

2019 VIETNAM & CAMBODIA'S ANGKOR RUINS TOUR ITINERARY

Experience the timeless history, fascinating culture, and majestic beauty of Southeast Asia on our Vietnam and Cambodia bike tour. Ride through bold landscape, ancient ruins, and bustling countryside while reliving history from the 4th-century ruins of My Son in Vietnam all the way through to the 10th century Khmer Empire in Cambodia. Embark on a one-of-a-kind cultural journey at the Saigon Opera House in Ho Chi Minh City with a critically-acclaimed AO show, featuring Vietnamese heritage through contemporary choreography paired with traditional music. Explore the historic Củ Chi tunnels used during the Vietnam war, enjoy an intimate lunch with a Vietnamese family at their home in the village of Phuoc Tich, and learn about the religious practice of ancestor worship. Explore the Imperial Citadel of Huế, a UNESCO Heritage site that houses the Forbidden Purple City. Savor the distinct flavors of authentic Vietnamese cuisine with a hands-on, chef-led cooking class at the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Hội An. Visit an organic farm in local Quang Nam province and ride a traditional local basket boat to your evening dinner destination. Cycle along small villages, rice paddies, and eucalyptus groves, to My Son, the ancient spiritual center of the Cham. Pedal through the 12th century ruins of the magnificent temples of Angkor in Cambodia. Visit Ta Prohm temple before heading to Angkor Thom, a 12th century Bayon temple, and onward to the famous Angkor Wat, the largest religious monument in the world. Throughout your adventure, you will be able to unwind in luxury at world-renowned accommodations including Hotel Reverie, Saigon, rated as one of the "50 best hotels in the world"!

Sunday – Day 1: Arrival Ho Chi Minh City – Check in to the iconic Hotel Reverie, recognized as one of the 50 best hotels in the world and the only member property of “The Leading Hotels of the World” in Vietnam. This evening, join us for a welcome reception and dinner before taking in a world-famous AO show at the historic Saigon Opera House in Ho Chi Minh City. Constructed in 1898 by the French architect Ferret Eugene and restored in 1998, the Saigon Opera House is now a certified National Relic. After the lights dim, the stage comes alive for an hour-long performance by local dancers and artists displaying Vietnamese heritage and culture through a stunning blend of acrobatic acts and exemplary dance moves choreographed to traditional music.

Lodging: *The Reverie, Ho Chi Minh City* +84 28 3823 6688 <https://www.thereveriesaigon.com/>

Monday – Day 2: Củ Chi Tunnels – The morning begins with a short drive to the banks of the Saigon River where you will embark on a scenic speedboat voyage to the Củ Chi tunnels. Over a delicious breakfast, marvel at the ever-changing scenery as you pass through urban neighborhoods and rural countryside. Explore the incredible network of underground tunnels over 200 miles long. Crawl in the labyrinth of caves and passageways to gain a first-hand perspective of what life was like living and fighting during the Vietnam War. Hear remarkable combat stories and observe wartime weapon relics. Following lunch, cycle past small communities on quiet back roads, trails,

and paths through the shades of rubber plantations. Stop along the way to chat with locals and learn about their lives and Vietnamese culture. Witness farmers working in their fields, tending to livestock, and making rice paper. Afterward, transfer back to Ho Chi Minh City where dinner is on your own to choose from the extensive culinary offerings in this capital city.

Lodging: *The Reverie, Ho Chi Minh City* +84 28 3823 6688 <https://www.thereveriesaigon.com/>

Cycling Options: 19 Miles

Tuesday – Day 3: Ho Chi Minh City to Huế – After breakfast, board a short flight to Huế. Upon arrival, transfer to the lovely Tha Om “nha vuon”, or a Garden House, for lunch. Located in Kim Long village and not far from the north bank of the Perfume River, Tha Om is not only a place to explore the city's architectural heritage but also home to some of Huế's finest dishes. Later, visit the Forbidden Purple City, housed in the Imperial Citadel. Recognized by UNESCO in 1993, the citadel was home to the Imperial Court from 1802 to 1945 and reflects the pomp and ceremony of the dynastic rulers, as well as the scars from years of ancient and modern turmoil. Although badly damaged in the later stages of the war, it still retains a sense of grace and majesty even today. Your home for the next two nights is the luxurious riverside boutique hotel, La Residence. Enjoy dinner tonight at the hotel's incredible restaurant by the Perfume River.

Lodging: *La Residence, Huế* +84 (0)23 43 83 74 76 <http://www.la-residence-Huế.com/>

Wednesday – Day 4: Phuoc Tich Ancient Village – In the morning, cycle the back roads of Huế's beautiful countryside to the village of Phuoc Tich. The looping route takes you through several untouched villages and local markets. Some homes in Phuoc Tich are over 200 years old and reflect the Feng Shui design practices. Meet a local family, be welcomed into their home, and learn of their religious family traditions over a home-cooked meal. On the way back to Huế, explore a tomb of Emperor Minh Mang, the second Emperor of the Nguyen Dynasty, known for his opposition to French involvement in Vietnam. This tomb is famous for its imposing architecture and gorgeous forest setting. Later, transfer back to your hotel to freshen up before joining us for dinner at the renowned Le Jardin De La Carambola.

Lodging: *La Residence, Huế* +84 (0)23 43 83 74 76 <http://www.la-residence-Huế.com/>

Cycling Options: Up to 25 Miles

Thursday – Day 5: Huế to Hội An – Today, we say goodbye to Huế and follow the coast south. Pass roads lined by coconut palms and dunes scattered with mini mausoleums. These colorful graveyards are comprised of broken tiles and dishes inlaid to create symbols of life in the form of lotus flowers, dragons and cranes. Continue to Phuoc Tuong Hill and then on to Lang Co Beach for R&R, swimming, and a tasty lunch. In the afternoon, transfer to Hội An, a delightful old trading town and UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Lodging: *Hotel Royal, Hội An* +84 (0) 235 3950 888 <http://hotelroyalhoian.vn/>

Cycling Options: Up to 40 Miles

Friday – Day 6: Hội An to My Son – In the morning we cycle to My Son, the ancient spiritual center of the Cham kingdom. Arguably one of the best of the trip, this ride follows scenic country roads surrounded by fields of rice paddies, eucalyptus groves, and coastal villages through a gorge leading to the lush jungle alongside the Song Tranh River before arriving in My Son. Though many temples were destroyed during the war, this archaeological wonder is still an impressive sight to behold. Enjoy lunch nearby at a local home where the host will share information about the village history. In the evening, transfer to Thanh Dong, the first and only organic farm in Hội An and Quang Nam

province. Experience the daily life of the farmers and how they influence the local community. Tonight, ride a traditional “basket boat” to dinner.

Lodging: *Hotel Royal, Hoi An* +84 (0) 235 3950 888

<http://hotelroyalhoian.vn/>

Cycling Options: Up to 28 Miles

Saturday – Day 7: Hoi An – Join a local chef at the town’s morning market to explore the food stands, browsing for fresh herbs, and learn about local ingredients. Return to town and enter Vy’s Market, a one-of-a-kind interactive dining destination. Arranged like a typical outdoor market, each stand features food to sample but also offers the rare opportunity to jump in and help prepare tasty treats. In addition to learning recipes, discover new cooking methods and useful local cooking tools, such as the unusual Vietnamese vegetable graters. Your culinary adventure wraps up with a delicious self-cooked lunch assisted by a local chef. In the afternoon, take a guided walking tour of Hoi An with a local conservation expert who will share stories of the area’s rich history dating back to the 15th century and various UNESCO conservation projects taking place in this ancient trading port. The unique architecture found here draws influences from the various cultures that flourished during Hoi An’s heyday as a bustling international trading port in the times of antiquity. Continue the tour with a stroll around Hoi An’s charming flower-lined streets and view historical attractions including the historical Japanese Covered Bridge, the Communal Hall, and privately-run heritage photo galleries. Dinner will be on your own tonight. Later, transfer to Danang airport to fly to Siem Reap, Cambodia, the charming gateway to the famed Temples of Angkor.

Lodging: *Raffles Grand Hotel d’Angkor, Siem Reap* +855 63 963 888

www.affles.com/

Sunday – Day 8: Siem Reap and Angkor Wat – Explore Angkor Park on your bike this morning, pedaling through the dense jungles of the magnificent temples of Angkor. Visit the Ta Prohm temple, built in the mid-12th to early 13th century. From Ta Prohm pedal through hidden passages in the ruins before heading to Angkor Thom. This was the last capital of the Great Khmer Empire under the reign of Jayavarman VII. After lunch, travel south through Angkor Thom to the famous Angkor Wat, the largest religious monument in the world. It was originally constructed as a Hindu temple of god Vishnu gradually transforming into a Buddhist temple toward the end of the 12th century. After an extensive tour at the temple, enjoy a relaxing cruise in a gondola paddleboat at the moat of Angkor Thom compound while watching a spectacular sunset. Tonight, farewell dinner is at the elegant Malis Restaurant, featuring exquisite Cambodian Cuisine.

Lodging: *Raffles Grand Hotel d’Angkor, Siem Reap* +855 63 963 888

www.affles.com/

Cycling Options: Up to 25 Miles

Monday – Day 9: Depart – After breakfast, enjoy a free morning taking in the sights and sounds of Siem Reap, before heading to the airport to catch your flight back home.

TRAVEL & TOUR QUICK FACTS

Tour Start	Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), Vietnam
Tour Conclusion	Siem Reap, Cambodia
Currency Requirements	Vietnam: Vietnam đồng. (1USD = 23276.60 Dong Approx.). Vietnamese prefer transaction in Dong over USD. You can get currency exchanged at the airport. Cambodia: Cambodian riel (1USD = 4101.00 Cambodian riel Approx.); however, USD is the preferred currency in Cambodia.
Visas	US and Canadian Citizens require Visas to travel to Vietnam and Cambodia. Both the visas can be applied and obtained online: -Vietnam: https://vietnamvisa.govt.vn/apply-online/ -Cambodia: https://www.evisa.gov.kh/
Travel To/From Tour	Fly into Ho Chi Minh City (SGN), Vietnam. Fly out of Siem Reap (REP) and connect through Ho Chi Minh City (SGN), Hanoi(HAN) or Bangkok(BKK), Thailand.
Pre-Tour Lodging	Suggested Hotels upon reservation.
Days/Nights	9 Days/ 8 Nights.
Included Meals	All Meals except 2 Dinners.
Rating	Easier
Activities	Cycling, Walking.

STANDARD INCLUDED ASPECTS

Equipment	Computer-equipped road or hybrid bike, helmet, rear light, seat bag for road bike or rack bag for hybrid, map case, water bottle, and jersey. Bring clipless pedals, seat, or helmet for a more personalized fit.
Van Support	Rides supported by a Sojourn van as well as a tour leader on a bicycle.
Tour Leaders	Two experienced tour leaders guide each trip from start to finish.
Ride Nourishment	A selection of snacks and refreshments are supplied throughout all rides.
Ride Information	Detailed route directions, maps, and a daily briefing are provided.

Office Support	At your service 9:00am – 6:00pm EST, Monday – Friday. 1-800-730-4771.
Detailed Information	Detailed trip and travel information will be provided for you upon confirmation of trip reservation.

2019 DATES & PRICING

Tour Dates	Per Person DBL Occupancy	Single Room Supplement
October 13 – 21	\$5500.00	\$1300.00
October 27 – Nov 4	\$5500.00	\$1300.00
November 10 – 18	\$5500.00	\$1300.00
December 29 – Jan 6 (2020)	\$5599.00	\$1300.00
January 12 – 20 (2020)	\$5500.00	\$1300.00
January 26 – Feb 3 (2020)	\$5500.00	\$1300.00

WEATHER

Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Avg. High	90°	91°	93°	93°	93°	90°	90°	90°	88°	88°	88°	88°
Avg. Low	72°	73°	75°	79°	79°	77°	75°	77°	77°	75°	73°	72°
Avg. Precip.	0.6 in	0.3 in	0.9 in	2.4 in	7.3 in	10.5 in	10.3 in	10.0 in	10.7 in	10.0 in	6.2 in	2.6 in

Hội An, Vietnam	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Avg. High	77°	79°	83°	88°	92°	94°	94°	93°	89°	85°	81°	77°
Avg. Low	66°	68°	71°	74°	77°	78°	78°	78°	76°	74°	71°	68°
Avg. Precip.	2.5 in	0.7 in	0.9 in	1.2 in	2.5 in	2.1 in	3.1 in	4.5 in	11.7 in	19.3 in	16.0 in	8.2 in

Siem Reap, Cambodia	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Avg. High	88°	91°	94°	96°	94°	92°	90°	90°	88°	88°	88°	87°
Avg. Low	70°	73°	77°	79°	80°	79°	78°	78°	78°	77°	76°	71°
Avg. Precip.	0.8 in	2.3 in	3.2 in	4.6 in	10.2 in	11.7 in	11.8 in	11.0 in	15.1 in	8.1 in	2.4 in	0.3 in

Degrees in Fahrenheit