



Cultural Encounter to Vietnam, Laos and Bangkok, Thailand
October 23 – November 5, 2019
Registration

Name as it is on your passport: _____

Passport number _____ Expiration _____

Date of birth _____

Preferred mailing address: _____

Phone number () _____ Email _____

Rooming: _____ Single (\$1,055 addtl) _____ Double with _____

*Travel Insurance: Trip Cancellation Insurance is highly recommended. To cover pre-existing conditions, the insurance must be purchased within 14 days from deposit date. For information contact Cathy Miller at Global Travel at 387-1114 or cathym@globaltrav.com

Visa(s):

Vietnam

U.S. citizens (U.S. passport holders) visiting Vietnam are required to purchase an entry visa.

Laos

U.S. citizens (U.S. passport holders) visiting Laos are required to purchase an entry visa.

Thailand

U.S. citizens (U.S. passport holders) visiting Thailand are **not** required to purchase an entry visa.

Vaccination Requirements

Make sure you are up-to-date on routine vaccines before every trip. These vaccines include measles-mumps-rubella (MMR) vaccine, diphtheria-tetanus-pertussis vaccine, varicella (chickenpox) vaccine, polio vaccine, and your yearly flu shot.

You can contact the following Travel Medicine offices here in Boise for their recommendations. St. Luke's Travel M 706-7200 or St. Alphonsus Travel Medicine at 302-5200.

Emergency Contact Name _____

Phone Number () _____

Program cost: \$4,400 (double occupancy) - *The program cost includes the registration fee which is a \$750 tax deductible contribution to the Wassmuth Center.*

Program cost includes – lodging, meals as indicated in the itinerary, intra-tour air transportation, ground transportation, site entrance fees and English-speaking guide.

Program cost does not include - the international airfare to Vietnam and return from Thailand, travel insurance, vaccinations, passport and Vietnam and Laos entrance visas single-occupancy lodging, and gratuities for the tour guides.

The program is limited to 24 participants.

For more information or to register, contact dan@wassmuthcenter.org; registration payment can be made online through the Wassmuth Center's donation link: <http://wassmuthcenter.org/donate/>

RETURN THE COMPLETED FORM TO THE WASSMUTH CENTER, 777 S. 8TH, BOISE, ID 83702
\$750 REGISTRATION FEE DUE WITH THE COMPLETED FORM (INCLUDED IN THE TOTAL COST OF THE PROGRAM, THE \$750 IS A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE DONATION TO THE WASSMUTH CENTER.)

WASSMUTH CENTER CULTURAL ENCOUNTER
VIETNAM, LAOS & BANGKOK
October 23 – November 5, 2019



INCLUDED IN THE CULTURAL ENCOUNTER

TOUR DIRECTOR	The services of a professional, multilingual Tour Director will be provided throughout Vietnam. Services will be provided by a local host in Laos.
MEALS	13 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches and 10 Dinners
QUALITY HOTELS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ho Chi Minh City – Similar to Renaissance Saigon Hotel • Hoi An – Similar to Hotel Royal Ho An • Hue – Similar to Saigon Morin Hotel • Hanoi – Similar to Pan Pacific Hotel • Ha Long Bay – Similar to La Vela Premium Cruise • Luang Prabang – Similar to Santi Resort & Spa • Bangkok – Similar to Amara Hotel Bangkok <p>Please note: Hotels mentioned above <u>are not being held</u>. Properties listed are indicative only.</p>
GROUND TRANSPORTATION	Motorcoaches are fully air-conditioned everywhere while touring. No use of the motorcoach other than as specified in the itinerary.
AIRPORT TRANSFERS	<p><u>One group</u> airport transfer on arrival and departure.</p> <p>If passengers will be arriving at multiple different times throughout the day, additional transfer costs may apply.</p>
SIGHTSEEING	Sightseeing as outlined in the itinerary with inside visits (including admission charges) and special features shown in UPPER CASE in the tour description. Sightseeing with local guides where applicable.
INTRA-TOUR AIR	Intra-tour flights from Ho Chi Minh City to Danang, Hue to Hanoi, Hanoi to Luang, Prabang and Luang Prabang to Bangkok; international airfare has not been included in the program cost. For folks wanting to travel to and from Southeast Asia together, a suggested travel itinerary will be provided in May 2019 and tickets can be purchased through Global Travel.
COST	<p>\$4,400 per person based on double occupancy / \$1,055 Single supplement</p> <p>Included within the total cost, a \$750 tax-deductible registration fee is required to confirm program participation. LIMITED TO 24 PARTICIPANTS</p>



900 W Jefferson Boise, ID 83702
208-387-1000 or toll free at 1-800-584-8888

ITINERARY

Day 1 – 23 October (Wed) – ARRIVAL IN HO CHI MINH CITY, VIETNAM

Welcome to Vietnam! Upon arrival a group transfer is provided to your hotel. Your rooms are available for midafternoon check-in.

Note: Group needs to arrive together on the same flight, or at approximately the same time, for the group transfer to the hotel. Individual transfer costs can be quoted separately.

Day 2 – 24 October (Thu) – HO CHI MINH CITY

Sightseeing starts with a WALKING TOUR of the city's famous and historic landmarks. The route will take you through the heart of the city along Dong Khoi Street (formerly Rue Catinat) past the Rex Hotel, Ho Chi Minh Square, the Municipal Theatre, Central Post Office, and Notre Dame Cathedral. Next, visit the WAR REMNANTS MUSEUM, followed by BEN THANH MARKET, the largest and oldest in the city. After some free time, join your traveling companions at a special welcome dinner hosted by your Tour Director. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 3 – 25 October (Fri) – HO CHI MINH CITY. CU CHI EXCURSION

This morning, leave the city and drive through vast expanses of rice paddies to visit the CU CHI TUNNELS, an extraordinary network of tunnels more than 120 miles long that was used by the Viet Cong as a hideout and secret village during the war. Return to Ho Chi Minh City and enjoy the remainder of the day at your leisure. The city is booming, and pulses with contagious energy day and night. Sample local food from a street vendor, get a foot massage, or spend more time on Dong Khoi Street. Tonight, be sure to stop at one of several rooftop bars for a drink and great views of the city. Your Tour Director will be on hand to assist with recommendations. (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 4 – 26 October (Sat) – HO CHI MINH CITY– INTRA-TOUR FLIGHT DANANG – HOI AN

After a short flight to Danang, visit CHINA BEACH, landing point for U.S. soldiers during the Vietnam War. Continue on to Hoi An, Vietnam's active trading center and a town that has been largely preserved. Architecture here reflects the influence of Chinese, Japanese, Portuguese, French, and British traders. Hoi An is also where French missionary Alexandre de Rhodes introduced Catholicism and Roman script to Vietnam. (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 5 – 27 October (Sun) – HOI AN

Today starts with a CRUISE on the Thu Bon River. Along the way, meet with a local fisherman who will teach you about their fishing methods and give you a FISHING LESSON, where you will learn how to throw and retrieve a traditional round fishing net called a ro. Afterward, you will have a chance to throw the net yourself and see what you catch! Later, continue with a WALKING TOUR of Hoi An, visiting an old MERCHANT HOUSE, the HOI AN MUSEUM, a CHINESE ASSEMBLY HALL, and the Japanese Covered Bridge. Then, free time to enjoy this quaint town further. (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 6 – 28 October (Mon) – HOI AN – DANANG – HUE

Stop in Danang to visit the CHAM MUSEUM, then continue north over spectacular Hai Van Pass (weather permitting), considered to be one of the most scenic in all of Vietnam, before arriving in Hue. One of Vietnam's former capitals,

Hue is a beautiful, welcoming city that remains a cultural and religious center. Upon arrival, visit the IMPERIAL CITADEL and the THIEN MU PAGODA, the unofficial symbol of the city. (Breakfast, Lunch)

Day 7 – 29 October (Tue) – HUE– INTRA-TOUR FLIGHT TO HANOI

This morning's sightseeing provides a unique window into Vietnam and its complex past. Visit the TOMBS of the NGUYEN EMPERORS: the KHAI DINH MAUSOLEUM and the ROYAL TOMB of TU DUC. Later, FLY to Hanoi, the nation's capital and one of Southeast Asia's most engaging cities. Dinner is included tonight. (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 8 – 30 October (Wed) – HANOI

Today, take time to look at the life of Ho Chi Minh, the father of modern Vietnam. First, visit the MAUSOLEUM and the humble cottage from which "Uncle Ho" ruled Vietnam until his death in 1969. Next on the agenda are the ONE PILLAR PAGODA and HO CHI MINH MUSEUM. You will also visit the ancient TEMPLE OF LITERATURE, more than 900 years old and Hanoi's first university, followed by the infamous HANOI HILTON. After lunch in a local restaurant, take a "CYCLO" ride around the city, followed by a WALKING TOUR through the fascinating Old Quarter, 36 ancient streets where peddlers trade as they have for centuries. An early dinner this evening is followed by a fascinating performance of Hanoi's renowned WATER PUPPETS, a traditional art form dating back to the 11th century. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 9 – 31 October (Thu) – HANOI – HA LONG BAY

Travel from Hanoi through the fertile countryside to Hon Gai, gateway to Ha Long Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Located in the Gulf of Tonkin, the bay is dotted with more than 3,000 limestone islands carved into fanciful shapes by the action of the water. Tunnels, caves, and weirdly shaped outcroppings with imaginative names can be found on many of the small islets that are sprinkled across the bay. Board an OVERNIGHT CRUISE that takes you to explore the caves and admire the beauty and scale before stopping at one of the many secluded bays. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

Day 10 – 01 November (Fri) – DISEMBARKATION IN HA LONG BAY – TRANSFER TO HANOI - LUANG PRABANG, LAOS

Disembark and transfer to Hanoi for your departure flight to Luang Prabang today. Upon arrival in Luang Prabang a transfer is provided to your hotel. Dinner is included tonight. (Breakfast, Dinner) *Note - Disembarkation is approximately 10:30am*

Day 11 – 02 November (Sat) LUANG PRABANG

Your day begins early when you witness the Tak Bat (almsgiving ceremony). Each morning before dawn monks don their distinctive saffron-colored robes and move silently through the streets to collect alms. Afterward, visit the MORNING MARKET and LUANG PRABANG'S NATIONAL MUSEUM, formerly the Royal Palace of the Laotian Royal Family. Visit WAT MANO, a monk school to interact with the monks and learn about their way of life. Enter the MY LIBRARY to meet with young students from impoverished surrounding areas who hope to further their education and career goals. Later, visit the WAT XIENG THONG. In the afternoon, continue your journey today with a visit to the famous PAK OU CAVES. Enjoy a traditional Lao style lunch before boarding your private Mekong Riverboat to head downstream back to Luang Prabang.

Time permitting, stop at BAN THIN HONG weaving and fishing village to learn about rural Lao life and handicrafts. You will be welcomed to the village with a traditional Laotian BACI CEREMONY. Balance of the day will be spent on your relaxing cruise back to Luang Prabang with Lao refreshments and canapes served with your choice of cold soft drinks. Enjoy a farewell dinner tonight. (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner) *Note: Visit to Ban Thin Hong will be based on availability and time permitting.*

Day 12 – 03 November (Sun) LUANG PRABANG – INTRA TOUR AIR TO BANGKOK, THAILAND

Your Laos tour ends this morning with a visit to KUANG SI WATERFALLS. Then visit the BEAR RESCUE CENTRE where they conserve black bears in the northern part of Laos. A transfer is provided to the airport for your INTRA-TOUR FLIGHT to Bangkok. Upon arrival in Bangkok a group transfer is provided to your hotel for the next two nights. (Breakfast)

Day 13 – 04 November (Mon) – BANGKOK

Bangkok is an exhilarating blend of historic and religious monuments, chic modernity, exciting shopping and friendly culture. Your day is at leisure to explore the city on your own, perhaps enjoying the great-value shopping, lively market, and delicious Thai cuisine. Join your friends tonight for a farewell dinner. (Breakfast, Dinner)

Day 14 - 05 November (Tue) – DEPARTURE FROM BANGKOK

A group transfer is provided to the airport for your departure flight today. (Breakfast) *Note: Check out time is 12:00 PM and late checkout is not guaranteed.*