Thai Unika
Unique experiences

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ITINERARY

Outward Journey in Vietnam & Thai 14 Days 13 Nights

DAY	ITINERARY IN BRIEF
Day 1	Day 1: Saigon arrival
Day 2	Day 2: Saigon- Ben Tre – Saigon (B, L)
Day 3	Day 3: Saigon – Cu Chi Tunnels – City tour (B)
Day 4	Day 4: Saigon- Flight to Da Nang- Hoian Half Day tour (B)
Day 5	Day 5: Hoian - Ba Na Hill – Golden Bridge – Hoian (B, L)
Day 6	Day 6: Hoian – Eco Tour Cam Thanh village – Free & easy (B, L)
Day 7	Day 7: Hoian – Da Nang – Flight to Bangkok (B)
Day 8	Day 8: Bangkok city tour – Dinner cruise (B, D)
Day 9	Day 9: Bangkok – MaeKlong Railway - Damnoen Saduak Floating Market – Bangkok (B)
Day 10	Day 10: Bangkok – Ayutthaya –Flight to Chiang Mai (B)

DAY	ITINERARY IN BRIEF
Day 11	Day 11: Chiang Mai Full Day City Tour – Doi Suthep (B)
Day 12	Day 12: Chiang Mai – Elephant Jungle Sanctuary (Join -in) (B, L)
Day 13	Day 13: Chiang Mai – Doi Inthanon National Park Hiking (B)
Day 14	Day 14: Chiang Mai- Flight to Bangkok – Depart (B)

ITINERARY DETAIL

Day 1 — Day 1: Saigon arrival

On arrival at **Tan San Nhat Airport**, pick up and transfer to the hotel. **Ho Chi Minh City**, a bustling metropolis, contrary to its northern counterpart, is crowded with bikes and motorbikes, excited by numerous shopping areas and sidewalk cafés. If we have enough time, we stroll around Saigon downtown. **Overnight at the hotel in Ho Chi Minh city**

Accommodation : At the hotel in Saigon

Meals: Breakfast

Day 2 — Day 2: Saigon- Ben Tre – Saigon (B, L)

In the morning transfer to My Tho town, we continue to **Ben Tre** by passing to Rach Mieu beautiful bridge. Arrival in Bentre town, **take a boat trip around Ben Tre River.** Enjoying sightseeing local activities on the river. Stop to see how people **make bricks, salts, coconut workshop**. Boat on Cai Son and Nhon Thanh creeks to see some family making mats. **Take motor cart (Xe loi)** pass by rice fields and vegetable plains to know how to culture in country. Stop at Mekong Green, a local restaurant by the river, for lunch. In the afternoon, take a rowing boat along water palm creek and a long Cai Coi creek. Stop to see rice workshop before back to Ben Tre town, where we visit to **Vinh Trang Pagoda** before heading back to Ho Chi Minh City where you will arrive in the afternoon.

Accommodation : At the hotel in Saigon

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 3 — Day 3: Saigon – Cu Chi Tunnels – City tour (B)

Morning after having breakfast, depart for the famous **Cu Chi Tunnels** which were an incredible underground network constructed by Vietnamese fighters during the long struggle for independence. The tunnels contained hospitals, plus accommodation and schools, and were used as a military base for the Vietcong in the American war. Afternoon, we take a half day of city tour to visit all the famous sites of this bustling city. The first destination is the **Reunification Palace**, which was the former residence of the President of South Vietnam until end of April 1975, followed by some French colonial structures including the **Notre Dame Cathedral**. Apart from the religious meaning, the even more special captivating point of this Cathedral is its special neo-Romanesque style of architecture. Next, it is on to **the Old Saigon Post Office**. After visiting the **Jade Emperor Pagoda**, we continue our trip to the bustling **Ben Thanh Market**, which is firstly well-known as the place for real Vietnamese food. There are a number of vendors and food stalls in the market food section that offer guests many freshly delicious dishes. You also can find any

goods for daily use as well as a variety of eye-catching local handicrafts, souvenirs here. **Overnight at the hotel in HCM city.**

Accommodation : At the hotel in Saigon

Meals: Breakfast

Day 4 — Day 4: Saigon- Flight to Da Nang- Hoian Half Day tour (B)

After having breakfast, we continue south by road to Hoi An. The scenery en route is very beautiful. We make a stop at **Lang Co beach** for coffee and refreshments before winding our way up the spectacular Hai Van Pass to admire the stunning views north to Lang Co beach and south to Danang City. Continue on our way down to the other side and head to Da Nang where we will stop at the **Cham Museum**, the famed **China Beach**, and the **Marble Mountains**. Arrival in **Hoi An,** we will have our first glimpse of this beautiful boutique town recognized by UNESCO as a world heritage site The tranquil and charm of Hoi An with its low tiled **houses of Chinese** appearance, **Japanese covered bridge,** brightly painted **temples and pagodas** make it one of Vietnam's most delightful places. **Overnight at a hotel in Hoian.**

Accommodation : At the hotel in Hoian

Meals: Breakfast

Day 5 — Day 5: Hoian - Ba Na Hill – Golden Bridge – Hoian (B, L)

08:00 Departure for **Ba Na Hill**

09:00 Arrive in Bana and take **Cable Car** which gains 5 world scores to Ba Na hill station

Stop at By Night station to visit **Vong Nguyet hills, Linh Ung pagoda, The Old Villas of French**. Continue moving up by cable car to the **Nui Chua Mountain** – the top of Ba Na range, visiting **Nginh Phong top, Le Nim Villas, Old wine tunnel, Orchid Garden...**And especially visit the famous **Golden Bridge**

11:30 **Lunch will be served in Ba Na**

13:00 Afternoon: Free for joining games in **Fantasy Park –** the third biggest indoor games zone in Vietnam with series of interesting games: skiver, the death race, dinosaur park... (2 hours) **(Excluded)**

14:00 Pick up and transfer you back to your hotel in Hoian for your overnight. The reaming time would be your own explorer

Accommodation : At the hotel in Hoian

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 6 — Day 6: Hoian – Eco Tour Cam Thanh village – Free & easy (B, L)

Get on your bike and start visiting the surrounding areas of Hoian, **the village of Cam Thanh** to sample the stunning landscape with river, palm forest and fishing boats. Boat to transfer to **Cam Thanh Island**. Admiring iconic landscape and discover riverbanks dotted with green islands, see big fishing nets hanging on water and locals fishing in the river…visit the carpentry village. When ready, we ride pass though endless rice fields, farms to the river where a ferry boat ride take us to a local family for lunch. After lunch you have some time to relax before riding back to your hotel in Hoi An, on the way visit the oldest **Buddhist temple** to sample the unique architecture of Buddhist culture with the beautiful bonsai garden, and whether you want to ride to the beach for swimming, we have you covered. Overnight in Hoian.

Accommodation : At the hotel in Hoian

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 7 — Day 7: Hoian – Da Nang – Flight to Bangkok (B)

Morning, you have free time until we pick up and transfer you to the airport for your flight to Bangkok. Upon arrival pick up and transfer you to your hotel in Bangkok.

Accommodation : At the hotel in Bangkok

Meals: Breakfast

Day 8 — Day 8: Bangkok city tour – Dinner cruise (B, D)

Today, we will take the whole day to explore Bangkok – the city of golden temples.

The first destination is the **Grand Palace.** *This huge architecture complex is over 2 sq. kilometers, including 3 main sites: Royal Palace, Royal Office and pagodas (Wat) built in 1770s. Nowadays, the Grand Palace is no longer home of Thailand Royal, most of national significant events takes place there. Wat Phra Kaew is the most out-standing architecture in complex, built in 1785 when King Rama I moved the capital to Bangkok. The pagoda is famous not only for its beauty of unique Thailand Buddhism architecture but also for the sacred jade Buddha statue.*

Nearby Grand Palace is Wat Pho - *the oldest and biggest pagoda in Bangkok with more than 1000 Buddha statues and the huge one sit-back Buddha in gold. This pagoda is also famous for being a birthplace of traditional Thai massage, since there is a traditional medicine school established in 1982, educating the arts of Thai massage.*

We will board on a boat to pay a visit along the Chao Phraya River, watching the life of local people close by. On route, we stop at **Wat Arun,** *known as the most beautiful pagoda in Bangkok not only for its*

location on the Chao Phraya's riverbank but also for the different architecture from other pagodas. The pagoda was decorated with glass pieces and Chinese ceramic, in a complicated style.

After having lunch, we visit the last destination of the day: **Wat Traimit.** *This pagoda is famous for its unique and historic beauty, and also for the huge golden Buddha statue. Thai people believe that the statue represents for prosperity and purity, as well as strength and power.*

Return to the hotel and you are free to explore Bangkok by night.

Dinner cruise will be served by Grand Pearl.

Accommodation : At the hotel in Bangkok

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 9 — Day 9: Bangkok – MaeKlong Railway - Damnoen Saduak Floating Market – Bangkok (B)

Early in the morning, after having breakfast, we pay a visit to **Meaklong Railway Market -** a local market has grown up along the rail tracks. When a train pulls in or out of the station, the sellers quickly clear their stalls, and set them up again when the train has passed. We continue our way to **Damnoen Saduak Floating market.** Arrival at the market, you can see the vendors who wear traditional farmer dresses and hats bring local Thai foods, fruits and products to sell on rowing boats. You should not miss the opportunity to experience sitting and giving them a try on one of these boats on the canal. You are free to explore around the market, take photos/videos or even hire a paddling boat to breathe the once-in-a-lifetime atmosphere here.

We then take a boat ride out of the floating market and journey along the winding canals to see remote villages, gardens and plantations.

Arrive at a jetty pier where you board on the vehicle and return to Bangkok.

Accommodation : At the hotel in Bangkok

Meals: Breakfast

Day 10 — Day 10: Bangkok – Ayutthaya –Flight to Chiang Mai (B)

Having a breakfast and at 8h30, we will transfer to pay a visit in some sites of **Ayutthaya Historical Park,** *situated in the old city of Ayutthaya. The city was constructed by Ramathibodi I in 1350 and was the capital of Thailand until it was destroyed by Burmese – Myanmar army in 1767. Being a ruin with many temples which characterize this handicraft type of architecture built with red bricks, the park was recognized as World's Heritage Site by UNESCO.*

- **Wat Phu Khao Thong** *is a massive pagoda towering in the middle of paddy fields and can be seen from afar. Built by King Ramesuan in 1395, the pagoda is unique with the combination of 2 architectural styles: Thai – style and Mon – style. There is a high golden plated chedi on the top, which makes the pagoda outstanding.*

- **Wat Phra Sri Sanphet** *was the most important temple of Ayutthaya and situated within the Ayutthaya Grand Palace grounds. It served as a model for the Temple of the Emerald Buddha in Bangkok. The highlight of Wat Phra Sri Sanphet is 3 towers standing high together in Ceylonese style, has the same architecture with Wat Phra Kaew in Bangkok.*

- **Vihara Phra Mongkhon Bophit** *is the pagoda in which the bronze Buddha statue in the attitude of subduing Mara is situated. This is one of the biggest Buddha statue in Thailand. It was considered to be built during the Ayuttaya period of King Srongta, who transferred the location from the east side to the west and has been the location since then. After that he ordered to build a dome on top.*

- **Wat Lokaya Sutha** *is considered as the sacred place for pilgrims since it's famous for the reclining Buddha statue, which is the statue of the Blessed Buddha intact compared to other monuments in the entire Ayutthaya ruins. It is also the most important relics in most of those in Wat Lokaya Sutha. Thai people believe that if they paste the golden leaf onto Buddha statues, they will be protected by Buddha.*

Heading back to Bangkok. En route, we visit the **Royal Summer Palace in Bang Pa-in district.**

Situated about 60 km northern away from Bangkok, this palace is called Royal Summer Palace since it is a favorite resort of royal. The first palace had been built in mid-early of the 17th century, then was the ruins and be forgotten when Burman occupied Ayutthaya. It was not until the rule of King Rama IV – did the palace rebuild. King Rama IV was the first Siamese king came to Europe and was sharply impressed by the architecture there. Therefore, the whole architecture of the palace is in the way of 19th century European style.

Return to Bangkok and then transfer to the airport for your flight to Chiang Mai. Upon arrival pick up and transfer you to **your hotel for your overnight**

Accommodation : At the hotel in Chiang Mai

Meals: Breakfast

Day 11 — Day 11: Chiang Mai Full Day City Tour – Doi Suthep (B)

Breakfast served at the hotel. The morning will be mainly devoted to the walking tour of the old town with a stop at the old wall, the moat and a door of the old town. You will see the most beautiful temples of Chiang Mai: **Wat Phra Singh temple**, **Wat Phan Tao temple**, **Wat Chedi Luang** temple.

Then you will stroll along small streets lined with traditional houses, where you will **take rickshaw tour**.

After that, you will take a walking through **the central market of Warorot**. In the afternoon you will visit the **Doi Suthep hill**. Then visit **craft villages:** lacquer factories, silk weaving, manufacture of umbrellas, wood carvings and goldsmith work.

Then transfer back to the hotel. To brighten up your evening, browse the Night Market for yourself. Stay overnight in Chiang Mai.

Accommodation : At the hotel in Chiang Mai

Meals: Breakfast

Day 12 — Day 12: Chiang Mai – Elephant Jungle Sanctuary (Join -in) (B, L)

08:00-08:30 AM Pick up from your hotel or accommodation

08:30 Drive approximately 1.5 hours South of Chiang Mai through rolling hills, forest, and local farming areas.

10:30 Arrive at the Sanctuary. Meet your guide and walk for 10-15 minutes through the Jungle to the Elephant Jungle Sanctuary. Change into traditional Karen clothing. Enjoy an introductory lesson about elephant anatomy, history, and behavior.

11:00 Meet the elephants. Feed, interact, and play with the elephants in a natural environment as you learn about their behavior and history. Take photos with the elephants.

12:00 Enjoy a lunch of traditional Thai food and fresh fruit.

13:00 Learn how to make herbal medicine balls, feed the Elephants and then walk with the elephants to the river. Bathe and brush the elephants.

14:00 Join the elephants for a therapeutic mud spa. Swim in the river and take photos with the elephants.

15:00 Change clothes and say good bye to the elephants

15:30 Leave the Elephant Jungle Sanctuary and drive approximately 1.5 hours to Chiang Mai.

17:00-17:30 Drop off at your hotel or accommodation.

Accommodation : At the hotel in Chiang Mai

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Day 13 — Day 13: Chiang Mai – Doi Inthanon National Park Hiking (B)

The day begins with a transfer to **Doi Inthanon National Park.** It will take about 2 hours to reach the highest peak in Thailand. When we arrived, we spend 2 to 3 hours through the jungle along a narrow mountain path that will lead us to beautiful waterfalls in the middle of a lush jungle. Along the way, before reaching the **village of Karen tribes Pagagayaw** we cross farmlands where you will see the **coffee plantation, farm flowers** and **beautiful rice fields.** Discover the **village of hill tribe Pagagayaw** Karen and enjoy a cup of coffee grown locally, then go to the **waterfall Vachiratharn,** a thunderous cascade of 70 meters high. Enjoy the fresh cool air to the waterfall before continuing to the ground. After that, you will visit the **beautiful architecture of Napamaytanidol Chedi** and **Phra Mahatat Napaphon Bhumisiri,** built to celebrate the 60th anniversary of King Bhumibol and Queen Sirikit. **Please bring your** tower, swimsuit, camera, spray anti-insect, sun cream

Overnight in Chiang Mai

Accommodation : At the hotel in Chiang Mai

Meals: Breakfast

Day 14 — Day 14: Chiang Mai- Flight to Bangkok – Depart (B)

You have free time until we pick up and transfer you to the airport for your flight to Bangkok and then connect with your international flight

Accommodation : NA

Meals: Breakfast

ACCOMMODATION

DESTINATION	HOTEL	ROOM
Sai Gon	Sanouva Hotel Saigon	Premium Deluxe
Hoi An	Rose Garden	Superior
Bangkok	W22 BY BURASARI 3*	Superior
Chiang Mai	M Hotel Chiang Mai	Superior
Sai Gon	Eden Star Saigon	Premiun Deluxe
Hoi An	Silkotel Hoian	Deluxe Balcony
Bangkok	ARTE HOTEL	Deluxe
Chiang Mai	Bodhi Serene	Deluxe
Sai Gon	LA SIESTA PREMIUM SAIGON	Deluxe
Hoi An	Allegro Hoi An	Junior Suite
Bangkok	Pullman Bangkok Hotel G	Deluxe
Chiang Mai	NA Nirand Romantic – Boutique – Resort	Lanna Deluxe

Trip notes

INCLUDED	EXCLUDED
• English speaking guide during the tour time as mentioned. • All transfers in private air-conditioned vehicle (except for the sharing tour) • Accommodation in the mentioned hotels or similar • Entrance fees • Meals mentioned. (B= Breakfast, L=: Lunch, D= Dinner) • Boat trip in Ben Tre, Hoian, Bangkok • Cable Cab to Ba Na Hills • **Elephant Jungle Sanctuary (Join -in)** • Round trip overnight train to Lao Cai/Sapa (On sharing soft 4 berths cabin) • Taxes and service charges	• International flight, domestic • Alcoholic beverages, bottled water, beverages other than those included with meals. • Telephone call charges. • Laundry and dry cleaning. • Travel insurance (mandatory). • Personal purchases such as souvenirs, cigarettes, etc. • Tips to guides, drivers, luggage handlers. • Visa

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