
GEEO ITINERARY

Cambodia and Northern Thailand

Day 1: Ho Chi Minh City Arrive in Ho Chi Minh City at any time. Meet your group for a welcome meeting around 6:00 or 7:00 p.m.

Arrive in Ho Chi Minh City at any time. There are no planned activities until the Welcome Meeting in the evening. The airport in Ho Chi Minh City is **Tan Son Nhat International Airport (SGN)**.

Consider arriving a day early to explore the city, adjust to the time zone, and buffer against flight delays. We can request extra hotel nights for you before the program begins.

Hotel Check-in and Welcome Meeting

Hotel check-in is normally between 2–3 p.m. Check with reception for the exact time and location of the group welcome meeting, typically between 6–7 p.m. Please make every effort to attend this meeting. If you're running late, send a message in the group WhatsApp or call the emergency number on your trip voucher so that your tour leader can let you know where and when to meet the group.

After the meeting, you might choose to get dinner at a nearby restaurant with your traveling companions and your tour leader to further get to know one another.

Joining Instructions

Pre-Booked Arrival Transfer: If you've arranged an airport transfer through GEEO, look for a driver holding a sign with the [G Adventures Logo](#) in the arrivals hall. **Verify the driver knows your name and hotel name.** If in doubt, ask them to call their manager to confirm. If you're not met or cannot make contact, call the emergency number on your trip voucher or take a taxi to the hotel (keep your receipt).

Warning: People have misrepresented themselves as G Adventures representatives at Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh airports. Do not accept unsolicited offers of "help."

Taxi: (~\$10 USD | 15–30 minutes) Airport taxis are available outside arrivals. Pay your driver when you arrive at the hotel.

Caution: Avoid illegal taxi drivers who may overcharge in USD or offer unfavorable exchange rates for Vietnamese Dong. Use official airport taxi services only.

Day 2: Ho Chi Minh City Enjoy a free day in Ho Chi Minh City, or opt to enjoy a boat cruise through the villages, islands, and markets of the Mekong Delta.

Spend a free day in Ho Chi Minh City. If you want to get out of the city, take a boat cruise through the Mekong Delta, where the mighty river empties into the East Sea/South China Sea.

If you opt for the Mekong Delta excursion, begin by exploring the peaceful Vinh Trang Pagoda, then cruise the Mekong, visiting Unicorn Island to enjoy fresh fruit and traditional music. Sample local chocolates and fresh honey tea from a bee farm. Experience local life with a peaceful rowboat ride through narrow canals, a tuktuk adventure, and a stop at a coconut candy workshop. Indulge in an optional riverside lunch before returning to Ho Chi Minh City.

Another option is to visit the famed Cu Chi Tunnels for an underground tour. Meet the guide at the hotel in the morning and then drive 1.5 hours to the Cu Chi Tunnels for a guided tour of a complex network of tunnels that the Viet Cong lived in to protect themselves from opposing forces during the Vietnam War. Try crawling through some of the tunnels, if you're not claustrophobic. These tunnels stored ammunition, contained underground hospitals, and served as a hidden base for attacking allied forces.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 3: Ho Chi Minh City/Phnom Penh Travel day with border crossing from Vietnam to Cambodia. Enjoy a cyclo tour through Phnom Penh.

Today, cross into Cambodia by public bus. The drive to the Vietnam-Cambodia border takes around 2 hours. After completing the border formalities, continue by private vehicle another 3 hours to Phnom Penh, Cambodia's capital, arriving mid-afternoon.

In the late afternoon, get in traditional cyclos and depart from Wat Phnom. Tour busy streets to soak up the real vibe of the city. Pass the post office and Van's restaurant, both stunning colonial buildings, and make your way to the Royal Palace and National Museum. Go along the riverside road and take in the atmospheric cafes that line the street.

Approximate travel time: 2 hrs by public bus, 3 hrs by private vehicle, 1 hr on cyclo tour

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 4: Phnom Penh Guided tour of Tuol Sleng Museum (S-21 Prison) and Choeung Ek (Killing Fields). Opt to visit the Royal Palace, the National Museum, or the Central Market.

In the morning, a local guide will share more about Cambodian history. Visit to Choeung Ek, the somber yet serene site of the infamous Killing Fields. The grounds now stand as a powerful memorial filled with victims' skulls and mass graves. Afterward, visit the Tuol Sleng Museum and learn about the dark history and devastation that occurred when the museum operated instead as Security Prison 21 (S-21) under the Khmer Rouge. Go on a guided tour to hear the stories behind the somber photos lining the museum walls.

Afterward, you will have a free afternoon to explore the city's many sights: the Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda, and the National Museum. You might choose to visit the Russian Market, packed with souvenirs and all the necessities of daily life. Late afternoon is a great time to visit Wat Phnom, the sanctuary where the city's namesake once stood. It is a Buddhist shrine, although a Taoist goddess and numerous monkeys also reside here. Wat Phnom is a popular hangout for residents of the city in the afternoon heat. For a fitting finale to the day, sip a drink in one of the many riverside cafés watching the sun set.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 5: Phnom Penh/Siem Reap Drive from Phnom Penh to Siem Reap, the home base for exploring incredible Angkor Wat.

Drive from Phnom Penh to Siem Reap, the home base from which you will explore the incredible Angkor Wat tomorrow.

You can pre-book the Phare Circus with us as an optional activity today and enjoy a stellar performance by Phare, a unique and socially-conscious circus that injects Cambodian culture and history into its inspiring shows. See acrobatics, contortion, and aerial arts melded with theater, modern dance, and more. Take in stories of war, relationships, and discrimination, inspired by the real-life experiences of Phare's creators and performers.

Approximate travel time: 6 hrs by private vehicle.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 6: Siem Reap Enjoy a guided tour of the Angkor Wat temple complex. With free time in the afternoon, opt to visit the Tonlé Sap floating village and the

Angkor National Museum. Enjoy a traditional meal of Khmer food at a local home in a village outside the city.

Today, watch the sun rise over the massive Angkor temple complex during a guided tour. If you choose to visit the interactive Angkor National Museum, you will learn about the story of Angkor and the Khmer empire. The museum's inspiring galleries and interactive technology bring Angkor's past to life.

In the afternoon, you can choose to visit the Tonlé Sap floating village, where everyday life—growing rice, pig farming, even church and school—happens entirely on the water.”

For dinner, enjoy a traditional meal of Khmer food at a local home in a village outside the city or at the New Hope Vocational Training Restaurant.

Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner

Day 7: Siem Reap Spend another day exploring the temples of Angkor. In the afternoon, opt to going further afield in Siem Reap.

This morning, enjoy another day touring the impressive ancient ruins with a local guide. In the afternoon, you have more free time to explore Siem Reap and Angkor, the former capital of the Khmer kingdom and one of the wonders of the archaeological world. See some of the highlights of this ancient capital, like sunrise at the magnificent temple of Angkor Wat, the enigmatic Bayon within the walled city of Angkor Thom, and Ta Prohm, also known as the Tomb Raider temple.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 8: Siem Reap/Bangkok Fly from Cambodia to Thailand. Spend the rest of the day exploring the bustling city of Bangkok.

Catch a short morning flight from Siem Reap to Bangkok, the capital of the Kingdom of Thailand.

Upon arrival in Bangkok, check into the centrally-located hotel and enjoy some free time to explore the city.

Approximate travel time: 1.5 hrs by plane

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 9: Bangkok Head out and explore all you can in this sprawling city.

There's plenty to see and do in Bangkok, and we have several recommendations in the Optional Activities section below. Feel free to relax, head out to visit the Grand Palace, hop on a cycle tour of the city, or visit the National Museum. Your tour leader has more ideas if you need them. Just ask!

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 10: Bangkok/Kanchanaburi Enjoy a klong boat tour of Bangkok including a visit to Wat Pho. Travel to Kanchanaburi and head to your floating rafthouse accommodation.

Travel by longtail boat on the busy Chao Phraya River and through the small canals of western Bangkok's Thonburi district. Observe colorful scenes of everyday life along the river banks.

As part of the tour, visit Wat Po, a temple known for its reclining Buddha. Its feet are covered with mother-of-pearl engravings of Buddhist symbols. Explore the large grounds and other compounds to see other Buddha figures, murals, and the chedis that contain the ashes of Buddha. This is also the birthplace of traditional Thai massage.

In the evening, enjoy a unique experience sleeping aboard a floating raft house on the famous River Kwai.

Approximate travel time: 2-3 hrs by private vehicle

Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner

Day 11: Kanchanaburi Enjoy a day of sightseeing at Erawan Falls and the Bridge on the River Kwai.

Today, we'll explore the Kanchanaburi area. First, drive to visit the Erawan Waterfalls. Its seven tiers offer a unique experience at every climb, reaching up to 1,500 meters (4,921 ft). Swim in the turquoise pools, snap photos from the top tier, and opt to hike in the jungle to spot monkeys.

Then, take in a piece of World War II history on a visit to the Bridge on the River Kwai. Famous for the movie named after it, this beautiful bridge offers fabulous views of the river below.

Approximate travel time: 2-4 hrs by private vehicle

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 12: Kanchanaburi to Ayutthaya to Chiang Mai Explore the Allied War Cemetery and the Thai-Burmese Railway Centre to learn more about the area's history. Travel to Ayutthaya and visit the historical sites of the old capital city. In the evening board an overnight train to Chiang Mai.

This morning, visit the Thai-Burmese Railway Museum to learn about the Death Railway's dark history, and the Allied War Cemetery where more than 6,000 prisoners are buried.

Next, visit the ruins of Ayutthaya, which served as Thailand's capital from the 14th to 18th centuries, when it was one of the most magnificent cities in the world. Located 86km (53 mi) north of Bangkok, the ruins of this UNESCO World Heritage Site include stunning pagodas and Buddha images.

This evening, experience overnight travel like a local in a basic sleeper train with beds. Sit back and get some well-earned (and likely much-needed) rest en route to Chiang Mai.

Approximate travel time: 2 hrs by private vehicle, 12 hrs by sleeper train

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 13: Chiang Mai Arrive in Chiang Mai and explore the city. Visit Doi Suthep in the afternoon.

In the morning, arrive in Chiang Mai, a vibrant city with much to see and do. Famous for its night market and cooking classes, it's a feat to fit it all in. Experience the flavors and scents of traditional northern Thai cuisine by pre-booking the Northern Thai Cooking Class.

Start the day with a walk in the inner Old Town of Chiang Mai with your tour leader who will point out the landmarks and points of interest. They will also bring the group to the best spots to eat and teach everyone about the local street food. There will also be some free time.

In the afternoon, the group will visit Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, a golden Buddhist temple outside of Chiang Mai on the Mt Doi Suthep. Climb 300 steps to reach the temple for an unforgettable view. Admire the many Buddhist relics at this sacred temple and visit the white elephant shrine. Legend has it that the location of the temple was chosen after a white elephant carried a relic to the mountain and trumpeted three times before dying on the spot. With a little luck, you may witness the chanting of the monks.

Approximate travel time: 1.5 hrs by private vehicle

Day 14: Chiang Mai Take a full free day to relax or explore the countryside of northern Thailand.

Enjoy a free day in Chiang Mai.

If you enjoy cooking, we recommend pre-booking the Northern Thai cooking class. You'll take a trip to the market with your teacher and learn about regional flavors as you pick out fresh ingredients. Head back to the cozy kitchen for a hands-on lesson in whipping up delicious local favorites like hot and sour soup, green curry, and sticky rice.

Other suggested activities include a half-day cycling tour and a street food walk at the night market.

Meals included: Breakfast

Day 15: Chiang Mai Depart Chiang Mai at any time.

There are no planned activities today, so you may depart Chiang Mai at any time. The tour ends in Bangkok, and the main airport is **Chiang Mai International Airport (CNX)**. If you wish to extend your stay in Chiang Mai, consider requesting post-trip accommodation with us.

Please note that check-out time from the hotel is usually mid-morning, but luggage storage services are available at the reception desk.

Meals included: Breakfast

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Where you'll stay

The hotels listed below reflect the properties expected to be used for this program. Final accommodations are subject to change based on group size, availability, or seasonality. The confirmed start and end hotels are listed on your trip voucher:

Day 1 Ho Chi Minh City (Jun 18): Amory Hotel

Day 2 Ho Chi Minh City (Jun 19): Amory Hotel

Day 3 Phnom Penh (Jun 20): Pacific Hotel

Day 4 Phnom Penh (Jun 21): Pacific Hotel

Day 5 Siem Reap (Jun 22): Grand Bayon Siem Reap Hotel

Day 6 Siem Reap (Jun 23): Grand Bayon Siem Reap Hotel

Day 7 Siem Reap (Jun 24): Grand Bayon Siem Reap Hotel

Day 8 Bangkok (Jun 25): Prince Palace Hotel Bangkok

Day 9 Bangkok (Jun 26): Hotel Royal Bangkok @ Chinatown

Day 10 Kanchanaburi (Jun 27): Pung-Waan Resort

Day 11 Kanchanaburi (Jun 28): Good Times Resort

Day 12 Chiang Mai (Jun 29): Overnight Train

Day 13 Chiang Mai (Jun 30): Chiang Mai Gate Hotel

Day 14 Chiang Mai (Jul 1): Chiang Mai Gate Hotel

***Itinerary Disclaimer:** *While it is our intention to adhere to the routes described on our website, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable, to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The information on our website is a general guide to the tour and region, and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.*