

# **FAR EAST**



**EXPERIENCE** The mystique of the Orient **EXPLORE** Your taste buds with exotic cuisine **DISCOVER** The fascinating Oriental ports



www.thompsons.co.za

# **CULTURALLY EXOTIC**

# WHY FAR EAST WITH THOMPSONS?

For centuries, the mysteries of the Far East have enticed travellers to uncover the secrets of the Orient with its ancient history, fascinating cultures and traditions. The Far East promises a sensory overload of vivid colours, scented aromas, delectable cuisine, magnificent temples and friendly people. Explore a plethora of wonders and sights with Thompsons Holidays, from the breathtaking Marble Mountains of Da Nang in Vietnam and Shanghai's soaring skyscrapers to Singapore, home to the busiest harbour in the world.



# TRAVEL WITH CONFIDENCE WITH A GLOBAL COMPANY

With 40 years of trusted travel experience you will receive expert advice. No request is too large, no detail too small.

Thompsons Holidays is a division of Cullinan Holdings Group and a member of THE TRAVEL CORPORATION, a fourth generation family owned group.

Our financial stability is the key to a relaxed holiday.

#### UNRIVALLED VALUE FOR MONEY ON TRIED AND TESTED HOLIDAYS

As the largest South African tour operator, our greater buying power means you get the best deal on your holiday, unrivalled value for money and unexpected bonus offers.

#### WE ARE WITH YOU 24/7

With you all the way - our care line is your friend in an emergency.



# **KNOW BEFORE YOU GO**

- LANGUAGE: English is widely spoken.
- CURRENCY: US Dollars are also widely accepted.
- **VISA:** Enquire about visa requirements.
- TIME: Vietnam 5 Hours ahead of South Africa; China, Singapore, Hong Kong and Malaysia 6 Hours ahead of South Africa.
- WEATHER: Generally hot and humid. Northeast monsoon mild and pleasant (Nov Apr) / Southwest monsoon wet season (May to Oct).
- PLUG TYPE: Standard socket: UK-style 3-pin plug. International adaptor recommended. Standard voltage: 220-240 V.
- **TRAVEL INSURANCE:** For peace of mind, contact Thompsons for more info.











# VIETNAM - GENTLE OASIS

Vietnam epitomises the convergence of the old and the new. This fascinating country boasts incredibly varied landscapes, from mountains and uncharted forests to emerald terraced rice fields and deserted pristine beaches. The culture is as diverse as its landscapes; the population is comprised of almost 60 different ethnic groups. This cultural diversity is reflected

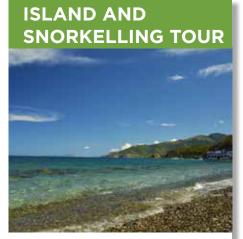
in the trading quarters, which are rich in indigenous crafts and showcase centuries-old mercantile influences. Ancient temples display distinctly Chinese influences and Hindu origins. The tree-lined boulevards and spectacular state buildings that grace the capital date from the French colonial period. Vietnamese cuisine also reflects the country's diversity. Delight in a culinary adventure with a host of local dishes paired with rice wine in local markets.

# **TOP SIGHTSEEING EXPERIENCES**



# HOI AN SUNSET CRUISE

oard a local river boat for a sunset cruise. You'll see the town's fishermen board their boats and head out to the Cua Dai Sea for a spot of night fishing. The boat will stop along the shore where you can try your hand at casting traditional fishing nets, a common fishing method still practised today. Also learn the art of paddling these unique Vietnamese round basket boats before enjoying a refreshing drink and a snack as the sun disappears below the horizon



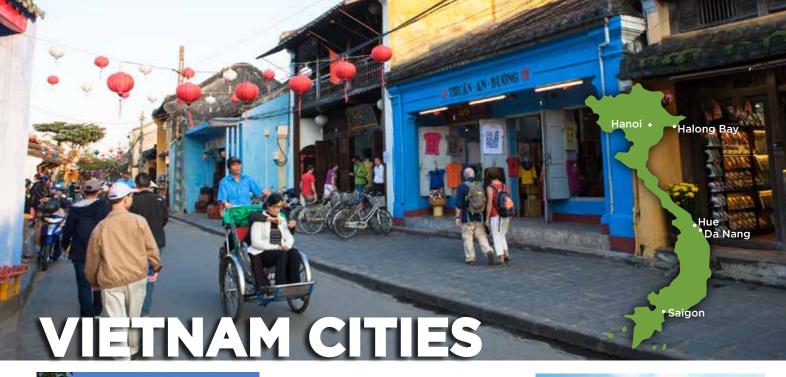
N ha Trang is renowned for its year-round sunny weather, turquoise water, and a white sandy beach that stretches the entire length of the city. Transfer to the pier and cruise to Mun (Ebony) Island, where you will enjoy snorkelling in the crystal clear waters of this protected maritime reserve, which is famous for its vivid coral and diverse marine life. Cruise to another island for lunch before making your way back to the pier and your hotel.



# SAIGON CITY HIGHLIGHTS

This exciting city tour takes in some of Saigon's most historic landmarks including Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office and the former Presidential Palace which was the headquarters of the Saigon Government during the American War. You continue to the War Remnants Museum for a vivid perspective of the American War through the eyes of the Vietnamese. Experience Saigon's famed street coffee culture and insights into the daily life of a Saigon resident.

THOMPSONS TIP: Pre-book memorable sightseeing experiences prior to departure. ENQUIRE FOR MORE SIGHTSEEING EXPERIENCES OPTIONS.





#### HANOI

Vietnam's capital city offers the perfect pairing of ancient Asia mixed with the dynamic face of new Asia. The city is filled with ancient temples and pagodas, colonial buildings, monuments, museums and narrow streets. Sample delicious Vietnamese street food as you venture through the city while doing some shopping, sightseeing or taking a stroll through the pretty park.



## HUE

Hue invites visitors to explore its rich history of the Nguyen dynasty and emperors. This charming city boasts monuments, tombs, pagodas, beautiful beaches, hot springs, nightlife, fine dining as well as the perfectly picturesque Perfume River.



# SAIGON

With its rich culture and history, Saigon invites you to venture along its ancient boulevards and view the striking colonial architecture. Sample sumptuous delights from a host of fining dining restaurants or delight in exotic street food from the sidewalk stalls. Make your way through the motorbikes crowding the little streets and explore the markets at your leisure.

## **DA NANG**

Da Nang is renowned as a laidback and welcoming city that entices visitors with some beautiful beaches, picturesque mountains, intricate caves, abundant ancient history, as well as arguably the friendliest people in Vietnam. Delight in tasty morsels from the street vendors as you explore the bustling marketplace and the Han River.





## **HALONG BAY**

Just a few hours from Hanoi, this is the ideal location for adventure and discovery. Renowned for its natural splendour, Hanoi offers visitors delightful sites including limestone islands, rock formations and caves. The more adventurous can partake in endless activities – from kayaking and swimming to exploring the caves and rainforest. One can also experience the life of the locals and delight in delicious seafood and local specialities.



# VIETNAM BEACH DESTINATIONS

## **PHU QUOC**

Phu Quoc offers some of the best beaches in the country. Long Beach offers crystal clear calm waters. There's also Ong Lang Beach, which is an unspoiled paradise offering breathtaking sunsets. And don't forget Bai Sao Beach, which is absolutely glorious with its unparalleled beauty.





# **HOI AN**

Hoi An is a renowned beach destination known for its serene blue waters. An Bang beach is the perfect paradise with its pristine beach with a backdrop of picturesque mountains, many beachfront restaurants and trendy bars. Cua Dai beach offers a palm-lined coastline, with a lively atmosphere and it's surrounded by big resorts.

# NHA TRANG BEACH

Nha Trang Beach boasts golden sand and turquoise waters that invite you to relax. This beach is also located close to the area's busy tourist centres. After a dip in the sea, take a stroll along the promenade to delight in the spectacular ocean views.







# LONG HAI BEACH

Long Hai is a lively seaside area with beautiful sandy beaches and a fish market. It's a popular destination for families and those who wish to explore an unspoiled paradise.





## VIETNAM CITY & BEACH - 7 NIGHTS

#### Day 1: Saigon

Arrive in Saigon and transfer to your hotel.

Day 2: Saigon – Cu Chi – Saigon (B/L) Take a drive to the famous Cu Chi Tunnels and tour the underground compounds. Lunch in Saigon and a city tour to see the Notre Dame Cathedral, the historic Central Post Office, Reunification Palace and the War Remnants Museum.

**Day 3: Saigon - Ben Tre - Saigon (B/L)** Depart for Ben Tre, situated in the Mekong River Delta, exchanging city scenes for lush rice paddies and fruit farms. Embark on a fascinating motorboat excursion past stilt houses, fish farms and scenes of countryside living. Arrive at Turtle Island and enjoy country hospitality with a local farming family and watch a traditional folk song performance.

Day 4: Saigon - Phan Thiet (B) Transfer to Phan Thiet. Day 5 - 7: Phan Thiet (B) Full days free to explore Phan Thiet and its surrounds.

**Day 7: Phan Thiet - Saigon (B)** Transfer from Phan Thiet back to Saigon airport for your departure flight.

#### VIETNAM CLASSIC - 8 NIGHTS

#### Day 1: Hanoi

Arrive in Hanoi and transfer to your hotel.

#### Day 2: Hanoi (B)

Pick up from your hotel and visit the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, the Buddhist Tran Quoc Pagoda at West lake and Bat Trang pottery village. Visit the Ethnology Museum and Hanoi's Old Quarter for shopping.

#### Day 3: Hanoi - Halong (B/L/D)

Transfer to Halong Bay and board your junk boat. Cruise past beautiful areas in Halong Bay and arrive at Cua Van, one of the largest fishing villages on the Bay. You then enjoy a cooking demonstration onboard.

**Day 4: Halong - Hanoi/Danang (B)** Partake in a Tai Chi demonstration on the upper deck, then join in a walking tour of Titov Beach Island to enjoy breathtaking 360-degree views of the Bay from a viewing deck. Afterwards, cruise back to the mainland and transfer back to Hanoi for your flight to Danang.

#### Day 5: Hoi An (B)

Half day tour of this World Heritage site, an ancient town where you can view sights including the old merchant houses, the 400-yearold Japanese Covered Bridge and colourful markets.

Day 6: Hoi An - Hue (B) Transfer to Hue and enjoy a half day city tour. See Hue's splendid emperors' tombs, ancient pagodas and the remains of the Citadel. Day 7: Hue - Saigon (B/L)

Visit various sights including the Tu Duc Royal Tomb and Khai Dinh Royal Tomb. In the afternoon, transfer to the airport for your flight to Saigon.



**Day 8: Saigon - Cu Chi - Saigon (B)** Visit the Notre Dame Cathedral, the historic Central Post Office, Reunification Palace, the War Remnants Museum and the Cu Chi tunnels, a network of over 200km of tunnels.

#### Day 9: Saigon (B)

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight.

# **EXTEND THIS TOUR TO VISIT CAMBODIA**

Day 9: Saigon/Siem Reap (B) Fly to Siem Reap. On arrival, you transfer to your hotel. Enjoy an afternoon tonle sap boat trip. Day 10: Siem Reap (B) Visit to Angkor Wat Temple, one of the modern wonders of the world, including Angkor Thom, Ta Phrom, Ta Keo and Angkor Wat. Stroll through the intricately carved hallways that show hundreds of fine carvings and discover small shrines still in use.

#### Day 11: Siem Reap (B)

Explore Phnom Kulen on a half day tour. See the Linga statue, River of One Thousand Lingas and magnificent waterfall nearby. Day 12: Siem Reap (B)

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight.

MEAL BASIS: B = Breakfast; L = Lunch ; D = Dinner Enquire for full itinerary details and inclusions.



he People's Republic of China covers a vast expanse of land and forms the largest country in Asia. The country is home to numerous ethnic groups, the majority of whom are the Han. China embraces visitors with its unparalleled hospitality, numerous ancient treasures, modern wonders and extensive natural splendour, not to mention its rich culture and history. sensational cuisine and contemporary cityscapes. This extraordinary country invites you on a unique adventure.



Shanghai

Beijing

•Xian

# TOP SIGHTSEEING EXPERIENCES



## **BEIJING CITY TOUR**

Start with an early morning visit to Tiananmen Square, the largest central city square in the world, then walk through the 'Gate of Heavenly Peace' to the Forbidden City, which is the largest and the best-preserved imperial palace complex in the world. In the afternoon, walk through the vast grounds of the Temple of Heaven.

# THE GREAT WALL & MING TOMBS

A full day tour from Beijing to the Great Wall at Badaling Section, an architectural wonder. There is plenty of time to explore the ramparts of this awesome structure and take photos. After lunch, return to Beijing via the Ming Tombs, the mausoleums of 13 emperors of the Ming Dynasty.





#### **SHANGHAI CITY TOUR**

Start the day with a visit to the Yuyuan Garden, then walk through the twisting alleys of Old China Town. After lunch, visit Oriental Pearl TV Tower, the world's 3rd tallest building. Visit the Shanghai Municipal Museum which recreates interiors of houses and shops from the farming era up to the 1930's, with many miniatures of Shanghai's impressive colonial buildings and vintage cars.

#### **CHINA DESTINATIONS**

#### BEIJING

The heartland of Chinese history, culture and politics, Beijing boasts historic sites, glittering skyscrapers and modern architecture. Discover ancient sites and museums such as The Forbidden City, temples and the Great Wall. Enjoy the local cuisine, or shop in numerous malls, street stores and souvenir shops.

#### **SHANGHAI**

A mix of old and new, with its historical heritage as spectacular as its skyline. Visit the temples or historic nearby towns, take a culinary tour and delight in a taste sensation in numerous restaurants, discover vibrant nightlife and bars, shop in bustling shopping areas or view art at the local galleries.

#### XIAN

An ancient capital city that exudes a magnitude of historic and cultural charm, Xian prides itself as the home of several dominant historic Chinese dynasties. A trading city during ancient times, this city takes you on an adventure back in time. A highlight is viewing the underground army of lifesized Terracotta Warriors.

#### **GUANGZHOU**

Guangzhou combines antiquity with modernity and is a sight for the senses with lush scenery paired with towering architectural wonders. Foodies flock here as it's known as South China's food capital. Walk along ancient streets, float on the river, and admire the city from a mountain viewpoint.

THOMPSONS TIP: Pre-book memorable sightseeing experiences prior to departure. ENQUIRE FOR MORE SIGHTSEEING OPTIONS.

# **ESCORTED TOURS**



# BEAUTIFUL BEIJING - 3 NIGHTS

**Day 1:** Arrive in Beijing and transfer to your hotel.

**Day 2: (B/L)** Today's sightseeing includes historic sites juxtaposed with symbols of progress. Visit landmarks such as Tiananmen Square, the world's largest plaza which fronts the legendary Forbidden City and then explore The Temple of Heaven, a group of 15th century ceremonial buildings.

Day 3: (B/L) A memorable day-long

excursion combining the soul-stirring Great Wall at Badaling Section and then driving along the Sacred Way (a photographer's delight) to the Ming Tombs.

**Day 4: (B)** Enjoy a morning visit to the Summer Palace, a breathtaking arrangement of lake and landscape, pagodas and pavilions, followed by a boat ride on the Kunming Lake inside the palace. Transfer to the airport for your departure flight.

# BEIJING & SHANGHAI - 6 NIGHTS

Day 1: Beijing (D) Arrive in Beijing and transfer to your hotel. Enjoy a guided walk along the Wangfujing Pedestrian Shopping Street, one of the major shopping streets in the city. Day 2: Beijing (B/D) Visit landmarks such as Tiananmen Square, which is the largest plaza in the world; The Temple of Heaven, a masterpiece of 15th century architecture and The Imperial Palace, which is also known as The Forbidden City.

#### Day 3: Beijing (B/L/D)

Explore the famous Great Wall of China at Badaling Section. Continue to the Ming Tombs where the emperors and their consorts were laid to rest.

Day 4: Beijing - Shanghai (B/D)

Spend the morning visiting the Summer Palace, a breathtaking arrangement of lake and landscape, pagodas and pavilions. This is followed by a boat ride on Kunming Lake, which is located inside the palace. You then transfer to the airport and fly to Shanghai.

#### Day 5: Shanghai (B/D)

Explore Shanghai. Sightseeing includes the rich collections at the Shanghai Museum and the beautiful Yuyuan Garden in Shanghai's 'Old Quarter'. Day 6 / 7: Shanghai (B)

Today you get to explore Shanghai at leisure.







Day 1: Beijing

Arrive in Beijing and transfer to your hotel.

#### Day 2: Beijing (B/L/D)

Visit landmarks such as Tiananmen Square, the world's largest plaza which fronts the legendary Forbidden City, and then visit The Temple of Heaven, a fascinating group of 15th century

# CHINA WONDER - 7 NIGHTS

# ceremonial buildings. **Day 3: Beijing (B/L/D)**

Enjoy a memorable day-long excursion to see the soul-stirring Great Wall at Badaling Section before heading to explore the Ming Tombs.

Day 4: Beijing - Xi'an (B/D) Visit the Summer Palace, a breathtaking arrangement of lake and landscape, pagodas and pavilions. Then it's time for a boat ride on Kunming Lake inside the palace grounds. After that, you transfer to the airport and flight to Xi'an.

#### Day 5: Xi'an (B/L/D)

Today you get to experience the unforgettable thrill and awe of seeing a legendary sight, the individually sculpted faces of thousands of life-sized Terracotta Warriors.

#### Day 6: Xi'an - Shanghai (B/D)

Visit the Big Wild Goose Pagoda, the Bell Tower and the Great Mosque. Explore the surrounding alleys and shops. Transfer to the airport to fly to Shanghai.

#### Day 7: Shanghai (B/L/D)

Today's sightseeing includes the Shanghai Museum, the Jade Buddha Temple and the beautiful Yuyuan Garden at the 'Old Quarter'.

#### Day 8: Shanghai (B)

You have the morning at leisure before you transfer to the airport for your departure flight.

MEAL BASIS: B = Breakfast; L = Lunch ; D = Dinner Enquire for full itinerary details and inclusions.





#### IN PURSUIT OF PANDAS - CHINA 10 DAYS

his impressive tour immerses you in the imperial treasures of Beijing. You will take a walk on the legendary Great Wall which will give you a real feel of its history as well as offering breathtaking views of the city. Visit Xian with its enigmatic legions of Terracotta Warriors, then head to the charming city of Chenghu. Here you will meet its famous residents -The Giant Pandas. Then, travel on to Leshan to view the Giant Buddha statue and wander along mesmerising Jinli Street to sample the street snacks.



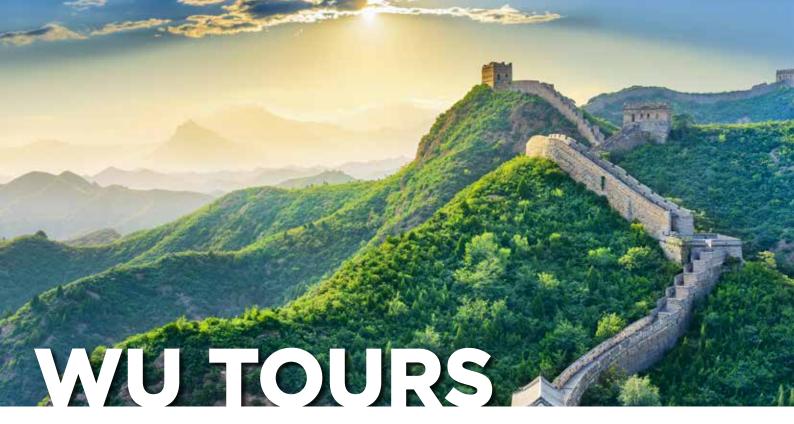


his whistle-stop tour provides the perfect glimpse of a captivating country. Delve into Vietnam's energetic cities, fascinating heritage and compelling landscapes. See the sights of stately Hanoi's Old Quarter. Explore exuberant Saigon and enjoy views of Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office, Reunification Palace and the War Remnants Museum. Savour the breathtaking scenery as you set sail on the waters of Halong Bay. Then explore the idyllic centre of Hoi An, Vietnam's charming UNESCO town. Take a Vietnamese cooking class in Hoi An. Then go on to discover the lush Mekong Delta, the 'Rice Basket of Vietnam', and infiltrate the mystery tunnel system of the Vietcong at Cu Chi.



GOLDEN TRIANGLE - INDIA 10 DAYS

he Golden Triangle is the perfect introduction to this vast and beautiful country. This tour begins in Red Fort, including a walk through Chandni Chowk Bazaar to the largest Mosque in India, the Jama Masjid. Proceed to Agra, visit Sikandra to see the ancient marble and sandstone tomb of Emperor Akbar. Delight in a sunrise viewing of the glorious Taj Mahal and explore Agra Fort. Then visit the Baori Stepwell in order to view this exquisitely designed geometric construction. Continue to Jaipur, with a stop at Hawa Mahal and Amber Fort, and survey Jantar Mantar Observatory. The tour ends with a visit to Gurgaon, to watch a magical Bollywood performance.



GLORIES OF CHINA 15 DAYS



his tour invites you to explore some of China's extraordinary sites. It combines the contrasting urban splendour of Shanghai, Beijing and Xian with majestic sights like the Great Wall, Terracotta Warriors and the Li River's extraordinary landscapes. Immerse yourself into Shanghai with a cruise on the Huangpu River to view soaring skyscrapers juxtaposed against ancient buildings. Absorb the rural serenity of the Li River and Yangshuo and see the Terracotta Warriors. Explore the majestic Great Wall of China and step back into China's dynastic history at the Imperial Forbidden City.



#### A CHINA EXPERIENCE 11 DAYS

atch a glimpse of China's glorious past, fascinating present and bright future by exploring the exceptional cities of Xian, Beijing and Shanghai. Venture into the picturesque ancient town of Zhujiajiao and delight in this ancient town's atmosphere. Enjoy a stroll through the exquisite Yu Gardens and the Old Town. Visit the Shanghai Museum and the Terracotta Warriors. Explore the old Muslim Quarter and the renowned Shaanxi Museum. Marvel at the sparkling city of Shanghai on a Huangpu River Cruise. Step back into China's dynastic past at the Imperial Forbidden City and take a walk along the breathtaking Great Wall of China.



Enquire for full itinerary details and inclusions.

# SINGAPORE - VIBRANT ISLAND

Singapore invites you to discover the world's only city-state, a sophisticated and mesmerising place where you can explore the thriving contemporary art scene, taste sensations on every corner, awe-inspiring architecture and some of the best shopping opportunities in South East Asia. Stay at some top-notch hotels and be immersed in Singapore's extraordinary melting pot of cultures. The tropical climate has resulted in one of the largest orchid gardens in the world, which is just waiting to be discovered. Singapore

# **TOP SIGHTSEEING TOURS**



#### SUNSET SENTOSA TOUR

E njoy a panoramic view of the world's busiest harbour whilst you ride aboard the Singapore Cable Car to magical and exciting Sentosa Island. Venture to one of the world's largest aquariums, where you can immerse yourself in a magical marine world. The Sky Tower offers breathtaking panoramic views across Singapore's Southern Islands. Complete a day at Sentosa with a spectacular night show - the Wings of Time – which is set outdoors against the backdrop of the open sea.

#### GARDENS BY THE BAY



Gardens by the Bay has blossomed into a must-see destination with more than one million plants and thousands of species. Marvel at the very best of horticultural sustainability and architectural design at the Flower Dome, be awed by the world's tallest indoor waterfall and discover various gardens.

THOMPSONS TIP: Pre-book memorable sightseeing experiences prior to departure. ENQUIRE FOR MORE SIGHTSEEING EXPERIENCES OPTIONS.



## UNIVERSAL STUDIOS SINGAPORE

Universal Studios Singapore invites you to explore an experience beyond the screens. This is Southeast Asia's first and only Universal Studios theme park, which features cutting-edge rides, shows and attractions in a variety of themed zones, based on your favourite blockbuster films and television series. Experience the likes of: Jurassic Park Rapids Adventure<sup>™</sup>, Battlestar Galactica: HUMAN vs. CYLON<sup>™</sup>, TRANSFORMERS The Ride: The Ultimate 3D Battle, and more!

## **TRAVELLING VIA SINGAPORE?**

FREE VOUCHER FOR COFFEE OR SHOPPING

When flying to onward destinations with Singapore Airlines, passengers will receive a voucher valued at SGC 20 - SGD 40 (approx. R200 - R400) per person while in transit at Singapore Changi Airport. In order to qualify, passengers should transit on both legs of their journey. Spend your voucher on a coffee, a meal or toward Duty Free Shopping. The offer is valid for travel until 30 September 2018.



## \*\*\* HOTEL CHANCELLOR @ ORCHARD

The Hotel Chancellor @ Orchard boasts a Greenmark certified status, effortlessly incorporating the latest technologies to deliver excellent service and style in an environmentally sustainable environment. Relax in the modern and comfortable hotel rooms, take a splash in the rooftop pool, utilise the business facilities and feast at the all-day dining.



## \*\*\*\* OASIA HOTEL NOVENA

The 27-storey Oasia Hotel Novena is a breath of fresh air and welcome greenery in Singapore's Central Business District. A true respite in the city, the tropical skyscraper is refreshingly sleek inside, with its modern functionalist and comfortable style. Choose your ideal spot for relaxation, exercise or work with a selection of rooftop pools, gyms, exclusive lounges, picturesque sky gardens and terraces.



## **\*\*\*\*** COPTHORNE KINGS HOTEL

Ideally located on the historic Singapore River near central Singapore, this hotel boasts a modern design. This is perfectly paired with the hotel's award-winning dining venues, a landscaped outdoor pool, steam and sauna facilities and even a mini putting green – providing all that one could need to relax and recharge.





## **\*\*\*\*** YORK HOTEL SINGAPORE

The York Hotel is a deluxe urban oasis ideally situated on Mount Elizabeth with some of the area's finest shopping, dining and entertainment all just a short walk away. The hotel offers tastefully well-appointed rooms, a swimming pool, a fitness centre and a choice of conference facilities.

# \*\*\*\* RENDEZVOUS HOTEL SINGAPORE

This hotel is aptly inspired by the surrounding Arts and Heritage district, clearly reflected in the bespoke contemporary interior design, the latest technology and the multi-sensory art experience that weaves in different art mediums all around the establishment. It is ideally located for travellers as it's just a few minutes' walk from Orchard Road shopping, Bras Basah and Dhoby Ghaut MRT Stations.

# **SINGAPORE HOTELS**



## **\*\*\*\*** ORCHARD PARADE HOTEL

Orchard Parade Hotel will help you to discover all the best that Singapore has to offer – with the finest shopping, dining and entertainment choices right at your doorstep. Located at the entrance to Orchard Road, Singapore's most famous shopping district, Orchard Parade Hotel is an absolute shopper's dream. It is ideally located within walking distance of all the major malls and designer boutiques. Food lovers will also be spoilt for choice with the wide selection of dining options available in the area.



#### **\*\*\*** THE ELIZABETH HOTEL

The Elizabeth Hotel takes inspiration from European influence; it reflects a delightful nod to the past, whilst effortlessly featuring all the modern conveniences of the present. Elegant chandeliers and black marble counters are seamlessly balanced by the state-of-theart amenities and facilities. Adding to the air of prestige and exclusivity are the many world-class boutiques and malls that surround the hotel, making this establishment extremely convenient for guests to explore and shop to their hearts' content.



# \*\*\*\*\* ORCHARD HOTEL SINGAPORE

The Orchard Hotel features contemporary, modern design with Chinese accents. It is perfectly located for business or leisure. A short walk from the MRT station, yet also ideally secluded from the bustle of the city with Singapore's top shopping and entertainment right on its doorstep. Delight in one of the hotel's five dining establishments, take a dip in the pool or make use of the conference centre.



# \*\*\*\*\* PAN PACIFIC SINGAPORE

Whether for business or leisure, a stay at the Pan Pacific Singapore hotel is your assurance of worldclass service and five-star luxury accommodation. Overlooking the heart of Marina Bay, this elegant hotel lets you experience classic luxury at the top of the world. This location is also close to an array of sightseeing, retail and entertainment options. Savour decadent delights at the award-winning restaurants and unwind at the pool or on the tennis courts.



iscover this extraordinary destination with its iconic skyline and glittering harbour. Delight in delectable cuisine in one of the world's top culinary capitals. Hong Kong is a shopper's dream, with a dizzying array of choices for every taste. It's a melting pot of Eastern and Western characteristics, visible in its architecture, traditions, food and fashion. Hong Kong entices you with its contradictions and infectious energy.



#### \*\*\* PLUS NATHAN HOTEL

This hotel is an all-time favourite, ideally situated on Nathan Road in Kowloon within close proximity to the central areas. The guestrooms provide a cosy atmosphere and guests can delight in the facilities which include a wine cellar, fitness centre, restaurants and the Starbucks on the premises.

# TOP SIGHTSEEING EXPERIENCES



**OCEAN PARK TOUR** 

This tour is the perfect combination of fascinating marine life, breathtaking scenery, spectacular thrill rides and a chance to see the pandas.

## \*\*\*\* NOVOTEL HONG KONG NATHAN ROAD KOWLOON HOTEL

Ideally located within Kowloon's shopping, dining and business district. Also close to Temple Street Night Market. Rooms are elegantly decorated and there's a selection of dining options.



# \*\*\*\* HARBOUR PLAZA 8 DEGREES

This award-winning hotel provides delightful experience. The design of the hotel will delight your senses; it features intimate rooms, distinctive restaurants and a bar, multi-purpose function rooms and extraordinary facilities. It offers the perfect blend of comfort, style and convenience.



SYMPHONY OF LIGHT CRUISE TOUR Watch the 'World's Largest Permanent Light and Sound Show' by Guinness World Records - A Symphony of Lights from a Chinese sightseeing boat.



#### HONG KONG ISLAND TOUR

This is the perfect way to discover Hong Kong's delights. Explore Victoria Peak by Peak Tram, Aberdeen (with an optional sampan ride), historic Repulse Bay, Stanley Market for bargains and visit a prestigious jewellery workshop.

Share your memories with us on 👍 🌀 @thompsonsholidays y @ThompsonsH



alaysia is a country with a melting pot of cultures that create its colourful and atmospheric buzz. The capital, Kuala Lumpur, with its gleaming skyscrapers, is an absolute shopper's paradise. Take a journey back in time in Penang or choose from a selection of beautiful islands such as Langkawi with its powdery beaches. Discover the country's natural splendour in Kota Kinabalu which is the ideal base for adventure.



#### \*\*\*\* SWISS-GARDEN HOTEL KUALA LUMPUR

Located in the heart of Kuala Lumpur between bustling Bukit Bintang and colourful Chinatown, this hotel offers a refined experience with comfortable guest rooms and unique dining options. The stylish and elegant cocktail lounges are the ideal places to relax and unwind.

#### TOP SIGHTSEEING EXPERIENCES

Kota Kinabalu 🧉

SABA

Cameron Highlands

Langkawi

Pangkor Island

• Kuala Lumpur

Penang •



#### BATU CAVES & ROYAL SELANGOR PEWTER TOUR Venture to the outskirts of Kuala

Venture to the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur to experience highlights such as impressive cave temples, Hindu shrines and the Royal Selangor Pewter factory.

#### \*\*\*\* THE WESTIN LANGKAWI RESORT & SPA

The ideal resort for an exotic escape, close to shopping malls and the Kuah jetty. Features elegant rooms, an award-winning Heavenly Spa by Westin™, bars and restaurants.





## \*\*\*\* HOLIDAY INN RESORT PENANG

Unwind on white sand beaches in the heart of Batu Ferringhi. Spend relaxing days next to the sparkling swimming pool, and fun evenings at famous Jalan Batu Ferringhi's bustling night bazaar which is located right on your doorstep. Sip cocktail aperitifs and enjoy live music entertainment in the Lobby Lounge.



LANGKAWI SUNSET CRUISE Enjoy a relaxing evening on this sunset luxury yacht cruise and take in the stunning natural views as you experience the beauty of a golden Malaysian sunset while sipping cocktails.



#### HISTORICAL GEORGETOWN TOUR

See the Reclining Buddha, Dhammikarama Temple, St Georges Anglican Church, Goddess of Mercy Temple, Sri Mariamman Temple, Masjid Kapitan Keling, Khoo Kongs, coffee shop and Fort Cornwallis.

# **INSPIRING TOURS**



#### Day 1: Kuala Lumpur – Cameron Highlands

Depart Kuala Lumpur for the Cameron Highlands, famous for its world-renowned tea. Visit the Batu Caves where the shrine of the Hindu

# CAMERON HIGHLANDS ESCAPADE - 2 NIGHTS

deity Lord Subramaniam is located within an outcrop of limestone caves. Continue north to the Hill Resort of Cameron Highlands, which is 1,542 metres above sea level. Visit a cottage industry that makes bamboo baskets and view the Lata Iskandar Waterfall.

#### **Day 2: Cameron Highlands (B)** Explore many interesting sights

such as the tea plantation and tea factory to learn about the teamaking process. Enjoy the beautiful view overlooking the plantations with a cup of tea. Visit vegetable and strawberry farms before continuing to the morning market where you can bargain and find local produce all sold in one place. Then proceed to the Butterfly Farm and Time Tunnel Museum to take a peek into the history of the Cameron Highlands. The tour ends with a stroll around Tanah Rata.

#### Day 3: Cameron Highlands -Kuala Lumpur (B)

Morning at leisure prior to an afternoon departure back to Kuala Lumpur.

# MALAYSIA ROUND TRIP - 6 NIGHTS

#### Day 1: Kuala Lumpur - Batu Caves - Cameron Highlands

Head to the Kuala Head on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur city where you will visit the well-known Royal Selangor Pewter factory, the largest in the world. Then proceed to the Batu Caves, a world-famous limestone outcrop which houses a Hindu temple. Continue on to the Cameron Highlands.

#### Day 2: Cameron Highlands – Penang (B)

Explore many interesting sights in the Cameron Highlands such as the tea plantation, tea factory, a vegetable farm and the market square before continuing your journey towards Penang. Visits en route include the Sam Poh Tong Cave Temple, the Ubudiah Mosque and Iskandariah Palace. Day 3: Penang (B)

Depart on a half day tour around Penang to experience some of the island's key attractions.

Day 4: Penang - Kota Bharu (B) Drive towards Kota Bharu with breathtaking views of the tropical rainforest along the way.

Day 5: Kota Bharu - Kuala Terengganu (B)

Experience a short orientation tour through Kota Bharu, and visit the colourful market. Head to Terengganu and visit PulauDuyongBesar, the largest island in the estuary where fishing boats are built using age-old techniques and tools.



Day 6: Kuala Terengganu – Kuantan/ Cherating (B)

Drive to Kuantan, stopping to visit Cherating Village en route to observe their traditional lifestyle and see pandan leaves being weaved into bags, mats and crafts.

Day 7: Kuantan - Kuala Lumpur (B) Head back to Kuala Lumpur. End of the tour.



# Day 1: Kota Kinabalu

Arrive in Kota Kinabalu and transfer to your hotel.

#### Day 2: City Tour and Mangrove and Wildlife Cruise (B/L/D)

Go on an introductory tour of the City of Kota Kinabalu, visiting a Chinese Buddhist temple, the Blue Mosque and the Sabah Museum. Experience a river cruise into the

## SABAH NATURE & CULTURE TOUR - 6 NIGHTS

Mangroves with its Proboscis monkeys (only found in Borneo). Day 3: Rungus Longhouse Tour (B/L/D)

Drive to the tip of Borneo, stopping at local markets along the way. View the rural scenes of native villages, rice fields, rubber estates and fruit orchards. Continue to Tanjung Simpang Mengayau where you can enjoy swimming in crystal clear waters, then head to a traditional and basic Rungus longhouse where you will spend the night.

#### Day 4: Rungus Longhouse - Kota Kinabalu (B/L)

Spend some time exploring the area surrounding the village, do

some trekking and observe the lifestyle of the local people. **Day 5: Kinabalu Park and Poring Hot Spring (B/L)** 

Join a jungle trail, venturing into the canopy walkway and get a bird's eye view of the rainforest canopy. If time permits, take a dip in the therapeutic sulphur baths.

#### Day 6: Coral Island (B/L)

Take a 20-minute boat ride to one of the coral islands within the Tunku Abdul Rahman Park and spend the day swimming, snorkelling or just relaxing on the beach.

#### Day 7: Kota Kinabalu (B)

Morning at leisure before you are transferred to the airport for your flight home.

MEAL BASIS: B = Breakfast; L = Lunch ; D = Dinner Enquire for full itinerary details and inclusions.



# SPORTING EVENTS - ADRENALINE RUSH

hompsons recommends travelling to some of the most renowned sporting events in the Far East to watch international class motor racing and rugby. Learn all about each country's culture, and delight in the festivities and fun. Take your pick from our selection, which includes attending the Chinese Grand Prix in Shanghai to be immersed into this futuristic sporting venue. The Singapore Grand Prix will take you on an exciting adventure as you witness the fast-paced racing circuit in this cosmopolitan city. There's also the Hong Kong Sevens 3-day rugby extravaganza, where you get to enjoy the incredible excitement and energy of the matches and festivities.



# CHINESE GRAND PRIX

C pectators at the 2018 Chinese Crand Prix can enjoy a truly authentic F1 experience with exclusive benefits. The Chinese Grand Prix takes place at the Shanghai International Circuit in Jiading, Shanghai. This renowned circuit is a spectacular venue with the finest facilities. Its layout was designed in an ascending design, based on the Chinese 'Shang' character, which translates to mean 'to ascend'. The first race to be held here was in 2004 and was won by Rubens Barichello driving a Ferrari. Michael Schumacher also participated in his final race at the Shanghai circuit in 2006.

The Shanghai International Circuit is a spectacular venue with the finest facilities on offer; it has been described as elegant and futuristic with world-class viewing opportunities, making for exciting viewing of the races. Shanghai itself offers so many incredible sights to see and explore. Take time to marvel at the skyscrapers such as the Jinmao Tower and Shanghai Global Financial Centre.

# SINGAPORE GRAND PRIX



he Singapore Grand Prix takes place at the Marina Bay circuit each year. It presents itself as more of a national festival than simply a race, which offers something for everyone to enjoy. World-famous entertainment acts flock to perform for thousands of spectators. This exciting event is Formula One's original night race. It takes place on an exciting 5-kilometre street circuit that weaves artfully through this colourful and cosmopolitan city. The race is floodlit, and the bright lights of Singapore's financial centre illuminate the background and give the race an exciting atmosphere for all spectators.

When you're not attending the Grand Prix, there is plenty to do in this delightful modern city. Singapore is renowned for its incredible shopping, variety of entertainment and excellent restaurants. There is literally something for everyone to enjoy!



# RUGBY – HONG KONG SEVENS

he Hong Kong Sevens is widely renowned as the premier Sevens rugby tournament, held annually in Hong Kong. This international tournament is one of the largest on the HSBC Sevens World Series and attracts fans from all over the world. The tournament, which takes place every year, usually in April, is a 3-day event with more than 40 matches. It's held at the renowned Hong Kong Stadium. Spectators can enjoy the matches, excitement and energy, perfectly set against a backdrop of skyscrapers, forests and mountains.

Spectators can also delight in the entertainment on offer at the event which includes live shows and concerts. You can also head to the South Strand where outrageous costumes are required for the festivities. When not at the matches, take time to discover Hong Kong's delicious cuisine, spectacular shopping and historic sites.



# **CRUISING** - ALL ABOARD

A provide never been on a cruise before but the idea inspires you. Cruising on a stylish and ultramodern ship provides you with easy access to your dream destinations all in one incredible itinerary, meaning you only unpack once. Coupled with various innovations and activities on board, each ship is a floating city at sea. It is uniquely romantic and no other holiday offers families and solo travellers more value. It's the perfect opportunity to meet like-minded people and celebrate new friendships. Experience the mystique of some of the most exotic locations in the Far East, each with their own different cultures. Imagine a different view every day as you set sail on one of the many year-round cruises. It's possible!



#### ONBOARD - REASONS TO CRUISE

- Unpack once.
- Make new friends.
- Elegant and modern cruise ships.
- Comfortable and well-equipped cabins & suites.
- Wide choice of dining options.
- Broadway-style theatre shows.
- Daily entertainment programme - fun days at sea!
- Extraordinary activities.
- Kids & Teens programmes.
- Spectacular nightlife.
- Spa & Fitness Centre.
- Exciting ports of call.
- Something for everyone honeymooners / couples, families, singles & groups.

# WHAT'S INCLUDED IN YOUR CRUISE?

- Accommodation.
- All meals in selected restaurants.
- Onboard activities.
- Fitness Centre.
- Entertainment.
- Kids & Teens programmes.

Onboard activities, dining, entertainment options & facilities vary per cruise ship.

#### **CRUISE DESTINATIONS**

Singapore | Vietnam | Malaysia | China | Thailand | Korea | Japan | Hong Kong

#### **KEY MAIN PORTS**

Singapore, Hong Kong, Osaka and Beijing (the port for Beijing is Tianjn, an hour and a half away).

#### **BEST TIME TO CRUISE**

Cruises operate all year round as the weather is warm and humid, although cruising and weather is best when it's not monsoon, which features rain showers (June to September). Cruises to China and Japan tend to be in the northern spring (March to May).

#### LENGTH OF CRUISE

From 3 to 33 nights.

#### **CRUISE ITINERARY HIGHLIGHTS**

Asia is a vast continent, offering an incredible selection of exciting destinations to explore. Cruising is a great way to see this exotic region which extends from Burma and Thailand in the west through Indonesia, Malaysia and Singapore all the way to Vietnam and Cambodia, China and Japan. With its unique cultures and traditions, ancient temples and Buddha statues, bustling cities, lush forests and exotic wildlife, there is so much to discover.

#### **CRUISE LINES**

Azamara Club Cruises | Celebrity Cruises | Costa Cruises | Crystal Cruises | Oceania Cruises | Princess Cruises | Royal Caribbean International | Windstar Cruises.

Enquire for various cruise itineraries. Why not consider pre- & post cruise holidays? Contact Thompsons for options.





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