



VIETNAM IN FOCUS

PHOTO TOURS AND WORKSHOPS

DOWN IN CHINATOWN
PHOTOGRAPHY DAY TOUR



SAIGON DOWN IN CHINATOWN



Saigon's current incarnation as a hive of trade and cultural mixture is nothing new: this photographic wander through the city's historic Chinatown reveals Buddhist pagodas, French lycees and street markets selling everything you can imagine. The home of Saigon's once-large ethnic Chinese community, 'Cho Lon' still bears traces of this history, with plenty of Mandarin signage, dim sum stalls and an assembly hall built by immigrants from the north. While navigating this bustling labyrinth of backstreets and temples, you'll work on a variety of street photography techniques, and put together a series exploring daily life in Saigon's atmospheric Chinatown.



A woman wearing a purple sweater and a floral skirt is working at a metal gear manufacturing station in a dark workshop. She is wearing a traditional conical hat. The station is filled with various metal gears and tools. The scene is dimly lit, with the woman's purple sweater and the green metal frame of the station providing some contrast against the dark background.

EXPECTATIONS



On this street photography tour you'll look at aspects of composition including leading lines, framing, layers and depth, and color theory. You'll also explore approaches useful in this genre of photography like the 'fishing technique' and the search for recurring patterns. Expect to walk, shoot and shoot some more, with plenty of stops to review the pictures taken along the way.

Tour Length: Evening: 5:30am till 9:30am

Level of Difficulty: Moderate Physical activity (Walking)

ITINERARY



5:30am: We'll pick you up from your hotel and head straight to Chinatown for a quick coffee to start our day. We'll discuss the program of the tour and camera settings before we get into action

6:00am: We make our move towards a vibrant local market and try to blend in with the local crowd, capturing portraits of street vendors and exchanging smiles along the way. After a tasty treat for breakfast, we will explore the different perspectives the market offers by wandering around the buildings surrounding it

7:30am: We will then head to one of the area's most picturesque temples. With beautiful diffuse light going through the ceiling, it is also a great spot to frame your subject under the best light

8:00am: We will immerse ourselves in Chinatown's chaotic boulevards and spider-webbing alleyways where we will focus on composition and storytelling.

8:30am: Motorbike pieces market with a focus on patterns and colors

9:30am: The last stop of our adventure in this charming maze leads us to a local school where we will practice the 'fishing technique' which consists of looking for an interesting background and waiting for your subject to enter the frame. Key to street photography is patience!

9:30am: Back to the hotel





EQUIPMENT

Please bring equipment that is readily available to you and that you are comfortable with. Training and photography tips will be provided on tour by our professional photographers based on the locations, lighting and the type of shots you would like to capture. Our photographers will tailor their knowledge to your skill level or interests.



- DSLR Camera / Film Camera
- Smart phone
- Memory Cards
- 8-30mm Lens (Wide Angle)
- 45-75mm Lens (Standard or Zoom)
- Fully Charged Battery (spare batteries if available)





INCLUDES



- Hotel Pickup ([Hotel pickups commence approximately 15 minutes prior to this time.](#))
- Non-alcoholic beverages
- Breakfast
- Professional Photographer Guide

EXCLUDES



- Gratuities

FITNESS



- A general level of fitness is required as this is a walking and Photography tour with long periods of standing and crouching.



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