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YOUR SOUTHEAST ASIA HOLIDAY WITH WENDY WU TOURS

Southeast Asia is home to amazing sights and wonders of the world. To cruise between towering limestone cliffs in Halong Bay, stand in awe before Angkor Wat, revel in bustling Bangkok or wander between crumbling temples in Burma is the fulfilment of a lifelong dream. Yet, these fascinating experiences could be just the start of an amazing journey across one of the world’s most captivating continent. Expect lands of contrast, unique and compelling landscapes, incredible history, heritage and culture – all quite unlike anything you might have imagined.

Your Wendy Wu Tours experience begins before you travel and we are there every step of the way until you return home. Our customers are our priority, and we will do all we can to ensure your holiday is one to remember.

This Travel Guide provides you with practical advice and cultural information to help you prepare for your holiday. We are aware that this can seem like a lot of reading material, but we ask that you take some time to familiarise yourself with this information prior to departure and refer to the contents within throughout your travels.

Your Tour Dossier provides a straightforward description of the physical activities involved in each day’s sightseeing for your itinerary. If there are any particular challenges, from the length of time spent on your feet, the duration of drives and flights, to the standard of remote accommodation in our more off the beaten track destinations; they will be explained in your Tour Dossier.

MORE ABOUT YOUR HOLIDAY

Almost everything will be different to what you may be used to. We have found that our passengers who embark with a sense of humour and adventure, who accept that things do not always go to plan, are those who find their experience most rewarding. Although Southeast Asia is developing quickly, please note that health and safety standards overseas can differ greatly from those we enjoy at home and are often of a lower standard. However, all of our suppliers meet local and national safety standards as a minimum.

A typical day’s sightseeing may include the bustle and noise of a city street, the sights and smells of a local market and interacting with the locals. Travelling in Southeast Asia requires patience and potential delays are to be expected due to different standards of service. There is a low level of English spoken throughout Southeast Asia, so your National Escort/Local Guides will be indispensable during your trip.

At Wendy Wu Tours we are continually working with our suppliers to maintain and improve safety standards by seeking good practice in health and safety and we will do our best to ensure that your holiday is safe and trouble free. Part of the enjoyment of travelling abroad is experiencing a different way of life and culture, but it may also mean experiencing different safety and hygiene standards than those we are used to in the UK. We want you to have an enjoyable holiday so we ask that you take extra care, use your common sense as well as refer to notices and follow the advice from your National Escort/Local Guides.

Our tours are operated at a moderate pace with appropriate rest stops and are designed to be comfortable for people of all ages. A normal level of fitness and mobility is all that is required to enjoy our tours – unless stated in your Tour Dossier.

JOINING YOUR TOUR

Check-in Information: Most airlines allow online check in 24-48 hours prior to departure. Make sure you have your passport and airline reference number handy. Your airline reference number can be found on your e-ticket receipt. You will be able to select your seats and you must print your boarding pass. At the airport, go to the Bag Drop Area of your airline to check your luggage in. Please note that some airlines will allow you to pre-book seats outside the 24 hours but may charge you a fee which needs to be paid to the airline directly by phone or via their website. However, some airlines do not allow online check in. Please refer to your airlines website for further information. We recommend you arrive at the airport 3 hours prior to departure, even if you have checked in; this is due to the increased security measures now in place at all airports.

If you do not have access to the internet, we again recommend you arrive at the airport 3 hours prior to departure and you may either use one of the available check-in desks or use the self-service kiosks and take your luggage to the ‘drop-off’ area.

Baggage Information: We recommend that you do not exceed 20kgs of checked in baggage on your international flights as many of the domestic airlines within Southeast Asia have a luggage allowance of only 20kgs. As a guide, your main baggage should not exceed the following dimensions: 90cm x 75cm x 43cm (35.5ins x 29.5ins x 16ins), including the handle, pockets and wheels, and your cabin baggage should not exceed 55cm x 40cm x 20cm (22ins x 16in x 8ins), maximum weight 5kgs. For further information please refer to your airlines website.

Terminal Information: This is shown on your e-ticket.

On arrival in Southeast Asia, you will be met by your National Escort or Local Guide.
WHILST ON TOUR

Every location on the itinerary will be visited with entrance fees to the main areas included, although the order may change depending on weather, traffic, last minute alterations or other conditions. If you wish to visit places that are not included in the itinerary, you may do so at your own cost, please check in advance with your National Escort. After a day’s sightseeing, you may sometimes be taken directly to dinner rather than have the opportunity to go back to the hotel to shower and rest first. Whilst out sightseeing, western toilets are difficult to find in remote areas.

NATIONAL ESCORTS

Should there be less than 10 people in total within the group, you will NOT have a National Escort; however, you will be met by the local guide on arrival and you will have one in each city you visit on the tour. If you do have a National Escort they will meet you upon arrival and stay with you throughout your tour.

On multi-country tours, you will have a different National Escort for each country you visit.

Our National Escort/Local Guides always endeavour to provide the highest level of service and assistance, but they cannot be expected to cater for passengers who are unfit to complete the itinerary.

FESTIVALS

Tet Nguyen-Dan or ‘Tet’ is the Vietnamese New Year celebration, which lasts for three days in late January or early February. However, in reality, the celebrations go for up to ten days. During the Tet holiday, all businesses are closed and work in Vietnam slows down. Tet will be celebrated on 16th February 2018 and 5th February 2019. Please expect tourist sites to be busier than usual. New Year celebrations for Cambodia, Laos and Thailand are in mid-April every year. In Burma the main festival is the Water Festival which is held from 13th April – 17th April. Businesses will also be closed during these periods and tourist sites will be busier than usual.

TIPPING

Tipping is a firm and expected element in the tourism industry today and Southeast Asia is no exception. We strive to establish trust with our guides who rely on and expect tips from passengers. If the guides are keen to work with our passengers regularly, they become familiar with our itineraries as well as the Wendy Wu Tours’ philosophy and expectations we have of their work.

Many passengers are often uncertain of how much to tip, so we have established a tipping system whereby every passenger gives a set amount (in US Dollars) to the National Escort who will distribute the amount appropriately throughout your trip. On multi-country trips, this amount will be paid in stages on arrival in each country. All group tour passengers are expected to contribute to the tipping kitty. (If there is no National Escort, please give the money directly to your Local Guides – the tipping amounts for each city will be shown in your final itinerary).

The amount for the kitty is calculated for each tour depending on the length, group size and services used during the trip. Your final documents and invoice will specify the exact tipping amount for your group. The tipping kitty will cover local guides and drivers in each city/province, local and/or site guides and your National Escort. Porterage to your room is not included.

For Independent Travellers, or group passengers with pre/post tour arrangements, please follow the below tables for suggested tipping amounts per person per day:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Tour Guide</th>
<th>Drivers</th>
<th>Boat drivers</th>
<th>Hotel Maid</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thailand/ Vietnam/ Cambodia/ Laos</td>
<td>$8-$10</td>
<td>$3-$5</td>
<td>$2</td>
<td>$2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Tour Guide</th>
<th>Drivers</th>
<th>Boat drivers</th>
<th>Porters</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Burma*</td>
<td>US$10</td>
<td>US$5</td>
<td>US$5</td>
<td>US$1 per bag</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Driver</th>
<th>Boat/JEEP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Borneo</td>
<td>MYR 15</td>
<td>MYR 15</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* It is recommended in Burma to have smaller notes of 500K or 1,000K to tip others who offer assistance.

OPTIONAL EXCURSIONS

A number of optional excursions will be offered by your National Escort/Local Guide whilst on a flexible tour. These can range from US$30-US$150 per person and involve experiences such as Saigon Vespa Tour, learning farming & fishing techniques in Hoi An.
All optional excursions include return transfers and are accompanied by an expert local guide. These excursions are not included in the cost of your tour. Payments will need be collected locally by our representative upon your arrival, once you are happy with your choice of tours.

If you do not wish to take part in any optional excursions, please make arrangements with your guides to enjoy some free time at leisure or to return to the hotel.

Please note that these optional tours are subject to local conditions and might be cancelled at short notice, for example if the weather is very poor or minimum numbers for participation are not achieved. Your national escort will be very happy to assist you with more information if required.

In addition, you will also need to consider additional discretionary tipping for any local guide/vendor/driver who is involved in such activities.

EATING IN SOUTHEAST ASIA

The cost of all meals is included in our Classic Group tours. You may like to drink beer, soft drinks, fruit juice or bottled water with your meals – please note drinks are not included in your tour price so payment for these is made directly to the restaurant staff.

On Immersse Yourself and Exclusive Collection tours, meal inclusions are listed in your itinerary.

Breakfast is served in the hotel and usually includes western dishes. As is traditional across Southeast Asia, lunch and dinner consists of small dishes of local cuisine which are prepared and brought out to the table for everyone to share, so you can experience a variety of speciality dishes. We aim to cater to the tastes of the majority of people and so the food is not too spicy or unusual in taste.

The cuisine across the countries of Southeast Asia share many similarities — simplicity, the perfect balance of spicy, sour, bitter, salty and sweet, plenty of fresh herbs and spices and, of course, lots of rice. Each place, though, has its own unique influences; be it from afar, like France and the UK, be it their near neighbours, for example India and China, or from the ethnic minority groups that live in each country. Street food is also huge in all Southeast Asian countries, there’s no better place to pick up a delicious, freshly-cooked snack as you explore. Here a little about the cuisine in each country:

Vietnam – One of the world’s most popular cuisines thanks to its simplicity, richness of flavour and healthiness, Vietnamese food uses minimal but plentiful fresh ingredients to achieve maximum taste! Don’t miss a steaming bowl of ‘pho’, a delicious noodle soup with a rich broth and thinly sliced meat, and the Franco-Viet ‘banh mi’, a crusty baguette filled with pate, coriander, cucumber and pickles.

Cambodia – Although it shares much in common with neighbours Thailand and Vietnam, the most common flavour in Cambodian cooking is prahok, a fermented fish paste, or kroeung, a paste of lemongrass and galangal. Of course, these are perfectly balanced with other flavours. Freshwater fish is a big part of Cambodian cooking and is the star of the country’s most famous dish, ‘amok’, a steamed coconut milk and kroeung curry.

Burma – With lots of influence from India and China, in Burma you can expect to dine on delicious curries, noodles and dhals. Flavours here lean towards sour and savoury, and a typical meal consists of rice with sides such as soup, curry and salad. The Burmese also like a lot of condiments, like chutneys and pickles to spice up their meals! Have a try of ‘lephet’, pickled tea leaf salad, a uniquely Burmese dish.

Laos – Sticky rice is at the heart of Laos’ cuisine and is eaten at all meals as the centrepiece – all other dishes are just sides! Meals include plenty of local, fresh vegetables, meat and fish are grilled and steamed, and dishes tend to be dry and spicy – galangal, lemongrass and padaek (fermented fish sauce) are often used. There’s also still plenty of French influence here, with baguettes and croissants available everywhere.

Thailand – Thai cuisine is a sensation all over the world, famous for its lightly prepared dishes with strong aromatic flavours. Many herbs and spices are used, as well as fish sauce, across the country, but from region to region local foods vary depending on climate and geography – for example in the north there’s lots of sticky rice and chilli paste, whilst in the south there’s plenty of coconut milk and turmeric.

Borneo – In Bornean cuisine, flavours tend to be vibrant and intense thanks to locally grown spices such as turmeric and lemongrass, whilst fresh seafood, exotic fruits and vegetables often feature. The foods of both Sabah and Sarawak reflects each state’s culture uniqueness, the cuisine being particularly influenced by its diverse population, with each ethnic group bringing their own cooking styles and ingredients to the mix.

Any food/diet requests should have been specified at the time of booking and you should mention it again to the National Escort/Local Guides when you meet them – they will do their utmost to cater for any special requests, such as vegetarian meals or food to be avoided in case of allergies. Please bear in mind that dietary intolerances and choices are quite unusual in Southeast Asia – patience and understanding will go a long way when dealing with people who might not understand your
requirements. Whilst travelling away from major cities, it is highly recommended that passengers with food intolerances take additional food items, as not all dietary requests will be met due to the limited foods available.

Please be aware that on some days where a lot of sights are covered, dinner times may be early (around 5.30pm) and your tour group may head directly to the restaurant after sightseeing.

TRANSPORT

We use a variety of transportation to operate your itinerary at the best pace and to give you an authentic travel experience so you are not always ‘removed’ from the locals. Travel through Southeast Asia requires patience as schedule changes are common and the road conditions are poor in some rural areas.

Domestic Flights

The flight schedule of domestic airlines in this region changes frequently, hence all domestic flights that appear in your itinerary are subject to change. Please ensure that all valuables and any medications you may need for the rest of the day are taken on board with you. The luggage limit is 20kg per passenger with 5kg hand baggage, and all seats are economy class. Airlines currently do not allow liquids (alcohol, spirits, wine, water, perfume etc) or sharp objects to be carried on-board the aircraft and these will be confiscated. Wendy Wu Tours issues all internal domestic flight tickets in Southeast Asia and they will be handled by your National Escort / Local Guide and given to each passenger just prior to their flight.

Coaches

Our coaches are comfortable, air-conditioned vehicles, although they may be less spacious than coaches in the UK. Please note – in many parts of the world, seatbelts are not compulsory by law and local people largely choose not to wear them. Wendy Wu Tours cannot guarantee that vehicles will be fitted with operable seatbelts. Where available we recommend seat belts should be worn at all times while travelling. Please Note: Mini buses may be used for smaller groups (under 10 passengers).

Overnight Trains

All overnight train travel will be in first class ‘soft sleeper’ trains, which are the best available in Southeast Asia. Each compartment is shared by four people and is air-conditioned, with lockable doors and four beds which are fixed in place. There is room for passengers to sit on the lower berths. A pillow, clean sheets and a quilt are provided. In Thailand, second class sleeper carriages are used, where the whole car is shared. There are privacy curtains for each berth.

Your National Escort/Local Guides will try to organise the whole group to be sleeping in the same carriage but in busy periods of travel, this may not be possible. Each group will receive tickets with sequential berth numbers; these may be sharing with people from another tour group/company, or with some of the locals. We regret that it is not possible to arrange private train cabins.

There is usually a western style toilet at one end and a squat toilet at the other end of the carriage. Hot drinking water is available from a boiler which is located at the end of the carriage.

Pack for the train: We recommend you bring a small overnight bag to carry whatever you need until the following morning as you will not have access to your main luggage which will be stored on a separate carriage of the train. Consider including a face towel, all toiletries, medication you require until midday next day, a tracksuit or similar outfit to sleep in and toilet paper, as the train supply tends to run out. There is no dining car, so please carry snacks with you.

Please note: The train system abides by the same regulations as the airlines with regards to liquids. They do not allow cigarette lighters, bottles of liquid, alcohol, spirits/wine, juice, water, perfume etc (regardless if they have been opened), or sharp objects to be carried onto the trains. Items of this nature will be confiscated if you attempt to carry them on board.

Keeping valuables safe on the train: Carry all valuables with you at all times. A passenger should remain in the compartment at all times to watch all belongings. Your main luggage must have a lock on it.

Boats

Your tour could include taking a ride in a wooden boat on the Mekong, in modern speedboats between Phnom Penh and Chau Doc or on a Cruise on Halong Bay. To access the boat, you may need to cross between moving pontoons or other boats that have been moored together (particularly at Halong Bay and Nha Trang), climb steps and disembark onto makeshift docks – sometimes without assistance or handrails; or onto muddy riverbanks.

Bicycles / Motorbikes / Jeeps

If at any time you choose to ride on a bicycle, motorbike, jeep or tuk-tuk, you must bear responsibility for yourself. We strongly advise against using them as health and safety standards will not be the same as in the UK and it is very unlikely that your travel insurance will cover this form of activity. Please also be aware that safety helmets are generally not available for hire.
ROAD CONDITIONS & TRAFFIC

Although road conditions are improving, there are rough, unsealed roads covering vast areas of rural and mountainous regions across Southeast Asia which can result in existing road surfaces being affected by heavy or monsoonal rains.

The number of vehicles in Southeast Asia is rapidly increasing. Please keep in mind that major events or holidays and new construction projects create traffic that can interfere with your tour and meal times. Your National Escort/Local Guides will do their utmost to avoid possible delays, changes or in rare cases, cancellations to sections of your itinerary.

ACCOMMODATION

Hotels

Group tour hotels are mainly 3½ – 4 star, located conveniently in the city, near markets or shops. Double beds are not common; please note that we cannot guarantee their availability. All beds in Southeast Asia have hard mattresses.

Hotel rooms will usually have private western bathroom facilities, television, air-conditioning and a telephone (unless stated otherwise). Some hotels may have hot water restrictions, operating for only a few hours at a time, usually in the mornings/evenings. It is not customary for hotels in Southeast Asia to have in-room fridges, tea/coffee making facilities and a safe deposit box. Most hotel rooms do not have irons or boards, but most will offer a laundry service that can wash your clothes (typically in 24hrs).

Most hotels throughout Southeast Asia are still required to register all guests with the local police. Reception staff will collect your passports each time you check-in and the hotel will keep them safely for a few hours or overnight. Please keep this in mind if you need to exchange money or get a credit advance at the bank.

In Southeast Asia, check-out time is usually 12 midday and check-in time is usually 2pm. Please keep this in mind on the days when you are travelling between cities as it may result in a delay of access to your room or a change of itinerary. Hotels in this region cannot guarantee late check-out. At many hotels, the reception staff speak very little English. If you require help, please contact your tour guide.

Hotel Ratings

Worldwide star ratings identify the standard of quality for hotels, however not all star rating systems are created equal. Countries throughout the world adopt various classification systems for hotels in accordance to their chain name and the type of hotel. No international classification system exists. Typically, a three-star Southeast Asian rated hotel cannot be compared to a three-star UK rated hotel. Attempts at unifying the classification system have been made so that it becomes an internationally recognised and reliable standard. However, differences do exist in the quality of accommodation which plays an integral part in defining which hotel category the specific accommodation fits into. Please be advised that all hotels used by Wendy Wu Tours are regularly inspected by our staff and our operators so that high standards of quality and safety are maintained.

Please be aware that hotels in Laos and in regional areas of Vietnam and Cambodia may not always have the same quality standards and infrastructure that you will find in the bigger, more developed areas. In these regions, Wendy Wu Tours endeavours to provide the best quality available within the 3½ – 4 star range.

Burma

Hotels in Burma are generally ‘medium range’ and can vary greatly between one area to the next. In remote areas we utilise properties that are the best available which can accommodate the size of our groups. At each hotel your National Escort will try to organise the rooming arrangements to suit everyone’s requirements. If you are travelling as a couple please note that we cannot guarantee the availability of double beds.

Rangoon and Mandalay offer a good choice of accommodation; however in Bagan and the Inle Lake region, travellers should not expect the same standard, but instead a selection of more traditional accommodation, which is simple and basic in décor and design.

Halong Bay Cruise

Accommodation is in a twin berth cabin with private western facilities. Single cabins are available at a supplement on request.

Mekong Delta Homestay – Vietnam

Accommodation is at the home of a local farmer, which has a river view. Your bedding is an individual soft camp bed with a mosquito net in a dormitory of up to ten people. There are showers and western toilets in an outside block; similar to caravan parks. Usually there is only cold water for showers but most people do not mind this at all due to the hot weather all year-round in the Mekong.

ELECTRICITY

There is an electricity supply of 220 volts throughout Southeast Asia, in the cities and most towns. 240-volt appliances will work safely with this supply. However, there is no universal power point; they vary not just from one country to the next but from one hotel to another. You can buy adaptors, also known as conversion plugs, from hardware, department and duty free stores.
In Vietnam – vertical two-pin (US) plug or round two-pin (Europe) plug.

Cambodia – round two-pin (Europe) plug or flat three-pin (UK) plug.

In Laos – vertical two-pin (US) plug.

In Burma – round two-pin (Europe) plug or flat three-pin (UK) plug.

In Thailand – vertical two-pin (US) plug or round two-pin (Europe) plug or round three-pin Old British plug.

In Borneo - The electricity supply is 230 volts and the plugs have three square prongs like British ones.

US Plug

Europe Plug

Old British Plug

In some areas there is a lesser electricity supply of 110 volts, which is available only a few hours each day from the town’s supply or from a diesel generator. Whenever there is limited electricity supply this will also mean limited hot water supply. Remote and village areas also experience power surges or outages, both of which can make re-charging electrical appliances very difficult. We advise you to bring a supply of batteries (bought in the UK) with you to allow for days when you cannot recharge.

Burmese

Although Burma (Burma) uses 220V, this can occasionally increase to 300V and then drop to 100V. Short power cuts are not uncommon even in the capital Rangoon. From March through to May, the electric power is supplied in a rotating system from quarter to quarter in and around Rangoon. Most of the popular tourist destinations still have rationing. However, most major hotels have their own generator.

LUGGAGE

All passengers are limited to two (2) items of luggage each:

- One (1) suitcase or backpack, with a maximum weight of 20kg. Your main luggage must have a lock on it.
- One (1) piece of hand luggage, with a maximum weight of 5kg. It is advisable that your hand luggage consist of a ‘daypack’ – a small bag which you can access during the day and carry items like your camera, bottled water, toilet paper, hat etc.

We have included suggested packing lists and climate charts at the back of this travel guide.

MONEY

Here is a reference table of approximate exchange rates (for up to date exchange rates, please check before you travel):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Vietnam</th>
<th>Laos</th>
<th>Cambodia</th>
<th>Thailand</th>
<th>Burma</th>
<th>Borneo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>GB£1</td>
<td>31,000</td>
<td>11,300</td>
<td>5,500</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>1,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>US$1</td>
<td>22,700</td>
<td>8,300</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>1,350</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Correct at the time of printing – January 2018)

Vietnam

The local currency is the dong and is written as “đ” or “VND” (Viet Nam Dong). It is available in notes of 200đ up to 500,000đ although the lesser notes are rarely seen and larger value notes are being converted to plastic. Shop keepers will sometimes quote a price in USD, but it may be better to ask for price in VND.

We recommend that you take mainly cash which can be exchanged at hotels and banks, but you will need to check with your Local Guide before travelling to smaller towns. USD can be exchanged everywhere so if you have any left over from another trip, you can bring this also. US Dollars should be from the new series from the year 2003 onwards. Old series notes can be difficult to exchange, apart from some national banks in Vietnam, such as Vietcombank. 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. When exchanging, the largest note usually given is 100,000đ so you will have a huge wad of notes. Please only carry what you will need each day to avoid unwanted attention.

The most reliable ATMs are at the ANZ banks in Hanoi (near Hoan Kiem Lake) and Saigon (opposite side of roundabout from the Renaissance Riverside Hotel). There are also Vietcom Bank ATMs in major towns including Hue, Hoi An, Danang, Nha Trang, Can Tho and Vung Tau. ANZ and Vietcom ATMs accept Visa and MasterCard, enabling you to withdraw directly from your debit account in the UK if your card has these symbols. Try to withdraw as few times as possible because overseas withdrawal fees are very high. Check with your bank.
before departing the UK. All ATMs in Vietnam dispense VND notes only.

Cambodia
The local currency is the riel, and is written as “r” – however the economy runs on USD. Usually you will be given riel as change for amounts under US$1. You will need to have a supply of USD notes of US$20 or less, as the locals often do not accept notes above that value.

We recommend you take cash as there are only a few locations in Cambodia (i.e. hotels) where you can exchange Sterling currency into USD. It is easier and you will get a better conversion rate if you buy USD before leaving the UK. There are ATMs in Phnom Penh and Siem Reap and at each of their international airports (next to the visa issuing stations). Try to withdraw as few times as possible because overseas withdrawal fees are very high. Check with your bank before departing the UK. ATMs in Cambodia dispense USD notes only.

Laos
The local currency is the kip, however the economy runs on USD and Thai baht. It is available in notes of 1,000kip up to 20,000kip. Usually you will be given kip as change for amounts under US$1. You will need to have a supply of USD notes of US$20 or less, as the locals often do not accept notes above that value.

We recommend you take cash in USD which can be exchanged at major (Thai) banks in Vientiane, or at upmarket hotels in Vientiane and Luang Prabang. It is easier and you will get a better conversion rate if you buy USD before leaving the UK. There are only a small handful of ATMs in Laos, mainly in Luang Prabang. The most convenient are those found at the airport and the bank near the post office. Only a few upmarket hotels and tourist shops in Vientiane and Luang Prabang accept American Express, Visa and MasterCard (but will charge high commission).

Thailand
The Thai unit of currency is the baht, where 1 baht is divided into 100 satang. Notes are in denominations of 1,000 (brown), 500 (purple), 100 (red), 50 (blue), 20 (green) and 10 (brown) baht. Coins consist of 25 satang, 50 satang, 1 baht, 5 baht and 10 baht.

Most major currencies can be changed easily at hotels, tourist shops, all provincial banks, shopping centres and money changers. Rates of exchange at banks or authorised money changers are better than those at hotels and department stores. Travellers leaving Thailand may take out no more than 50,000 baht per person in Thai currency. Most outlets take all major credit cards and ATM machines are readily available, where the exchange rate is automatic. Some carry a sizeable surcharge per withdrawal so check with your credit card company beforehand. Not all ATM machines take all kinds of cards; many will not take Visa or MasterCard, or will take one but not the other. Please ensure that you look for the credit card logos on the ATM signs.

Burma
The official Burma currency is Kyat (pronounced ‘Chat’).

You will need to ensure you exchange all your required currency into US Dollars before arrival. Please be careful when exchanging money from GBP to USD, as only crisp, new USD notes are accepted; any tears or folds in the note will be rejected. This applies for when you are exchanging money into Kyat and also when you are handing tipping money to your guide. Notes: Kyat 1000, Kyat 500, Kyat 200, Kyat 100, Kyat 50, Kyat 20, Kyat 15, Kyat 10, Kyat 5, Kyat 1.

We do not recommend exchanging money at the airport upon arrival as the exchange rate is not very favourable. There are several authorised money changers in Burma who will exchange USD into Kyat. We suggest exchanging notes over USD$50 for more favourable rates. Your National Escort will advise where you can change your USD into Kyat. Please be sure to keep your receipts as these may be requested by Burmese Customs upon your departure.

Most hotels in Burma accept credit cards.

Borneo
The currency of Malaysia is ‘ringgits’, written MYR and represented by ‘RM’. One ringgit is divided into 100 sen. Notes come in denominations of RM1, RM5, RM10, RM20, RM50 and RM100 whilst you’ll find coins come as 5, 10, 20 and 50s.

It is extremely easy to change money throughout Malaysia, and the exchange booths generally accept all major currencies. It is also best to change all your money on arrival in Malaysia as you will get a better exchange rate here than at home. You can change your money at the bank, or try one of the many moneychanger kiosks that are found in bigger towns – they tend to have a slightly better exchange rate. Hotels do often offer currency exchange, but the rates will not be as good as the banks and moneychangers. Ripped, damaged and scruffy notes will not be exchanged.

Whilst the use of credit and debit cards is becoming more widespread, particularly in the cities, Malaysia is still a cash-based society, so it’s better to have the cash to pay for everything. ATMS are easy to find in the cities and tourist spots – try Maybank or Public Bank. Please note you are likely to be
charged for using your debit card overseas and it is always a good idea to let your bank know you are travelling abroad.

MORE ABOUT MONEY & TRAVELLING

Spending Money: We recommend you take local currency as well as Sterling and/or US Dollars. We also recommend taking a debit and/or credit card. Please ensure you have sufficient funds to pay for personal expenses such as drinks, snacks, souvenirs, additional tipping and optional extras. On an average two week tour, we would recommend approx. £300-£400 per person spending money depending on your needs.

Outside of major cities, local banks do not have any ATMs and are not licensed to exchange foreign currency.

Please ensure that you organise your spending money before you leave a major town and take enough cash in local currency or USD to exchange or spend during your stay.

Plan ahead: Be prepared with enough cash in hand for the next few days. Once you have started your tour, you will quickly get a sense of how often or how much you need to exchange money. Try not to leave this to the last minute: exchange desks can close, ATMs can run out of cash and your group could be scheduled to leave your hotel at 7am tomorrow morning!

Keep some of your exchange receipts: You can convert any unused notes into USD at the international airport exchange desks when you depart. You will need to present your passport, airline ticket and some receipts of the money exchanged/withdrawn in Southeast Asia. Some banks in the UK may be able to convert your money back into Sterling, however please check before departing the UK.

Counterfeit Cash: This is a problem in Southeast Asia so shop owners and clerks at banks or exchange desks are very cautious and can refuse to accept notes in bad condition. When purchasing cash in the UK or when exchanging them during your holiday – it is a good idea to stand at the desk to count and check the condition of each note. Do not accept any notes which are torn, very faded, a different shade, have ink stamps or any writing on them. If you accept the notes and sign the exchange receipt, then notice a problem, you will not be able to exchange them.

Outside of major towns banking becomes less reliable and requires you to plan ahead. If you are travelling to remote areas, you should take cash in USD as Sterling currency is not always recognised.

We do not recommend taking any travellers cheques to Southeast Asia.

Credit/Debit Card

Taking one credit/debit card is recommended in case of emergency and may be used for large purchases in most hotels, department stores and souvenir stores. The most widely accepted credit cards include Visa, MasterCard and American Express. However, please do not rely on a credit/debit card as your only source of spending money and keep a photocopy of your card(s).

We always recommend that you have access to more than one source of money – bringing a combination of cash and a credit/debit card will give the most security and flexibility while travelling.

SHOPPING

Shopping can be a fun and entertaining component to any travel adventure, and Southeast Asia has a vast array of shopping opportunities for those who love to seek out a bargain. From hand carved elephants to local silk products or bamboo woven conical hats – the variety and choice can seem endless.

In keeping with most people’s interests whilst on holiday, your tour will include a reasonable number of opportunities to shop for local goods and souvenirs. We have included visits to establishments that not only provide an opportunity to purchase a locally produced, great-value souvenir; but you’ll witness first-hand how these local products are made, their history and how they support the local economy. We are aware that people like to take home souvenirs, so we endeavour to ensure the shops you visit have a reputation for quality, honesty and authenticity – we do our best to ensure that you don’t get ripped off. Most establishments will also feature a place where you can buy refreshments and take a break.

Wendy Wu Tours, our staff, National Escorts and Local Guides are not qualified nor permitted to guarantee the quality or value of any goods purchased during your holiday. All passengers who make purchases during their holiday must accept responsibility for their decision regarding the item’s value, authenticity, as well as the risk and process of credit card purchase and/or shipping.

It is recommended that you double check any items purchased before leaving the store (the item and any credit card receipts) and if you are having a large item shipped, make sure you take a photo of your purchase and the contact details of the store.

We encourage all passengers to enjoy their local shopping expeditions but to take care and buy wisely.
We cannot assist in returning or refunding goods in any circumstances, including purchases made at shops or factories which you may visit as part of your tour with us.

Tailors in Hoi An
For centuries the cloth and silk merchant trade flourished in this small port and over the last decade tourism has revived the local tailor trade. There are hundreds of tailors in Hoi An, all competing for your business, but not all of the same quality. Check their work and the quality of their material, hemlines, sewing, etc and always compare their work and price with other tailors. Be specific about everything you want (e.g. buttons, pocket designs) and that your tailor understands these requests. There are no guarantees so it's best to keep it simple and not to let these shops detract you from your visit to one of Vietnam's most charming towns.

HAGGLING OR BARGAINING
In local shops, markets and street stalls all over Southeast Asia, haggling is the accepted way to agree on a selling price. It can be a great way to save money, as well as a wonderful way to interact with some local people you may not otherwise meet. However, some foreign visitors find it too confronting and prefer to shop in the more upmarket tourist shops or department stores, where prices are set.

CUSTOMS & DUTY FREE

Vietnam
You can bring up to 200 Cigarettes or 20 cigars or 250g tobacco, 1.5L of spirits over 20% volume or 2L of fortified wines or liqueurs under 20% volume or 3L of other alcoholic drinks.

Other goods to the value of 10,000,000 VND. Vietnamese officials remain sensitive to what they call “culturally damaging material that portrays the nation or government negatively.; they forbid things like films or books which are officially banned (including some guide books) and pornography.

Cambodia
No more than 200 cigarettes, 50 cigars or 200g of tobacco, 350ml of perfume & 2L of wine. Exporting any Angkor period sculpture is illegal and these items will be confiscated. If you buy a souvenir that could be mistaken for a genuine antique, get an official receipt from the shop.

Laos
You can bring up to 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 250g of Tobacco. 1L of spirits and 2L of wine, 50 ml of perfume and 250ml of eau de toilette & goods up to the value of $50 US. Exporting antiques such as old Buddha images or bronze drums are illegal and these items will be confiscated. If you buy a souvenir that could be mistaken for a genuine antique, get an official receipt from the shop.

Thailand
Up to 200 cigarettes and 1L of wine/spirits can be brought into the country. If you purchase any antiques or objects of art, you must obtain an export license through the Department of Fine Arts. Visitors entering Thailand are entitled to refunds of the 7% value-added tax (VAT paid on goods purchased at shops and department stores displaying the “VAT Refund for Tourists” signs.

Burma
You can bring up to 400 cigarettes, 50 cigars or 250g of tobacco, 2L of alcoholic drinks, 150 ml of perfume & other goods up to the value of $500 US.

Borneo
Up to 200 cigarettes or 225g of tobacco, 1L of alcoholic drinks, food up to the value of RM 75, 3 of new clothing and 1 new pair of shoes. 1 Portable electronic item for personal care and other goods up to the value of RM400.

Banned items- illicit drugs, counterfeit currency, indecent publications (books, films, painting, etc), anything considered prejudicial to the interest of Malaysia. Piranha fish, turtle eggs, cocoa pods, daggers or flick knives, articles resembling syringes (e.g. pens or pencils), and poisonous chemicals.

KEEPING IN TOUCH

Phone Calls
To call Wendy Wu Tours it is 00 44 800 630 0888. Emergency 24-hour telephone (out of office hours) is below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From</th>
<th>International Access Code Prefix</th>
<th>Wendy Wu Tours Emergency Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Burma &amp; Borneo</td>
<td>001 44</td>
<td>001 44 7984 041 625</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(remember to omit ‘0’ from the UK local area code)

International and national phone calls can be made from hotel rooms, or from central post offices for a charge. Phone cards bought in the UK or in Southeast Asia can be used in most public pay phones, but if you plan to use these to call from your room
– always check the costs and procedure with hotel reception beforehand. If the hotel does enforce a call charge, you will be unable to refute it after making your call.

**Mobile Phones**

**Vietnam & Cambodia**
These countries use the GSM mobile network – the same as the UK. You will find great coverage in both countries; however, SMS and call rates can be expensive. We recommend that you contact your mobile supplier if you intend to use international roaming during your holiday and ensure you investigate all associated costs before you leave the UK.

**Laos**
Mobile phone coverage is available in cities and towns, however is not reliable in mountain and rural areas.

**Thailand**
Mobile phones are very popular in Thailand and should have coverage as long as you have activated Global Roaming. You may need to speak to your mobile provider prior to travel to organise this.

**Burma**
The telecommunication system in Burma is still very poor in standards. Burma uses a GSM mobile phone network. If you choose to take your mobile with you, please be aware that international roaming will not function with your own number; although it is possible to purchase a prepaid SIM card in Rangoon.
You may need to ask your guide for assistance in purchasing this. The cost for a SIM card is roughly 25,000 Kyat. It will cost approximately 90 cents a minute for an international call.

**Malaysia/Borneo:**
Use the GSM mobile network- the same as the UK. You will find great coverage in both countries; however, SMS and call rates can be expensive. We recommend that you contact your mobile supplier if you intend to use international roaming during your holiday and ensure you investigate all associated costs before you leave the UK.

**Postage**
We recommend that you use the Post Offices, rather than your hotel to post items. There are no regulation envelope or package sizes in Southeast Asia; as long as you take it to the P.O. unsealed. All packages need to be inspected (also forms completed and fees paid) beforehand. Posting DVD’s, CD ROMs, etc is not allowed.
From capital cities or major towns, airmail letters and postcards take 10-20 working days to arrive and from smaller towns, they will take over a month. We advise you to use a courier service (e.g. E.M.S from Post Offices) to send anything valuable or important.
In Burma, the postal service is considered unreliable and letters sometimes take months to arrive at their destination.

**Internet & Email**

Internet cafes can be found in all major cities and even in some small towns. This is often the easiest and cheapest way to stay in touch. Most hotels have a business centre with internet access, but at a slightly higher rate.

**TIME DIFFERENCE**

Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos are 7 hours ahead of the UK during the winter and 6 hours ahead of the UK during the summer.
Thailand is 7 hours ahead of UK time year-round.
Burma is 6.5 hours ahead of UK time year-round.
Borneo is 8 hours ahead of UK time year-round.

**INSURANCE**
It is a condition of booking a holiday with us that all travellers take out comprehensive travel insurance. Please ensure you have the appropriate cover for your holiday as overseas medical costs are expensive. Please inform our office of your relevant policy number and keep details of the policy in your travel documents including policy number, 24 hour emergency number and next of kin details.

**If you are taking out travel insurance with your credit card company,** you need to investigate the policy’s inclusions and conditions fully. You should receive a policy number, an international access phone number to contact them in an emergency and a copy of full conditions.

All travel insurance providers require you to contact them ASAP in the unlikely event that you need medical treatment, hospitalisation or change travel plans, to inform them of your situation. They will then decide the best course of action in regards to further treatment and/or repatriation and make appropriate booking arrangements.
Our staff in Southeast Asia will be able to assist you in contacting your travel insurance company.

**It is essential you inform your insurance company of all pre-existing medical conditions.**

**SAFETY & SECURITY**

All travellers should maintain a high level of personal security. Although Southeast Asia is considered safe for travellers, please keep in mind that cash or wallets in pockets, obvious jewellery, swinging handbags etc may attract unwanted attention. Keep your belongings with you at all times and beware of pickpockets in market areas and at train stations.

Do not leave any valuables unattended in your hotel room or on the coach. Lock away cash you do not need during the day/ evening, credit cards, airline tickets, passports, jewellery etc either in your room’s safe or at reception; as not all hotels will have an in-room
safe deposit box. Likewise whilst travelling each day, do not leave any valuables unattended on the bus.

It is your own responsibility to ensure that you carry your money and valuables on you at all times.

Wearing a money belt under your clothing is strongly recommended. We advise you not to bring valuable jewellery etc with you to Southeast Asia and keep a photocopy of your passport and debit/credit card(s).

LANDMINES

Some remote areas of Cambodia and Northern Laos have not been cleared of Unexploded Ordinance (U.X.O.). All areas within our group itineraries are cleared and considered very safe. If you are travelling independently through remote areas, keep to marked paths and roads regularly used by the locals. Do not pick up metal objects.

TRAVEL HEALTH

A health certificate is not required for entry into Southeast Asia. Visit a doctor before travelling.

We strongly recommend that you see a doctor for the latest health advice at least six weeks before your holiday to allow time for any necessary vaccinations etc. Remember to take your itinerary with you to the appointment. For the very latest travel advice, please check www.fco.gov.uk before you depart the UK.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recommended</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos &amp; Thailand</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tetanus/Diphtheria/Whooping Cough – within last 5-10 years. MMR, Hepatitis B – complete course, Meningococcal – if relevant for age. All travelers should seriously consider having influenza vaccine. Shingles and Pneumonia vaccines are recommended for travelers over 65 years of age. It may be advisable to take malaria tablets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burma</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis A, Typhoid, Diphtheria, Tetanus &amp; Japanese encephalitis. It is advisable to take malaria tablets.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Borneo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hepatitis A&amp;B, Typhoid, MMR, DTaP &amp; it may be advisable to take malaria tablets.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This information is given as a guide only and no responsibility can be taken for any errors or omissions. Always seek your doctor’s advice.

Source: www.fitfortravel.nhs.uk

Drinking Water

We strongly recommend you do not drink the tap water, and avoid ice in your drinks. There will usually be a kettle or flasks of boiled water in your hotel room and on board trains. Boiled water is suitable for drinking and cleaning teeth. Safe, bottled drinking water is readily available for sale everywhere – from small shops, supermarkets, restaurants and hotels. It is not customary for hotels to provide complimentary bottled drinking water. Always ensure that the seal is unbroken.

Toilets

Toilet facilities are very basic throughout Asia and it is rare that you will find a ‘western’ style toilet (except in hotels). ‘Squat’ toilets are very common in public places and toilet paper is never supplied. We suggest that you carry toilet paper in your day backpack as well as not turn down the opportunity to use a ‘nice’ toilet when you see one!
TRAVEL ADVICE

We strongly recommend that you check www.fco.gov.uk for up-to-date travel information and advice from the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office for Southeast Asia before departure.

PERSONAL MEDICAL KIT

Take all pharmaceutical products that you may require on your tour; do not rely on being able to purchase these during your holiday. You will see pharmacies all over Southeast Asia, but they stock local traditional medicine and many unregulated brands of western medicine. You are also very unlikely to find anyone who can speak English, nor any products with English writing. Consider taking a ‘personal medical kit’ containing any medication or medical equipment you may need during your time in Southeast Asia:

- All prescribed medication (with a cover note from your doctor)
- Headache tablets
- Anti-diarrhoea tablets
- Cold and flu tablets
- Travel sickness tablets
- Lozenges
- Insect repellent and sunscreen
- Antibacterial hand wipes and/or hand wash
- Spare pair of glasses/contact lenses

If you need to purchase any pharmaceuticals or medical equipment while in Southeast Asia – you may ask your National Escort, Local Guide or hotel staff to help you locate a pharmacy, identify medication or to translate from the local language to English. If you need medical attention they will be able to arrange a call from a doctor, usually one who speaks English. However, the decision to purchase or take any non-prescribed (either western or traditional local medicine) is entirely your own.

The staff at Wendy Wu Tours (in the UK and in Southeast Asia) are not medically qualified. Therefore they are neither able, nor allowed to give any medical advice, recommendations or administer medications.

TRAVEL WITH CONSIDERATION

Wendy Wu Tours takes Responsible Tourism seriously. We are aware that tourism can impact the natural, economic and social environment and are committed to addressing these wherever possible without compromising our customers’ experience.

Gifts & Begging

Wendy Wu Tours does not condone the practise of giving gifts such as sweets, coins and souvenirs to local people while in China. Instead, we encourage our customers to donate to one of the charities listed in the Responsible Tourism section at the back of our brochures.

Taking Photos

“Tourists stick their cameras in our faces and promise they’ll send photos back, but they never do.” We encourage you to think about how you would like to be treated by camera-wielding tourists – always check that it is ok before taking a photograph of a local person. Simply indicate to your camera to ask and never take the photograph if someone gestures or says that they do not want you to.

In Burma, photography in airports, railway stations, administrative buildings such as banks or court houses, and near any military post is forbidden.

Observe Local Rules

The laws, regulations and behaviour in Southeast Asia are affected by their different culture. For example:

- Avoid touching anyone on the head (or their hair)
- Try to avoid pointing the soles of your feet towards people/religious objects
- Always leave your shoes outside a temple, pagoda or anyone’s home
- Cameras are not allowed in some sightseeing spots, particularly temples and pagodas
- Do not raise your voice as this can cause offense
- It is considered very rude to indicate for someone’s attention by gesturing with your palm upwards. Instead, extend hand with palm downwards and wave by moving your wrist
- Thais don’t normally shake hands when they greet one another, but instead press the palms together in a prayer-like gesture called a Wai

In Buddhist countries, local people retain the most traditional culture. Their daily routine, religious beliefs and acceptable behaviour are all determined by Buddhism. As a guide:

- Try to keep your head lower than monks and Buddha images
- Women should never touch a monk, or their robes

Dress Appropriately

The locals in this region dress conservatively. According to
their culture only very poor labourers would wear clothes which reveal their shoulders and legs, or go without a shirt. Brief shorts or skirts can be offensive – no matter how hot the weather. For men, full length cotton trousers or shorts that cover the knees are acceptable. For women, skirts or trousers that reach below the knee are ideal, worn with tops that cover the shoulders.

In temples and pagodas, at royal palaces and at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum in Hanoi, female travellers should wear modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders. A ‘modesty shawl’ – either a large shawl or sarong – can be useful to carry in your daypack while sightseeing. Covered shoes must be worn at the Angkor Wat complex.

READING LIST

Indochina:

- Brother Enemy – Nayan Chanda
- Mekong – Milton Osbourne
- The River’s Tale (A Year on the Mekong) – Edward A. Gargan
- Highways to a War – Christopher Koch
- A Dragon Apparent – Norman Lewis
- Dancing in Cambodia, At Large in Burma – Amitav Ghosh

Vietnam:

- The Quiet American – Graham Greene
- Vietnam: A History – Stanley Karnow
- Lonely Planet World Food Vietnam – Richard Sterling
- When Heaven and Earth Changed Places – Le Ly Hayslip
- Three Moons in Vietnam – Maria Coffey
- A Bright, Shining Lie – Neil Sheehan
- Shadows and Wind – Robert Templer
- The Girl in the Picture – Denise Chong
- Catfish and Mandala – Andrew X. Pham
- The Tunnels of Cu Chi – Tom Mangold and John Penycate
- Anatomy of a War – Gabriel Kolko
- Hanoi Adieu – Mandaley Perkins
- Down Highway One – Susan Downie
- Novel Without A Name – Duong Thu Huong
- Vietnam: The Australian Experience – J. Rowe

Cambodia:

- First They Killed My Father – Loung Ung
- Red Lights and Green Lizards – Liz Anderson
- Cambodia Now: Life in the Wake of War – Karen J. Coates
- A History of Cambodia – David Chandler
- River of Time – Jon Swain
- Brother Number One – David Chandler

Laos:

- Insight Compact Guide Laos – Simon Robson
- A History of Laos – Martin Stuart Fox
CUSTOMER HEALTH & SAFETY INFORMATION

We Care

At Wendy Wu Tours we are continually working with our suppliers to maintain and improve safety standards by seeking good practice in health and safety and we will do our best to ensure that your holiday is safe and trouble free. Part of the enjoyment of travelling abroad is experiencing a different way of life and cultures, but it may also mean experiencing different safety and hygiene standards than those we are used to in the UK. We want you to have an enjoyable holiday so we ask that you take extra care, use your common sense as well as refer to notices and follow the advice from your National Escort and/or Local Guide.

At Wendy Wu Tours we are continually working with our accommodation and transport providers to endeavour to raise safety standards as much as possible and we will do our best to ensure that your holiday is safe and trouble free, but we do ask that you take that little bit of extra care whilst you are away.

Flight Safety

• Do not place flammable liquids, lighters, matches, gasses or aerosols in your suitcase
• Always carry medication in your hand luggage
• Keep your passport safe and have a photocopy with you just in case
• Pay attention and follow any in flight safety information
• To avoid DVT, drink plenty of water and follow simple exercises or occasionally move around the cabin

Transport Safety

• In vehicles always wear a seat belt if one is provided – though it is not compulsory in Southeast Asia to do so. We cannot guarantee that vehicles will be fitted with seat belts
• In minibuses never place luggage in the aisles or foot wells
• Ensure you know where your nearest emergency exit is.
• Check the location of the fire extinguisher, first aid kit and break glass hammer
• Follow any safety instructions provided by your driver/guide

Road Safety

• Car hire is also not recommended in most areas
• Traffic in most Asian countries travels on the opposite side of the road to the UK. Ensure you look both ways before crossing the road
• In many countries vehicles do not automatically stop at crossings
• Often paving can be uneven and loose with kerbs higher than in the UK. Please take more care whilst walking around cities and resort areas
• Crash Helmets are often not provided with mopeds and motorbikes – we do not recommend you hire these vehicles

Fire Safety

• Ensure you know the location of your nearest fire exit
• Check the location of the nearest fire extinguisher
• Study the fire instructions in your room
• Identify how to raise the alarm if a fire occurs
• Do not smoke in bed
• If a fire occurs, leave immediately, do not stop to collect your belongings
• Proceed to an assembly point well away from the building

Glass Safety

• Glass doors and windows may not be toughened glass
• Take care in bright sunlight, it may not be obvious doors/ windows are closed
• Check to see if anti-collision stickers are in place at adult &
Balcony Safety

- Never lean over, sit or climb on the balcony
- Families with small children should request ground floor rooms whenever possible
- Do not climb or stand on balcony furniture
- Keep all balcony furniture away from the wall/railings

Pool Safety

- Familiarise yourself with the pool and its layout, deep and shallow ends
- Make note of the depth markings and any hazards
- Most pools do not have life guards, so please take care
- Shower before entering the pool
- Do not swim, if suffering from an upset stomach
- Observe pool rules and information signs at all times
- Do not swim at night, even if it is lit
- Do not swim immediately after a meal or when drinking alcohol
- Pool surrounds can be slippery, don’t run around them
- Observe No Diving signs at all times
- Never jump or dive from raised pool features
- In the event of an emergency ensure you know how to raise help

Food Safety

In order to avoid the possibility of stomach upsets
- Make sure your food has been thoroughly cooked
- Hot food should be hot, cold food should be cold
- Avoid any uncooked food, except fruit and vegetables, (notably those you can peel or shell yourself)
- Always drink bottled water and ensure the seal is intact when purchasing
- Use boiled or bottled water for brushing your teeth
- Avoid ice in drinks as this is generally made from unsafe tap water
- Avoid purchasing food from street vendors, we cannot vouch for the health and safety of the food and drinks they provide

Personal Safety

- Avoid walking in poorly lit areas
- Be aware, stay away from situations where you do not feel comfortable
- Avoid carrying too much money and/or valuables
- Use of a money belt is encouraged at all times
- Ensure your room is left secure when you go out
- Place all valuables in a safety deposit box, where available or with reception (use of these are often a condition of your insurance policy)
- Never leave windows or balcony doors open
- Ensure your main luggage can be locked when left unattended in rooms, carriages, luggage rooms etc.
- Do not take any valuable jewellery on holiday with you
- Do not leave valuable items or money on coaches

Sun Care

- Ensure you have adequate protection for your type of skin, high factor sunscreens should be utilised initially
- Re-apply sunscreen frequently
- Stay out of the sun during the hottest time of the day
- Drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration
- At the first sign of burning, cover up and get out of the sun
- Beware, you can still burn, dehydrate and get sunstroke in the shade or in the water
- Take a sunhat, sunglasses and lip salve

Insurance

- Ensure you have appropriate insurance for your holiday and that it covers any activity you intend to undertake
- If participating in any high risk activity, appraise yourself of the safety standards being operated by the supplier
- Avoid purchasing activities or excursions from anyone not
connected to Wendy Wu Tours they often lack public liability insurance and have unchecked safety standards

- Any accident or injury should be reported immediately to the National Escort or Tour Guide and a report obtained

**Online Information**

- For the latest Health & Safety information for travellers visit www.fco.gov.uk

**CLIMATE**

We recommend you check weather conditions before you depart. The region generally has a tropical climate with monsoon rains for part of the year. However, the word ‘monsoon’ should not deter you – travelling during the monsoon can be the most rewarding, with lower tourist numbers and lush growth of the landscape. Usually the monsoon involves a downpour late in the day, which is heavy but short lived. Freak weather conditions could result in delays, changes or in rare cases, cancellations to sections of your itinerary.

**Vietnam, Cambodia & Laos**

The countries of Indochina have a subtropical climate; the months of December, January and February are equivalent to their winter with it being the coolest time of the year. The months of April, May, September, and October enjoy warm temperatures, with April and May being their equivalent to spring; September and October being autumn. During June, July and August it is the wet season for most parts of this region; their equivalent to summer.

**Thailand**

Thailand’s climate is tropical and humid for the majority of the country during most of the year. The southern region of Thailand really has only two seasons – the wet and the dry. These seasons do not run at the same time on both the east and west side of the peninsular. In northern Thailand the seasons are clearly defined.

**Burma**

Since it is in the tropical region, Burma is generally hot and humid though cooler in more mountainous areas. The location and topography of the country generate the “dry and wet monsoon climate” pattern. The best months to travel are October through January when the days are not so hot.

**Borneo**

Borneo enjoys a typical tropical climate and is hot and humid throughout the year. Temperatures remain fairly constant year-round, between 27 – 32 degrees. The dry season runs more or less from April through to September. April tends to be the driest month of the year, receiving only 120mm of rainfall. May, June, July are the sunniest months of the year, all enjoying 10 hours of beautiful sunshine each day on average. Afternoons can get extremely hot this time of year, with a peak of 35 degrees on average in July. Wet season falls roughly between October and March. However, the number of sunshine hours never drops below 7 per day. A day without sunshine is rare in this gorgeous destination, making vacationing in Borneo pleasurable at any time of the year.

**CLIMATE CHARTS:**

**Indochina:**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Average Temperatures</th>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Average Temperatures</th>
<th>February</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Temp˚C min/max</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>22/ 32</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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<td>14/ 32</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Temp˚C min/max</td>
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<td></td>
<td>24/ 33</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
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</table>
### Average Temperatures

#### April

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Temp °C min/max</th>
<th>Humidity</th>
<th>Rain mm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saigon</td>
<td>25/ 34</td>
<td>Med</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanoi</td>
<td>22/ 31</td>
<td>Med</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saipan</td>
<td>13/ 21</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>178</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoi An</td>
<td>23/ 31</td>
<td>Med</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hue</td>
<td>22/ 30</td>
<td>Med</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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<td>77</td>
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<tr>
<td>Siem Reap</td>
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<td>Med</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vientiane</td>
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<td>High</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
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<td>109</td>
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#### May

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Humidity</th>
<th>Rain mm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saigon</td>
<td>25/ 34</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>218</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanoi</td>
<td>23/ 32</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>196</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saipan</td>
<td>16/ 22</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>370</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoi An</td>
<td>24/ 33</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>62</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hue</td>
<td>23/ 33</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>83</td>
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<td>High</td>
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#### June

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Rain mm</th>
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<td>17/ 22</td>
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#### July

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Rain mm</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saigon</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hanoi</td>
<td>26/ 33</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>323</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saipan</td>
<td>17/ 22</td>
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<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoi An</td>
<td>25/ 34</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hue</td>
<td>25/ 34</td>
<td>High</td>
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<td>24/ 32</td>
<td>High</td>
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<td>High</td>
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<table>
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</thead>
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<td>High</td>
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<td>17/ 23</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>480</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoi An</td>
<td>25/ 33</td>
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<td>24/ 34</td>
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<td>Phnom Penh</td>
<td>26/ 32</td>
<td>High</td>
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#### September

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Location</th>
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<td>High</td>
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<td>High</td>
<td>349</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hue</td>
<td>23/ 31</td>
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<td>City</td>
<td>Temperature</td>
<td>Humidity</td>
<td>Rain (mm)</td>
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<td>-----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PHNOM PENH</strong></td>
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<td>HIGH</td>
<td>224</td>
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<td><strong>SIEM REAP</strong></td>
<td>23/30</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>260</td>
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<td><strong>VIENTIANCE</strong></td>
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<td>HIGH</td>
<td>302</td>
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**Average Temperatures**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Temp °C min/max</th>
<th>Humidity</th>
<th>Rain (mm)</th>
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<tr>
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<td>HANOI</td>
<td>22/29</td>
<td>MED</td>
<td>99</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAPA</td>
<td>13/18</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
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<td>23/29</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>612</td>
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<td>HUE</td>
<td>22/28</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>688</td>
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<td>24/30</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>257</td>
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<tr>
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<td>22/30</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>230</td>
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<tr>
<td>VIENTIANCE</td>
<td>18/29</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>109</td>
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<tr>
<td>LUANG PRABANG</td>
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<td>MED</td>
<td>79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
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<tr>
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<td>22/31</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
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<td>HANOI</td>
<td>18/26</td>
<td>MED</td>
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<tr>
<td>SAPA</td>
<td>10/17</td>
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<td>21/27</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>366</td>
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<td>20/26</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>647</td>
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<tr>
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<td>MED</td>
<td>31</td>
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<tr>
<td>December</td>
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<td>HANOI</td>
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<tr>
<td>HOI AN</td>
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<td>199</td>
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<tr>
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<td>18/23</td>
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**Thailand:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>March – May (Summer)</th>
<th>Temp °C min/max</th>
<th>Humidity</th>
<th>Rain (mm)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BANGKOK</td>
<td>25/38</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIANG MAI</td>
<td>18/33</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHUKET</td>
<td>23/31</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>180</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June – October (Rainy)</th>
<th>Temp °C min/max</th>
<th>Humidity</th>
<th>Rain (mm)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BANGKOK</td>
<td>23/31</td>
<td>HIGH</td>
<td>115</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHIANG MAI</td>
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<td>MED</td>
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**Burma:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February</th>
<th>Temp °C min/max</th>
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<tr>
<td>RANGOON (YANGON)</td>
<td>19/34</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANDALAY</td>
<td>15/32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAGAN</td>
<td>14/33</td>
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### Borneo

#### Average Temperatures

<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>RANGOON (YANGON)</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>MANDALAY</td>
<td>19 / 32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAGAN</td>
<td>19 / 31</td>
</tr>
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#### Average Temperatures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>November- January</th>
<th>Temp °C min/max</th>
<th>Humidity</th>
<th>Rain mm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KOTA KINABALU</td>
<td>30/23</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>287 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUCHING</td>
<td>31/23</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>385 mm</td>
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<table>
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<th>February- June</th>
<th>Temp °C min/max</th>
<th>Humidity</th>
<th>Rain mm</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KOTA KINABALU</td>
<td>30/22</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>97 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUCHING</td>
<td>30/23</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>582 mm</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>July- October</th>
<th>Temp °C min/max</th>
<th>Humidity</th>
<th>Rain mm</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>KOTA KINABALU</td>
<td>31/23</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>249 mm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KUCHING</td>
<td>32/23</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>193 mm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### SUGGESTED PACKING LISTS

Consider your packing carefully. You will need to bring clothing suitable for sun exposure and mild temperatures, as well as water/windproof clothing for the cooler, wetter weather. Generally, casual clothes are recommended for your holiday. Loose fitting, lightweight cotton materials are the most comfortable for humid weather. The dress code throughout the tour is casual however, it is important that all passengers dress conservatively. Smart casual clothes are highly recommended for evening banquets and shows.

Example packing list:

- Your travel documents and passport- including a photocopy of your passport in case it is lost or stolen while you are abroad. Keep one photocopy at home and take another photocopy on your trip with you.
- Main luggage & luggage padlocks.
- ‘Day bag’ - a smaller bag to carry with you during the day, both while driving and sightseeing. E.g. drinking water, hat, sunscreen, toilet paper, insect repellent, camera and spare batteries, jacket.
- Money belt to carry passport, cash, credit cards, airline tickets, etc.
- Lightweight trousers or shorts/skirts (for women) – please remember to respect local customs (knee length is recommended).
- Shirts or long-sleeved tops of light cotton material.
- Light jumpers - great for layering.
- Thermals, thick socks, gloves and scarf - particularly if you are travelling during the winter months November – February.
- Walking shoes and socks, or sandals – it is important to have sturdy and comfortable shoes for sightseeing every day.
- Swimming costume.
- Sun protection – hat, sunscreen and lip balm.
- Personal medical kit including insect repellent.
- Antibacterial wipes or gel to clean hands before eating.
- Tracksuit/similar outfit of soft material is recommended for the overnight train journeys.
- A water/windproof jacket.
- Umbrella/raincoat/poncho - particularly if you are travelling during the rainy season June – October.
- A ‘modesty shawl’ or sarong to wear in Muslim or conservative areas (for women).
- Torch, conversion plug and spare batteries – batteries available to buy in Southeast Asia tend to be unreliable.
- Scarf or bandana – useful to protect your face against dusty winds at high altitude.
- Spare glasses – it is difficult to get any prescription lenses repaired or replaced in Southeast Asia.
- Small bath towel is useful for overnight train journeys.
- Toilet paper – not all sightseeing public toilets will provide this.
- Snacks – tea bags/coffee, milk powder or sachets, instant soups or noodles, or anything else you can’t live without!
- Camera and spare film/memory card – film available in Southeast Asia tends to be bad quality or sun damaged.
- Sleeping sheet & small bath towel – handy for home stays (although linen is provided, it may not always be clean).
Vietnamese has been spoken by the inhabitants within the current day borders of Vietnam for millennia and today it is the national and official language of the country. It is the mother tongue of 86% of the inhabitants of Vietnam and is a second language spoken by the many small ethnic minorities within the country.

The ancestor of the Vietnamese language was originally based in the area of the Red River, in what is now northern Vietnam, and during the subsequent expansion of the Vietnamese language and people into what is now central and southern Vietnam.

It appears that the language has been heavily influenced by its location in the Southeast Asian region and much of the vocabulary has been borrowed from Chinese, especially words that denote abstract ideas in the same way European languages borrow from Latin and Greek. Although it was formerly written using the Chinese writing system, the writing system in use today is an adapted version of the Latin alphabet.

Through extensive contact with western countries over many hundreds of years, other languages have been in common usage within Vietnam and today English is widely spoken throughout the country.

With the use of English being commonplace you should have no difficulty in finding your way or visiting restaurants and shops during your visit to Vietnam. However, there may be occasions, especially in small towns, rural areas and in the many local markets, when you may find the ability to communicate in Vietnamese to be helpful and also a great way to make friends with the warm and hospitable Vietnamese people.

To assist you in this we have prepared this brief phrase book, containing some phrases that you are most likely to need as well as a small dictionary of additional words that you may find useful from time to time. We have added space at the back of this book for you to write down any other words you may need; ask your National Escort or Local Guide for a word and then write it down and you are set to go.

For each word or phrase we have given the English followed by the Vietnamese and then a phonetic version that should make it easier for you to pronounce.
First though you need to know about the tones. Vietnamese is a tonal language with 6 tones. These tones are marked as follows:

1. Level ma ghost
2. High Rising mà cheek
3. Low/Falling mà but
4. Drip-Rising mà tomb
5. High Rising Glottalized mà horse
6. Low Rising Glottalized mà Rice /seeding

Something else to help you is the Vietnamese alphabet, try these pronunciation exercises:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Aa</th>
<th>a</th>
<th>Nn</th>
<th>nar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Åå</td>
<td>ah</td>
<td>Oo</td>
<td>or</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Àà</td>
<td>er</td>
<td>Ôô</td>
<td>aw</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bb</td>
<td>ber</td>
<td>Õơ</td>
<td>er</td>
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<td>Hh</td>
<td>har</td>
<td>Ŭū</td>
<td>er</td>
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<td>Li</td>
<td>Ling-an</td>
<td>Vv</td>
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<td>Li</td>
<td>e-luh</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mm</td>
<td>m-mar</td>
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</table>

The first thing to know is the various forms of greeting:

Hello or Hi
xin chào
sin chòw

How are you?
bạn khỏe không?
barn quair kong

If you are asked the same question then the answer is:

I am very good
tôi rất là khoẻ
doy zut là quair

If you ask the question first and ask ‘How are you?’ the response will probably be:

I am very good, and you?
tôi rất là khoẻ, còn bạn?
doy zut là quair, gon barn

To which the final response will be:

I am also good
tôi cũng rất là khoẻ
doy koong zut là quair

So the full conversation will be:

(You) barn quair kong?
(Them) doy zut là quair, con barn?
(You) doy koong zut là quair

Practice this with your partner or a friend.
Here are the words you have learnt:

You  Good; well; fine
bạn  khỏe
barn  quair

Add to the end of a word or phrase to pose a question:

VIETNAMESE  không
PHONETIC  kong
I; me  Very
tôi  rất là
doy  zut là

Here are some more greeting words that you can easily use:

Pleased to meet you  rất hân hành gặp bạn
zut hun hang gup barn

Good morning  chào buổi sáng
chào bò-e saáng

Good afternoon  chào buổi chiều
chào bò-e chee-oò

Goodbye  chào tạm biệt
chào tám biết

Good evening  chào buổi tối
chào bò-e dòy

You (formal)  bạn
barn

Now you have learnt how to greet someone you may like to learn something about them, their name or where they are from or what they do for a living.

The following words and phrases should help you with that.

May I ask your name?  cho tôi hỏi tên bạn là gì?
char doy hi den barn là zi

My family name is Brown, given name John
họ tên tôi là Brown, tên tiền là John
ho den doy là Brown, doy den là John

What’s your name?  bạn tên là gì?
barn den là zi

Where are you from?  bạn đến từ đâu?
barn den du dow

If you are asked this question your answer would be:

I’m from  tôi đến từ
doy den du

Australia  uc
I am  tôi là
doy là

America  my
You are  bạn là
barn là

China  trung quốc
He is  anh áy là
ang ay là

England  anh quốc
She is  cô áy là
gaw ay là

New Zealand  niu zi nan
They are  họ là
họ là

What do you do?  Bạn làm nghề gì?
What is your work?  bạn làm nghề gì?
barn lam nay zi

We are  chúng tôi là
júm doy là
Let us review the new words you have learnt:

May I ask? I/me
cho tôi hỏi
Tôi
døy

You/your (formal) He
bạn
anh ấy
ang ay

What She
cái gì
có ấy
gaw ay

Name (family) They
họ tên
họ
dooy

Name (given) We
tên
chúng tôi,
júm døy

Want
muốn
morn

Hence
Don't want
không muốn
kong morn

Tomorrow
ngày mai
nay my

I Understand
tôi hiểu
doy heē-ow

Tonight
tối nay
dóy lay

Asking the whereabouts of something or someone

Where is the toilet?
nhà vệ sinh ở đâu?
nyà ve sing er doh

Where is John?
John ở đâu?
John er doh

Where is the dining room?
phòng ăn ở đâu?
fung an er doh

Where is the market?
chợ ở đâu?
cha er doh

I would like to buy water
tôi muốn mua nước
døy morn mooer luac
**SHOPPING**

Do you have water?  
Bạn có nước không?

bàn có nước không?
barn gor luac kong

I want  
Tôi muốn

tới muốn
doy morn

Just looking  
Tôi chỉ nhìn thôi

tô chiều nhìn thôi
doy chi nin toy

Thank you  
Cảm ơn

cảm ơn
gam urn

How much does this cost?  
Cái này bao nhiêu tiền?

cái này bao nhiêu tiền?
guy lay bow nio dien

Very good  
Tốt lắm

tốt lắm
dort lam

It is too expensive  
Cái này mắc quá

cái này mắc quá
guy lay ma qua

Not good  
Không tốt

không tốt
kong dort

Excuse me  
Xin lỗi

xin lỗi
sin loy

Miss  
Cô

cô
gaw oai

No thank you  
Không cảm ơn

không cảm ơn
kong gam urn

**CAFES & RESTAURANTS**

Do you have coffee?  
Bạn có cà phê không?

bạn có cà phê không?
barn go ga fay kong

I want coffee  
Tôi muốn cà phê

tôi muốn cà phê
doy morn ga fay

We all want coffee  
Tất cả chúng tôi muốn cà phê
tất cả chúng tôi muốn cà phê
doy dut go chung doy morn
ga fay

Do you have an English menu?  
Bạn có thực đơn bằng tiếng Anh không?

bạn có thực đơn bằng tiếng Anh không?
barn go tuc dern bang dieng an kong

I would like to drink beer  
Tôi muốn uống bia

tôi muốn uống bia
doy morn uong bia

Please bring a knife and fork  
Làm ơn cắm dao và rìa

làm ơn cắm dao và rìa
lam ern gam zow va zia

Waiter!  
Bồi bàn!

bồi bàn!
boy ban

Bill please  
Tính tiền làm ơn

tính tiền làm ơn
ding dien lam ern

Let us review some more new words you have learnt:

**Toilet**  
Nha vệ sinh

nha vệ sinh

**Dining room**  
Phòng ăn

phòng ăn
fung an

**Water**  
Nước

nước
luac

**Excuse me**  
Xin lỗi

xin lỗi
sin loy

**Want**  
Mình

mình
muon

**Good**  
Tốt

tốt
dough

**Cold**  
Lạnh

lạnh
lang

**Beer**  
Bia

bia

**Menu**  
Thực đơn

thực đơn
tuc dern

**Where is**  
Ở đâu

Ở đâu
nyà ve sing

**Market**  
Chợ

chợ
cha

**Looking**  
Nhìn

nhìn
nin

**Miss**  
Cô

cô
gaw oai

**Thank you**  
Cảm ơn

cảm ơn
gam urn

**Coffee**  
Cà phê

cà phê
ga fay

**Milk**  
Sữa

sữa
su er

**Water**  
Nước

nước
su er

**Boy ban**  
Bồi bàn

bồi bàn
boy ban
### NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENGLISH</th>
<th>VIETNAMESE</th>
<th>PHONETIC</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>mọt</td>
<td>mort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>hai</td>
<td>hi</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>ba</td>
<td>ba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>bớn</td>
<td>born</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>năm</td>
<td>num</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>sáu</td>
<td>sow</td>
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<tr>
<td>7</td>
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<td>bay</td>
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<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>tám</td>
<td>dam</td>
</tr>
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<td>9</td>
<td>chín</td>
<td>chin</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>mươi</td>
<td>moo ay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>mươi mọt</td>
<td>moo ay mort</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>mươi hai</td>
<td>moo ay hi</td>
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<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>mươi ba</td>
<td>moy ay ba</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>mươi bớn</td>
<td>moo ay born</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

And so on to 19 and then...

| 20      | hai mươi  | hi moo ay |
| 21      | hai mươi mọt | hi moo ay mort |
| 22      | hai mươi hai | hi moo ay hi |

And so on to 29 and then...

| 30      | ba mươi  | ba moo ay |
| 40      | bớn mươi | born moo ay |
| 50      | năm mươi | num moo ay |
| 60      | sáu mươi | sow moo ay |
| 70      | bảy mươi | bay moo ay |
| 80      | tám mươi | dam moo ay |
| 90      | chín mươi | Chin moo ay |

And so on to 99 and then...

| 100     | mọt trăm | mort chum |

### DICTIONARY

Following is a small dictionary of words that you may find useful either in practising your Vietnamese skills, or when you are out shopping. If there are any specific words you want to know that are not shown here or in the general phrasebook, simply ask your National Escort or Local Guide to write them down for you in the space provided at the end of this section.

<table>
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<td>A.</td>
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<td>địa chỉ</td>
<td>dia chi</td>
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<td>dị ứng</td>
<td>zi oong</td>
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<td>gwa dow</td>
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<td>Asprin</td>
<td>được học</td>
<td>zur how</td>
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<td>nội rút tiền</td>
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<td>lor bang mi</td>
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<td>zur how</td>
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<td>D. Dentist</td>
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<td>lò sưởi</td>
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<td>Heavy</td>
<td>nặng</td>
<td>nun</td>
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<td>Help</td>
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<td>nóng</td>
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<td>I. Ice</td>
<td>nước đá</td>
<td>luac da</td>
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<td>Ice-cream</td>
<td>kem</td>
<td>giem</td>
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<td>Indigestion</td>
<td>không tiêu hoá</td>
<td>kong dio hooar</td>
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<td>Insect repellent</td>
<td>thuốc trừ sâu</td>
<td>tour chew sew</td>
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<td>J. Juice</td>
<td>nước ép</td>
<td>luac ep</td>
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<td>K. Key</td>
<td>chìa khóa</td>
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<td>Knife</td>
<td>con dao</td>
<td>gone zao</td>
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<td>L. Leather</td>
<td>đồ da</td>
<td>doe za(n)</td>
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<td>Lemon</td>
<td>quả cam</td>
<td>gwa chang</td>
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<td>Lipstick</td>
<td>son bôi môi</td>
<td>sun boy moy</td>
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<td>Lunch</td>
<td>ăn trưa</td>
<td>ăn trura</td>
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<td>M. Magazine</td>
<td>tập chí</td>
<td>da chi</td>
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<td>Mail</td>
<td>thư từ</td>
<td>too dur</td>
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<td>Meat</td>
<td>thịt</td>
<td>dit</td>
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<td>Melon</td>
<td>đưa tài</td>
<td>zure day</td>
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<td>Menu</td>
<td>thực đơn</td>
<td>tuc dern</td>
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<td>Milk</td>
<td>sữa</td>
<td>su er</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mineral water</td>
<td>nước khoáng</td>
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<td>den</td>
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<td>Need</td>
<td>cần</td>
<td>gun</td>
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<td>Newspaper</td>
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<td>dar bow</td>
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<td>No</td>
<td>không</td>
<td>kong</td>
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<tr>
<td>None</td>
<td>không mới ai</td>
<td>kong mot eye</td>
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<td>Noodles</td>
<td>mì</td>
<td>me</td>
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<td>Notebook</td>
<td>sách viết</td>
<td>sack viet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O. Okay</td>
<td>được</td>
<td>doer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Old (thing)</td>
<td>già</td>
<td>zar</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange (fruit)</td>
<td>quả cam</td>
<td>gwa gam</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Orange (juice)</td>
<td>nước cam</td>
<td>luac gam</td>
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<tr>
<td>P. Padlock</td>
<td>cái khóa móc</td>
<td>guy khoa mao</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pain</td>
<td>đau đớn</td>
<td>dow dern</td>
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<tr>
<td>Paper (writing)</td>
<td>giấy viết</td>
<td>zay viet</td>
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<tr>
<td>Passport</td>
<td>hộ chiếu</td>
<td>hoar chio</td>
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<td>Pen</td>
<td>bút</td>
<td>bort</td>
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<td>Photo</td>
<td>bức ảnh</td>
<td>booc ang</td>
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<tr>
<td>Pillow</td>
<td>gối</td>
<td>goy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plate</td>
<td>đĩa</td>
<td>dia</td>
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<tr>
<td>Police</td>
<td>cảnh sát</td>
<td>gang sa(t)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Station</td>
<td>đồn cảnh sát</td>
<td>dorn gang sa(t)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Post Office</td>
<td>bưu điện</td>
<td>bill dien</td>
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<tr>
<td>ENGLISH</td>
<td>VIETNAMESE</td>
<td>PHONETIC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------</td>
<td>------------</td>
<td>----------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Q. Quick</td>
<td>nhanh</td>
<td>niang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Quiet</td>
<td>yên lành</td>
<td>ien la</td>
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<tr>
<td>R. Raining</td>
<td>mưa</td>
<td>mu ar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Razor</td>
<td>dao cạo</td>
<td>zow gow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Razor blades</td>
<td>lội dao</td>
<td>luay zow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Receipt</td>
<td>giấy biên nhân</td>
<td>zay bien nian</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Red</td>
<td>màu đỏ</td>
<td>mao dor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Restaurant</td>
<td>quán ăn</td>
<td>gwan dor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Room</td>
<td>phòng</td>
<td>fung un</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Room number</td>
<td>số phòng</td>
<td>so fung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Safety pin</td>
<td>kim băng</td>
<td>gimpung</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shampoo</td>
<td>thuốc导游 dầu</td>
<td>tour goi dow</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirt</td>
<td>áo sơ mi</td>
<td>ow sir me</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shoe</td>
<td>giày</td>
<td>zay</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sorry</td>
<td>xin lỗi</td>
<td>sin loyalty</td>
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<tr>
<td>Spicy</td>
<td>cay</td>
<td>guy</td>
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<td>Spoon</td>
<td>cái thìa</td>
<td>guy tia</td>
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<td>Sugar</td>
<td>đường</td>
<td>do ong</td>
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<td>T. Tailor</td>
<td>thợ may</td>
<td>ta my</td>
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<td>Tea</td>
<td>ché</td>
<td>chair</td>
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<tr>
<td>Telephone</td>
<td>điện thoại</td>
<td>dien twy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Time</td>
<td>máy giờ</td>
<td>may zar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toast</td>
<td>bánh mì nướng</td>
<td>bang mi luong</td>
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<tr>
<td>Today</td>
<td>hôm nay</td>
<td>hom lay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toilet</td>
<td>nhà vệ sinh</td>
<td>nguy vi sing</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tomorrow</td>
<td>ngày mai</td>
<td>nay may</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Too expensive</td>
<td>đắt quá</td>
<td>dut gwar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Too much</td>
<td>nhiều quá</td>
<td>nio gwar</td>
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<tr>
<td>Toothpaste</td>
<td>thuốc đánh răng</td>
<td>tuo dang zung</td>
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<tr>
<td>Towel</td>
<td>khăn lau</td>
<td>kahn lou(d)</td>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ENGLISH</th>
<th>VIETNAMESE</th>
<th>PHONETIC</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wet</td>
<td>ướt</td>
<td>oo ot</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>màu trắng</td>
<td>mao chang</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow</td>
<td>màu vàng</td>
<td>mao van</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>vâng</td>
<td>vung</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yogurt</td>
<td>sữa chua</td>
<td>su er choor er</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**CAMBODIA VOCABULARY**

Khmer or Cambodian is the language of the Khmer people and the official language of Cambodia.

Below is a list of the most common words and phrases you are most likely to need whilst in Cambodia in phonetic version to make it easier for you to pronounce.
LAOS VOCABULARY

Lao or Laotian is the official and national language spoken in Laos as well as north-east Thailand.

Below is a list of the most common words and phrases you are most likely to need whilst in Laos in phonetic version to make it easier for you to pronounce.

ENGLISH | LAO (Phonetic)
--- | ---
Hello | sa-bai-dee
Goodbye | la kawn
Yes | doi
No | baw
Excuse me / Sorry | kor thoad
My name is… | kway sue wa……
How are you? | chao phen nell dai?
Thank you | kok chai
I am British | koi man kol Britain
good | deee
Not good | bor deee
gnun
I would like… | khoi yak dai……
Rice (plain) | kao
Rice (sticky) | kao niaw
Tea | num sa
cold beer | ka jum
(Without) ice | beer yen
(Without) chilli | (baw sai) nam kawn
(baw sai) phet
Mineral water | nam dumb
Boiled drinking water | nam thome
Chopsticks | mai thou
Bowl | tay
Plate | chane
Knife | meed
Fork | soum
Toilet | hong nam

BURMESE VOCABULARY

Burmese is the official and national language spoken in Burma (Myanmar).

Below is a list of the most common words and phrases you are most likely to need whilst in Burma in phonetic version to make it easier for you to pronounce.

ENGLISH | BURMESE
--- | ---
Hello | Mingalarbar
Goodbye | Nhote sat par tal
Yes | Hote tal
No | Ma hote buu
Excuse me | Khwint pyu par
My name is | Kya note a myi mhar
How are you? | Nay Kaung lar
Thank you | Kyay zuu tin par dal
I am British | Kya note ka British
Good | Kaung Tal
Not Good | Ma kaung buu
Beautiful | Hla tal
I would like | Kya note lote chin tal
Rice (Plan) | Hta minn phyu
Rice (Sticky) | Kout Nhyin hta minn
Tea | La bat yay
Postage Stamp | Da sate gaung
Cold Beer | beer aye
(Without) ice | (ma par) yay khae
(Without) chilli | (ma par) a sat
Mineral Water | Yay Thant
Boiled Drinking Water | Yay Nway
Chopsticks | Tuu
Bowl | Bagan lone
Plate | Bagan Pyar
Knife | Dar
Fork | Kha yinn
Toilet | Eain Thar
THAI VOCABULARY

Thai is the official and national language spoken in Thailand.

Below is a list of the most common words and phrases you are most likely to need whilst in Thailand in phonetic version to make it easier for you to pronounce.

**ENGLISH**

Hello, Good morning
Hello, Good morning
How are you?
I am fine
Thank you
Excuse me, Sorry
My name is ...
What is your name?
How old are you?
Where is the toilet?
Do you speak English?
I do not speak Thai
Do you understand?
One ... beer please!
Red wine, white wine, coffee
Can I see the menu please?
Not spicy (please)

**MALAYSIAN**

sawat-dee khrab (male speakers)
sawat-dee kha (female speakers)
sabai dee mai (khrab/kha)
sabai dee khrab/kha
khorb khun khrab/kha
khor to:ht khrab/kha
pom/chan chue ...
khun chue arai
khun aa-yoo tao-rai
ho:ng naam yoo nai (khrab/kha)
khun pood paa-saa angkrit bpen mai
pom/chan pood paa-saa tai mai
bpen (dai)
khao jai mai (khrab/kha)
 kho bia ... nueng kuat (khrab/kha)
 wai: daeng, wai: khao
kafae ro:n
kho doo menoo noy khrab/kha
(khor) mai phet

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MALAYSIAN VOCABULARY

Bahasa Malaysia or Malay is the official and national language spoken in Borneo/Malaysia.

Below is a list of the most common words and phrases you are most likely to need whilst in Malaysia in phonetic version to make it easier for you to pronounce.

**ENGLISH**

Hello
Good Morning
Good Afternoon
Good Evening
Good Night
How are you?
Fine, thank you.
Thank you
You are welcome
Good
Excuse Me
How much?
Where?
Why?
Do you speak English?

**MALAYSIAN**

Hello / hai
Selamat Pagi
Selamat Tengah Hari
Selamat Petang
Selamat Malam
Apa Khabar?
Baik, terima kasih
Terima Kasih
Sama-sama
Bagus
Maaf
Berapa?
Dimana?
Kenapa?
Boleh anda bercakap Bahasa Inggeris?
We hope that these few words and phrases will help you when communicating with the locals. We have added space below for you to add additional words and phrases.