



VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Southeast Asia Odyssey

February 22-March 11, 2024

19 days for \$7,497 total price from Washington, DC

(\$6,995 air & land inclusive plus \$502 airline taxes and fees)



This tour is provided by
Odysseys Unlimited,
seven-time honoree
Travel + Leisure's World's
Best Tour Operators award.



An Exclusive Small Group Tour for
Members of the Virginia Museum of Fine Arts



VIRGINIA MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS

Dear VMFA Members,

Travel with us on an exclusive 19-day journey to discover the diverse and intriguing landscapes and cultures of Southeast Asia. Witness stunning natural wonders, timeworn temple ruins, and modern cities on this well-paced adventure.

Begin in French-accented Hanoi and cruise on a traditional "junk" through famed Ha Long Bay's fairytale seascape. Tour charming Hoi An, riding a boat to its lively central market, and enjoy an interactive Vietnamese cooking class. An unforgettable experience awaits with three nights in Siem Reap, Cambodia, and extensive touring of the astounding Angkor Wat complex. In Luang Prabang, Laos, watch an alms-giving ceremony, explore the ancient city, and join in a community-based rice farm's activities. Take a two-day Mekong cruise aboard a private riverboat visiting hill tribe villages and overnighing in a riverside hotel. Reaching Thailand, meet the magnificent animals in an elephant sanctuary, then absorb life in fascinating Bangkok during a three-night stay. For those who wish to extend their journey, an optional 4-day/3-night post-tour extension to sophisticated Singapore is available.

Space on this exclusive program is limited and will fill quickly. Book today!

Sincerely,

Adele "Hutch" Livingston
Coordinator of Member Travel

THE VMFA RESERVATION FORM: SOUTHEAST ASIA ODYSSEY

To reserve your place on tour, please call **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765**. Please have the information outlined below available to share with an Odysseys Unlimited Travel Counselor.

If you prefer, you may also complete this Reservation Form and submit it to Odysseys Unlimited's office. Once this request is received, a Travel Counselor from Odysseys Unlimited will contact you within two business days to securely take your credit card information for the deposit. Your reservation is not confirmed until your deposit is paid and processed. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, or VISA, or by personal check. If paying by check, please make check payable to **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.** and include with the form. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure.

Send to: **Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.**
Attn: Special Interest Groups
One Newton Place
275 Washington Street, Suite 300
Newton, MA 02458

SOUTHEAST ASIA ODYSSEY • FEBRUARY 22-MARCH 11, 2024

I/We would like to request _____ place(s). (Deposit amount is \$500 per person.)

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Full Passport Name _____ Date of Birth _____ Gender _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Home Phone (_____) _____ Cell Phone (_____) _____

E-mail(s) _____ 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)

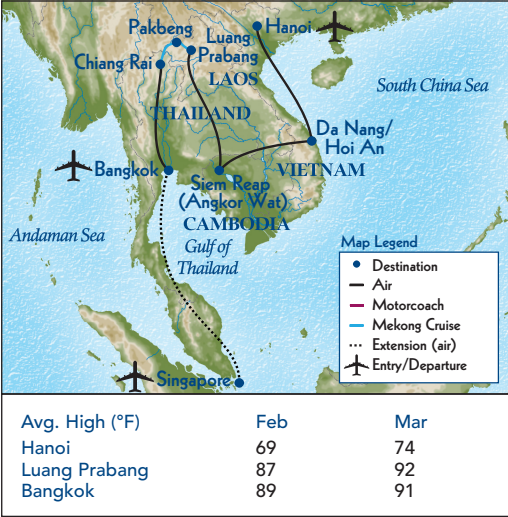
Post-Tour "Singapore" Extension: Please sign me/us up

Southeast Asia Odyssey

19 days for \$7,497 total price from Washington, DC

(\$6,995 air & land inclusive plus \$502 airline taxes and fees)

Exotic, diverse, intriguing ... This just begins to describe Southeast Asia and our small group odyssey. We cruise the Mekong through Laos, explore the spectacular – Angkor Wat – and the sublime – Ha Long Bay, and engage with local farmers and hill tribespeople on this comprehensive, well-paced adventure.



Day 1: Depart U.S. for Hanoi, Vietnam

Day 2: Arrive Hanoi We arrive in the Vietnamese capital late this evening then transfer to our hotel.

Day 3: Hanoi Our tour of this French-accented city begins in Ba Dinh Square at the revered mausoleum and home of Ho Chi Minh. Next: historic One Pillar Pagoda, a Buddhist retreat; the serene Temple of Literature (c. 1070); Hoa Lo Prison, the infamous “Hanoi Hilton” of the Vietnam War; and Hanoi’s Ancient Quarter, dense with street vendors, where we enjoy a welcome dinner at a local restaurant this evening. *B,D*

Day 4: Hanoi/Ha Long Bay We depart this morning on a full-day excursion to Ha Long Bay, a breathtaking waterway in the Gulf of Tonkin dotted with 2,000 islands and islets, and surrounded by limestone cliffs and hidden caves. Here we board a traditional “junk” for lunch and an afternoon cruise through the fairy-tale seascape, a UNESCO site. *B,L*

Day 5: Hanoi/Da Nang/Hoi An We fly this afternoon to Da Nang then continue on to Hoi An and our riverside hotel. We get our first glimpse of the Old Town and its colorful lanterns as we dine together this evening. *B,D*

Day 6: Hoi An An easy boat ride on the Thu Bon River brings us to the colorful ancient port of Hoi An. We tour the lively daily market, and stroll the shop- and gallery-lined back streets and alleyways of Old Town, now a UNESCO site. Tonight’s small group highlight: an interactive Vietnamese cooking class, followed by dinner. *B,D*

Day 7: Hoi An/Da Nang/Siem Reap, Cambodia We see local life up close this morning as we take a walking tour of a nearby farming settlement. Later we visit the acclaimed Cham Museum then transfer to the airport for the flight to Siem Reap, arriving this evening. *B,L*

Day 8: Siem Reap We make our first visit to the temples at the Angkor Wat complex, a small-scale city built between the 9th and 13th centuries and now a UNESCO site. We travel via *tuk-tuks* (auto rickshaws) to Angkor Thom, the last Khmer capital;

Small Group Tour Highlights

Hanoi sightseeing • Ha Long Bay cruise • Charming Hoi An • Extensive touring of Angkor Wat complex • Luang Prabang alms giving ceremony • Interactive rice farming experience • Two-day Mekong cruise with overnight in riverside lodge • Elephant sanctuary • Bangkok sightseeing

Day	Itinerary	Hotel	Rating
1	Depart U.S. for Hanoi		
2-4	Hanoi	Melia Hanoi	Sup. First Class
5-6	Hoi An	MGallery Hotel Royal Deluxe	
7-9	Siem Reap	Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra	Deluxe
10-12	Luang Prabang	My Ban Lao Hotel	Sup. First Class
13	Pakbeng (Mekong River)	Le Grand Pakbeng	Sup. First Class
14-15	Chiang Rai	The Riverie by Katathani	Deluxe
16-18	Bangkok	Royal Orchid Sheraton	Deluxe
19	Depart Bangkok for U.S.		

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

Cover Photo: We spend three days touring Cambodia’s Angkor Wat temple complex.



We visit the World Heritage site of Ha Long Bay on Day 4.

and Bayon Temple, an imposing stone edifice of 54 towers each carved with four enigmatic faces. We also explore 12th-century Ta Prohm, the mystical, decaying Buddhist shrine where the giant roots and limbs of banyan trees have overtaken the labyrinth of stone rooms and hallways. Later we tour stunning 12th-century Angkor Wat itself, the world's largest temple. *B,L,D*

Day 9: Siem Reap Today's highlights include the restored 12th-century monastery and temple complex at Preah Khan; and 10th-century Banteay Srei, the "citadel of women" dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva and known for its delicately carved pink sandstone. *B,D*

Day 10: Siem Reap/Luang Prabang, Laos This morning we visit Les Artisans d'Angkor, a development project for young adults to learn traditional crafts. Late this afternoon, we fly to Luang Prabang. *B,L,D*

Day 11: Luang Prabang Our introduction to Laos begins early today with a time-honored tradition: the "tak-bat," where hundreds of saffron-robed monks collect alms from their fellow Buddhists. Later we set out to explore this ancient royal city; our walking tour features the Old City, a UNESCO site, where we tour the beautiful 16th-century Wat Xieng Thong temple complex, and the National Museum, formerly the royal palace. We return to our hotel for an afternoon at leisure then enjoy dinner in a family restaurant set in a village outside the town and styled like a traditional Laotian stilted bamboo house. *B,D*

Day 12: Luang Prabang This morning we visit an elephant sanctuary - a community-based eco-project - in the scenic Nam Khan River valley. Then we learn about the lives of local farmers firsthand as we travel to a communal rice farm, where we enjoy

lunch before joining in such farm-based activities as bamboo weaving, blacksmith work, and sugar cane processing. *B,L*

Day 13: Luang Prabang/Mekong River Cruise/Pakbeng We begin a tour highlight today as we board a private riverboat for an upstream voyage on this remote stretch of the Mekong. Along the way we stop to visit villages of ethnic hill tribes, and the Pak Ou Buddha Caves, housing hundreds of Buddha icons. We enjoy lunch on board our boat, a traditional wooden river cruiser with unob-

Post-Tour Extension

March 11-14, 2024

Singapore

4 days/3 nights for \$1,495 total price

Single Supplement: \$395

*Encounter this multi-cultural city-state,
at once exotic and sophisticated.*

Your Tour Price Includes

- Air transportation Bangkok/Singapore, including transfers
- 3 nights' accommodations at Carlton City Hotel Singapore (Superior First Class)
- 5 meals: 3 breakfasts, 2 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing, including Singapore cultural tour, bumboat ride on Singapore River, National Orchid Garden, and Gardens by the Bay
- Private motorcoach transportation
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited representative
- Gratuities for dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



FROM A WITHERED TREE,
A FLOWER BLOOMS.”

– GAUTAMA BUDDHA

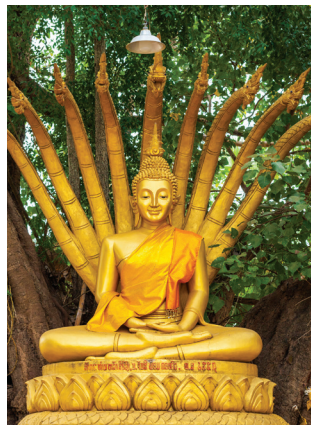
structed views of the Mekong’s lush banks. Upon arrival in Pakbeng, we check in at our hotel, where we dine tonight. *B,L,D*

Day 14: Pakbeng/Mekong River Cruise/Chiang Rai, Thailand Back on board our riverboat today, we cruise past wild and diverse mountain scenery, stopping to visit a small village. After crossing the border into Thailand, we transfer to our hotel in Chiang Rai. *B,L,D*

Day 15: Chiang Rai At this morning’s Thai cooking class, we prepare the feast that we’ll enjoy for lunch today. Then we pay an afternoon visit to Wat Rong Khun, the unusual “White Temple” celebrating Lord Buddha’s purity. Tonight: Chiang Rai’s lively night market, where we can select dinner on our own from the many food stalls. *B,L*

Day 16: Chiang Rai/Bangkok Today we visit the Doi Tung Royal Villa and Gardens, the former home of the king’s mother who led efforts against the heroin trade. Late today we fly to Bangkok. *B,L,D*

Day 17: Bangkok We discover the Thai capital at the colorful Flower Market; Wat Pho Temple, home of the gold-leafed Reclining Buddha; and the splendid Grand Palace complex, where we visit the revered Temple of the Emerald Buddha. *B,L*



Golden Buddha, Luang Prabang

Day 18: Bangkok This morning’s visit to the Jim Thompson House reveals the prized Southeast Asian art collection of the American who revived the Thai



We spend two days cruising the Mekong.

silk industry. Tonight we celebrate our southeast Asia odyssey at a farewell dinner. *B,D*

Day 19: Depart for U.S. Today we transfer to the airport for our return flights to the U.S. *B*

Tour Departs: February 22, 2024

Prices include int'l airfare and all taxes, surcharges, and fees.

Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle	\$7,097
Atlanta, Dallas, New York, Phoenix, Portland (OR)	\$7,397
Boston, Chicago, Denver, Detroit, Houston, Minneapolis, Washington, DC	\$7,497
Baltimore, Charlotte, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Miami, Orlando, Philadelphia, Tampa	\$7,597
Land Only (transfers not included)	\$5,995

Please call if your city is not listed. Prices are per person based on double occupancy and include airline taxes, surcharges, and fees of \$502, which are subject to change until final payment is made.

Single travelers please add \$1,795. All tour prices above (excluding airline taxes, surcharges, and fees) are guaranteed.

Certain U.S. cities may require an evening flight from Bangkok (or Singapore on the Post-Tour Extension), arriving in the U.S. on Day 20.

Business Class upgrade on round-trip international flight: \$4,995 from JFK, LAX, SFO, SEA; \$6,595 from other cities (upgrade subject to availability and pricing subject to change). Upgrade cost is in addition to the costs above.

For reservations and information, please call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at

888-370-6765

Monday–Friday, 9:00 AM–7:00 PM, Eastern Time

For further information, contact VMFA Member Travel at

804-340-1519

Your Tour Price Includes

- Round-trip air transportation from listed cities; all flights within itinerary
- 17 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe and Superior First Class hotels
- 38 meals: 17 breakfasts, 10 lunches, 11 dinners
- Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
- Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
- Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
- Luggage handling for one bag per person
- Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers



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VMFA Member Travel
200 N. Arthur Ashe Boulevard
Richmond, VA 23220-4007

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; immunizations, inoculations, and COVID-19 testing; personal expenses such as beverages, laundry, room service, and meals not specified; airport transfers when purchasing a Land Only package; communication charges; gratuities to your Odysseys Unlimited tour director or shipboard personnel, which are at your discretion (suggested gratuities: \$10-\$15 per traveler, per day); optional sightseeing or shore excursions, and travel protection insurance. Additional baggage fees may apply and are subject to change at any time. You should confirm directly with your airline(s) prior to departure.

Cancellations, Refunds, and Changes: If you must cancel your trip, the effective date of cancellation will be upon Odysseys Unlimited, Inc.'s receipt of your notification. Refunds for cancellations are subject to the following per person charges: **cancel 95 days or more before departure: \$200 charge; cancel 94-95 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 you make any changes to your reservation from 94 to 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 VMFA, as sponsor; Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., as tour operator, is strictly limited. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. purchases transportation, hotel accommodations, and 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, or of their employees, agents, servants, or representatives. VMFA 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 lines, 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.

VMFA Member Travel reserves the right to use photos that might include you in marketing materials and for other purposes unless you specify otherwise.

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 must be able to get on and off motorcoaches and boats on your own.** We regret that we cannot offer individual assistance; in such cases you will be accompanied by a companion who will assist you. Please note that many of our tour itineraries, for reasons beyond our control, do not accommodate wheelchairs. Please call or e-mail us to inquire and we will do our best to answer any questions you may have. 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, VMFA 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 the company feels 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 assignment on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments.** Due to the nature of our operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and 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.**

COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols: *The well-being of our guests and staff members on tour will continue to be our highest priorities. To maintain a healthy environment for travel, we will be establishing and adhering to a detailed set of health and safety protocols for all facets of your tour. We are committed to following the guidelines of the State Department, CDC, WHO, and authorities of respective countries regarding travel to a particular destination. Detailed protocols for this tour, based on conditions at the time, will be provided to you prior to your departure.*



JOIN US FOR
AN EXCLUSIVE VMFA
TOUR TO SOUTHEAST ASIA!

Guaranteed Small Group