILEAGE OPTIONS: SEE CURATED WALKS CHART



## Tour Hotels



### [Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi](#)

Hanoi's most legendary 5-star hotel, the Metropole, is in the French Quarter. It's a study in sophisticated design and extreme comfort, with its superb service, tropical gardens and outdoor pool. It is consistently ranked one of Asia's best hotels.

**NIGHTS:** 2 nights



### [Emperor Cruises Legacy Halong Bay](#)

Enjoy the stunning views of Halong Bay as you cruise in style on a luxury boat. Offering personalized service, spacious cabins with elegant decor, and refined cuisine, savor the unforgettable moments of this enchanting experience.

**NIGHTS:** 1 nights



### [Hotel Royal Hoi An](#)

Hotel Royal Hoi An is a luxurious property that blends historic charm with modern amenities. Perfectly located on the banks of Thu Bon River, this upscale retreat offers a rooftop pool and bar, elegantly decorated rooms, a fitness center, and fine dining.

**NIGHTS:** 2 nights



#### Raffles Grand Hotel d'Angkor

Rated as one of the world's best places to stay, the Raffles Grand has been synonymous with Angkor Wat for 75 years. Guest rooms are appointed with Cambodian art and art deco furnishings. The state-of-the-art spa includes a 35-meter lap pool.

**NIGHTS:** 2 nights



#### Homm Souvannaphoum

The former residence of Laos' Prince Souvanna Phouma in the 1960s and 70s, this hotel has been renovated in a manner that combines the contemporary with colonial and traditional Lao influences. Amenities include a celebrated Angsana Spa.

**NIGHTS:** 2 nights

# Curated Walks

CONNECT. ON FOOT. AT EYE LEVEL.

Join us to walk the most cinematic footpaths in a region. With thoughtfully curated walks that are about so much more than just counting miles. Yes, it's likely that your Fitbit or Apple watch will buzz when you hit your step count. But you probably won't notice because your soul will be buzzing from the connections you make with the people and place. Each day, we'll offer you one or two walks. Each walk is generally between an hour or two in duration. And our support vehicles are often nearby and add to your flexibility. Choose one or both to curate the right amount of walking for you each day. It's why Forbes magazine calls our tours their 'Luxury Walking Favorite'.

CURATE YOUR OWN MILEAGE OPTIONS EACH DAY

	MINIMUM	AVERAGE	MAXIMUM
Day 1	3	4	5
Day 2	2	3	4
Day 3	1	1	1
Day 4	1	2	2
Day 5	3	4	5
Day 6	2	2	3
Day 7	2	3	4
Day 8	2	3	4
Day 9	3	4	5
Day 10	1	1	1

\*No scheduled walks

ROUTE NOTES

The terrain on this trip includes a mix of paved and cobblestone streets in Hanoi, Hoi An, Luang Prabang, Siem Reap, and other towns; as well as well-maintained countryside trails, riverside paths, and dykes around rice fields made of compacted dirt and stone. Generally, the walks in the cities are level, and the paths through the countryside are gently rolling with some elevation gain and loss.

THE ART OF THE UNPLANNED:

CRAFTING UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

We've carefully crafted each day's walking adventures with our expert local guides. Your daily itinerary serves as a well-thought-out plan, and we empower our tour leaders to adapt to unexpected opportunities or challenges. Whether it's an impromptu local invitation or a weather-related change, we're adept at making adjustments. So, while your experience may closely follow the itinerary, it might also include some variations. In essence, we invite you to "expect the unexpected" – knowing that our promise is to provide you the most genuine and authentic walking tours in the world.



## Arrival & Departure

### → ARRIVAL DETAILS

LOCATION: Lobby of Sofitel Legend  
Metropole  
CITY: Hanoi, Vietnam  
TIME: 9:00 AM

### → DEPARTURE DETAILS

LOCATION: Lobby of Homm  
Souvannaphoum  
CITY: Luang Prabang, Laos  
TIME: 12:00 PM

## The Classic Journeys Difference

- ▶ **CURATED WALKS THAT LEAD TO 'ONLY WITH CLASSIC JOURNEYS' EXPERIENCES**
  - Immerse and connect you across cultures as you explore on foot
- ▶ **EXCEPTIONAL LOCAL GUIDES**
  - Bring authentic experiences to life
- ▶ **ENCHANTING ACCOMMODATIONS**
  - Where luxury and local mean you feel at home
- ▶ **EAT LIKE (& WITH) THE LOCALS**
  - Local flavors and time to savor the moments together
- ▶ **SMALL GROUPS, GUARANTEED**
  - Mean deeper, richer experiences while making friends along the way
- ▶ **REGENERATIVE TRAVEL**
  - We take strides to preserve cultures, traditions, and nature

## What's Included

- Accommodations for 9 nights
- Award-winning boutique hotels that provide you unlimited access to the people and places, culture and history you came to experience
- All breakfasts, 8 lunches and 7 dinners
- Full-time experienced guides who are with you throughout the trip and handle behind-the-scenes logistics
- Admissions to tastings, historic sites and other scheduled events as noted in the detailed daily itinerary
- Gratuities for hotels, meals, and baggage
- All land transportation during the trip

## Above & Beyond Benefits

- ▶ **INVISIBLE CHECK-IN**  
When your group arrives, we whisk you and your bags to your room immediately.
- ▶ **PRIVILEGED ACCESS EVENTS**  
One-of-a-kind access to remarkable people, places and activities arranged just for you.

## Enhancing Your Journey

We're constantly seeking ways to improve your experience. Count on us to update you with any significant changes before departure. Minor adjustments may be communicated by your guides during the trip to ensure you have the best possible journey.