Hoi An to Angkor Wat Cycle Discovery

Trip Code: HSMB

Version:

CYCLE	GUIDED GROUP	MODERATE
		5



HIGHLIGHTS

- Siem Reap and the UNESCO-listed temples at Angkor Wat
- Meet the Bahnar and Jarai ethnic minorities of the Vietnamese highlands
- Free day and market visit at Banlung, a remote Khmer provincial town
- Take a boat trip on the River Mekong in search of rare Irrawaddy dolphins

AT A GLANCE

- 11 days biking
- 790 kilometres
- 90% surfaced road - 100% vehicle supported
- Max altitude - 1200 metres
- Join at Hoi An, Siem Reap

ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

VIEW DATES, PRICES & BOOK YOUR HOLIDAY HERE

Introduction

On this mountain biking holiday from Vietnam into Cambodia, you'll feel like a time traveller journeying through history, from the 4th Century ruins at My Son and the 9th Century temples at Angkor, all the way through to the present day. As well as the several UNESCO World Heritage sites on our route, expect to be amazed by the unforgettable scenery, from Vietnam's coastline on the South China Sea, to rice paddies and rustic villages, coffee plantations and golden sunsets over the Mekong River.

We start cycling in Hoi An, once the largest harbour in South-East Asia and nowadays famous for its tailoring and colourful lantern-lit bridges. Our introductory ride takes us out to the Champa site at My Son and then, on the following day, we quickly move forward to the 20th Century as we cycle to Mai Lai, where there is a Vietnam War memorial. Then, climbing up into the highlands, we find ourselves in the homeland of the Bahnar and Jarai ethnic minorities who still practice animism and a subsistence lifestyle. Crossing the border into Cambodia and the lands of the former Khmer Empire, we encounter more ethnic tribes in a remote region where foreigners on bicycles are still very much a novelty. A day off the bikes at Banlung gives us the chance to do some exploring, including the chance to take a dip in a mysterious crater lake. Then, it's on to the mighty Mekong River, where we will be hoping to catch a glimpse of endangered Irrawaddy dolphins. Continuing our ride through the Cambodian countryside, we see more ancient sites, such as the 1000 year old bridge at Kampong Kdei. But, these are just tasters ahead of one of the major highlights of the holiday; our full-day visit on our bikes to the Angkor Wat temple complex at Siem Reap. This is a brilliant cycle journey through one of the most culturally fascinating parts of South-East Asia.

Is this holiday for you?

ADVENTURE CYCLING. This cultural journey by mountain bike takes us from the coast of Vietnam, through the central highlands to the heart of Cambodia. We cycle approximately 790 kilometres in 11 cycling days, with lots of time spent sightseeing and exploring the countryside. The cycling is non-technical on a mixture of well-surfaced roads and good quality dirt tracks. The terrain varies from flat days to hilly and undulating days. Ride at your own pace after consulting the guides about the route ahead, stop to take photographs and to soak up the magnificent sites we visit. Starting out with a couple of shorter rides, the itinerary does also have several days with approximately 100 kilometre rides. To get the most out of this road cycling tour you should be a regular weekend rider with a good level of physical fitness. However, the bus is always close at hand for those who need to take a break. BIKE HIRE AVAILABLE LOCALLY

Itinerary

Version:

Holiday Information

What's Included

- An experienced local English-speaking cycling bike guide
- All land transport as described
- One or more support vehicles and drivers
- All accommodation as described
- Meals as per the Meal Plan
- Temple and other site fees

What's not Included

- Travel insurance
- Visas (if applicable)
- Airport transfers on arrival and departure
- Tips for the local crew and drivers
- Temple fees at Angkor
- Some meals as per the Meal Plan
- Miscellaneous expenses - drinks and souvenirs etc
- Bike Carriage on the flights - please check with your carrier for charges
- Bike Hire

Joining Arrangements & Transfers

The group will meet at the hotel in Hoi An. Airport transfers on arrival and departure are not provided, because there are reliable taxi services both in Hoi An and Siem Reap which provide the most cost-effective way of getting from the airport to the group hotel and vice versa.

Clients booking a Land Only Package MUST provide the KE office with full details of their flights.

Hotel contact details and an emergency number will be provided with your booking confirmation.

Meal Plan

All meals are included with the exception of 1 lunch and 1 dinner. Please refer to the itinerary in the trip dossier for details of which days meals are not included. Food is not expensive in Vietnam or Cambodia. You can expect to pay the equivalent of £5 for lunch and £10 for dinner.

Special Diets

Whilst we can cater for vegetarians, albeit sometimes with a more limited choice, we cannot always provide for special diets. Due to the nature of some of the trips that we operate and the countries in which we operate them, it can be very hard (and sometimes impossible) to cater for a wide range of dietary choices and you may have to supplement your meals with food/snacks from home. If you have specific dietary requirements please do speak to our sales team and they will be able to advise you whether or not we will be able to offer your specific choice. Please note that we are unable to provide separate menus and cannot accept liability for any problems arising from special dietary requirements or intolerances.

Food & Water

It is not recommended to drink untreated water from the taps. You should take purification tablets or a filter bottle (such as a Water-To-Go bottle) to treat your water. We do not encourage the purchasing of single use plastic bottles.

Start practising your chopstick technique now, as there will be places on this trip where knives and forks are hard to find! Vietnamese cuisine is fresh and flavoursome. Typically a selection of many dishes of varying flavours are served together, and everyone takes a little of each. A typical meal will include 'pho' (noodle soup), spring rolls, spiced beef and pork dishes, fish in chilli, tomato served with tofu, stir-fried vegetables and rice, with fresh fruit for dessert. Wherever we travel in Cambodia, we will find a wide variety of cuisine is available including French, Italian, Indian, Chinese, Thai, and Vietnamese. In smaller towns and villages, local food such as 'charcoal chicken', 'sticky rice' and 'fried fish' will commonly be offered. Cambodian food tends not to be as hot or spicy as Thai. Pho is just as popular in Cambodia as it is in Vietnam. As per the custom for most of the region, food is rarely served in courses and is often served all at once for all to share. Both in Vietnam and in Cambodia, the cuisine is wholesome and filling for our days in the saddle!

Accommodation

During this trip the group will spend 13 nights in various hotels and resorts of a good standard, some of which have swimming pools. All accommodation is allocated on a twin-sharing basis and if you are travelling by yourself you will be paired up with another single client of the same sex. Single room occupancy can be arranged for all nights on payment of the single supplement charge.

Group Leader & Support Staff

The trip will be led by an experienced local English-speaking cycling guide and there will be a second cycling guide with groups of 9 or more clients. There will also be one or more support vehicles and drivers.

Altitude

This holiday does not involve any significant ascent to altitude and we would not expect any altitude issues with this trip.

Spending Money

We suggest that $300 should be sufficient to cover your personal and incidental expenses including the 2 non-included meals (1 lunch and 1 dinner) as well as the cost of your Cambodian Visa ($30) if you choose to pay for this at the border when you cross from Vietnam into Cambodia. This amount will also allow you to pay reasonable tips to your local guide(s) and driver(s) (allow a total of approximately $100 - $120). You should have enough left over to cover refreshments, optional tours and other miscellaneous expenses including temple fees. It is not necessary to obtain the local currencies (Vietnamese dong and Cambodian riel) prior to travelling. Money can be changed most easily on arrival at Danang Airport and there are ATM's in the largest of the towns we visit, including Hoi An, Banlung and Siem Reap. We recommend that you carry your travel money in the form of US dollars cash as this is most easily exchanged. If you are intending to buy expensive souvenirs or considerable quantities of soft drinks or beer, you should budget accordingly.

Guidance on Tipping

Tips are the accepted way of saying 'thank you' to your local guide and other local staff. They do not form part of their wages. KE always pays local crews the best rates of pay, no matter what country they are in and any tips they receive are seen as a personal thank you from group members. We advise our local teams that tips are a bonus and entirely dependent on the service that they provide. We suggest that you allow a total of $100 - $120 for tipping your local staff.

Your Bike

If you are taking your own bike, we suggest that a 'hardtail' mountain bike with front suspension is appropriate for this holiday. It should have a good range of gears and we recommend you fit fast-rolling all-rounder or semi-slick tyres which work well on the surfaced roads and non-technical trails typically found on our **Adventure Cycling** holidays.

Since you are depending on your bike to transport you throughout your holiday, it's important to ensure it is in good working order. If you are not mechanically minded, get your local bicycle dealer to service it for you.

Please contact us if you are unsure about the suitability of your bike.

Bike Hire

Bike hire is available locally and, with baggage charges on long-haul flights becoming increasingly prohibitive, it can make a lot of sense to hire a bike. Our local agent can provide Trek 4500 bikes in a range of sizes. They are good quality and well maintained bikes with Shimano components, triple chainsets (27 gears), 100mm Suntour front suspension and Shimano hydraulic disc brakes. Spare parts (tubes, tyre, chains etc.) are included in the price of the bike rental and will be available in the support vehicle along with a tool kit and track pump. The guide will also carry some spares and tools for fixing punctures etc. The bikes are equipped with flat pedals. If you prefer to use spd or clip-in pedals, you will need to bring these with you, along with your regular cycling shoes and cleats. Another item which you might choose to take with you on the holiday is your saddle. The hire bikes have standard saddles and anyone requiring more comfort, or a women-specific saddle, should consider taking their own. You should take your own EN1078 compliant cycling helmet, as the locally available helmets do not necessarily meet this standard - which we require. You can hire a bike for the duration of the holiday for $280 (price subject to change). Payment must be made before travel directly with the local agent via the following payment link www.spiceroads.com/pay. You must first notify KE of your preferred bike option along with your height and we will make the reservation on your behalf. Once the reservation is confirmed, we will email to you a unique reference code which you need to use when making your payment. Your payment for bike hire does not cover you if you lose the bike or damage it beyond 'fair wear and tear'. We must stress that your hire contract will be with the local hire company and that KE cannot be held responsible for any issues arising from bike hire.

E-bikes. If you would like to ride an e-bike - limited availability - this can be arranged at a hire cost of US$880.

Travelling With Your Bike

Airlines require that you pack your bike properly for travel and for this holiday we recommend that you use a purpose-made soft bike bag. These can be relatively inexpensive. They are also light in weight, easy to handle and, most importantly, can be packed into a small space to allow easy transportation in the support vehicle. You will need to partially dismantle your bike to pack it in your bag.

PLEASE DO NOT USE a purpose-made rigid bike box for this holiday. We do not have the space in the support vehicle to transport these bulky items.

Please contact us if you have any questions regarding travelling with your bike.

Vehicle Support

Throughout this trip we have the back up of one or more support vehicles. Each morning our main baggage will be loaded onto the support vehicle which will follow the group on the day's ride. The local biking leader and the support vehicle driver will watch over the group and will carry mobile phones, allowing you to contact them in the case of a breakdown or other incident. We want everyone to enjoy their cycling experience on this trip and we recognise the importance of group members being allowed to cycle at their own pace. At times there can be a fair distance between the front and rear cyclists in the group, with the support vehicle and cycling leader out of sight. The support vehicle will pick up any group members who wish to take a break from cycling at any time.

Baggage Allowance

Apart from your bike in its bag (if you are taking your own bike), you should travel with one main item of luggage, such as a KE Trek Bag or similar holdall, as well as a small day pack or mountain bike-specific hydration pack. The day pack can be used to carry valuable items such as cameras and GPS devices whilst travelling and will also carry your day-ride essentials during the rides.

Your baggage allowance on the flights will depend on your airline. When choosing your flights, whether booking them directly or through KE, you will need to consider the cost of carrying your bike. These costs are your responsibility.

Group Size & Holiday Status

For each holiday there is a minimum number of participants required to enable it to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to run'. You can check the trip status for each departure in the ‘Dates and Prices’ table. Other than in exceptional circumstances, we will not cancel a trip once it has achieved this guaranteed to run status so you are free to proceed with your international flight booking and other travel arrangements.

General Information

Passport & Visas

The information that we provide is for UK passport holders.

A passport with 6 months remaining validity at the end of your stay is generally required**,** and you should have at least 2 blank pages for each country that you visit.

For other nationalities, please refer to your own Government website for the latest information.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates *(see Health & Vaccinations below),* **and visas for your holiday.** Please ensure that you check the FCDO for the latest advice for **each country visited** before travel.

Visa Vietnam - HSMB

British Citizen passport holders do not normally need a visa for durations of stay up to and including 45 days for tourism and transit.

The information below is only for those who do need a Visa for Vietnam.

This includes USA, Ireland and some EU country passport holders.

I**MPORTANT:** For those who do need a Visa for Vietnam - you **MUST** use the **Visa on Arrival (VOA)** procedure. This is because the Vietnam E-Visa will not allow you to leave Vietnam at the Cua Khau Le Thanh border with Cambodia.

Through our agent in Vietnam we can obtain for you the Visa on Arrival Letter that you will need to present on arrival at Hoi An Airport, along with the $25 fee and 2 passport photographs.

We do keep our information up to date but be advised that visa requirements are subject to change. It is recommended that you contact the relevant commission in case of recent alterations.

Visa Cambodia - HSMB

CROSSING INTO CAMBODIA AT A LAND BORDER

UK and USA passport holders do require a visa. The visa fee is $30 and you will pick up your visa on arrival at the land border when crossing into Cambodia from Vietnam. Payment must be made in cash (good condition USD), your passport must have 6 months remaining validity and you need 2 passport photographs.

PLEASE NOTE: Neither the Cambodia e-Arrival registration or e-Visa procedure are appropriate or necessary when crossing into Cambodia at the Cua Khau Le Thanh border post.

We do keep our information up to date but be advised that visa requirements are subject to change. It is recommended that you contact the relevant commission in case of recent alterations.

Health & Vaccinations

Vaccinations:

You should be up to date with the routine vaccinations recommended in the UK for overseas travel.

You must also contact your doctor or travel clinic to check if there are specific vaccinations or other preventive measures that you need for the area you are visiting, in good time before you are due to depart.

Please ensure you are looking at the recommendations for all countries visited on your holiday plus recommendations for any borders you cross.

On holidays to more remote areas you should also have a dental check-up.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you have the correct travel documents including vaccinations and health certificates.

Please check the FCDO and Travel Health Pro. For all of your intended destinations for up-to-date advice.

Severe Allergies:

If you have a severe allergy please inform the KE office before you travel. We will do all we can to help, but we cannot guarantee an allergy free environment on KE trips.

Preparing for your Holiday

The better conditioned you are the more you will enjoy your trip. We suggest that you adopt a sensible weekly exercise regime and fit in a number of long cycle rides in hilly country to ensure you are physically capable of taking part in this trip - this will also provide you with an opportunity to make sure all your riding kit is tried and tested before you travel. Cycling is obviously the best activity to prepare for this trip, however, running, hillwalking and swimming are also good for developing aerobic fitness and stamina.

Climate

The parts of Vietnam and Cambodia that we will be visiting have a tropical climate, which tends to be warm and humid. Both countries are affected by the influence of the monsoon, but their rainy periods are restricted to June, July and August, during which months we don't run this holiday. During those periods of the year when we run this trip, you can expect daytime temperatures typically to be in the range of 25 - 30 degrees Celsius, falling to around 20 degrees on some nights. The hottest months tend to be April and May. From September to January, the coastal area around Hoi An can be affected by typhoons in the South China Sea bringing short-lived tropical storms.

Travel Aware

As a reputable tour operator, KE supports the British Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office's **'Travel Aware'** campaign to enable British citizens to prepare for their journeys overseas. The 'Travel Aware' website provides a single, authoritative source of advice for all kinds of travellers and we recommend that before travel, all KE clients visit the official UK Government website at travelaware.campaign.gov.uk and read the FCDO Travel Advice for their chosen destination. All other nationalities should check their government websites for relevant information.

KE treat the safety and security of all clients as the most important aspect of any trip we organise. We would not run any trip that we did not consider reasonably safe. Should the FCDO advise against travel for any reason, we will contact everyone booked to travel to discuss the situation. We receive regular updates directly from the FCDO and are in constant touch with our contacts on the ground. If you have any questions about government travel advice, please call our office.

Single Use Plastic

KE do not encourage the use of single use plastic items. We are ensuring that our agents all over the world are working together to reduce the problem and educate those around them. We are leading by example in our KE office by reducing our plastic use.

Books

- Vietnam. Lonely Planet
- Vietnam. Rough Guide
- Cambodia. Lonely Planet
- Vietnam Pocket Guide. Insight Guides
- Vietnam Handbook. Footprint Handbooks
- Vietnamese Phrasebook. Rough Guides
- Hill Tribes Phrasebook. Lonely Planet
- Vietnam: A History. Stanley Karnow Angkor. Odyssey Books
- Travels in Siam, Cambodia & Laos (Henry Mouhot)
- Angkor: An Introduction to the Temples (D. Rooney)
- A Guide to the Angkor Monuments (Maurice Glaize)

Maps

Vietnam North and South. Reise Know-How

A map at 1:600.000 scale over two double-sided sheets, Vietnam North and Vietnam South. The maps show road networks and driving distances and symbols highlight places of interest, archaeological remains, temples and museums, viewpoints etc.

Cambodia. Reise-Know-How

A map at 1:500,000 scale. Indexed, waterproof and tear-resistant road map of Cambodia with topographic and tourist information, including street plans of central Phnom Penh and Siem Reap, plus an enlargement for the Angkor area.

Private Groups Information

Make this KE cycling holiday your own!

- Do our normal group departure dates not fit?
- Are you wanting to travel with just your friends or family?
- Are you looking to organise a trip for your local cycling club?

We are experts in creating holidays for groups of friends, families, charities, and cycling clubs. Our personal service means you'll be fully involved as we make the arrangements for your perfect adventure holiday.

Independence with Security

Travelling as a KE Private Group allows you more flexibility and choice, but still with the peace of mind that everything is pre-planned and arranged for your group by a reputable adventure travel company.

To take your first step to an amazing adventure with your friends and family complete the private group enquiry form, or call our **Sales Experts on: 017687 73966**

Travel Insurance

It is an essential condition of joining a holiday with KE Adventure Travel that you have a valid travel insurance policy to cover the cost of medical treatment and to protect the value of your holiday in the event of cancellation. When taking out insurance please ensure the policy you choose covers you for the activities and altitude included in your itinerary.

For appropriate insurance cover we recommend Campbell Irvine Direct. Please go to our Travel Insurance page for further information and to get a quote.

Explore International

This holiday is part of our Explore International range. Participants on these trips can book through KE or through our international partner. This helps us to gather together sufficient numbers of like-minded adventurers to get your holiday up and running quickly. Led by an English-speaking guide, the cosmopolitan nature of these groups can be an important part of the experience!

Equipment Information

Equipment List

For this holiday you will need your usual cycling clothing, including shoes, cycling gloves and helmet (which must be worn at all times when cycling).

Whether you are hiring a bike or taking your own, we recommend that you take the usual day-ride essentials of: mobile phone, multi-tool, mini-pump, tyre levers, spare tubes and puncture repair kit.

Bike Wear

- Cycling helmet (the EN1078 safety standard is a requirement).
- Cycling shoes
- Daypack or mountain bike-specific hydration pack (e.g. Camelbak)
- Water bladder - min. 2 litres water capacity (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic)
- Padded (baggy) cycling shorts
- Long leg cycling trousers or leg warmers
- Base-layer - short sleeve cycling tops
- Mid-layer - long sleeved cycling tops
- Fleece jacket or jumper
- Lightweight windproof gilet
- Lightweight waterproof jacket
- Regular biking gloves
- Buff
- Sunglasses
- Sun cream (inc. total bloc for lips/nose)
- Camera

Other Stuff

- Travel and off-the-bike clothing and footwear
- Wash bag, towel, toiletries, including anti-bacterial handwash
- Headtorch and spare batteries
- Swimwear
- Basic First Aid kit and personal medication
- Insect repellant
- Chamois cream (e.g. Assos/Ozone)
- Water purification tablets
- Reusable cloth bag for shopping (to avoid plastic bags)

Spares

If you are hiring a bike you do not need to bring any spares. The hire bikes are provided in good condition and a supply of spares is carried. You may be asked to pay directly for any spares used, especially in the case of crash damage or damage by mis-use.

If you are taking your own bike, you should consider taking a minimum of spares, including a couple of spare spokes (for each wheel if they are different), spare brake blocks (or brake disc pads), chain links/ chain connector, rear derailleur hanger and any non-standard parts specific to your bike.

Repairs

Whilst not essential, it is a good idea that you familiarise yourself with how to carry out at least some basic repairs to your bike e.g. changing an inner tube and fixing a puncture. Your bike guide will be happy to help with repairs and general maintenance, but being able to carry out a simple repair yourself could save the inconvenience of having to wait for assistance.

Hydration and Energy Snacks

You should take suitable water bottle(s) (we encourage re-filling water bottles rather than single use plastic) or a hydration pack and you should also consider taking a small supply of the gels, power bars or sports drink mix that you would normally use on a ride at home.

Please contact us if you have any questions about your equipment.

Land Only Information

Please refer to the 'Joining Arrangements & Transfers' within Holiday Information for further details.

Flights and other transport to your destination should not be booked until you have received your booking confirmation and the departure is showing 'Guaranteed to Run' or 'Limited'.

Land Only Information

The LAND ONLY dates and prices are for the itinerary starting at the hotel in Hoi An and ending in Siem Reap. Transfers on arrival from Da Nang Airport to Hoi An are not provided - taxis are readily available and low cost. A group transfer is provided from the hotel in Siem Reap to Siem Reap Airport on the final day of the Land Only itinerary.

Flight Inclusive Information

Limited seats are available at the advertised flight price, please book as early as you can. If we are unable to secure seats at the price shown, or you have requested regional departures and/or upgrades, we will provide you with an alternative quote. It is likely that flight payment will be in advance of your final holiday balance. Booking a flight inclusive package means you will benefit from full financial protection, eases your holiday planning, and leaves us to deal with airlines and schedule changes. If you book flights through KE Adventure Travel we will offset the carbon of your flight.

Regional departures and/or alternative carriers are available on request.

Flight Inclusive Information

The FLIGHT INCLUSIVE dates and prices are based on UK flights from London to Da Nang Airport and returning from Siem Reap. Outbound flights usually depart from the UK in the late morning and arrive at Da Nang Airport in the late afternoon of the following day (Day 1 of the Land Only itinerary). Return flights depart from Siem Reap in the afternoon of the final day of the Land Only itinerary, arriving in the UK in the early morning of the following day.

Why Choose KE

Why KE

Brilliant Itineraries Cycling from the South China Sea to Angkor Wat, one of the stand-out man-made sites in South-East Asia, this is an amazing journey by bike across Vietnam and Cambodia and provides a great insight into 2 of the most fascinating countries in the region. With KE you get to cycle most of this classic route - no-one else is offering anything like this !

Please Note This document was downloaded on 12/11/2026 and the trip is subject to change