

AUTHOR TRAVEL AGENCY

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About travel

Go to Star author travel agency invites you to Cambodia and Vietnam.

"If everything went wrong in my life and I was alone and drinking too much, then I would probably go to Vietnam," said

chef, TV presenter, and avid traveler Anthony Bourdain. This Asian country beckons those who want to escape routine and see the world from a different perspective. To travel back centuries, walking through the ancient port city of Hoi An, to see how fishermen live in a floating village, to freeze with delight on the famous Golden Bridge, in the hands of a fabulous giant, to taste the best pho bo and ripe tropical fruits, to hear the buzz of the multifaceted city bazaar. With all its colorfulness, Vietnam is one of the safest countries in Southeast Asia, and visa and vaccination certificates are not required for travelers from Russia.

The unique journey Go to Star includes another Asian country that is worth visiting at least once in a lifetime, Cambodia. When Indians were picking acorns in California's metropolises, the ancient kingdom of Cambodia was home to the famous Angkor, the capital of the powerful, developed Khmer Empire. To ancient Hindu and Buddhist temples decorated with fanciful bas-reliefs, people go to see with their own eyes the mystical structure, according to legend, built by the will of the

god Indra, and to test themselves by climbing to the top of the temple on one of the steepest staircases in the world. We organize the trip so that you can see Asia's most mystical place without the crowds of tourists.





Day 1

Arrival in Ho Chi Minh City. Meet your guide and transfer to the hotel. Dinner in the restaurant. Accommodation at the hotel.



Day 2

Excursion to My Tho town. Boat ride on a sampan, downstream around a fishing floating village on the Tien River. On the way, we will see four islands called Long — Lan — Quy — Phung. Masterclass at local workshop where we will learn how to make cotton rice, coconut candy, rice wine. Lunch at a national house. Excursion to a local garden with a cup of warm tea with honey and tropical fruits. Return to Ho Chi Minh City. Dinner in a restaurant.



Day 3

City tour. Visit to the Presidential Palace, War Relics Museum, Notre Dame de Paris Cathedral, Central Post Office and Ben Thanh Market. Lunch in a restaurant. Departure to Siem Reap (Cambodia). Evening Apsara dance show.



Day 4

Sightseeing tour of Angkor Thom: Bayon, Baluon, Elephant Terraces and the Leper King. You will see ancient Hindu and Buddhist religious buildings from the heyday of the Khmer Empire in the 9th to 12th centuries.



Day 5

Angkor Wat sightseeing tour. Visit to a Vietnamese cultural village.



Day 6

Departure to Da Nang (Vietnam). Meeting with the guide. Free time at the hotel. Dinner in the hotel restaurant



Day 7

Excursion to the ancient port city of Hoi An, recognized by UNESCO as a World Cultural Heritage Site. Walk along the ancient streets of Hoi An with a visit to the Japanese Bridge, Phuc Kien Chinese temple, ancient house, city bazaar. Boat trip on the Thu Bon River.



День 8

Excursion to Bana Hills amusement park and walk across the famous Golden Bridge, one of the most popular Instagram locations.



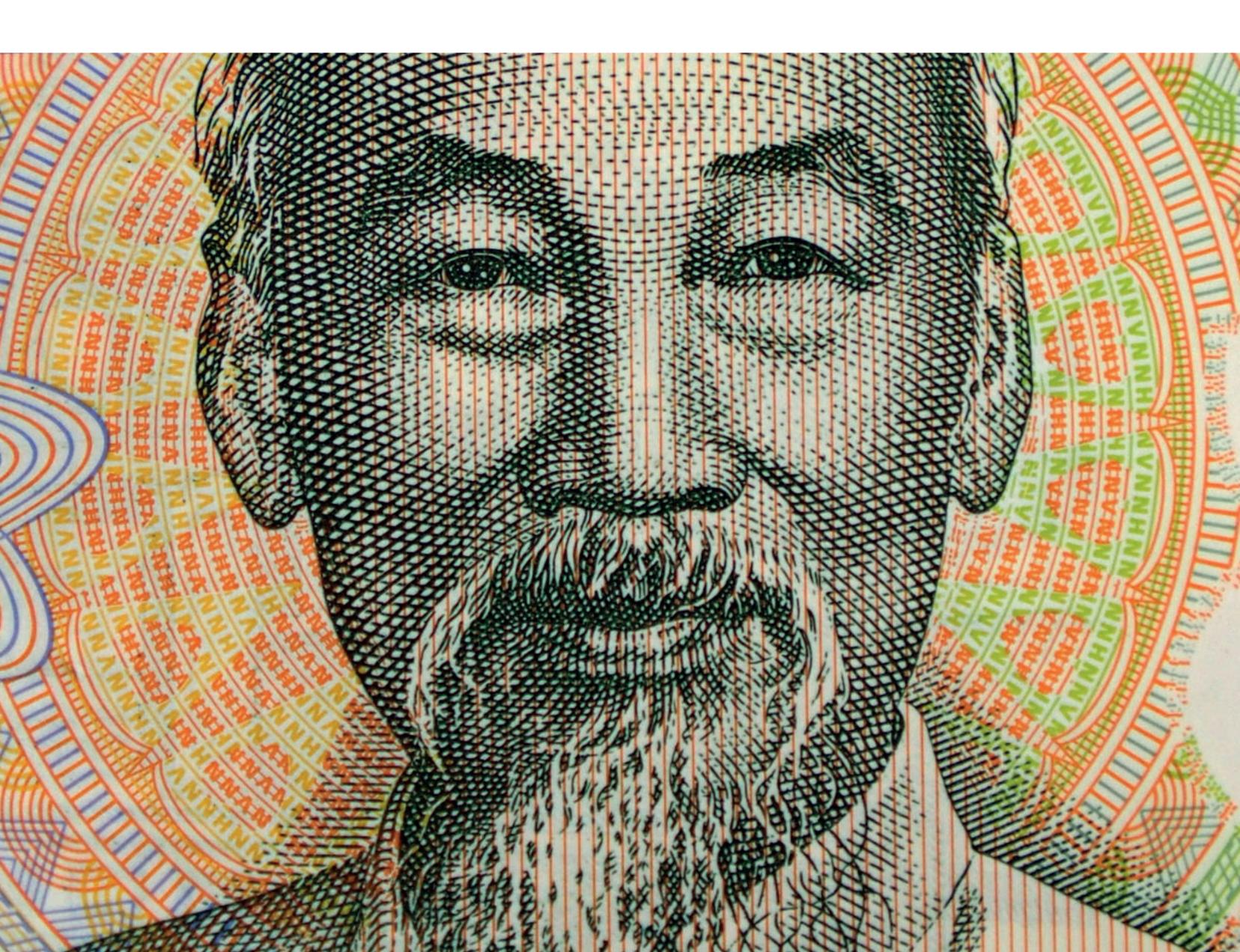
Day 9

Free day. Rest at the hotel. Flight home.

Reunification Palace

The Reunification Palace, or Independence Palace, is perhaps the main attraction of Ho Chi Minh City. The thing is its history: here, at every step there are traces of French and American officials who influenced the life of Vietnam for many years.

In 1868, the French decided to build a residence for the Governor-General of Indochina, choosing for it the very center of the city, which was then called Saigon. The French governor-general, the Japanese, and the oppressive pro-American Prime Minister Ngo Dinh Diem have all been here. The palace was captured, bombed and conquered, and on 30 April 1975, a North Vietnamese Army tank rammed through the main gate of the palace, and the place became a symbol of the end of the protracted Vietnam War.





My Tho

In the south of Vietnam, in the delta of the Mekong River, is the small town of My Tho, translated from Vietnamese as "beautiful daughter". Once there was a French garrison here; later, it became the headquarters for the Americans and Australians fighting in Vietnam. Now only the architecture — for example, the whitewashed, openwork center of the Catholic diocese — points to a European trace. People come here to experience life in a modern Vietnamese provincial town: eat noodle soup with pork and prawns, admire the views of the islands from the Rach Mieu Bridge, unravel the legends of the porcelain mosaics of Vinh Chanh Pagoda and drink tea in the picturesque

rose garden.



Angkor

Cambodia is primarily associated with Angkor Wat, but this is only part of the temple complexes of Angkor, the ancient capital of the Khmer Empire. There is another "city within a city", the 3-square kilometer Angkor Thom, where ancient Hindu and Buddhist religious buildings from the height of the empire in the IX-XII centuries have been preserved. Including the Elephant Terrace and the mysterious Terrace of the Leper King. But the most famous place of Angkor Thom is considered to be Bapuon, one of the oldest temples of Angkor in Cambodia, built in the middle of the XI century. The temple-mountain symbolizes the mythical Mount Meru, and on the stone bas-reliefs you can examine episodes from the epics of the Mahabharata and Ramayana.





Hoi An

Just downstream on the Thu Bon River, in the heart of Quang Nam Province, about 30 kilometers south of Da Nang, lies the ancient city of Hoi An, Asia's main port in the 17th and 18th centuries. Traders from China, Japan and Portugal left their mark on the city's architecture, and most of the buildings have maintained their original medieval appearance. In 1999, UNESCO inscribed the ancient port city as a World Cultural Heritage Site.

After viewing the quirky decor of the Tran Family Chapel and Phuc Kien Chinese Temple, the Japanese Covered Bridge, which incorporates Japanese, Chinese and Vietnamese traditional, and the fine wood carvings at Quang Thang's house, head out for an evening river cruise. Boating past the lights of the streets, you can fully immerse yourself in the romantic atmosphere of the ancient city.



Golden Bridge

A pair of giant stone hands emerge from the green hills above the gardens of Tien Tai and lift a glittering bridge into the sky. The Golden Bridge, or Cau Vang, is not called Vietnam's most Instagrammable location for nothing. And it was built only a few years ago: \$2 billion was spent on the project to attract tourists to the Bana Hills area.

From 1,400 meters above sea level, the park offers

panoramic views of the verdant Chong Son Mountains, with chrysanthemums blooming all around. After a day at Bana Hills Park, which boasts the highest cable car in the world, it's a great place to welcome.





Vietnamese cuisine

Vietnamese cuisine is distinctive, although it incorporates Chinese, Indian and French traditions. Restrained spiciness and sweet notes, garlic and onion seasonings, organic vegetables and herbs, famous rice noodles — for this cocktail of flavors Vietnamese dishes are loved all over the world. It is not without reason that chef Gordon Ramsay named Vietnam one of the three best culinary destinations in the world.

Perhaps the most famous dish of Vietnamese cuisine is nutritious pho soup, with a fragrant broth of poultry, meat or seafood, which is simmered on the fire for 8 hours, steamed rice pancake noodles and thinly sliced vegetables and soybean sprouts. It started to be cooked here not so long ago — not earlier than in the middle of the XIX century, and there is a version that the French taught Vietnamese cooks to cook beef broth according to all the rules.



Journey cost

7255 EUR 9990 EUR

per person in a double room

per person in a single room

The price includes:

- domestic flights;
- accommodation throughout the route in 5* hotels (double room);
- transportation according to the program;
- meals (breakfasts, lunches and dinners);
- sightseeing program and activities;
- professional certified guide.

Additional expenses:

- international flight;
- meals outside the program, alcohol;

— any change of program involving expenses;

— tips for the guide team.



+7 495 66-45-864

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