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Sorry! There are no remaining departures for "Indochina Explorer" (ATIC), [but here are some similar trips](#).



Indochina Explorer

18 days, Bangkok to Siem Reap

Trip code ATIC

What's included

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Traditional Thai Guesthouse & Home Dinner, Chiang Mai
- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Lunch at Hoa Sua, Hanoi
- Your G for Good Moment: New Hope Vocational Training Restaurant, Siem Reap
- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Foodie Moment: Cooking Class, Chiang Mai
- Your Discover Moment: Luang Prabang
- Arrival transfer
- Tour of Bangkok including boat on the Klong canals, the Grand Palace and Wat Phra Kaew temple
- Visit Doi Suthep Buddhist Temple visit
- Rural village visit with authentic khantoke dinner in a local family's home
- Thai cooking class with market visit
- Orientation walk of Chiang Mai night market
- Tour of Luang Prabang, including the Laos Royal Palace Museum, Wat Xiengthong and Wat Visoun temples, and sunset on Phuosi Hill
- Boat tour to Pak Ou Temple caves and local village visits
- Observe a Laos sunrise Buddhist ritual
- Kuang Sii waterfall excursion
- Hanoi old town cyclo tour with lunch at a local training restaurant
- Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum visit
- Halong Bay traditional boat with cave and island tour
- Ho Chi Minh City cyclo tour
- Cu Chi tunnels tour
- Phnom Penh cyclo tour
- Tuol Sleng Prison Museum tour and Choeung Ek memorial (the Killing Fields) tour
- Siem Reap orientation walk and night market
- 2-day guided tour of Angkor Wat temple complex
- Visit and lunch at New Hope (a G Adventures-supported project)
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

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usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

VALIDITY: Valid for all trips departing January 1st, 2015 and onwards

Itinerary



NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

Bangkok

Arrive at any time. Arrival transfer included.

Upon arrival you will be transferred to hotel. There are no activities planned. You are free to relax, explore the city and adjust to the frantic pace and humid heat of Bangkok.

At this meeting your CEO will ask to see your travel insurance, check that you have a visa for Vietnam and complete some other paper work. Please note that you **MUST** arrive on tour with your Vietnam visa. Please refer to the visa information section of these trip notes for more information on obtaining your Vietnamese visa.



Today's Activities

Airport Transfer

Bangkok - Suvarnabhumi Airport

45m-1h30m

ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Day 2

Bangkok/Chiang Mai

Explore Bangkok and take a boat along the klong canals. Visit the Grand Palace and sacred Emerald Buddha at Wat Phra Kaew temple. Later, catch a flight to Chiang Mai.

Later today, settle into exquisite surroundings in Chiang Mai and take a relaxing break from the fast pace of Bangkok.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Klong Riverboat Tour

Bangkok

Travel by longtail boat on the busy Chao Phraya River and through the small canals of western Bangkok's Thonburi district. Observe colourful scenes of everyday life along the river banks.

Grand Palace Visit

Bangkok

Visit the King's official residence (made up of many buildings, halls, lawns, gardens, and courtyards) on the banks of the Chao Phraya River and see the Temple of the Emerald Buddha. Please note the cost of this optional activity does not include the entrance fee.

Plane

Bangkok - Chiang Mai

1h30m

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Day 3

Chiang Mai

Visit the market with a local chef to learn about traditional ingredients. Participate in a Thai cooking class and enjoy your creations for lunch. Visit the Doi Suthep Buddhist temple and listen to monks chanting at sunset. Opt to visit the bustling Chiang Mai night market.

Our hotel is located in the heart of Chiang Mai city, within 5 a minute walk of the famous night bazaar.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Chiang Mai - Doi Suthep

45m

30km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

ACTIVITY

Pick out the best ingredients at a local market and learn how to make delicious Thai dishes.

Doi Suthep Temple Visit

Doi Suthep - Chiang Mai

Visit Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, a golden Buddhist temple outside of Chiang Mai on the Mt Doi Suthep. Climb 300 steps to reach the temple and be rewarded with an unforgettable view. Admire the many Buddhist relics at this sacred temple and visit the white elephant shrine. Legend has it that the location of the temple was chosen after a white elephant carried a relic to the mountain and trumpeted three times before dying on the spot. Also, with a little luck, you may witness the chanting of the monks.



Optional Activities - Day 3

Street Food Walk at Chiang Mai Night Market

Chiang Mai

Pick up a a souvenir at this shopper's paradise. Wander through the market to find music, food, and local artists selling handmade crafts.

Day 4

Chiang Mai

Today, explore Chiang Mai with some free time. Savour authentic khantoke cuisine this evening.



Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



Today's Activities

Free Time

Chiang Mai

Opt to visit the Elephant Conservation Centre, local handicraft workshops, and the bustling Chiang Mai night market.

ACTIVITY

Enjoy a unique stay in a village just outside Chiang Mai at a traditional family-run guesthouse.

Structured as a social enterprise, Joy's Guest House supports the Children's Shelter

Foundation providing a home and education to 45 underprivileged children from the hill tribe villages of North Thailand and Burma. In addition to schooling, older students also have the opportunity to receive hands-on training at the guest house, preparing them for careers in hospitality and tourism industries. This evening, relax in the tranquil surroundings and sit down to an authentic Khantoke dinner - dishes typically include sticky rice, hang-le curry, and crispy pork with chilli paste. The next morning enjoy the pool and gardens or opt to take a yoga class or have a massage at the spa.



Optional Activities - Day 4

Chiang Mai Cycling Tour

Chiang Mai

1500THB

10-13km

This Chiang Mai half-day ride takes you on a memorable tour of the countryside's most interesting sights. You'll go beyond the city to see local Buddhist temples, markets, organic farms, rice paddy fields and more. Get a sense of how the locals live, stop when you want for photos, and check out the nature along the city's main river, the Ping.

Street Food Walk at Chiang Mai Night Market

Chiang Mai

Pick up a souvenir at this shopper's paradise. Wander through the market to find music, food, and local artists selling handmade crafts.

Day 5

Chiang Mai/Luang Prabang

After a relaxing morning fly to Luang Prabang, Laos. Take an orientation walk of this World Heritage listed town.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Plane

Chiang Mai - Luang Prabang

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Your CEO will assist with the arrangements for your Laos visa at the start of your trip. Please have 3 passport pictures and approx. \$50 USD ready.

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Rise at dawn to watch the monks collecting offerings of food from the locals and receive a blessing. In the afternoon, visit the Royal Palace Museum, Wat Xiengthong and Wat Visoun Temples, then catch a boat to Pak Ou Temple caves and stop in local villages. Visit Phousi Temple to watch the sunset.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Royal Palace Museum Visit

Luang Prabang

The ornate rooms of this royal palace-turned-museum house the country's crown jewels, many religious artifacts, and a 50kg (110 lb) Buddha, cast of gold, silver and bronze. Gifts from visiting heads of state are on display, as are the beautiful silk screens crafted by the Queen.

Wat Xien Thong Visit

Luang Prabang

Once a royal temple where Kings were crowned, the importance of this 16th-century Buddhist temple as a religious monastery is not lost on visitors. Wat Xieng Thong stands resplendent among shrines, pavilions, chapels, towers and gardens, and its gilded wooden doors, mosaics, and ceiling displays are representative of typical Laos art and craft.

Wat Visoun Temples Visit

Luang Prabang

Originally built in 1513 and still operational, Wat Visoun is Luang Prabang's oldest temple. Over the years invaders stole many of its priceless Buddha images, but this temple still offers some unusual architecture like the domed lotus flower stupa, designed by a royal and affectionately called "The Watermelon Stupa."

Boat

Luang Prabang - Pak Ou Cave

2h

Climb aboard and get your float on.

Pak Ou Caves Visit

Pak Ou Cave

Visit these dramatic caves considered an important spiritual site by many Lao people. See thousands of Buddha statues and images that line the limestone walls.

Boat

Pak Ou Cave - Luang Prabang

1h30m

Climb aboard and get your float on.

Phousi Temple Visit

Luang Prabang

Climb more than 300 steps to the top of Mount Phou Si for a panoramic view of the sunset over Luang Prabang. Ornate Buddhist shrines dot the pathway up and the glistening seven-tiered golden pagoda of Wat Chom Si awaits at the summit.

The morning is free for optional activities, such as visiting textile galleries and the night market, relaxing in one of the town's cafés or visiting the Ethnology Museum. In the afternoon, we take an excursion to Kuang Sii waterfall.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Kuang Si Waterfalls Excursion

Kuang Si Falls - Luang Prabang

Journey to this magnificent tiered waterfall, where relaxing is highly recommended. Opt for a dip in the turquoise waters and explore multiple picture-perfect pools, framed by the jungle landscape.



Optional Activities - Day 7

Ethnology Museum Guided Tour

Luang Prabang

Take a guided tour of the Traditional Arts and Ethnology Centre (TAEC) to learn about the traditional arts and cultures of Laos's many diverse ethnic groups. Shop in the TAEC Boutique for authentic village-made handicrafts and relax with a drink at the museum café.

Night Market Visit

Luang Prabang

Shop until your heart's content at the night market in Luang Prabang – one of the best in Southeast Asia. Head to the market around dusk. Tour the vendor stalls lining the streets offering food, wooden statues, clothes, trinkets and souvenirs to dozens of people wandering up and down the market. Don't miss the opportunity to interact with the sellers and gently negotiate a good price.

Day 8

Luang Prabang/Hanoi

Flight to Hanoi. Guided cyclo ride and orientation tour of the Old Quarter and enjoy lunch at an NGO and training school for disadvantaged youth.

Classic French colonial architecture, beautiful decor and a scenic location makes Hanoi a fantastic place to visit.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Plane

Luang Prabang - Hanoi

1h-2h

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Visas for Vietnam need to be arranged ahead of time (BEFORE your trip) as the processing time varies and they are not available at the borders. We enter Vietnam on day 8 of the trip. Please ensure your visa 'valid from date' is on or before day 8 of the trip.

Some nationalities don't require a Visa for Vietnam for shorter stays - please contact your Foreign Ministry for up to date entry/exit requirements.

ACTIVITY

Savour a meal of Western (mainly French) and Vietnamese cuisine at this restaurant while supporting a training program that prepares local disadvantaged youth for careers in the culinary arts. After 19 years of operation the Hoa Sua School has trained more than 7,000 young people giving them the skills to overcome poverty, many of them going on to have very successful careers. Meet with one of the organizers to learn more about this successful organization.

Hanoi Cyclo Tour

Hanoi

Take a seat on a cyclo for a tour of Hanoi's lively Old Quarter. Let the driver navigate through the bustling streets and start taking some photos or just use the tour to help get familiar with the area.

Day 9

Hanoi/Ha Long

Visit Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum, then continue to Halong Bay for an overnight cruise in a traditional junk boat with a local guide. Explore the limestone caves around the bay, enjoy sumptuous local seafood and relax on deck with a cool drink while watching the passing scenery.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch | Dinner



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Hanoi - Ha Long

4h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and Museum Visit

Hanoi

Take a guided tour of the mausoleum where Ho Chi Minh's embalmed body is housed in a glass case. Continue to the Presidential Palace and visit the museum to learn about Ho Chi Minh's life and political history. Opt to visit the palace gardens.

Note: The Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum is open until 11:00am and closed on Monday and Friday. Entry is dependent on what time the group arrives in Hanoi.

Halong Bay Overnight Cruise

Ha Long

Cruise through majestic Ha Long Bay on a traditional wooden junk boat. Enjoy your time afloat eating fresh seafood, exploring Sung Sot cave or opting to kayak. Spend a peaceful night anchored in the bay under the stars.

On rare occasion Halong Bay is closed to tourist vessels by the government authorities due to extreme weather conditions. Should this occur, an alternate activity will be provided.

Day 10

Ha Long/Hanoi

Enjoy a morning cruise around Halong Bay with an option to kayak before transferring back to Hanoi. Take the afternoon at leisure to visit local markets, shops and museums.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Ha Long Bay - Hanoi

4h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Hanoi

Visit one of the many historical museums by day and head to dynamic Hang Gai Street or the night market for some evening shopping.



Optional Activities - Day 10

Halong Bay Kayak Excursion

Ha Long

Travel the narrower channels of Halong Bay by kayak. See rock gardens, dark sea caves, lagoons and limestone karsts.

On rare occasion Halong Bay is closed to tourist vessels by the government authorities due to extreme weather conditions. Should this occur, an alternate activity will be provided.

Day 11

Hanoi/Ho Chi Minh City

Catch our flight to Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), Vietnam and take a thrilling cyclo tour of this bustling city.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Plane

Hanoi - Ho Chi Minh City

2h

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Ho Chi Minh City Cyclo Tour

Ho Chi Minh City

2h

Take a city tour on a cyclo (cycle rickshaw) – a great way to absorb the sights, sounds, and smells of Ho Chi Minh City while keeping your hands free for that camera action.



Optional Activities - Day 11

Benh Tan Market Visit

Ho Chi Minh City

Wander the bustling aisles of this energetic market known for its abundance of dried and fresh produce, jewelry, textiles, liquor, and tobacco products. Be fancy (and efficient) and have a one-day suit made. Feel free to bargain!

Day 12

Ho Chi Minh City

Take a guided tour of the infamous Cu Chi tunnels, legendary for the vital part they played during the Vietnam War.

Take a half day trip to the Cu Chi tunnels with a local guide. Allow some free time in the afternoon to sightsee or shop. Try your hand bargaining at the Ben Thanh Market, hire a cyclo (pedicab) for sightseeing or take a boat ride on the Saigon river.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Ho Chi Minh City – Củ Chi

1h-1h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Cu Chi Tunnels Guided Tour

Củ Chi

Take a guided tour of the Cu Chi Tunnels, a complex network of tunnels that the Viet Cong lived in to protect themselves from opposing forces during the Vietnam War. Try crawling through some of the tunnels (if you're not claustrophobic). These tunnels stored ammunition, had underground hospitals, and served as a hidden base for attacking allied forces.

Private Vehicle

Củ Chi – Ho Chi Minh City

1h-1h30m

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Free Time

Ho Chi Minh City

Shop at the Ben Thanh Market, tour the city by cyclo, or boat down the Saigon river.

Day 13

Ho Chi Minh City/Phnom Penh

Flight to Phnom Penh, Cambodia. Take an NGO-supported cyclo city tour along the waterfront and key city sights, with option to visit the famous Foreign Correspondents club for sunset drinks.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Plane

Ho Chi Minh City - Phnom Penh

45m-1h

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

The visa cost for Cambodia is paid on arrival into Siem Reap Airport, which is \$25 USD. You can also apply online for an e visa at <http://evisa.mfaic.gov.kh/e-visa/vindex.aspx>

Phnom Penh Cyclo Tour

Phnom Penh

45m-1h

Settle in a traditional cyclo and depart from Wat Phnom. Tour busy streets to soak up the real vibe of the city. Pass the post office and Van's restaurant, both stunning colonial buildings, and make your way to the Royal Palace and National Museum. Go along the riverside road and take in the atmospheric cafes that line the street.

Day 14

Phnom Penh

Explore recent history with a local expert guide, including Tuol Sleng Prison Museum and Choeung Ek (the Killing Fields).

Explore the dark side of Cambodian history at Choeng Ek Memorial, the site of the infamous Killing Fields that were the execution grounds for Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge during their reign from 1975 - 1979. We also visit Tuol Sleng prison, the notorious Khmer Rouge prison where thousands of Cambodians perished. This is a haunting look into history which serves to remind everyone that genocide must not be ignored, or those lost, forgotten.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Tuol Sleng Museum (S-21 Prison) Guided Tour

Phnom Penh

Learn about the dark history and devastation that occurred at Security Prison 21 (S-21); the prison, used by the Khmer Rouge regime, is now Tuol Sleng Museum. Take a guided tour to hear the stories behind the sombre photos lining the museum walls.

Choeung Ek (Killing Fields) Guided Tour

Phnom Penh

Learn more about the atrocities of the Khmer Rouge visiting the killing fields of Choeung Ek; the grounds now stand as a powerful memorial filled with victims' skulls and mass graves. Tour this sombre, yet serene, site with a guide.



Optional Activities - Day 14

National Museum Visit

Phnom Penh

10USD

Wander the galleries of the National Museum to see amazing works of art from Cambodia's "golden age" of Angkor. Visit the museum's lovely courtyard before you leave.

Royal Palace Visit

Phnom Penh

Visit the King's current dwelling place, a magnificent riverside palace with classic Khmer architecture. Dress appropriately please; visitors must wear clothing that covers knees and shoulders, and shirts must reach the elbow.

Day 15

Phnom Penh/Siem Reap

Drive to Siem Reap, Cambodia and take an orientation walk through the entertainment district and visit the exciting night market.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Shared Van

Phnom Penh – Siem Reap

6h

320km

Drive through the beautiful Cambodian countryside.

Orientation With CEO

30m-1h

Enjoy a brief walk with your CEO. He/she will give you some tips on finding things like supermarkets, main squares, and ATMs. For more specific or in-depth information, an official guided tour is recommended.

Night Market Visit

Siem Reap

A neighbourhood unto itself, Siem Reap's night market is lively with shoppers exploring more than 240 hut shops selling souvenirs, artwork, and clothing.

Day 16

Siem Reap

Spend two days exploring the ruins of the Angkor Wat temple complex with a local expert guide. Also experience a Khmer lunch at New Hope, a local training school and G Adventures-supported project.



Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



Today's Activities

Angkor Wat Guided Tour

Angkor Wat

Enjoy a tour of the impressive ancient ruins with a local guide. Explore magnificent Angkor Wat temple--Visit the enigmatic faces of Bayon within the walled city of Angkor Thom, and tour Ta Prohm (aka the "Tomb Raider" temple), which is slowly being swallowed by the jungle.

Tuk-Tuk

Siem Reap

Scoot quickly around the big cities inside a three-wheeled mini-taxi.

ACTIVITY

Enjoy a traditional meal of Khmer food at the New Hope Vocational Training Restaurant, an initiative kickstarted by G Adventures. Providing skill-building opportunities to marginalized community members, the project also funds the adjacent free community school and health centre. Visit the restaurant run by locals and see how the New Hope project has supported positive change in the community.

Free Time

Siem Reap

Take some time to explore this lively town on your own. This evening, opt to enjoy a Cambodian Circus show.



Optional Activities - Day 16

Phare Circus

Siem Reap

Enjoy a stellar performance by Phare, a unique and socially conscious circus that injects Cambodian culture and history into its inspiring shows. See acrobatics, contortion, and aerial arts melded with theatre, modern dance, and more. Take in stories of war, relationships, and discrimination, inspired by the real-life experiences of Phare's creators and performers.

Day 17

Siem Reap

We continue to explore the ancient capital of Angkor Wat. Option to visit Angkor National Museum and Tonle Sap floating village.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Angkor Wat Guided Tour

Angkor Wat

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Tuk-Tuk

Siem Reap

Scoot quickly around the big cities inside a three-wheeled mini-taxi.

Free Time

Siem Reap

In your free time opt to shop, or visit the museum or floating village.



Optional Activities - Day 17

Angkor Museum Visit

Siem Reap

12USD

Learn about the story of Angkor and the Khmer empire at the interactive Angkor Museum. Explore the museum's inspiring galleries and interactive technology, which bring Angkor's past to life. Opt to rent an audioguide (5USD) for the full experience.

Tonle Sap Floating Village

Siem Reap

25-30USD

Tour the floating villages of Tonlé Sap. See what life is like living on a lake – rice planting, attending churches and school, are all done on top of water. (Please note: this activity runs seasonally.)

Depart at any time.



Meals included

Breakfast



Today's Activities

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

What's included

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- Boat tour to Pak Ou Temple caves and local village visits
- Observe a Laos sunrise Buddhist ritual

- Kuang Sii waterfall excursion
- Hanoi old town cyclo tour with lunch at a local training restaurant
- Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum visit
- Halong Bay traditional boat with cave and island tour
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- Tuol Sleng Prison Museum tour and Choeung Ek memorial (the Killing Fields) tour
- Siem Reap orientation walk and night market
- 2-day guided tour of Angkor Wat temple complex
- Visit and lunch at New Hope (a G Adventures-supported project)
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

What are the main highlights of this trip?

Enjoy a traditional khantoke dinner in a rural village, observe the daily life of monks and visit sacred temples, learn about Cambodian history (both ancient and modern), take thrilling cyclo rides for a different perspective in bustling cities, eat well while giving back at a G Adventures-supported training restaurant in Siem Reap

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Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

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Is there an itinerary Disclaimer?

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

What is the group leader like?

All G Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our Chief Experience Officers (CEO). The aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

How large will the group be?

Max 16, Avg 10.

What meals are included in this trip?

17 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 2 dinners

What are the meals like on this trip?

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. Included breakfasts in some places may be asian style consisting of noodles or congee (rice porridge) or bread and eggs. Vegetarians will be able to find a range of different foods, although in some areas the choice maybe limited. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Private bus/van, boat, tuk tuk, plane, cyclo, traditional junk boat, walking.

Are local flights included in the cost of the trip?

All local flights are included in the cost of your tour unless otherwise noted. It is important that we have your passport information at the time of booking in order to process these tickets. Internal flight tickets are issued locally and will be given to you prior to the flight departure.

There may be a weight restriction for the internal flight on this tour. Each passenger is allowed to carry one checked bag with a maximum weight of 20 kg (44lbs). Additional bags or excess weight charges may apply. These charges are the responsibility of the passengers.

Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

Where will we stay during the trip?

Comfort hotels (16 nts), junk boat (1 nt).

What is the joining hotel?

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

What are the joining instructions?

An arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour and our driver will be waiting for you with a G Adventures Sign with your name on it. Please look for the G Adventures sign between Exits 3 and 4 (towards the airport's official 'Meeting Point').

When arriving at Suvarnabhumi Airport (pronounced 'su wan na poom') in Bangkok proceed to the Arrivals Hall where you can change money into Thai Baht. (You may be approached by nicely dressed, official looking touts offering an expensive limousine service to your hotel; ignore these offers.) You have already paid for an included transfer to your hotel and you should be able to find a representative with your name on a transfer board at gate number 10 in the arrivals hall.

****Please note, the arrival transfer included occurs on Day 1 of the tour. If you plan to arrive prior to Day 1, you will be required to arrange pre-tour accommodation through G Adventures to be eligible for the transport from the airport. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.**

What happens if I experience problems when arriving?

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details.

If you have pre-booked an airport transfer please meet your driver at gate number 10 of the airport, in the arrival hall. If for any reason you can not locate your driver please call the emergency transfer phone number at +66 (0) 800 562777.

If you have still have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, we will do our best to rearrange your arrival transfer however we cannot guarantee this. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

If your call is specifically concerning Bangkok Airport Transfer complications please call our local G Adventures Transfer provider directly at: +66 86 321 0729 (086 321 0729 from within Thailand) or +66 82 450 2777 (082 450 2777 from within Thailand)

EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Office Bangkok, Thailand (24/7)

From outside Thailand: +66 92 338 9222

From within Thailand: 092 338 9222

After hours emergency number:

From outside Thailand: +66 87 049 6074

From within Thailand: 087 049 6074

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

What should I take on my trip?

What you need to bring depends on the trip you have chosen and the countries or regions you are planning to visit. We suggest that you pack as lightly as possible as you are expected to carry your own luggage. As a rule we try not to have to walk more than 15-20 minutes with your bags which is why we recommend keeping the weight of your bag around 15kg/30lb. Suitcases are not recommended for G Adventures trips! Most travellers carry a backpack or rolling bag of small to medium size (no XXL ones please!). You will also need a day pack/bag to carry water, cameras and other electronics like ipods and mobile phones.

What should be on my packing list?

Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

When can I do my laundry on this trip?

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

What the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

THAILAND - Most nationalities do not need a visa for Thailand for stays of 30 days or less but if you do they are available on arrival at Bangkok Airport. If staying in Thailand for more than 30 days, you will be required to obtain a tourist visa in advance. Only 15 day tourist visas are issued when entering Thailand overland.

CAMBODIA - Visas can be obtained in advance from your local Embassy or on arrival in Bangkok (if your tour begins in Thailand). You will need at least one full working day to arrange this. You can also obtain your visa at the Cambodian border or Siem Reap Airport for approx. \$30 USD very easily. Please have *at least* 2 passport photos with you as well.

VIETNAM - If you require a visa for Vietnam, they need to be arranged ahead of time (BEFORE your trip) as the processing time varies and they are not available upon arrival.

If you are entering Vietnam by land border, please apply for a regular visa for Vietnam. Many of the land borders we travel through do not accept the Vietnam E-Visa.

LAOS

Visas are issued upon arrival in Laos. You will need two passport size photographs and approx \$50. Tourists are generally admitted to Laos for 15 days with a visa on arrival or for 30 days with a visa issued at a Lao embassy. Please bring lots of visa photos with you.

How much spending money do I need for my trip?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

During this tour the local currencies you will use are the Thai Baht, Laos Kip, US Dollar, Cambodian Riel and Vietnamese Dong. As currency exchange rates in South East Asia do fluctuate, we ask that you refer to the following website for the most up to date daily exchange rates: www.xe.com for each of the above mentioned currencies. The best way to carry your money is in debit cards, withdrawing cash in local currencies from ATM machines. ATMs are found throughout South East Asia and will generally accept cards on the Visa and Mastercard networks. It is a great idea to travel with both a Visa and Mastercard if at all possible in case of loss or problems with one card, you will have a back up. Please note, your bank will charge a fee for overseas withdrawals. USD Cash is recommended for times when ATMs are not accessible. You should bring some cash with you for emergency situations (please refer to our trip dossier) but carrying only cash is a high safety risk. ATM card/s and some cash is the ideal mix. Travellers cheques can be tricky, timely and expensive to exchange. Cash advances can also be made with some banks but are time consuming and tend to have high fees attached. Credit cards can be used at some upmarket restaurants, and at some larger stores if shopping for big items. If you are bringing US Dollars, please make sure that the notes are new and in good condition. Notes older than 2003, or with any tears or blemishes may not be accepted. Be fussy with your bank when buying cash!

How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$250 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

Do I need to pay a departure tax?

All departure taxes should be included in your international flight ticket

Should I be tipping on my trip?

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group.

Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$1.5-\$3.5 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline \$20-25 USD per person, per week can be used.

What activities are optional on this trip?

Chiang Mai

- Street Food Walk at Chiang Mai Night Market
- Chiang Mai Cycling Tour (1500THB per person)

Luang Prabang

- Ethnology Museum Guided Tour
- Night Market Visit

Ha Long

- Halong Bay Kayak Excursion

Ho Chi Minh City

- Benh Tan Market Visit

Phnom Penh

- National Museum Visit (10USD per person)
- Royal Palace Visit

Siem Reap

- Phare Circus
- Angkor Museum Visit (12USD per person)
- Tonle Sap Floating Village (25-30USD per person)

Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

You should consult your doctor for up-to-date medical information pertaining to the country you are traveling to well before departure. We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as a full supply of any personal medical requirements. In Asia, you will not find the same drugs as you get at home. Please be aware that sometimes we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities. Also note that for legal reasons our Leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical and Culture Shock ratings for trip specific information. For travelers over 70 years a completed Medical Form is required. Discovery Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if, in the reasonable opinion of the CEO, they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/

What are the trip specific safety considerations?

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

Be aware that petty theft can be an issue in some Vietnamese towns and cities especially late at night. A common tactic is opportunists on motorbikes that drive by and snatch bags. Please always leave valuables and passports etc in your hotel, in safety boxes if available, and only carry with you enough cash to spend for the day. Bags should always be carried over the neck and not left to sit on your shoulder.

We do not recommend passengers to jump or dive into Kuang Sii Waterfalls in Luang Prabang, this may result in injury.

What rules should I know before joining this trip?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

How should I dress to respect local customs during the tour?

When packing be aware that dress standards are conservative throughout Asia. To respect this and for your own comfort, we strongly recommend modest clothing. This means covering shoulders and no very short shorts. Loose, lightweight, long clothing is both respectful and cool in the predominantly hot Asian climate. Shorts should be knee-length.

How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at customersolutions@gadventures.com and we will send it on to you.

Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at www.gadventures.com/newsletters/

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

How old must I be to join this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

VERY IMPORTANT: Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.