

TRAVEL NEWS

Newsletter of exciting travel offers from Macleay Valley Travel

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Vietnam — The Second Time Around

Most of the clients we take to Vietnam (99%) come back wrapped in this destination, and many have expressed an interest in revisiting this fascinating country.

For the benefit of these people, we have an "off the beaten track" tour visiting some places not seen by many tourists, such as the Sapa hill tribe and rice terrace area, historical Dien Bien Phu where one of history's most important battles took place in 1952, the demilitarised zone between north and south Vietnam, the central tablelands near the Cambodian border, the incredibly fertile

Mekong delta area and a wonderful boat trip on the Mekong River into Cambodia.

The tour is completed with three days inspecting the magnificent Angkor Wat temple complex.

The International flights are with Singapore Airlines and the tour departs from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane on June 11, 2009. Details are:

Vietnam and Cambodia Adventure Tour

This wonderful 24-day conducted tour for \$3,885 per person twin share goes off the

usual tourist track and includes:

- ★ Air fares from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane into Hanoi and out of Siem Reap with Singapore Airlines, and two domestic flights within Asia.
- ★ An 18-day Vietnam tour by coach, air and train visiting the Sapa hill tribe area, the former demilitarised zone, the central tablelands and the Mekong delta.
- ★ A four-day tour of Cambodia visiting Phnom Penh and the wonderful World Heritage Angkor Wat complex.
- ★ A one-day stopover in Singapore.
- ★ Good three to four-star accommodation, or the best available in isolated areas.
- ★ All transport including the boat on the Mekong River between Chau Doc in Vietnam and Phnom Penh.
- ★ Entrance fees to many attractions.
- ★ Full breakfast daily plus most other meals.
- ★ Australian tour leader and Vietnam and Cambodian tour guides.

For a single room, there will be an extra charge of \$975. Because of the special nature of this tour, we plan to limit numbers to a maximum of 24.

It's Not Too Late!

There are still a limited number of seats available on the following tours:

Thailand & Chiang Mai Floral Festival: Two-week tours for \$2,155. The tour departing Feb 2 is full, but the Feb. 4 tour is available.

Vietnam Overland Tours: We now have five of these tours. Only two seats available on Jan. 26 departure (\$3,195) but good availability for tours departing Feb 16 (\$3,195); March 17 (\$3,295); May 8 and May 29 (\$3,395).

South America with Rio at Carnivale: Three week tour departing Feb. 11 \$9,985.

Laos, North Vietnam & Golden Triangle: Three week tour departing Feb 14 \$3,575.

Italy with Korean stopover: Three week tour departing Feb 14 \$5,385.

Philippines with Taiwan stopover: 13-day tour departing Feb 26 \$2,475.

Taiwan & Hong Kong: 16-day tour departing March 2, \$3,270.

Spain, Portugal & Morocco: 24-day tour departing March 4, \$5,565.

South America: 29-day tour departing March 4, \$10,510.

Vietnam Discovery: 22-day tour departing March 7, \$3,595 (five seats only available).

Thailand Mountains & Beaches: 16-day tour departing March 16, \$2,295 (six seats only).

China Holiday Special: 12-day tour departing March 22, \$2,785.

Greece & Greek Islands: 20-day tour departing March 24, \$4,495.

Japan & Taiwan Cherry Blossom: 15-day tour departing March 24, \$5,290 (only four seats available).

Japan Cherry Blossom: Two week tour departing March 28, \$5,475.

Laos, Cambodia & Golden Triangle: 18-day tour departing March 29, \$3,595.

India's Nagaland, Assam & Darjeeling: 18-day tour departing March 30, \$5,295.

Turkey with Anzac Day at Gallipoli: 19-day tour departing April 12, \$4,865.

Galapagos Islands, The Amazon, Easter Island & Tahiti: 24-day tour departing April 16, \$10,605 (only two seats left).

Western Canada, Canadian Rockies with Alaskan Cruise: 23-day tour departing May 11, \$5,895.

STOP PRESS: We are in the process of completing details of the following tours: *Around Thailand, two week tours for \$2,195 departing May 20, July 29 and September 9; North Thailand and Laos, two-week tours departing July 29 and September 9; Scandinavia & The Arctic Circle, three weeks, departing August 16, \$6,295; Russian Waterways Tour departing late August; China, Yangtze cruise with Panda Research centre, departing August 16.*

Australian Tours:

We are presently investigating having our first Australian tours for the second half of 2009.

We are considering Norfolk Island and also a tour on the Ghan Railway between Darwin and Adelaide.

If either tour could be of interest to you, let us know and we will send you details when completed.

NOTE: Our prices do not include airport taxes and levies. This is because we have no control over these and airlines may alter them at any time up until the tickets are paid for and issued.

TWIN SHARING: All our tour prices are quoted per person twin share. If you don't have someone to twin share with, but wish to travel at twin share rates, we will do our best to match you up with someone else in the same situation, but this is not guaranteed.

Vietnam Explorer Tour

**15-day Conducted Tour for only \$2,095
per person twin share**



Represents incredible value as the price covers all of the following:

- ★ Return air fares from Sydney and Melbourne into Saigon plus three flights within Vietnam with Vietnam Airlines.
- ★ There will be four nights in bustling Saigon, four nights in historic Hoi An, four nights in beautiful Hanoi, the "Paris of the East" and one night in Halong Bay.
- ★ Good three-star accommodation. The hotel rooms are all air conditioned and have their own bathroom and toilet.
- ★ Breakfast daily plus three lunches and two dinners.
- ★ All transfers between the airports and hotels.
- ★ City tours in Saigon and Hanoi.
- ★ Service of an Australian tour leader plus Vietnamese tour guides.
- ★ A full day boat cruise of amazing Halong Bay, one of Vietnam's spectacular World Heritage sites.

There will be a full program of optional half-day and full-day tours.

If you require a single room, there will be an additional cost of \$485.

There is an optional three day and two night extension to Angkor Wat (Cambodia) for an additional \$690 twin share or \$785 single room.

Departs Sydney March 4 and returns March 18, 2009

**There will be another tour departing May 27
for \$2,195 twin share**

China Adventure

**Two week Conducted Tour (visit Tibet by the New Train)
for only \$4,945 per person twin share**

Here is incredible value as the price covers all of the following:

- ★ Air fares from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Shanghai return with Air China plus four flights within China.
- ★ A full day and night on the exciting and spectacular train trip "across the roof of the world" on the new railway between Xining and Lhasa.
- ★ Five nights in mysterious Lhasa, capital of Tibet, with extensive touring.
- ★ You will also visit Xining, Beijing, Xian and the Terra-Cotta Warriors.
- ★ Good accommodation, mainly four-star.
- ★ Most meals.
- ★ All transfers and transport within China.
- ★ Services of Chinese tour guides, and if there are 12 or more tour members, there will be an Australian tour leader.



For a single room, there is an additional cost of \$885.

Departs Australia May 8, returning May 21, 2009

Cossack Explorer to Russia, Scandinavia, Poland & Berlin



**23-day Tour for \$6,985
per person twin share**

This tour represents good value as all the following are included in the price:

- ★ Air fares with Lufthansa, Singapore Airlines and Qantas from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane into Copenhagen and out of Berlin.
- ★ A 16-day tour of Scandinavia, Russia, Belarus, Poland and Berlin by coach, boat and train.
- ★ A two-day stopover in Singapore on the way over.
- ★ A two-day stopover in Hong Kong on the way home.
- ★ Good accommodation, mainly three to four-star.
- ★ Many meals.
- ★ Entrance fees to many attractions.
- ★ All transport.
- ★ Services of local tour guides, and if there are 12 or more tour participants there will be an Australian tour leader.

For a single room, there is an additional cost of \$1,575.

This is a fabulous tour visiting these beautiful North European countries in late Spring.

Departs Australia on May 6 and returns May 28, 2009

Keukenhof Tulip Fields & Chelsea Flower Show plus Western Europe Tour

**23-day Conducted Tour for only \$5,485
per person twin share**

Real value for a tour of this magnitude because all of the following are included:

- ★ Return air fares from Brisbane and Sydney into Amsterdam with China Airlines plus a flight from London to Amsterdam.
- ★ Three days in Amsterdam with a day inspecting the Keukenhof Tulip Fields.
- ★ Four days in London with a day at the Chelsea Flower Show.
- ★ 12-day tour of Western Europe.
- ★ Two day stopover in Bangkok.
- ★ Good accommodation, mainly three to three and a half star.
- ★ Some meals.
- ★ Entrance fees to many attractions.
- ★ Services of local tour guides and if there are 12 or more participants, an Australian tour leader.



For a single room, there is an extra charge of \$1,290.

There will be connecting flights between Melbourne and Sydney for an extra \$80 per person plus airport taxes each way.

This is a wonderful opportunity to visit two of the world's most spectacular events for garden lovers — Keukenhof and Chelsea.

**Tour departs Sydney May 2 and
Brisbane May 3, 2009**

Scandinavia with Thailand Stopover

19-day Conducted Tour for only \$4,795 per person twin share



Wonderful value as the price includes all of the following:

- ★ Return air fares from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Copenhagen with Thai Airways.
- ★ A 12-day tour of Denmark, Sweden and Norway, seeing these countries in the lush beauty of early Summer.
- ★ One-day stopover in Bangkok.
- ★ Five days in a resort hotel on the Gulf of Siam.
- ★ Good accommodation, mainly three to three and a half star.
- ★ Breakfast daily, plus many other meals.
- ★ All transfers and transport.
- ★ Entrance fees to many attractions.
- ★ Service of tour guides in Scandinavia and in Thailand there will be an Australian tour leader.

For persons requiring a single room, there is an extra charge of \$785.

Departs Australia May 24 and returns June 11, 2009

British Isles with Chelsea Flower Show

Four Week Conducted Tour for only \$6,895 per person twin share

Great value for an expensive destination such as Britain because all the following are included:

- ★ Return air fares from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane into London with Malaysian Airlines.
- ★ A three week in depth tour of England, Ireland, Scotland and Wales.
- ★ Three days in London, including a full day at the wonderful Chelsea Flower Show.
- ★ A two-day stopover in Kuala Lumpur with day tours included.
- ★ Good accommodation, mainly three to four star.
- ★ Many meals.
- ★ All transport and transfers.
- ★ Services of an Australian tour leader as well as British and Malaysian tour guides.



For a single room, there will be an extra cost of \$1,385, however, with this tour, we guarantee twin share for everyone who requires it.

Tour departs Australia May 17, 2009

Owner's Indulgence Tour

18-day Luxury Thailand & South Vietnam Tour for only \$3,985 per person twin share

Superb tour mainly visiting the three favourite places in the world of Alan Davies, owner of Macleay Valley Travel.

These places are Hua Hin and Chiang Mai in Thailand and beautiful Dalat in Vietnam. The tour will also be staying at the superb Sofitel Centra in Hua Hin and the character-filled Sofitel Palace in Dalat.

The tour also visits other fascinating places such as scenically beautiful Mae Hong Son in the border area of North Thailand and Burma, the River Kwai and Hell Fire Pass, Nha Trang, Vietnam's number one beach resort and the exciting and superb shopping cities of Bangkok and Saigon. All the following are included:

- ★ Air fare with Thai International from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane into Bangkok then to Chiang Mai, then Mae Hong Son, back to Chiang Mai, then Bangkok to Saigon and Saigon back to Australia.
- ★ Superb four to five star accommodation throughout.
- ★ A nine-day coach and air tour of Thailand and a seven-day coach tour of South Vietnam.
- ★ Most meals.
- ★ All entrance fees.
- ★ All transport and transfers.
- ★ Services of highly experienced tour guides in Thailand and Vietnam as well as an Australian tour leader.

As this is a special tour, numbers are limited to 25. For a single room, there would be an extra charge of \$1,685.

Tour departs Australia April 29 and returns May 17, 2009

Thailand & Angkor Wat

Two Week Conducted Tour for only \$2,585 per person twin share

This competitively priced tour covers all of the following:

- ★ Return air fares from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Bangkok with Thai International and from Bangkok to Siem Reap with Bangkok Airways.
- ★ A three-day tour of awe-inspiring Angkor Wat, with all admission fees and accommodation in the three and a half star Somadevi Angkor Hotel.
- ★ Three nights at the Manhattan Hotel, Bangkok.
- ★ Seven nights accommodation at the Methavali Hotel a three and a half star beachfront resort hotel in Cha'am, one of the loveliest resort towns on the Gulf of Siam.
- ★ One night at the Felix Resort Hotel situated right beside the Bridge Over the River Kwai, plus a tour to see the famous Tiger Temple where monks handle and care for these wild animals.
- ★ All transport and transfers.
- ★ Full breakfast daily, plus all meals in Cambodia.
- ★ Service of an experienced Australian tour leader as well as Thai and Cambodian tour guides.



If you require a single room, there is an additional cost of \$525.

There will be three of these tours in 2009 departing May 20, July 29 and September 9

Burma (Myanmar)

**Two Week Conducted Tour for only \$2,995
per person twin share**

This wonderful price for a tour to exciting, mysterious Burma (Myanmar) covers all of the following:

- ★ Return air fares from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Rangoon with Thai International, one of the world's best airlines, and three domestic flights within Burma.
- ★ A 12-day tour of Burma by coach, plane and boat. Although this is one of the world's poorest countries, it is rich in culture with lovely, friendly people and magnificent scenery.
- ★ A two-night stopover in Bangkok.
- ★ Full breakfast daily in Bangkok and Rangoon with all meals supplied outside these two cities.
- ★ All transfers and transport.
- ★ Good accommodation, mainly three to four star.
- ★ Service of Burmese and Thai tour guides and also an Australian tour leader for the flights between Sydney and Bangkok and for the stay in Bangkok.



A single room carries an extra cost of \$425.

NOTE: Burma is very much a third world country, so not everything always goes to plan. Also some of the roads are quite rough, so road travel can take longer than expected.

**There will be three tours in 2009 departing: May 20,
July 29 & September 9**

Thailand at Leisure

**Two Week Conducted Tour for only \$1,695
per person twin share**

Great value tours to Thailand with all the following included:

- ★ Return air fares from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Bangkok with Thai International, one of the world's best airlines.
- ★ Five nights' accommodation at the Manhattan Hotel, Bangkok, a three star centrally situated hotel in the popular Sukhumvit shopping and entertainment area.
- ★ Seven nights accommodation at the Methavali Hotel, in Cha'am, the lovely resort town on the Gulf of Siam. Cha'am is the favourite holiday resort for the Thai people. The hotel is a lovely three and a half star beachfront resort hotel.
- ★ One night at the four star Felix Resort Hotel situated right beside the Bridge over the River Kwai, plus a tour to see the famous Tiger Temple, where monks handle and care for these wild animals.
- ★ Full breakfast daily with a great choice of Western and Thai food, two lunches and a farewell dinner.
- ★ All transfers and transport.
- ★ Services of an experienced Australian tour leader and Thai tour guide.



Most days there will be a choice of optional day tours, and tour participants are free to do as much or as little as they like with the group. This makes these tours suitable even for people who don't particularly like group tours, as there is no regimentation.

For a single room, there is an extra charge of \$485.

**There will be three tours in 2009 departing: May 20,
July 29 and September 9**

Trans American Adventure

**26-day Conducted Tour for only \$6,285
per person twin share**

This is superb value for a tour of this magnitude as all of the following are included:

- ★ Return air fares from Sydney and Brisbane into New York and out of Los Angeles with China Airlines, Taiwan's national airline.
- ★ A wonderful 22-day coach tour right across the USA from east to west visiting all the most interesting places in this extraordinary country.
- ★ A two-day stopover in Taiwan.
- ★ Good accommodation, mainly three to four star.
- ★ Some meals.
- ★ All transport and transfers.
- ★ Services of American and Taiwanese tour guides as well as an Australian tour leader.



For anyone requiring a single room, there is an extra charge of \$1,975. Melbourne passengers: There will be connecting flights to Sydney for an extra \$140 return, plus tax.

**Departs Brisbane on May 17 returning June 12, 2009
Departs Sydney on May 18 returning June 13, 2009**

New Zealand Panorama Tour

**16-day Conducted Tour for only \$3,590
per person twin share**

Superb value tour which includes all of the following features:

- ★ Air fares with Air NZ into Auckland and out of Christchurch.
- ★ A 15-day coach, rail and boat tour of both north and south islands of New Zealand, visiting most of the outstanding places in this beautiful country.
- ★ Services of an experienced New Zealand tour director, and if there are 16 or more tour participants, there will be an Australian tour leader.
- ★ Excellent accommodation, mainly three to four star.
- ★ Many meals.
- ★ Entrance fees to many attractions.
- ★ All transport and transfers within New Zealand.

For a single room, there is an extra charge of \$915.



**Tour departs Australia May 14 and
returns May 29, 2009**

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We try harder to find you the best travel deal!