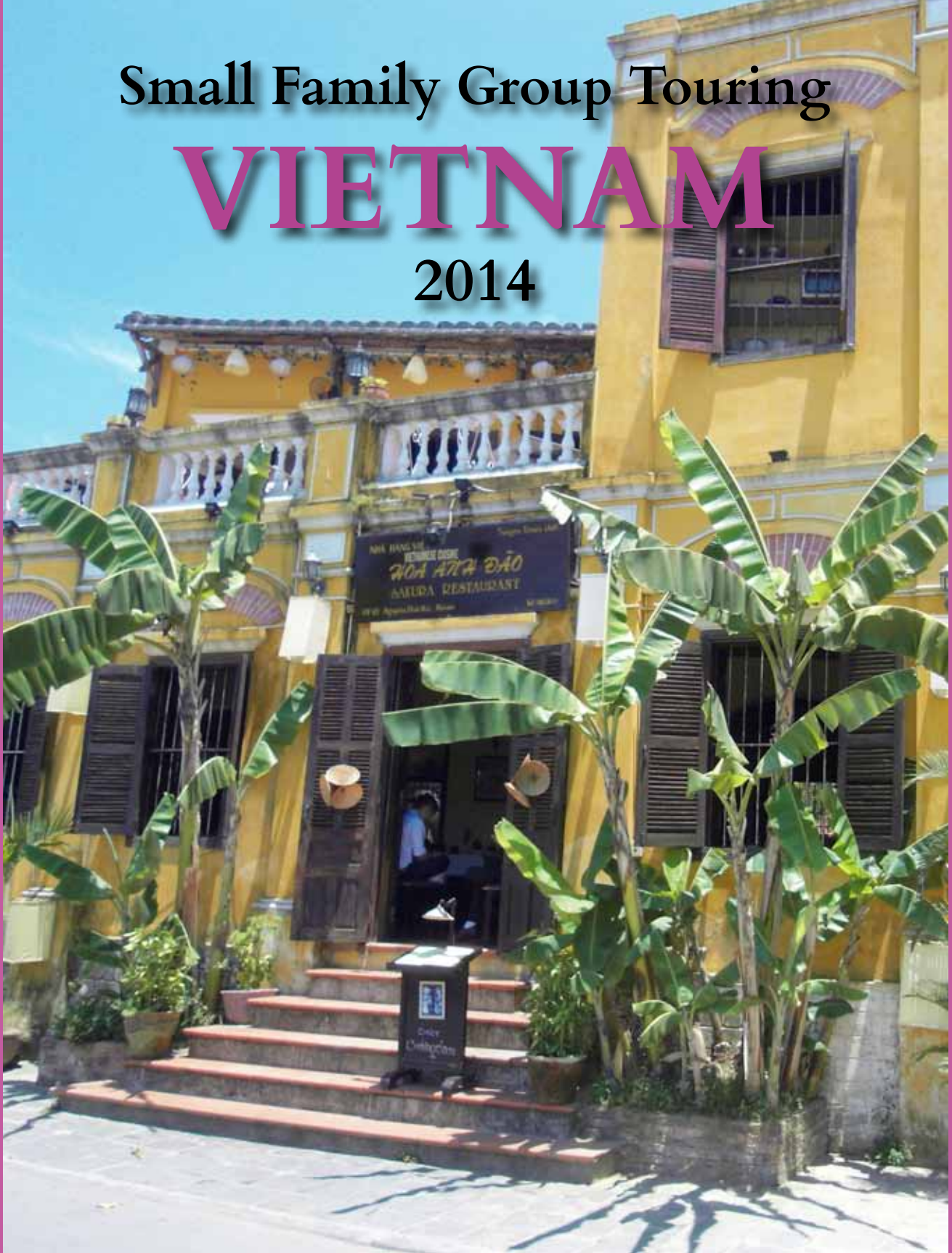


Small Family Group Touring

# VIETNAM

2014



**Specialised Travel**

(08) 8555 0468

[manager@specialisedtravel.com.au](mailto:manager@specialisedtravel.com.au)

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## YOUR ACCOMMODATION

Visit the websites



**MAJESTIC HOTEL SAIGON**  
[www.majesticsaigon.com](http://www.majesticsaigon.com)



**THE BASSAC**  
[www.bassacmekongcruise.com](http://www.bassacmekongcruise.com)



**SUNRISE BEACH RESORT HOI AN**  
[www.sunrisehoian.vn](http://www.sunrisehoian.vn)



**VICTORY STAR**  
[www.victorystarcruisehalong.com](http://www.victorystarcruisehalong.com)



**HOTEL DE L'OPERA**  
[www.mgallery.com](http://www.mgallery.com)

# A Taste of Vietnam - 12 Days South to North, in style

*Jeff & Sylvia, owners of Specialised Travel have visited Vietnam numerous times and have put their experience of this wonderful country into an itinerary that gives you a taste of the country, its gracious people, their cuisine and time to go shopping. The deluxe accommodation has also been chosen to give you a balance of both the past and the future of Vietnam.*



*This is a SAMPLE itinerary for April 2014, but you may wish to select your own dates and duration of travel. Check with us on the best seasons to travel. Small family groups of 4, 6, 8 people and groups of 10 or more are suitable. Simply ask Jeff to custom design it for you and provide a confirmed quote. Lower the hotel standard and lower the price – WE WORK TO YOUR BUDGET !*

### **DAY 1: DEPART AUSTRALIA (meals in flight)**

Check in at Adelaide Airport two hours prior to the 9:00 am flight, which allows you to connect straight through via KL to Saigon in the one day arriving at 6:45pm. Times change slightly due to seasons. Family & friends in other capital cities need to contact us to find the best connection for them. Transfer to the gracious colonial style Majestic Hotel established in 1925. The evening is at leisure to settle-in.

**Accommodation: The MAJESTIC HOTEL – Deluxe pool view room**

### **DAY 2: SAIGON (B, D)**

Breakfast at the hotel. A day at leisure, we will advise you where the markets are and how to get to them. If you prefer to go as a group, then your guide can escort you. Taxis are cheap, the trip to the market should cost all of \$2. This evening you will experience Vietnamese Cuisine at a local restaurant.

**Accommodation: The MAJESTIC HOTEL – Deluxe pool view room**

### **DAY 3: SAIGON (B, L, D)**

This morning, leave bustling Ho Chi Minh City for the 2.5 hour drive to the delta town of Cai Be. I suggest you carry only an overnight bag, leaving your suitcase in storage at the Majestic Hotel. Arrive in Cai Be at noon to board your boat, the Bassac. A welcome drink will be given on arrival followed by an introduction to the ship and crew. Depart towards Cho Lach on the Tien Giang River and enjoy lunch on the upper deck while cruising. Rest on the deck while the ship branches into the Cho Lach Canal, winding through the traffic of sand and rice barges, past fruit drying facilities and around wooden ship building yards. Visit a village on the banks of river Mang Thít, where you can appreciate the way of life here in the Delta visiting the orchard or rice fields nearby. As you board the Bassac a complimentary drink will be served, so

why not sit back and enjoy the sunset overlooking the Mekong's magical waterways. Dinner will be served whilst the Bassac cruises the Mang Thít River towards your anchorage for the night, downstream from the little market of Tra On. Your accommodation overnight is in a private cabin.

**Accommodation: The BASSAC – Private cabin**

### **DAY 4: SAIGON to HOI AN (B, L)**

Breakfast is available from 6:30 am while the Bassac cruises to the Tra On floating market. After a visit to the market the Bassac sails towards Can Tho. Upon arrival at the Cai Rang floating market you will check out of your cabin and transfer onto a local boat to visit the floating market, the nearby canals and gardens ending at the Ninh Kieu Pier late in the morning. Return to land where your guide and driver await you, a quick lunch then the 4 hour transfer back to Ho Chi Minh for the night.

**Accommodation: The MAJESTIC HOTEL – Deluxe pool view room**

### **DAY 5: HOI AN (B, D)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Check out of the hotel after breakfast and transfer to the airport for your late morning flight to Danang. Upon arrival drive to the old-town of Hoi An then onto your deluxe beachside resort. You are only 4km from the Heritage old town centre. Dinner is at your hotel tonight.

**Accommodation: The SUNRISE RESORT – Deluxe garden view room**

### **DAY 6: HOI AN (B)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Later in the morning you will transfer into the old-town to investigate the shopping. It is a good idea to source some good tailors early in your stay to allow time to get your tailor made clothes done with time for a second fitting and time should any alterations be necessary. You might just consider some custom made shoes. Ladies, you should talk to Sylvia about this. The quality of clothing we had made this year was fantastic and well priced. Evening is at leisure as you might just stay in the old town and check out one of the many restaurants.

**Accommodation: The SUNRISE RESORT – Deluxe garden view room**

### DAY 7: Mon 7th April HOI AN (B)

Breakfast at the hotel. Relax in your resort, take a swim or take a walk, the time is all yours. The shuttle service can take you into the town at regular intervals. There is a wide variety of Vietnamese art and craft plus restaurants by the dozens. A taxi back can cost around \$4. Consider dinner in the old town or return to the resort for dinner at your leisure.

**Accommodation: The SUNRISE RESORT – Deluxe garden view room**

### DAY 8: HOI AN (B)

Breakfast at the hotel. A day at leisure to follow-up on your tailor-made clothing or just relax in your deluxe resort, going into the old-town at your leisure. Full day and evening to do your own thing. Tomorrow morning is a very early start.

**Accommodation: The SUNRISE RESORT – Deluxe garden view room**

### DAY 9: HALONG BAY (B,L,D)

Collect a breakfast hamper from the hotel. An early morning departure from your resort for the flight to Hanoi, then to Halong Bay on a journey through the rich farmlands of the Red River Delta. Observe everyday life of Vietnamese Villages as you see villagers work the local rice fields, take live pigs to market on bicycles or motorbikes, and plough the fields with their large water buffaloes. Welcome on board your cruise and set sail through the bay while lunch is served. Passage into the magical bay, where thousands of sculpted limestone islands rise from the waves like dragons' teeth.

After lunch, take a short trek to a nearby summit for a panoramic view of the bay dotted with deluxe golden sails, go swimming on a quiet beach or sunbathing on the sun deck. Later afternoon, visit an interesting fishing village with opportunity to interact with fishermen who have been living in the bay for almost three generations. At sunset, kayak or simply take a bamboo row boat to discover a water tunnel with many coral reefs in a scenic lagoon. Back on board, enjoy cocktails while watching the sunset and later unwind in the restaurant. Overnight on board in Halong Bay.

**Accommodation: VICTORY STAR - Deluxe cabin**

### DAY 10: HANOI (B, L)

Greet the day with a morning Tai Chi exercise with an opportunity to view the sunrise over the bay. After breakfast, visit a beautiful limestone grotto then back to the boat for a final glimpse of the Halong Bay over lunch while cruising back to the dock. Transfer into Hanoi and check into your deluxe city hotel. Evening at your leisure.

**Accommodation: HOTEL DE L'OPERA – Opera deluxe room**

### DAY 11: HANOI (B, L, D)

Breakfast at the hotel. Enjoy an orientation of the tree lined streets of Hanoi, resplendent with French colonial architecture. Then tour the Ancient Quarter or 36 Streets District. This densely populated corner of the city was once

a centre of commerce where goods were sold under the street name of a particular guild. Still a thriving community of sellers today, you will see street names such as Sugar Street, Tin Street and Paper Street. Ancient homes and temples are interspersed with stores in this souvenir hunter's paradise! Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant and then the afternoon at leisure. Tonight it's a dinner in a Vietnamese Restaurant.

**Accommodation: HOTEL DE L'OPERA – Opera deluxe room**

### DAY 12: HANOI (B, meals in flight)

Breakfast at the hotel. Check-out of the hotel mid-morning for your transfer to the international airport. Flight departs at 1:20pm via KL connecting to your overnight flight home to Adelaide.

**Overnight in flight**

### DAY 13: HOME

Breakfast in flight prior to touching down in Adelaide early morning.



### Pricing is in Australian Dollars per person for April 2014

#### LAND CONTENT

4 passengers / 2 rooms:	\$1,990 twin share
6 passengers / 3 rooms:	\$1,860 twin share
8 passengers / 4 rooms:	\$1,820 twin share
10+ passengers:	\$1,760 twin share
Single Supplement:	\$990

#### PLUS AIRFARES

##### International airfares:

From Australia start at \$980 incl taxes (depending on season and availability)

##### Domestic Vietnam flights:

Saigon to Danang	\$125
Danang to Hanoi	\$125

For a quote on a customised itinerary ask **Jeff on 8555 0468**

#### Your FINAL quote will include:

- Return Economy International flights
- Economy Domestic Vietnam flights
- Govt Taxes & Surcharges
- Deluxe Hotels as listed, check in 2:00pm / checkout 12noon
- Two overnight cruises with all meals
- 11 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 5 dinners
- Airport transfers / tours in air conditioned vehicles
- English speaking guides

#### Not included:

- Vietnam Visa \$85 + courier fees
- Items of a personal nature
- Meals other than mentioned
- Tips to guide / driver (allow \$5 per person per day)
- Travel Insurance (must have medical evacuation) 25% discount applies on this tour



# Angkor Extension - 4 Days, 3 Nights

Ask for a quote to suit your needs ...

## Day 1: Siem Reap Arrival

Upon your arrival in Siem Reap, you will be welcomed by your local English speaking guide and transferred to your hotel for check in. After a short relaxing break, you will visit the famous Angkor Wat by local tuk tuk. Inside the temple, the walls are covered with stone carvings and bas reliefs depicting Hindu mythology. Moreover, Angkor Wat is well known for the more than 2,000 Apsara dancers decorating the temple. Construction is thought to have taken around thirty years of intensive labour.

Return to your hotel, where you can enjoy the evening at leisure. **Overnight in Siem Reap.**

## Day 2: Siem Reap (B)

After breakfast, head out to the early-Angkor era temples of the Roluos Group, about 15km outside of Siem Reap. Roluos is the site of the first town built by the Angkorians in the 8th and 9th century and consists of three main temples: Bakong, Lolei and Preah Ko. The beautiful surrounding countryside with its paddy fields and sugar palm trees is very typical for Cambodia. Return to the

hotel for a break during the midday heat.

Later in the afternoon, start your tour with a visit to Ta Prohm temple, which is unique in that it has been left largely as it was found: overgrown by jungle trees and vines, with many parts of the temple crumbling to the ground. Your visit will also include Banteay Kdei, a Buddhist monastery, and Srah Srang, also known as the "pool of ablutions". Then onto the temples of the Grand Circuit, like the overgrown Preah Khan Temple and Neak Pean with its artificial lakes. Return to your hotel.

**Overnight in Siem Reap.**

## Day 3: Siem Reap (B/L)

Early today, travel to the "gem" of the Angkor area, the pretty temple of Banteay Srey, which is best viewed in the warm morning light. The so-called "Citadel of the Women" remains the best preserved temple in Cambodia. Banteay Srey is unique in that it is constructed of pink sandstone, which is seen nowhere else in Angkor.

On the way back stop at local communities along the way and your guide will help you to interact

with the local community to learn about the way of life here. This afternoon, visit the ancient city of Angkor Thom. This city is surrounded by an 8m high wall. From here, continue to Bayon Temple in the exact centre of the city. This 12th century masterpiece is a study in grandeur and is well-known for its 54 towers with enigmatic faces representing the 54 provinces of the Great Khmer Empire. **Overnight in Siem Reap.**

## Day 4: Siem Reap - Departure (B)

This morning, embark on an interesting boat trip on Tonlé Sap Lake, where you will have the opportunity to learn about life on the lake. South East Asia's largest freshwater lake with its size varying greatly depending on the season. Board a local boat and visit Kampong Phluck, a village where you will see houses on stilts that are submerged when Tonlé Sap Lake extends. On the way, you will pass floating houses and impressive flooded forests, portraying life on the water.

**Return to Siem Reap, at leisure until your transfer to the airport for your departure flight.**



## TERMS & CONDITIONS

### ITINERARY & COSTS

- Prices are based on the exchange rate at the time of printing. They are quoted in Australian Dollars and are GST free for international travel, and GST inclusive for domestic travel and services.
- Details of particular hotels described in the itinerary may change due to quality control by the Tour Operator. Every endeavour will be made to keep details up to date. A hotel of similar or superior standard will be substituted.
- Flight schedules are correct at the time of printing. Any changes are outside of the control of Specialised Travel. Should the itinerary and tour costs change as a result of schedule changes, the passenger will bear the difference.
- In the event that change(s) cause the tour to be substantially different than the initial price quoted, the passenger has the right to withdraw from the tour. Some airline and/or hotel deposits may be forfeited.

### MEDICAL REQUIREMENTS & TRAVEL INSURANCE

- It is your personal responsibility to ensure you are adequately protected for travel outside of Australia. You can obtain information from your family doctor or consult the Traveller's Medical and Vaccination Centre in your capital city by phoning 1300 658 844.
- Travel Insurance is highly recommended. Specialised Travel will require proof of a policy or a signed Declaration from any traveller declining Travel Insurance.

### CANCELLATION CLAUSE

- Bookings cancelled at any time after confirmation will automatically incur a loss of deposit. In addition to the loss of deposit, other charges may be enforced by the airline, hotel or tour operator up to 100% of the tour cost, particularly within 45 days of departure.
- Any group tour may be cancelled if insufficient

numbers are booked or events outside of our control cause cancellation. Optional dates will be offered in such cases.

- Upon paying any money for deposits, part or full amounts, it is desirable to purchase your Travel Insurance to guard against most forms of cancellation.

### ROOM TYPES & BEDDING

- Prices for this tour are based on existing bedding at the hotels selected. Additional bedding will need to be specifically requested and is subject to availability.
- A Single Supplement is required to be paid if sole occupancy of a room is required. Single, interconnecting, twin as against double, smoking or non-smoking rooms need to be clearly referred to on the booking form, and are based upon availability.

### PASSPORT VALIDITY & VISA REQUIREMENTS

- Passports will require at least six months validity from the date of entry into a foreign country.
- Depending upon your Nationality, a Visa may be required prior to departing Australia.

### BAGGAGE ALLOWANCE & SECURITY CONTROL

- Economy Class travellers are allowed 20kgs per person. Business Class passengers are permitted 30 Kgs. No one bag may exceed 35 Kgs.
- Carry-on luggage is restricted to 5 Kgs, and no larger in size than 48cm X 34 cm X 23 cm. No sharp objects such as a nail file, scissors, Swiss Army knife, etc; is permitted in the aircraft cabin. Please ensure such items are packed into your check-in luggage. There are restrictions regarding the carrying onboard of liquids, aerosols and gels.
- No item, including duty-free, greater than 100ml is permitted and must be shown in a clear plastic bag at the security screening point. Any charges for excess luggage will be at the passenger's expense and payable upon check-in.

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- Specialised Travel does not accept any responsibility for any act or omission causing loss or injury to persons or property whether by negligence or otherwise on the part of the principals (the airline, hotel, tour operator, coach company or service provider) providing any facilities or services described in the tour package.
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