



Southeast Asian Ceramic Society

**A CULTURAL TOUR: INTERESTING HISTORY (AND SOME FOOD, SHOPPING TOO)
9 DAYS 8 NIGHTS: SIEM REAP – VIETNAM
WEDNESDAY 10 JANUARY to THURSDAY 18 JANUARY 2007**

10 Jan 2007 SINGAPORE – SIEM REAP

Depart to Siem Reap by MI632 at 1355. Arrive Siem Reap at 1740. Meet and transfer to Victoria Angkor Hotel. Dinner and overnight at Victoria Angkor Hotel

11 Jan 2007 SIEM REAP

After breakfast, depart to visit **Bantaey Srei**. Continue to **Phnom Kulen**, with Dr. John Miksec to visit an archeological dig currently under development. Continue through jungle to this sacred mountain to explore the huge reclining Buddha, riverbed carvings, early temples and a beautiful waterfall. We enjoy a picnic lunch at the waterfall. Then, we visit magnificent Angkor Wat to view its architecture and bas reliefs. This temple is the largest religious buildings ever constructed and is truly one of the wonders of the world. Believed to have been undertaken as a temple and mausoleum for King Suryavarman II at the peak of the Khmer empire in the first half of the 12th century, Angkor Wat is the best-preserved of the Angkorian temples. Time permitting, visit **Ta Prohm**, the temple ruins left in the jungle-covered state they were originally discovered in. Dinner at The Red Piano. Overnight Victoria Angkor Hotel.

Shopping Alternative: Spend the day instead in the city centre. The National Silk Centre and Artisan d'Angkor are worth a visit. And for a coffee stop visit the Angkor Café and visit their lovely shop upstairs.

12 Jan 2007 SIEM REAP – HO CHI MINH

Early morning optional visit to **the Bayon** (additional entrance fee of US\$20 payable on site). Depart to Ho Chi Minh by VN826 at 1330. Arrive Ho Chi Minh city at 1430. Half-day tour of Ho Chi Minh City, visiting the History Museum. Check-in to the Grand Hotel for 2 nights.

13 Jan 2007 EXCURSION TO BENTRE/LONG AN

Day excursion to **Bentre** in the Mekong Delta. Take a boat trip on **the Long Tien river**, stopping to visit four islands – Dragon, Unicorn, Tortoise and Phoenix – where traditional agriculture and craft continues to be practiced. Continue to Long An to visit the **Long An Museum of Phuong Nam (Funan) civilization**. Visit the **Cao Dai temple** – a religion unique to this part of Vietnam; then return to Ho Chi Minh City for dinner and overnight.

Shopping: There may be some time for checking out Ton That Theip as well as Dan Khoi Streets, which are both small streets with great boutiques. Khai Silk, for example, has high-end bags and silks. And try Fanny's Ice Cream Shop!

14 Jan 2007 HO CHI MINH – DANANG – HOI AN

Morning transfer to airport for flight to Danang by VN324 [1120-1230]. Visit the **Cham Museum** in Danang, before continuing to Hoi An for a walking tour of the ancient town: **Fujian Congregation Hall, Japanese Bridge, Ancient House, Hoi An Market, and Museum of Trade Ceramics** in Hoi An, Overnight at Life Resort Hoi An, in the **shopping** district. This is where to make silk items and buy silk lanterns.

15 Jan 2007 HOI AN – HUE

Morning excursion to visit the **Cham ruins at My Son**. Continue to Hue in the afternoon **via Hai Van Pass** and visit the **tombs of King Khai Dinh and Tu Duc**. Overnight at La Residence Hue, on the river and opposite **the Citadel**, which is like a mini "Forbidden City".

16 Jan 2007 HUE – HANOI

Have a full day tour in Hue: Taking boat trip on **Perfume River to visit Thien Mu Pagoda** and visit the tomb of **Minh Mang and the Royal Palace**. Evening transfer to airport for flight of Hue – Hanoi. Meet and transfer to Melia Hotel for overnight.

17 Jan 2007 HANOI

Full day Hanoi Tour: **Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, Temple of Literature, Museum of Ethnology and Fine Art Museum**. Visit the private ceramic collection of **Dr. Augustine Vinh**. Late afternoon visit 1-hour tri-shaw tour in the old quarter and enjoy the evening Water Puppet Show. Overnight at Melia Hotel. Dinner tonight at **Chaga** (a simple steam boat restaurant that included in the list "1000 things to do before you die"!)

18 Jan 2007 HANOI – SINGAPORE

Free at leisure until departure to Singapore by SQ175 1330-1800. Our **shopping suggestion** in Hanoi: Dong Son Gallery of Fine Arts at 24 Hang Mahn Street.

PRICE

SGD 2700/ Single Supplement SGD 675

A possible alternative for those running short of time is to join Siem Reap or Vietnam segments only. Pricing for Siem Reap only segment is SGD1225/Single Supplement SGD225; pricing for Vietnam only segment is SGD1625/Single Supplement SGD450.

Price includes:

1. Airfare: return economy class airfare Singapore – Siem reap // Hanoi – Singapore on Singapore Airlines/Silk Air; Siem Reap – Ho Chi Minh City on Vietnam Airlines; Domestic Airfare: Ho Chi Minh – Danang, Hue – Hanoi by Vietnam Airlines
2. Accommodation at above hotels on twin-sharing basis
3. All meals
4. Transportation by private coach for all transfers and tours in itinerary
5. Sightseeing with local English speaking guide
6. All entrance fees (per itinerary) and water puppet show Boat Trip with private boat in Hue, Trishaw Tour in Hanoi for 1 hour (not to be missed!)
7. Tips and Gratuities

Price excludes:

1. Personal expenses
2. All services that are not mentioned in the itinerary
3. Visa's for Vietnam and Cambodia, if necessary

Visas:

1. Note that the cost of Vietnam and Cambodia visas are not included. The reason: visas are not required passport holders of Singapore, Malaysian and other ASEAN countries.
2. For those who require visa's, these are the options:
 - a. Atrium Eco Travel our tour agent will be able to apply for the visas for you. The cost is S\$75 for the Vietnam visa (requiring 4 working days) and S\$38 for the Cambodia visa (requiring 3 working days).
 - b. You can apply yourself. (Note there is the option of applying online for the Cambodia visa (costs US\$20 + US\$5 processing fee). No option like this for Vietnam)
3. Atrium will pick up passports from Art Forum. Please provide:
 - a. Your passport
 - b. Photo's (2 each for each country)
 - c. Completed application forms for each country
 - d. A check made out to **AtriumEco Travel Private Limited** for the cost of the visa's
 - e. 4 working days for Vietnam and 3 working days for Cambodia

Terms and conditions:

1. Package is valid for minimum 20 person traveling
2. Taxes and flight schedule are subject to change without prior notice

To Reserve:

1. Payment of SGD500 per person to secure your spot. Your SDG500 is refundable up to 8 December 2006, when the final payment is due.
2. Send your check to: Art Forum 82 Cairnhill Road Singapore 229684
3. Include your name(s) as reflected on passport, passport issued by, passport #, mailing address, email, and phone number.
4. Make arrangement for visas, if required.

Final Payment:

Your final payment is due on **Friday 8 December 2006**.

Coming up for the SEACS:

7 November 2006 Bruce Lockhart of NUS on Vietnam

5 December 2006 Holiday Party: VIETNAM UNWRAPPED

Visit our web site at www.seaceramic.org.sg ; email: ceramic@seaceramic.org.sg