



## SOUTHEAST ASIA FAMILY JOURNEY: VIETNAM TO CAMBODIA

13 days, Hanoi to Siem Reap

Trip code AVHNF

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Oodles of Noodles Local Market Excursion, Hoi An
- Your G for Good Moment: Kym Viet Local Enterprise Visit, Hanoi
- Your G for Good Moment: Oodles of Noodles, Hoi An
- Your G for Good Moment: New Hope Vocational Training Restaurant, Siem Reap
- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your Expedition Leader and Group
- Your Discover Moment: Kym Viet Craft & Lunch, Hanoi
- Your Family Journeys Moment: Hoi An Custom Shirt Tailoring, Hoi An
- Your Family Journeys Moment: Phare Circus Workshop, Siem Reap
- Arrival transfer
- Cyclo tour of Hanoi's Old Quarter
- Water puppet Show
- Temple visit in Hoa Lu
- Bamboo boat trip on Ngo Dong River
- Countryside bicycle tour in Tam Coc
- Hands-on cooking experience in Tam Coc
- Pottery village visit in Bat Trang
- Guided tour of the city and countryside of Hue
- Walking tour of Hoi An Old Town
- Hoi An Countryside cycle and basket boat float
- Cyclo tour of Ho Chi Minh City
- Guided tour of the Cu Chi Tunnels
- Guided tour of Angkor Wat
- Internal flights
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

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 G Adventures. 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.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing June 10th, 2025 and onwards

## ITINERARY

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### Itinerary Notes

Prices are based on double occupancy; all other room configurations are on request and cannot be guaranteed. We will accommodate triples/quads whenever possible. Please call for further details. Family Journeys are designed for groups traveling with children between the ages of 7 and 17. Your group must include a child in order to book, and anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

**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

## HANOI

Welcome to Hanoi—your arrival transfer to the hotel is included. Check in and get excited to meet your fellow travelers during a welcome meeting this evening where all families can bond before the Journey ahead.

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### ACCOMMODATION

The Champton Hanoi Hotel (or similar) Hotel

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Arrival Transfer Noi Bai International Airport - Hanoi

You will be met at the airport and transferred to the hotel to start your adventure.

After picking up your bags exit the baggage hall and look for your driver. This area can be busy but keep an eye out for a driver holding a G Adventures sign with your name on it.

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your National Geographic Expedition Leader 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

## HANOI

Explore Hanoi's vibrant old quarter on a traditional cyclo—a three-wheel bicycle taxi! Cruise past shops selling everything from wooden handicrafts to fresh fruit juice and traditional candy, and capture the neighborhood's lively vibe on camera. Then hop off to watch a delightful water puppet show—a centuries-old storytelling technique that recounts popular Vietnamese legends and folktales.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### ACCOMMODATION

The Champton Hanoi Hotel (or similar) Hotel

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### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

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.

Thăng Long Water Puppet Theatre Performance Hanoi

Watch a traditional Vietnamese water puppet show with beautiful live music and intricate puppets dancing in a water stage.

Day 3

## HANOI/HOA LU/TAM COC/NINH BINH

Head south to the ancient Vietnamese capital of Hoa Lu, and get immersed in a fertile landscape of emerald rice fields and towering karst mountains. Step foot in the surviving temples of the Dinh and Le dynasties while learning about the feudal history of the country. After lunch in Tam Coc, set sail on a traditional sampan, or bamboo boat, down the Ngo Dong River. Float through verdant jungle and drift past impressive stalactites in a trio of spectacular caves. Continue to Ninh Binh for an evening at leisure.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### ACCOMMODATION

Ninh Binh Legend Hotel (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Hoa Lu Temple Visit Thành Phố Ninh Bình 1h

Enjoy a visit to the ancient temples of kings Dinh and Le and learn about the history of feudalism in Vietnam. Take some pictures and soak in the scenery.

Private Vehicle Hanoi - Thành Phố Ninh Bình 3h30m 130km

Enjoy a scenic ride from Hanoi to Ninh Binh with stops in Hoa Lu and Tam Coc along the way.

Ngo Dong River Bamboo Boating Thành Phố Ninh Bình 2h

On the calm waters of the Ngo Dong, board a rattan boat made from bamboo. Visit some caves and enjoy the limestone mountain scenery along the riverside. Try your hand at rowing.

Day 4

## NINH BINH

Return to Tam Coc and explore the surrounding countryside by bicycle. Witness local life as you pedal past farms, venture through serene Thung Nang (aka Sunshine Valley), and marvel at the intricate Buddhist pagodas of Bich Dong cave. Head to a local restaurant for a hands-on experience learning to make Vietnamese sweet potato chips. Later, enjoy a free evening at the hotel to relax in the pool or spa, or explore the streets of Ninh Binh on your own.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### ACCOMMODATION

Ninh Binh Legend Hotel (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Thung Nang Countryside Visit by Bike 5h-6h

Hop on a bike and head out into the flat, scenic locale of Thung Nang. Ride about 5km past limestone karsts and rice paddies, visiting a pagoda cave. Continue on for another 4km for a hands-on cooking demonstration and lunch at a local restaurant.

Free Time Thành Phố Ninh Bình

Enjoy some free time around Ninh Binh, with time to relax at the hotel pool or book a spa service.

Day 5

## BAT TRANG/HUE

This morning, drive back to Hanoi and visit KymViet, a G Adventures-supported enterprise, and learn about their efforts to assist local people with disabilities to learn stitching and sewing skills. Connect with the team members and make your own stuffed animal handicraft. After, transfer to the airport and catch a flight to Hue, situated on the banks of the picturesque Perfume River. Despite being badly damaged during the Vietnam War, this former capital city retains much of its imperial splendor. Spend the evening at your hotel, or walk along the river for a glimpse of some of the beautiful UNESCO World Heritage sites we'll dive into the following day.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### ACCOMMODATION

Romance Hotel (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

#### ACTIVITY

Visit the staff and team at KymViet, a local enterprise supported by G Adventures. KymViet is a community organization that helps people with disabilities learn real life skills and create their own dignified source of income. With a focus on stitching and sewing, their team members lead travelers on handicraft workshops to make high quality products like stuffed animals and home decorations. Learn about the organization while having a regional refreshment, learning some sign language and enjoy a delicious lunch.

#### ACTIVITY

Connect with some local people in Hanoi and make your very own souvenir to bring home during our visit to KymViet, a social enterprise supported by G Adventures. We'll be welcomed with a regional beverage, meet the staff and learn about the KymViet story. Under their guidance, local people with disabilities have been trained in stitching and sewing. While there we'll each make our own stuffed animals, getting to know our hosts and learning some sign language. We'll have a delicious lunch before touring the property to get to know the organization even better. Before we leave, enjoy a visit to their cafe where we can buy snacks and other souvenirs made by the team members at Kym Viet.

Private Vehicle

Thành Phố Ninh Bình - Hanoi

1h30m

Take a private vehicle to the airport for your flight to Hue. Stop at your G for Good, Kym Viet, along the way.

Plane Hanoi - Huế 1h

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

Day 6

## HUẾ/HOI AN

Today, we venture into Hue's grand citadel, guarded by a deep moat and imposing stone walls. Wander opulent palaces and ornate gardens, and hear dramatic stories of former royal inhabitants from your guide. Then venture to the Forbidden Purple City—modeled after Beijing's Forbidden City—a fortified complex where the ruling emperor once lived. This city-within-a-city even has its own moat! Later, head to the countryside, dotted with rice paddies and pagodas. Have lunch at a Buddhist nunnery, then drive to Hoi An via the spectacular Hai Van Pass, winding across the hilly coast of the South China Sea.

Hue is a peaceful central city that has a fascinating history, beginning with its ancient Cham origins, to becoming the capital of Vietnam until 1945, and the site of one of the bloodiest and longest battles of the Vietnam War in 1968. Today Hue is regarded as the cultural and spiritual capital of the country and has been recognized by UNESCO as a World Cultural Heritage site.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### ACCOMMODATION

Le Pavillon Hotel (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Imperial Citadel Tour Huế

Tour this one-time capital city and UNESCO World Heritage site. See the walled fortress and former palace, which has many palaces, gateways, courtyards, and gardens to explore. The Forbidden Purple City (modelled on China's Forbidden City) inside the citadel was once home to the imperial family and was significantly damaged during the Vietnam War.

Lunch at a Buddhist Nunnery Huế

Visit a nunnery and enjoy a leisurely lunch following the traditions of Buddhist cuisine, which features fresh, local produce and fermented or preserved ingredients. Today, we'll sample a set menu of six to seven dishes, such as pumpkin soup with mushroom, tofu and green beans; crispy noodles with rice crackers; fresh spring rolls with soy sauce; steamed rice with eggplant and green beans; fried rolls with potato curry; and bread with potatoes, carrots and onion. (Please note: the menu is seasonal and may vary from what is mentioned above.)

Private Vehicle

Huế - Hoi An

4h

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

Hai Van Pass Visit

Văn Hải

Drive through the spectacular Hai Van Pass, a 20km stretch of road that represents the division between northern and southern Vietnam, and is also one of the country's highest points at 500m above sea level. In Vietnamese, Hai Van roughly translates to "sea of clouds" and it's easy to see why. As your vehicle winds through the mountain roads, you'll see misty peaks rise above the South China Sea, with glimpses of pristine beaches, forests and the cityscape of Da Nang along the way.

Day 7

## HOI AN

Discover the enchanting port town of Hoi An, which thrived between the 15th and 19th centuries. Delve into the city's World Heritage-listed old town, strolling streets strung with paper lanterns and navigating a maze of temples and tailor shops. Visit one of the town tailors to get measured for a custom-made shirt; then travel to a nearby factory to see how your piece of clothing is produced!

Declared a World Heritage site, the architecture of Hoi An is being beautifully restored and preserved. It's also a shopping mecca, with much to browse over and buy. Choose from original paintings, handcrafted woodwork, ceramics, embroidery, lanterns and more. Hoi An has also become famous for its tailoring - there is a huge variety of fabrics to choose from.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### ACCOMMODATION

Le Pavillon Hotel (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Hoi An Old Town Walking Tour Hoi An 2h-3h

Stroll through the narrow winding streets of Hoi An's old town to see Chinese assembly halls, ancestral homes, The Japanese Covered Bridge, and well-preserved pagodas on this self-guided tour. Opt to try local delicacies and fusion food at one of the restaurants for which Hoi An is becoming famous.

#### ACTIVITY

Visit the world-famous tailoring section of the ancient city of Hoi An and have a shirt made to the exact proportions of your body. First, your measurements are taken in the store. Then you'll travel to a nearby factory to witness how quickly a custom shirt gets made.

Free Time Hoi An

Enjoy an afternoon at leisure to explore this historic town.



### Optional Activities - Day 7

Lantern Making Experience

Hoi An

10USD

Join a fun and informative class where you'll learn how to make traditional Vietnamese lanterns, in beautiful eye-catching silk. Your teacher for the day will be a local English-speaking craftsman. At the end of the course, you'll get to take your own lantern home.

Sunset Boat Ride On River

Hoi An

500000VND

Jump on a local fishing boat for a lazy ride down the river and into the countryside. Spot fishermen casting their nets, locals going about their daily lives, and other unique Vietnamese river traffic. Make your way back to Hoi An as sunset approaches, and lanterns create a blaze of color to welcome your return. Opt to rent your own boat or join others on a shared cruise. Please note the price above is per group and a group includes 3-4 people per boat. The boat ride lasts for 30 minutes.

Return to the old town for a fun-filled noodle tour! The tour is led by guides from the G Adventures-supported Oodles of Noodles program, which trains local youth in the culinary arts. Taste your way through different kinds of noodles at a food market; pick out your favorite fresh ingredients; and take your haul to the Oodles of Noodles training kitchen, where we'll cook up a delectable storm. Later, set out on a leisurely bike ride through the Hoi An countryside, then float down to a nearby farming village in a traditional basket boat.



## Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



## ACCOMMODATION

Le Pavillon Hotel (or similar) Hotel



## TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

### ACTIVITY

Take a walking tour of a Hoi An local market led by youths who have come to Oodles of Noodles, a G Adventures-supported program, to be trained in the culinary arts. This excursion will empower the kitchen youth to lead insider noodle tours in Hoi An. There are currently over 26 types of noodles in this city alone and we will go to the market with two students and their trainer, learn about the ingredients at the market, and do a tasting of the different noodles while supporting local small women enterprises. We then pick the ingredients and return with our youth guides to the training kitchen where you will learn to cook and prepare noodles. After we enjoy our noodles for lunch, watch a video to learn more about the organization.

### ACTIVITY

Try some of the oodles of noodles (more than 26 types!) available in the city in this tasty cooking class. Run by our G for Good partners, STREETS International, this class was developed exclusively for G Adventures. Former street youth that are part of this hospitality training program, will help you prepare and cook a number of different types of noodles. This program helps these youth practice their English, increasing their skill-set and opportunities available to them in the tourism industry. Enjoy your yummy creations while learning more about the local cuisine and this initiative which empowers street youth through skills and employment training.

Bike Ride Hoi An

Enjoy a leisurely bike ride through the Hoi An countryside.

Basket Boat Ride Hoi An 1h

Travel along canals dotted with floating water coconuts in a traditional Vietnamese basket boat.

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## Optional Activities - Day 8

Lantern Making Experience Hoi An 10USD

Join a fun and informative class where you'll learn how to make traditional Vietnamese lanterns, in beautiful eye-catching silk. Your teacher for the day will be a local English-speaking craftsman. At the end of the course, you'll get to take your own lantern home.

Day 9

## HOI AN/HO CHI MINH CITY

Transfer to the airport and fly to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam's most populous city and economic hub. Get to know this buzzing metropolis—still commonly referred to as Saigon—on a cyclo tour. Cruise past French colonial buildings and stately monuments; then launch into a frenetic market, where the calls of vendors, the smells of street food, and the fascinating assortment of wares dazzles the senses.

Ho Chi Minh City, formerly Saigon, is a city of bright neon lights, endless shopping and trendy cafes. Its wide tree-lined boulevards reflect its French heritage, and towering skyscrapers announce it has landed squarely in the 21st Century. As a contrast to this modern backdrop is the chaotic traffic of swarming motorbikes which are generally overloaded or carrying multiple passengers. This is people watching at its best.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### ACCOMMODATION

Eden Star Saigon Hotel (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Plane Da Nang - Ho Chi Minh City 1h30m

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.

Free Time Ho Chi Minh City

Enjoy a free afternoon exploring this bustling city.



### Optional Activities - Day 9

Dam Sen Water Park Excursion Ho Chi Minh City 200000VND 3h-4h

Visit a unique Vietnamese-themed water park with a variety of rides, including high-speed adrenaline slides, a 400m relaxing tube ride, and lots of swimming pools (please note that children must be at least 1.4m tall to go on slides). Lockers will be available to rent. Don't forget to try the tasty, inexpensive treats at the park's food court - a must in-between activities! Ask your Expedition Leader for help with arranging transportation to/from the park (approx. \$15 for a two-way trip, for up to 7 people).

The group price listed is for a group of 20-30 people.

Day 10

## HO CHI MINH CITY

Today, we descend into the fascinating Cu Chi Tunnels, a vast network of underground passageways built and used by the Viet Cong during the Vietnam War. The tunnels connected the residents with subterranean schools and hospitals, and included booby traps smeared with poisonous concoctions to injure enemy soldiers. Try the local cassava root, which sustained Viet Cong soldiers for years, and emerge from the bunkers to enjoy a traditional lunch by the river.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch



### ACCOMMODATION

Eden Star Saigon Hotel (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Boat Ho Chi Minh City - Củ Chi 1h30m

Hop in a speedboat for a journey down the river.

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.

Boat Củ Chi - Ho Chi Minh City 1h30m

Hop in a speedboat for a journey down the river.

Free Time Ho Chi Minh City

Enjoy a free afternoon exploring this bustling city.



### Optional Activities - Day 10

Dam Sen Water Park Excursion Ho Chi Minh City 200000VND 3h-4h

Visit a unique Vietnamese-themed water park with a variety of rides, including high-speed adrenaline slides, a 400m relaxing tube ride, and lots of swimming pools (please note that children must be at least 1.4m tall to go on slides). Lockers will be available to rent. Don't forget to try the tasty, inexpensive treats at the park's food court - a must in-between activities! Ask your Expedition Leader for help with arranging transportation to/from the park (approx. \$15 for a two-way trip, for up to 7 people).

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Day 11

## HO CHI MINH CITY/SIEM REAP

Catch a flight to Siem Reap in Cambodia, gateway to the magnificent ruins of Angkor. This evening, we enjoy a delicious Khmer meal at the New Hope Cambodia vocational training restaurant, an initiative spearheaded by G Adventures. The restaurant provides hospitality training to unemployed young adults, and also funds a free community school and a health program.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### ACCOMMODATION

Royal Angkor Resort (or similar) Hotel



### TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Plane

Ho Chi Minh City - Siem Reap

1h15m

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

#### 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.

Day 12

## SIEM REAP

Who's ready for a jungle adventure? This morning, we'll explore the ancient Angkor temple complex, nestled deep within the Cambodian jungle. Discover hidden passageways and crumbling courtyards where the forest is rapidly reclaiming its territory. Later, brush up your acrobatic skills at a workshop with Phare, a Cambodian circus and social enterprise that employs underprivileged youth. Tumble and somersault to your heart's content; then watch and photograph one of Phare's amazing performances. Celebrate your unforgettable journey at a farewell dinner tonight.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### ACCOMMODATION

Royal Angkor Resort (or similar) Hotel



### 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.

#### ACTIVITY

Join the talented performers of Phare Circus for a workshop. After a thorough warm-up, learn some circus basics and fun beginner acrobatics.

Depart at any time.

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## Meals included

Breakfast

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## TODAY'S ACTIVITIES

Departure Day

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

## What's included

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Oodles of Noodles Local Market Excursion, Hoi An
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- Your G for Good Moment: Oodles of Noodles, Hoi An
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- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your Expedition Leader and Group
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- Your Family Journeys Moment: Hoi An Custom Shirt Tailoring, Hoi An
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- Pottery village visit in Bat Trang

- Guided tour of the city and countryside of Hue
- Walking tour of Hoi An Old Town
- Hoi An Countryside cycle and basket boat float
- Cyclo tour of Ho Chi Minh City
- Guided tour of the Cu Chi Tunnels
- Guided tour of Angkor Wat
- Internal flights
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Hop on a bicycle taxi for an action-packed tour of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. Float aboard a bamboo rattan boat in Tam Coc. Visit a tailor to get fitted for a shirt made especially for you in Hoi An. Cook up oodles of noodles at a G Adventures-supported training kitchen. Explore the awe-inspiring ruins of Angkor. Show off your acrobatic skills with a Cambodian circus.

## Itinerary Notes

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Family Journeys are designed for groups traveling with children between the ages of 7 and 17. Your group must include a child in order to book, and anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Hop on a bicycle taxi for an action-packed tour of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City. Float aboard a bamboo rattan boat in Tam Coc. Visit a tailor to get fitted for a shirt made especially for you in Hoi An. Cook up oodles of noodles at a G Adventures-supported training kitchen. Explore the awe-inspiring ruins of Angkor. Show off your acrobatic skills with a Cambodian circus.

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

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

## **Is there a travel disclaimer for my itinerary I should review before booking this trip?**

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.

## **Are there Itinerary notes?**

Prices are based on double occupancy; all other room configurations are on request and cannot be guaranteed. We will accommodate triples/quads whenever possible. Please call for further details.

Family Journeys are designed for groups traveling with children between the ages of 7 and 17. Your group must include a child in order to book, and anyone under the age of 18 must be accompanied by an adult.

## What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?

All parents/guardians are required to supervise their children at all times throughout the tour and may not leave their child under the supervision of the National Geographic Expedition Leader, local guides, drivers, etc. Children are not to be left unattended.

Please note that on all Family Adventures one adult can only accompany up to two minors. If you have over two minors planning on travelling then a second adult will be required to attend.

### WEIGHT RESTRICTION

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 20kg (44lbs). Additional bags or excess weight charges may apply. These charges are the responsibility of the passengers.

### PROOF OF EXITING VIETNAM

Important thing to note for our travellers arriving into Vietnam, and travelling onwards with G Adventures to neighbouring countries (i.e. Cambodia & Laos). When you are checking onto your international flight heading to Vietnam, you will often be asked by airline ticket counter personnel to provide a proof of exit from Vietnam.

In respect to this requirement, we encourage our travellers to print out a copy of their tour vouchers, along with a PDF copy of their Tour Details from the webpage. These references, along with entry and exit details on travellers Vietnam visa should be sufficient information.

### ACCOMMODATION NOTE:

Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

## What is the group leader like?

All National Geographic Family Journeys with G Adventures group trips are accompanied by two of our group leaders. The aim of the group leader 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?

Small group experience; Max 20

## What meals are included in this trip?

12 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 3 dinners

## What are the meals like on this trip?

Eating is a big part of traveling and we encourage you to experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Its important to remember, that food may be different from what you are used to at home and that some things may not be available in other countries.

Some meals are included in the trip price, while others are not, to allow flexibility and choice to you and your family. For non-included meals our Expedition Leaders will still make arrangements for the group to eat together, which allows you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and approximate budget (per person) for meals not included.

Throughout this trip, breakfast is included daily (ranging from continental to buffet depending on the trip). Drinking water is available throughout (don't forget your refillable water bottle as you will have access to either filtered water from hotels or as made available by the Expedition Leader). Healthy, local snacks will also be available.

Note that any special meal requirements or dietary restrictions need to be specified at time of booking.

## What are the modes of transportation on my trip?

Private bus, boat, cyclo, plane, walking

## Are local flights included in the cost of the trip?

Please be advised that any flights noted on the G Adventures Itinerary for this tour are included in the tour services provided. Flight tickets are provided by G Adventures during the tour. The date for this service will match the day of the itinerary, for which Day 1 is equal to the start date noted on the Invoice under Land Services: Tour. If flight information is required in advance for visa purposes, please contact G Adventures.

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 (40lbs). 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 solo 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. Odd number adult travellers in your family will be paired in twin accommodation with another adult traveller of the same sex for the duration of the trip.

## Where will we stay during the trip?

Hotels (12 nts)

## Will I get my own room?

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

## What kind of accommodation can I expect on this trip?

Rooming is based on double occupancy (2 passengers / 2 beds per room); all other room configurations are on request and cannot be guaranteed. We will try to accommodate triples/quad requests whenever possible and it's important to note that rooming configuration can change from city to city and 2 single beds are the standard configuration in a room.

Please remember that hotel/lodge standards can be different from what you are used to in your home country, which is part of the appeal of adventure travel. As well, in some cities in Vietnam, some hotel rooms do not have windows and rooms can be small.

## What are the joining instructions?

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

An arrival transfer is included when you arrive on Day 1, or if you arrive up to three days prior provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through National Geographic Journeys in our joining hotel. Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Our driver will be waiting for you with a National Geographic Journeys sign, and they will be waiting for you outside the luggage hall. If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call our local support line. If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the joining point hotel via taxi.

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your Expedition Leader. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your Expedition Leader and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your Expedition Leader will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

## 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, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you 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) and then 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. Included arrival transfers are provided from the nearest airport to your starting location. If you are advised of a flight schedule change or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. 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 you are experiencing complications with your Noi Bai International Airport (Hanoi) AIRPORT TRANSFER that was booked through G Adventures please call: +84 90 430 5130.

### Emergency Contact

G Adventures Office Bangkok, Thailand

From outside Thailand: +66 92 338 9222

From within Thailand: 092 338 9222

### G Adventures Local Representative (Vietnam)

Ms. Alice

Emergency number: +84 90 430 5130

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 information should I be aware of as the itinerary draws to a close?

If you would like to book an airport Departure transfer for your tour, please contact our Sales Team or your Travel Agent in advance of travel.

## **Are there any additional packing suggestions I should consider?**

You will be on the move a lot, so our advice is to pack as lightly as possible. Your baggage should be clearly labelled and restricted to one soft compact suitcase, sports bag, or backpack. A daypack is also essential for carrying everyday items. There is a limit of one main piece of luggage per person. Porters may not always be available, so be prepared to carry your own bags.

# What should be on my packing list?

## Conservative Dress:

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

## Documents:

- Flight info (required) (Printouts of e-tickets may be required at the border)
- Insurance info (required) (With photocopies)
- Vouchers and pre-departure information (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Visas or vaccination certificates (With photocopies)

## Essentials:

- Toiletries (required) (Shampoo, bodywash, soap, etc.)
- Binoculars (optional)
- Camera (With extra memory cards and batteries)
- Cash, credit and debit cards
- Day pack (Used for daily excursions or short overnights)
- Ear plugs
- First-aid kit (should contain lip balm with sunscreen, sunscreen, whistle, Aspirin, Ibuprofen, bandaids/plasters, tape, anti-histamines, antibacterial gel/wipes, antiseptic cream, Imodium or similar tablets for mild cases of diarrhea, rehydration powder, water purification tablets or drops, insect repellent, sewing kit, extra prescription drugs you may be taking)
- Flashlight/torch (Headlamps are ideal)
- Fleece top/sweater
- Footwear
- Hat
- Headphones (Noise-cancelling recommended)
- Locks for bags
- Long pants/jeans
- Moneybelt
- Outlet adapter
- Personal entertainment (Reading and writing materials, cards, music player, etc.)
- Reusable water bottle
- Shirts/t-shirts
- Sleepwear
- Small travel towel
- Sunglasses
- Swimwear
- Watch and alarm clock
- Waterproof backpack cover
- Windproof rain jacket

**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.)

**Warm Weather:**

- Sandals/flip-flops
- Shorts/skirts (Longer shorts/skirts are recommended)
- Sturdy water shoes/sandals
- Sun hat/bandana
- Swimwear Note: It is important to pack clothes for warm days and cool evenings, as well as a light waterproof jacket. Layering is essential. In Cambodia, temperatures can be very hot and humid, lightweight breathable clothing is recommended. We're working with our accommodation partners to reduce single-use plastic on our tours by providing safe drinking water for refillable bottles wherever possible. Find out more about our Plastics Partnership Project [here.](https://www.gadventures.com/about-us/responsible-travel/plastics-partnership-project/)

## When can I do my laundry on this trip?

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge or ask your Expedition Leader where the closest laundromat is. 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 are 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](#)

Vietnam:

If you require a visa for Vietnam, they need to be arranged ahead of time (BEFORE your trip) as the processing time varies (minimum 2 weeks) and they are not available upon arrival.

Vietnamese E-Visa can be applied for [here](#)

Entry to Vietnam with an eVisa is supported at 13 airports, 16 land borders, and 13 seaports - details can be found [here](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

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. Please have \*at least\* 2 passport photos with you as well.

If you are arriving into Cambodia by air/plane, please complete the Cambodia e-Arrival form online before arrival.

Complete within 7 days of arrival, even if your visa has already been granted.

For more information and to complete the e-Arrival form, we kindly request the you visit the [Cambodia e-Arrival](#) page.

\*\* please note, the Cambodia E-system may not be available at land borders. If your arrival point is by land, you will be required to fill in a paper form on arrival. \*\*

Information is accurate as of September 1st, 2025.

## What should I consider when planning my personal expenses and discretionary spending for this itinerary?

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 currency you will use is the 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](http://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.

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 \$200 (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?**

Departure Tax is included in all International and Domestic tickets in China, Thailand & Vietnam.

## **Should I be tipping on my trip?**

On our National Geographic Family tours, tipping is included for all included activities and meals, and portage. Tipping is not included for the Expedition Leader. Should you want some basic guidelines on tipping for the activities you do on your own, please see below. At the end of each trip if you felt your National Geographic Expedition Leader did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline would be \$10-\$15 per person per day.

For meals and activities not included in your itinerary, it is appropriate in Asia to tip 10%. Though not compulsory, tipping is expected. 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 and shows an expression of satisfaction.

## What activities are optional on this trip?

### Hoi An

- Lantern Making Experience  
(10USD per person)
- Sunset Boat Ride On River  
(500000VND per group)

### Ho Chi Minh City

- Dam Sen Water Park Excursion  
(200000VND per person,  
160002VND per group)
- Dam Sen Water Park Excursion  
(200000VND per person,  
160000VND per group)

## 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. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if, in the reasonable opinion of the National Geographic Expedition Leader, 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 group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Expedition Leader 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 and explore at your leisure. While your Expedition Leader 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 judgement 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. 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 Expedition Leaders 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. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

## What are the trip specific safety considerations?

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.

## 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 people in the sex trade is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our Expedition Leaders have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

## Is travel insurance required for my trip?

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 leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. 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?

Earn 5% off your next G Adventures Tour (up to \$100 USD)\*

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us and to thank you for your time, we are pleased to offer a 5% discount (up to a maximum of \$100 USD) off your next G Adventures holiday. All you need to do is submit the form within 4 weeks of the completion of your tour, and you'll be able to join the thousands of travellers who have taken 2, 3, 4 or even 10 or more tours with us!

Discount cannot be combined with other offers or applied to 'Independent' style trips. Maximum discount value is \$100 USD (or equivalent currency). Valid for new bookings only. G Adventures reserves the right to withdraw or modify this offer at any time without notice. Limited to one discount per person.

## How old must I be to join this trip?

Minimum age of 7 years for this trip.

## 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 National Geographic Signature Specialist 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.