

December 9, 2022

Dear Todd & Marie,

Thank you for choosing Explorient. We are delighted to once again have the opportunity serve you on your next Asia adventure! Below please find the summary of services and detailed itinerary for your trip. All services have been confirmed at this time.

TOUR SUMMARY:

18 Day / 17 Night Custom Indochina & Singapore Deluxe Package – Land Only

- Economy Class HCM City / Danang / Siem Reap / Luang Prabang / Hanoi / Singapore Airfares Per Itinerary
- 3 nights at The Caravelle Hotel in HCM City (Deluxe Room)
- 1 night at Azerai La Residence Hotel in Hue (Superior Garden View Room)
- 3 nights at Hotel Royal Hoi An by MGallery in Hoi An (Deluxe Room)
- 3 nights Lotus Blanc Resort in Siem Reap (Landmark Room)
- 2 nights at 3 Nagas Hotel in Luang Prabang (Deluxe Room)
- 2 nights at Hotel de L'Opera in Hanoi (Deluxe Room)
- 1 night on board the Dragon Legend Cruise in Halong Bay (Deluxe Cabin)
- 2 nights at The Four Seasons Hotel in Singapore (Deluxe Room)
- Hotel Breakfasts Daily
- Other lunches & dinners as specified per itinerary (food only)
- Private Tour Throughout: Airport transfers and sightseeing provided by private vehicle, driver and professional English-speaking guides (except excursions on Halong Cruise)

Additional Information

- Price is based on double occupancy and 2 passengers traveling
- Price includes all entrance fees, domestic air taxes, hotel taxes and service charges
- Price excludes transpacific airfares, personal expenses, beverages, gratuities to guides, drivers & bell persons
- Visas are required to enter Vietnam (eVisa), Cambodia (eVisa), Laos (on Arrival). NOT included in package. Passports must remain valid for 6 months from end of trip.
- **Important Note: Two (2) Single Entry Visas must be obtained for Vietnam as you will be entering the country twice.**

TOUR OUTLINE

Day	Activity Summary
Jan. 28/29	<p>Arrive HCM City: Upon late night /early morning arrival in HCM City, be met and transferred to CARAVELLE HOTEL for your next 3 nights' accommodation.</p> <p>Meals: N/A Accommodations: Caravelle Hotel Saigon (Deluxe Room)</p>
Jan. 29	<p>HCM City: Enjoy a leisurely morning for breakfast and time to explore the vibrant neighborhood around your hotel. This afternoon, we'll venture off-the-tourist-path starting with a visit to local market to observe the daily lives of Vietnamese people. From here stroll through the colorful back alleyways lined with flower shops and breathe in the aromas of the freshly cut blooms. Take in the scenes of local life as you wander these narrow lanes. Stop for a refreshing traditional iced at the oldest coffee shop in Saigon, this old-fashioned establishment has a colorful history stretching back over seven decades. Continue the walk through some other back lanes the go along to another famous street filled with shops selling locally-made guitars.</p> <p>Next, we'll take a peek at Ho Chi Minh City from a bird's-eye-view at the Saigon Sky Deck. At a height of 262 metres and spanning 68 floors, the Bitexco Financial Tower is currently the tallest building in Ho Chi Minh City. Located on the 49th floor of the tower, Saigon Skydeck offers 360-degree vistas of Vietnam's most populous and electric city. Time permitting, return to your hotel for a brief rest before continuing on to this evening's main event.</p> <p>As the sun sets, we'll begin our culinary adventure this evening with a lively & bustling street food scene. Make your first stop at a trendy 'Vietnamese pizza' street stall. Try flamed-grilled rice paper with various toppings added. Start strolling through hidden alleys and local residential areas, en route sample typical specialties such as grilled pork bread, sizzling pancake, and fresh spring roll. Your guide might take you to a little fried-dough cart, owned by a Chinese-origin couple for more than 30 years. Keep walking to an old apartment complex that was being built right after the bombing from the Tet Offensive in 1968. These days, this area becomes extremely well-known for food lovers, especially with snail-eating. It has become an irreplaceable part of Saigon Street food culture, and there are many varieties and flavors, all of which are delicious when you pair it with a glass of beer! Continue zig-zagging toward a brightly lit flower market. Wander around hundreds of tiny food and drink stalls, just to experience how the young generations enjoy their nightlife activities. End your street eats journey at a 4-generation dessert shop before returning to your hotel around 10.00 pm. (B,D)</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast, Dinner (local cuisine / street food) Accommodations: Caravelle Hotel Saigon (Deluxe Room)</p>
Jan. 30	<p>HCM City (Mekong Delta): The Mekong Delta is a rich fertile region of farmland interlaced with countless waterways crisscrossed by low-lying rice paddies. Today you will explore one of the country's most enchanting landscapes traveling by car and then motorized sampan into the 'rice bowl' of Vietnam.</p> <p>Exploring Ben Tre, one of the lesser-visited provinces in the Mekong Delta, you will cruise along the Ham Luong River visiting small factories that provide an insight into how the local economy works. Stops include a brickworks shop, where bricks are still painstakingly made by hand, a salt refinery; a coconut processing workshop where you can sample fresh coconut and see how every single part of this versatile nut is turned into food and other products; and a mat weaving house, where straw mats are woven using a hand loom – you can even have a go at weaving yourself! Stop at a peaceful village for a short walk to see more of local life in the community before travelling by bicycle or xe loi, a design of cyclo used only in the Delta, through fruit orchards, stopping at a riverside restaurant for a delicious lunch featuring specialties local to the region. After lunch, there will be time to explore the garden or wander along the riverbanks with your guide before taking a row boat along narrow canals</p>

	<p>back to the main boat. Return to HCM City in the afternoon. (B,L)</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast, Lunch Accommodations: Caravelle Hotel Saigon (Deluxe Room)</p>
Jan. 31	<p>HCM City / Hue: Morning transfer for your flight to Hue. Upon arrival, enjoy a boat trip along the Perfume River to the Thien Mu Pagoda. Consisting of seven stories, the pagoda is the tallest religious building in Vietnam.</p> <p>Afterwards, embarking on another foodies tour around Hue famed for its unique cuisine different from those in the rest of Vietnam. Your culinary adventure begins with welcome drink and light finger food at a local bar where you'll be given an introduction about Hue cuisine. Continue to vegetarian restaurant, where you can see Buddhist traditions imprinted in Hue's food art. We'll then take a slow ride on a cyclo farther and farther away from the tourist quarter. Then suddenly street food stalls appear where a variety of delicious local eats will tempt just about any palate. Here, you'll have the opportunity to try some local snacks and small dishes along with some desserts before ending the evening. Overnight at AZERAI LA RESIDENCE HOTEL. (B,D)</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast, Dinner (Street Foods) Accommodations: Azerai La Residence Hotel Hue (Superior Garden View Room)</p>
Feb. 01	<p>Hue / Hoi An: Today's excursion begins with a visit to the Imperial Citadel. Built between 1804 and 1833, this heavily fortified structure is still very much the centerpiece of modern-day Hue and despite a conquered history, the fortress remains superbly intact. Visit Long An Palace, situated outside the citadel walls, this area of the Imperial Citadel was only reopened to the public in 2012 after four years of extensive renovation and now serves as the Royal Fine Arts Museum. Inside this exquisite museum are several thousand antiquities including porcelain, silverware and paintings, many of which belonged to the emperors of the Nguyen Dynasty.</p> <p>Next, head into the throng of Old Hue, Dong Ba market is the largest marketplace in the city. Inside all manner of goods can be found and the market is an excellent place to observe Vietnamese life and learn a little about the types of produce on display. We then take a 3.5 hour drive from Hue to Hoi An via Hai Van Pass, a scenic mountain road that meanders along Vietnam's central coast, stopping for lunch en-route. Check-in at HOTEL ROYAL HOI AN for your next 3 nights' accommodations. Balance of the evening at leisure to eat and enjoy Old Town's vibrant and charming setting. (B,L)</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast, Lunch Accommodations: Hotel Royal Hoi An by MGallery (Deluxe Room)</p>
Feb. 02	<p>Hoi An: This morning, enjoy a walking tour of Old Town. This UNESCO World Heritage Site is a picturesque riverside town and one of Southeast Asia's major international ports during the 17th, 18th and 19th centuries. Now, this beautifully preserved historic city is best seen on foot. Discover beautifully preserved old merchant houses, local temples and lively markets as you stroll through the back streets of this enchanting destination. You will visit the iconic 400-year-old Japanese Bridge and the busy waterfront. There will also be time to browse through the numerous boutique shops, galleries and cafes that line the cobbled streets of Old Town. End the tour with a short boat ride along the Thu Bon River to relax and enjoy views of beautiful Hoi An from the river. Enjoy the balance of the afternoon at leisure to relax and explore Hoi An on your own. (B)</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast Accommodations: Hotel Royal Hoi An by MGallery (Deluxe Room)</p>
Feb. 03	<p>Hoi An: Full day free at leisure. Optional tours (My Son Ruins, Cooking Lesson, Countryside Tour by eBike) are available upon request. (B)</p> <p>Tip: For those who like to explore, rent a scooter and explore the local areas (beach, local farms and villages, old</p>

	<p>town) around Hoi An.</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast Accommodations: Hotel Royal Hoi An by MGallery (Deluxe Room)</p>
Feb. 04	<p>Hoi An / Siem Reap: Free at leisure until your afternoon transfer to Danang Airport for your 6:30pm flight to Siem Reap. Upon arrival, be met and transferred to LOTUS BLANC RESORT for your next 3 night's accommodations. (B)</p> <p>Note: Normal checkout required at Hotel Royal Hoi An. Guests may utilize hotel facilities and leave baggage at bell stand until departure.</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast Accommodations: Lotus Blanc Resort (Landmark Room)</p>
Feb. 05	<p>Siem Reap: Today, we'll have an early start. Departing your hotel at 4:45 AM by tuk tuk, we'll experience a once-in-a-lifetime chance to see Angkor Wat at Sunrise. Angkor Wat is the crown jewel of Khmer architecture and the national symbol of Cambodia. It is the largest, best preserved, and most religiously significant of the Angkor temples. Angkor impresses visitors both by its sheer scale and beautifully proportioned layout, as well as the delicate artistry of its carvings. Angkor Wat is stunning at any time of the day, but sunrise and sunset are especially beautiful times to watch the play of light on the stones.</p> <p>We'll return to the hotel for breakfast. Later, explore the Angkor Temple Complex by bicycle with a backup vehicle in case you need to rest your legs. Covering 81 hectares, it is comparable in size to the Imperial Palace in Beijing. Next, a visit to Angkor Thom, the ancient royal city of the Khmer Empire with its centerpiece; the Bayon temple. Continue to the Terrace of the Elephants, which served as a platform from where the King could welcome back his victorious army and the Terrace of the Leper King, which holds perfect carvings winding along a narrow passageway that leads to the Baphuon complex.</p> <p>After lunch at a local restaurant, visit Ta Prohm. This temple complex is considered to be Angkor's most beautiful structure and is overgrown with fig trees, giving a haunting and mysterious atmosphere. The huge roots of the trees have merged over the centuries with the temple's huge stone blocks, emphasizing a 'forgotten city' feeling. Time permitting, visit additional temples on the grand circuit including Preah Khan and Neak Poem before returning to your hotel. (B,L)</p> <p>Tip: Be sure to checkout Pub Street (10-15 minute tuk tuk ride from your hotel) where Siem Reap comes alive at night lined with restaurants and bars.</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast, Lunch Accommodations: Lotus Blanc Resort (Landmark Room)</p>
Feb. 06	<p>Siem Reap (Tonle Sap Lake): This morning, embark on a culturally inspiring boat trip to Tonle Sap Lake at Kampong Kleang, one of the most impressive floating settlements on the Tonle Sap Lake. Tonle Sap, or the Great Lake swells up to seven times its original size during the monsoon season with an ecosystem that is one of the richest and most diverse in the region. This boat trip explores the primitive floating fishing villages that dwell atop the Great Lake, passing submerged forests and fishing farms.</p> <p>Next, visit one of Angkor's most exquisite Hindu Temples built in the 10th century. Built in pink sandstone, the walls are covered in exquisitely preserved carvings of unusual delicacy. Seemingly miniature in comparison to the other Angkor temples, Banteay Srei is considered to be the jewel of classical Khmer art. Includes lunch at a local restaurant. Overnight in Siem Reap. (B,L)</p>

	<p>Note: An alternative section of Tonle Sap lake may be arranged if water levels / local conditions are not suitable at Kampong Kleang.</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast, Lunch Accommodations: Lotus Blanc Resort (Landmark Room)</p>
Feb. 07	<p>Siem Reap / Luang Prabang: Late morning transfer for your flight to Luang Prabang. Upon arrival, be met and transferred to 3 NAGAS HOTEL for your next two nights accommodation. Located in the heart of Old Town, your hotels is steps from the many restaurants, art galleries and night market where you can relax and enjoy the beauty and tranquility of this UNESCO World Heritage City. (B)</p> <p>Note: flight makes a brief stop in Pakse, Laos.</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast Accommodations: 3 Nagas Hotel by MGallery (Deluxe Room)</p>
Feb. 08	<p>Luang Prabang (Mekong River Cruise & Pak Ou Caves): If you're up for it, we'll start the day early with one of the most memorable sights of Luang Prabang –Tak Bat'. At dawn hundreds of saffron robed monks move silently through the streets to collect alms (offerings of food). Your guide will explain the background behind this ritual which is still very much a part of everyday life in Laos. Take a stroll with your local guide through the colorful, open-air fresh early Morning Market where local shop for the day's meals. Taste a unique local authentic Lao Coffee at Pasaneyom Coffee Shop and return to hotel for breakfast.</p> <p>Afterwards, transfer to the pier and board a private boat for the upstream cruise along the mighty Mekong. The journey would take about 2 hours passing through stunning mountains scenery and traditional villages dotting long the riverbank, visit riverside Ban Thin Hong weaving and fishing village, where you have an opportunity to interact with the locals and learn about rural Lao life and handicrafts. A great photo opportunity and experience for those looking for a deeper insight into Lao Culture. Continue Pak Ou Cave, these caves have been home to many thousands of Buddha images that have been placed here by local people since 16th century, when King Setthathirat found the caves and declared them a holy spot. Today many people still pay respect to this tradition. After exploring the caves, it is time for lunch and relax onboard your cruise back to town. Enjoy the balance of the afternoon at leisure to relax and explore Luang Prabang on your own. (B,L)</p> <p>Tip: For an immersive experience, go beyond the tourist area beyond Old Town, a short walk from your hotel, where locals come up the eat, shop and play. Please ask your guide for more information and directions.</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast, Lunch Accommodations: 3 Nagas Hotel by MGallery (Deluxe Room)</p>
Feb. 09	<p>Luang Prabang / Hanoi: This morning, we'll visit some of the revered sites around town just steps from your hotel. Visit the National Museum, formerly the Royal Palace that boasts a collection of personal artifacts of the former Laotian Royal Family; Wat Xieng Thong, often said to be Luang Prabang's most beautiful characterized by its several roofs sweeping low to the ground and the impressive "tree of life" mosaic; Wat Mano a monk school, where you will have the opportunity to meet with a young monk learning about Buddhism and Laos histories. If time and energy permit, climb its 350 steps Phou Sii hill stands right in the center of this small city to enjoy commanding views for many miles in each direction.</p> <p>Transfer to the airport for your afternoon flight to Hanoi. Upon arrival, be met and transferred to HOTEL L'OPERA. With your hotel located in the center of town, you'll have a variety of dining and exploring (Old Quarters, Hoan Kiem Lake) just steps from your room. (B)</p> <p>Note: On arrival in Hanoi Airport, your guide wait for you at column 7-9 (Gate A1) of the arrivals hall.</p>

	<p>Meals: Breakfast Accommodations: Hotel L'Opera by MGallery (Deluxe Room)</p>
Feb. 10	<p>Hanoi / Sapa: This morning, we'll travel overland on a 5 ½ hour drive to Sapa. On arrival and after lunch, enjoy a 3 hour moderate hike (approx. 3 miles) downhill through beautiful orchid gardens and pine forests until you reach the small village of Suoi Ho, packed with tea plantations and cardamom gardens. Follow the buffalo trail through rice fields to the villages of the Black Hmong minority people at Ma Tra. Although not far from Sapa town, these villages continue to follow their traditional lifestyle untouched by all the trappings of the West. Black Hmong houses are typically built using rammed earth and have few windows to keep the interior warm during the winter months. Return to Sapa and check-in at HOTEL DE LA COUPOLE for your next 2 nights' accommodations. (B,L)</p> <p>Note: You may leave the bulk of your baggage at your hotel bell stand where they can be held until your return on February 12.</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast, Lunch Accommodations: Hotel de la Coupole by MGallery (Classic Room)</p>
Feb. 11	<p>Sapa: Today enjoy additional treks of your desired length (ranging anywhere from 3 to 10 miles) exploring Sapa's beautiful mountain sceneries and hill tribe villages. A menu of options can be discussed with your guide depending on your interests and energy level. (B)</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast, Lunch Accommodations: Hotel de la Coupole by MGallery (Classic Room)</p>
Feb. 12	<p>Sapa / Hanoi: This morning, we'll return to Hanoi the same way by vehicle. Upon arrival, enjoy a half day city tour by Electric Buggy. We'll pass by Opera House and Hoan Kiem Lake followed by Hoa Lo Prison (a.k.a. 'Hanoi Hilton'), where the late John McCain spent 5 years in captivity during the Vietnam War. Continue to the Temple of Literature, a serene retreat from the busy streets outside. Built in 1070 and dedicated to Confucius, it became Vietnam's first university. Last but not least, explore Hanoi's Old Quarter by cyclo and electric buggy. Also known as '36 Streets', this densely populated area of the city is the oldest continuously developed section of Vietnam and was once an important centre of commerce where goods are sold on the street name of a particular guild. With names such as Sugar Street, Tin Street and Paper Street the labyrinthine alleyways are teeming with life.</p> <p>At around dinner time, we'll embark on yet another foodies tour. Hanoi is the birthplace of many quintessential Vietnamese dishes and the city is considered one of the world's great food capitals. Hanoi is a street food lover's paradise and many well-informed travelers will tell you that the best food in Hanoi is found on the sidewalks where fragrant dishes featuring lemongrass, chili, cilantro and other fresh herbs abound. Walking through the maze of bustling streets that make up Hanoi's Old Quarter, tempt your taste buds with the famed Hanoi dish Banh Cuon at a local eatery. Watch in awe as the skilled chefs demonstrate for you how this tasty dish is put together. Your next 2 snack stops are at outdoor barbeque stalls. Sit down with the Hanoi locals and sample various meat, vegetable, and bread specialties that are flame-grilled over hot coals for extra flavor.</p> <p>Before returning to the hotel, we'll take you to one of Hanoi's best kept secrets, a hidden café with stunning views over the picturesque Hoan Kiem Lake. This hard-to-find café is one of the few left in the city that still serves egg coffee, a scrumptious local delicacy that you will sample whilst admiring the hustle and bustle of the city center below. Or, if coffee is not your style, a cold beer awaits! (B,D)</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast, Dinner (Street food) Accommodations: Hotel L'Opera by MGallery (Deluxe Room)</p>
Feb. 13	<p>Hanoi / Halong Bay: Morning overland drive (approx 2.5 hours) to UNESCO Halong Bay and board the DRAGON LEGEND CRUISE for an overnight expedition of Halong bay. Enjoy lunch, lunch and shore excursions</p>

	<p>on board including a chance to kayak in the bay. (B,L,D)</p> <p>Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Accommodations: Dragon Legend Cruise (Deluxe Cabin)</p>
Feb. 14	<p>Halong Bay / Singapore: Enjoy brunch, shore excursions and Tai Chi demonstration before disembarking your cruise. Enjoy a brief stroll around Halong City for lunch (not included) before transferring to Hanoi Airport for your 6:30pm flight to Singapore. Upon arrival, be met and transferred to THE FOUR SEASONS SINGAPORE for your next 2 nights' accommodations. (B)</p> <p>Meals: Brunch Accommodations: Four Seasons Singapore (Deluxe Room)</p>
Feb. 15	<p>Singapore: Full day free at leisure to eat, shop and explore Singapore on your own. (B)</p> <p>Tip: Places to visit on your own (hop-on / hop-off buses are a very convenient and cost effective way to get around and explore the city on your own. (B)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chinatown (street/local food, shopping, bars) • Hawker Food Centers (there are many of them. Please ask hotel for recommendations) • Marina Bay Sands & Gardens by the Bay • Clarke Quay (waterfront dining & shopping) • Orchard Road (shopping) • Club Street & Ann Siang Hill: Pubs, Bars & lounges <p>Meals: Breakfast Accommodations: Four Seasons Singapore (Deluxe Room)</p>
Feb. 16	<p>Singapore: Full day free at leisure. Early evening transfer to the airport for your departure flight home. (B)</p> <p>Note:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Normal check-out required. You may leave baggage at bell stand until departure. 2. If required, 6pm late checkout can be guaranteed at 50% of hotel rate. <p>Meals: Breakfast Accommodations: N/A</p> <p>****END OF PROGRAM****</p>

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