

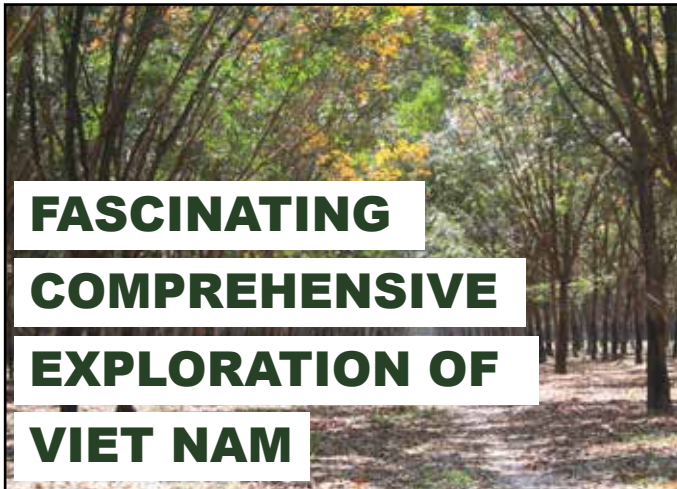
To Commemorate The 50th Anniversary Of The Last Australian Troops Out Of Viet Nam



THE LAST OUT TOUR

18 DECEMBER 1972

With only seven days' notice, the Australian Army Assistance Group (AAAGV) packed up and flew out of Viet Nam leaving behind a small Embassy Guard contingent that would be gone my March 1973. So ended Australia's ten-year involvement in the war in Vietnam.



**FASCINATING
COMPREHENSIVE
EXPLORATION OF
VIET NAM**



Visiting historical sites and places tourists rarely go to
Experiencing the culture and cuisine of Viet Nam



**HISTORY
CULTURE
PEOPLE
WAR**

13-30 November 2022 -18 Days

\$4599*

*Twin Share price includes all hotels, all meals, ground transport in air-conditioned coaches, bottled water every day, site permissions and entry fees. Single supplement available.

Not Included: International Airfares and visa - but we can arrange those.

TO BOOK: Call Walter Pearson 0424 177 590 - or email walter@jcptours.com.au - or visit www.jcptours.com.au

The North-West

In the north-west we visit Dien Bien Phu where the French War ended and opened the way for the start of the American War. This is a beautiful region populated by enchanting Thai Ethnic Minorities and redolent with historic significance. There, our guests will see all the French strongpoints and the Headquarters of Vietnamese General, Vo Nguyen Giap. At night we will sing, dance, and drink in a local Thai village.

Ha Noi

In Ha Noi, we focus on the Air War with visits to The Air Defence and Air Force Museum, the Hoa Lo (Hanoi Hilton) Prison, and the Bunker 67 where the Central Military Committee took strategic decisions under bombing from the Americans. Anmd of course, we'll see the Old Quarter.

The South

In the south we will visit three significant areas - Ho Chi Minh City, Military Region 7, and deep in the Mekong Delta.

Ho Chi Minh City

In the old capitol of the south, the infamous Sai Gon City, we venture away from downtown for a day exploring often unknown and rarely visited historical sites, to map out the story of Viet Nam's war of independence from 1945 to 1975.

Deep In The Delta

Over two days in the expansive Mekong Delta we will see the site of the famous 1963 Battle of Ap Bac presaged the end of the regime of Ngo Dinh Diem and began a two year campaign that would draw American ground forces to fight in South Viet Nam. Then we will go to the environmentally stunning Plain of Reeds to see where the roots of the 2000 year old Fu Nam civilisation and visit the tomb of a General who led a force against the French in 1860s setting in train a resistance against foreigners that would last for more than a century.

Military Region 7

In MR7 we will visit some of the most important sites in the history of Australia's involvement and to the war more broadly. This will include, a fast boat along the Sai Gon River to the real Cu Chi Tunnels, Nui Dat, Long Tan, Coral and Balmoral, War Zone D, and the Rung Sat Base area. There will also be a fascinating visit to the Cambodian border area to see the secret base where the NLF ran the final campaign to take Sai Gon and the very spot where the four-party negotiations to implement the Paris Peace accords took place.



WALTER PEARSON - on the last plane out in 1972

Two tour Vietnam Veteran, linguist, history and philosophy expert, fought in the Battle of Binh Ba in 1969, and was among those veterans who attended the first comemorative gathering in 1989 at the replica Cross in Long Tan Cross. Walter was central to the search for Australia's MIAs.

A former journalist, he wrote and produced the documentary Vietnam Minefield and has advised and assisted various TV programs including Australian Story, In Their Footsteps, Foreign Correspondent, Who Do You Think You Are and the makers of The Team.

He has taken ships' crews, Staff College groups and international VIPs around Viet Nam.

Walter is married to a Vietnamese and lived an authentic Vietnamese lifestyle for almost five years, in Binh Long, formerly An Loc, about 100 kms from Ho Chi Minh City. Since 2000, Walter has led tours by car, bus, train, plane and motorbike throughout Vietnam.





LAST OUT TOUR - 18 DAYS - ITINERARY



1 Sun 13 Nov Ho Chi Minh City

Group concentrates in Ho Chi Minh City. Welcome Dinner O/night HCM City

2 Mon 14 Nov Ho Chi Minh City

Breakfast. Day tour of city. Lunch en route. Dinner O/night HCM City.

3 Tue 15 Nov Cu Chi Day Trip

Breakfast. Travel by boat up the Sai Gon River to the area where Australian troops discovered the NLF's Sai Gon - Gia Dinh Headquarters Tunnel system. This is not the installation most tour groups visit. It is more impressive and exciting. Lunch. Return by boat. Dinner O/night HCM City

4 Wed 16 Nov Ha Noi

Breakfast. Fly to Ha Noi. Lunch on arrival. Afternoon visit to Air Defence and Air Force Museum showing the US Air War against northern Viet Nam. Dinner. O/night Ha Noi.

5 Thu 17 Nov Ha Noi

Breakfast. Visit Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum. Visit to Nha 67 Bunker where the DRV's Military Committee ran the war, Hoa Lo (Hanoi Hilton) Prison. Lunch. Stroll around the Old Quarter. Dinner. O/night Ha Noi.

6 Fri 18 Nov Dien Bien Phu

Breakfast. Late morning flight to Dien Bien Phu. Lunch on arrival. Visit to DBP Museum and Elienne Strongpoint. Dinner. O/night Dien Bien Phu

7 Sat 19 Nov Dien Bien Phu

Breakfast. Drive to Giap Headquarter location. See Artillery redoubt on return. Lunch. Visit Beatrice, Dominique, de Castries HQ, and Para Memorial. Dinner with Thai people. O/night Dien Bien Phu.

8 Sun 20 Nov Dien Bien Phu - Ha Noi

Breakfast. Morning Visit to Isabelle location. Lunch. Early afternoon flight to Ha Noi and on to HCM City.



9 Mon 21 Nov Rung Sat

Breakfast. Drive to Monkey Island in Can Gio and see the replica NLF Base. Fresh seafood lunch by the sea. Return to HCM City. O/night HCM City.

10 Tue 22 Nov Mekong Delta

Breakfast. Drive to Mekong Delta and visit Ap Bac. Lunch on Ben Tre. Take a sampan along the Green Tunnels. O/night My Tho.

11 Wed 23 Nov Mekong Delta

Breakfast. Drive to Go Thap where to visit the archeological site of the enigmatic Fu Nam civilisation which occupied the Delta from the 2nd Century. Nearby we will visit the Tomb of Nguyen Tan Kieu a General of the resistance force that fought the French in the 1860s onward who is still venerated today. We also discover why the region is called the Plain of Reeds. Drive to Cao Lanh a major town in the western Delta. Lunch. Visit the tomb of Nguyen Sinh Sac, father of Ho Chi Minh. Dinner O/night. Cao Lanh

12 Thu 24 Nov Mekong - HCM City

Breakfast. Drive to HCM City. Lunch in My Tho. Dinner. O/night HCM City.

13 Fri 25 Nov Ba Ria - Nui Dat - Binh Gia

Breakfast. Drive to Ba Ria. Visit Nui Dat, Long Tan and Binh Gia. Lunch in Vung Tau. Return to overnight in HCM City.

14 Sat 26 Nov Bien Hoa - Binh Duong - Binh Phuoc

Breakfast. Drive to Bien Hoa. Tan Uyen- site of FSBs Coral and Balmoral. Drive to Dong Xoai and on to Binh Long O/night Binh Long

15 Sun 27 Nov Binh Long - Loc Ninh

Breakfast. Dinner. Drive to Loc Ninh - where final negotiations for the implementation of the Paris Peace Accords - and Ta Thiet - NLF HQ for the assault on Sai Gon. Lunch in Binh Long. Afternoon sightseeing. Dinner. O/night Binh Long

16 Mon 28 Nov Binh Long - HCMC

Breakfast. Drive to HCM City. Lunch on arrival. Afternoon free. Dinner O/night HCM City

17 Tue 29 Nov HCM City - Australia

Breakfast. Day at leisure. Late check out. Evening flight to Australia.

18 Wed 30 Nov HCM City - Australia

Morning arrival in Sydney and disperse.

