

13 Days Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Thailand

Highlights

LOCATION	NIGHTS	SIGHTSEEING	PAID ATTRACTION / ENTRANCES
<u>Saigon</u> (Vietnam)	2	Reunification Palace, Museum and Hall, walking tour on Nguyen Hue Street, Ho Chi Minh Committee (outside), Ben Thanh Market	Notre Dame Cathedral, Central Post Office, Cu Chi Tunnels
<u>Phnom Penh</u> (Cambodia)	2	Victory Monument, National Museum, Wat Phnom Temple, discover Phnom Penh's Psar Toul Tom Pong	Royal Palace, Silver Pagoda Toul Sleng Prison Museum
<u>Siem Reap</u> (Cambodia)	3	Skuon town, Naga Bridge, floating village of Chong Khneas, Angkor Exploration, Bayon Temple, the Royal Enclosure, Phimeanakas, the Elephant Terrace, the Terrace of the Leper King, Pouk district Cambodian Cultural Villages, Chantiers Ecoles-Les Artisans d'Angkor	Boat trip in a traditional wooden boat on the 'Great Lake', Angkor Wat temple
<u>Luang Prabang</u> (Laos)	3	Wat Bo contains, Kuang Si Water Fall, Elephant Village	Wat Visoun, Kuan Si Falls, Butterfly Park, Royal Palace Museum, Traditional Art and Ethnology Center
<u>Bangkok</u> (Thailand)	2	Bangkok – Guided tour	Monkey Temples of Lopburi, Ayutthaya Historical Park

VISA INFORMATION

Vietnam	USA Citizens: Visa Required – approx. \$45
Cambodia	USA Citizens: Visa Required – approx. \$40
Laos	USA Citizens: Visa Required – approx. \$50
Thailand	USA Citizens: Visa – N/A

Day 1: Saigon Arrival

Welcome to Saigon (now known as Ho Chi Minh City) – the most hectic and business city of Vietnam. Upon arrival at the airport, welcomed by the local tour guide and transfer to the city center to check in hotel. Enjoy dinner and overnight in Saigon.

(Meals: D)

Day 2: Saigon – City Tour – Cu Chi Tunnels – Saigon

Morning, we start the city tour at the **Reunification Palace**, the witness of the fierce Vietnam War ended in 1975. The grand building today is a **Museum and Hall** of official receptions. Nearby the Palace are the colonial-styled Central **Post Office** and the **Notre Dame Cathedral**, built between 1877 and 1883 and one of the city's major landmarks. Have a walking tour on **Nguyen Hue Street** to take the photos of the **Opera House** and the **Ho Chi Minh Committee** (outside). From here, walking to **Ben Thanh Market** one of the most typical symbol of Saigon to experience the daily life of the locals and do shopping the hand-made goods there.

Afternoon, we visit **Cu Chi Tunnels**, one of the few remaining monuments to the Vietnam War. Beneath the ground lie 200 km of tunnels, dug by hand and inhabited by the forces of the Vietnamese guerillas during the conflict. At its peak, prior to the Tet Offensive in 1968, the tunnel complex was base to almost 10,000 troops. To this day, it remains one of the most impressive examples of how fierce the war used to be. You even can try to crawl some dozens of m on the tunnel underground to have the real experience. Return to Saigon. The rest of day is at leisure for shopping at the downtown. Overnight in Saigon.

(Meals: B, L, D)

Day 3: Saigon - Phnompenh by Flight

Early morning depart to Phnompenh by flight. Arrive in Phnom Penh Vietnam. After lunch, we transfer to visit the **Victory Monument**, and the **National Museum**, also called Musee des Beaux-Arts. A French archaeologist and painter, Georges Groslier, designed it in Khmer style in 1917. The museum contains a collection of Khmer art - notably sculptures - throughout the ages. Visit the **Royal Palace**, built by King Norodom in 1866 on the site of the old town, and the **Silver Pagoda**. Located within the Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda is so named because of its floor, which is made up of 5000 silver tiles. The treasures found inside include a solid gold Buddha encrusted and weighing 90kilograms and a small 17th century emerald and baccarat crystal Buddha. End your afternoon with the visit of the **Wat Phnom Temple**, Phnom Penh's namesake, from where you can enjoy views over the tree-lined avenues of Phnom Penh during sunset. Overnight in Phnom Penh.

(Meals: B, L, D)

Day 4: Phnompenh Visit

After breakfast at the hotel, we will continue our visit the **Toul Sleng Prison Museum** and the Killing Fields of **Choeung Ek**-both grim reminders of Cambodia's bloody past under Pol Pot. It is almost inconceivable to confront the nature of true evil here in this gentle land, but the Buddhist memorial at Choeung Ek, commemorates the 1.7 million victims of the 1975-79 Pol Pot regime. This excursion may prove distressing for some. It is, however, an important piece of this country's historical and cultural puzzle. Then we **discover Phnom Penh's Psar Toul Tom Pong**, known as the Russian Market, a great place to hunt for souvenirs, curios, and silks. Overnight in Phnom Penh.

(Meals: B, L, D)

Day 5: Phnompenh – Siem Reap by Land

Morning after breakfast, we will go overland to Siem Reap this day, with first stop at **Skuon town** to see (or even try) sautéed spiders, a local food. Lunch at Prek Pros restaurant! Then we will arrive at Siemreap with last stop at archeological "**Naga Bridge**" at Kampong Kdei. Arrival in Siem Reap, welcome by tour guide in Siem Reap, check in hotel and take your sort relaxing time. Then visit the **floating village of Chong Khneas**, located 10 kilometers south of Siem Reap. We take a boat trip in a traditional wooden boat on the Tonle Sap Lake, the "**Great Lake**" of Cambodia, one of the largest in Asia. After the short rest we would have welcome buffet dinner with Apsara, the traditional Khmer dance - drama performance, which are not merely dance but also telling a story. Overnight in Siem Reap.

**NOTE: Buffet dinner show is Asian food only, but if they need Indian food, we can change but there is no Apsara show available in Indian Restaurant.*

(Meals: B, L, D)

Day 6: Angkor Exploration

Start your sightseeing tour of **Angkor area** we spend a full day exploring the wondrous ancient ruins with the South Gate of Angkor Thom, which is famous for its series of colossal human faces carved in stone, the impressive **Bayon Temple**, the **Royal Enclosure**, **Phimeanakas**, the **Elephant Terrace**, the **Terrace of the Leper King** and the largest as well as the most complete temple of Angkor Wat. This architectural masterpiece was constructed in the 12th century and covers an area of about 210 hectares. We stroll around this massive edifice, seeing the many galleries with columns, libraries, pavilions, courtyards and ponds full of water reflecting the towering temple 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. Afternoon visit **Angkor Wat temple**; the founder of the temple was Suryavarman II who reigned Cambodia from 1113 to 1152 and built the five towers in the 12th century to dedicate to the Hindu God Vishnu.

The plan of the pyramidal conception of the temple combined with spaces, alleys, ditches is an ancient masterpiece of architectural design and construction. It is time to **Pre Rup temple for a romantic sunset view.**

Overnight in Siem Reap.

(Meals: B, L, D)

Day 7: Siem Reap Visit

Proceed to the **Pouk district about 15 Km** in the West of Siem Reap town you visit the silk farm, a fascinating farm/workshop where you can see the entire silk creation process including growing the food for the silk worms, breeding the worms, silk extraction and refinement, traditional kit dying pattern creation and looming. Retail silk and souvenir shop. On the way back, visit the **Western Baray (Baray Occidental)** measuring 8 km by 2.3 km which provided water for the intensive cultivation of lands around Angkor. We also visit War Museum on the way. Visiting **Cambodian Cultural Villages**, including Wax Museum, Miniatures, former capital Ou Dong, Royal palace, National Museum, Wat Phnom, Phsar Thmey, 12th century Kompong Kdei Bridge, 16th century reclining Buddha and Independent Monument. Also includes Carving, Traditional Dances Show and Villages and visit to Killing field at **Wat Thmei**. Overnight in Siem Reap.

(Meals: B, L, D)

Day 8: Siem Reap – Luang Prabang [by Flight]

We spend the rest of time visiting the "**Chantiers Ecoles - Les Artisans d'Angkor**" which provides training to young Cambodians in an effort to revive the ancient Khmer traditions of stone carving and wood sculpting. We continue to one of the city's lively open markets, Psar Chars, also called the "Old Market", surrounded by elegant French Colonial colonnades! Then continue to Wat Bo, a large, highly respected pagoda, founded in the 18th Century. Like the Silver Pagoda in Phnom Penh, the Vihear of **Wat Bo contains** unique wall paintings of the **Reamker** that are said to be late 19th Century. Look for the daily-life market scenes such as an opium smoking Chinese merchant, the colonial era French officer at the market and the French soldiers attending a traditional dance performance. Also of interest is the large collection of Buddha statues located behind the **main Buddha**. Then Straight to Siem Reap Airport for flight to Luang Prabang. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel. In the evening, we explore the Night Market, where you can find a lovely selection of handmade textile made by local and hill tribe people surrounding Luang Prabang. Overnight in Luang Prabang.

(Meals: B, L, D)

Day 9: Kuang Si Water Fall

An optional early start gives you the fantastic opportunity to participate in the daily morning rituals of saffron-clad monks collecting offerings of Alms (ubiquitous sticky rice) from the faithful residents. This tradition is very unique in Laos, being the only Buddhist nation still preserving the procession. From there, we will take a short visit to the morning local market near the Royal Palace.

At the market, you can find anything from rice, to fresh vegetables, to steamed fish, frogs, and anything else that might be the day's catch, just set up on the ground, this is what the locals do every day. This is really the chance for you to get a real flavor of the local culture. Later, ascend the 329 steps to the top of Phousi Hill for a panoramic view of the city and the Mekong River. We then visit **Wat Visoun**, dating back to 1513 during the reign of **King Wisunarat (Visoun)**, this is Luang Prabang's oldest temple and was once home to the Prabang Buddhas. This then takes us to the beautiful Kuang Si Waterfall where you can cool off with a refreshing swim in the pools or walk along the forest trails. Before returning to Luang Prabang, we stop to visit the **Kuang Si Falls Butterfly Park** (closed on Tuesday), one of the must-visit spots, where you can have an optional 15 minute tour to learn about butterflies and local flora. Laos is also known for its traditional crafts, we will take a short visit to the Ock Pop Tock Living Craft Center, where you will have a short tour so you get information about Silk, about weaver, about the Women that work in the Centre. Overnight in Luang Prabang.

(Meals: B, L, D)

Day 10: Luang Prabang - Elephant Riding

After breakfast at the hotel, Drive to **Elephant Village** with Guide. On arrival, you will be welcome and greeting by the Camp Manager and participate in short briefing. After enjoying the impressive experience of approx. 30-minute elephant ride on Elephant's neck (Not on Howdah (**Elephant seat**); you will then take a return boat trip to the Tad Sae Waterfall and spend some time in the clear water. Your lunch will be provided at the Elephant Village Restaurant (Buffet lunch served with Coffee or Tea and drinking water). We are free to stroll around before transferring back to the center. Along the way, we take a short visit to the tomb of the 19th century French explorer Henri Mouhot; the first European to rediscover Angkor Wat and the Royal Kingdom of Luang Prabang. We go for Luang Prabang city tour and visit you will first visit **Royal Palace Museum**, which hosts a range of interesting artifacts. Then we will visit magnificent **Wat Xiengthong** with its roofs sweeping low to the ground, which represents classical Laotian architecture. Afterwards, we will visit the **Traditional Art and Ethnology Center** to learn about Laos' many ethnic cultures. Overnight in Luang Prabang.

(Meals: B, L, D)

Day 11: Arrive Bangkok Airport (Thailand)

Arrive at Bangkok Suvarnabhumi International Airport & Proceed towards Immigration followed by Bag collection & Customs. Visit the **temple of Golden Buddha and Reclining Buddha** and drive through China Town. The Temple of the Reclining Buddha, or Wat Phra Chetuphon, is located behind the Temple of the Emerald Buddha and a must-do for any first-time visitor in Bangkok. It's one of the largest temple complexes in the city and famed for its giant reclining Buddha that measures 46 meters long and is covered in gold leaf. Overnight in Bangkok.

(Meals: B, L, D)

Day 12: Monkey Temples of Lopburi

Today early morning depart to visit Phra Prang Sam Yod or Lopburi Monkey Temple; best known landmark and provincial symbol. A former Hindu Shrine built in the 13th century in the classic Bayon style of Khmer architecture, the compound comprises three prangs (towers) linked by a corridor. Then visit Wat Phra Sri Rattana Mahathat and Phra Narai Ratchaniwet Palace.

Ayutthaya Second Capitol of Saim Kinddom

Across the Rivers to the south of the Island. Visit Wat Chaiwatthanaram, one of the most imposing ancient Buddhist monasteries, was established by the command of King Prasatthong in 1630 A.D. It is believed that the wat is located on the site of his former home. The reason for building this monastery was to make merit for his mother. Prince Damrong Rachanuphap noted that its architecture was similar to that of Angkor Wat and inferred that the wat might have been built to commemorate the king's victory over Cambodia.

(Meals: B, L, D)

Day 13: Bangkok – Departure

Today, after breakfast transfer to the airport for your departure flight with wonderful memories of the tour.

(Meals: B)

Package Cost & Details

Cost based on min 25 people

Land Package cost: Per person on twin share

USD 2395

(Single Occupancy supplement – USD 850 per person)

Departure Dates 2025:

Jan 27 / Feb 9 / Mar 14

Inclusions:	Exclusions:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Deluxe 4 * Hotel Accommodation ▪ All Transfers, Sightseeing and Entrances as per Itinerary ▪ Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner (Local /Indian) as per the itinerary ▪ Jain meals upon request ▪ Services Of Maxim Tour Escort ▪ 2 water bottle per person per day (500 ml) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ International & internal flight ▪ Expenses of personal nature such as laundry, Shopping, drinks ▪ Any incidental Charges at the Hotel ▪ Cost of Visa ▪ Tips: USD 5 per person per day ▪ Any other services not mentioned in the 'itinerary' and 'tour inclusion'

Location	Nights	Hotel Name or Similar [Deluxe Category]
Saigon	2	Royal Saigon Hotel or similar in
Phnom Penh	2	Harmony Phnom Penh hotel or similar
Siem Reap	3	Saem Siem Reap Hotel or similar
Luang Prabang	3	Luang Prabang View Hotel or similar
Bangkok	2	Novotel Bangkok or similar

TERMS & CONDITIONS

- ❖ We reserve the right to change any information, route or attractions before or after your booking due to events beyond our control like bad weather, natural Calamity, accident, and or logistic issues. Hotels are subject to change without prior notice based on availability and citywide events.
- ❖ All payments must be made by check/Cashier's check/Money order. Payment done by credit card will be charged 3.5% processing fees. Please send a copy of the check, money order or deposit confirmation upon payment.
- ❖ There will be no refund for any unutilized services (e.g., meals, entrance fees, optional tours, hotel and sightseeing) on the tour due to unavoidable circumstances.
- ❖ Airline rates are approx. and subject to change at the time of booking. Any payments made to Maxim Tours towards any airline are non-refundable. Flights and schedules are subject to change even after booking. Confirmed tour itinerary will be adjusted accordingly. No additional services or compensation will be provided.
- ❖ Please note that Airline seats, wheelchair assistance, meals, frequent flyer & other special requests are request only. We do not guarantee any seating preferences as seating arrangements is airline discretion.
- ❖ The tour will operate with a min. group size of 25 passengers. Please note that Group operating less than 25 passengers may incur a supplement cost of approx. 5 - 10% on the original land tour package. Also, local tour manager assistance upon arrival to the destination country for group size less than 25 passengers.
- ❖ The package price is subject to change if there is fluctuation in currency exchange.
- ❖ Passengers joining this tour must travel to/from the hub city at their own expense.
- ❖ We advise to book 60 days prior to the date of Departure as the internal ticket rate may increase closer to the departure date, result an increase in the tour cost.
- ❖ Any damages caused to the hotel/coach during your stay shall be payable by the passengers. Maxim is not responsible for the same.
- ❖ We reserve the right to substitute a hotel of similar class if it is deemed advisable or necessary.
- ❖ The management is not responsible for delay or changes in schedules of train, flight, bus, cruise or other services. The management also reserves the right to claim any additional expenses incurred due to delay or changes in schedules of train, flights, bus, cruise or other services.
- ❖ Children 2-11 years of age must share a room. Passengers 12 years or above are considered as adults.
- ❖ Full airline deposit is required at the earliest to confirm airline booking as quotes are subject to change within 24 hours.
- ❖ Maxim Tours shall not be liable for damage occasioned by delay in the carriage by air of passengers or baggage.
- ❖ There will be a charge of USD 100 per person for any cancellation/refund or exchange request.
- ❖ Visa information is subject to change.
- ❖ Jain and Special Meals may be limited.
- ❖ Published packages and prices are valid for our fixed departures only. Rates quoted for any other travel dates are subject to change based on availability, blackout dates, major holidays, trade fairs, sporting events, citywide or nationwide events, special event periods, or other peak travel seasons.
- ❖ Hotel confirmation and airline reservation will be provided 7-15 days prior to the departure.
- ❖ In case of a triple room, the 3rd person in the room will get a rollaway bed. The room size may be the same as the double room.
- ❖ The standard check in time at all hotel is 3:00 pm and check out time is 11:00 am.
- ❖ Due to major international events and convention the hotels may be blocked out in advance. In view of this you may have to stay in hotels further away from the cities/different city and the itinerary may have to be altered/ amended.
- ❖ Luggage compartment of coach and internal flight regulations, we strongly recommend you to carry 1 medium size bag of 20 kg for check-in and 1 carryon bag of 7 kg per person.



- ❖ It is extremely important to possess an overseas travel insurance policy before you travel on your tour.
- ❖ Please refer to our detailed "Terms & Conditions" on our website at <http://www.maximtours.net/tos/>

Payments:

At the time of booking: USD 1000/- Per Person as a Non-Refundable Deposit.

Non-refundable airline payment upon confirmation.

Balance Payment: 45 Days prior to the departure date.

Cancellation Charges:

Cancellation 45 days or more prior to the departure date: Non-Refundable Booking deposit, airline charges and cancellation fees.

Cancellation 44-31 days prior to the departure date: 50% of the land package cost after deducting deposit.

Cancellation 30 days or less prior to the departure date or a 'NO SHOW' on the tour: 100% of the total tour cost