

distantjourneys
Your Time to Explore

Japan, Vietnam & Cambodia



Escorted Touring Holidays
2022 - 2023



A Warm Welcome Awaits

With an intriguing history and vibrant cultures, the Far East offers so many magical destinations which are a delight to explore. From ancient cultures and stunning landscapes to welcoming locals, ancient traditions and exceptional cuisine, there is something new to discover each and every day.

Unique in so many ways, Japan is a country of contrasts, where treasured rituals and neon-lit cities are seamlessly entwined to make a destination unlike any other. Or discover the very essence of South East Asia in Vietnam and Cambodia, whose rich history and friendly people captivate the imagination.

Explore these inspiring and fascinating countries with Distant Journeys and absorb the unique character, traditions and vibrancy of a holiday to the Far East.

Over 75 years creating incredible touring holidays
Our Directors have over 75 years combined travel industry experience and are true escorted touring experts. Between them, they have created an exciting style of flexible, award-winning touring holidays, giving you the chance to create a holiday which is perfect for you. Many years of meticulous planning go into delivering touring holidays of exceptional standards and unbelievable value.

Operated at a leisurely pace and providing you with unrivalled flexibility and value for money, we tailor our itineraries to the tastes of UK travellers, and our aim is simple - to make every moment of your holiday as memorable as it should be.

Award-winning holidays
Our friendly travel professionals are experts in the destinations we visit and are happy to share their passion with you at any time. The exceptional quality of our touring holidays means that Distant Journeys has been a ten-time winner at the prestigious British Travel Awards.

Platinum standard customer satisfaction
We are so proud our customers really love what we do. This is shown by the fact Distant Journeys has achieved an incredible 99% satisfaction rating with independent reviews provider Feefo. What's more, Distant Journeys has been awarded its highest 'Platinum Trusted' rating, for consistently delivering an excellent level of customer service.

Our Covid Guarantee
For your peace of mind, if Distant Journeys is unable to operate your tour due to Covid-19, we will give you the option to change to another tour, defer your holiday to a later departure date or cancel your holiday with a full refund.

Financially protected
Distant Journeys are fully bonded by the Civil Aviation Authority and The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited, meaning you can book in confidence, knowing your money is 100% safe.

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Why Choose Distant Journeys?

- 1. Exceptional value, uncompromising quality**
Our aim is to offer exceptional value for money without compromising on the quality of your holiday. You'll find included all you would expect from a touring holiday, along with a few special extras you might not expect.
- 2. Meticulously designed tours**
With over 75 years combined experience, our directors understand just what it takes to design the perfect touring holiday. Many years of planning go into every detail of our holidays, and each element is carefully chosen with our customers' enjoyment in mind.
- 3. Personal knowledge and expert advice**
Distant Journeys has a team of professional travel specialists with personal knowledge of the countries we visit, our selected hotels and the fabulous experiences offered.

- 4. Leisurely paced itineraries**
Our holidays operate at a relaxed pace, as we aim to give you plenty of time to fully explore and savour each area, as well as giving you some time to unwind.
- 5. Hand-picked hotels**
You'll be delighted by your hotels, as Distant Journeys only select accommodation which meets the high standards of quality, service and location our guests have come to expect.
- 6. Once in a lifetime experiences**
From exciting rail journeys and cruises to exploring lesser-known gems, our holidays feature many incredible experiences which will provide memories to cherish forever.
- 7. Experienced Tour Managers and guides**
Our Tour Managers and local guides are all greatly experienced in their field, and have the right balance of organisational skills and local knowledge, coupled with warm, friendly personalities.

- 8. Personalise your travel arrangements**
Flying from regional UK airports at no extra cost, upgrading your flight and extending your holiday are just a few of the ways in which you can personalise your tour so it's perfect for you.
- 9. Freedom to explore**
We know our customers rightly expect to have all the must-see excursions included, but we understand they also want to tailor their holiday to their own tastes. That's why some of our tours have Freedom Days to allow you the flexibility and choice to decide how you wish to spend your time.
- 10. Our Price Promise**
We want you to have the peace of mind you are paying the best price for your holiday, so Distant Journeys guarantees this through our Price Promise.

Price Promise ✓

Early booking offers

Our philosophy is simple - the earlier you book the better the offer you will receive.

No last minute discounts

Distant Journeys never discount our holidays at the last minute, so you can be confident you will never see your holiday at a lower price than the one you paid.

No surcharges

Irrespective of any additional costs incurred by Distant Journeys as a result of currency fluctuations, air fare increases or other costs associated with your holiday, surcharges will never be added once you have confirmed a booking.

Price match

We want you to have the peace of mind when booking a Distant Journeys holiday that you are receiving the best possible price. So, if you see the same holiday cheaper, not only will we match that price, we will also give you £200 off the price of a future holiday with Distant Journeys.

For more information on our Price Promise, please see our Terms & Conditions on page 61.



Exceptional Value

We are passionate about what we do, passionate about the countries we visit, the experiences we include, the service we offer and the value for money we deliver to our guests without compromising on the quality of the holiday experience.

With Distant Journeys, value for money means we will provide you with the opportunity to discover the Far East in comfort and style, with so much flexibility and so many experiences included in the itinerary, without it costing the earth.

So much included

From start to finish, each Distant Journeys holiday is meticulously planned. As you would expect from a touring holiday, we include return international flights from the UK on award-winning scheduled airlines, with all your on-board meals and drinks included. What you might not expect is having a choice of many regional UK airports, without paying any extra.

All your touring holiday essentials are included, such as overseas transport in modern air-conditioned coaches, a porter service for your luggage, all pre-payable airport and resort taxes, and all the entrance fees to the many incredible places and monuments you will visit. What's more, to help you make the most of your time whilst on holiday, you will be accompanied by a knowledgeable Tour Manager.

Unforgettable experiences

To make your holiday extra special, along with all the must-see excursions already included, Distant Journeys include a number of once in a lifetime experiences and visits to lesser-known hidden gems. These are all included to create memories you will treasure forever.

Comfort and convenience

Hotels are carefully selected to make the most of each location, and offer quality and comfort so you can unwind and relax when returning from a day's exploring. Daily breakfast is included in addition to a selection of other meals.





Award-winning Customer Service

We believe great customer service should be at the heart of everything we do, and we never lose sight of what matters most – you, our valued customers. We are with you every step of the way; before, during and after your tour. We recognise our guests are individuals, with different requirements, tastes and needs, and we tailor our support accordingly.

Our commitment to excellence in customer service has won us many awards, which recognise the superb customer service and high standards throughout the entire experience of booking and travelling with Distant Journeys. We are determined to continue to exceed expectations when it comes to our guests and their well-deserved holiday.

A team of dedicated travel experts

Our Travel Experts are friendly, well-travelled individuals with a passion for the destinations we visit, and love to share their experience and knowledge with you. We have travelled on our tours and visited the places you will visit, so we can offer advice from personal experience and give you practical recommendations. Our Travel Experts are always available to answer your queries, no matter how small; it's your holiday and we want you to be able to look forward to it with excitement and confidence.

Our service to you doesn't stop once you're on holiday, as you will then be in the capable hands of our Tour Managers and local guides. Once your tour is over, we will contact you to welcome you home to hear all about how you enjoyed your holiday.

Experienced Tour Managers

Distant Journeys' personally selected Tour Managers work tirelessly to ensure the tour runs smoothly, using their experience, local knowledge and organisational skills to ensure our guests can relax, knowing they are accompanied by a friendly, resourceful presence who is always on hand to help.

Knowledgeable Local Guides

Local guides play an invaluable role when touring the Far East; sharing their knowledge of the culture, traditions and language of the country to provide helpful insights into the places we visit and first hand recommendations to help guests feel truly immersed in their tour.

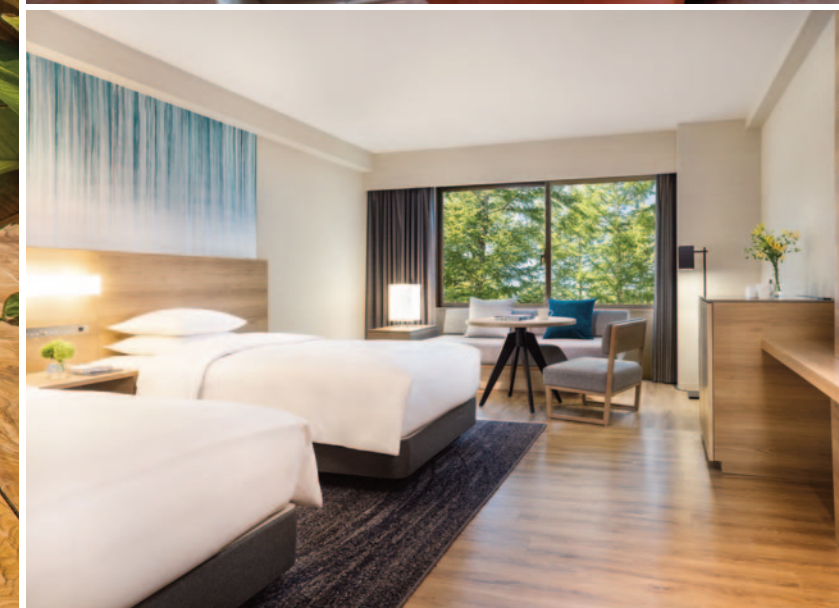
Platinum Trusted Service

Distant Journeys is proud to have been awarded Feefo's Platinum Trusted Service award every year since its inception in 2019. The Platinum Trusted Service award is based on independently verified customer reviews, and is only given to companies who consistently offer excellence in customer service. As you plan your holiday with Distant Journeys, we trust that reading our Feefo customer reviews will reassure you that you are in safe hands.

Travel with the award-winners

Over the years, Distant Journeys has consistently won awards for its touring holidays. The British Travel Awards are based on travellers votes, and celebrate the very best in travel providers throughout the UK. For five years in a row, we have received multiple awards, including awards in the prestigious 'Best Small Escorted Tours Holiday Company' for three years running. These are remarkable achievements in the travel industry's most highly-prized awards.





Hand-Picked Hotels

Distant Journeys appreciate the hotels in which you stay are an integral part of your holiday enjoyment, which is why we take great care in hand-picking all the accommodation featured in our itineraries.

Location and quality are always paramount considerations, and we strive to provide the best of both.

Hotel ratings

Each property has been personally inspected whilst planning our holidays, and you can be confident the hotels featured in this brochure have been carefully selected for their location, quality, facilities and level of service.

We understand from many years of experience that accommodation ratings may vary from country to country. We therefore provide our own ratings, which are based on the expectations of guests from the United Kingdom, alongside the official hotel rating. Please review our hotel directory on pages 54-55 for more information regarding the hotels included.

Location, location, location

Relax in the knowledge that every hotel has been carefully chosen to allow you to make the most of each destination you visit. In Japan for instance, guests stay at the Fuji Marriott Hotel. Set close to beautiful Lake Yamanaka, the hotel is surrounded by stunning landscapes and is a perfect setting to take in the incredible views of Mount Fuji.

Character and charm

Some hotels are more than just a place to rest and, in many destinations, we select hotels for their history, character and charm. When staying in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, you will experience a great example of this, with a stay at the Palace Gate Hotel & Resort, a lovingly restored colonial French villa.





Freedom & Flexibility

Imagine being able to enjoy all the benefits of travelling with a group of like-minded people; the fun, the camaraderie, the friendships, the hassle-free organisation - and at the same time being able to personalise your holiday so that it's perfect for you.

When it comes to having the freedom to tailor your touring holiday to suit your tastes and wishes, the flexibility provided by Distant Journeys cannot be beaten.

Fly from your local airport

To get your journey off to the best possible start, Distant Journeys offer flights from a choice of regional UK airports, at no extra cost. Dependent on your choice of airline and itinerary, you may fly from London Heathrow, London Gatwick, London Stansted, Birmingham, Manchester, Newcastle or Glasgow.

Flight upgrades

If you would like to treat yourself to a little more comfort on your international flights, Premium Economy and Business Class upgrades are available on selected routes. Please see pages 56-57 for more details.

Freedom Days

For an escorted tour to be truly memorable, we believe you should have the freedom to customise your touring experiences to match your interests. That is why the majority of Distant Journeys tours have a number of Freedom Days for you to spend as you please.

Private Touring by Distant Journeys

We are delighted to introduce Private Touring by Distant Journeys. The same expertly crafted itinerary and hand-picked hotels, combined with the exclusivity and convenience of your own friendly and knowledgeable guides, your own private vehicle and your own choice of departure date.

Whether you prefer to travel with a group of friends, as a family, or you are celebrating a special occasion as a couple, our private touring holidays provide affordable exclusivity and flexibility for groups of any size. Private Touring by Distant Journeys is available on our Highlights of Vietnam tour, or The Very Best of Vietnam & Cambodia tour.

Homebound stopovers at amazing prices

You have the opportunity to experience another country on your way home with a stopover in fantastic destinations such as Singapore, Sentosa Island or Dubai, dependent on your chosen tour. Prices are available from £295 per person. Please call for details.



From the moment we were helped with the booking, we felt sure that we were going to be looked after and everything was covered. We were not disappointed.

Mr & Mrs Wood, Derbyshire



Once in a Lifetime Experiences

Distant Journeys offer touring holidays to a selection of truly magical countries, featuring an incredible array of holiday experiences.

When you travel with Distant Journeys, you can be confident that not only will all the must-see sights be included, but you will also enjoy several extra special experiences to make your holiday as memorable as it should be.

Maiko performance and kaisei meal

Instantly recognisable and incredibly gracious, nothing is more synonymous with Japan than the geisha. Take a peek into this secretive world - enjoy a traditional Japanese meal, a kaisei, whilst being entertained by a maiko (apprentice geisha), who will perform their traditional art of singing and dancing.

Cruise Vietnam's UNESCO Ha Long Bay

Vietnam's Ha Long Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, is famed for its beautiful emerald waters and thousands of towering limestone islands, topped by rainforests. Our leisurely two night cruise allows plenty of time to discover this spectacular bay, along with the equally enchanting Lan Ha Bay.

Explore the temples of Angkor Wat

A visit to the immense Angkor complex of temples is a journey to one of the great wonders of the world. From the 9th to the 15th century Cambodian 'god-kings' attempted to surpass the religious monuments of their ancestors culminating in not only the world's largest religious building, but Cambodia's most recognisable landmark, the famous five spires of Angkor Wat.

Cruise the Mekong Delta and River

Explore the vast and verdant Mekong Delta and cruise the mighty Mekong River between Vietnam & Cambodia on board an elegant, hand-built ship, the RV Bassac Pandaw. Over four leisurely days, we cruise through tranquil waterways, discover local villages and enjoy the RV Bassac Pandaw's traditional charm and comfort.





The Very Best of Japan

20 days from only £5,495 per person

From the kimono-clad geisha who grace Kyoto's streets, to Tokyo's modern neon-lit metropolis, what makes Japan so unique is its ability to hold on to age-old customs and timeless traditions, yet entwine them seamlessly into modern day living.

With stunning landscapes and delicious regional cuisines, a plethora of historic shrines and temples and an intriguing culture and people, it's no wonder Japan is considered one of the world's great touring destinations.

Our leisurely 20-day tour has been carefully crafted to blend this fascinating mix of ancient and modern along with all of the country's major attractions. Add to this the magnificent beauty of the Japanese Alps, picturesque gardens, ancient castles and unique Japanese experiences, this tour combines the very best this country has to offer.

With quality accommodation, all breakfasts and many other meals included, along with an opportunity to stopover in Hong Kong on your way home, this tour really does showcase The Very Best of Japan.



③ = Number of nights



Your holiday includes

Flights with leading scheduled airlines

- Return economy class flights
- Fly with Cathay Pacific via Hong Kong from London Heathrow, London Gatwick or Manchester
- Alternatively, fly with ANA from London Heathrow. A supplement from £295 per person return will apply
- All airport charges, security charges and any applicable fuel surcharges
- UK Air Passenger Duty

Carefully selected hotels

- Superior hotels in great locations
- All hotel portorage
- Applicable hotel taxes

Many meals

- Daily breakfast, worth £380 per person
- 3 lunches
- 3 dinners

Unforgettable experiences

- Sightseeing tours in Tokyo, Takayama, Kanazawa, Kyoto, Hiroshima, Miyajima Island and Nara
- Learn how to make sushi and buckwheat noodles
- Spend two nights within the region known as Fuji Five Lakes
- View Matsumoto Castle and visit the UNESCO World Heritage Himeji Castle
- Visit a miso factory and sake museum
- Explore the UNESCO World Heritage site of Shirakawa-go
- Discover the Japanese gardens of Kenroku-en and Koraku-en
- Watch a Maiko performance
- Ride the Bullet Train
- Visit historical Bikan Chiku, Kurashiki

On the ground

- Services of an experienced Tour Manager and local guides
- All overseas transfers
- Modern, air-conditioned coaches throughout

100% confidence

- Your holiday is covered by our Price Promise*
- Your holiday is covered by our Covid Guarantee*
- Your holiday is fully ATOL protected

* For more information on our Price Promise and Covid Guarantee, please see our Terms & Conditions on pages 60-63.



Meiji-jingu Shrine, Tokyo



Sushi

The Very Best of Japan

Days 1 to 5: UK - Tokyo - Lake Yamanaka

Day 1: Depart UK

Depart with Cathay Pacific from the UK airport most convenient for you. Choose from London Heathrow, London Gatwick or Manchester. No matter which airport you choose, there will be no additional cost.

In-flight meals and drinks included

Alternative airline – ANA

Should you prefer, fly direct to Tokyo from London Heathrow with ANA. Supplement from £295 per person return.

Day 2: Tokyo, 3 nights

All flights with Cathay Pacific to Tokyo travel via Hong Kong. On arrival into Japan's metropolitan capital, we transfer to the centrally located Keio Plaza Hotel. The remainder of the day is left free to relax.

In-flight meals and drinks included

Day 3: Tokyo

We start our Japanese adventure in the district of Asakusa, home to Tokyo's oldest temple, Sensoji. Founded in AD645, the temple enshrines a golden image of Kannon, the Buddhist goddess of mercy. The approach to the temple is through the Kaminarimon Gate, which leads to the Nakamise, a shopping street which has been providing temple visitors with a variety of traditional local snacks and tourist souvenirs for centuries.

We make our way to a local restaurant where we learn the art of Japanese sushi making, and enjoy our own culinary creation for lunch. We finish our day with a visit to Tokyo National Museum. This evening, enjoy a welcome drink with your Tour Manager and fellow travellers, to learn more about our forthcoming adventure. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 4: Tokyo

After breakfast we make our way to Tokyo Tower. Standing at 333m, it's 13m taller than the Eiffel Tower, which was the inspiration for its design. Although surpassed in height by Tokyo Skytree in 2012, Tokyo Tower remains a beloved symbol of the city. After a brief photo stop at the impressive Imperial Plaza, we make our way to Japan's most famous Shinto Shrine, Meiji Jingu. Dedicated to Emperor Meiji, the shrine sits in a large forest area that contains more than 100,000 trees, gifted by the people to their beloved emperor. We return to our hotel, where the remainder of the day is at leisure. This evening is our opportunity to see Tokyo from a different perspective with an optional dinner cruise along the Sumida River. **Breakfast included**

Day 5: Lake Yamanaka, 2 nights

This morning we head to Fuji-Hakone-Izu National Park, famous for its hot springs and views of Japan's most iconic image, Mount Fuji. Our first stop is Lake Ashi, a crater lake formed over 200,000 years ago. We board our boat for a short cruise on this beautiful lake and take a cable car into Owakudani Valley. The result of a volcanic eruption over 3,000 years ago, the area is still active with many sulphur vents and bubbling hot springs. We continue our journey through picturesque landscapes to the area known as Fuji Five Lakes, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Our home for the next two nights is the Fuji Marriott Hotel, Lake Yamanaka. After settling into our accommodation, there is free time to relax prior to dinner. **Breakfast and dinner included**



Tokyo Tower

We were made to feel confident in our choice of holiday and could relax as everything was taken care of. We would definitely recommend Distant Journeys and hope to use them in the future.

Mr & Mrs Buck, West Yorkshire



Takayama's Old Town



Shirakawa-go

The Very Best of Japan

Days 6 to 9: Lake Yamanaka - Mount Fuji - Takayama - Shirakawa-go - Kanazawa

Day 6: Mount Fuji and Fuji Five Lakes Tour Highlight

Fuji-san, or Mr. Fuji as it is more affectionately known, can be a little shy, but fingers crossed a clear sky will reward us with some impressive views. Our first stop is the small, but delightful, Kubota Icchiku Art Museum. Kubota revived the lost art of Tsujigahana silk dyeing and the museum exhibits several of the artist's stunning kimono creations, which depict themes of nature, the cosmos and the seasons. We continue to the Fujisan World Heritage Centre which showcases traditional artwork and videos of this sacred mountain. We learn how to make buckwheat noodles, and continue to the shores of Lake Kawaguchi where there is time to stroll along this picturesque lake. This evening we dine together in our hotel. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 7: Takayama, 2 nights

This morning, we begin our journey towards the majestic Japanese Alps. We stop at Matsumoto castle, the oldest existing castle in Japan, for a fabulous photo opportunity and continue to a miso factory, to discover how this staple Japanese food is made. Afterwards enjoy a spectacular journey through the mountains to Takayama. Our hotel for the next two nights is the centrally located Takayama Green Hotel. **Breakfast included**

Day 8: Takayama Tour Highlight

Takayama is best explored on foot and we begin our day with a visit to the morning market. Afterwards we make our way to the Takayama-Jinya, which served as government headquarters under the Tokugawa shogunate of 1692 to 1871. We end our morning in the heart of Takayama's picturesque old town, lined with traditional houses, shops, restaurants, sake breweries and cafes. Our afternoon is at leisure to enjoy this delightful area. Perhaps sample some of the many delicious delicacies, try some locally-brewed sake, or visit one of the many museums, such as the Festival Floats Exhibition Hall. Tonight, there is the opportunity to dine on Japan's famous Hida beef, a variety of wagyu beef local to this area. **Breakfast included**

Stay in a Ryokan

Overnight from £95 per person



During our time in Takayama, for those who want to experience traditional hospitality, there is an opportunity to spend a night in a Ryokan (traditional Japanese Inn). Enjoy delicious local cuisine, relax in your yukata (casual kimono) and maybe even try the onsen (hot spring bath). Please call for details.

Day 9: Shirakawa-go & Kanazawa, 2 nights

Today we head to the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Shirakawa-go. The villages, mostly cut off until as recently as the 1960s, are today famous for their traditional style of housing, the Gassho-zukuri, which means "like praying hands". We continue to Kanazawa and the Omicho Market, a lively food market famous for its abundance of fresh seafood, which has been in operation since 1721. Afterwards, visit Normura Samurai House, a restored samurai residence. Finally, we arrive at the centrally located Kanazawa Tokyu Hotel. **Breakfast included**



Mount Fuji



Ryoanji Temple, Kyoto



Geisha, Kyoto

The Very Best of Japan

Days 10 to 12: Kanazawa - Kyoto

Day 10: Kanazawa

This morning, we start our day with a visit to the delightful Kenroku-en garden, considered by the Japanese as one of the top three gardens in the country. The name Kenroku-en means the “garden combining six”, referring to the six attributes all gardens should include: seclusion, antiquity, spaciousness, human ingenuity, water and scenic views. The city is also famed for gold leaf and it is used in abundance. We visit a local establishment to learn about gold leaf production, and decorate our own chopsticks in gold leaf - we even have the opportunity to purchase a gold leaf ice-cream.

We head to the Higashi Chaya area of the city with its lovely neighbourhood of beautifully-preserved geisha houses. Many have now been converted into restaurants or teahouses, although some are still open to the public. The afternoon is free to continue exploring Kanazawa at your own pace. There is a plethora of museums and local arts and crafts to explore. Alternatively, there is the option to join an afternoon tour which visits the Kutani Pottery and Kagayuzen Kimono Centre. **Breakfast included**

Day 11: Kyoto, 3 nights

This morning we make our way to Kanazawa Station for our train journey to Kyoto. The capital of Imperial Japan for over 1,000 years, Kyoto is Japan's cultural capital. This afternoon we head to Arashiyama and its famous Bamboo Grove, and there will be plenty of time to wander through the impressive towering alley of Bamboo. Our hotel for the next three nights is the Kyoto Tokyu Hotel.

Tour Highlight

The distinctive white face, red lips and elaborately decorated hairstyle of the geisha is an enduring image portrayed throughout the globe. Yet the world in which they live, remains a mystery. Tonight, we have arranged a traditional Japanese meal, a kaisei, and we will be joined by a maiko, our apprentice geisha, who will perform traditional song and dance. **Breakfast and dinner included**

Day 12: Kyoto

Tour Highlight

We begin our day of sightseeing at the impressive UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kinkaku-ji Temple. Fondly referred to as the Golden Pavilion, this richly decorated golden temple is truly a beautiful sight to behold. Our next stop is another UNESCO World Heritage Site, the rock garden of Ryoanji Temple. The garden's fifteen stones are cleverly arranged so that there is always one rock that is hidden from view. Our final and third UNESCO World Heritage Site of the morning is Kiyomizu-dera Temple. Founded in AD778, the most famous feature of the temple is its wooden veranda, standing some 13 metres above the ground. Later, we head to Gion, Kyoto's famous geisha district, to take part in a traditional tea ceremony. Tonight, there is an opportunity to experience a Japanese barbecue at a local restaurant. **Breakfast included**



Kiyomizu-dera Temple, Kyoto



Fushimi Inari Shrine



A-Bomb Dome, Hiroshima Peace Memorial Park

The Very Best of Japan

Days 13 to 16: Kyoto - Hiroshima - Miyajima Island - Kurashiki

Day 13: Fushimi Inari Shrine

This morning we head out of the city to the Fushimi Inari Shrine, famous for its tunnels of more than 10,000 closely-spaced torii gates, each of which has been individually donated. We visit a sake museum to discover the brewing and production process of this famous Japanese rice wine. Later, return to the city for an afternoon at leisure. If you prefer, you can join an optional tour of Sanju-Sangendo, with an opportunity to paint and take away your own paper fan. Tonight, there is the option to sample Japanese shabushabu at a local restaurant.

Breakfast included

Day 14: Bullet Train, Hiroshima, 2 nights

After a leisurely breakfast, we transfer to the station for our journey on Japan's iconic Bullet Train. Travelling at speeds of up to 200 miles per hour, the train smoothly whisks us across the country to our next port of call, Hiroshima. Hiroshima is perhaps best known for being the place where an atomic bomb was dropped during the Second World War. This afternoon, we talk to a survivor of the attack, visit the Memorial Peace Park and its moving museum, as well as the Atomic Bomb Dome. After a thought-provoking day, we transfer to the Righa Royal Hotel, ideally located for exploring the city. **Breakfast included**

Day 15: Miyajima Island

A morning visit takes us to the peaceful and pretty island of Miyajima, home to the UNESCO World Heritage listed Itsukushima Shrine. Later, there is plenty of time to wander around the city's pretty streets. Our afternoon has been left at leisure, and we highly recommend a stroll to Hiroshima Castle, Shukkeien garden and Orizuru Tower, which are all within easy walking distance of our hotel. Tonight, we have the opportunity to visit a local Okonomiyaki restaurant and learn how to make this famous and delicious dish, associated with the Hiroshima area.

Breakfast included

We Recommend

Learn to make Okonomiyaki

With some 2,000 Okonomiyaki restaurants in Hiroshima alone, this dish is adored by locals.



Day 16: Kurashiki, Overnight

Travel to the old merchant settlement of Kurashiki, whose main draw is its beautiful willow-lined canal and historical Bikan district. Many former storehouses have been converted into museums, boutiques and cafes, providing the perfect backdrop for a leisurely stroll. This afternoon we visit Koraku-en Garden, another of Japan's top three gardens. It is most aptly described as a "strolling garden", due to its variety of views from the pathways which wind through the pond, stream, lawns and teahouse. We return to Kurashiki for an overnight stay at the Kurashiki Royal Art Hotel, just a short walk from the Bikan district. **Breakfast included**



Itsukushima Shrine, Miyajima Island



Himeji Castle



Japanese Tempura



Todaiji Temple, Nara

The Very Best of Japan

Days 17 to 20: Himeji Castle - Nara - Osaka - UK

Day 17: Himeji Castle - Osaka, 2 nights

Tour Highlight

Today we journey to our final destination, Osaka via the city of Himeji, famous for Japan's finest surviving feudal castle, Himeji Castle. The first fortifications of this UNESCO World Heritage Site were completed in the 1400's. Gradually enlarged over the centuries, the castle complex, as it survives today, is over 400 years old and is an imposing and majestic site. After exploring the castle and grounds, we make our way to Osaka. Our home for our last two nights is the delightful Hotel Nikko Osaka. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 18: Nara

Our sightseeing today takes us to Nara, Japan's first permanent capital. One of the first sights we will experience is the thousands of sacred deer that roam freely throughout the city, and have learned to bow for treats! We visit the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Todaiji Temple. Founded in AD745, the vast temple took over 15 years to complete. The main hall houses a colossal bronze Buddha statue and remains the world's largest wooden building. After a morning of sightseeing, we return to Osaka, where our afternoon has been left free to relax. **Breakfast included**

Day 19: Depart Osaka

There is time this morning to explore Osaka further and perhaps purchase some last-minute souvenirs. In the afternoon we depart for Osaka Airport for our early evening flight to the UK. Regardless of the regional UK airport you are flying to, all flights will travel via Hong Kong. Alternatively, if flying ANA, you will depart to the UK via Tokyo. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 20: Arrive UK

After 20 spectacular days, we arrive into the UK, bringing our incredible Very Best of Japan tour to an end. **In-flight meals and drinks included**



Nara Park

Departure Dates & Prices

2023 Departures

22 March 2023	SOLD OUT
25 March 2023	£5,795 per person
30 March 2023	SOLD OUT
31 March 2023	SOLD OUT
13 May 2023	£5,495 per person

Prices

Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Single occupancy supplement
£1,595.

Deposit

£1,000 per person if travelling Economy Class, £1,950 per person if travelling in Premium Economy, and £3,750 per person for Business Class.

Flight upgrades

Cathay Pacific upgrade to Premium Economy from £1,295 per person return, or Business Class from £3,395 per person return.

ANA upgrade to Premium Economy from £1,195 per person return, or Business Class from £3,295 per person return.

Important information

Prices and flight upgrades are subject to fuel surcharges and the availability of flights. The correct price will be confirmed before you book.

Full Terms & Conditions are available on pages 60-63.

Call to book

Our award-winning travel experts are happy to answer any questions you may have, and to help you book your holiday with Distant Journeys.

Call FREE on 0800 141 3743

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm **Saturday** 9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday Open in peak season. See website for details.

Should you prefer, please feel free to email us with your enquiry.
Email: enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk





Highlights of Vietnam

15 days from only £2,795 per person

A land of staggering natural landscapes and vast cultural diversity, of ancient temples and tranquil villages – a journey through Vietnam is both exotic and compelling.

The flavours of Vietnamese cooking are a huge draw for many international visitors, and along the length and breadth of the country, local people will invite you to sample their cuisine with open arms.

Our 15 day Highlights of Vietnam tour includes all the must-see attractions of north, central and southern Vietnam. Experience the ancient history of the country through its temples and pagodas whilst learning more of its recent history with visits to the Cu Chi Tunnels and War Remnants Museum. Enjoy bustling moped-filled cities with streets full of vendors, and take time to relax whilst enjoying some of Asia's finest scenery on a leisurely two-night cruise on Vietnam's famous Ha Long Bay.

With first class hotels throughout, all breakfasts and including many other meals, our Highlights of Vietnam tour really does offer exceptional value for money.

The Highlights of Vietnam tour may be taken as either a group tour or a private tour.



Your holiday includes

Flights with leading scheduled airlines

- Return economy class flights
- Fly with Cathay Pacific via Hong Kong from London Heathrow, London Gatwick or Manchester, or with Singapore Airlines via Singapore from London Heathrow or Manchester, or with Vietnam Airlines from London Heathrow
- Alternatively, fly with Emirates via Dubai from London Heathrow, London Gatwick, London Stansted, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow. A supplement from £195 per person will apply
- All domestic flights within Vietnam
- All airport charges, security charges and any applicable fuel surcharges
- UK Air Passenger Duty

Carefully selected hotels

- First class hotels in great locations
- All hotel portorage
- Applicable hotel taxes

Many meals

- Daily breakfast, worth £165 per person
- 5 lunches

All-inclusive on the Au Co, Ha Long Bay

- Two-night cruise around Ha Long Bay and Lan Ha Bay
- All land excursions and selected on-board experiences
- All meals
- Welcome drink

Unforgettable experiences

- Sightseeing tours in Hanoi, Hoi An, Hue and Ho Chi Minh City
- Vietnamese cookery class
- Cu Chi Tunnels

On the ground

- Services of an experienced Tour Manager and local guides
- All overseas transfers
- Modern, air-conditioned coaches throughout

100% confidence

- Your holiday is covered by our Price Promise*
- Your holiday is covered by our Covid Guarantee*
- Your holiday is fully ATOL protected

* For more information on our Price Promise and Covid Guarantee, please see our Terms & Conditions on pages 60-63.



Hanoi



Temple of Literature, Hanoi

Highlights of Vietnam

Days 1 to 4: UK - Hanoi

Day 1: Depart UK

Depart with Cathay Pacific from the UK airport most convenient for you. Choose from London Heathrow, London Gatwick or Manchester. Or, if you prefer, fly with Singapore Airlines from London Heathrow or Manchester. Alternatively, you may choose to fly direct to Hanoi from London Heathrow with Vietnam Airlines. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Alternative airline – Emirates

Should you prefer, you may fly with Emirates via Dubai from London Heathrow, London Gatwick, London Stansted, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow, for a supplement from £195 per person return.

Day 2: Hanoi, 3 nights

All flights with Cathay Pacific to Hanoi travel via Hong Kong. If travelling with Singapore Airlines, you will travel via Singapore. After clearing customs, we transfer to our hotel and our home for our first three nights in Vietnam, the delightful Pan Pacific Hanoi. If flying with Vietnam Airlines, your flight arrives early morning, so you may wish to arrange a guaranteed early check-in. The remainder of our day is at leisure. This evening, enjoy a welcome drink with our Tour Manager and fellow travellers, so we may become better acquainted and learn more of our forthcoming travels. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 3: Hanoi

Vietnam's capital, Hanoi offers a rich Asian culture, mixed with Chinese and French influences which are an immediate assault on the senses. We begin our morning tour with a cyclo (similar to a rickshaw) ride through the Old Quarter. Packed with charming colonial architecture, Buddhist temples and pagodas, the ancient commercial streets are named after the original businesses that were housed here. We visit Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, the final resting place of 'Uncle Ho', and view the one pillar pagoda and the 11th century Temple of Literature. Later we tour the Ethnology Museum for an insight into the 54 ethnic groups that make up the Vietnamese people, together with a traditional water puppet show. **Breakfast and lunch included.**

Day 4: Hanoi Freedom Day

Today has been left free so you can continue to enjoy the delights of the city at your own pace. Budding photographers may wish to join a tour to capture the city's many incredible photographic opportunities. Or maybe take a cookery class to learn the secrets of Vietnam's delicious cuisine. Alternatively, take a full day excursion to 'Ha Long Bay on Land', Ninh Binh. **Breakfast included**

We Recommend

Ninh Binh

A mesmerizing region known as 'Ha Long Bay on Land'. The best way to get a sense of this UNESCO-protected area is by taking a paddleboat tour along its shimmering rivers.





Hoi An



Au Co, Ha Long Bay

Highlights of Vietnam

Days 5 to 9: Ha Long Bay - Hoi An

Day 5: Ha Long Bay, 2 nights

Tour Highlight

Known for its emerald waters and thousands of towering limestone islands topped by rainforest, Ha Long Bay has become one of Vietnam's must-see destinations. We travel to Ha Long, where we board our first-class vessel, the Au Co, for a spectacular two-night cruise around this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy lunch as we cruise into the bay, and visit the floating village of Cua Van, situated in the heart of the bay. Back on board, end the day on deck watching the sun set, followed by dinner. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 6: Lan Ha and Ha Long Bays

Start your day, if you wish, with a Tai Chi lesson on the sun deck before cruising through the lesser-known, but no less dramatic, Lan Ha Bay. We arrive at Cat Ba Island and cycle a short distance to Viet Hai Village, nestled in the heart of Cat Ba National Park, where we learn about community life. Later, we visit Trinh Nu Cave to view its stunning array of stalactites and stalagmites. This evening, enjoy a buffet barbecue on deck with our fellow passengers. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 7: Hoi An, 3 nights

Following breakfast this morning, we visit Sung Sot Cave, Ha Long's largest and most famous cave. Back on board, soak up the scenery as we cruise back to the mainland. We board our waiting coach and return to Hanoi for our flight to Danang. Upon arrival, we continue to the town of Hoi An and the fabulous Hoi An Silk Marina Resort & Spa, home for our next three nights. **Breakfast included**

Day 8: Walking tour of Hoi An

Tour Highlight

Once a major trading port, historic Hoi An is a delightful UNESCO World Heritage Site of grand architecture, Chinese warehouses, Dutch and French colonial houses and Japanese temples. The best way to explore Hoi An is by foot. During our walking tour we visit the Chua Ong Pagoda, Phuc Kien Assembly Hall, Tan Ky House and the 17th century Japanese Bridge. We finish with a boat trip on the Thu Bon River. The remainder of our day is at leisure. Relax by the hotel pool, or maybe join an optional lantern making class. **Breakfast included**

Day 9: Hoi An Freedom Day

Today has been left free to spend as we please. Perhaps visit the local community of Tra Que Village and discover the techniques used by its farmers, followed by lunch made from locally-farmed ingredients. Alternatively, you may prefer to take a cookery class at a local organic farm, visit the enchanting temples of My Son, or simply relax and enjoy your hotel's facilities. **Breakfast included**

We Recommend

Tra Que Village

Experience the Vietnamese countryside and meet the farmers of Tra Que Village, where organic vegetables are produced using traditional methods.



Ha Long Bay



Cu Chi Tunnels



Cookery class

Highlights of Vietnam

Days 10 to 13: Hue - Ho Chi Minh City - Cu Chi Tunnels

Day 10: Hue, 2 nights

This morning we begin our spectacular drive over the Hai Van Pass. This 19km stretch of road climbs 914m (3,000ft), following the Vietnamese coastline. Later, visit the elaborate Minh Mang Tomb and continue to Thien Mu Pagoda, before cruising back to the city along the Perfume River. Our hotel for the next two nights is the Eldora Hotel, centrally located for exploring the city. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 11: Hue's Imperial Citadel

Originally the settlement of the Cham people, the Imperial city of Hue was capital of Vietnam during the Nguyen Dynasty and is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. After breakfast we visit the Imperial Citadel modelled on the Forbidden City in Beijing. Many of the buildings, as well as the citadel, were destroyed by war, but these are slowly being rebuilt and restored. We also visit, the former residence of Princess Ngoc Son. Our afternoon is free to spend as we please. Try your hand at the delicate art of truc chi, paper made from bamboo pulp, or alternatively travel to the local village of Than Tien to learn the craft of paper flower making, a tradition the local residents have been practicing for over 300 years. **Breakfast and lunch included**

We Recommend

Truc Chi, paper art

Literally translated as 'paper made from bamboo', join a Truc Chi workshop, meet local artists and make your own piece of Truc Chi art to take home.



Day 12: Ho Chi Minh City, 2 nights

It's an early start this morning as we journey to the airport for our flight to Ho Chi Minh City. Visit the city's Central Post Office and the Notre Dame Cathedral, and explore the War Remnants Museum. A stark, and often graphic representation of the impact of the Vietnam War, the museum provides a fascinating insight into this country's history. We complete our day with a stroll along Dong Khoi Street to the Saigon Opera House. Our home for our last two nights is the perfectly located Liberty Central Riverside Hotel. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 13: Cu Chi Tunnels

Tour Highlight

This morning we travel to the countryside which was once the stronghold of the Viet Cong. We visit Ho Chi Minh Agricultural Village, where we join a Vietnamese cookery class. Continue to the Cu Chi Tunnels, a vast underground network of more than 250km of tunnels used by the Viet Cong. Our visit provides a fascinating insight into how the Viet Cong lived and fought during the war. This evening there is an optional dinner at 'Dining in the Dark at Noir' - a dining experience like no other! **Breakfast and lunch included**



Imperial Citadel, Hue



Vietnamese Water Puppets



Fishermen, Mekong Delta

Highlights of Vietnam

Days 14 to 15: Ho Chi Minh City - UK

Day 14: Depart Vietnam

As your flight departs in the evening, there is further time to explore Ho Chi Minh City or to purchase any last-minute souvenirs. Our flights to our chosen UK airport operate via either Hong Kong with Cathay Pacific, Singapore with Singapore Airlines, Hanoi with Vietnam Airlines or Dubai with Emirates. **Breakfast and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 15: Arrive UK

This morning we arrive into our chosen airport. Filled with amazing memories to cherish, our Vietnamese adventure comes to an end. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Homebound Stopovers from only £295 per person

If you would like to explore somewhere new on your way home, a stopover is a perfect way to make your journey more relaxing and to experience a wonderful new city.

Singapore - Copthorne Kings Hotel

Two nights from £295 per person

Standing proud near the historic and picturesque Singapore River, Copthorne King's Hotel Singapore is close to a dazzling array of shopping, dining and entertainment venues.



Sentosa Island - Rasa Sentosa Resort

Two nights from £445 per person

Stopover in style at Shangri-La's Rasa Sentosa Resort, a beautiful beachfront resort on Singapore's Sentosa Island, only 20 minutes from downtown Singapore.



Dubai - Marriott Hotel Al Jaddaf

Two nights from £345 per person

Located within easy reach of Dubai Mall, the Marriott Al Jaddaf is the perfect alternative to a beachside hotel and a great location from which to explore downtown Dubai.



Your stopover includes return airport transfers, two nights accommodation and daily breakfast.

Departure Dates & Prices

2022 Departures

13 November 2022 **£2,795** per person

2023 Departures

05 February 2023 **£2,895** per person

19 February 2023 **£2,895** per person

05 March 2023 **£2,895** per person

Private Touring Supplements

The same expertly crafted itinerary and hand-picked hotels, combined with the exclusivity and convenience of your own friendly and knowledgeable guides, your own private vehicle and your own choice of departure date.

2 guests	£445 per person
3 guests	£395 per person
4-5 guests	£245 per person
6-7 guests	£195 per person
8 guests	£95 per person
9-12 guests	£45 per person
13+ guests	No extra charge

Prices

Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Single occupancy supplement
£545.

Deposit

£1,000 per person if travelling Economy Class, £1,950 per person if travelling Premium Economy, and £3,750 per person for Business Class.

Stopovers

Stopovers may be possible in Singapore, Sentosa Island or Dubai on your return journey. Please call for details.

Private Touring

Alternative airlines may be considered and supplements may apply in certain periods when accommodation and international flight prices are higher.

Flight upgrades

Cathay Pacific or Vietnam Airlines upgrade to Premium Economy from £1,295 per person return, or Business Class from £2,995 per person return.

Singapore Airlines upgrade to Premium Economy from £1,295 per person return, or Business Class from £3,495 per person return.

Emirates upgrade to Business Class flights from £3,995 per person return.

Visa information

British Citizens do not require a visa if staying less than 15 days in Vietnam.

Important information

Prices and flight upgrades are subject to fuel surcharges and the availability of flights. The correct price will be confirmed before you book.

Full Terms & Conditions are available on pages 60-63.

Call to book

Our award-winning travel experts are happy to answer any questions you may have, and to help you book your holiday with Distant Journeys.

Call FREE on 0800 141 3743

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm **Saturday** 9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday Open in peak season. See website for details.

Should you prefer, please feel free to email us with your enquiry.

Email: enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk





The Very Best of Vietnam & Cambodia

22 days from only £4,195 per person

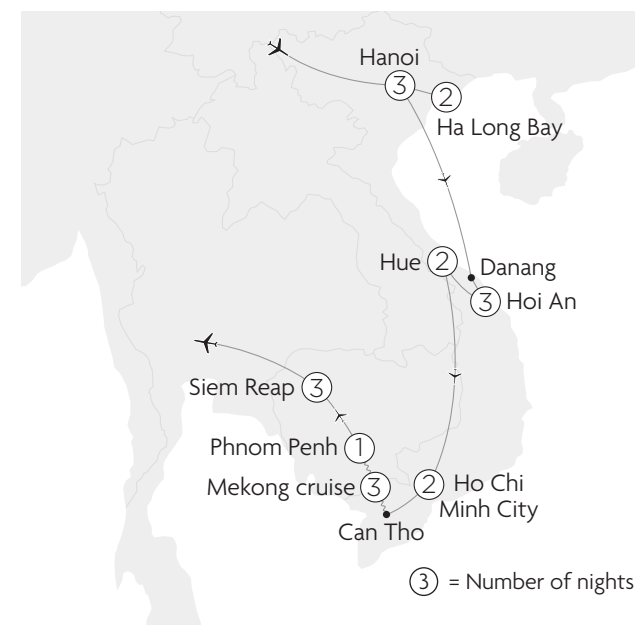
Vietnam and Cambodia are the very essence of Indochina. Ancient and modern worlds collide, creating a truly thrilling adventure.

With incredible scenery, gastronomic delights, friendly people and so much of their rich character and traditions still in evidence, Vietnam and Cambodia are a delight to discover; experience and enjoy.

Our 22 day Very Best of Vietnam & Cambodia tour includes everything you would expect from a holiday to Asia; the hustle and bustle of local markets, phenomenal landscapes, archaeological treasures, and tranquil villages. Also included is a two-night cruise on Vietnam's Ha Long Bay and a three-night cruise on the Mighty Mekong River. Both are a relaxing and wonderful way to experience and enjoy this fascinating region of South-East Asia.

With first class hotels throughout, all breakfasts and many other meals included, this tour really does reveal The Very Best of Vietnam & Cambodia.

The Very Best of Vietnam & Cambodia tour may be taken as either a group tour or a private tour.



Your holiday includes

Flights with leading scheduled airlines

- Return economy class flights. Fly with Cathay Pacific via Hong Kong from London Heathrow, London Gatwick or Manchester, or with Singapore Airlines via Singapore from London Heathrow or Manchester or fly with Vietnam Airlines from London Heathrow.
- Alternatively, fly with Emirates via Dubai from London Heathrow, London Gatwick, London Stansted, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow. A supplement from £445 per person will apply
- All domestic flights within Vietnam & Cambodia
- All airport charges, security charges and any applicable fuel surcharges
- UK Air Passenger Duty

Carefully selected hotels

- First class hotels in great locations
- All hotel portorage and applicable hotel taxes

Many meals

- Daily breakfast, worth £285 per person
- 7 lunches

All-inclusive on the Au Co, Ha Long Bay

- Two-night cruise around Ha Long Bay and Lan Ha Bay
- All land excursions and selected on-board experiences
- All meals and welcome drink

All-inclusive on the RV Bassac Pandaw, Mekong River

- Three-night cruise on the Mekong River between Vietnam and Cambodia
- All land excursions and selected on-board experiences
- All meals and selected alcoholic and soft drinks

Unforgettable experiences

- Sightseeing tours in Hanoi, Hoi An, Hue, Ho Chi Minh City and Phnom Penh
- Vietnamese cookery class
- Cu Chi Tunnels
- Magnificent temples of Angkor

On the ground

- Services of an experienced Tour Manager and local guides
- All overseas transfers
- Modern, air-conditioned coaches throughout

100% confidence

- Your holiday is covered by our Price Promise*
- Your holiday is covered by our Covid Guarantee*
- Your holiday is fully ATOL protected

* For more information on our Price Promise and Covid Guarantee, please see our Terms & Conditions on pages 60-63.



Temple of Literature, Hanoi



Hoi An



Ha Long Bay

The Very Best of Vietnam & Cambodia

Days 1 to 10: UK - Hanoi - Ha Long Bay - Hoi An - Hue

Day 1: Depart UK

Depart with Cathay Pacific from the UK airport most convenient for you. Choose from London Heathrow, London Gatwick or Manchester. Or, if you prefer, fly with Singapore Airlines from London Heathrow or Manchester. Alternatively, you may choose to fly direct to Hanoi from London Heathrow with Vietnam Airlines. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Alternative airline – Emirates

If you prefer, you may fly with Emirates via Dubai from London Heathrow, London Gatwick, London Stansted, Manchester, Birmingham, Newcastle or Glasgow, for a supplement from £445 per person return.

Day 2: Hanoi, 3 nights

All flights with Cathay Pacific to Hanoi travel via Hong Kong. If travelling with Singapore Airlines, you will travel via Singapore. After clearing customs, we transfer to our hotel and our home for our first three nights in Vietnam, the delightful Pan Pacific Hanoi. If flying with Vietnam Airlines, your flight arrives early morning, so you may wish to arrange a guaranteed early check-in. The remainder of our day is at leisure. This evening, enjoy a welcome drink with our Tour Manager and fellow travellers, so we may become better acquainted and learn more of our forthcoming travels. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 3: Hanoi

Vietnam's capital, Hanoi offers a rich Asian culture, mixed with Chinese and French influences which are an immediate assault on the senses. We begin our morning tour with a cyclo (similar to a rickshaw) ride through the Old Quarter. Packed with charming colonial architecture, Buddhist temples and pagodas, the ancient commercial streets are named after the original businesses that were housed here. We visit Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, the final resting place of 'Uncle Ho', and view the one pillar pagoda and the 11th century Temple of Literature. Later we tour the Ethnology Museum for an insight into the 54 ethnic groups that make up the Vietnamese people, together with a traditional water puppet show. **Breakfast and lunch included.**

Day 4: Hanoi Freedom Day

Today has been left free so you can continue to enjoy the delights of the city at your own pace. Budding photographers may wish to join a tour to capture the city's many incredible photographic opportunities. Or maybe take a cookery class to learn the secrets of Vietnam's delicious cuisine. Alternatively, take a full day excursion to 'Ha Long Bay on Land', Ninh Binh. **Breakfast included**

Day 5: Ha Long Bay, 2 nights

Tour Highlight

Known for its emerald waters and thousands of towering limestone islands topped by rainforest, Ha Long Bay has become one of Vietnam's must-see destinations. We travel to Ha Long, where we board our first-class vessel, the Au Co, for a spectacular two-night cruise around this UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enjoy lunch as we cruise into the bay, and visit the floating village of Cua Van, situated in the heart of the bay. Back on board, end the day on deck watching the sun set, followed by dinner. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 6: Lan Ha and Ha Long Bays

Start your day, if you wish, with a Tai Chi lesson on the sun deck before cruising through the lesser-known, but no less dramatic, Lan Ha Bay. We arrive at Cat Ba Island and cycle a short distance to Viet Hai Village, nestled in the heart of Cat Ba National Park, where we learn about community life. Later, we visit Trinh Nu Cave to view its stunning array of stalactites and stalagmites. This evening, enjoy a buffet barbecue on deck with our fellow passengers. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner included**

Day 7: Hoi An, 3 nights

Following breakfast this morning, we visit Sung Sot Cave, Ha Long's largest and most famous cave. Back on board, soak up the scenery as we cruise back to the mainland. We board our waiting coach and return to Hanoi for our flight to Danang. Upon arrival, we continue to the town of Hoi An and the fabulous Hoi An Silk Marina Resort & Spa, home for our next three nights. **Breakfast included**

Day 8: Walking tour of Hoi An

Tour Highlight

Once a major trading port, historic Hoi An is a delightful UNESCO World Heritage Site of grand architecture, Chinese warehouses, Dutch and French colonial houses and Japanese temples. The best way to explore Hoi An is by foot. During our walking tour we visit the Chua Ong Pagoda, Phuc Kien Assembly Hall, Tan Ky House and the 17th century Japanese Bridge. We finish with a boat trip on the Thu Bon River. The remainder of our day is at leisure. Relax by the hotel pool, or maybe join an optional lantern making class. **Breakfast included**

Day 9: Hoi An Freedom Day

Today has been left free to spend as we please. Perhaps visit the local community of Tra Que Village and discover the techniques used by its farmers, followed by lunch made from locally-farmed ingredients. Alternatively, you may prefer to take a cookery class at a local organic farm, visit the enchanting temples of My Son, or simply relax and enjoy your hotel's facilities. **Breakfast included**

We Recommend

Tra Que Village

Experience the Vietnamese countryside and meet the farmers of Tra Que Village, where organic vegetables are produced using traditional methods.



Day 10: Hue, 2 nights

This morning we begin our spectacular drive over the Hai Van Pass. This 19km stretch of road climbs 914m (3,000ft), following the Vietnamese coastline. Later, visit the elaborate Minh Mang Tomb and continue to Thien Mu Pagoda, before cruising back to the city along the Perfume River. Our hotel for the next two nights is the Eldora Hotel, centrally located for exploring the city. **Breakfast and lunch included**



Imperial Citadel, Hue



The Very Best of Vietnam & Cambodia

Days 11 to 14: Hue - Ho Chi Minh City - Cu Chi Tunnels - Mekong River

Day 11: Hue's Imperial Citadel

Originally the settlement of the Cham people, the Imperial city of Hue was capital of Vietnam during the Nguyen Dynasty and is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. After breakfast we visit the Imperial Citadel modelled on the Forbidden City in Beijing. Many of the buildings, as well as the citadel, were destroyed by war, but these are slowly being rebuilt and restored. We also visit the former residence of Princess Ngoc Son. Our afternoon is free to spend as we please. Try your hand at the delicate art of truc chi, paper made from bamboo pulp, or alternatively travel to the local village of Than Tien to learn the craft of paper flower making, a tradition the local residents have been practicing for over 300 years. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 12: Ho Chi Minh City, 2 nights

It's an early start this morning as we journey to the airport for our flight to Ho Chi Minh City. Visit the city's Central Post Office and the Notre Dame Cathedral, and explore the War Remnants Museum. A stark, and often graphic representation of the impact of the Vietnam War, the museum provides a fascinating insight into this country's history. We complete our day with a stroll along Dong Khoi Street to the Saigon Opera House. Our home for the next two nights is the perfectly located Liberty Central Riverside Hotel. **Breakfast and lunch included**



Day 13: Cu Chi Tunnels

Tour Highlight

This morning we travel to the countryside which was once the stronghold of the Viet Cong. We visit Ho Chi Minh Agricultural Village, where we join a Vietnamese cookery class. Continue to the Cu Chi Tunnels, a vast underground network of more than 250km of tunnels used by the Viet Cong. Our visit provides a fascinating insight into how the Viet Cong lived and fought during the war. This evening there is an optional dinner at 'Dining in the Dark at Noir' - a dining experience like no other! **Breakfast and lunch included**

We Recommend

Truc Chi, paper art

Literally translated as 'paper made from bamboo', join a Truc Chi workshop, meet local artists and make your own piece of Truc Chi art to take home.

Day 14: Mekong River Cruise, 3 nights

Tour Highlight

Our fabulous three-night cruise between Vietnam and Cambodia begins when we head to My Tho, gateway to the Mekong Delta, to board our vessel, the RV Bassac Pandaw. This elegant, hand-built cruise ship is traditionally-styled and has an ultra-shallow draft, enabling it to travel to remote areas which are unreachable by other passenger-carrying vessels. Following lunch, we travel by sampan through mangroves and bamboo forests to Ben Tre, known for its fruit orchards. This area is rich in birdlife, which we can view as we journey slowly through the tranquil waterways before arriving at a local village which specialises in rice wine. We learn how these specialities are made and of course try them for ourselves! Back on board, we will be entertained by a Vietnamese Cultural Group whose performance highlights life on the Mekong Delta. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected onboard drinks included**

We planned a holiday of a lifetime and Distant Journeys did not disappoint. From start to finish you could not fault them.

Mr & Mrs Harding, Manchester



Mekong River cruise



Mekong Delta



Rice paddy

The Very Best of Vietnam & Cambodia

Days 15 to 17: Mekong River - Phnom Penh

Day 15: Gao Giong, Mekong Delta

Enjoy a relaxing morning sailing through the Mekong Delta, glean insights into life along this mighty waterway as we cruise. After lunch, we take a short coach journey through the verdant countryside to Gao Giong. Literally meaning 'green oasis', Gao Giong is a thousand-acre wildlife sanctuary and eucalyptus plantation. We explore the canals in rowing boats to view the nesting areas of egrets and a multitude of other water birds – and there will be many photo opportunities. Back on board the RV Bassac Pandaw, there's time to freshen up prior to dinner. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected onboard drinks included**

Day 16: Chau Doc – Sam Mountain – Vietnam/Cambodia Border

This morning, we dock alongside the picturesque border town of Chau Doc and travel by sampan to its famous floating markets. Although Vietnam's main religions are Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism, there is a community of Vietnamese Muslims in Chau Doc, and we visit a local village to meet members of this community to observe their lifestyle. Next, make a short journey to beautiful Sam Mountain, location of Phuoc Dien Tu, otherwise known as Hang Pagoda. We climb the 400 steps to the top of the pagoda, proclaimed an 'official historic monument' in 1980. Later, return to the RV Bassac Pandaw and cruise the local canals before we drop anchor on the Vietnam / Cambodia border for immigration formalities. **Breakfast, lunch and dinner PLUS selected onboard drinks included**

Day 17: Phnom Penh, overnight

After a wonderful three days cruising the Mekong River, we disembark in Phnom Penh, where we visit the striking Royal Palace – built in 1866 and the official residence of Cambodia's King Norodom Sihamoni. We also view the Silver Pagoda, whose floor is covered with 5,000 silver tiles, and the magnificent, near life-size Buddha, made from solid gold and encrusted with almost 10,000 diamonds.

There is no escaping Cambodia's more recent darker history of the Pol Pot regime between 1975-1979. To learn more, we first visit Tuol Sleng, also known as S-21. This former high school, turned prison, is today a museum. More than 17,000 people passed through its gates, with only seven survivors living to tell the tale. From here we visit the Killing Fields of Choeung Ek. Once an orchard, and now a memorial, the camp witnessed the killing of thousands of prisoners from S-21. This afternoon's visit is a sobering experience providing us with an insight into the resilience of the Cambodian people. Later in the afternoon we arrive at the superb Palace Gate Hotel, for our overnight stay. **Breakfast and lunch included**



Phnom Penh



Angkor Wat



Bayon Temple

The Very Best of Vietnam & Cambodia

Days 18 to 20: Siem Reap - Angkor Wat

Day 18: Siem Reap, 3 nights Tour Highlight

This morning, we transfer to the airport for our flight to Siem Reap, home to what is arguably Southeast Asia's most famous landmark, the temples of Angkor. One of the largest religious monuments in the world, Angkor was originally constructed as a Hindu temple dedicated to the god Vishnu. This afternoon we visit the South Gate of Angkor where the statues of good and evil line the entrance. We visit Bayon, with its temple spires adorned with the face of the Buddhist King Jayavarman VII. We also explore Phimeankas, the Terrace of Elephants and the Terrace of Leper Kings. We end our day with a sunset cruise along the moat of Angkor Thom. **Breakfast and lunch included**

Day 19: Angkor Wat and Ta Prohm Tour Highlight

Angkor Wat is synonymous with Cambodia, and the temple's famous five spires are featured on the country's national flag. For those that so wish, there is the opportunity to rise early this morning to view the sunrise over Angkor Wat, at an additional cost. Following breakfast, we return to Angkor Wat to fully explore this spectacular temple. Rising 65 metres from the ground, this massive three tiered pyramid complex, crowned by five lotus towers, is stunning for both its grand scale and its incredible detail. We complete our morning with a visit to the temple of Ta Prohm, where we shall witness how tree roots hold this small temple together. The remainder of the day is at leisure. Tonight, there is the option to visit the Phare Circus, which supports the development of Khmer youth through a programme of arts and performance. **Breakfast included**

Day 20: Siem Reap Freedom Day

Today has been left free to spend as you please. Whilst Angkor Wat is the main attraction to Siem Reap, the area offers a wealth of additional experiences, many of which are linked to social enterprises formed to support the local people. Travel to a local village and spend time with the community to discover more about their rural life. Alternatively, experience the hustle and bustle of a local market and learn how to create Khmer cuisine, or learn a new skill during a bamboo weaving workshop.

Breakfast included

We Recommend

Visit a local village

Learn about life in a local village. Spend time with the community and try your hand at a few traditional skills.



Angkor Wat



Angkor Wat



Ta Phrom

The Very Best of Vietnam & Cambodia

Days 21 to 22: Siem Reap - UK

Day 21: Depart Siem Reap

The day is free until it's time to depart for the airport. Our flights to our chosen UK airport operate via either Hong Kong with Cathay Pacific, Singapore with Singapore Airlines, Hanoi with Vietnam Airlines, or Bangkok and Dubai with Emirates. **Breakfast, and in-flight meals and drinks included**

Day 22: Arrive UK

After 22 amazing days full of unforgettable memories, our incredible adventure comes to a close as we arrive into our chosen UK airport. **In-flight meals and drinks included**

Homebound Stopovers from only £295 per person

If you would like to explore somewhere new on your way home, a stopover is a perfect way to make your journey more relaxing and to experience a wonderful new city.

Singapore - Copthorne Kings Hotel

Two nights from £295 per person

Standing proud near the historic and picturesque Singapore River, Copthorne King's Hotel Singapore is close to a dazzling array of shopping, dining and entertainment venues.



Sentosa Island - Rasa Sentosa Resort

Two nights from £445 per person

Stopover in style at Shangri-La's Rasa Sentosa Resort, a beautiful beachfront resort on Singapore's Sentosa Island, only 20 minutes from downtown Singapore.



Dubai - Marriott Hotel Al Jaddaf

Two nights from £345 per person

Located within easy reach of Dubai Mall, the Marriott Al Jaddaf is the perfect alternative to a beachside hotel and a great location from which to explore downtown Dubai.



Your stopover includes return airport transfers, two nights accommodation and daily breakfast.

Departure Dates & Prices

2022 Departures

13 November 2022 **£4,195** per person

2023 Departures

05 February 2023 **£4,295** per person

19 February 2023 **£4,295** per person

05 March 2023 **£4,295** per person

Private Touring Supplements

The same expertly crafted itinerary and hand-picked hotels, combined with the exclusivity and convenience of your own friendly and knowledgeable guides, your own private vehicle and your own choice of departure date.

2 guests	£595 per person
3 guests	£495 per person
4-5 guests	£345 per person
6-7 guests	£245 per person
8 guests	£195 per person
9-12 guests	£95 per person
13+ guests	No extra charge

Prices

Prices are per person based on two people sharing a twin or double room.

Single occupancy supplement
£995.

Deposit

£1,000 per person if travelling Economy Class, £1,950 per person if travelling Premium Economy, and £3,750 per person for Business Class.

Stopovers

Stopovers may be possible in Singapore, Sentosa Island or Dubai on your return journey. Please call for details.

Private Touring

Alternative airlines may be considered and supplements may apply in certain periods when accommodation and international flight prices are higher.

Flight upgrades

Cathay Pacific or Vietnam Airlines upgrade to Premium Economy from £1,395 per person return, or Business Class from £3,095 per person return. Singapore Airlines upgrade to Premium Economy from £1,395 per person return, or Business Class from £3,595 per person return. Emirates upgrade to Business Class flights from £4,295 per person return.

Visa information

Visas are required for travel to Vietnam and Cambodia. Please refer to our Important Information on pages 58-59.

Important information

Prices and flight upgrades are subject to fuel surcharges and the availability of flights. The correct price will be confirmed before you book. USD \$65 port tax is payable locally on the Mekong river cruise.

Full Terms & Conditions are available on pages 60-63.

Call to book

Our award-winning travel experts are happy to answer any questions you may have, and to help you book your holiday with Distant Journeys.

Call FREE on 0800 141 3743

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm **Saturday** 9.00am - 5.00pm
Sunday Open in peak season. See website for details.

Should you prefer, please feel free to email us with your enquiry.
Email: enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk



Au Co Ha Long Bay



An undoubted highlight of both Distant Journeys’ Highlights of Vietnam and Very Best of Vietnam & Cambodia tours is our wonderful two-night cruise on the emerald waters of Ha Long Bay on board the Au Co.

Lying in the Gulf of Tonkin, in Vietnam’s north east, Ha Long Bay is a natural wonder known locally as ‘dragon descending to the sea’, and is one of Vietnam’s must-see destinations. Towering limestone peaks topped by untouched rainforest rise from the water and hundreds of tiny islands and grottos are studded throughout the bay. This extraordinary area was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1994.

Offering a small and friendly cruise experience and a personal service by the dedicated crew, our cruise takes place over three leisurely days, allowing plenty of time for both exploration ashore and relaxation on board the Au Co, whilst taking in the majesty of Ha Long Bay.

The Journey

There is ample time to discover Ha Long Bay’s beautiful islets, beaches, villages and grottos, and enjoy many activities including swimming, snorkelling, kayaking, and trekking. We will take in the natural beauty of both Ha Long and Lan Ha Bays, with the opportunity to cycle to a remote village on Cat Ba Island, and experience the floating village of Cua Van in the quiet early morning hours. Sunbathe on the pristine white sands of Three Peach Beach and swim in its secluded, jade-coloured waters.

Deluxe Cabins

The Au Co has just 32 cabins. Your accommodation on board is a deluxe cabin featuring natural hardwood flooring and handcrafted furnishings. A private balcony is perfect for soaking up the breath-taking views of Ha Long Bay.

Cabin Facilities

- Twin or queen-size beds
- Private en suite bathroom with toilet, washbasin and shower
- Tea and coffee-making facilities
- Individually-controlled air-conditioning
- Complimentary drinking water throughout the cruise
- Bathrobes and deluxe toiletries

Life on board the Au Co

When cruising, the spacious sun deck is at the heart of life on board, where guests can dine, sunbathe and enjoy the range of onboard activities. The covered outdoor Lan Ha Bar is a particularly inviting space to relax with a drink surrounded by the natural beauty of Ha Long Bay.

You may begin your day with an early morning Tai Chi session on the sun deck. Learn the gentle movements of this ancient martial art whilst enjoying the morning sun and fresh breezes of Ha Long Bay. Take part in a fun Vietnamese cookery lesson; relax in the spa and open-air jacuzzi or lose yourself in a book from the well-stocked library. In the evening, an authentic song and dance performance by the ship’s entertainers offers an insight into the different ethnic groups within Vietnam.



Dine in one of the world’s most scenic locations

Superb food is a highlight of any cruise, and on board the Au Co you will enjoy fine restaurant-quality dining in one of the most scenic places on earth. The talented team of chefs skilfully combine the best of Vietnamese and Western flavours to produce an array of locally caught seafood and seasonal fresh produce.

The Terrace Deck Restaurant has striking Art Deco-style furnishings, which enhance its elegant ambience. Enjoy a beautiful breakfast buffet spread, a casual lunch and a multicourse dinner, with a delicious evening barbecue on the sun deck being the highlight of your second night on board Au Co.

Au Co Inclusions

- All-inclusive dining, with complimentary breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Welcome drink
- Selection of excursions and activities

RV Bassac Pandaw Mekong River



Not only is our Mekong River cruise one of the stand-out highlights of our Very Best of Vietnam & Cambodia tour, it is the perfect way to experience the mighty Mekong River and the rich culture of the Mekong Delta.

The Mekong River, remains, as it has for thousands of years, a thriving and busy trade route, lined with small towns, local villages and colourful river markets. The muddy brown river contrasts with the vivid greenery of the countryside and the bustle of life. Travelling through six different Asian countries before it reaches the vast delta of Vietnam and the South China Sea, its waters attract river vessels of all sizes, from rowing boats and simple sampans to traditional long-tail boats and commercial barges.

There is no better way to discover the richness of the people who call the Mekong home than to take to the water. Our vessel, RV Bassac Pandaw is hand-finished in brass and teak by craftsmen, traditionally styled with a colonial era charm that reflects the original 1930's design. Cruising between Vietnam's Mekong Delta and Phnom Penh, the capital of Cambodia, over three nights and four days, discover the wonders of one of Asia's mightiest rivers for yourself.

The Journey

Journeying on the lower Mekong River and Delta all the way to the bustling city of Phnom Penh in Cambodia, the shore excursions have an emphasis on experiencing local life, with plenty of opportunities to interact with local people and their fascinating culture.

View ancient temples, pagodas and Buddhist monasteries, visit a local village and learn about life on the Mekong. Experience the hustle and bustle of the colourful floating markets and learn about the crafts of local industries. You will also discover an area rich in biodiversity and birdlife, mangroves, bamboo forests and fruit orchards.

Your Stateroom

Staterooms on board the RV Bassac Pandaw exude colonial-era character combined with contemporary comforts. All staterooms are outside cabins, with direct access to the promenade deck.

Stateroom Facilities

- Twin or queen-size beds
- Private en suite bathroom
- Unlimited mineral water
- Kimonos, slippers and spa-branded amenities

Life on board the RV Bassic Pandaw

Life on board the RV Bassac Pandaw is mostly enjoyed al fresco. The Promenade and Observation decks have comfortable lounging chairs where guests can sit and watch from a great vantage point as life goes by on one of Asia's great rivers.

Throughout the Mekong River cruise, the emphasis is mainly on peace and tranquillity. A number of on board activities reflect the traditions and cultures of the area, such as a themed dinner and a performance by a local dance group.



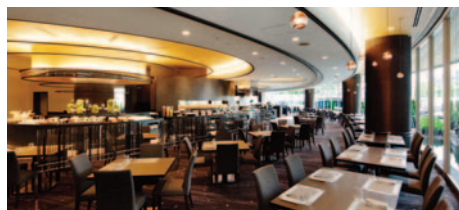
Dining on board the RV Bassac Pandaw is a relaxed, casual affair with a great choice of local cuisine and international favourites, all cooked with locally-sourced supplies where possible.

Breakfast is served buffet-style, while lunch features a buffet, plus soup, salads and a dessert table. Dinner is by waiter service and the team of talented chefs are always happy to cater to any dietary requirements. There is an extensive wine list, and whether you would like a refreshing cocktail or a chilled local beer, there's something to suit all tastes.

RV Bassac Pandaw inclusions

- All-inclusive dining, with complimentary breakfast, lunch and dinner
- Selected wines, beers, spirits and non-alcoholic beverages during meals
- Selection of excursions and activities

Japan Hotel Directory



Hiroshima - Rihga Royal Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

Rihga Royal Hotel is set in the heart of Hiroshima, close to many poignant monuments dedicated to those lost in the 1945 bombing. Guest rooms are elegant and welcoming, and there's a heated indoor pool and jacuzzi, perfect for unwinding. The hotel boasts six fantastic restaurants, as well as two inviting bars, perfect for a pre-dinner sake.



Kanazawa - Kanazawa Tokyu Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

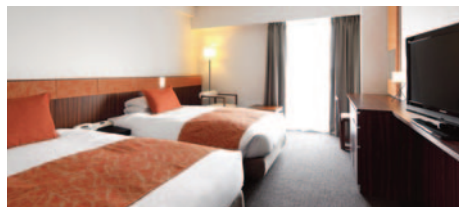
This is a modern hotel in a great location. Guest rooms are stylish and well-equipped. The Marais D'or restaurant is a western style all-day restaurant which uses the best local ingredients including seafood, fresh vegetables, and wagyu beef, while Kincharyo restaurant serves a Japanese-style breakfast. Drinks are available in the cosy lounge bar.



Kurashiki - Kurashiki Royal Art Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

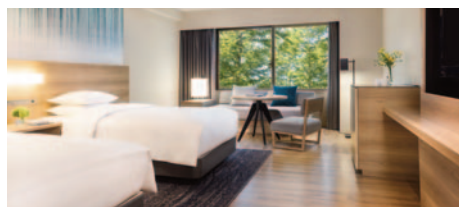
The Royal Art Hotel is situated close to the attractions of the cultural city of Kurashiki. One of the hotel's dining options is a tatami restaurant offering an authentic Japanese dining experience, in a kotatsu, a traditional covered table on the floor. Guest rooms have all been carefully decorated, with every item of furniture positioned for maximum comfort.



Kyoto - Kyoto Tokyu Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

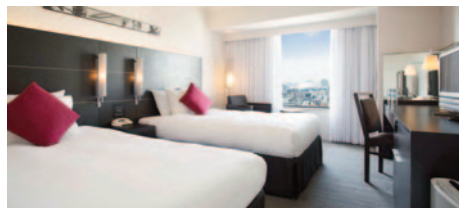
Contemporary yet influenced by traditional Japanese design, the Kyoto Tokyu Hotel enjoys a great location amongst the narrow streets of Kyoto. Throughout the hotel, there are some wonderful spaces to relax, including the tranquil Zen garden. All-day dining can be enjoyed at Kazahana, serving a buffet breakfast and a wide variety of international dishes.



Lake Yamanaka - Fuji Marriott Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

Situated just a short drive from Lake Yamanaka, the largest of the five Fuji lakes, the Fuji Marriott Hotel enjoys magnificent views of Mount Fuji. As well as comfortable, well-equipped guest rooms, the hotel has its own 'onsen', or Japanese hot spring. At the Grill & Dining G restaurant, chefs prepare a variety of local specialities and Western favourites.



Osaka - Hotel Nikko Osaka

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

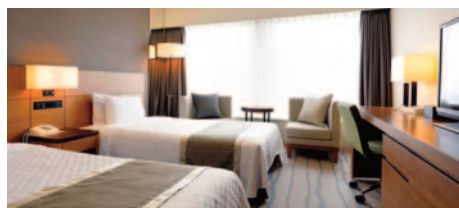
Hotel Nikko Osaka faces the tree-lined Midosuji Avenue, the city's main shopping boulevard. Guests can enjoy a choice of cuisine including Japanese, Chinese and French. The lounge on the 31st floor features beautiful views of Osaka city, whilst a traditional Japanese-style breakfast buffet is served at Benkay restaurant. Guest rooms are comfortable and spacious.



Takayama - Takayama Green Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

Takayama Green Hotel is located in the centre of Takayama. The hotel has characterful, comfortable rooms and boasts a natural onsen facing a Japanese garden. Enjoy local speciality Hida beef in Ryokutei restaurant or take in the views from the top floor Summit Restaurant.

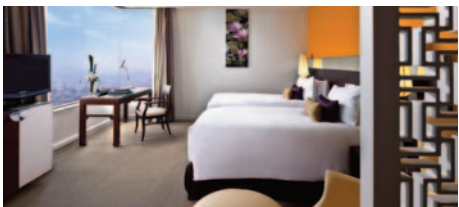


Tokyo - Keio Plaza Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

Set in the district of Shinjuku, the Keio Plaza Hotel enjoys a prime position. Guestrooms are well equipped and comfortable, and there are eleven restaurants ranging from Japanese teppanyaki and sushi to French and Italian cuisine. For a quintessentially Japanese experience, the hotel even has its own 'sho-fu-an' – a room dedicated to the Japanese tea ceremony.

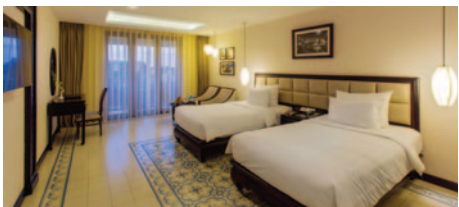
Vietnam & Cambodia Hotel Directory



Hanoi - Pan Pacific Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

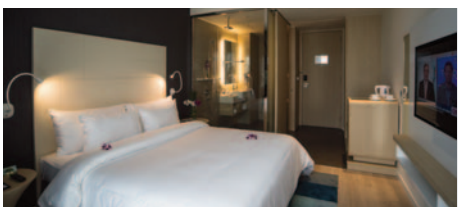
Offering views of the West Lake, Truc Bach Lake and Red River, the Pan Pacific Hanoi features contemporary rooms with modern furnishings and Vietnamese designs. Ming Restaurant serves authentic dim sum, Pacifica offers a buffet of international cuisines, or simply kick back with a drink at Summit Lounge, located on the roof top, enjoying panoramic city views.



Hoi An - Silk Marina Resort & Spa

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

In the heart of Hoi An and located on the banks of Thu Bon River, Silk Marina Resort and Spa is a perfect blend of European and Asian style. Guest rooms are modern and well-equipped. The large swimming pool comes complete with a swim-up bar, whilst dining choices range from Vietnamese to international favourites.



Ho Chi Minh City - Liberty Central Saigon Riverside Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

As the name suggests, Liberty Central Riverside Hotel is centrally located with spectacular views of Saigon River. The modern, comfortable guest rooms have all the expected amenities, and there's an outdoor pool and fitness centre. Dining options include Central Restaurant and the Bistro and Vertical Sky Bar.



Hue - Eldora Hotel

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

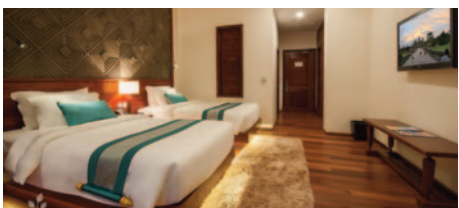
Eldora is a boutique-style hotel in the heart of Hue, with a distinctive French atmosphere redolent of Vietnam's colonial past. Guest rooms are well-appointed with bright decor and wooden flooring. The hotel offers an indoor swimming pool, and the elegant Eldora Restaurant.



Phnom Penh - Palace Gate Hotel & Resort

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

Palace Gate Hotel & Resort is situated in the heart of Phnom Penh. Guest rooms are decorated in traditional Angkorian style and the spectacular swimming pool is a great place to relax. Built around a lovingly restored French colonial villa, the hotel's fine dining restaurant, Mealea, offers both French and Khmer cuisine.



Siem Reap - Lotus Blanc Resort

Local rating: ★★★★★ Distant Journeys rating: ★★★★★

Lotus Blanc Resort offers guests Cambodian hospitality combined with French style. Guest rooms are spacious with private balcony. Both Western and Khmer cuisines are served in Le Blanc Restaurant, and Damnak Steakhouse offers not only great steaks but Italian favourites too.

Our Airline Partners

Fly with award-winning scheduled airlines

Economy Class

Singapore Airlines' Economy seats are designed to give you more personal space with a typical seat pitch of 32"*. Enjoy KrisWorld inflight entertainment with over 1,800 options of film, television, music and games and enjoy generous, complimentary meals and refreshments.



Upgrade to Premium Economy+ from £1,295 return

From check-in to boarding and baggage handling, to reserving your main meal before you fly, you will enjoy priority treatment throughout your journey. In an exclusive, spacious cabin, Premium Economy Class seats are designed for your enhanced comfort, including a calf and foot rest built right into your seat.

- Priority check-in and boarding
- Typical seat pitch of 38"*
- Personal 13.3" widescreen LCD
- Option to pre-book meals with Book the Cook
- Integrated calf and foot rest
- Noise cancelling headsets

Upgrade to Business Class from £3,495 return

A seat that seamlessly reclines into a bed. An 18" touchscreen monitor in high definition paired with noise-cancelling headphones. Personalise dinner time with Book the Cook meal options, served on the finest porcelain and paired with champagne and wines from the finest vineyards around the world.

- Dedicated check-in and boarding
- Typical 50" seat pitch which converts into 78" long bed*
- 18" widescreen LCD
- Option to pre-book exquisite meals with Book the Cook
- Lounge access
- Premium champagne, wines and spirits

Economy Class

Sit back in comfortable seats with a typical seat pitch of 32", which recline up to 6". The airline's inflight entertainment system, LotuStar, offers a private TV screen with top movies and must-see TV shows, music, and a range of fun games to pass the time. At meal-time, choose from a menu of meals inspired by the cuisines of Asia, Europe and beyond. All meals are complimented with a wide selection of hot and cold beverages.



Upgrade to Premium Economy Class from £1,295 return*

Enjoy all the features of economy class with some added benefits to enhance your in-flight experience:

- 38" to 42" seat pitch which reclines up to 8"
- Priority check-in, baggage drop-off, boarding, disembarkation and baggage handling
- Private 10"6 screen
- Improved amenity kit with cosmetics set, headphones and food menu
- Leg rests
- Extensive menu of Vietnamese delicacies and popular world cuisine, light snacks and hand-selected wines

Upgrade to Business Class from £2,995 return

Treat yourself to the ultimate in comfort and style with an upgrade to Business Class. All the standard features of economy class are supplemented by many other amenities and benefits to ensure your journey begins and ends on a high:

- Seat pitch of 42", 45" or 62" which reclines to a fully flat bed*
- Priority check-in, baggage drop-off, immigration and security queues, boarding, disembarkation, transfer desk and baggage handling
- Access to Lotus lounge
- Business class dining and drinks – multiple courses from a finely crafted menu including Vietnamese cuisine and a selection of global delicacies
- A superior amenity kit including eye mask, stickers and ear plugs; slippers, drinks menu, perfume oil essentials
- Leg rest with fold out foot rest

Economy Class

Sit back in comfortable seats with a seat pitch of up to 34", a six-way adjustable headrest to aid relaxation and a 13.3" personal seatback monitor for all your entertainment needs. A pillow and blanket are provided for extra comfort when it's time to sleep. Food and beverages on board are prepared by 'The Connoisseurs' - internationally renowned chefs from inside and outside Japan, wine and coffee specialists, and ANA chefs boasting world-class standards among leading airlines.



Upgrade to Premium Economy Class from £1,195 return*

Enjoy all the features of economy class with some added benefits to enhance your in-flight experience:

- Dedicated check-in counter; Priority baggage
- Seat pitch of 38"; a 15.6" personal monitor; leg rest and footrest; universal power port and USB port; six-way adjustable headrest*
- A comfortable pillow, blanket and slippers; an amenity kit with toothbrush, eye mask, earplugs, and pocket tissues
- In-flight entertainment
- Access to lounges (London Heathrow & Tokyo Haneda)
- In addition to the regular Economy Class meal and drinks service, Premium Economy customers can enjoy a wider selection of meals

Upgrade to Business Class from £3,295 return

Treat yourself to the luxury of Business Class. All the standard features of economy class are enhanced by many other benefits.

- Dedicated check-in counter; fast track security check at London Heathrow; priority boarding and disembarking; priority baggage claim
- Access to lounges (London Heathrow and Tokyo Haneda)
- Self-contained seat with private door; Movable partition, Full-flat bed seat; Seat width of 37.5"; Bed length of 80.6"; 24" 4K personal monitor
- Bed pad, a comforter, pillow, pyjamas and slippers; an upgraded amenity kit noise cancelling headphones
- In-flight entertainment
- Business class passengers have a larger meal choice and can pre-order their meal service

Economy Class

Make your journey through the skies a pleasurable one with redesigned seats, made to make your journey better than ever. Take advantage of the generous legroom to really stretch out during your journey, enjoy delicious seasonal food, and a state of the art in flight entertainment system.



Upgrade to Premium Economy from £1,295 return*

Designed to provide more comfort, space and greater personal attention throughout the entire journey. Settle in to your spacious seat, be greeted with a welcome drink and dine on premium meals served with a selection of wines and beverages.

- Priority check in and boarding
- Pre-flight drink†
- Dedicated cabin
- Snacks and soft drinks throughout the flight
- Amenity kit‡

Upgrade to Business Class from £2,995 return

Enjoy a more comfortable travel experience, with priority check-in and boarding, premium lounge access, and an exclusive cabin featuring fine dining and award-winning seats, which convert into a fully flat bed. Cathay Pacific's Business Class goes that extra mile to make customers feel special.

- Priority check-in and priority boarding
- Seat that converts into a fully flat bed
- Lounge access
- Award-winning selection of wines and beverages
- Fluffy pillows and a soft-fabric duvet
- Luxury amenity kit

Important information: Prices shown are for return flights and are supplements to the individual tour price. Prices are subject to the availability of flights and may change. However, the correct price will be confirmed before you book. Images shown are representative of the product and may vary dependant of the aircraft type. *Complimentary chauffeur service is available on selected routes. Restrictions may apply. †Seat pitch is dependent on the aircraft type. ‡ Only available on selected flights. † Only available on long haul flights.

Important Information

We recommend that you read our Important Information, together with our Terms & Conditions before booking your holiday.

Entry requirements

The following information on entry requirements, passports and visas is for British Citizens only. Any visa information covers visa requirements for the duration our tour stays in any given country. If you intend to stay longer you should seek additional information before booking.

Holders of a British Subject passport, non-British citizens and holders of a passport endorsed in any way should check immigration requirements with the relevant embassy or consulate of the country to be visited, as should clients with dual nationality or renounced citizenship.

It is important to recognise that whilst the information below is correct at the time we go to print, all requirements may change and all clients must check the up to date position in good time before departure with the Embassy or consulate of the country(ies) you are travelling through and to.

Passports

A valid ten-year British passport is required for all our holidays, valid for a minimum of six months after your return date to the UK. If you are not currently in possession of a valid passport please make sure you leave plenty of time before your holiday to apply for this document.

A full British passport presently takes approximately two to six weeks to obtain. If you are 16 or over and have not yet arranged a passport, you should apply for one at least six weeks before your departure from the UK. The UK Passport Service has to confirm an applicant's identity before issuing their first passport and will ask them to attend an interview in order to do this. Please note, if you need to apply for visas after you receive your new passport, you will need to factor in additional time for this.

For more information on passport and entry requirements please visit the Government Passport Office website, or see our website for more details.

Visas

This table provides a quick guide, for British Citizens, to which countries require a visa. If visas are required it is highly recommended you allow for a minimum of two blank pages per visa required. If a visa is being purchased locally we recommend you have the correct amount, as change is not always available.

Country	Visa required	Cost
Cambodia	Yes	USD \$35
Japan	No	
Singapore	No	
U.A.E	Yes	No fee
Vietnam	Yes	USD \$25

Applying for your visa

The below information provides guidance on how to apply for your visa. For more detailed information along with useful links to the Foreign Office and any online applications, please refer to the FAQ section of our website.

Cambodia

Your border crossing between Vietnam and Cambodia is at the river border, whilst on the RV Bassac Pandaw cruise. Your Cambodian visa will be processed here, so you do not need to apply before you leave the UK. You will also be required to provide one passport photo. Please note that e-visas are not accepted at the river border.

U.A.E

If stopping over in Dubai you can obtain a visitor's visa on arrival in the UAE. This is done as standard at passport control and there is no charge. It allows a stay of up to 30 days and automatically expires when you leave the country.

Vietnam

If you are travelling on our Very Best of Vietnam and Cambodia tour, you need to apply for an e-visa online. Please note you will be required to upload a passport photo as part of the application process. At the time of print, if you are travelling on our Highlights of Vietnam tour no visa is required, as the duration of your stay is less than 15 days. Please be aware a visa on arrival service does exist, but may involve a lengthy wait on arrival.

Please note, visa requirements are subject to change. Distant Journeys will inform you of any changes.

Health & vaccinations

Health facilities, hygiene and disease risks vary worldwide and may change at any time. You should take health advice from your GP or local travel clinic about your specific needs as early as possible and ensure that vaccinations or preventative measures are taken early enough (which may be a month or more prior to departure) to be fully effective by the date of travel.

We also suggest referring to the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) website, <https://www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice> and the NHS Travel Vaccinations website, <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/travel-vaccinations/>

Travel insurance

We highly recommend that you take out sufficient and appropriate travel insurance. We recommend you do this at the time of booking so that in the event of cancellation, providing it is covered by your policy, your deposit (less any applicable excess) is protected. Distant Journeys work alongside Staysure to offer you a range of comprehensive single trip and annual multi-trip insurance policies.

Staysure™

Distant Journeys customers will benefit from a 15% saving on the base premium of Annual-Multi Trip or Single Trip policies booked through our insurance partner Staysure. For a no obligation quotation, call Staysure on Freephone 0800 652 1125, and quote reference DJ15 to be eligible for the 15% saving. Alternatively, visit our website [distantjourneys.co.uk/insurance/](https://www.distantjourneys.co.uk/insurance/)

Medication and pre-existing conditions

If you have any pre-existing medical conditions or walking difficulties, you should inform us at the time of booking. It is your responsibility to ensure that any medication you are carrying is permitted to be taken into the countries you are visiting. We recommend you consult with your GP and relevant embassy before booking or travelling. Always carry medicines in their original, labelled packaging and in your hand-luggage along with a copy of your prescription. Whilst we recommend only carrying enough for the duration of your time away, a small spare supply can be useful. Check that the expiry dates of your medicines will be valid for the duration of your visit abroad.

Mobility on tour

Many of our itineraries include sightseeing tours which involve walking for medium to long periods of time and over uneven surfaces. Steps may also feature, either as part of a tour or within your accommodation. For your enjoyment we recommend a reasonable level of fitness and mobility is required for all tours. If you are in any doubt of the suitability of any of our tours, or have reduced mobility in any way, it is essential you discuss this with us before making a booking.

Travel documents

On payment of a deposit, your holiday is confirmed and we will send you your confirmation email. It is important you check this email as soon as you receive it. Check the tour name and departure date is correct, check names exactly match your passport and familiarise yourself with the times of your flights. If anything is incorrect, please call us immediately.

Your full travel documents which include electronic tickets, a final itinerary, luggage labels and holiday information booklet will be sent to you approximately 2-3 weeks prior to your departure.

Weather

Generally, all our tours travel when it is considered the best time to travel, however it is important to note that some countries, such as Vietnam cover different climate zones, so climates may vary between north and south of the countries. It is also important to recognise that weather patterns around the world are becoming less predictable and the information we provide should be used as a guide only and is no guarantee of the weather at the time you travel. We also recommend checking up-to-date weather forecasts before you travel.

Cambodia

Like most of Southeast Asia, Cambodia is warm to hot year-round and the climate is dominated by the annual monsoon cycle with its alternating wet and dry seasons. Broadly November to April is considered the dry season and May to October the wet season, although the wet season, does not necessarily mean it rains every day for long periods.

Japan

Japan's climate still enjoys four distinct seasons; spring, summer, autumn and winter. Our tours travel late spring (March to May) and late autumn (mid-September to November) when there is little rainfall, skies are clear, and temperatures are mild. What's more, the delicate cherry blossom of spring and vivid hues of autumn leaves are visually stunning.

Vietnam

Vietnam's long, narrow shape means that its climate is split into three different micro-climates: North (Hanoi and Halong Bay), Central (Hue and Hoi An) and South (Ho Chi Minh City and Mekong Delta). This combined with opposing monsoon seasons in the north and south does mean that the climate is quite different from one region to the next. Broadly speaking you can expect warm to hot and humid temperatures and some rainfall.

Clothing

Dress for our tours is generally relaxed and informal during the day, dressing to suit the weather conditions and the activity you are undertaking. Evening dinners are also informal, with smart casual dress being the norm. It's likely there will be occasions when exploring you'll be walking on uneven surfaces, so we recommend sturdy and comfortable walking shoes. Wearing layers of clothing means it's much easier to deal with potentially varied weather conditions – remember it will be cooler at higher altitudes - and it's always advisable to carry a waterproof. It is always worth being aware of local customs when visiting sacred places. As a general rule when visiting such places, it is recommended that arms and legs are covered. Women may also wish to take a shawl to cover their shoulders and all visitors should wear long trousers, or skirts or shorts that reach below the knee. Taking off your shoes is also a prerequisite before entering many sacred places and commonplace when entering many buildings, including restaurants in Japan.

Currency, credit cards and currency cards

Country	Currency	Additional Information
Cambodia	Riel	US Dollars are widely accepted, although small change may be in local currency
Japan	Yen	Many establishments including restaurants still prefer cash to credit cards even in cities
Singapore	Singapore Dollar	
U.A.E	Dirham	
Vietnam	Dong	Be prepared to pay cash for any purchased items on your cruise on Ha Long Bay, as limited Wi-Fi means card machines rarely work

No matter which country you are travelling to please take note of the following general advice;

- ATMs are generally available in major cities, less so in rural areas.
- Credit cards are generally widely accepted in the majority of hotels, cruises, larger international restaurants and shops, although be aware credit card payments may incur an additional fee.
- If purchasing small items or purchasing from local shops, restaurants and markets, local currency is always recommended.
- Outside of major cities, with the exception of hotels, local currency is always recommended.
- If you are planning to use your debit or credit card whilst travelling, advise your bank of your travel plans in advance so you do not encounter potential problems when trying to withdraw cash or make a payment.
- When you change money, ask for some small bills and keep these, along with coins separate from the larger ones, so that they're readily accessible. Carrying small notes and coins separately is also handy for tipping.
- It is always worth carrying a small amount of UK Sterling or US Dollars as these can always be readily exchanged.
- Keep your exchange receipts as these may be needed if you want to exchange any remaining currency you have at the end of your trip.

Currency, or travel cards are a popular way of buying currency for your holiday. You can pre-load these before leaving the UK and many also offer advantageous exchange rates. If travelling to multiple countries, different currencies can be loaded and used for card payments or ATM cash withdrawals. We recommend two companies who offer different types of currency card. The Revolut card offers 150 currencies and enjoys favourable exchange rates, making it a perfect card to use for any card payments, such as hotels and restaurants. You can withdraw cash from ATMs whilst abroad, but there is a limit of £200 per month, before paying a 2% fee. For ATM cash withdrawals, we recommend using the Caxton currency card. This card has the advantage of no overseas ATM fees, meaning you can make unlimited withdrawals whilst on holiday. For further benefits on using currency cards, more information on both companies and relevant website links, please visit www.distantjourneys.co.uk.

Tipping

Tipping varies vastly from country to country. In places like Cambodia and Vietnam where wages are low, tipping is greatly appreciated. Yet in Japan, tipping is not a practised custom anywhere in the country and should actually be avoided. Some countries automatically add a service charge to bills whereas others, leave to the discretion of the customer.

If you have received great service from your Tour Manager, guides or driver you may wish to tip them for their service. We are frequently asked for guidance on this and would suggest a minimum of £2-£3 per person, per guide and per driver per touring day, dependent on your level of satisfaction. In Japan however, for these services a small gift would be more appropriate and greatly appreciated.

Baggage allowance

You're entitled to carry one suitcase per person with the total sum of its length, width and height not exceeding 160cm (63 inches) and weight 20kg (44lbs). Please be aware that in most instances, this will be less than the airlines' permitted allowance. Luggage is restricted to accommodate for coach capacity, domestic flights and where applicable local health and safety laws. You must ensure that luggage meets the weight requirements as overweight or oversize items will not be carried.

Personal and valuable items such as cameras, medication, money / credit cards etc. should be carried in a travel bag or on your person.

If travelling on our Very Best of Japan tour on day 11 and day 14 we will send our main luggage by separate transfer. If taking advantage of our Ryokan experience we suggest a small overnight bag.

Airline seats

With many airlines you can pre-book your seats prior to check in to give you a wider choice of seat selection. Please note, many airlines now charge for this service. Pre-selected seating is not guaranteed and can be charged at the airlines discretion.

Domestic flights

All domestic flights within our tours are booked on a group basis. Your tour manager will fully assist with the check-in process for these flights.

Freedom Days

During your tour, you can book a range of additional optional excursions and activities. These are at an additional cost, subject to availability and seasonal operations, and may be subject to minimum/maximum numbers. Where possible we allow for these to be booked locally with your Tour Manager, however, in some instances pre-booking will be required. When booking locally, in some countries these excursions can only be paid for in cash.

Details on the Freedom Day experiences available for your tour, along with costs and information on how to book, may be found on our website alongside the itineraries of each individual tour.

Public holidays

On occasions some of our tours may be travelling during National or Public Holidays, some of which are religious. In some instances, this can mean a limitation of services, or reduced opening hours for shops and restaurants. Alternatively, it may mean that some attractions are much busier than normal.

Seat rotation on coaches

On group tours we offer a fair system of seat rotation to allow all passengers to experience a variety of views. Exceptions cannot be made to this policy.

Smoking

Smoking, including electronic cigarettes, is not allowed at any time onboard our coaches or any flight. Within hotels, smoking and the use of electronic cigarettes may be restricted to designated areas. We'll endeavour to ensure there are frequent stops on any coach trip, however we can't guarantee smoking facilities will always be available. It is also worth noting some countries are beginning to ban the use of electronic cigarettes. We recommend you check for up-to-date information before you travel.

Tour Manager

An experienced English-speaking Tour Manager accompanies every tour. They are there to ensure your comfort, answer your questions and make your holiday relaxed and memorable.

Travel extras

Distant Journeys offer you a range of travel extras – from airport transfers, or airport parking and hotels, to security fast track and airport lounges. For more information and prices on the range of extras available to book, please visit the Distant Journeys website.

Further information

The information provided here is as a general guide only. For more detailed information please refer to our FAQ section on our website www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements 2018

Part 1: General

The combination of travel services offered to you is a package within the meaning of the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018. Therefore you will benefit from all EU rights applying to the packages. We, Distant Journeys Limited, a company registered in England with company number 08994196 and registered office at 8 Hattersley Court, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 2AY, will be fully responsible for the proper performance of the package as a whole. Additionally, as required by law, we have protection in place to refund your payments and, where transport is included in the package, to ensure your repatriation in the event that we become insolvent.

Part 2: Key rights under the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018

- Travellers will receive all essential information about the package before concluding the package travel contract.
- There is always at least one trader who is liable for the proper performance of all the travel services included in the contract.
- Travellers are given an emergency telephone number or details of a contact point where they can get in touch with the organiser or the travel agent.
- Travellers may transfer the package to another person, on reasonable notice and possibly subject to additional costs.
- The price of the package may only be increased if specific costs rise (for instance fuel prices), and if expressly provided for in the contract, and in any event not later than 20 days before the start of the package. If the price increase exceeds 8% of the price of the package, the traveller may terminate the contract. If the organiser reserves the right to a price increase, the traveller has a right to a price reduction if there is a decrease in the relevant costs.
- Travellers may terminate the contract without paying any termination fee and get a full refund of any payments if any of the essential elements of the package, other than the price, has changed significantly. If before the start of the package the trader responsible for the package cancels the package, travellers are entitled to a refund and compensation where appropriate.
- Travellers may terminate the contract without paying any termination fee before the start of the package in the event of exceptional circumstances, for instance if there are serious security problems at the destination which are likely to affect the package.
- Additionally, travellers may at any time before the start of the package terminate the contract in return for an appropriate and justifiable termination fee.
- If, after the start of the package, significant elements of the package cannot be provided as agreed, suitable alternative arrangements will have to be offered to the traveller at no extra cost. Travellers may terminate the contract without paying any termination fee, where services are not performed in accordance with the contract and this substantially affects the performance of the package and the organiser fails to remedy the problem.
- Travellers are also entitled to a price reduction or compensation for damages or both where the travel services are not performed or are improperly performed.
- The organiser has to provide assistance if the traveller is in difficulty.
- If the organiser becomes insolvent, payments will be refunded. If the organiser becomes insolvent after the start of the package and if transport is included in the package, repatriation of the travellers is secured. Distant Journeys Limited has taken out insolvency protection for flight-only booking and flight inclusive packages by way of our Air Travel Organiser's Licence number 10913, issued by the Civil Aviation Authority, Gatwick Airport South, West Sussex, RH6 0YR, UK, telephone 0333 103 6350, email: claims@caa.co.uk. For package holidays which don't include flights, Distant Journeys provides full financial protection by way of a bond held by The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT) (ABTOT membership number 5427) and in the event of their insolvency. You may contact ABTOT'S 24/7 helpline on 01702 811397 and advise you are a customer of an ABTOT protected travel company. Travellers may contact this entity if services are denied because of Distant Journeys Limited's insolvency. Please see our Booking Conditions for further information.

Part 3: The Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018 can be found here:

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/634/contents/made> as amended
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/1367/contents/made>

Terms & Conditions

1. Important

The following Terms & Conditions together with our Privacy Policy, the general information contained in our tour brochure and any other written information we brought to your attention before we confirmed your booking form the basis of your contract with Distant Journeys Limited, a company registered in England with company number 08994196 and registered office at 8 Hattersley Court, Ormskirk, Lancashire, L39 2AY ("we", "us", "our"). Please read them carefully as they set out our respective rights and obligations. In these Terms & Conditions references to "you" and "your" include the first named person on the booking and all persons on whose behalf a booking is made or any other person to whom a booking is added or transferred.

Except where otherwise stated, these Terms & Conditions only apply to the tour arrangements shown in our brochure (including accommodation required both before and after your main holiday and activities and other services) which you book with us and pay for before departure from the UK and which we agree to make, provide or perform (as applicable) as part of our contract with you.

All references in these Terms & Conditions to "holiday", "booking", "tour" or "arrangements" mean such tour arrangements unless otherwise stated. All bookings are made pursuant to these Terms & Conditions. **Please be aware that your deposit is non-refundable, (unless stated otherwise in our Covid-19 Guarantee, see clause 11).**

By making a booking, the first named person on the booking agrees on behalf of all persons detailed on the booking that:

- he/she has read these Terms & Conditions and has the authority to and does agree to be bound by them;
- he/she consents to our use of information and personal data in accordance with our Privacy Policy and is authorised on behalf of all persons named on the booking to disclose their personal details to us, including where applicable special categories of data (such as information on health conditions or disabilities and dietary requirements);
- he/she is over 18 years of age and resident in the United Kingdom and where placing an order for services with age restrictions declares that he/she and all members of the party are of the appropriate age to purchase those services;
- he/she accepts financial responsibility for payment of the booking on behalf of all persons detailed on the booking.

2. In these Terms & Conditions

- Unless these Terms & Conditions state otherwise, any reference to European Union law and/or International Conventions in these Terms & Conditions, that is directly applicable or directly effective in the United Kingdom is a reference to how it applies in England and Wales. This includes where the law has been retained, amended, extended, re-enacted or given effect on or after 11pm on 31st January 2020 (including the transition period).
- "Force Majeure" means any event which we or the supplier of the service(s) in question could not, even with all due care, foresee or avoid. Such events are likely to include, but are not limited to (whether actual or threatened) war, terrorism, fire, chemical or biological disaster, significant risks to human health such as the outbreak of serious disease at the travel destination, epidemics, plagues or pandemics (including, but not limited to the ongoing effects of Covid-19 and/or any other strain of the coronavirus) or natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes or weather conditions which make it impossible to travel safely to the travel destination or remain at the travel destination, loss of power, industrial disputes, slow-downs or other strike activities, riots or civil disturbances, acts of government, government agencies or other authorities, inability to obtain any necessary licence or consent through no fault of ours and any other event or circumstances beyond the control of us or any supplier of any part of your tour.

Brexit implications; please note that certain travel arrangements may be affected as a result of the United Kingdom's decision to leave the European Union. This could include an unavailability of certain flight routes, access to certain ports and airports and changes to the visa requirements of British citizens travelling to, within or through the EU. Please rest assured that this is something we will continue to monitor and will advise our customers as soon as possible if we become aware of any confirmed bookings that will be affected. However, since this is something which is completely unprecedented and outside our control, we would treat any such changes as Force Majeure, and whilst we will endeavour to provide suitable alternative arrangements or refunds where possible, we will not be liable to pay you any compensation.

3. Fitness to travel, disabilities and medical problems

Many of our itineraries include sightseeing tours which may involve walking for medium to long periods of time and over uneven surfaces. Steps may also feature, either as part of a tour or within your accommodation. Different modes of transport, such as sampans, rickshaws and trains may also be used.

It is therefore a condition of booking that you are fit and able to take care of yourself for the duration of the tour and recognise that if you do have any disabilities or walking difficulties you may find access to certain attractions restricted.

If you are in any doubt of your suitability for any of our tours, have reduced mobility in any way, have any medical condition, or any special requirements as a result of any medical condition or disability (including any which affect the booking process), it is essential you discuss this with us before making a booking so that we can assist you in considering the suitability of the arrangements and/or making the booking.

We regret that we cannot provide individual assistance to a passenger for walking, dining, pushing their wheelchair, getting on and off motor coaches or other transportation vehicles or other personal needs. Therefore, passengers who need such assistance, or passengers with disabilities or special needs must be accompanied by a companion capable of providing all assistance required.

We reserve the right to refuse to carry any person who we deem cannot fully care for themselves on tour without assistance or whenever we reasonably feel unable to accommodate the needs or restrictions of any particular passenger. You must also notify us of any changes or deterioration in the disability or medical condition or development of any disability or medical condition after booking.

We further reserve the right to cancel your booking and impose cancellation fees if we are not fully advised of any relevant disability or medical condition at the time the booking is made and/ or promptly notified of any development, change or deterioration occurring after booking. On occasions, the decision to cancel can only be made at the time the person concerned joins the tour as it may only be apparent at this stage that their disability or medical condition cannot be accommodated.

Any passenger affected by a disability or medical condition must ensure they have notified this to their travel insurers and that their travel insurance will cover it. We may refuse to allow you on the tour or may have to terminate your participation in your tour if your mental or physical condition is such as to render you, in the reasonable opinion of any representative of ours or any carrier or other person in authority, incapable of caring for yourself or a hazard to yourself or other passengers.

We will not be liable for any expenses arising from your being precluded from joining or completing the tour for any such reason and no refunds or compensation will be paid.

Mobility aids

If you are planning to take a mobility scooter or other mobility aid please be aware each airline has their own restrictions in regards to what they will carry. This can include, but is not limited to, battery wattage, size and weight. It is your responsibility to ensure you have checked that you meet the airlines requirements. We cannot accept any liability if you are refused boarding or unable to take intended equipment.

Destination specific terms

We use different suppliers in each of the destinations in which we offer tours. Some of the suppliers which we use are unfortunately unable to accommodate particular disabilities or mobility issues and we have set out a brief description of these below:

Vietnam & Cambodia Tours: Due to the limited accessibility available on the Ha Long Bay cruise and the Mekong cruise, our tours to Vietnam & Cambodia are not suitable for wheelchair bound customers or customers with an inability to navigate stairs.

All tours: Due to the limited accessibility to many of the sights and restrictions on included activities such, our tours to Japan, Vietnam & Cambodia may not be suitable for wheelchair bound customers or customers with restricted walking abilities.

Please Note: The above is not an exhaustive list and we would still strongly advise that you contact us to discuss any disability which you have so that we can ensure that your chosen tour is suitable for your needs

4. Minimum number of bookings

The operation of all tours is conditional on us securing the minimum number of bookings required to operate the tour. Unless notified otherwise, the minimum number which we aim for in respect of each tour is 15 travellers. Where sufficient numbers cannot be achieved, we reserve the right to cancel or change a scheduled tour. Please also see clause 14. We will endeavour to make any decision to cancel or significantly change a tour no less than 60 days prior to the scheduled departure date of the tour but in any event will notify you no less than 30 days prior to the departure date of the tour.

If you are offered a new travel date as a result of this clause 4, it is your responsibility to advise your travel insurance company of your new travel dates. We are not liable for any loss in failed insurance claims if you fail to do this.

5. Special requests

If you have any special requests (including dietary requirements) you must notify us at the time of booking. Whilst every effort will be made by us to try and arrange your reasonable special requests, we cannot guarantee that they will be fulfilled. Failure to meet any special request will not be a breach of contract by us unless the request has been specifically confirmed by us. Confirmation that a special request has been noted or passed on to the supplier of any service(s) or the inclusion of the special request on your

confirmation invoice or any other documentation is not confirmation that the request will be met. Unless and until specifically confirmed by us in writing, all special requests are subject to availability. We cannot accept any conditional bookings, i.e. any booking which is specified to be conditional on the fulfilment of a particular request. All such bookings will be treated as "standard" bookings subject to the above provisions on special requests.

If you have any food allergies which may cause significant health issues, you must tell us before you confirm your booking. Whilst our partners will try to accommodate any such requests, it is your responsibility to ensure that you actively avoid any food you are allergic to and make all appropriate enquiries to establish the ingredients contained within any food. The supplier is not under any obligation to prepare or provide special meals.

6. Booking and making payment for your arrangements

To secure any booking, you must pay the applicable deposit or full payment if booking 90 days or less before the start of the tour. Unless otherwise notified to you in writing by us, the deposit for each booking is £1,000 per person if travelling in economy flight class, £1,950 per person if travelling in premium economy flight class, or £3,750 per person if travelling in business flight class. Where fares are higher than our standard rates, an additional deposit may be required. We reserve the right to return your deposit and decline to issue a booking confirmation at our absolute discretion. The deposit or full payment, as applicable, must be received by us within 7 days of booking to ensure your place on the tour is held. Bookings will be automatically cancelled if the applicable deposit or full payment, as applicable, is not received by us within this 7 day period and we will have no further liability to you. We will not refund your deposit in such circumstances. Deposits are non-transferable and non-refundable except as expressly set out in these Terms & Conditions. We therefore recommend that you have adequate insurance to cover this.

The balance of the tour price (after deduction of the applicable deposit) must be received by us no less than 90 days prior to the start of your tour. If we do not receive all payments due (including any surcharge where applicable) in full and on time, we are entitled to believe that you wish to cancel your booking. In this case, we will be entitled to keep all deposits paid or due at that date. If we do not cancel straight away because you have promised to make payment, you must pay the cancellation fees shown in clause 15 depending on the date we reasonably treat your booking as cancelled.

Please Note: If you are a single passenger, the applicable single supplement will be added to your invoice at the time of your booking. We will aim to accommodate single passengers in twin or double rooms, with single occupancy.

7. Your contract

Subject to availability we will confirm your booking by issuing our confirmation invoice. This invoice will be sent to the lead name on the booking ("Lead Name"). If your confirmed arrangements include a flight, we will also issue you with an ATOL Certificate. Upon receipt, if you believe that any details on the ATOL Certificate or confirmation invoice or any other document are wrong you must advise us immediately as changes cannot be made later and it may harm your rights if we are not notified of any inaccuracies in any document within ten days of our sending it out (five days for tickets).

A binding contract between you and us comes into existence when we dispatch our confirmation invoice for all bookings.

8. Law and jurisdiction

We both agree that English law (and no other) will apply to your contract and to any dispute, claim or other matter of any description which arises between us ("claim") (except as set out below). We both also agree that any claim (and whether or not involving any personal injury) must be dealt with by the Courts of England and Wales only unless, in the case of court proceedings, you live in Scotland or Northern Ireland. In this case, proceedings must either be brought in the courts of your home country or those of England and Wales. If proceedings are brought in Scotland or Northern Ireland, you may choose to have your contract and any claim governed by the law of Scotland/Northern Ireland as applicable (but if you do not so choose, English law will apply).

9. What are your obligations whilst on tour?

- You must follow the Tour Manager's instructions at all times to ensure on tour safety. You acknowledge that failure to do so may result in restricted access to places of interest on tour or, if necessary for your own safety and/or that of other passengers, withdrawal from the tour.
- All our customers are expected to conduct themselves in an orderly and acceptable manner and not to disrupt the enjoyment of others. If we, or our staff or suppliers, are of the view you are negatively affecting your own health, safety or environment or that of other passengers, we can oblige you to withdraw from the tour immediately and we will terminate your booking with us with immediate effect. We will have no further obligations to you and/or your party and we will not be liable to you for any loss, cost or damage resulting from your withdrawal. If you are withdrawn from the tour, you must make your own return travel arrangements at your own expense.

No refunds for lost accommodation or any other arrangements will be made. You and/or your party may also be required to pay for loss and/or damage caused by your actions and we will hold you and each member of your party jointly and individually liable for any damage or losses caused by you or any member of your party. Full payment for any such damage or losses must be paid directly to the hotel manager or other supplier prior to departure. If you fail to make payment, you will be responsible for meeting any claims (including legal costs) subsequently made against us as a result of your actions together with all costs we incur in pursuing any claim against you.

- You must make your own enquiries regarding your tour, including being aware of any relevant government travel or safety warnings.

10. Tour price

Prices shown in our brochures and on the website are believed correct at the time of publication. We reserve the right to alter our advertised (brochure or website) tour prices, introduce supplements or correct pricing errors at any time before your booking is confirmed. We also reserve the right to correct any errors in any tour price and not be legally bound in the case of incorrect pricing and acknowledgement of such an error does not mean acceptance of it. We will advise you of any error of which we are aware and of the revised applicable price at the time of booking. Once the tour price has been confirmed at the time of booking, clause 11 below will apply.

11. Price Promise and Covid Guarantee

Early booking offers: Whilst we may offer promotional discounts and/or additional inclusions on some tours, these offers reduce in value closer to the departure date meaning the earlier you book the better offer you will receive. Last minute discounts: It is our policy never to sell any holiday cheaper than originally advertised. In the unlikely event we reduce the price of your holiday to below what you have already paid (after any discounts have been applied), we will contact you to refund the difference. **No surcharges*:** We guarantee that no surcharge will be added to the basic price of your holiday once your booking has been confirmed, irrespective of any fluctuation in currency exchange rates, increases in international included economy air fares, or increases in other costs associated with your holiday other than the circumstances set out in the paragraph below which are expressly excluded from the price promise. In return for this guarantee and its risk to us, we shall not be able to make any refunds in the event of favourable exchange rate variations or other decreases in costs which would otherwise result in the reduction of the selling price except for the circumstances identified in the paragraph below.

Price match: Price match applies to an identical holiday operated by another tour operator (excluding travel agents and arrangements made independently) at the same or a lower price within 7 days of booking with us. By 'identical holiday', we mean one which: (i) departs on the same day from the same airport, with the same flight number and carrier, (ii) visits the same destination(s) for the same duration and offers the same number of included excursions/meals, (iii) features the same accommodation and board basis, and (iv) utilises the same services of a Tour Manager. If this happens we will refund the difference between the cost of the holiday you have booked with us and the price of the identical holiday offered by the competitor. Plus, we will give you £200 per person towards a future booking. Our Price Promise applies once a booking is confirmed and a contract exists between us. It applies to tour prices only and does not include ad hoc or optional services such as airline upgrades, holiday additions, extended stays or regional connecting flights. Additionally, this price promise does not apply to optional services including, but not limited to: visa charges, excursions and amendment fees.

***Exclusion:** The price promise excludes surcharges which are a direct consequence of changes in the level of taxes, fuel surcharges or fees chargeable for services applicable to the holiday imposed by third parties not directly involved in the performance of the holiday, including, but not limited to, tourist taxes, landing taxes, embarkation or disembarkation fees at ports and airports or airline fuel surcharges. Where such circumstances apply, you will be charged for the amount of any increase in accordance with this clause. However, if this means that you have to pay an increase of more than 8% of the price of your confirmed holiday (excluding any insurance premiums, amendment charges and/or additional services or travel arrangements), you will have the option of accepting a change to another holiday if we are able to offer one (if this is of lower quality you will be refunded the difference in price), or cancelling and receiving a full refund of all monies paid to us, except for any insurance premiums and any amendment charges and/or additional services or travel arrangements. Should you decide to cancel for this reason, you must exercise your right to do so within 7 days from the issue date printed on your final invoice. We will consider an appropriate refund of insurance premiums paid if you can show that you are unable to transfer or reuse your policy. Should the price of your holiday go down due to the changes mentioned above, then any refund due will be paid to you less an administrative fee of £25. There will be no change made to the price of your confirmed holiday within 20 days of your departure nor will refunds be paid during this period.

Covid Guarantee: If Distant Journeys is unable to operate your tour as planned due to Covid-19 (a Force Majeure event), we will notify you as soon as possible. If there is time to do so before your departure date, and if available, Distant Journeys will offer you the following options:

- (for significant changes to your tour) accepting a change to your tour (including, but not limited to, changes to certain arrangements that make up your tour, a change to another tour or deferring your tour to a later departure date); or
- purchasing alternative arrangements from Distant Journeys, of a similar standard to those booked if available, with you

paying a supplement if the alternative arrangements are more expensive than those originally booked (you will receive a refund if you select an alternative which is of lower value); or

- cancelling or accepting the cancellation of your tour and receiving a full refund of all monies you have paid to Distant Journeys, in accordance with these Terms & Conditions.

The above options will not be available where any change made to your tour as a result of Covid-19 is considered a minor change (please see clause 14).

Please note that before you travel you should ensure that you and each member of your party have obtained adequate travel insurance (see clause 18). Where you and/or a member of your party are forced to cancel your tour due to contracting Covid-19, we will be unable to refund any monies paid (outside the scope of our Terms & Conditions) and will direct you to your travel insurer.

12. Tour features

The features of the tour are set out in the tour brochure. We make no representations about the features of any tour other than those expressly set out in the tour brochure and these terms and conditions.

13. Brochure validity

The tour brochure and these Terms & Conditions are valid for the departure dates as stated in the tour brochure, or additional departure dates we may introduce, unless otherwise expressly advised by us.

14. Variation or cancellation by us

As we plan your holiday arrangements many months in advance we may occasionally have to make changes or cancel your booking and we reserve the right to do so at any time. We reserve the right to alter or change the accommodation, carriers, vehicles, vessels or any other service(s) which form part of any tour at any time for any reason and cancel or alter the itinerary and/or tour at any time without notice as we consider necessary for any reason whatsoever including road, weather or traffic conditions, non-performance of suppliers, industrial action, operational conditions and requirements, water level problems, excessive winds or Force Majeure. Errors in the details of advertised and/or confirmed tours and/or other details occasionally occur and we reserve the right to correct these whenever they occur.

- In the event of industrial action affecting air, rail, cruise or other tour related transportation we will make every effort to contact the lead name and advise of alternative arrangements (if any).
- Most changes made to a confirmed tour are minor. If we make a minor change to your holiday, we will make reasonable efforts to inform you as soon as reasonably possible if there is time before your departure but we will have no liability to you. Examples of minor changes include alteration of your outward/return flights and/or coach journeys by less than 12 hours, changes to aircraft type, change of accommodation to another of the same or higher standard, changes of carriers. Please note that carriers such as airlines used in the brochure may be subject to change.
- Occasionally, we have to make a significant change to or cancel a confirmed tour and we reserve the right to do so. A significant change is a change made before departure which, taking account of the information you give us at the time of booking or which we can reasonably be expected to know as a tour operator, we can reasonably expect to have a significant effect on your tour. Examples of "significant changes" include the following, when made before departure:

- A change of accommodation area for the whole or a significant part of your time away.
- A change of accommodation to that of a lower standard or classification for the whole or a significant part of your time away.
- A change of outward departure time or overall length of your arrangements by more than 12 hours.
- A change of UK departure airport except between:
 - The London airports: Gatwick, Heathrow, Luton, Stansted, London City and Southend
 - The South Coast airports: Southampton, Bournemouth and Exeter
 - The South Western airports: Cardiff and Bristol
 - The Midlands airports: Birmingham, East Midlands and Doncaster Sheffield
 - The Northern airports: Liverpool, Manchester and Leeds Bradford
 - The North Eastern airports: Newcastle and Teesside
 - The Scottish airports: Edinburgh, Glasgow, Prestwick and Aberdeen
- A significant change to your itinerary, missing out one or more destination entirely.

We will not cancel your travel arrangements less than 90 days before your departure date, except for reasons of Force Majeure, failure by you to pay the final balance or where the minimum number of clients required for a particular tour is not reached.

- If we have to make a significant change or cancel, we will tell you as soon as possible. If there is time to do so before departure, you will be offered the following options:
 - (for significant changes) accepting the changed arrangements; or
 - purchasing alternative arrangements from us, of a similar standard to those booked if available, with you paying a supplement if the alternative arrangements are more expensive than those originally booked (you will receive a refund if you select an alternative which is of lower value); or
 - cancelling or accepting the cancellation and receiving a full refund of all monies you have paid to us.

You must notify us of your choice within 7 days of our offer. If we do not hear from you within 7 days, we will contact you again to request notification of your choice.

If you fail to respond again, we will assume that you have chosen to accept the change or alternative booking arrangements. Please note, the above options are not available where any change made is a minor one.

- If we have to make a significant change to or cancel a confirmed tour, we will in addition to the options set out above pay you reasonable compensation in the following circumstances*:
 - If, where we make a significant change, you do not accept the changed arrangements and cancel your booking; or
 - If we cancel your booking and no alternative arrangements are available and/or we do not offer one.

The compensation that we offer does not exclude you from claiming more if you are entitled to do so.

Period before departure within which notice of Cancellation or major change is notified to you	Compensation payable per person booking
91 days or more	Nil
75 - 90 days prior to departure	£10
60 - 74 days prior to departure	£20
30 - 59 days prior to departure	£30
Less than 30 days prior to departure	£40

IMPORTANT NOTE: We will not pay you compensation in the following circumstances:

- where we make a minor change;
- where we make a significant change or cancel your arrangements more than 90 days before departure;
- where we make a significant change and you accept those changed arrangements or you accept an offer of alternative travel arrangements;
- where we have to cancel your arrangements as a result of your failure to make full payment on time;
- where the change or cancellation by us arises out of alterations to the confirmed booking requested by you;
- where we cancel due to insufficient bookings;
- where we are forced to cancel or change your arrangements due to Force Majeure.

Very rarely, we may become unable to provide a significant proportion of the arrangements that you have booked with us after you have departed. If that occurs we will, if possible, make alternative arrangements for you at no extra charge and where those alternative arrangements are of a lower standard, provide you with an appropriate price reduction.

15. Amendment or cancellation by you

If you wish to make any amendments to your confirmed booking you must notify us in writing as soon as possible. Whilst we will do our best to assist, it may not always be possible to make such amendments. Where we can, an amendment fee of £75 per person will be payable together with any costs incurred by ourselves and any costs or charges incurred or imposed by any of our suppliers in making this change. You should be aware that these costs could increase the closer to the departure date that changes are made and you should contact us as soon as possible. A change of tour dates will normally be treated as a cancellation of the original booking and rebooking in which case cancellation fees will apply. Changes may result in the recalculation of the tour price where, for example, the basis on which the price of the original tour was calculated has changed. Where we are unable to assist you and you do not wish to proceed with the original booking we will treat this as a cancellation by you. A cancellation fee may be payable in accordance with these Terms & Conditions.

Transfer of booking:

If you or any member of your party is prevented from travelling, that person(s) may transfer their place to someone else, subject to the following conditions:

- that person is introduced by you and satisfies all the conditions applicable to the holiday;
- we are notified not less than 7 days before departure;
- you pay any outstanding balance payment, an amendment fee of £75 per person transferring, as well as any additional fees, charges or other costs arising from the transfer; and
- the transferee agrees to these Terms & Conditions and all other terms of the contract between us.

You and the transferee remain jointly and severally liable for payment of all sums. If you are unable to find a replacement, cancellation fees as set out below will apply in order to cover our estimated costs. Otherwise, no refunds will be given for passengers not travelling or for unused services.

Important Note: Certain arrangements may not be amended or transferred after they have been confirmed and any alteration could incur a cancellation charge of up to 100% of that part of the arrangements. Air Passenger Duty will always be non-refundable.

You may cancel your booking by notice to us in writing, this may be by letter or email, and payment of the applicable cancellation fee as shown below. Cancellation notifications are not effective until received by us in writing (if received by us on a weekend day or public holiday the notification will be treated as having been received by us on the next working day). Should one or more member of a party cancel, it may increase the per person holiday price of those still travelling and you will be liable to pay this increase.

The following cancellation fees apply to each individual person who cancels and where shown as a percentage are based on the total cost of the arrangements which are being cancelled excluding any insurance premiums, amendment fee or previously incurred cancellation fees which are all non-refundable in the event of your cancellation:

Cancellation fees

Period before your tour commences within which written notification of cancellation is received by us:

Tour cancellation period	Fee per person
More than 90 days prior to departure	Loss of Deposit
90 days to 75 days prior to departure	50% of holiday price
74 days to 60 days prior to departure	60% of holiday price
59 days to 30 days prior to departure	75% of holiday price
30 days prior to departure or less	100% of holiday price

NB Transferring to another departure date is highly likely to be treated as a cancellation by our suppliers and the cancellation fees above will apply. Depending on the reason for cancellation, you may be able to reclaim these cancellation charges (less any applicable excess) under the terms of your insurance policy. Claims must be made directly to the insurance company concerned.

Important Note: Certain arrangements may not be amended or transferred after they have been confirmed and any alteration could incur a cancellation charge of up to 100% of that part of the arrangements. Air Passenger Duty will always be non-refundable.

Cancellation by you due to unavoidable & extraordinary circumstances:

You have the right to cancel your confirmed holiday before departure without paying a cancellation charge in the event of “unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances” occurring at your holiday destination or its immediate vicinity and significantly affecting the performance of the holiday or significantly affecting the transport arrangements to the destination. In these circumstances, we shall provide you with a full refund of the monies you have paid but we will not be liable to pay you any additional compensation. Please note that your right to cancel in these circumstances will only apply where the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office advises against travel to your destination or its immediate vicinity. For the purposes of this clause, “unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances” means warfare, acts of terrorism, significant risks to human health such as the outbreak of serious disease at the travel destination or natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes or weather conditions which make it impossible to travel safely to the travel destination.

This clause 15 outlines the rights you have if you wish to cancel your booking. Please note that there is no automatic statutory right of cancellation under the Consumer Contracts (Information, Cancellation and Additional Charges) Regulations 2013.

16. Our liability

- (1) We will accept responsibility for the arrangements we agree to provide or arrange for you as an “organiser” under the Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018 (as amended), as set out below and as such, we are responsible for the proper provision of all travel services included in your package, as set out in your confirmation invoice. Subject to these Terms & Conditions, if we or our suppliers negligently perform or arrange those services and we don't remedy or resolve your complaint within a reasonable period of time, and this has affected the enjoyment of your package holiday you may be entitled to an appropriate price reduction or compensation or both. You must inform us without undue delay of any failure to perform or improper performance of the travel services included in this package. The level of any such price reduction or compensation will be calculated taking into consideration all relevant factors such as but not limited to: following the complaints procedure as described in these Terms & Conditions and the extent to which ours or our employees' or suppliers' negligence affected the overall enjoyment of your holiday. Please note that it is your responsibility to show that we or our supplier(s) have been negligent if you wish to make a claim against us.
- (2) We will not be responsible or pay you compensation for any injury, illness, death, loss, damage, expense, cost or other claim of any description if it results from:
 - a) the acts and/or omissions of the person affected; or
 - b) the acts and/or omissions of a third party unconnected with the provision of the services contracted for and which were unforeseeable or unavoidable; or
 - c) Force Majeure.
- (3) We limit the amount of compensation we may have to pay you if we are found liable under this clause:
 - a) loss of and/or damage to any luggage or mobility aids or personal possessions and money: the maximum amount we will have to pay you in respect of these claims is an amount equivalent to the excess on your insurance policy which applies to this type of loss per person in total because you are required to have adequate insurance in place to cover any losses of this kind.
 - b) Claims not falling under (a) above and which don't involve injury, illness or death: the maximum amount we will have to pay you in respect of these claims is up to three times the price paid by or on behalf of the person(s) affected in total. This maximum amount will only be payable where everything has gone wrong and you or your party has not received any benefit at all from your booking.
 - c) Claims in respect of international travel by air, sea and rail, or any stay in a hotel:

- I. Where applicable, the extent of our liability will in all cases be limited as if we were carriers under the appropriate Conventions, which include The Warsaw/Montreal Convention (international travel by air); The Athens Convention (with respect to sea travel); The Berne/Cotif Convention (with respect to rail travel) and The Paris Convention (with respect to hotel arrangements). You can ask for copies of these Conventions from our offices. Please contact us. In addition, you agree that the operating carrier or transport company's own 'Conditions of Carriage' will apply to you on that journey. When arranging transportation for you, we rely on the terms and conditions contained within these international conventions and those 'Conditions of Carriage'. You acknowledge that all of the terms and conditions contained in those 'Conditions of Carriage' form part of your contract with us, as well as with the transport company and that those 'Conditions of Carriage' shall be deemed to be included by reference into this contract.
- II. Where applicable, in any circumstances in which a carrier is liable to you by virtue of EC 261/2004 (denied boarding and flight disruption), any liability we may have to you under our contract with you, arising out of the same facts, is limited to the remedies provided under the Regulation as if (for this purpose only) we were a carrier.
- III. When making any payment, we are entitled to deduct any money which you have received or are entitled to receive from the transport provider or hotelier for the complaint or claim in question.

- (4) It is a condition of our acceptance of liability under this clause that you notify any claim to us and our supplier(s) strictly in accordance with the complaints procedure set out in these conditions.
- (5) Where any payment is made, the person(s) receiving it (and their parent or guardian if under 18 years) must also assign to us or our insurers any rights they may have to pursue any third party and must provide ourselves and our insurers with all assistance we may reasonably require.
- (6) Please note, we cannot accept any liability for any damage, loss or expense or other sum(s) of any description:
 - a) which on the basis of the information given to us by you concerning your booking prior to our accepting it, we could not have foreseen you would suffer or incur if we breached our contract with you;
 - b) relate to any business;
 - c) indirect or consequential loss of any kind.
- (7) We will not accept responsibility for services or facilities which do not form part of our agreement or where they are not advertised in our brochure. For example any excursion you book whilst away, or any service or facility which your hotel or any other supplier agrees to provide for you.
- (8) Where it is impossible for you to return to your departure point as per the agreed return date of your package, due to “unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances”; we shall provide you with any necessary accommodation (where possible, of a comparable standard) for a period not exceeding three nights per person. Please note that the 3 night cap does not apply to persons with reduced mobility, pregnant women or unaccompanied minors, nor to persons needing specific medical assistance, provided we have been notified of these particular needs at least 48 hours before the start of your holiday. For the purposes of this clause, “unavoidable and extraordinary circumstances” mean warfare, acts of terrorism, significant risks to human health such as the outbreak of serious disease at the travel destination or natural disasters such as floods, earthquakes or weather conditions which make it impossible to travel safely back to your departure point.

17. Carriers

The applicable conditions of sale / carriage in use by the carriers will apply to you. These may limit or exclude the carriers' liability to you, usually in accordance with international conventions. Copies of these are available on request.

18. Risk and travel insurance

You acknowledge and accept that there are inherent risks associated with our tours, for example events of Force Majeure, hazards of travelling in undeveloped areas, travel by boat, train, automobile, aircraft or other means of transportation particularly in underdeveloped countries or more remote locations, forces of nature, political unrest and accident, illness, epidemics or pandemics in regions without means of rapid evacuation or medical facilities. We cannot accept any liability regarding the provision of medical care or the adequacy of any care that may be rendered where it is provided by third parties.

It is a condition of your booking and your responsibility to ensure that you have sufficient and valid travel insurance to cover your booking with us. We reserve the right to decline your booking if adequate proof of such current and valid travel insurance is not provided to us if requested. Please note that we do not check individual policies for suitability. We insist you take out appropriate travel insurance to cover as a minimum: pre-existing medical conditions, medical expenses, repatriation in the event of accident or illness, cancellation by you for any reason, cancellation charges, loss of luggage, early return following death of a relative as defined in the respective proposal forms or emergency repatriation, for example in the event of accident or illness. It is your responsibility to ensure that the insurance fully covers all your personal requirements and the specific risks outlined above. Please read your policy details carefully and take them with you on your tour. It is your responsibility to ensure that the insurance cover you purchase is suitable and adequate for your particular needs.

If you choose to travel without adequate insurance cover, we will not be liable for any losses no matter how arising, in respect of which insurance cover would otherwise have been available. If you have any questions, these should be raised with your travel insurance provider.

19. Itinerary changes and travel advice

During local or national holidays, certain facilities such as museums and restaurants, sightseeing tours and shopping may be limited or not available. Alternatives will be offered if possible.

Your safety is our first consideration and if the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) advises against travel to a certain country, we act on this advice. The FCDO issues regular advice and updates on its website www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice which you are recommended to consult before booking and in good time before departure. You are responsible for making yourself aware of FCDO advice in regard to the safety of the countries and areas in which you will be travelling and to make your decisions accordingly.

20. Baggage allowance

You are entitled to carry one suitcase per person with the total sum of its length, width and height not exceeding 160cm (63 inches) and weight 20kg (44 lbs). Hand luggage must have a total sum of its length, width and height not exceeding 115cm (45 inches) and weight 5kg (11lbs). Personal and valuable items such as make-up, cameras, medication, passport, money/credit cards etc should be carried in a travel bag or on your person. You must ensure that luggage meets the weight requirements as overweight or oversize items will not be carried. Some carriers may impose a small surcharge per day for a second suitcase per person. Excess baggage is always at your cost.

21. Young travellers

Travellers who are less than 16 years old on the departure date must be accompanied by and share a room with an adult aged 16 or over. Children under 8 years of age cannot be accepted on our tours.

22. Complaints

If a problem occurs during your tour, you must advise our representative immediately so that steps can be taken to resolve the matter and you can continue to enjoy the remainder of your tour. You must also advise the supplier concerned. If your complaint is not resolved locally, please contact us by email at info@distantjourneys.co.uk or call 01695 577 961.

If you remain dissatisfied, any complaint must ideally be made in writing to us giving full details within 30 days of the end of the tour. If you fail to follow this procedure, your right to claim compensation you may otherwise have been entitled to may be affected or even lost as a result.

23. Tour price and duration

All prices in our brochure(s) are quoted in English pounds (Sterling). All prices in our brochure(s) are believed to be correct to the best of our knowledge at the time of printing but errors may occur and prices are subject to change. You must therefore ensure you check all details of your chosen tour (including the price) with us at the time of booking. The number of days duration stated in each itinerary includes day of departure and day of return. Tour durations may vary should you choose to have a stopover, and airline flight schedules and the itineraries in our brochure(s) should be used as a guide only.

24. Included in your fare

All airfares from the UK in economy class (unless specified at the time of booking), coach travel and overseas transfers* whilst travelling as part of the group or on one of our organised stopover programmes, service of a Tour Manager, portage whilst on tour, airport transfers, meals as specified, accommodation as specified (please note, the third bed in a triple room may be a rollaway bed), sightseeing and admissions and other services as expressly indicated in the itinerary. * Should you be travelling outside of the main group travel dates from or to the UK transfers are not included on any outbound or return stopovers. These are available to purchase at an additional cost.

NOT included in your fare

Meals not specified in the itinerary, drinks unless specified in the itinerary, laundry, passport and visa fees, expenses of a personal nature and any other items which are not expressly included in the cost of your tour. Changes to flight schedules may require additional overnight accommodation at either commencement or completion of tour which is at your own expense.

25. Airfare conditions

Your Distant Journeys travel expert will book the most appropriate fare for your tour based on the information you provide to us. Full details and conditions may be obtained from your travel expert. Changes to original tickets will incur amendment or cancellation fees, are subject to availability and surcharges may apply. Please see clause 15 above. Please note: all airfares are subject to routing restrictions. Airfares and applicable taxes are subject to increase without notice due to fare and tax changes, surcharges dependent on class available at time of booking and other factors outside our control, subject to the provisions of clause 11 (Price Promise) above. Please contact your travel consultant for the applicable rules and regulations. At the time of booking please ensure you supply your first name and surname as they appear in your passport, as these must be stated on your flight ticket. In some instances, the airline will also request your middle name. You may not be able to travel if the name on your passport and documents do not match. Any costs for ticket changes due to an incorrect name on paperwork which has been sent to you, will result in a cost which we will pass on to you.

26. Flights

For flight inclusive tours, the flight timings given on booking are for general guidance only and are subject to change. The latest timings will be shown on your confirmation documents. As flights only become available to book around 11 months in advance, we are only able to confirm upgrade prices at the time of booking your flights. However, the actual flight times will be those shown on your tickets which will be dispatched to you approximately two weeks before departure. You must accordingly check your tickets very carefully immediately on receipt to ensure you have the correct flight times. It is possible that flight times may be changed even after tickets have been dispatched - we will contact you as soon as possible if this occurs. Distant Journeys has no control over the allocation of seats by the airline, and even if you have requested or made payment directly with the airline to pre-book seats, no guarantees can be made. The provision of such seats does not constitute a term of your contract with Distant Journeys.

Where applicable and in accordance with EU Directive (EC) No 2111/2005, we are required to bring to your attention the existence of a “Community List” which contains details of air carriers that are subject to an operating ban within the European Union. The Community list is available for inspection at https://ec.europa.eu/transport/modes/air/safety/air-ban_en. We are also required to advise you of the carrier(s) (or, if the carrier(s) is not known, the likely carrier(s)) that will operate your flight(s) at the time of booking. Where we are only able to inform you of the likely carrier(s) at the time of booking, we shall inform you of the identity of the actual carrier(s) as soon as we become aware of this. Any change to the operating carrier(s) after your booking has been confirmed will be notified to you as soon as possible. Any change in the identity of the carrier, flight timings, and/ or aircraft type (where advised) will not entitle you to cancel or change to other arrangements without paying our normal charges except where specified in these Terms & Conditions. If the carrier with whom you have a confirmed reservation becomes subject to an operating ban as above as a result of which we/ the carrier are unable to offer you a suitable alternative the provisions of clause 12 will apply.

If you suffer a delay in your outbound travel arrangements, we will do our best to ensure you make the start of your tour or, if this cannot be achieved, join it as soon as possible. Any costs we incur in making any alternative arrangements in this situation where the delay was due to your own actions will be your responsibility. In the event of a flight delay, the airline concerned may provide refreshments and/or other assistance depending on factors such as the length of the delay, time of day and number of passengers affected. We cannot accept liability for any delay which is due to any of the reasons set out in the definition of “Force Majeure” (which includes the behaviour of any passenger(s) on the flight who, for example, fails to check in or board on time). If your flight is cancelled or delayed, your flight ticket is downgraded or boarding is denied by your airline, depending on the circumstances, the airline may be required to pay you compensation, refund the cost of your flight and/or provide you with accommodation and/or refreshments under the Denied Boarding Regulations 2004. Where applicable, you must pursue the airline for the compensation or other payment due to you. All sums you receive or are entitled to receive from the airline concerned by virtue of these Regulations represent the full amount of your entitlement to compensation or any other payment arising from such cancellation, delay, downgrading or denied boarding. This includes any disappointment, distress, inconvenience or effect on any other arrangements. The fact a delay may entitle you to cancel your flight does not automatically entitle you to cancel any other arrangements even where those arrangements have been made in conjunction with your flight. We have no liability to make any payment to you in relation to the Denied Boarding Regulations or in respect of any flight cancellation or delay, downgrading of any flight ticket or denial of any boarding as the full amount of your entitlement to any compensation or other payment (as dealt with above) is covered by the airline's obligations under the Denied Boarding Regulations. If for any reason, we make any payment to you or a third party which the airline is responsible for in accordance with the Denied Boarding Regulations, you must, when requested, assign to us the rights you have or had to claim the payment in question from the airline. If the airline does not comply with these rules, you should refer to the Civil Aviation Authority at www.caa.co.uk/Passengers/Resolving-travel-problems/

A number of Governments are introducing new requirements for air carriers to provide personal information about all travellers on their aircraft to the Authorities before the aircraft leaves the UK. The data will be collected either at the airport when you check in or in some circumstances when, or after you make your booking. Accordingly, you are advised to allow extra time to check in for your flight. Where we collect this data, we will treat it in accordance with our Privacy Policy.

27. Passports and visas

You must have a valid passport with at least 6 months validity following your return date. It is your responsibility to ensure any visas required for countries to be visited on the tour have been obtained prior to the tour departure date. Failure to obtain correct documentation, visas and/or any other requirements for travel will mean that you may be unable to participate in particular excursions and may be denied boarding and/ or entry into certain countries.

Passport and visa entry requirements and costs are your sole responsibility. We can only provide general information about this. You must check requirements for your own specific circumstances with the relevant Embassies and/or Consulates as applicable. Requirements do change and you must check the up to date position in good time before departure. We cannot accept any liability if you are refused entry onto any transport or into any country due to failure on your part to carry correct documentation. If failure to have any necessary travel or other documents results in fines, surcharges or other financial penalty being imposed on us, you will be responsible for reimbursing us accordingly.

Please note: The impacts of Brexit may change your visa, ticket and health requirements. Third country nationals may require an airport transit visa when passing through EU Member States. You should check any impacts of Brexit on your travel, in advance of your departure, to ensure that you fulfil the requirements post-Brexit, including any passport validly requirements. The UK Government passport checker can be found at www.gov.uk/check-a-passport-travel-europe

28. Insolvency protection

We provide financial security for flight-inclusive packages and ATOL protected flights by way of our Air Travel Organiser's Licence number 10913, issued by the Civil Aviation Authority, Gatwick Airport South, West Sussex, RH6 0YR, UK, telephone 0333 103 6350, email: claims@caa.co.uk. When you buy an ATOL protected product from us you will receive an ATOL Certificate. This lists what is financially protected, where you can get information on what this means for you and who to contact if things go wrong. For further information, visit the Civil Aviation Authority website at www.caa.co.uk/atol-protection/. The price of our flight inclusive arrangements includes the amount of £2.50 per person as part of the ATOL Protection Contribution (APC) we pay to the CAA. This charge is included in our advertised prices. Not all holiday or travel services offered and sold by us will be protected by the ATOL Scheme. ATOL protection extends primarily to customers who book and pay in the United Kingdom and European Economic Area (EEA).

We, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL Certificate, will provide you with the services listed on the ATOL Certificate (or a suitable alternative). In some cases, where neither we nor the supplier are able to do so for reasons of insolvency, an alternative ATOL holder may provide you with the services you have bought (at no extra cost to you). You agree to accept that in those circumstances the alternative ATOL holder will perform those obligations and you agree to pay any money outstanding to be paid by you under your contract to that alternative ATOL holder. However, you also agree that in some cases it will not be possible to appoint an alternative ATOL holder, in which case you will be entitled to make a claim under the ATOL Scheme (or your credit card issuer where applicable).

If we, or the suppliers identified on your ATOL certificate, are unable to provide the services listed (or a suitable alternative, through an alternative ATOL holder or otherwise) for reasons of insolvency, the Trustees of the Air Travel Trust may make a payment to (or confer a benefit on) you under the ATOL scheme. You agree that in return for such a payment or benefit you assign absolutely to those Trustees any claims which you have or may have arising out of or relating to the non-provision of the services, including any claim against us, the travel agent (or your credit card issuer where applicable). You also agree that any such claims may be re-assigned to another body, if that other body has paid sums you have claimed under the ATOL scheme.

We provide full financial protection for our package holidays which don't include flights, by way of a bond held by The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited.

The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT) provides financial protection under The Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018 (as amended) for Distant Journeys (ABTOT membership number 5427) and in the event of their insolvency, protection is provided for the following:

1. non-flight packages; and
2. flight inclusive packages that commence outside of the UK, which are sold to customers outside of the UK.

ABTOT cover provides for a refund in the event you have not yet travelled or repatriation if transportation was included in your package. Please note that bookings made outside the EEA are only protected by ABTOT when purchased directly with Distant Journeys.

In the unlikely event that you require assistance whilst abroad due to our financial failure, please call our 24/7 helpline on 01702 811397 and advise you are a customer of an ABTOT protected travel company.

You can access The Package Travel and Linked Travel Arrangements Regulations 2018 (as amended) here: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/634/contents/made> and <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2018/1367/contents/made>

29. Coaches

On our group tours, to ensure all passengers have the opportunity to enjoy front and window seats, a daily seat rotation system is employed on all of our coaches and you must follow the seat rotation system.

If you suffer from travel sickness, you should arrange medication or other alternatives to treat symptoms as we cannot make allowances in the seat rotation policy for this, in fairness to other guests.

30. Optional activities and dining

Optional activities and dining are subject to availability, seasonal / operational factors and minimum / maximum numbers. More details on optional tours may be found on our website. On occasion, it may not be possible to arrange an included activity. Suitable alternatives will be arranged. Inclusions may also be subject to change.

31. Vaccines, medication and medical services

Health facilities, hygiene and disease risks vary worldwide. It is your responsibility to ensure you are aware of all recommended vaccinations and health precautions for the countries you are visiting and ensure that vaccinations or preventative measures are taken early enough to be fully effective by the date of travel. You should take health advice about your specific needs as early as possible and recognise that advice may change, prior to your departure. Please see the Foreign, Commonwealth & Development Office (FCDO) website www.gov.uk/foreign-travel-advice and NHS Travel Vaccinations on <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/travel-vaccinations/> for up to date information.

It is your responsibility to ensure that any medication you need to carry is permitted to be taken into the countries you are visiting. We recommend you consult with your GP and relevant embassy before booking and review in good time before your departure as advice may change. Any medical services and costs required on tour are at your expense. We strongly recommend suitable and adequate travel insurance.

32. Images, photographs, maps and information

The photographs in the brochure and information provided represent typical scenes and descriptive detail for each tour, but it is possible that the subject matter may not be seen or experienced whilst on the tour itself. Some pictures may have been digitally enhanced.

Maps or tour depictions contained in this brochure or any other brochures issued by Distant Journeys, are intended as an indication only and should not be relied upon as the actual route taken during the tour. Distant Journeys are not liable to you for any variation to the tour.

33. Prompt assistance

If, whilst you are on holiday, you find yourself in difficulty for any reason, we will offer you such prompt assistance as is appropriate in the circumstances. In particular, we will provide you with appropriate information on health services, local authorities and consular assistance, and assistance with distance communications and finding alternative travel arrangements. Where you require assistance which is not owing to any failure by us, our employees or sub-contractors we will not be liable for the costs of any alternative travel arrangements or other such assistance you require. Any supplier, airline or other transport supplier may however pay for or provide refreshments and/or appropriate accommodation and you should make a claim directly to them. Subject to the other terms of these Terms & Conditions, we will not be liable for any costs, fees or charges you incur in the above circumstances, if you fail to obtain our prior authorisation before making your own travel arrangements. Furthermore, we reserve the right to charge you a fee for our assistance in the event that the difficulty is caused intentionally by you or a member of your party, or otherwise through your or your party's negligence.

34. Conditions of suppliers

Many of the services which make up your holiday are provided by independent suppliers. Those suppliers provide these services in accordance with their own terms and conditions which will form part of your contract with us. Some of these terms and conditions may limit or exclude the supplier's liability to you, usually in accordance with applicable International Conventions. Copies of the relevant parts of these terms and conditions are available on request from us or the supplier concerned.

35. Amendments to these Terms & Conditions

These Terms & Conditions may be subject to amendment from time to time. Amendments will be posted on the Distant Journeys website www.distantjourneys.co.uk

Other Destinations

Australia

New Zealand

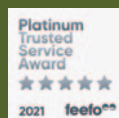
South Africa

India

Sri Lanka

China

distantjourneys
Your Time to Explore



To book, call our travel experts FREE on

0800 141 3743

Monday - Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm **Saturday** 9.00am - 5.00pm **Sunday** Open in peak season. See website for details.

Email enquiries@distantjourneys.co.uk **Visit** www.distantjourneys.co.uk

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