



VIETNAM & CAMBODIA EXPLORER



TRIP CODE:
TVCHS1

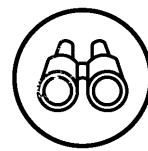
TOPDECKER, meet Asia (TD)

Is this trip for me? EXOTIC. ANCIENT. SPELLBINDING Two weeks. Two of the most slap-you-in-the-face-unbelievable countries you'll ever experience. Who's ready to go exploring? You know it, we know it – even the carved faces at the Bayon temple know it. Vietnam and Cambodia are famous the world over for their mind-blowing natural beauty, ancient architecture and unique cultures. And this trip? It's here to help you see the very best that both have to offer. We're talking amazing cities. Fascinating history. Tropical scenery. Food that could actually change your life. Need we go on?

WORTH NOTING...

A Sector trip is part of a larger journey, meaning your new friends might continue on or after you leave, or you might be joining a trip already in progress.

WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW



Explorer



Nights



Android/iPhone
app download
info



This is a sector
trip.

Hi, and thanks for choosing to holiday with Topdeck

You can rest assured that we'll pull out all the stops to make your trip unforgettable.

Now it's time to get excited about your holiday...

ABOUT YOUR TRIP NOTES

These Trip Notes contain everything you need to know before your trip departs – including where to meet and what to bring. We recommend that you read these notes thoroughly so you know what to expect on your trip of a lifetime. Also, you can easily download and print this document off so you can bring it with you when you travel.

Please bear in mind that some points should be taken as a guide only – after all, everyone's different! For example, daily spending money and clothing lists can vary from one person to the next, so don't be alarmed if you don't expect to spend (or even wear) so much!

PLEASE NOTE: We strongly urge you to refresh this document as close to the time of your departure as possible to ensure you have the most up-to-date accommodation list and information available.

ON THE BUCKET LIST (INCLUDED)

- + Street food tour in Hanoi
- + Walking tour of Hanoi
- + Overnight junk boat cruise in Halong Bay
- + Visit the Cu Chi Tunnels
- + Visit Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum
- + Sunset cruise on the Mekong Delta
- + Visit the Angkor Complex
- + Watch the sunset at Angkor Wat

MORE INCLUSIONS

- + Street food tour in Hanoi
- + Walking tour of Hanoi
- + Overnight junk boat cruise in Halong Bay
- + Domestic flight to Hoi An
- + Domestic flight to Ho Chi Minh City
- + Visit the Cu Chi Tunnels
- + Visit Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum
- + Sunset cruise on the Mekong Delta
- + Domestic flight to Siem Reap
- + Visit the Angkor complex
- + Watch the sunset at Angkor Wat

YOUR TRIP WILL START

PICK UP:

Hanoi
Vietnam

YOUR TRIP WILL FINISH

DROP OFF:

Siem Reap
Cambodia

TRIP CURRENCIES

- + Vietnam -
- + Cambodia -

YOUR ITINERARY

DAY 1 | HANOI, VIETNAM

Blaring horns. French colonial buildings. Picturesque lakes. And the smell of incense in the air. Welcome to historic Hanoi! Meet the gang and kick things off with a DE-licious street food tour through the Old Quarter. Our in-the-know Trip Leader will take us to all the local spots for bánh mì, pho, spring rolls and egg coffee – trust us, it's good. Then: head to Bai Hoi (aka Beer Corner). No guesses how this place got its name. Pull up a roadside stool with a cold Bia Hà N?i and get to know the gang – we might be a mixed bunch, but we're all in it together. Cheers to that!



MEALS:

+ Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Street food tour in Hanoi

DAY 2 | HANOI

Ready to delve deeper into this incredible city? We thought so. Slip on the Birks and take a wander with your Trip Leader – ticking off the likes of One Pillar Pagoda, Lenin Park, Northern Gate, Cua Bac Church, B52 Lake and Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum (you can visit later, if you like). Then, head to a local bún ch? eatery for lunch. How many spring rolls is too many? Stupid question. What you do this afternoon is 100% up to you, but if you're chasing that off-the-beaten-path experience – jump aboard a locally guided Vespa tour. History buffs should check out Hoa Lo Prison. Catch a water puppet show at Thang Long theatre. Or stroll around Hoan Kiem Lake before hunting down a local hole-in-the-wall for a bowl of pho.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast
+ Lunch



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Walking tour of Hanoi



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Locally guided Vespa tour of Hanoi from: 1,790,000 VND

DAY 3 | HANOI TO HALONG BAY

Halong Bay: World Heritage Site. The jewel in Vietnam's crown. One of the 'New 7 Wonders of Nature'. Whichever way you look at it, Halong Bay is pretty damn special. So, today we're gonna do it properly with an overnight junk boat cruise. Spend the day swimming in glittering turquoise water, exploring limestone islands from a kayak, soaking in our outdoor jacuzzi, saluting the sun with yoga on the upper deck and dancing into the sunset with the gang. This? This is what makes the memories. *Heads up! If you selected twin share accommodation for this trip, you might be bunking with an extra person for the duration of the cruise. The more the merrier, right?



MEALS:

+ Breakfast
+ Lunch
+ Dinner



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Overnight junk boat cruise in Halong Bay

DAY 4 | HALONG BAY TO HOI AN

How's the head this morning? Shake off last night's cocktails with a refreshing dip and hearty breakfast. We're moving on to ancient Hoi An. The flight to Danang is your chance to catch up on some zzz's, swap banging tunes with your trip mates and text the 'rents (you'll be too busy later, trust us). Tonight, we'll have free time to explore the lantern-filled magic of Hoi An Old Town and tuck into a bowl of cao lau (a local specialty) along the river. This is what you came for.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Domestic flight to Hoi An

DAY 5 | HOI AN

You wanted more free time to explore. So, here it is. Need some suggestions? Hop on a countryside cycling tour and get a taste of local life as you pass rows of rice fields, thatched roof cottages and regional villagers going about their day-to-day. Plus, try your hand at crab catching aboard a bamboo basket boat and master the art of lantern making while you're at it. Or opt in for a cooking class. Your papaya salad is sure to impress the Tinder matches back home. Rather do your own thing? Explore the buzzing Central Market. Get a custom piece made by the city's famous tailors. Cycle to An Bang Beach for all the chilled boho vibes. Take a banh mi to the ancient Japanese Bridge. Then, get lost amongst the glow of colour at the night market.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Half day countryside cycling
tour from: 936,000 VND

+ Cooking class from: 580,000
VND

DAY 6 | HOI AN TO HO CHI MINH CITY

Snag a window seat and wave goodbye to Hoi An – we're setting the flight path for Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC). Touch down, dump your stuff at the hotel and get exploring. A capital with nearly 9 million people, HCMC is a bubbling pot of energy, excitement and hidden gems. Explore the French colonial architecture of District 1. Head to Ben Thanh Market for some night shopping. Mingle with the locals (and in-the-know tourists) over a cold beer at Bui Vien. Or get stuck into an optional street eats tour of Nguyen Dinh Chieu. Expect: Vietnamese pancakes. Bánh xèo. Local shellfish. Rice paper pizza. And the city's specialty – com tam. *wipes drool from chin*.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Domestic flight to Ho Chi
Minh City



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Street food tour in Ho Chi
Minh city from: 850,000 VND

DAY 7 | HO CHI MINH CITY

Pull out your history hat – we're off to visit the Cu Chi Tunnels. Surrounded by jungle that was once a stronghold of the Viet Cong, take a guided tour of the area and learn all about how this underground network was used by guerilla fighters during the Vietnam War. Lunch back in HCMC is on us, then the rest is all you – but if you need suggestions, there's a walking tour of Chinatown and the energetic Bình Tây Market on offer. Fancy yourself as a bit of a beer connoisseur? Sign up for a tour and tasting at a local brewery. The Master Brewer will show you around before you get stuck into a selection of the brewery's best liquid gold. Sweet! Tonight, head to Relish & Sons and ask for the 'Com Tam' burger. So good, you'll order two.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast
+ Lunch



INCLUDED TODAY:

+ Visit the Cu Chi Tunnels



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

+ Local brewery tour and
tasting from: 510,000 VND

+ Walking tour of Chinatown
and Bình Tây Market: prices
available locally

DAY 8 | HO CHI MINH CITY TO PHNOM PENH, CAMBODIA

No lies, it's an early wakeup call this morning. But you'll have plenty of time to catch up on some zzz's as we roll into Cambodia! Ancient wonders. Serene landscapes. And a fascinatingly diverse history – Cambodia delivers on all fronts. Kick things off in Phnom Penh with a sobering visit to the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum – documenting the atrocities of the Khmer Rouge during their 'revolution'. Then, we'll take to the water for a sunset cruise on the mighty Mekong. This is what you came for. Finish up the day some sizzling street food along Sihanouk Boulevard or head to Le Moon for views over the river and delish cocktails. Bliss.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum
- + Sunset cruise on the Mekong Delta

DAY 9 | PHNOM PENH TO KOH RONG

Rise and shine – the postcard-perfect beaches of Koh Rong are calling! Stock up on snacks, send your 'rents a text and bust out the bangers as we roll into Sihanoukville. We'll trade our wheels for a speed boat before beaching up on the shores of island paradise. Then? The rest is 100% up to you. Grab a coconut and get horizontal under the shade of swaying palm trees. Or hire a bike and find your bearings around the island. Tonight, kick back, relax and enjoy the sunset with powdery white sand between your toes.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast

DAY 10 | KOH RONG

Hear that? It's the sound of a full 24 hours to embrace alllll the relaxed island vibes. What you do is totally up to you but if you need some suggestions, your in-the-know Trip Leader has a few. Hire a kayak and get exploring. Strap on the snorkel and help find Nemo. Trek to Sok San for a remote hideaway. Or simply get comfy beach-side with a good read. It's your day, your way. Tonight's your last chance to lap up those uninterrupted sunset views – so get the gang together and head to the beach. This is livin'.



MEALS:

+ Breakfast

DAY 11 | KOH RONG TO SIEM REAP

There's time for one last dip before we speed back to the mainland. Fasten your seatbelts and identify your closest emergency exit – we'll touchdown in Siem Reap this afternoon with plenty of time to spare for the BEST optional activities. Channel your inner Tarzan and Jane as you zipline through the jungle. Or get a taste of local life on a sunset quad biking tour through the countryside. There's even an evening under the big top with the Cambodian Circus on offer. Can't say we don't spoil you! Tonight, pick up a souvenir or two from Angkor Night Market or experience the crazy that is Pub Street. Just don't go too hard – tomorrow is packed with memory-makers that you're not gonna want to miss.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Domestic flight to Siem Reap



OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:

- + Sunset quad bike tour from: 32 USD
- + Phare Circus show and workshop from: 35 USD
- + Ziplining from: 165 USD

DAY 12 | SIEM REAP

Ready for a real-life temple run? This is it. First up: the Angkor Thom Complex. Venture through Angkor Thom's statue-lined South Gate, the intricately decorated Bayon Temple and check out the Elephant Terrace with your expert Trip Leader. Then it's onto Ta Prohm – a ruin filled with crumbling towers and overgrown tree roots. Think: Tomb Raider. Refuel and rehydrate – next we're headed for Angkor Wat Temple. The biggest temple complex in the world, 'otherworldly' doesn't even come close to describing this place. And just when you thought this day couldn't get any better – we'll climb to the top of Pre Rup Temple for incredible jungle views and a sunset to remember. Cue: all the goosebumps.



MEALS:

- + Breakfast



INCLUDED TODAY:

- + Visit the Angkor complex
- + Watch the sunset at Angkor Wat

DAY 13 | SIEM REAP

And just like that, it's over. Two weeks of incredible adventures with a pack of strangers who are now like family. Get down to breakfast and swap those socials – you'll need them for next year's reunion trip. Where to next? Bali? Japan? Sri Lanka?



MEALS:

- + Breakfast

TIPPING

NO TIP NECESSARY

Your Topdeck Trip Leaders and Drivers never expect tips, and they won't ask for any either. We also know how much tipping can cost you. So go ahead – spoil yourself with the money you save traveling with us (just don't forget Mum's souvenir).

TOPDECK TRAVEL APP

Our app is available to download before you travel. With a range of cool features including a currency converter, budget planner, check-in tool and group chat, it'll help you plan your trip like a pro. Think of it as your very own Topdeck Trip Leader in the palm of your hand.

TRIP GROUP CHAT

Connect with your fellow Topdeckers before you depart and begin your magical friendship in the flash of a winking face emoji.

ITINERARY VIEWER

Get the lowdown on where you'll be going and what activities you'll be doing on each day of your trip with this handy little tool.

CHECK-IN

Plug in all your vital deets and we'll keep them safe for when you really need them. Making your life easier, one swipe at a time.

BUDGET TRACKER

Keep an eye on your holiday spending, leaving you with more FUN-ds to play with. Think: elaborate Spanish feasts (not questionable supermarket sandwiches).

MAPS

Navigate your way to meeting points and lesser-known local gems using pins dropped by your Trip Leader, seek out your own bucket list sites and take to the streets like a pro.

Once the trip is over, you'll need the app to give us feedback about your trip experience. We love to hear what you thought about your trip, as it helps to give us an idea of the things we're doing well and the things we could be doing better.

PLEASE NOTE: The Topdeck Travel App should only be downloaded once you have booked your trip. You will not be able to log in unless you have a Topdeck booking reference number.

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[GET IT FOR ANDROID](#)



PASSENGER SAFETY

NIGHTS OUT

One of the best parts of travelling is experiencing the nightlife and entertainment each city has to offer. However, amidst the fun and excitement, it's important to be aware of your surroundings and personal safety as well. Before you hit the road with us, be sure to familiarise yourself with the following safety information.

When you're on a night out, remember to avoid walking alone, particularly through deserted areas like beaches and back streets. Always stick together, take a registered taxi where possible, and keep a note of your accommodation

details so you can find your way back to your fellow Topdeckers if you become separated. It's also a good idea to get your Topdeck trip mates' mobile numbers in case you need to get hold of them while out and about.

In some countries, alcoholic measures can be considerably larger than what you may be used to. Try to keep track of what you're drinking, and if you see one of your trip mates looking a little worse for wear, take them back to your accommodation. Never leave your drink unattended.

It's also important to be aware that what you might consider harmless flirting may be interpreted differently in some countries. Be yourself and have fun, but stay savvy – you don't want to find yourself in an uncomfortable situation.

RESPECTING FELLOW PASSENGERS

Here at Topdeck, we're all about inclusivity. We want to make sure that everyone has a great time on our trips, and that everyone feels like they're part of one happy Topdeck family.

What we're not about is excluding people or making them feel like they don't belong – that's just not what families do. That's why we always encourage Topdeckers to be kind and courteous to their fellow passengers. The golden rules? Always remember to respect each other's space, be mindful of causing excessive noise in shared accommodation and treat others how you'd wish to be treated yourself. Easy!

DRUG USE

Topdeck has a strict zero-tolerance drug policy. Passengers should not bring any illegal substances onto the Topdeck coach or into any of the accommodation we stay in on our trips. This includes marijuana, even if it is legal in some of the states your trip passes through. If you are found in possession of drugs, you will be removed from the trip. All instances of drug possession will be reported to Topdeck Head Office, who may consider alerting the relevant authorities.

REMEMBER – if you are found in possession of drugs, not only could you risk getting in trouble with the local police, but our Driver will also be held responsible if drugs are found on the Topdeck coach. Trust us, you wouldn't want that to happen to any of our Drivers – they're awesome.

MENTAL HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Culture shock, homesickness, random periods of feeling down – these things happen and are totally normal. You can rest assured that if you're feeling low, your Topdeck crew will do their utmost to cheer you up again.

Measures you can take to look after your mental health and wellbeing while on the road with us are:

- + Call home. Sometimes it's nice to hear a familiar voice and have a good old-fashioned catch up with your loved ones
- + Eat well. Never underestimate the power of a good, wholesome meal. Nobody feels at their best when they're hungry!
- + Drink responsibly. Not only will you swerve the dreaded hangover, but by keeping an eye on what you drink, you could also avoid getting into any potentially uncomfortable situations
- + Talk to your Trip Leader. Don't forget, they're probably far from home, too – so they're sure to know of some tried-and-tested ways to beat the blues
- + Integrate with your fellow Topdeckers. This one is key! The more fun you're having on your trip, the less likely you are to feel homesick (trust us).

HOW TO BE A RESPONSIBLE TRAVELLER

Responsible travel isn't difficult to achieve. With a little conscious thought and preparation, you can have an awesome holiday AND have a positive impact on the places you visit. Sweet!

Here are five things you can do to ensure you're travelling responsibly:

- + Conserve water. You know the drill – reuse your hotel towels, take short showers and remember to turn off the tap when you're brushing your teeth
- + Reduce your waste. Ditch the plastic bag, refuse unnecessary packaging, dispose of your waste responsibly and recycle as much as possible
- + Go local. Hunt down locally owned and operated restaurants and bars, shop in local markets and book tours and activities run by local guides
- + Consider the wildlife. Avoid any attractions that involve closely engaging with wild animals
- + Respect local people and culture. Obeying local laws is a given – but also remember to dress and behave in a manner appropriate to the community. Be polite and keep an open mind!

OTHER INFORMATION

INSURANCE

Before your trip departs, it's compulsory for all passengers to take out comprehensive travel insurance covering cancellation, medical expenses (including repatriation), loss or damage to baggage and personal belongings, money and personal liability.

World Nomads provides comprehensive travel insurance for people from over 140 countries. For more information, visit www.topdeck.travel/travel-insurance.

PASSPORTS AND VISAS

Please make sure your passport is valid for at least six months after the last day of your trip. Some countries will refuse entry if you do not have at least six months validity remaining on your passport after your departure date. Depending on your nationality, you may require a visa to enter certain countries.

It is your responsibility to obtain visas prior to your trip departure. To determine which visas you'll need, you can consult either your own government's website or the government websites of the countries in which you will be travelling.

PLEASE NOTE: Some visas can take up to six weeks to acquire, so don't leave it until the last minute. Also, bear in mind that the validity of a visa often runs from its date of issue rather than the date of entry into the country. Please check with the appropriate embassy/embassies prior to departure, as requirements do change periodically.

WHAT TO BRING

Based on our experience, these items are key. Everyone's different though – so if you want to bring more or less, go for it (as long as you don't exceed your 20kg allowance, that is!)

Heading on our Namaste India trip? Your luggage is capped at 15kg, so maybe leave the hairdryer at home.

- + 1 pair of comfortable walking shoes
- + 1 pair of smart casual shoes
- + 1 pair of thongs/jandals/flip-flops
- + 2 pairs of jeans/trousers
- + 2 pairs of shorts/skirts
- + 4 shirts/T-shirts
- + 2 sweaters/jumpers

- + Smart casual evening wear
- + 1 rainproof jacket
- + 1 warm jacket
- + Underwear and socks
- + Swimwear
- + Towel
- + Toiletries
- + Hat and sunscreen
- + Basic medical kit (including plasters, aspirin etc)
- + Insect repellent
- + Conversion plug
- + Reusable water bottle
- + Snow gear



THAT'S IT!