

Our winter 2017 trip took us to Southeast Asia. Starting point and ending point are Taipei and Singapore, respectively. A few of the scenic wonders and historical highlights in between are shown here.

First destination was the famed natural wonders of Ha Long Bay, where protruding peaks from the sea present marvelous sights of earth, water, sun and wind in perfect harmony. Betty says the mountain peaks reminds her of our Guilin trip where mountain landscape rises out of plain fields along a river. So are these limestone geological formations from the same plate tectonic dynamics?



Angkor Wat and Angkor Thom are two ancient temples of the Cambodians from the 12th Century. They are elegant stone structures that depict the strengths of religious connection of these kingdoms. They also have large surrounding wall structures for defense against enemies like castles of Europe, only 2017 much larger in scope. Here, we are standing outside the walls of the Angkor Wat in the background.

Angkor Thom has more unique carvings of the many faces of gods. Many have been preserved over the centuries. We were informed that subsequent invaders tried to deface these statues as a symbol of their conquest. Ahh, perhaps these actions are precursors of book burning and mosque destructions of more modern times!



The Mekong River serves as the live line for all of the people in this region. These include fishing, mango farming, ship building, brick making and snake farming. Here, Betty holds a 50 pound python for a hug and a kiss (not shown because the cameraman was too worried for her safety to snap!)

No SE Asia trip would be complete without touring the gold steeples and temples of Bangkok, Thailand. Here, with the jaded steeples in the background, we are expecting good luck with a rubbing of the tummy of a gold Buddha.



Indeed we are lucky to have our good health! Best to all! ----- Yin and Betty