



In Search Of Vietnam's Endangered Langurs



Seacology Expedition to Vietnam and Angkor Wat, Cambodia
October 30 - November 11, 2010

Good Morning Hanoi

Oct 30 - Arrive Hanoi (midday) – *Xin chao* and welcome to Hanoi! Process through immigration and customs. We will meet you and take you to your hotel for check-in. Today is free to spend at your leisure to recover from jetlag or explore, discovering your own first impressions of Vietnam. Regroup this evening and be driven to the authentic Moon River Restaurant for a welcome dinner (depending on flight arrival time.) We will be staying at the Sofitel Metropole Hotel which Frommer's calls "a historical treasure" and "Hanoi's top choice." (D)

Hanoi City Tour

Oct 31 – Depart hotel at 8:00 AM. We will begin our day by visiting Uncle Ho, learning about his life at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, Presidential Palace, and his residential home. The next stop is the nearby Temple of Literature, the site of Vietnam's first university. Built in the twelfth century, its purpose was to teach Confucius' theories to royalty. Here we will also have a chance to see a traditional musical performance. Lunch in Wild Rice Restaurant. In the afternoon, choose from among the numerous museums or temples around Hanoi (Museum of Ethnology, Women's Museum, History Museum or Quan Thanh Temple). In the late afternoon walk around Hoan Kiem Lake and Hanoi's fascinating Old Quarter and get a closer view of local daily life. We continue our relaxing but informative day by attending a Water Puppet Show, a favorite experience for visitors to Vietnam. We will enjoy our dinner at the famous Restaurant at the Press Club. Overnight at the Sofitel Metropole Hotel. (B,L,D)

Hanoi to Ha Long Bay and Cat Ba Island

Nov 1 – Depart hotel at 8:00 AM. Enjoy views of rice paddy countryside on the 3 ½ hour drive to the port of Ha Long City. At 12:00, the junk crew welcomes guests on board. Cruise on the Red Dragon junk out to Ha Long Bay, a World Heritage Site. Relax with a breath of fresh air from the sea then enjoy a lunch of fresh seafood on the boat. Relish the stunning scenery of Ha Long Bay all the way to Cat Ba Island. We will meet up with people from the Seacology-funded Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project at their station in the middle of the bay near Cat Ba Island. We will get more information about the project and cruise to the site where we may see langurs the next morning. We will have dinner with the project manager of the Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project on the boat. Overnight on the Red Dragon, a modern replica of a Chinese junk. There are five cabins, each with en suite facilities. (B,L,D)

More about Seacology's project: Since 2000, the Cat Ba langur has been listed as one of 'The World's Top 25 Most Endangered Primates'. In the past, poaching constituted the primary threat to the langurs' survival and resulted in a population decline from estimated 2,500-2,800 individuals in the 1960s to a mere 53 individuals by 2000. In November 2002, Seacology began supporting a langur-guarding program, whereby local residents are in charge of guarding particular subpopulations against illegal poaching. The langur population has increased since the onset of this project, comprising 65 individuals at present, yet the overall status of this species is extremely critical. The remaining langur population is severely



fragmented into seven isolated sub-populations, four of which are all-female groups. It has therefore become necessary to relocate some individuals on Cat Ba Island to the strictly protected langur sanctuary that the Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project established in 2001. An isolated group of three females has been designated as the first target group for relocation. These females are trapped on a small offshore island, and their return to the main island on their own is no longer possible because the mangrove forests between the main and off-shore islands were destroyed. Seacology is helping to fund the relocation of these isolated females in an attempt to help the Cat Ba langur population continue to grow.

Cruise Around Cat Ba

Nov 2 - This morning we will tour the bay and visit the Cat Ba Langur Conservation Project with the project manager and staff. You may have an opportunity to see the endangered and extremely elusive Cat Ba (Golden-Maned) Langur in the wild. Then, depending on time constraints, we will visit a secret cave in Bai Tu Long Bay. You will also have the opportunity to kayak or swim at a deserted beach. Free time to enjoy the sunset from the boat. Overnight on the Red Dragon. (B,L,D)

Ha Long Bay - Hanoi

Nov 3 - Continue our cruise in the morning. We will take a rowboat to visit a floating fishing village in the middle of Bai Tu Long Bay; this is a great chance to experience the lifestyle of fisherman living in the bay. Return to the Red Dragon Junk by rowboat. Next, we begin the cruise back to Ha Long City, enjoying lunch on the boat before arriving at the wharf. Then we make our way back to Hanoi. Arrival in Hanoi at about 5:00 PM. Check into the hotel followed by free time. Overnight at the Sofitel Metropole Hotel. (B,L)

Hanoi - Cuc Phuong. Visit Van Long National Park

Nov 4 - Bus pickup from hotel in the morning followed by a 3 hour drive to Ninh Binh town. Visit Dinh and Le temples in Hoa Lu - the capital site of Vietnam before the year 1010. Then drive to Van Long where we will enjoy a restaurant lunch. We then visit Van Long Nature Preserve where we will take a 2 hour boat ride along a small stream, rice paddies and through some caves of limestone. (Normally the right time to see the rare Delacour's langur here is from 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM.) Drive to Cuc Phuong in the evening. Dinner and overnight at the Cuc Phuong Park Bungalows. (B,L,D)

Cuc Phuong National Park - Drive Back to Hanoi

Nov 5 - In the morning we visit Cuc Phuong National Park. Visit the Endangered Primate Resource Center with its director, Tilo Nadler, where you can see the endangered Cat Ba, Delacour's, and other langurs in captivity. Further explore Cuc Phuong National Park with local experts. You will have the option of doing some trekking inside the rainforest to view the diversity of fauna and flora in the first tropical national park in Vietnam. Lunch can either be in Cuc Phuong or in Ninh Binh town. Drive back to Hanoi in the afternoon arriving at about 5:00 PM. Check into the hotel followed by free time. Dinner on your own. Overnight at the Sofitel Metropole Hotel. (B,L)



Fly to Ho Chi Minh City

Nov 6 - Breakfast at the hotel then check out. Transfer to the airport for a morning flight to Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon). Airport pick up in Ho Chi Minh City. Transfer to the hotel followed by free time. Lunch on your own at the hotel. In the afternoon we will tour the bustling Saigon urban district. We begin with a visit to the Binh Tay Market in Cho Lon; stopover at Thien Hau, a 150 year old Chinese Temple; then to the Jade Emperor pagoda. In the afternoon we visit the War Remnants Museum, the Notre Dame Cathedral and the historic Central Post Office. Drop off at the hotel around 5:30 PM. We will be staying at the Sheraton Saigon Hotel and Towers which Frommer's has called "One of your top choices ... an excellent hotel in the middle of the city center." (B)

City Tour in HCM and Cu Chi Tunnels

Nov 7 - Have breakfast at the hotel and depart by van at 8:00 AM. We then travel to Tay Ninh, site of the Great Cao Dai temple (a mixture of Buddhism, Confucius, Taoism, Hinduism and Christian influences). We are treated to the noon mass followed by lunch in Tay Ninh. In the afternoon we visit Cu Chi - part of a 200 km tunnel system. Once we arrive you will have the unique opportunity to experience being a guerilla, living and fighting underground during the war - a crawl through 50-100 meters of the tunnel is unforgettable. Short break before we enjoy dinner. Overnight at the Sheraton Saigon Hotel and Towers. (B,L D)

Fly to Siem Riep/Angkor Wat in Cambodia

Nov 8 - Check out from hotel and transfer to the airport for an early flight to Siem Riep. After arrival at Siem Reap airport visit the South Gate of Angkor Thom, the famous Bayon, Baphoun, the Terrace of Temple Elephants and Terrace of the Leper King. Next we will visit the Angkor National Museum and the world wonder and World Heritage Site of Angkor Wat, enjoying sunset from Phnom Bakheng Hill. Dinner and Khmer Traditional Dance Show at local restaurant. We will be staying at the Hotel De La Paix, the most centrally located and most stylish five-star hotel in Siem Riep. (B,D)

Visit Temples in Siem Riep/Angkor Wat

Nov 9 - Breakfast at the hotel. We continue to visit the fabulous Ta Prohm embraced by the roots of enormous fig trees and gigantic creepers, Pre Rup, East Mebon, and Neak Poan. Visit Krovan, Royal Bath of Srah Srang and Banteay Kdei temples. Dinner on your own at the hotel. Free time at night to explore the little town of Siem Riep. Overnight at the Hotel De La Paix. (B)

Fly Back to Ho Chi Minh City

Nov 10 - Breakfast at the hotel. We then board a boat in Tonle Sap Lake to enjoy a brief cruise past floating villages complete with schools, restaurants and hospitals. Free time at the local market for shopping until we transfer to Siem Reap International Airport for a flight in the afternoon back to Ho Chi Minh City. Pick ups at the airport in Ho Chi Minh City. Transfer to Mövenpick Hotel close to the airport. Overnight at Mövenpick Hotel. (B,D)



Departure, Fly Home

Nov 11 - Free time until transfer to the airport for your flight home from Ho Chi Minh City.



Seacology Vietnam/Cambodia Expedition Map ■ Pricing ■ Details



Price: \$5,500 USD per person
 Single Supplement: \$1,500 USD
 (limited number of singles available)

Notes on the Price:

- The price includes: English speaking guide throughout, Seacology guide throughout, all accommodations, meals as noted, Seacology project site visit, admission to all attractions, cruise on Ha Long Bay, airfare within Vietnam and between Vietnam and Cambodia.
- Reservations can be made with a deposit of \$2,750 per person. Payments can be made by check, payable to Seacology, or by credit card. A 4% surcharge will apply for those paying by credit card.
- These deposits, less a \$300 per person cancellation fee, are 100% refundable up to May 1, 2010, after which they are nonrefundable.
- The final nonrefundable balance will be due by August 1, 2010.
- The aforementioned costs include a \$100 per person tax deductible contribution to Seacology's carbon offset fund.
- The price of the trip excludes: visa fees, international flights (other than roundtrip between Vietnam and Cambodia), insurance, drinks, personal expenses, gratuities, and other costs not mentioned in the detailed itinerary.