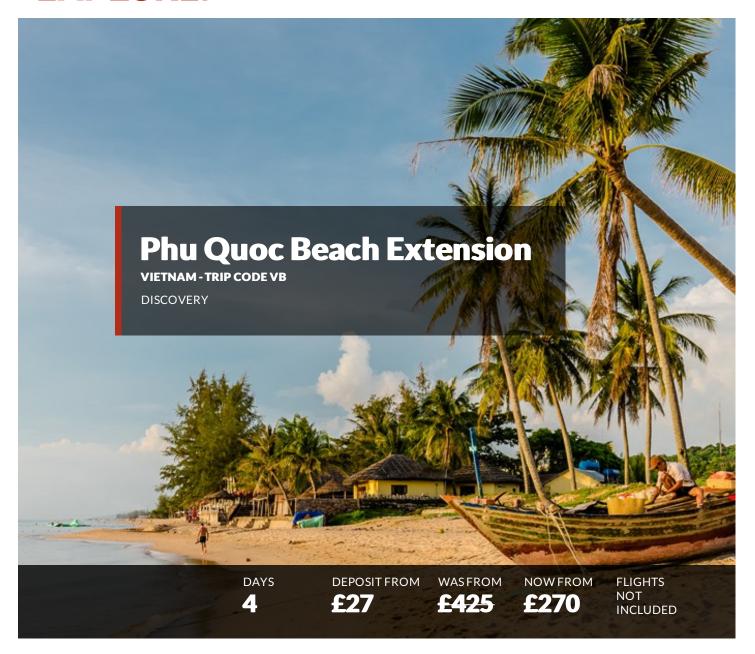
# **EXPLORE!**



# Why book this trip?

Why not extend your trip to Indochina with three nights on the tropical white sand beaches of Phu Quoc Island? Nestled in the warm waters of the Gulf of Thailand this Vietnamese island is 90% national park, a thick-rainforest interior framed by idyllic white sand beaches. Easily accessible by a short flight from Hanoi, Siem Reap or Ho Chi Minh City, this is a great way to unwind after an action-packed trip in Indochina.



MEALS
Breakfast: 3



TRIP STAFF None



TRANSPORT
Bus
Flight



ACCOMMODATION
3 nights standard
hotel



TRIP PACE Relaxed

# **Itinerary**

Itineraries on some departure dates may differ, please select the itinerary that you wish to explore.

#### DAY 1 - Fly from Hanoi to Phu Quoc Island and transfer to the hotel

Transfer to the airport in Hanoi and take the short flight to Phu Quoc Island. Upon arrival you will be met by the hotel shuttle service where you will be transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Your hotel has a large stretch of private beach you can relax upon, a large outdoor swimming pool to enjoy, or you could take advantage of some of the hotel's facilities like its wellness spa. For those that wish to trade relaxation for exploration, there are a number of optional excursions that can be booked directly with the hotel.

This afternoon you might like to take an optional sunset cruise out from Duong Dong harbour where you can try your hand at some squid fishing. You can enjoy your catch as a fresh seafood dinner is prepared aboard the boat, and if you are adventurous you might like to try the local delicacy - squid porridge!

Please note: These activities are booked and paid for directly with the hotel and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

The excursions and/or activities mentioned below are usually available and are arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices are quoted correct as of the date these trip notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations.



ACCOMMODATION:
Amarin Resort and Spa (or similar)

**Grade: Standard Hotel** 



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



#### DAY 2 - Free day at leisure to relax by the beach. Optional snorkelling trip

Today has been left free to relax with no planned activities.

Instead of relaxing, it is possible to book trips to explore the north of the island; you could explore the northern coastline by boat, with opportunities to snorkel in the warm waters of Turtle & Fingernail islands, or you could turn inland and kayak up the Cua Can River with a chance to visit a pepper garden and spot birds in the forest. More details on these excursions are available from the hotel's reception.



ACCOMMODATION:
Amarin Resort and Spa (or similar)

**Grade: Standard Hotel** 



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

#### DAY 3 - Another free day to relax by the beach. Optional visit to 'Coconut Prison'

Today is another free day to relax or enjoy further activities.

If you are interested in the Vietnam War or Indochinese history, it is worth visiting the museum at the so-called 'Coconut Prison'. Phu Quoc prison was originally set up by the French to imprison Vietnamese nationalists during the Indochinese wars, but in 1967 it was rebuilt to house communist prisoners from Northern Vietnam. These prisoners were subjected to overcrowding, brutal conditions and medieval

torture methods in a way to project the strength of Southern Vietnam and extract information about the North. It is a tough and harrowing visit, but provides a very real insight into the prison at that time.



**ACCOMMODATION:** 

Amarin Resort and Spa (or similar)

**Grade: Standard Hotel** 



SINGLE ROOM AVAILABLE



SWIMMING POOL AVAILABLE



MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST

#### **DAY 4 - Trip ends in Phu Quoc**

Today you will be transferred to the airport by hotel shuttle, where your trip ends.



**MEALS PROVIDED: BREAKFAST** 

# **Trip information**

**Country information** 

**Vietnam** 

#### Climate

As Vietnam is a long, narrow country from north to south climate conditions vary considerably. The climate can be divided into three distinct patterns between the north, central and south regions. The climate in the north is generally humid and subtropical, although the winter months from November to March can be colder with temperatures from 10 - 15 degrees. Summer months, May to September can be quite hot with temperatures from 30 - 35 degrees. Meanwhile south Vietnam enjoys a tropical climate all year round, with little variation throughout the year (around 27 - 32 degrees), however May to November is the rainy season when short, heavy downpours are quite frequent. Central Vietnam lies somewhere in between. The coastal strip is usually dry and hotter from April to October while November to March is wetter and cooler. A light rain jacket and small umbrella are recommended year round.

Time difference to GMT	Plugs	Religion
+7	2 Pin Round	Mahayana Buddhism, Taoism and Confucianism
Language		
Vietnamese		

#### **Budgeting and packing**

## **Optional activities**

The following excursions and/or activities are usually available and may be arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on a per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices quoted are correct as of the date these tour notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations. Please note: These activities are booked and paid for direct with the supplier and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

Sunset Cruise and Squid Fishing (Half day including dinner): \$15 USD Snorkelling Northern Phu Quoc (Full day including lunch): \$17 USD Snorkelling Southern Phu Quoc (Full day including lunch): \$17 USD Kayaking on Cua Can River (Full day including lunch): \$25 USD

Tour of Southern Phu Quoc including prison and Ham Ninh fishing village (Full day including lunch): \$21 USD

Please note: These activities are booked and paid for directly with the hotel and do not form part of your Explore holiday contract.

The excursions and/or activities mentioned below are usually available and are arranged locally. Estimated costs are provided below for guidance only, are on per person basis unless shown otherwise, and may depend on the number of participants. Prices are quoted correct as of the date these trip notes were originally issued but may change at any time due to currency fluctuations.

# **Clothing**

Only lightweight clothing is needed.

#### **Footwear**

Comfortable shoes and sandals.

## Luggage

20kg

#### **Vietnam**

#### Food and drink

The costs for meals may vary depending upon location, type of restaurant and number of courses eaten and so the prices given are an average guide. Local restaurants located off the beaten track may be less expensive, whereas an upmarket restaurant located in the centre of a major city may charge more.

£9 £2.00 - 4.00 £0.5

# Foreign Exchange

#### Local currency

Dong.

#### **Recommended Currency For Exchange**

Carry your money in US\$ Dollars cash. You can also take GBP but US\$ are easier to exchange. (Dollar bills can be used in some hotels and shops; change is often given in local currency).

#### Where To Exchange

Most towns.

#### **ATM Availability**

There are ATMs virtually everywhere in Vietnam and in Cambodia, though we also recommend bringing cash.

#### **Credit Card Acceptance**

Credit card's are widely accepted throughout Vietnam

#### **Travellers Cheques**

Travellers cheques are not recommended as they can be difficult to exchange

#### **Transport, Accommodation & Meals**

# **Transport Information**

Bus, Flight

#### **Accommodation notes**

The price of the trip is based on a twin-room at the Amarin Resort in Phu Quoc. For single travellers there is a mandatory solo supplement payable to secure your own room for private use. Please note that

#### **Essential Information**

#### **FCO Advice**

We strongly recommend that you check your government's travel advisory for up-to-date information and advice about your destination: safety and security, entry requirements, health, local laws and customs. For UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office advice click here.

For more information from Explore about travel advice, click here

#### Under 18 immigration guidance

Please note that some countries require proof of parental consent when travelling overseas with under 18s. Please check requirements with the relevant embassy or consular office well in advance of travel if this applies to your party.

#### **Price Guarantee**

Once your booking has been confirmed we guarantee the price will not increase, whatever the circumstances. Before booking please ensure you have read our important tour pricing information. Booking Conditions

### **Visa and Passport Information**

Vietnam: Until 30th June 2021 'British Citizen' passport holders can visit Vietnam for up to 15 days without a visa. A visa will be required if you enter after this date or if you wish to re-enter within 30 days of your departure.

For visits of up to 30 days, you can get an e-visa before you travel from https://evisa.xuatnhapcanh.gov.vn/

For visits of longer than 30 days you must get a visa from the nearest Vietnamese embassy before travelling to Vietnam. If you want to make a second visit within 30 days of leaving Vietnam, you'll need to get a multiple entry visa to re-enter.

Please note that it is a pre-requisite for entry into Vietnam that your passport is valid for a minimum of 6 months from your date of entry

All visa related issues including information for other nationalities should be confirmed with the relevant Embassy prior to departure.

If you do require assistance in obtaining a visa then you may consider applying through Explore's recommended visa service in the UK, Travcour. See www.travcour.com to download the relevant visa application for your trip, if applicable (UK citizens only), along with details of how to apply for your visa through Travcour. The Team at Travcour will be happy to answer specific questions relating to visa applications, please call them directly on 0208 5431846.

It is your responsibility to ensure that you are in possession of a full passport, with the correct validity

for your chosen destination.

### **Booking conditions**

Before booking your Explore trip, please ensure that you read both our Essential Information and Booking Conditions.

#### **Transfers**

Find out more about Trip Transfer Terms and Conditions before you book.

#### Booking a land only package with Explore

Customers who have chosen to book on the 'Land Only' arrangements of our tour, please ensure that you have checked your tour specific 'Joining Instructions' prior to booking your own travel arrangements. Your joining instructions can be found below in the dates and prices information.

You may also be eligible for the Free Explore Transfer.

#### **Joining Tour Abroad**

Customers booked on the 'Land Only' arrangements will now receive a Free Transfer, provided you arrive and depart on the tour only itinerary start and end dates. The transfers will be from the Explore designated airport or train station to the joining point of your tour, and then back from the ending point to the designated airport or train station. The exception to this rule is customers who are booked on a tour where the joining and ending point is at the designated airport or train station.

Free transfers are not available for Self-Guided, Polar, Tailormade or Tours for Churches customers. If you are not eligible for the Free Transfer then you will need to make your own way through to the joining and ending point. On a majority of our tours Explore will be able to provide a private transfer at an additional cost. Please ask for a quote at the time of booking.

For more information regarding the Explore Free Transfer click here

#### Insurance

It is a condition of booking with Explore that you have adequate valid travel insurance. It is your responsibility to arrange appropriate travel insurance and ensure you have read and understood the full terms and conditions of your travel insurance policy to ensure that you are covered for all activities you intend to undertake whilst on the tour, including all optional activities. Your Insurance Policy must fully cover you for medical expenses and emergency repatriation to your home country. Please ensure your policy includes medical emergency helicopter evacuation in the event of illness or injury and covers the entire duration of your holiday. If you are trekking at altitude please ensure that there is no upper altitude limit which may limit or exclude cover for your trip. The cost of many of our Polar Voyages will exceed the capped amount covered by standard insurance premiums and you will be required to pay an additional premium to cover the full value of your trip. Please ensure that you are covered for the full amount of your holiday cost, as insufficient cover could invalidate a claim under the policy. Medical and repatriation insurance cover is not mandatory for UK residents who are travelling on trips within the United Kingdom.

Read more information about what travel insurance is required.

# Flight information

Explore offers a wide range of flexible flying options to make joining and leaving our trips easy. Read more about them here.

#### **Flight Information**

You are able to book this tour on a 'land only' basis or as a 'flight inclusive' package. Your flight inclusive package will be fully protected by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) ATOL protection scheme.

#### Booking a flight inclusive package with Explore

We have a good selection of flights not only from London but from many regional airports around the UK allowing us to compare fares between scheduled carriers as well as low cost and charter airlines. Our dedicated flights team will match the best flight options to your arrival and departure airport.

On our website we display a UK flight inclusive package guide price which is generally based on a London departure. To avoid paying supplements or to secure your preferred flight option, we recommend booking as early as possible, especially for peak travel dates.

#### Vietnam

#### **Vaccinations**

Nothing compulsory, we recommend protection against malaria, typhoid, tetanus, diphtheria, polio and hepatitis A. Consult your travel clinic for latest advice on Malaria and Zika Virus. Although not compulsory travellers may also wish to immunise themselves against Japanese encephalitis. Please check the latest requirements with your travel clinic or doctor prior to departure. The above is not an exhaustive list. Further information regarding vaccinations and travel health advice can be found by following the NHS and NaTHNaC links at Explore Travel Health and from your local healthcare provider. Visa and vaccination requirements are subject to change and should be confirmed by you before travelling.

