## Treasures of Southeast Asia

#### FEATURING THE EASTERN & ORIENTAL EXPRESS

SPONSORED BY



February 19 – March 6, 2025



#### Dear Carolina alumni and friends,

Join a fascinating 12-night adventure through Singapore, Malaysia, Thailand and Cambodia, destinations blessed with long histories and diverse cultures. From modern Singapore and tropical Malaysia to vibrant Bangkok and the towering Angkor temples of Siem Reap, join an adventure that shows you the variety of Southeast Asia.

Start your adventure by exploring dazzling, multicultural Singapore followed by an unforgettable journey aboard the elegant Eastern & Oriental Express train through Malaysia, where you'll choose from included excursions on Penang Island. Then fly to Bangkok to discover ancient temples, exotic sights and bustling waterways. Walk through the age-old streets of Ayutthaya, Thailand's ancient capital city.

The journey continues in Cambodia amid Angkor's moss-covered ruins, an experience to remember. Along the way, learn to cook traditional dishes of rice noodles and dumplings, and meet friendly locals who are happy to share their lives with you. This experience will connect you with the authentic culture of Southeast Asia.

This trip combines the security, ease and value of group travel with opportunities for independent exploration. Space on this exclusive journey is limited, and the trip is sure to sell out quickly, so book this experience today!

Go Heels and travel the world,

Andrey, Cathin and Doughas

Audrey '13, Catherine '89 and Douglass '04 Carolina Alumni Travel Office

Participation in this tour is a Carolina Alumni member benefit. Join or renew today at alumni.unc.edu/ join. (\$50 for individuals, \$60 for couples). The Carolina Alumni Travel Office may be reached at 877-962-3980 or enrichment@unc.edu.

#### **UNESCO World Heritage**

- 1. Angkor, Cambodia
- 2. Historic City of Ayutthaya, Thailand
- 3. George Town, Historic City of the Straits of Malacca, Malaysia



Ayutthaya





### A World of Discovery



Your next adventure begins in Southeast Asia, where grandeur abounds. Tap into the pulse of this fascinating corner of the globe, a fusion of age-old traditions and modern life. From multi-cultural Singapore and wild Malaysia to irresistible Bangkok and impressive Angkor Wat, you'll stand in awe of centuries-old temples and shimmering palaces, glorious scenery and jungle-shrouded ruins. This specially crafted program brims with wonder!

Top: Supertrees at Gardens by the Bay, Singapore Above: Eastern & Oriental Express hospitality Cover: E&OE winding through the landscapes of Malaysia Mail panel: Angkor Wat | Chao Phraya River, Bangkok

#### Inspiring Moments

- Delight in the glories of Southeast Asia, a medley of energetic cities, stunning landscapes and ancient ruins.
- Stroll through a remarkable floral oasis at Singapore's Gardens by the Bay.
- Revel in the Golden Age of travel aboard the iconic Eastern & Oriental Express through wild Malaysia.
- Marvel at the ancient temples and complexes of Angkor Wat, Ta Prohm and Angkor Thom.
- Cruise the legendary Chao Phraya River and ride a tuk-tuk to experience traditional Thai life up close.
- Thrill to a Cambodian Circus cultural performance of acrobatics.
- Savor the tantalizing flavors of Southeast Asia's renowned **food culture**.
- Experience three UNESCO World Heritage sites.

ANTIQUITY ARCHITECTURE ART CULTURE CUISINE HISTORY NATURAL BEAUTY



#### Days 1 & 2 | In Transit

Depart gateway city for Singapore. Cross the international date line.

#### Day 3 | Singapore

Arrive in Singapore, transfer **3** and check in to the Shangri-La Singapore. Meet your fellow travelers at a Welcome Reception tonight.

#### Day 4 | Singapore

#### Enrichment: Contemporary Singapore.

**Singapore Highlights.** On a panoramic tour, admire views of the city's skyline and Marina Bay, and see the iconic, mythical Merlion in Merlion Park. In the Civic District, see the Padang, City Hall and the Singapore Cricket Club. Visit Thian Hock Keng Temple, one of the most important Hokkien temples in Singapore.

Sample popular regional dishes at lunch.

Multicultural Singapore. Uncover Singapore's diverse cultures. Explore the Malay enclave, Kampong Glam, with its golden-domed Sultan Mosque. See Little India's exotic spice markets and Chinatown's lovingly restored shophouses.

#### Day 5 | Singapore

AHI Connects | Peranakan Heritage. Travel to an enclave to learn how to make Chinese dumplings and admire traditional beadwork and embroidery with your local Peranakan hosts.
 Free Time: Enjoy lunch and free time at leisure.
 Gardens by the Bay. Discover this landmark oasis of floral features and garden artistry. See the iconic Supertrees, stroll the Flower Dome, the world's largest glass greenhouse, and discover Cloud Forest's unique aerial walkways.

#### Day 6 | Singapore | Malaysia

**Essence of Malaysia.** Travel aboard the elegant green and cream carriages of the Eastern & Oriental Express (E&OE) to discover wild Malaysia. Wind your way through lush green landscapes while enjoying afternoon tea, elegant dinners, evening entertainment, and alighting for enriching excursions.

#### Day 7 | Malaysia | Langkawi Island

**Pulau Payar Marine Park.** Pass through rice paddies and rural villages. Then, alight for a boat trip to this renowned marine park. After a picnic lunch, choose from a massage, an island walk, or paddle boarding or snorkeling in clear waters among coral reefs and underwater life.

**Evening Entertainment.** Savor dinner and live entertainment in the Piano Bar Car tonight.

#### Day 8 | Malaysia | Penang Island

#### PYJ | Choose one of these excursions:

• *George Town Old Quarter.* Take a guided tour of this colonial area to see architecture, temples, and an opera and puppet house.

Pulau Payar Marine Park





- *Peranakan Cooking Discovery.* Prepare local dishes in a hands-on cooking class.
- *Independent Exploration*. Explore the area with a trishaw driver and guide.

#### Day 9 | Malaysia | Bangkok, Thailand

Disembark the E&OE, transfer **3** and fly **4** to Bangkok. Check in to the Peninsula Bangkok.

**Chao Phraya River Cruise.** Take an evening cruise aboard a converted rice barge to take in Bangkok's illustrious landmarks while savoring cocktails and dinner amid the sparkling lights.

#### Day 10 | Bangkok

**Enrichment:** *Thailand's History & Culture.* **Bangkok Highlights.** Board a private boat and cruise the river and canal past homes, temples and a local market en route to visit the Grand Palace and the 15th-century Emerald Buddha Temple. Then, take a tuk-tuk ride to Wat Pho to see the tranquil, reclining Buddha. Experience lunch at the famed Blue Elephant.

**Elective |** *Sala Rim Naam.* Join an evening immersed in Thai culture to experience a Thai dance show and a dinner of classic dishes.

Bang Pa-In Palace



#### Day 11 | Bangkok | Ayutthaya

**Ayutthaya.** Start today at the Bang Pa-In Palace, a summer residence for the kings of Thailand. Continue to the ancient capital city of Ayutthaya. Behold the magnificent ruins of timeworn Buddhas and towering wats. Then, cruise back to Bangkok, viewing Thai river life as you and enjoy a delicious lunch on board.

#### Day 12 | Siem Reap, Cambodia

Transfer **3** and fly **3** to Siem Reap. Check in to the Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Resort.

**Siem Reap.** Get to know this quaint provincial capital on a tuk-tuk ride. Step into an art and dance center to see local artisans perform.

Enrichment: Temples of Angkor.

#### Day 13 | Siem Reap

**Discover Angkor Wat.** Angkor Wat is the 12th-century jewel of Angkor Archaeological Park. Visit and see the gallery of bas-relief murals, considered to be the finest in Khmer. Immerse yourself in a world long forgotten!







 AHI Connects | Local Life. Engage with a Cambodian family while making rice noodles.
 Free Time: Relish leisure time in Siem Reap.
 Cambodian Circus. Delight in a cultural show of dance, acrobatics and stories of the Khmer.

#### Day 14 | Siem Reap

**Angkor's Temples.** Explore more history at Angkor Thom, the last capital of the Khmer Empire. Note the amazing Bayon Temple. Its 54 towers feature carvings of more than 200 smiling faces. Continue along jungle-claimed paths to the haunting temples of Ta Prohm. Here, the roots of massive kapok trees have overtaken the buildings. Next, see exquisite carvings at the restored Thommanon temple.

**Free Time:** Make your own schedule for your final afternoon at leisure in Siem Reap. Gather for a Farewell Dinner and a lively event featuring Khmer classical dance and music.

#### Days 15 & 16 | In Transit

Transfer **C** to the airport for the return flight **t** to your gateway city. Depending on individual flight itineraries, passengers will arrive in North America on Day 15 or Day 16.

Note: Itinerary may change due to local conditions. Flights and Otransfers included for AHI FlexAir participants.

Elective experiences available at an additional cost.

#### Note About Activity Levels

We have designated activity levels for all excursions on this program. For more details, please call or visit our website.

#### Excursions on this itinerary require:

- walking on cobblestones, unpaved paths and/or uneven surfaces
- getting on/off motor coaches and boats

#### Included Features

#### Accommodations {with baggage handling}

- -3 nights in Singapore at the deluxe Shangri-La Singapore.
- -3 nights aboard the deluxe Eastern & Oriental Express train, Malaysia.
- -**3 nights** in Bangkok, Thailand, at the deluxe Peninsula Bangkok.
- -3 nights in Siem Reap, Cambodia, at the deluxe Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf and Spa Resort.

#### Transfers {with baggage handling}

 Flights to Bangkok and Siem Reap and all deluxe motor coach transfers in the Land Program.

#### **Extensive Meal Program**

 12 breakfasts, 7 lunches and 5 dinners, including a Farewell Dinner; tea or coffee with all meals, plus wine with dinner.

#### Your One-of-a-Kind Journey

- Small group: Sized just right at 28 guests.
- Enrichment by expert speakers enhances your insight into the region.
- Engaging excursions showcase the local culture, heritage and history.
- **Electives** and free time to pursue your individual interests.
- **(AHI Connects:** Local immersion.
- A Welcome Reception to mingle with fellow travelers.
- A personal VOX headset to hear your English-speaking guide clearly.
- -Tipping of guides and drivers.
- Complimentary travel mementos.
- AHI Sustainability Promise:
  We strive to make a positive impact wherever we travel.

#### Emerald Buddha Temple, Bangkok



#### Accommodations





Shangri-La Singapore | Singapore



The Peninsula Bangkok | Bangkok, Thailand



Sofitel Angkor Phokeethra Golf & Spa Resort | Siem Reap, Cambodia

o Tripadvisor

Angkor Thom



#### **Reserve your trip today!**

#### To book your journey,

#### please call our Carolina Alumni Travel Office

#### at 877-962-3980 or

visit norcar.ahitravel.com.

#### **Program Dates**

#### Travel dates 🛧

#### February 19 – March 6, 2025

★ Travel dates include any overnights required for international travel. These dates may vary depending on air schedules.

#### Tour dates\*

#### February 21 – March 5, 2025

\* Tour dates begin on the scheduled arrival date at your destination and end on the scheduled departure date from your destination.

#### Land Program

Category	Full Price	Early Booking Special Price*
P-Pullman (62 sq. ft.)	\$9,540	\$8,790
S-State (84 sq. ft.)	\$11,640	\$10,890

Early Booking Special Price includes \$750 special savings. \*Early Booking Special Price valid if booked by date on address panel and paid in full at booking. If you pay only your deposit by early booking date, you still save \$250 per person.

VAT in the amount of \$495 per person is included in the above prices. All prices quoted are in USD, per person, based on double occupancy and do not include air transportation costs (unless otherwise stated). Special offers, promotions and discounts cannot be combined.

The Pullman Suite single supplement is an additional \$4,995. The State Suite single supplement is an additional \$6,495. There is a limited availability for all single accommodations.

Please note: Program-specific terms and conditions are available at https://norcar.ahitravel.com/destinations/1898A?schoolld=114. You can also request a copy from our travel experts. Any payment to AHI Travel constitutes your acceptance of the terms and conditions set out therein, including but not limited to the cancellation terms.

#### AHI FlexAir 🚷

#### Let us arrange your flights

Our experts are ready to assist you in booking flights. Our personalized air program offers the following advantages:

- price guarantee to protect you from fuel surcharge increases after ticket purchase
- arrival and departure transfers on group dates
- flexibility to change or cancel your reservation before departure on most flights (Fees may apply).
- assistance in the event of schedule changes or delays

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#### EASTERN & ORIENTAL EXPRESS

Board the green-and-gold carriages of the Eastern & Oriental Express, and experience the Golden Age of travel as you wind through some of the most exotic, untouched countrysides on Earth. The E&OE offers a luxurious experience complemented by an unparalleled encounter with Southeast Asia's far-flung landscapes.

Elegance and attention to detail make riding the E&OE an unforgettable treat. Orchids and frangipani flowers perfume the air. Stewards deliver freshly baked croissants and delicately carved local fruits at sunrise. Feel like you are dining in one of the world's top restaurants when you take your seat in one of the lavishly decorated dining cars. Enveloped in rose-wood paneling, you will enjoy refined service and gourmet meals prepared with the freshest ingredients.

As the sun sets, listen to the sounds of the forest as you relax in the open-air Observation Car and sip a Shanghai Express while the pianist plays your old favorites in the piano bar.



#### AHI Travel Expertise

From your reservation to your return home, we are here to ensure you have the adventure of a lifetime.

#### Before you go:

**Travel Consultants** stand ready to answer your questions as they guide you through the reservation process.

**Travel & Air Coordinators** each offer their personalized assistance with flights, electives and special requests.

**Travel Information** provides pre-departure details and enrichment about your destination.

#### Once you arrive:

**Your Travel Director**, a seasoned, multilingual professional, manages daily logistics so you enjoy a seamless experience.

Handpicked Expert Guides offer fascinating insights and share their passion for their country with you.

**Knowledgeable Lecturers** deepen your appreciation for the region and its history, culture and current events.



#### 877-962-3980

#### norcar.ahitravel.com



Carolina Alumni Travel Office P.O. Box 660 Chapel Hill, NC 27514-0660

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# 877-962-3980 norcar.ahitravel.com



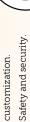


# Uncover the awe-inspiring wonders of Southeast Asia!

AHI Travel's mission is to deliver inspirational, educational and cultural programs that delight travelers.

# With AHI you can rely on:

- Experienced Travel Directors who attend to every detail of your journey.
- An exceptional travel value.
- Unique access to local sites
  Flexibility and



info

Please call or refer to our website for the most current program information, discounts and pricing.

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