



**KIPLING & CLARK**  
YOUR BRIDGE TO THE EAST

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**KIPLING & CLARK itinerary | VIETNAM – CAMBODIA SOJOURN – 13 DAYS**

*An Exploration of Art, Culture, Education and Cuisine*

## DAY 1: ARRIVE SAIGON

Arrive in Saigon to be met and transferred to the Park Hyatt for check in.

*Park Hyatt hotel/park room*

## DAY 2: SAIGON – HANOI

This morning is at leisure until you are transferred to the airport for a flight to Hanoi. Upon arrival, you'll meet with your guide and transfer to town and check-in your hotel.

Later this afternoon, enjoy a one hour cyclo ride around the Old Quarter of "36 streets and 36 wares" to witness the vibrant small market along the street sides and the Lake of Restored Sword.

This evening, attend a water puppet show (*touristy, but fun!*), a uniquely northern Vietnamese art form especially designed for depicting scenes from rural life and many episodes of national history. Take advantage of an opportunity to interact with the puppeteers after the show.

To follow, enjoy a traditional Vietnamese dinner at **Wild Lotus** restaurant with Indochine ambiance

*Sofitel Metropole/  
Classic Deluxe room*

*Breakfast, Dinner*

## DAY 3: HANOI CITY TOUR

This morning visit Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, an imposing monument built from impressive amounts of marble and granite. This is where the preserved body of "Uncle Ho" lies in state for public viewing. Upon exiting the mausoleum, one may continue the walk to visit One Pillar Pagoda. Fashioned in the form of a lotus flower on its stalk, it emerges from the water resting on a single stone pillar. Inside there is a statue of the Goddess of Mercy with its legendary "thousand arms and thousand eyes". Later drive to the office of celebrated scholar – **Dr. Huu Ngoc** who has experienced life through the French and American time. Dr. Ngoc will give an in-depth account of Vietnamese history, culture and his life experience. This almost 90-year old historian is also a writer, journalist and cultural researcher. His works inform the world of Vietnamese culture as well as its foreign influences.

Lunch will be at **Wild Rice** restaurant then continue to the Temple of Literature, serving as Vietnam's first University and known for educating the sons of the Mandarins.

Drive further to visit to the beautiful Museum of Ethnology. Through its unique collection of objects & dress from a variety of the country's 54 ethnic groups, the museum's presentation will enhance your understanding of Vietnam's diverse culture. Today's Vietnam cultural quest will conclude with a cocktail reception at **Art Vietnam gallery**. There you will have the opportunity to experience the rich artistic aspect of Vietnam life and interact with owner, Ms. Suzanne Letch, an American Art Consultant.

*Sofitel Metropole/  
Classic Deluxe room*

*Breakfast, Lunch*

## DAY 4: HANOI – HALONG

After breakfast, enjoy a scenic drive (3.5 hours) to Halong City with a coffee break en route at a local coffee shop.

Arriving by noon at the Quayside, find your deluxe junk aboard the **Halong Ginger**, where a welcome beverage awaits. After a relaxing break, enjoy a delicious seafood lunch while cruising through Bai Tu Long bay recalling the famous Indochine film featuring charming Actress Catherine Deneuve.



Later there is an opportunity to go trekking or swimming at **Soi Sim Island**. Then, continue your water cruise by row boat to visit **Hang Doi water tunnel**. Around 0630pm, dock for the night and enjoy dinner on board. Option to dance or interact with Halong Ginger's staff/crew.

*Halong Ginger/ Ginger Cabin*

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

## DAY 5: HANOI – HALONG – SIEMREAP

You'll want to wake early to catch the sunrise on the bay and Tai Chi demonstration on the sun deck. Relax with a cup of hot coffee or tea. We depart for a visit to the splendid **Sung Sot grotto** and a quick glimpse of a nearby fishing village. Enjoy late buffet brunch on board while cruising back through Halong bay to the pier. Arrive at the pier around 1100am and it's time to say goodbye to the crew.

Return to Hanoi and transfer to the airport for the flight to Siemreap.

Upon arrival, meet and transfer to hotel for check-in.

*Raffle Grand D'angkor/  
Landmark room*

*Brunch*

## DAY 6: SIEMREAP

After breakfast, transfer to the intricately carved **Khmer ruins at Angkor Wat**— one of the world's most impressive ruins. The temple still owns fine Apsara carvings in Angkorian era art. Your trip is accompanied by a Khmer scholar, who will share in-depth knowledge about

Khmer Civilization history, culture and archaeology.

Transfer back to your hotel with an optional stop at **McDermott Gallery**. Exquisite black-and-white photography by John McDermott is on exhibit. A cool, relaxing atmosphere, comfortable chairs and stunning portfolios make this upscale gallery a pleasant place to browse. Original fine art photographs, calendars, cards, and posters might be of interest.

Mid afternoon, visit the picturesque **Ta Prohm**. Nearly disappearing into the jungle and still overgrown, it's an oddly haunting and exotic scene. Magnificent tree roots push between huge temple stone blocks and wrap together in a sort of embrace, evoking feelings you may remember forever.

*Raffle Grand D'angkor/  
Landmark room*

*Breakfast*

## DAY 7: SIEMREAP

Early morning at your hotel, then drive to Siem Reap city, host to one of the most beautiful pagodas. Built in the 16th century, **Wat Damnak Pagoda** boasts both French and Khmer architectural elements. The Pagoda has been renovated over the time and is now home to approximately 50 monks, living and practicing Buddhism. A visit to this pagoda offers a private, solemn blessing ceremony for you, our guests, with health, happiness and longevity, special for all of your guests and especially meaningful for couples. While you visit, Buddhist monks are willing to discuss Buddhism and their daily life.

Later, drive from Siemreap to find a beautiful tree-lined road, and through the Cambodian countryside. An approximate 27 kms and 30 minute drive, It's a wonderful chance to experience typical country life. On your way, visit the Children Development Village, host to about 30 children ranging in age from two and a half to 16, living in typical Cambodian stilt houses. Each house accommodates five children and is managed by a monk. The orphaned or abandoned children are HIV positive – we are sure you will find this a moving experience.

This afternoon, continue to the Royal city **Angkor Thom**. Explore of this mysterious city, home to a 50-tower temple — an awesome sight. At first glance it seems a shapeless mass of stone, but further scrutiny reveals a face, then another and another until suddenly you are engulfed by the silent, heavy, enigmatic and silent gaze through half-closed eyes. These primitive, larger than life carvings emanate calmness and serenity. Be sure to peruse the entire complex including these notable sites: the Baphou, Elephant Terraces, Lepper King Terrace and Royal Place area.

*Raffle Grand D'angkor/  
Landmark room*

*Breakfast*

## DAY 8: SIEMREAP — PHNOM PENH

Following breakfast at your hotel, transfer to the airport for flight to Phnom Penh.

Phnom Penh was once considered one of the most beautiful cities in



the Orient, and despite its recent turbulent history it still retains a wonderful charm. A city tour includes the Silver Pagoda and the Royal Palace, the National Museum where there are many beautiful statues ranging from Pre Angkor to Post Angkor Period.

**Based on its quaintness and French-colonial ambience, we feel Phnom Penh is our favorite capital city in all of Southeast Asia!**

In the afternoon visit the Genocidal Museum and on to the sobering “**Killing Fields**”.

*Raffle Le Royal/Landmark Room*

*Breakfast*

### DAY 9: PHNOM PENH — DANANG

Morning is at leisure to relax or to wander about the Russian market to enjoy the bustling local daily life. Then transfer to the airport for onward flight to Danang.

Upon arrival, meet with your guide and transfer about 45 minutes to **Hoi An** town.

*Nam Hai/Villa one bedroom*

*Breakfast*

### DAY 10: HOI AN

This morning, enjoy a walking tour of the ancient town center and take in the former merchants’ houses, the private Museum, the 400 year-old Japanese Covered Bridge and the colorful market with its stalls brimming with tropical specialties.

Remainder of the afternoon is at your leisure.

*Nam Hai/Villa one bedroom*

*Breakfast*

### DAY 11: DANANG — SAIGON

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for onward flight to Saigon. Upon arrival, meet with your guide and transfer to town to check-in your hotel.

Later this afternoon, enjoy a walking tour of the sites closest to your hotel like the Old Saigon Post Office and Notre Dame Cathedral. Then take time to wander about the city with your guide to enjoy the daily life.

*Park Hyatt/Park room*

*Breakfast*

### DAY 12: SAIGON

After breakfast, around 0830am, a **local Saigonese chef** will take you on a walking tour of the central colorful Ben Thanh market to introduce Vietnamese food and raw materials.

Enjoy the daily local life following your tour before being shuttled to a private historic home. The former home of the first American Ambassador to Vietnam 1961-1965, hosts a private cooking class. Learn from a local chef to prepare typical Vietnamese dishes, then enjoy your creations for lunch. This cooking class truly offers a diverse range of Northern and Southern Vietnamese cuisine.

After lunch, a driving tour with the chef through the southern Vietnamese countryside to Cu Chi district. Upon arrival in Cu Chi, we experience the underground village built by Cu Chi guerrilla fighters. Built during the long years of the war and once a savage battle field, is now marked by a network of

tunnels. You will be accompanied by a VC veteran who once lived in the VC-built underground tunnel complex beneath a U.S. army base during the war.

Tonight enjoy farewell dinner at one of the best restaurants in Saigon – **Hoi An**.

*Park Hyatt/Park room*

*Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner*

### DAY 13: SAIGON — U.S.

The hotel will provide a boxed breakfast for your early morning departure. You will be transferred to the airport for the departure flight back to the U.S

— END OF SERVICES —



*For more information or to book your customized journey, please contact:*

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