

A REAL FAMILY JOURNEY

15 Days Across Vietnam, Laos & Cambodia

Hanoi • Sapa • Ninh Binh • Halong Bay • Luang Prabang • Siem Reap • Saigon

Based on Maria's family trip, May 2025

Length	Route	Pace	Core touring
15 DAYS	3 COUNTRIES	ACTIVE	PRIVATE

This itinerary is a real route we arranged for a family of four. It combines northern Vietnam, Luang Prabang, Angkor and southern Vietnam in one 15-day trip. It is best suited to travelers who want variety and do not mind an active pace with two overnight trains and several regional flights.

Why download this itinerary? Use it to understand the route, pace and main experiences. Exact hotel choices, train and flight schedules, guide arrangements and day-by-day timing are intentionally left flexible because these are checked and tailored for each trip.

Trip at a Glance

A three-country route designed to balance major sights with local experiences. Most sightseeing is private, while the Halong Bay cruise and Living Land Farm experience are shared activities.

Days	Region	Route	What it adds to the trip
Days 1–5	Northern Vietnam	Hanoi • Sapa • Fansipan • Ninh Binh	City culture, mountain villages, rice terraces and limestone scenery
Days 6–7	Halong Bay to Laos	Halong Bay • Hanoi • Luang Prabang	Overnight cruise, cave visit and regional flight
Days 8–10	Luang Prabang	Temples • Pak Ou Caves • Kuang Si • Living Land Farm	Buddhist heritage, Mekong scenery and hands-on local life
Days 11–13	Cambodia	Siem Reap • Angkor • Tonle Sap	Khmer temples and lakeside communities
Days 14–15	Southern Vietnam	Mekong Delta • Cu Chi Tunnels • Saigon	River life and modern-history context

How we support a route like this: one-to-one trip planning, destination-based local guides, private vehicles for core touring, coordinated airport and station transfers, and support when transport schedules affect the route.

Detailed Day-by-Day 15-Day Journey

The descriptions below show the structure and key experiences of the real trip without turning it into a fixed self-planning schedule. Exact timings and operational details are tailored after travel dates are confirmed.

DAY 1	Hanoi Arrival Arrive in Hanoi and settle in after the international journey. The day is intentionally light so the family can rest before touring begins. Indochina Tour support: Private airport welcome and hotel transfer.
DAY 2	Hanoi City Tour • Overnight Train to Lao Cai Explore Tran Quoc Pagoda, Hoan Kiem Lake, Hanoi Old Quarter, One Pillar Pagoda and the Temple of Literature. See a traditional water puppet show before boarding the overnight train north. Indochina Tour support: Private guide and vehicle for sightseeing, plus station transfer and overnight train arrangements.
DAY 3	Sapa Village Walk Travel from Lao Cai to Sapa, then walk through the Muong Hoa Valley to Lao Chai, Ta Van and Giang Ta Chai, meeting Black Hmong and Red Dao communities along the way. Indochina Tour support: Local guide, road transfers and a route planned around the family's walking pace.
DAY 4	Fansipan • Overnight Train to Hanoi Ride the Fansipan cable car and continue toward the summit area before returning to Sapa and Lao Cai for the overnight train back to Hanoi. Indochina Tour support: Private transfers and coordinated rail arrangements.
DAY 5	Ninh Binh: Tam Coc • Bich Dong • Hoa Lu Head south to Ninh Binh for limestone scenery, a river journey at Tam Coc, Bich Dong and the historic former capital of Hoa Lu. Return to Hanoi afterward. Indochina Tour support: Private guide and vehicle for the day, with the route coordinated around the overnight-train arrival.

DAY 6	Hanoi • Halong Bay Overnight Cruise Travel to Halong Bay and board an overnight cruise. The day includes cruising through the bay, kayaking around Cap La Island and an onboard cooking activity. Indochina Tour support: Cruise booking and transfer coordination. The cruise itself is a shared experience.
DAY 7	Halong Bay • Hanoi • Luang Prabang Continue the cruise with a morning cave visit, return to Hanoi and connect with the flight to Luang Prabang. Indochina Tour support: Cruise-to-airport timing and regional flight coordination are planned as one travel day.
DAY 8	Luang Prabang Temples & Local Culture Begin with the morning alms tradition, then explore the Royal Palace Museum, Wat Sene, Wat Xieng Thong, Wat Visoun, Wat Aham, the Arts and Ethnology Centre, weaving villages and Wat Mai. Finish around Mount Phousi. Indochina Tour support: Private local guide and vehicle help connect the city's cultural sites at a comfortable pace.
DAY 9	Pak Ou Caves • Kuang Si Waterfall Cruise upstream on the Mekong River with a stop at Ban Xanghai, continue to the Pak Ou Caves, then visit the Bear Rescue Sanctuary and Kuang Si Waterfall. Indochina Tour support: Boat, guide and road transfers are coordinated into one full-day excursion.
DAY 10	Living Land Farm Experience Spend the morning at Living Land Farm outside Luang Prabang. Learn about rice growing and traditional rural skills including bamboo weaving, gardening and blacksmithing. Indochina Tour support: A locally run, join-in experience selected to add hands-on local life to the itinerary.

DAY 11	Luang Prabang • Siem Reap Fly from Luang Prabang to Siem Reap. On arrival, meet the local team and transfer to the hotel. Indochina Tour support: Regional flight planning, airport transfers and destination handover between local teams.
DAY 12	Angkor Temples Full Day Explore Angkor Thom, Bayon, Baphuon, Phimeanakas, the Terrace of the Leper King, Terrace of the Elephants, Ta Prohm and Angkor Wat. Continue to Pre Rup before returning to Siem Reap. Indochina Tour support: Private guide and vehicle for a full Angkor day, with the order of visits managed locally.
DAY 13	Tonle Sap Lake • Fly to Saigon Take a boat excursion from Chong Kneas on Tonle Sap Lake to see floating houses, fishing activity and the lake environment. Later, fly to Saigon. Indochina Tour support: Private local touring, airport transfer and regional flight coordination.
DAY 14	Mekong Delta Discovery Travel to My Tho, visit Vinh Trang Pagoda and continue by boat through the Mekong Delta. See stilt houses, fruit plantations and fishing villages, with stops around Tortoise Island and An Khanh. Indochina Tour support: Private guide and vehicle from Saigon, with local boat arrangements in the delta.
DAY 15	Cu Chi Tunnels • Farewell from Saigon Keep the morning free, then visit the Cu Chi Tunnels to learn about the underground system and its Vietnam War history before the trip comes to an end. Indochina Tour support: Private guide and vehicle for the visit, followed by departure support according to the family's flight schedule.

Could This Route Work for You?

This journey worked for Maria's family because they wanted to experience three countries within a fixed vacation and were comfortable with an active route. It combines famous sights with mountain villages, river landscapes and local activities rather than spending the whole trip in major cities.

This route may suit you if you...

- have around two weeks and want to combine Vietnam, Laos and Cambodia
- enjoy cultural sightseeing but also want nature and local-life experiences
- are comfortable with overnight trains, regional flights and several full touring days
- prefer private guides and vehicles for the core sightseeing days

What would we tailor for your trip?

The route can stay similar while the details change around you. Your consultant can adjust the pace, hotel level, room setup, walking intensity and time in each destination. Flight schedules and transport connections are checked again for your actual travel dates before the trip is finalized.

A real journey, not a fixed package

This downloadable itinerary is based on a trip actually arranged by Indochina Tour. It is intended as a planning reference. Your final journey will be rebuilt around your dates, interests and preferred pace, with the practical details handled by our local team.

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