

## **HANOI GOLFING**

18Days 17Nights 7Rounds  
(Tour ref.: A&P-2-18A)

### **Day 1: Arrival Hanoi (L)**

Upon arrival, met by our local guide and, while our luggage is taken to the hotel, we will go on a cyclo (trishaw) ride around the Old Quarter and the elaborate maze of streets which are each named for the goods sold on them. Part of our excursion include a visit to the famous Hanoi Hilton Prison. After lunch our city tour includes Ba Dinh Red Square - where President Ho declared Vietnam's independence from France, the Ho Chi Minh Museum, the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, Chua Mot Cot - the One Pillar Pagoda, and Van Mieu - Hanoi's oldest school. Afterwards we will collapse at the hotel.

### **Day 2: Golfing @Tamdao Golf Resort (B,D)**

Brush off the clubs as today we are golfing at Tam Dao Golf Resort, located in a mountain resort area 70 kilometres from Hanoi. The course was designed by IMG and opened in 2005. It is situated 1000 meters above sea level and the combination of lakes, streams and strategic bunkering makes for a visual treat. Afterwards we return to Hanoi where we go out for dinner and are treated to a water puppet show - a unique local art form.

### **Day 3: Halong Bay - Board Cruise (B,L,D)**

This morning we take a three-hour scenic drive to Halong Bay, a body of emerald green water near the border with China that consists of 3000 islands that rise steeply from the water to form an extraordinary seascape designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We board our ship - recreated from the original designs of a wooden Chinese Junk, and embark on an enchanting and relaxing cruise amongst the limestone islands. After lunch we explore the Cave of Surprise, swim or kayak at Hang Doi, meet local people at Van Gia fishing village and enjoy other onboard activities. We anchor at Ho Dong Tien and enjoy a delicious buffet dinner then relax and enjoy the surroundings or try a little night-fishing.

### **Day 4: Halong Bay – Danang (B,D)**

Early-risers can practice Tai Chi on the sundeck before an international buffet breakfast is served. We enjoy more scenic cruising in Halong Bay before disembarking later this morning. We drive back to Hanoi and board a flight to Danang, a major port and home to a U.S Air Force base during the U.S. war with Vietnam. We are taken to our seaside resort and tonight we will enjoy dinner at the hotel.

### **Day 5: Danang - Hoi An (B,L,D)**

Today we enjoy a full day excursion starting with Danang, where remains of the ancient Champa civilization – which reigned during the 10th to 17th centuries - can be found. We take a tour of the Marble Mountains whose five peaks are named after the five elements of nature, and the Cham Museum which houses a magnificent collection of sculptures. In the afternoon we visit nearby Hoi An. This charming old trading port is a UNESCO World Heritage Site with buildings that display a unique blend of local and foreign influence. We explore the narrow, teeming streets, which over the centuries have become a wonderful mix of crooked shops and houses, grand French villas and art galleries. We'll stay long enough to enjoy a dinner featuring special Hoi An dishes before returning to our resort.

### **Day 6: Golfing @ Montgomerie Links Golf Course (B,D)**

Today we play at the newly opened Montgomerie Links Golf Course, designed to capitalize on the proximity to the warm, tranquil East Sea and the striking Marble Mountains, both of which are clearly visible from various points on the course. The rest of the day is free to enjoy the facilities of our hotel. Tonight we will venture out to a local restaurant for dinner.

**Day 7: Free Morning - Cooking Class (B,D)**

The morning is free to enjoy our fabulous resort and its sandy beach. Possible activities include Tai Chi, volleyball, visiting the spa, kayaking, snorkelling or diving. Of course additional golf can also be arranged for anyone interested.

This afternoon we will learn a little about Vietnamese food preparation as we attend a cooking class and then sample our creations for dinner.

**Day 8: Golfing @Danang Golf Course (B,D)**

Greg Norman designed this stunning course which becomes fully open in 2010. The first 18 holes, known as the Dunes Course, evokes an experience often found in seaside courses in the British Isles. But make no mistake - this is Vietnam, the warm weather, surrounding scenery and long-tail boats in the water will quickly remind us of where we are golfing today. After some free time and another cocktail hour we will go out for dinner to a local restaurant.

**Day 9: Free Morning - To Ho Chi Minh (B,D)**

This morning is free for us to squeeze every last minute out of our beautiful resort. Then we return to the airport in Danang and fly to Ho Chi Minh City - formerly known as Saigon. Ho Chi Minh's French colonial heritage exudes an old world charm, in contrast to the modern skyline of its bustling financial districts. We are met and transferred to our hotel where we will enjoy our dinner tonight. Tonight we can venture out to the local market - just be careful crossing the street!

**Day 10: Golfing @Longthanh Golf Club (B,D)**

Today we challenge ourselves at Longthanh Golf Club which offers panoramic views over the surrounding countryside towards Saigon in the west and rural landscape in all directions. After the round we return to the city and are treated to a one-hour traditional foot massage. Heavenly! Tonight we enjoy a buffet dinner cruise along the Saigon River – a chance to see the city from the water and enjoy entertainment onboard.

**Day 11: Cu Chi Tunnels - Ho Chi Minh Tour (B,L)**

This morning we drive to the Cu Chi tunnels - an amazing network of narrow underground tunnels built during the war for independence by Viet Cong guerrillas. After lunch we return to the city and see such local landmarks as the Independence Palace, the War Museum, Notre Dame Cathedral and the French colonial Old Saigon Post Office.

**Day 12: Mekong Delta (B,L,D)**

Today we discover the Mekong Delta, where traditional lifestyles flourish in the fertile lands around the tributaries of the Mekong River. We spend the day learning about life in the region including a boat ride and a visit to orchards featuring durian, mango, rambutan and other exotic fruits.

**Day 13: Golfing @Vietnam Golf and Country Club – Flight Siem Reap (B,D)**

This morning we drive to Vietnam Golf and Country Club for a round at this prestigious course. There are two 18-hole courses here, one of them designed by Lee Trevino. We will have an early dinner at the golf club before going to the airport to board our flight to Siem Reap - the former capital of the Khmer Kingdom and the gateway to Angkor Wat.

**Day 14: Angkor Wat (B,L)**

With its soaring towers and incredible bas-reliefs, Angkor Wat is considered one of the most inspired and spectacular monuments conceived by man. Early this morning we will go for a sunrise view of the temple then return to our hotel for breakfast. The rest of the day is spent exploring this incredible UNESCO World Heritage Site. One of the highlights is Ta Prohm - seemingly being swallowed up by the jungle. This will be the sightseeing highlight of the trip and a day long remembered.

**Day 15: Golfing @ Phokeethra Golf course (B,D)**

Today we are treated to a round of golf at the Phokeethra Golf Course - the first world-class golf course in Cambodia. Generous greens, sweeping fairways and natural lagoons on almost every hole make this a formidable challenge. Carts are included today (as well as caddies) to help deal with the warm temperatures usually encountered here. The rest of the day is free to enjoy our resort. Tonight we will go to a local restaurant for dinner where we are treated to a performance of the Cambodian traditional Apsara Dance.

**Day 16: Floating Village - Free Afternoon (B,L)**

A morning tour features a boat ride on the Tonle Sap, the largest permanent fresh-water lake in South Asia. Our journey brings us to a nearby floating village so we can witness their unique way of life. After lunch at a local restaurant we return to the hotel for a free afternoon to enjoy the facilities.

**Day 17: Golfing @ Angkor Golf Resort (B,D)**

Our final round is at the beautiful Angkor Golf Resort, a new Nick Faldo design. Once again, both carts and caddies are included. Tonight we will gather together for our farewell dinner and crowning of the champions.

**Day 18: Journey Home (B)**

This morning we start our journey home via Phnom Penh and Hong Kong. We recross the International Dateline which allows us to arrive home the same day.