

Cruise: Vietnam to Cambodia

on the RV INDOCHINE II & pre tour in Vietnam

19 days / 18 nights

From

\$7,799

Per person/Double Occupancy/Land & cruise package
Main deck cabin/Departures: March 28, April 13, 2024

Before embarking on your 8-night cruise on the RV Indochine II, discover Vietnam with its capital, Hanoi, as well as thousand-year-old pagodas, lakes, and historical monuments. Set out on an unforgettable cruise on legendary Halong Bay among the fantastically formed islands and cliffs and continue south to visit central Vietnam.

Day 1: Hanoi – arrive

Arrival in Hanoi. After customs formalities, meet and greet and transfer to your hotel for overnight.

Overnight in Hanoi, Q HOTEL 4* or similar

Day 2: Hanoi

Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam, is a blend of long established traditions and modern imprints of Western influence.

Begin the day visiting Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum where his embalmed body is kept for homage visits in the central hall of the mausoleum.



Take a walk through the park to see the former French Governor's Palace and the wooden cabin commonly known as Ho Chi Minh's Stilt House in which he lived from 1958 till his final days in 1969. Then visit the 11th century Temple of Literature, dedicated to Confucius and once the Mandarin Training School in the old days. Continue to visit the 11th century lotus shaped One Pillar Pagoda. Head on to Hoan Kiem Lake to visit the historical Ngoc Son Temple, built on a lush green islet. You'll even go green and explore the Old Quarter by electric buggy.

In the evening, see a Water Puppet Show - a fantastic art form originating in northern Vietnam, best seen in Hanoi. (B)

Overnight in Hanoi, Q HOTEL 4* or similar



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Day 3: Hanoi - Halong Bay

Today, depart from Hanoi to Halong Bay (160 km). Board the cruise and enjoy a welcome drink while meeting the crew. Cruise among the hundreds of islets of Ha Long Bay while enjoying lunch. Drop anchor in the late evening for an overnight stay among the dramatic limestone peaks rising out of the sea. (B/L/D)

***No guide on board with guests. On-board English-speaking guide is arranged by the junk.

Overnight on-board the PEONY CRUISE 4* or similar

Day 4: Halong Bay - Hanoi - Hue

Start your day with a Tai Chi lesson on the sundeck with complimentary tea and coffee being served. Rejuvenate your body and mind with the slow movement of Tai Chi and enjoy the dawn on the bay. Spend the morning cruising through the limestone cliffs and emerald waters of Ha Long Bay before preparing to check out. Disembark from the cruise at Tuan Chau International Marina. Return to Hanoi and transfer to the airport for flight to Hue. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel. (B)

Overnight in Hue, ROMANCE HOTEL 4* or similar



Day 5: Hue

Hue served as the capital of Vietnam for more than 140 years. It houses ancient temples, imperial buildings, and French-style edifices. Start your day by taking a boat trip to visit one of the oldest pagodas – the seven-story Thien Mu Pagoda. Visit the Royal Imperial City. Located in the heart of Hue is the Imperial Citadel, a vast complex built in the early 19th century and modeled after the Forbidden City of Peking.

Next, venture into the countryside to the Imperial Tomb of Tu Duc. Tu Duc, the longest reigning Vietnamese emperor, designed and built this elegant tomb during his lifetime.

Take some time to soak in the tranquil atmosphere, wandering among the gracefully proportioned pavilions, courtyards, and lotus ponds. (B/L)

Overnight in Hue, ROMANCE HOTEL 4* or similar

Day 6: Hue - Da Nang - Hoi An

Twisting winding curves, sudden bends, views that take your breath away - welcome to the Hai Van Pass. Drive along this incredible mountain pass on the way to Danang - home to beaches made famous by American soldiers during the Vietnam War, several quirky bridges and the wonderful Cham Museum containing the best collection of Cham sculpture. Also stop at the Marble Mountains - a group of limestone and marble hills filled with caves. (B/L)

Overnight in Hoi An, WYNDHAM GARDEN 4* or similar

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Day 7: Hoi An – My Son – Hoi An

Journey to My Son, the former religious centre of the Champa Kingdom, a sophisticated civilization which held sway over the region from the 4th to the 13th centuries. After a brief visit to the Visitor's Centre for an overview of Cham history and culture, visit each ruin in turn, walking along forested paths. Drive back to Hoi An, one of Southeast Asia's major international ports during the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. The quirky mix of Chinese, Japanese, Vietnamese, and European influences make this ancient town a photographers' paradise. Walk through the narrow winding streets of the old quarter past ochre-hued stone houses, lantern-filled shops, and colorful fishing boats. One of the most iconic sights is the Japanese Covered Bridge. There are also ancient temples and merchant homes over 200 years old. In the afternoon, take a lazy cruise along the river to traditional pottery villages. (B/L)

Overnight in Hoi An, WYNDHAM GARDEN 4* or similar



Day 8: Hoi An – Danang - Ho Chi Minh (Saigon)

Transfer to the airport for a flight to Saigon. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel.

Ever-vibrant, ever-changing - this is the buzzing city of Saigon, where sleek skyscrapers loom over incense-infused temples and motorcycle filled roads. There are classic European-style landmarks such as the Notre Dame Cathedral, the Opera House, the ornate City Hall, and the art-deco Post Office. Reminders of a recent past can be seen in the Reunification Palace, famously stormed by tanks in 1975. Visit all the main sights of the city and make time to browse the stalls in the bustling Ben Thanh Market. (B/L)

Overnight in Ho Chi Minh, GRAND HOTEL 4* or similar

Day 9: Ho Chi Minh - start cruise

After breakfast, check out from the hotel and transfer included to the RV Indochine II. After comfortably settling into your cabins, you will be introduced to the crew at a welcome cocktail. Dinner and overnight on the ship which will remain moored in central Ho Chi Minh City. (B/D)

Overnight on-board RV INDOCHINE II

Day 10: Ho Chi Minh - Cho Gao

Depart by coach for the Cu Chi tunnels, an immense network of underground tunnels that were the location of several military campaigns during the Vietnam War. After lunch, visit the History Museum. Return to the ship and cruise toward the splendid Cho Gao canal. (B/L/D)

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Day 11: Cho Gao - My Tho - Vinh Long - Cai Be

During the passage through the Cho Gao Canal, discover the daily life in Vietnam—organized around fishing, farming, and transport. In My Tho, visit a bee farm and enjoy some honey tea and exotic fruit. Take a ride in small sampans along the canal lined with mangrove palms. Enjoy lunch on board. Vinh Long is in the middle of the Delta region, between two of the Mekong's distributaries. Discover a brick and pottery factory, a fruit-tree nursery, puffed rice, rice-paper wrappers, and rice alcohol. (B/L/D)

Overnight on-board RV INDOCHINE II

Day 12: Sa Dec

Visit the former house of Huynh Thuy Le, the man who Marguerite Duras based her book *The Lover* on. After your excursion, enjoy some free time in Sa Dec. Return on board and cast off as you sit down to lunch. The ship will begin to cruise to Cambodia. Spend the night on board. (B/L/D)

Overnight on-board RV INDOCHINE II

Day 13: Chau Doc - Phnom Penh

Enjoy breakfast on board this morning. After arrival in Chau Doc, visit a local fish farm, the Ba Chua Xu Temple, and the Tay An Pagoda. Enjoy lunch on board before arriving in Phnom Penh in the evening. Enjoy a brief tour of the area by "tuk-tuk," the easiest way to get around the city. We'll have dinner on board and remain in port overnight. (B/L/D)

Overnight on-board RV INDOCHINE II

Day 14: Phnom Penh

Enjoy a tour of the fabulous Royal Palace and the Silver Pagoda - inlaid with more than 5,000 silver tiles. Visit the National Museum of Cambodia. Enjoy lunch in the city. In the afternoon, pay a visit to the Tuol Svay Prey School, a former detention, torture, and execution center run by the Khmer Rouge during the civil war. Afterwards, enjoy some free time at the market. Return to the ship and enjoy a performance of classical Khmer dancing and music. Dinner on board and remain in port overnight. (B/L/D)

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Day 15: Koh Chen - Kampong Tralach

Upon arrival in Koh Chen, explore this small village where craftspeople specialize in silver and copper work. After lunch on board, head to Kampong Tralach to visit the beautiful Vihara at the Wat Kampong Tralach Leu pagoda. To access the pagoda, you will cross the village of Kampong Tralach in ox carts along a small road in the middle of magnificent rice fields. The ship will remain anchored overnight. (B/L/D)

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Day 16: Kampong Chhnang - Tonle Sap Lake

Visit Kampong Chhnang, one of the largest fishing ports on Tonle Sap Lake, where fish farming is abundant. The region is also known for its traditional pottery. Chhnang itself means “pot.” You will also enjoy a tasting of regional products. After lunch on board, cruise to Tonle Sap Lake, the largest freshwater lake in Southeast Asia. Tonight, is the farewell cocktail and dinner! The ship remains anchored overnight. (B/L/D)

Overnight on-board RV INDOCHINE II

Day 17: Siem Reap - Angkor Temples / END OF CRUISE

Spend the morning cruising the river before disembarking and having lunch on shore. After lunch, visit the Angkor Wat temple: the epitome of Khmer architectural art and the most famous and imposing of all the monuments in Angkor. Enjoy a stroll through the Angkor Night Market. (B/L/D)

Overnight in Siem Reap 5*



Day 18: Siem Reap - Angkor Temples

This morning, Visit the mysterious Beng Mealea temple (1), whose ruins were once utterly consumed by jungle. The temple was built in the 12th century and used the same floor plan as Angkor Wat. After lunch in the city, visit the Senteurs d'Angkor, a local business with a diverse collection of silk and carvings, as well as a superb range of traditional beauty products and spices, all made locally. Visit a silk farm to learn about the complex process of creating the luxurious fabric. End the day with Phare, the Cambodian circus, and spend the night at the hotel.(B/L/D)

Overnight in Siem Reap 5*

Day 19: Siem Reap - Angkor Temples / Depart

This morning, visit Ta Prohm – aka the Jungle Temple, a Cambodian temple dedicated to the family of Jayavarman VII. Continue to Angkor Thom. Stroll through the grounds of the former Royal Palace and discover the Terrace of the Elephants and the Terrace of the Leper King. Lunch will be served at the hotel. We'll bid you farewell at approximately 2:00 p.m. Please do not book your flight before 5:00 p.m. (B/L)

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The Package Includes:

Vietnam

- 8 nights accommodation in Vietnam, double occupancy, 4* hotels, including 14 meals
- Transfers by private car
- Visits by English speaking private guide and driver
- Domestic air tickets; Hanoi-Hue, Danang-Ho Chi Minh

Cruise

- 8 nights cruise on-board the RV INDOCHINE II in the cabin category of your choice \$ - double-occupancy
- 3 meals per day; drinks at all meals (1 soft drink or 1 beer* or 1 mineral water + 1 tea or coffee per person for each meal) - unlimited tea, coffee, and mineral water during the cruise
- Visits and excursions mentioned
- English-speaking local tour guides and on board tour director

- 2 nights accommodation in Siem Reap, double occupancy, 5* hotel

The Package Does Not Include:

- International flights and airport taxes
- Departure transfer from Siem Reap hotel to the airport
- Cambodian and Vietnamese visas
- Tips for crew members on board the ship (per person per day US\$5)
- Tips for guides and drivers in Vietnam
- Drinks other than those mentioned
- Personal expenses

Land and cruise package 19 days / 18 nights, per person in double occupancy

Departures 2023 & 2024	Main deck	Upper deck
2023		
October 3, & 19	\$ 8,449	\$ 8,799
November 4 & 20	\$ 8,849	\$ 9,199
2024		
January 7 & 23	\$ 8,749	\$ 9,099
February 8 & 25	\$ 8,749	\$ 9,099
March 12	\$ 8,749	\$ 9,099
March 28 & April 13	\$ 7,799	\$ 8,149
September 1 & 17, October 3 & 19	\$ 9,449	\$ 9,799

Prices do not include the contribution to the travel agency customer compensation fund of \$3.50 per \$1000 for Quebec travel agencies. This amount will be automatically added to your invoice. Rates were issued at press time and can change at any time due to exchange rates, new promotions, or fuel surcharges. Prices advertised on our site are valid if you purchase services during the same session. If you log out of our site, the prices may be different the next time you log in.

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