Vietnam
BY LAND AND BY SEA

February 22 to March 6, 2024

EXCLUSIVE GUEST SPEAKERS
Phan Thi Kim Phuc, Nick Ut, Jim Laurie
Vietnam by Land and by Sea

Limestone pinnacles rise from teal waters, a vibrant tableau of ancient pagodas and terraced rice paddies emerges, and centuries of stories are revealed as you journey by land and sea along the serene shores of Vietnam. Experience the social, intellectual, and spiritual heartbeat of Vietnam’s captivating culture in its palaces, temples, and sampan-filled harbors on this immersive, 14-day itinerary. Exquisite natural beauty, scenic coastlines, delectable cuisine, majestic architecture, authentic markets, and a compelling history render Vietnam one of the most alluring nations in the Eastern Hemisphere.

Join us on this exploration of this proud country’s diverse heritage and the Japanese, Chinese, French, and American influences that helped shape its past and present. Special guest speaker Phan Thi Kim Phuc will be on board to reflect on her experiences as a child during the Vietnam War and the work she’s doing today to help heal and change the future.

Featuring three UNESCO World Heritage Sites—breathtaking Ha Long Bay, the Purple Forbidden City in Huế, and the ancient 15th-century port of Hoi An—a world of antiquity meets dynamic modernity on a tour like no other.
Dear Club Members,

Join us on a spectacular journey to Vietnam, where centuries-old cultures flourish harmoniously and Asian and European traditions coalesce amid cinematic streetscapes and sublime UNESCO-inscribed temples. This carefully curated land and sea itinerary—co-sponsored with several educational organizations including Duke University, Northwestern University, and the National Trust for Historical Preservation—encompasses the breadth of Vietnamese culture and its spectacular natural beauty. Customize your experience according to your own interests with a choice of included excursions on most days.

Cruise for eight nights aboard the exclusively chartered, state-of-the-art, 5-star LE JACQUES CARTIER. Featuring only 92 suites and staterooms, each with a private balcony, this elegant small ship cruises into small ports inaccessible to larger vessels. You will also enjoy a total of four nights in two spectacular 5-star hotels in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi.

By exclusive arrangement, South Vietnamese-born Phan Thi Kim Phuc, a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Peace; Pulitzer Prize-winner photographer Nick Ut; and acclaimed former news correspondent and media consultant Jim Laurie will accompany us on this program. Hear inspiring stories from Phuc, who was the subject of the photograph “Napalm Girl,” an enduring image from the Vietnam War, and Nick Ut, the photojournalist who made that famous photo. Learn more about the fall of Saigon from Laurie, winner of two Emmy Awards and a Peabody Award for his coverage of this time in Vietnam.

Explore the juxtaposition of traditional and contemporary architecture in historic, French-colonial Ho Chi Minh City; sail in a traditional Vietnamese junk past the limestone karst pillars and forested islands of majestic Ha Long Bay; and experience Vietnam’s culturally rich capital city of Hanoi, showcasing an amalgam of Asian and French heritage.

Make your reservation now, while early booking savings and space are still available.

We require membership to the Commonwealth Club to travel with us. Please visit commonwealthclub.org/membership to sign up for a membership.

Best regards,

Kristina Nemeth
Travel Director
(415) 597-6720

To secure your spot, call Commonwealth Club Travel at 415-597-6720 or email us at travel@commonwealthclub.org
GUEST SPEAKERS

Kim Phuc
On June 8, 1972, 9-year-old Phan Thi Kim Phuc was photographed fleeing a napalm strike. The photograph, “Napalm Girl,” remains one of the most influential images from the Vietnam War. Today, Phuc is a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Peace and the author of Fire Road, the inspirational story of her unexpected survival and unshakeable faith. She shares her experience at global events and has received awards and recognitions, including six honorary doctorates, for work supporting child victims of war and her commitment to global peace. She has also inspired the nonprofit organization KIM Foundation International.

Nick Ut
Huỳnh Công Út, known professionally as Nick Ut, is a Vietnamese-American photographer who began working for the Associated Press at age 16. His older brother, Huỳnh Thanh, also an AP photographer, was killed in combat, and he wanted to follow in his footsteps. After spending his initial months in the AP darkroom, Ut was officially sent out to take pictures when the Viet Cong attacked the American embassy in Saigon. His 1972 photo of Phan Thi Kim Phuc fleeing a South Vietnamese napalm strike with her family made history and won the Pulitzer Prize, among other major photographic awards. Ut continued covering the Vietnam War for AP and also worked in Tokyo before being transferred to Los Angeles in 1977. He still works for AP as a photojournalist, and is in regular contact with Kim Phuc.

Jim Laurie
Jim Laurie is a distinguished international broadcaster, writer, and media consultant who has witnessed many defining moments in Asia’s history over the last 50 years. He began covering Indochina for NBC News in 1972 and became the only American network correspondent to witness the fall of Saigon to the North Vietnamese in 1975. Laurie recently published a memoir of his early days in Vietnam and Cambodia: The Last Helicopter: Two Lives in Indochina. He is the recipient of a Peabody Award, two Emmy Awards, and an Amnesty International Award and has also co-produced, written, and directed several television documentaries.
Huỳnh Công Út, known professionally as Nick Út, is a Vietnamese-American photographer who began taking photographs for the Associated Press in Saigon as a teenager. His Pulitzer-Prize-winning photo of 9-year-old Phan Thi Kim Phúc running toward the camera from a South Vietnamese napalm strike in 1972 made history. Immediately after taking the photo, he rushed her to a hospital, which saved her life. They became lifelong friends, and will share their inspiring story throughout our tour. Phuc will also speak about her work with KIM Foundation International to provide aid to child victims of war around the globe.
Day 1 and 2
Depart your home city and cross the International Date Line.

Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon), Vietnam
Day 3
Arrive in Ho Chi Minh City, a vibrant convergence of Vietnamese heritage and French panache. Check into the 5-star Park Hyatt Saigon hotel for an evening at leisure.

Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon)
Day 4
Enjoy a scenic tour of Ho Chi Minh City that begins at the imposing Reunification Hall Palace and includes stops at the neo-Romanesque-style Notre Dame Cathedral and the City Opera House, a stunning counterpart to the Petit Palais in Paris that recalls the city’s 19th-century French-colonial history. Visit the Saigon Central Post Office, a stunning piece of 19th-century French architecture from the city’s Indochina period. See Ho Chi Minh City Hall, Ho Chi Minh Square, and the Rex Hotel, famously used during the war for briefings. Spend the afternoon exploring the city’s culinary traditions with a choice of several included excursions. (b,r)

Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon)
Day 5
Explore the parts of the city you are most interested in with an included excursion of your choice. You may board a river boat to visit the astonishing Cu Chi Tunnels—a 75-mile underground complex built by Viet Cong that stretches from Saigon to the Cambodian border. Another option will be to embark on the “Ho Chi Minh City Past & Present” bus tour, which will take you to Chinatown, the Thien Hau pagoda, Cha Tam church, the Fine Arts Museum, and New Thu Thiem Bridge. You will also see the Marou Chocolate house and popular Thao Dien District. Board the ship this evening and enjoy traditional folklore and instrument performances. (b,d)

Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon)
Day 6
Begin your day with the “Good Morning Saigon” excursion to see locals doing their exercises in Tao Dan park, the Su Thien Chieu monument, and local markets. Sip a Vietnamese coffee or try Pho noodles before embarking the ship. Enjoy lunch on board and then cruise the coast of Vietnam. Special guest speaker Phan Thi Kim Phuc will present a “Lessons of Life” lecture and discuss the iconic “Napalm Girl” photo that was taken of her in 1972. Jim Laurie, an acclaimed journalist who saw the fall of Saigon when covering the Vietnam War, will also speak on board this evening. (b,l,r,d)

Cruising The South China Sea
Day 7
Savor a day at sea as Vietnam’s natural landscapes unfold. (b,l,d)

Da Nang/Hoi An
Day 8
Surrounded by the Marble Mountains and clear-blue waters, coastal Da Nang is known for its sandy beaches, forested hillsides, and food culture. Prior to the 14th century, nearby Hoi An was the commercial capital of the Cham Empire and a strategic global port. This captivating UNESCO World Heritage Site preserves more than 800 buildings from the 15th to 19th century that emanate a timeless, mystical aura. You may opt to take an included excursion or enjoy time at leisure. (b,d)

Chan May
Day 9
See breathtaking views of the coastline as you cruise from Da Nang to...
Chan May. The countryside awaits in Chan May as you experience a small boat cruise down the Perfume River and a scenic drive to the 19th-century Tomb of Tu Duc—one of the most impressive of the royal mausoleums, designed by Emperor Tu Duc himself during the Nguyen dynasty. (b,l,d)

Chan May/Huế
Day 10
The UNESCO World Heritage Site of Huế, located on the banks of the Perfume River, was the Imperial City of the Nguyen kings from 1601 to 1945. Drive from Chan May to explore its Imperial Citadel, the Noon Gate, and Thai Hoa Palace. See the Imperial Enclosure of the emperor’s residence, palaces, temples, and state buildings and the Purple Forbidden City, a citadel within a citadel formerly reserved for the royalty of the Nguyen Dynasty. Visit the 17th-century Thien Mu Pagoda, one of the holiest in Vietnam. (b,l,d)

Cruising the South China Sea
Day 11
Enjoy a day at sea, surrounded by majestic scenery, and attend lectures featuring Phuc and Laurie. (b,l,r,d)

Ha Long Bay/Hanoi
Day 12
Board a traditional Vietnamese junk for a private cruise and experience the ethereal beauty of Ha Long Bay, the “Bay of the Descending Dragon.” This UNESCO World Heritage Site is characterized by a seascape of over 1,600 emerald green pinnacles that soar from the bay’s tranquil waters. Cruise between limestone islands with wave-eroded caves and walk among the tapering stalactites and stalagmites in the natural grottoes of Thien Cung, the Heavenly Palace Cave. This evening, check into the 5-star Sofitel Legend Metropole. (b,l)

Hanoi
Day 13
The undeniable charm of this enigmatic capital city resides in its time-honored rituals and compelling fusion of Vietnamese, Chinese, and French-colonial influences. A morning tour takes you past Hoan Kiem Lake—the mythical Lake of the Restored Sword—where a red wooden bridge leads to the jewel box Ngoc Son Pagoda. Walk among the 36 streets of the 13th-century Old Quarter, named after guilds formed in the Middle Ages. Visit the Hoa Lo Prison Museum, or “Hanoi Hilton,” where American pilots, including late Senator John McCain, were held as prisoners during the Vietnam War. Enjoy lunch on your own before joining an afternoon tour of the UNESCO-designated Central Sector of the Imperial Citadel of Thang Long—built in the 11th century by the Ly Viet Dynasty. Proceed to Ba Dinh Square, where the revered father of the nation lies in state in the granite Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum. Starkly juxtaposed against the Beaux Arts-style Presidential Palace, Ho Chi Minh’s modest two-room stil house where he lived from 1958 until 1969, was built to reinforce the revolutionary leader’s image as a “man of the people.” Walk past this landmark to the 11th-century One Pillar Pagoda, one of Vietnam’s most iconic temples. Visit the Temple of Literature, a Confucian sanctuary and paradigm of traditional Vietnamese architecture. Attend a special event this evening. (b,r,d)

Hanoi/Depart for home city
Day 14
Transfer to the airport for your flight to your home city, crossing the International Date Line. (b)
Le Jacques Cartier

Join us aboard this exclusively chartered, 5-star small ship, combining revolutionary design and a new standard of luxury for unparalleled cruising. Each of the 92 staterooms and suites (up to 484 square feet) features a private balcony. All accommodations include individual climate control, two twin beds or one queen bed, a private bathroom with shower, and luxury hotel-style amenities. Complimentary alcoholic and nonalcoholic beverages are available throughout the cruise. All meals on board the ship are included.

2024 DEPARTURE DATE: February 22 to March 6 (Tour Begins: February 24)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>LAND/Cruise Rates</th>
<th>Extended Booking Rate through Jan. 22, 2024</th>
<th>Rates after Jan. 22, 2024</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Deluxe stateroom with a picture window, single door onto private, partial-wall balcony. Deck 3, midship. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$7,195</td>
<td>$7,995</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, <strong>private balcony</strong>. Deck 4, midship.</td>
<td>$7,645</td>
<td>$8,495</td>
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<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, <strong>private balcony</strong>. Deck 5, midship and aft.</td>
<td>$8,095</td>
<td>$8,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Prestige stateroom with sliding glass door, <strong>private balcony</strong>. Deck 6, midship and aft.</td>
<td>$8,545</td>
<td>$9,495</td>
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<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, <strong>private balcony</strong>. Deck 3, midship. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$8,995</td>
<td>$9,995</td>
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<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, <strong>private balcony</strong>. Deck 4, midship. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$9,715</td>
<td>$10,795</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, <strong>private balcony</strong>. Deck 5, midship.</td>
<td>$10,615</td>
<td>$11,795</td>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Deluxe suite with sliding glass door, <strong>private balcony</strong>. Deck 6, midship.</td>
<td>$11,515</td>
<td>$12,795</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prestige Suite II</strong></td>
<td>Two-room suite, expansive sliding glass door, <strong>larger private balcony</strong>, two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. Deck 5, midship. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$12,415</td>
<td>$13,795</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Prestige Suite I</strong></td>
<td>Two-room suite, expansive sliding glass door, <strong>larger private balcony</strong>, two bathrooms, two closets, large sitting area with sofa. Deck 6, midship. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$13,765</td>
<td>$15,295</td>
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<td><strong>Privilege Suite</strong></td>
<td>Large suite with expansive sliding glass door, <strong>larger private balcony</strong>, sitting area with sofa. Decks 5 and 6, aft. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$14,215</td>
<td>$15,795</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Grand Deluxe Suite</strong></td>
<td>Extra-large, one-bedroom suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, <strong>spacious private terrace</strong>, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. Deck 6, aft. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$15,115</td>
<td>$16,795</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Owner's Suite</strong></td>
<td>Extra-large, one-bedroom suite and separate sitting room with sofa, expansive sliding glass door, <strong>spacious private terrace</strong> with outdoor Jacuzzi, full bathroom with tub and separate shower, additional half bath. Deck 5, aft. (limited availability)</td>
<td>$16,015</td>
<td>$17,795</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**BONUS SAVINGS!** Pay in full at the time of booking to receive additional savings. Bookings made inside 121 days prior to departure are not eligible for this discount. Please call for details.

Single supplements apply to categories 6, 7 & 8 at 160% of the per person double price and are subject to availability.

Single price for all other cabin categories is at 200%.

Port taxes are an additional $505 per person. Customers will be notified of any fuel surcharge fee prior to final payment. This fee will then be charged and collected by the vessel operating company while on board. Deck plans available upon request.

To secure your spot, call Commonwealth Club Travel at 415-597-6720 or email us at travel@commonwealthclub.org

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Terms & Conditions are available at gohagantravel.com/terms/
This three-night pre-tour extension in Siem Reap immerses you in the rich culture and traditions of Cambodia and the Siem Reap province with a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to enjoy a private dinner at Kravan Temple in UNESCO World Heritage-designated Angkor Wat. Begin your exploration of this storied region with a visit to the royal walled city of Angkor Thom, the last capital of the Khmer Empire. Tour the area surrounding its UNESCO-designated complex, including the Terrace of the Elephants, Terrace of the Leper King, and Royal Palace. Nearby, visit UNESCO-inscribed Ta Prohm, a 12th-century Buddhist temple that remains largely untouched by man. Here, the dynamic life cycle between nature and humanity provides the basis for Ta Prohm’s legendary “lost city” tales. Continue your discovery with a tour of the 12th-century Temple of Angkor Wat, the largest religious structure in the world which stands in testament to the centuries-long grandeur of the prosperous Khmer Empire. As darkness falls later that evening, you will head back into the temple complex for a dinner to remember. After being greeted by a traditional Chayam dance, you will dine under the stars with full table service among its famous temples with entertainment into the night. Enjoy luxury accommodations at the 5-star Sofitel Angkor Wat.

Price per person, based on double occupancy: $1,535
Price per person, based on single occupancy: $1,975

Further details will be provided with your reservation confirmation.
SPECIAL SAVINGS! Extended Booking up to $3,560 per couple, plus receive Bonus Savings if you pay in full at the time of booking! Call for details.

Commonwealth Club Travel
110 The Embarcadero
San Francisco, CA 94105
(415) 597-6720 www.commonwealthclub.org/travel

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