



# AROUND CAMBODIA

2024 - Classic Tour | 15 Days | Physical Level 1

Siem Reap – Battambang – Phnom Penh – Kampot - Kep – Phnom Penh

Spend two weeks exploring Cambodia's complex history and fascinating heritage. Cover all the highlights of the kingdom, from cooking classes to cultural shows, dinner cruises and – of course- the majestic temples of Angkor.

- Discover captivating Phnom Penh
- Learn Cambodian history at the Killing Fields and Tuol Sleng
- Kick back in coastal Kampot
- Unravel the mysteries of the silk making process
- Explore colonial Battambang
- Be inspired by majestic Angkor
- See local life on Tonle Sap

To book call **0800 936 3998** or visit your local travel agent

Visit [wendywutours.co.nz](https://www.wendywutours.co.nz).

## TOUR MAP

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### CLASSIC TOUR INCLUSIONS:

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- Return international economy flights, taxes and current fuel surcharges (unless a land only option is selected)
- All accommodation
- All meals (from dinner on the day of arrival until breakfast on the day of departure)
- All sightseeing and entrance fees
- All transportation and transfers
- English speaking Local Guides
- visa fees for New Zealand passport holders (please see visa section below for further information)
- Specialist advice from our experienced travel consultants
- Safe and secure with IATA

The only things you may have to pay for are personal expenditure e.g. drinks, optional excursions or shows, insurance of any kind, customary tipping, meals not included, early check in or late check out and other items not specified on the itinerary.

### CLASSIC TOURS:

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See the classic sights in the company of expert guides so you can really understand the history and culture of the destination. On our classic tours we take care of everything, leaving you to sit back and enjoy the experience to the full. The tours are fully inclusive with all meals and a comprehensive touring programme.

### PHYSICAL LEVEL 1:

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All our tours feature a physical rating to help you select the right holiday for you. To travel on any of our tours requires unaided mobility and the ability to stroll around the sights.

'Around Cambodia' is rated as a **physical level 1** tour. A reasonable level of fitness is required, and you should expect to be on your feet for much of the day. You'll be getting on and off coaches, trains or boats and walking around the sights, often including steps, plus occasional longer walks.

- There will be sightseeing on foot for both short and extended periods of time, often on uneven surfaces.
- You will be required to get on and off small boats without assistance.

Of course, our National Escorts and local guides will always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance; however, they cannot be expected to cater for customers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

If you require any more information about the pace of our tours, please contact our reservations team who will be happy to answer your questions.

### JOINING YOUR TOUR:

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The tour is 15 days in duration including international flights. Please note that depending on flight schedules passengers may arrive/depart on Day 2

Travellers booked on 'Land Only', the price includes your arrival/departure airport transfers if arriving/departing on the start and conclusion date of your tour. Please advise your international flight times to Reservations so we can arrange your transfers accordingly.

Join the tour on Day 2 in Siem Reap and end the tour on Day 14 in Phnom Penh Please refer to your final itinerary for more specific meeting instructions pertaining to your departure.

## DETAILED ITINERARY

### **Days 1-2: Arrive Siem Reap**

Meals: D

Fly overnight from New Zealand to Siem Reap. You will be met at Siem Reap in the arrivals hall by your Local Guide or National Escort from Wendy Wu Tours. Together with all other group members who may be arriving at a similar time, travel to your hotel for check in.

Check into your room, or store luggage if arriving earlier than the check-in time. This evening, meet your group for dinner and a welcome briefing with your Vietnamese Local Guide or National Escort.

### **Destination Information**

**Siem Reap** – Siem Reap translates to ‘the defeat of Siam’, in reference to the centuries-old conflict between Cambodia and Thailand. Since the French purchase of Angkor from Siam, Siem Reap has grown from a small village to a popular tourist destination, thanks to its proximity to the World Heritage Site of Angkor Wat.

### **Day 3: Angkor**

Meals: B, L, D

The UNESCO-managed Angkor complex boasts over 1,000 temples and was the seat of the colossal Khmer Empire from the 9th to the 14th centuries.

We spend the morning at the city of Angkor Thom, built by Jayavarman VII during his restoration of the Angkorian Empire in the late 12th century. Here, sights include the enigmatic Bayon, the Elephant Terrace and the Terrace of the Leper King. One of the most evocative ruins here is the monastery temple of Ta Prohm, enveloped in a labyrinth of jungle just outside Angkor Thom.



Enjoy lunch before devoting the afternoon to the fascinating and awe-inspiring temple complex of Angkor Wat, the largest religious monument in the world. It predates the city of Angkor Thom and is considered to be Cambodia’s spiritual heart. Later, return to Angkor Thom to enjoy the sunset from its moat, with a refreshing drink in hand.

### **Destination Information**

**Angkor Thom** – (lit. ‘Great City’) This was the last capital of the Khmer empire, established by Buddhist King Jayavarman VII in the 12<sup>th</sup> century. This walled city covers an area of 9 square km and encompasses many temples.

**The Bayon** – A late 12<sup>th</sup> century state temple at the centre of Angkor Thom. Its beautifully crafted central towers are decorated with four opposing faces representing the Buddha, and probably modelled after the founder, King Jayavarman. Bayon’s stone galleries display extraordinary bas-reliefs incorporating over 11,000 figures.

**Elephant Terrace and Terrace of the Leper King** - These giant viewing platforms were used for public ceremonies, which served as a base for the King's grand audience hall. The Elephant Terrace is named for the carved elephant parade on its eastern side. To the north is the Terrace of the Leper King, named for a statue found there.

**Ta Prohm** – One of Angkor Thom's most atmospheric ruins, swallowed by the roots of the jungle, Ta Prohm has several towers, closed courtyards and narrow corridors to explore. Originally dedicated to Sri Jayarajadaman, the mother of the king who established Angkor Thom, it was made famous by the film *Tomb Raider*.

**Angkor Wat** – This 12<sup>th</sup> century temple complex is the largest religious monument in the world. Surrounded by a 190-metre moat and taking 30 years to build, Angkor Wat showcases the Khmer civilisation at its grandest. With its fascinating decorative flourishes, extensive bas-relief and multiple tiers, it is the best-preserved temple within the complex. Angkor temples were traditionally dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva, but Angkor Wat broke tradition in that it was originally dedicated to Vishnu and was later reworked as a Buddhist temple.

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**Day 4:           Cooking Class, Silk Farm & Circus**

Meals: B, L, D

Join a morning cooking class at an organic farm. Pick up supplies at the local market, then head to the farm to pick some organic ingredients. Your chef will guide you in creating a traditional Khmer lunch.



This afternoon, visit Golden Silk Pheach, a local NGO. This Cambodian silk farm is bringing the centuries-old tradition of hand-woven Khmer silk production back to life while providing skilled work to locals. Continue to Banteay Srei, a 10th-century temple famous for its pink sandstone architecture and astonishingly fine carving.

This evening, after an early dinner, watch a rollicking performance by graduates of the PHARE Cambodian Circus. This NGO which transforms the lives of disadvantaged youths through vocational arts training.

**Destination Information**

**Golden Silk Pheach** - This NGO was founded by Sophia Pheach in 2002, with the hope of reviving traditional gold silk techniques whilst creating employment for local women, many of whom were orphaned under the Khmer Rouge. Learn about the production process from silkworm to a final piece, and the preservation of a craft which was almost lost.

**PHARE Cambodian Circus** - Stone carvings from ruins across Cambodia show the importance of circus arts throughout the kingdom's history. Yet when the Khmer Rouge regime banned almost all performances across the country in the 20th century, many of these arts were almost lost. PHARE was founded in 1994 as a performing arts school with a twofold mission: to revive these forgotten arts and provide vocational training to disadvantaged youths who might otherwise have a bleak future.

In 2013, the school opened its Big Top tent in Siem Reap, where graduates perform nightly. Profits support the school in Battambang, which teaches a variety of arts as well as providing a formal education.

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**Day 5: Tonle Sap Lake**

Meals: B, L, D

Enjoy a morning cruise on Tonle Sap Lake, visiting a local village and observing the way of life of these lake communities. The exact village visited will depend on water levels at the time of your visit.

Return to Siem Reap for an afternoon at leisure. This evening, sit down to dinner with an Apsara dance show.

**Destination Information**

**Tonle Sap** - The Tonle Sap Lake joins the 120km long Tonle Sap River, which flows into the Mekong River. Water levels in the Mekong vary according to the season and directly affect the direction of flow in the Tonle Sap River, which flows for 6 months in one direction and 6 months in the other. There are multiple communities living on the lake, whose main source of income is fishing.

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**Day 6: Siem Reap - Battambang**

Meals: B, L, D

Journey approximately 3 hours west to Battambang, Cambodia's lesser-known city. With a population of less than 120,000, Battambang is a laidback city nestled on a bend of the Sangkae River and surrounded by attractive countryside.

Admire the colonial architecture of the city on an introductory tour, then enjoy some time at leisure before dinner.

**Destination Information**

**Battambang** – Cambodia's third largest city. Situated amid scenic countryside, on the banks of the Sangkae River, sleepy Battambang possesses some of Cambodia's grandest and best-preserved colonial architecture. For more than a century, it was a provincial capital of the Thai province of Inner Cambodia, ceded to French Indochina in 1907; however, the population was always predominantly Khmer.

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**Day 7: Battambang**

Meals: B, L, D

Climb to the top of Phnom Banan to reach the Prasat Banan Temple and admire the breathtaking view. Return to the town and walk through the charming village of Wat Kor with its 20 heritage houses dating back to the early 20th century.

Later, visit Cambodian families in the countryside, who produce local products such as rice paper, dried bananas, and rice wine, made in the same way they have been for generations.



You will have the chance to learn, interact with local people, taste local products, and support local families at the same time.

This evening, we head to the hill of Phnom Sampov to witness an unforgettable sight: Sampov's colony hundreds of thousands of bats, streaming out of the mountainside out into the night. Please be assured that the bats are at a safe distance, are accustomed to tourists and will not approach you.

### Destination Information

**Prasat Banan Temple** - Located on the top of a small hill, the temple was built in the 11th century and consists of 5 towers. There are many steps to the top - please let the guide know if you need to pause or prefer not to join.

**Wat Kor** - Gain an insight into traditional Khmer life in the village of Wat Kor. It is known for its twenty Khmer heritage houses from the early twentieth century, built from now-rare hardwoods and surrounded by orchard gardens.

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### **Day 8: Battambang – Phnom Penh**

Meals: B, L, D

Spend the day driving south to Phnom Penh, stopping en route for lunch and - if you choose - to climb the many steps to the summit of Oudong, Cambodia's former royal capital.

On arrival in Phnom Penh, any further time before dinner is at leisure. The total driving time today will be around 6 hours through the countryside.



### Destination Information

**Oudong** - Oudong (also Udong) was Cambodia's royal capital from 1618 to 1866, during the post-Angkorian period. Eventually King Norodom moved the royal court to Phnom Penh in 1866. It offers spectacular views of the surrounding countryside, with innumerable sugar palm trees and 18 ancient chedis (stupas).

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### **Day 9: Phnom Penh**

Meals: B, L, D

Enjoy a morning walking tour of Phnom Penh, a European-esque city of airy boulevards and French architecture, seeing its monuments and impressive buildings. Though scars of the city's tumultuous past remain, this vibrant city has been engulfed with a lively energy.

After lunch, visit the Royal Palace, dating from the late nineteenth century and still the king's official residence.



### Destination Information

**Royal Palace** - The ornate roofs of the Royal Palace are the most striking feature of Phnom Penh's skyline, constructed in the elaborate Khmer style and glittering with gold. The palace has been the official residence of Cambodia's monarchs since its construction in the 1860s.

**Silver Pagoda** – The Silver Pagoda is part of the Royal Palace complex and is also known as the Temple of the Emerald Buddha thanks to the precious statue displayed there. Its rich decoration includes silver tiles, Italian marble, and murals of the Reamker (Cambodia's national epic, a Buddhist tale similar to the Hindu Ramayana).

### **Day 10: Phnom Penh & The Killing Fields**

Meals: B, L, D

Reflect on the history of the country with visits to the Tuol Sleng Museum and to the Killing Fields, where you will learn about the suffering of the Khmer people under the brutal Khmer Rouge regime of the 1970s.

The visit to the Tuol Sleng Museum involves 1 hour on foot. This museum is also the site of the former S21 prison used by the Khmer Rouge and commemorates the atrocities that occurred here during the regime of Pol Pot.



The transfer south-west to the Killing Field orchards will take approximately half an hour. These visits are educational, and deeply important to the Cambodians, but both sites can be confronting and emotional; you will be given time to explore on your own. There is a film shown at the Killing Fields, which is not required viewing, but you may be asked to remove your shoes before entering the film room. Be aware that the memorial stupa contains victims' skulls, which are visible; it can be avoided if you prefer.

Return to Phnom Penh, where the afternoon is at leisure. This evening, enjoy a visit to a local sky bar. Enjoy views of the city as night settles in, and perhaps consider how this invigorating capital is moving forward to a brighter future.

### Destination Information

**Khmer Rouge** – A totalitarian group of revolutionaries who seized and held power in Cambodia from April 1975 to January 1979. The Khmer Rouge turned Cambodia into a military dictatorship in which all rights, arts and intellectual pursuits were abolished. Approximately 2 million Cambodians (nearly 25% of the population) were killed in labour camps, prisons and mass execution sites. They continued their guerilla warfare for many years after the Vietnamese forces invaded and overthrew them in 1979.

**Pol Pot** – Born Saloth Sar, Pol Pot was one of the most brutal dictators in world history. He created the Khmer Rouge as a guerilla force, and organised the Phnom Penh coup in 1975, installing himself as prime minister.

**Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum** – This former secondary school was seized by the Khmer Rouge in 1976 and turned into the brutal S-21 prison; one of almost 200 such prisons operated by the Khmer Rouge and Santebal (secret police). An estimated 20,000 people were imprisoned and tortured here between 1976-79. Today, the museum commemorates the atrocities that occurred here during the regime of Pol Pot.

**Choeung Ek Killing Fields** – This orchard was the site of one of the Khmer Rouge’s largest mass execution sites. Today, it is a memorial site with a Buddhist stupa at the centre. Be aware that the memorial stupa contains victims' skulls, which are visible; it can be avoided if you prefer.

**Day 11:           Kampot**

Meals: B, L, D

Head south, driving 2-3 hours through the countryside to the beach town of Kampot. Stop en route at Tonle Bati before travelling to a pepper farm to learn about the renowned Kampot pepper. Look out for salt fields en route to the city centre.



On arrival in Kampot, enjoy an introductory walking tour of this relaxed coastal town.

### Destination Information

**Tonle Bati** - View the ancient temples at Tonle Bati, built in the late 12th century by Jayavarman VII.

**Kampot** - The former port city of Kampot is an enchanting small town best known for its sleepy, relaxed atmosphere and its salt and pepper production. Wander the town and glimpse the former glory of its French Colonial architecture.

**Kampot pepper** – Pepper from this region is considered some of the best in the world. The province enjoys ideal elevation and humidity for pepper production, along with quartz-rich soil that nourishes the vines. Kampot pepper is the first Cambodian product to receive the French appellation DOC - a geographical indication that protects trade names for special food products. The EU also granted Kampot pepper protected geographical indication status in 2016. Because it is rare abroad, it is usually reserved for recipes that highlight its qualities, such as sauteed crab, steak au poivre and cacio e pepe.

**Day 12:           Day trip to Kep**

Meals: B, L, D

Enjoy a trip along the coast to the beach town of Kep, starting with lunch at the sailing club. Enjoy a couple of hours at leisure to relax and explore Kep, perhaps stopping at the local seafood market or small beach, before returning to Kampot.



Driving time is approximately 45 minutes each way.

### Destination Information

**Kep** - From the turn of the century to the 1960s, Kep was Cambodia's premier holiday destination. You can view the ruins of the luxurious villas from those days dotted by the seaside. Modern Kep is now known for its relaxed atmosphere, fresh seafood and oceanfront crab shacks.

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**Day 13: Return to Phnom Penh & Dinner Cruise****Meals: B, L, D**

Return to Phnom Penh, pausing en route at the former French hill station of Bokor. Relax in Phnom Penh this afternoon, before a laidback farewell dinner cruise on the Mekong river.



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**Day 14: Departure****Meals: B**

Transfer to the airport for your onward flight. Late checkout is bookable in advance for those who have chosen a later flight option.

## CLASSIC MEKONG TRAVEL INFORMATION

### VISAS:

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**Cambodia:** Entry visas are required by all visitors to Cambodia. Wendy Wu Tours Visa Department can assist you with the process of obtaining a visa. We will supply you with all paperwork if applicable and submit the visa application on your behalf. Please be advised that your passport must have at least six months validity left on it when you arrive back into New Zealand.

*Please note* the visa procedures and requirements may change at any time. These changes are often made by the relevant embassy or consulate, Wendy Wu acts as a third party and has no influence on the process of a visa. Currently a visa is required for New Zealand Passport holders. Your travel consultant will inform you if any changes are applicable prior to your departure.

### INSURANCE:

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It is a condition of booking with us that you take out suitable travel insurance. You must provide us with the name of your insurer, policy number and their 24-hour emergency contact number when you book with us or as soon as possible thereafter. These details will be available to your national escort should they be required. Wendy Wu Tours will not be liable for any costs incurred by you due to your failure to take out suitable travel insurance from the date of booking.

### EATING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA:

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Southeast Asia is home to an incredibly rich food history. The local cuisine is known for its intense flavours, spices and some of the freshest ingredients you can find. In general, meals include either rice or noodles and are packed full of flavour. Lemongrass, ginger, lime leaves, coriander, fish sauce and soy sauce are used in most local dishes. Whilst Southeast Asian food has a reputation for being hot and spicy, each region has its own distinct characteristics. Vietnam, for example, is perhaps best known for its fresh and aromatic dishes – influences heavily on flavours from fresh herbs such as mint, basil, and dill.

Your itinerary has been carefully crafted to introduce you to a range of local dishes and we hope that you enjoy the culinary adventure ahead. All meals (excluding drinks) are included in our fully inclusive group tours from dinner on the day of your group's arrival until breakfast on your day of departure. When dining in Southeast Asia, although some restaurants have adopted a western approach to dining, expect some restaurants to follow the traditional communal style of eating. Typically, this will mean each diner has their own small bowl and may serve themselves from a variety of shared dishes. At some local restaurants, appetizers and main courses might be served when they are ready instead of following a particular order.

Determining when it's appropriate to use chopsticks, forks or spoons can be challenging for some travellers, even other Asians, as each country has different customs. Dining in Southeast Asia is fairly casual with not too many rules. Leaving food on the plate is not considered rude.

We recommend that when it comes to Asia food, you stay open minded and try to be adventurous!

Those with dietary requirements will be well catered for - just make sure to inform your booking agent of any specific requirements well in advance of your trip.

Please refer to your travel guide for more information on Southeast Asian cuisine, including information for travellers with restricted diets.

### **DEVELOPMENT IN SOUTHEAST ASIA:**

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Although Southeast Asia is developing quickly, it still lacks the international standards of civil infrastructure and tourist facilities. Concepts of personal responsibility are also different to those in New Zealand. Consequently, tourist and public facilities may not uphold the same safety standards as in New Zealand; for example, you may see a hole in the road without a warning sign or safety barricade. All our suppliers meet local safety standards as a minimum. We want you to have an enjoyable holiday, so we ask that you take extra care, use your common sense, refer to notices and

### **CAMBODIA PUBLIC HOLIDAYS:**

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If you are travelling within the below Cambodian Public Holidays, please note that celebrations can last a couple of days and during these times some businesses will be closed and coach, air and train travel may be affected. Tourist attractions will be open but may be crowded. In Cambodia Khmer New Year is 14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> April every year, Labor Day is on 1<sup>st</sup> May, the King's birthday is celebrated 14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> May, and the Water festival is usually held in late October or November each year. It often corresponds with the lunar mid-Autumn festival.

follow advice from you National Escort or Local Guides.

### **TIPPING POLICY:**

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Tipping while on holiday is common in most parts of the world and Southeast Asia is no exception. However, it is not always clear who it is appropriate to tip and how much. Furthermore, travellers may not have the right amounts of cash available at the right time.

In order to avoid any inconvenience Wendy Wu Tours operates a tipping policy where a stated amount is given to your national escort at the beginning of your tour and tips are disbursed to local guides and drivers throughout your tour. The amount is designed to be at a reasonable level for travellers while being fair to the local people and includes a gratuity for the national escort.

If you are travelling in a smaller group with local guides only, then tipping is paid in each destination. To be fair to the guides we ask for slightly higher amounts per traveller with small groups.

We generally find that most customers appreciate the convenience of our tipping policy but we do recognize that it may not suit everyone. However, as this is a group tour we ask that everyone follows the same protocol to be fair to other group members and to ensure smooth operation of your tour.

### ACCOMMODATION:

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Your accommodation is selected for convenience of location, comfort or character, and can range from a business hotel in one city to a family run guesthouse in a smaller town. In more remote areas, accommodation may be of a lower standard and may not have all western amenities. Hotels are generally rated as local three to four-star standard, but please note that there is no international classification system for hotels and differences in facilities and quality do exist between New Zealand and Southeast Asia.

All group tour hotels have private western bathroom facilities, air conditioning, TV and telephone. Plumbing and electricity supplies can be erratic and quite often the power in hotel rooms is turned off while guests are out of the room. If you experience any difficulty, please speak to your National Escort/Local Guide. Rest assured that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our partners to ensure that standards meet your needs.

### TRANSPORT:

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**Coaches:** Coaches with air conditioning are used on our group tours for city sightseeing, short excursions to the countryside and longer transfers where necessary. However, minibuses may be used for smaller groups (under 10 passengers).

Roads in Southeast Asia have generally improved over recent years, but traffic and/or weather conditions may extend driving times. Road construction work usually covers an enormous section of road - not just one or two kilometres as you may be used to. For this reason, the timings listed in the itinerary are approximations only.

**Seatbelts:** Please note that seatbelts are not compulsory by law in Southeast Asia and therefore the local people largely choose not to wear them. For this reason, some vehicles may not be fitted with seatbelts, or they may be hidden underneath protective seat covers. It is recommended that where seatbelts are available customers must use them and remain seated at all times while the vehicle is moving. If you have any concerns, please notify your National Escort/Local Guides.

**Air:** Internal flights are based on economy class, with reputable airlines. Pre-flight seat allocation is not available on internal flight sectors.

### LUGGAGE:

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All travellers are limited to two items of luggage each; a suitcase with a maximum weight of 20kg and one piece of hand luggage with a maximum weight of five kilograms. It is essential that your luggage is lockable.

### CLIMBING STEPS:

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Sightseeing at nearly all of the palaces, fortresses and some temples involves climbing quite a number of steps.

These palaces were built to provide defence against potential invaders so nearly all of them stand on top of a hill, while the interiors have layers of narrow hallways and steps to slow down the advance of enemies once they were inside. The steps tend to be quite large, not level and sometimes without handrails. Hindu and Buddhist temples or pagodas also tend to be built at an elevation, as this is the most auspicious position according to ancient beliefs. This means you sometimes need to walk from the bus park to the entrance, and/or need to climb some steps inside.

People with knee or hip injuries, who have poor balance or are otherwise unable to complete these activities independently should consider the suitability of this itinerary carefully.

### APPROPRIATE DRESS:

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When visiting temples or mosques, both men and women should dress in conservative, non-revealing clothing. Full-length trousers with a shirt or t-shirt for men; and pants or skirts well below the knee with a top that covers the shoulders and upper arms for women. Women might also consider carrying a 'modesty shawl' in their daypack – this could be a sarong or light scarf – which they can wear over their shoulders and heads to feel more comfortable while sightseeing at mosques.

Religious sites and homes throughout Southeast Asia – for Hindus, Muslims or Buddhists to name a few – require all visitors to remove their shoes to enter. Even if you then need to walk outdoors, over hot or rough ground, you will not be allowed to wear shoes. You will often find shoe storage rooms near the entrance of a site where it is customary to leave your shoes near the entrance. Occasionally there are 'shoe minders' who will offer to keep your shoes safe for a 'tip' – this is not compulsory, so each customer can choose to tip for this service or not. If you do not want to remove your shoes, you will have to remain outside.

We recommend shoes that easily slip on and off and carry a pair of thick socks in your daypack, which you can wear to protect your feet from any rough or hot surfaces. The following itinerary will indicate when you need to consider this.

### EXCHANGING CASH:

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It is highly recommended that extra care and attention is paid when exchanging money when travelling outside major cities in Vietnam. US Dollars are easily exchanged throughout Vietnam however other currencies such as New Zealand Dollars can generally be exchanged in hotels and airports provided notes are undamaged. We suggest for your convenience that you ensure your US Dollars are from the new series to avoid any difficulties exchanging money during your trip. Old series notes can be difficult to exchange.

We suggest exchanging your money before travelling to remote areas and smaller towns, as exchange facilities can be limited. Your National Escort will remind you to do this before departure.

### PERSONAL EXPENSES AND OPTIONAL TOURINGS:

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Personal Expense - You will need to take some extra money to cover drinks, laundry and souvenirs, plus any additional sightseeing that may be offered to you.

Optional Tours - May be offered in each city you visit during your tour. These are not included in the standard itinerary and will only be available if time permits and if seats are available.

Please ensure you have additional funds available if you feel you may wish to participate in any extra activities. Each option will be arranged locally by your National Escort/Local Guide, participation and tipping for optional excursions is completely at your discretion.

### VACCINATIONS AND YOUR HEALTH:

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We recommend that you contact either your doctor or local Health Centre for advice on vaccinations and travel health. Safe Travel has a comprehensive website that you may also find useful [www.safetravel.govt.nz](http://www.safetravel.govt.nz)

### BEFORE YOU LEAVE:

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We strongly recommend registering your travel plans with [www.safetravel.govt.nz](http://www.safetravel.govt.nz) as in the event of an emergency, New Zealand Consular assistance will be more readily available.

Up until the day you travel, it is vital you keep up to date and familiarised with the entry requirements as these can change at short notice. You are personally responsible for completing any entry forms, conducting any covid tests (if necessary), etc and adhering to countries' specific entry requirements.

You can also access the New Zealand Government's travel advisory service for up-to-date information about your destination on the same website.

### AFTER YOUR BOOKING:

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Once you have booked with Wendy Wu Tours, you will receive a confirmation invoice including a visa application form (if applicable), and a help sheet. Your final documentation pack will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to departure.

### ITINERARY CHANGES:

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It is our intention is to adhere to the day-to-day itinerary as printed; however, the order of events or sightseeing may change as we look to improve our tours or as local conditions dictate; in these circumstances we will make the best possible arrangements whilst maintaining the integrity of your trip.

Updated: May 2024