



**Commonwealth
Club Travel**

presents

JOURNEY THROUGH VIETNAM

Optional Post-Tour Extension – Cambodia: Angkor Wat



February 27-March 14, 2014

An Exclusive Small Group Tour for
The Commonwealth Club

Tour membership limited to 24 guests

JOURNEY THROUGH VIETNAM

16 days from \$4,547 total price from San Francisco
 (\$3,995 air & land inclusive plus \$552 airline taxes and departure fees)

In a land of breathtaking natural beauty, abiding tradition and profoundly hospitable people, rewards abound for the thoughtful traveler. In our flexible and congenial group we encounter rewards aplenty on this comprehensive journey, featuring all the highlights plus the beautiful, remote Mekong Delta, where we spend two days.



Thursday, February 27: Depart U.S. for Hanoi, Vietnam

Friday, February 28: Arrive Hanoi We arrive in the Vietnamese capital this evening, then transfer to our hotel.

Saturday, March 1: Take a walking tour of Ba Dinh Square, a popular complex of cultural and historic sites, including the marble and granite mausoleum of Ho Chi Minh, the Presidential Palace, and 1,000-year-old One Pillar Pagoda. Following lunch on your own we embark on an orientation tour of this French influenced city. We pass Hoan Kiem Lake; visit the marvelous Temple of Literature (c. 1070); and tour infamous Hoa Lo Prison, also known as the “Hanoi Hilton” during the Vietnam War. Later walk the Ancient Quarter, a neighborhood famous for its artisans and merchants. Tonight we gather at a local restaurant for a welcome dinner. **B,D**

Sunday, March 2: Ha Long Bay/Hanoi Early this morning we depart on a full-day excursion to Ha Long Bay, a breathtaking waterway sprinkled with 3,000 islands and islets and surrounded by a fairytale landscape of limestone cliffs, secret grottoes and hidden caves. Our tour includes a boat ride and seafood lunch. **B,L**

Monday, March 3: Hanoi/Da Nang This morning we enjoy a Club travel standard: a briefing with U.S. Foreign Service staff. Then fly to Da Nang, Vietnam’s third largest city situated on the south central coast. Upon arrival, we tour the acclaimed Cham Museum, which celebrates the Cham people’s Hindu legacy with a fine collection of sculpture and artifacts. After reaching our beachfront hotel, the remainder of the day is

Your Small Group Tour Highlights

Hanoi walking tour including Ho Chi Minh’s mausoleum and the Presidential Palace ... Excursion to Ha Long Bay ... Briefing by U.S. Foreign Service Staff ... Acclaimed Cham Museum ... Charming Hoi An ... Visit to farming settlement ... Imperial City of Hue ... Special Vietnamese music performance ... Lunch in the home of a local historian ... Visit to a local Buddhist orphanage ... Floating markets at Cai Be and Cai Rang ... Reunification Palace and the History Museum in Saigon

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Hanoi		
2-4	Hanoi	InterContinental Hanoi Westlake	Deluxe
5-7	Da Nang	Hyatt Regency Danang	Deluxe
8-9	Hue	Saigon Morin	Sup. First Class
10-11	Can Tho (Mekong Delta)	Victoria Hotel	Sup. First Class
12-14	Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon)	Sofitel Saigon Plaza	Deluxe
15	Ho Chi Minh City/Depart for U.S. (overnight flight)		
16	Arrive U.S.		

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference.

Cover photo: Enjoy a full-day excursion to the World Heritage site of Ha Long Bay.



Observe the French architectural influences during an orientation tour of Hanoi.

at leisure to enjoy this relaxing setting. We dine at the hotel this evening. **B,D**

Tuesday, March 4: Da Nang/Hoi An This morning we visit nearby Hoi An. A UNESCO World Heritage site, Hoi An's Old Town is a charming car-free pedestrian zone lined with tailors, shops and art galleries. This afternoon is at leisure to either remain in Hoi An on your own or return to our beachside resort. Tonight, we enjoy a special dinner at Bread of Life, a restaurant and non-profit organization supporting the local deaf community. **B,D**

Wednesday, March 5: Da Nang A morning walking tour of a nearby farming settlement reveals the daily life of a local community up close. Here rice paddies occupy every spare patch of ground, water buffaloes plow the fields and villagers ride to market with produce piled high on their bicycles. Later we enjoy a cooking lesson and lunch in Hoi An. **B,L**

Thursday, March 6: Da Nang/Hue Depart for the ancient imperial city of Hue, whose palaces, temples and tombs evoke its past grandeur as home to emperors and mandarins. Enjoying a traditional *cyclo* ride along the way, visit the Imperial City housing the Forbidden Purple City complex, a UNESCO World Heritage site. We also explore the Central Market, where locals buy fish, meat, produce and sundry goods. Tonight our dinner is accompanied by a performance of traditional music. Ms. Phan Thuan Thao, of the Hue Academy of Music will join us and provide a brief explanation of Vietnamese music history and performance. **B,D**

Friday, March 7: Hue Cruise along Hue's Perfume River to peaceful Thien Mu Pagoda, a Buddhist monastery that ranks among the city's oldest and most important monuments. Experience the palatial Tomb of Ming Mang (c. 1804), with its pavilions and courtyards modeled after the Ming Tombs of China. Enjoy lunch in the home of a local historian. This afternoon we see the tombs of Tu Doc, a gem of royal architecture; and Khai Dinh, an elaborate mix of ancient and modern, European and Asian. Finish the day with an engaging visit to a Buddhist orphanage. Meet the children, speak with the head nun, and learn about the inspiring work done to provide these children a better future. **B,L**

Post-Tour Extension: Mar. 13-16, 2014

CAMBODIA: ANGKOR WAT

3 days/2 nights for \$937 total price

(\$895 air & land inclusive plus \$42
airline taxes and departure fees)

Single Supplement: \$195

*A special opportunity to discover the amazing
temples and statuary from the Angkorian Empire.*

Your Tour Price Includes

- Air transportation Ho Chi Minh City/Siem Reap
- 2 nights' accommodations in Siem Reap at Sofitel Angkor (Deluxe); rooms reserved for late check-out on the third day (late evening flight)
- 4 meals: 2 breakfasts, 2 dinners
- Three days' sightseeing of Angkor complex (UNESCO World Heritage site), including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited representative
- Private motorcoach transportation
- Gratuities for dining room servers, airport and hotel porters and all drivers

Saturday, March 8: Hue/Mekong Delta/Can Tho

Today is a travel day that begins with an early morning flight to Saigon. Upon arrival we take a three-hour motorcoach drive south to the Mekong River town of Cai Be. From there we travel by coach and ferry to the busy river port and provincial capital of Can Tho. **B,D**

Sunday, March 9: Can Tho/Mekong Delta

We rise early for today's journey by boat to the bustling floating market at Cai Rang on the Mekong's lower reaches. It is along the river that locals conduct the business of everyday life. The remainder of the afternoon and evening are at leisure. **B,L**



Tradition endures in Vietnam.

and villages populated by fishermen and farmers. After lunch we continue to Saigon (the name Ho Chi Minh City is used interchangeably). We reach our hotel late afternoon; dinner is on our own in this vibrant city. **B,L**

Tuesday, March 11: Saigon Explore the former Presidential Palace, which served as the South Vietnamese government's wartime

Monday, March 10: Mekong Delta/Saigon

An hour drive brings us to the upper banks of the storied Mekong. Here we board motorized *sampans* for an up-close look at river life as we explore the maze of tributaries and inlets that lead to settlements

headquarters. Now called Reunification Palace, it was here that the first Communist tanks rolled into Saigon on April 30, 1975; it remains preserved as a museum almost exactly as it was on that day. We also tour the History Museum, with its excellent display on the indigenous peoples of Vietnam. Visit the Fine Arts Museum and a modern art gallery to learn more about Vietnamese art and lacquerware. Later enjoy a traditional water puppet performance. **B,D**

Wednesday, March 12: Saigon This morning we visit the Cu Chi Tunnels, the infamous underground network from which North Vietnamese forces operated in wartime. This afternoon is at leisure; tonight we enjoy a farewell dinner at a local restaurant. **B,D**

Thursday, March 13: Depart for U.S.

Following a day at leisure for independent exploration, late this evening we depart for the airport and our overnight flight to the U.S. Our rooms are reserved for our late check-out. **B**

Friday, March 14: Arrive U.S. We arrive in the U.S. and connect with our flights home.

Tour Departs: February 27, 2014

Prices include international airfare and all taxes, surcharges and fees.

Los Angeles, San Francisco	\$4,547
Chicago, New York, Washington, DC	\$4,847
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$3,495

If you prefer a different departure city, please inquire at the time of booking. Seat assignments cannot be guaranteed when purchasing an air-inclusive tour package. Please refer to the "Air Transportation" details on the back of the brochure for more information. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, fuel surcharges and departure fees of \$552, which are subject to change until final payment is made. Single travelers please add \$1,595. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges and departure fees) are guaranteed.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip Trans-Pacific flight: additional \$4,195 per person (upgrade subject to availability and pricing subject to change).

Please note: This trip involves full days of sightseeing and a significant amount of walking on uneven terrain. You should be in good physical condition to enjoy the tour to its fullest.

For information and reservations please contact the Commonwealth Club at 415-597-6720, or e-mail travel@commonwealthclub.org. www.commonwealthclub.org/travel

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
- 13 nights' accommodations in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels
- 25 meals: 13 breakfasts, 5 lunches, 7 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Services of a Commonwealth Club Host with a minimum of 15 guests
- Special private cultural and educational highlights
- Private motorcoach transportation including bottled water throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



Dear Members and Friends of the Commonwealth Club,

Join us on a special 16-day journey to Vietnam, a country that captivates travelers with its enduring traditions, breathtaking natural beauty and warm hospitality. Our exclusive small group of no more than 24 members and friends will enjoy many personal encounters and a close-up look at life in this inviting land.

Your odyssey begins in the French-accented capital of Hanoi, where you will tour historical sites and eat local specialties. From here, take a full-day excursion to beautiful Ha Long Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage site acclaimed for its limestone cliffs, grottoes and caves. Next, fly south to Da Nang and tour the acclaimed Cham Museum, which celebrates the Cham people's Hindu legacy. In the colorful village of Hoi An, cars are prohibited and ancient traditions still hold sway.

Walk in a rural farming community where rice paddies checker the land, water buffalo plow the fields and villagers bicycle to market. Then, travel to the ancient imperial capital of Hue — once home to emperors and mandarins — and cruise the Perfume River to peaceful Thien Mu Pagoda. During two days spent exploring the vital Mekong River Delta, experience river life which will certainly leave an indelible impression. Conclude your journey in spirited Saigon (Ho Chi Minh City).

This departure is open to members and friends of The Commonwealth Club. Throughout the tour, we will enjoy exclusive educational highlights including a briefing by U.S. Foreign Service staff, a special music performance, lunch with a local historian, and a tour of the Fine Arts Museum in Saigon. With space for only 24 guests in total, we expect this tour to fill quickly. Please call us today to reserve your place!

Sincerely,

Kristina Nemeth
Director of Travel

COMMONWEALTH CLUB RESERVATION FORM: JOURNEY THROUGH VIETNAM

Enclosed is my/our deposit for \$ _____ (\$500 per person) for _____ person/people on Journey through Vietnam departing February 27, 2014. I/we understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure (or by November 24, 2013). Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA or by personal check. Please make deposit check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. and send to: Commonwealth Club Travel, 595 Market Street, 2nd Floor, San Francisco, CA 94105. For reservations and information, call (415) 597-6720, or email travel@commonwealthclub.org. You may also fax your reservation to (415) 597-6729.

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Ph. (_____) _____ Cell Ph. (_____) _____

E-mail _____ Badge Name(s) _____

Please book my/our air from _____ I/we request a Business Class upgrade

I will share a room with _____ I request a single room (limited availability)

Post-Tour Cambodia: "Angkor Wat" Extension: Please sign me/us up

Please Note: The undersigned have read the schedule of activities for Journey through Vietnam, February 27-March 14, 2014, and agree that their signatures below represent their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature(s) _____ Date _____

Method of Payment

Check American Express Discover MasterCard VISA

Account # _____ Security Code _____ Exp. Date ____/____

Name of Cardholder _____

Signature _____

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due 95 days prior to departure (by November 24, 2013), and can be paid by check or credit card.

GENERAL TERMS AND CONDITIONS

Please read this information carefully, as payment of a \$500 deposit per person represents your acceptance of the following Terms and Conditions.

Not included in tour price:

Airfare when purchasing a Land Only package; costs of passports and visas; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; optional sightseeing; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities \$10 - \$15 per day, per traveler); travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline prior to departure.

Cancellations, refunds and changes:

If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odyssey's Unlimited's receipt of your written notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-65 days before departure: 50% of tour price; cancel 64-30 days before departure: 75% of tour price; cancel 29-0 days before departure: no refund.** If a guest makes any changes between 94 and 30 days prior to departure, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. will apply a \$100 per person administrative fee, in addition to any fees or penalties imposed by third parties. Changes are subject to availability and cannot be guaranteed. If your reservation changes from double occupancy to single occupancy for any reason, you will be charged the single supplement. **No changes are allowed within 30 days of departure.**

Upon reservation you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport as well as your date of birth and gender. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with the ticket's reissue.

Responsibility

The liability of The Commonwealth Club, as sponsor, and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, restaurant and other services from independent suppliers not under our control. We serve only as agents for these suppliers in securing tour arrangements, and therefore will not accept responsibility for wrongful, negligent, or arbitrary acts or omissions of these independent contractors, their employees, agents, servants or representatives. The Commonwealth Club and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. are not liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, or delay that may be caused by events not within our control, including without limitation, acts of terrorism, war, strikes, the defect of any vehicle, or the negligence or default of any third party. All coupons, receipts, and tickets issued are subject to the terms and conditions specified by the air carriers, cruise line, and other independent suppliers. We will make every effort to operate our tours as planned, but we reserve the right to make itinerary changes as necessary. If unforeseen circumstances require us to change a hotel, we will select alternative accommodations of the same or better quality.

Health and Medical Issues

We request that you be in good health to participate in this tour. There is a reasonable amount of walking, and **you need to be able to get on and off motorcoaches on your own.** If you require the use of a wheelchair or have other personal needs, you must be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. We reserve the right to remove anyone whose physical or mental condition, in our opinion, compromises the operation of the tour or detracts from the enjoyment or safety of the other passengers. In that event, The Commonwealth Club and Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. assume no financial responsibility for any unused portion of the tour.

Air Transportation – Important Information

Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. includes in its tour price round trip economy air from designated gateway cities as shown and contracts with those airlines they feel provide the level of service, routings, and value necessary for your entire trip. While another airline may offer a more direct connection, it may be at a price unavailable at the lower group rates. You will receive your preliminary air schedule approximately 2½ months prior to departure. **Please note that seat assignments on your international flight are usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of tour operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and departure fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours. **Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase non-refundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.**



595 Market Street, 2nd Floor
San Francisco, CA 94105

Presorted
Standard
U.S. POSTAGE
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Odysseys
Unlimited, Inc.



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