

Contents

INTRODUCTION.....	15
REGIONAL FACTS FOR THE VISITOR.....	17
Planning.....	17
Visas.....	18
Documents.....	19
Money.....	19
Electricity.....	22
Post.....	22
Time.....	22
Books.....	23
Film & Photography.....	23
Health.....	23
Women Travellers.....	36
Dangers & Annoyances.....	36
Activities.....	37
Accommodation.....	39
Food & Drinks.....	40
Buying & Selling.....	41
Final Thoughts.....	41
GETTING THERE & AWAY.....	43
Air.....	43
To/From the UK & Europe.....	46
To/From Australia & NZ.....	46
To/From North America.....	47
Land.....	48
Sea.....	48
GETTING AROUND.....	49
Air.....	49
Overlanding in South-East Asia.....	50
Bus.....	52
Train.....	53
Car & Motorbike.....	53
Bicycle.....	53
Hitching.....	54
Boat.....	54
BRUNEI DARUSSALAM.....	55
Facts about the Country ...	55
History.....	55
Geography.....	55
Climate.....	56
Government.....	56
Economy.....	56
Population & People.....	56
Arts & Culture.....	56
Religion.....	57
Language.....	57
Facts for the Visitor.....	57
Visas & Embassies.....	57
Money.....	58
Tourist Offices.....	58
Business Hours & Holidays.....	58
Post & Telecommunications.....	58
Books & Maps.....	58
Getting There & Away.....	58
Air.....	58
Land.....	59
Sea.....	59
Getting Around.....	59
Bandar Seri Begawan.....	59
Around Brunei.....	63
Muara.....	63
Jerudong.....	63
Seria.....	63
Kuala Belait.....	63
Temburong District.....	64
CAMBODIA.....	65
Facts about the Country ...	65
History.....	65
Geography.....	68
Climate.....	68
Government.....	68
Economy.....	68
Population & People.....	68
Arts & Culture.....	69
Religion.....	69
Language.....	69
Facts for the Visitor.....	70
Visas & Embassies.....	70
Money.....	71
Business Hours.....	71
Post & Telecommunications.....	71
Books.....	72
Media.....	72
Film & Photography.....	72
Health.....	72
Dangers & Annoyances.....	72
Accommodation.....	72
Food & Drinks.....	73
Getting There & Away.....	73
Air.....	73
Land.....	73
Sea.....	74
Getting Around.....	74
Air.....	74
Bus.....	74
Train.....	74
Car.....	74
Phnom Penh.....	74
Around Phnom Penh.....	85
Nur Ul-Ihsan Mosque.....	85
Killing Fields of Choeung Ek.....	85
Udong.....	85
Tonlé Bati.....	86
Phnom Chisor.....	86
Angkor.....	86
Siem Reap.....	87
Temples of Angkor.....	88
Roluos Group.....	93
South Coast.....	93
Kampot.....	93
Bokor Hill Station.....	93
Kep.....	93
Kirirom.....	94
Sihanoukville (Kompong Som).....	94

HONG KONG

Facts about the Country ... 95	Business Hours & Holidays .. 101	Mass Transit Railway (MTR) 106
History 95	Post & Telecommunications.. 101	Tram 106
Geography 95	Books & Maps 102	Car & Motorbike 106
Climate 96	Highlights 102	Taxi 107
Government 96	Accommodation 102	Bicycle 107
Economy 96	Food & Drinks 103	Boat 107
Population & People 96	Things to Buy 103	Tours 108
Arts & Culture 96	Getting There & Away 104	Around Hong Kong 108
Religion 96	Air 104	Kowloon 108
Language 96	Land 105	Hong Kong Island 109
Facts for the Visitor 97	Sea 105	New Territories 114
Visas & Embassies 97	Getting Around 105	Outlying Islands 115
Documents 97	To/From The Airport 105	Places to Stay 118
Money 97	Bus 105	Places to Eat 123
Tourist Offices 100	Minibus & Maxicab 106	Entertainment 127
HKTA Offices Abroad 100	Train 106	

INDONESIA

132

Facts about the Country 132	Bandung 166	Candidasa 232
History 132	Around Bandung 171	Amlapura 235
Geography 134	Bandung to Pangandaran 171	Amlapura to Rendang 235
Climate 134	Pangandaran 172	Tirtagangga 235
Government 134	Cirebon 175	Tulamben & Amed 235
Economy 134	Yogyakarta 176	South-West Bali 236
Population & People 134	Around Yogyakarta 185	Gunung Batur Area 236
Religion 134	Wonosobo 189	Lake Bratan Area 238
Language 135	Dieng Plateau 189	Other Mountain Routes 238
Facts for the Visitor 136	Solo 190	Singaraja 238
Visas & Embassies 136	Around Solo 194	East of Singaraja 238
Money 138	Semarang 194	Lovina Beaches 239
Tourist Offices 138	Pekalongan 196	North Coast to Gilimanuk 242
Business Hours & Holidays ... 139	Kudus 196	Bali Barat National Park 242
Post & Telecommunications... 139	Around Kudus 196	Sumatra 243
Books & Maps 139	Malang 196	Bakauheni & Bandar- lampung 246
Accommodation 140	Around Malang 197	Way Kambas 246
Food & Drinks 140	Surabaya 197	Palembang 247
Things to Buy 141	Around Surabaya 201	Around Palembang 249
Getting There & Away 142	Madura 202	Jambi 249
Air 142	Mt Bromo 203	Bengkulu (Bencoolen) 250
Land 142	Blitar 204	Kerinci 252
Sea 142	Gempol 204	Padang 252
Getting Around 143	Pasir Putih 204	Around Padang 255
Air 143	Banyuwangi 205	Siberut Island 256
Bus 143	Bali 205	Padang to Bukittinggi 256
Train 143	Denpasar 212	Bukittinggi 257
Boat 143	Kuta & Legian 213	Around Bukittinggi 261
Local Transport 146	Bukit Peninsula 222	Pekanbaru 261
Java 146	Sanur 222	Dumai 262
Jakarta 150	Ubud 223	Sibolga 262
Around Jakarta 162	Around Ubud 229	Nias Island 263
Merak 162	Besakih 229	Parapat 265
Banten 162	Denpasar to Klungkung 230	Lake Toba 266
West Coast 162	Klungkung 230	Berastagi 271
Bogor 163	Nusa Penida 230	Around Berastagi 273
Around Bogor 166	Padangbai 231	Bukit Lawang Area 273
Pelabuhanratu 166	Balina Beach 231	Medan 274
	Tenganan 231	

Banda Aceh.....	278	Ende.....	309	Cempaka.....	333
Pulau We.....	280	Keli Mutu.....	310	Pontianak.....	333
Riau Archipelago.....	280	Moni.....	310	Singkawang.....	337
Batam.....	281	Wolowaru Area.....	311	Sulawesi.....	337
Bintan.....	282	Maumere.....	311	Ujung Pandang.....	339
Singkep.....	284	Around Maumere.....	313	Around Ujung Pandang.....	343
Nusa Tenggara.....	285	Larantuka.....	313	Bira.....	343
Lombok.....	286	Lembata.....	314	Pare Pare.....	343
Mataram.....	289	Lewoleba.....	314	Tanatoraja.....	344
Senggigi Beach.....	292	Lamalera.....	314	Pendolo.....	349
Narmada, Lingsar &		Timor.....	314	Tentena.....	349
Suranadi.....	294	Kupang.....	315	Poso.....	350
Lembar.....	294	Around Kupang.....	319	Togian Islands.....	350
Sukarara.....	294	Soe.....	319	Palu.....	350
Rembitan & Other Villages.....	294	Kefamenanu.....	319	Donggala.....	351
Kuta Beach.....	294	Atambua.....	319	Gorontalo.....	351
Kotaraja Area.....	295	Dili.....	319	Around Gorontalo.....	352
East Coast.....	295	Around Dili.....	321	Manado.....	352
North Coast.....	296	Baukau.....	321	Around Manado.....	354
Gunung Rinjani.....	296	Beyond Baukau.....	321	Bitung.....	354
Gili Islands.....	296	Roti & Sawu.....	321	Maluku (Moluccas).....	355
Sumbawa.....	300	Sumba.....	322	Ambon.....	356
Poto Tano.....	300	Waingapu.....	322	Around Ambon.....	358
Sumbawa Besar.....	300	Around Waingapu.....	323	Seram.....	359
Pulau Moyo.....	301	Waikabubak.....	323	Banda Islands.....	359
Huu.....	301	Around Waikabubak.....	324	Southern Maluku.....	360
Bima.....	302	Kalimantan.....	324	Ternate.....	360
Sape.....	303	Tarakan.....	326	Tidore.....	362
Komodo & Rinca.....	303	Samarinda.....	327	Irian Jaya.....	362
Flores.....	304	Tenggarong.....	328	Jayapura & Sentani.....	365
Labuhanbajo.....	305	Up the Mahakam River.....	328	Biak.....	367
Reo.....	307	Balikpapan.....	329	Balim Valley.....	369
Ruteng.....	307	Banjarmasin.....	330	Other Towns.....	372
Bajawa.....	308	Martapura.....	333		
Riung.....	309	Banjarbaru.....	333		

LAOS.....373

Facts about the		Business Hours.....	381	Bus.....	386
Country.....	373	Holidays & Festivals.....	381	Truck.....	386
History.....	373	Post & Telecommunications.....	381	Motorbike.....	387
Geography.....	374	Books.....	382	Bicycle.....	387
Climate.....	374	Maps.....	382	Boat.....	387
Government.....	374	Film & Photography.....	382	Local Transport.....	387
Economy.....	376	Dangers & Annoyances.....	383	Vientiane.....	388
Population & People.....	376	Accommodation.....	383	Around Vientiane.....	400
Arts.....	376	Food.....	383	Northern Laos.....	401
Culture.....	376	Drinks.....	384	Luang Phabang.....	401
Religion.....	376	Things to Buy.....	385	Around Luang Phabang.....	406
Language.....	377	Getting There & Away.....	385	Xieng Khuang Province.....	407
Facts for the Visitor.....	378	Air.....	385	Southern Laos.....	409
Visas & Embassies.....	378	Land.....	385	Savannakhet Province.....	409
Tours.....	379	Getting Around.....	386	Salavan Province.....	412
Money.....	380	Air.....	386	Champasak Province.....	412

MACAU.....415

Facts about the		Climate.....	415	Religion.....	416
Country.....	415	Government.....	415	Language.....	416
History.....	415	Population & People.....	416	Facts for the Visitor.....	416
Geography.....	415	Culture.....	416	Visas & Embassies.....	416

Money.....	416	Emergency.....	421	Car.....	424
Tourist Offices.....	417	Dangers & Annoyances.....	421	Bicycle.....	424
Business Hours & Holidays.....	417	Activities.....	421	Tours.....	424
Cultural Events.....	417	Getting There & Away.....	421	Around Macau.....	424
Post & Telecommunications.....	417	Air.....	421	Things to See.....	424
Books & Maps.....	420	Land.....	422	Places to Stay.....	425
Media.....	421	Sea.....	422	Places to Eat.....	429
Radio & TV.....	421	Getting Around.....	423	Entertainment.....	430
Film & Photography.....	421	Bus.....	423	Things to Buy.....	430
Health.....	421	Taxi.....	424		

MALAYSIA.....431

Facts about the Country.....	431	Peninsular Malaysia - West Coast.....	445	The Jungle Railway.....	499
History.....	431	Kuala Lumpur.....	445	Kuala Lipis.....	499
Geography.....	432	Around Kuala Lumpur.....	456	Jerantut.....	499
Climate.....	432	Johor Bahru.....	457	Taman Negara.....	500
Government.....	432	Melaka.....	459	Sarawak.....	502
Economy.....	432	Port Dickson.....	462	Kuching.....	504
Population & People.....	433	Seremban.....	462	Around Kuching.....	508
Arts.....	433	Genting Highlands.....	463	Up the Rejang River.....	509
Culture.....	433	Fraser's Hill.....	463	Sibu.....	509
Religion.....	433	Cameron Highlands.....	463	Kapit.....	510
Language.....	434	Ipoh.....	465	Belaga.....	511
Facts for the Visitor.....	434	Lumut.....	466	Bintulu.....	511
Visas & Embassies.....	434	Pulau Pangkor.....	467	Niah National Park & Niah Caves.....	512
Money.....	435	Kuala Kangsar.....	468	Lambir Hills National Park.....	513
Tourist Offices.....	435	Taiping.....	468	Miri.....	514
Business Hours.....	435	Penang.....	468	Marudi.....	515
Holidays.....	436	Alor Setar.....	479	Gunung Mulu National Park.....	515
Cultural Events.....	436	Kuala Perlis.....	479	Kelabit Highlands.....	516
Post & Telecommunications.....	436	Langkawi.....	479	Limbang.....	517
Books.....	437	Peninsular Malaysia - East Coast.....	481	Lawas.....	517
Maps.....	437	Johor Bahru to Mersing.....	481	Sabah.....	517
Media.....	437	Mersing.....	481	Kota Kinabalu.....	519
Health.....	437	Tioman Island.....	482	Around Kota Kinabalu.....	522
Drugs.....	438	Other East-Coast Islands.....	486	Rafflesia Forest Reserve.....	522
Accommodation.....	438	Kuantan.....	487	Tambunan.....	522
Food.....	438	Around Kuantan.....	488	Beaufort.....	522
Drinks.....	439	Tasik Chini.....	488	Pulau Labuan.....	523
Getting There & Away.....	439	Cherating.....	489	Tenom.....	524
Air.....	439	Rantau Abang.....	490	Kota Belud.....	524
Land.....	440	Marang.....	490	Kudat.....	524
Sea.....	441	Pulau Kapas.....	491	Mt Kinabalu.....	525
Getting Around.....	442	Kuala Terengganu.....	491	Ranau.....	526
Air.....	442	Merang.....	493	Poring Hot Springs.....	526
Bus.....	443	Kuala Besut.....	494	Sandakan.....	526
Train.....	443	Perhentian Islands.....	494	Around Sandakan.....	527
Taxi.....	444	Kota Bharu.....	495	Kinabatangan River.....	528
Car.....	444	Around Kota Bharu.....	498	Lahad Datu.....	528
Hitching.....	444	East-West Highway.....	499	Danum Valley Field Centre.....	529
Boat.....	444	Kota Bharu to Kuala Lumpur.....	499	Semporna.....	529
Local Transport.....	445			Tawau.....	529

MYANMAR (Burma).....531

Facts about the Country.....	531	Geography.....	532	Economy.....	536
History.....	531	Climate.....	533	Population & People.....	536
		Government.....	533	Arts & Culture.....	536

Religion	537	Accommodation	542	Mandalay Region	551
Language	537	Food & Drinks	542	Mandalay	551
Facts for the Visitor	537	Things to Buy	543	Around Mandalay	556
Visas & Embassies	537	Getting There & Away	543	Bagan Region	557
Money	538	Getting Around	543	Bagan (Pagan).....	557
Tourist Offices	540	Air	543	Around Bagan	561
Post & Telecommunications...	540	Bus & Truck.....	544	Pakkoku.....	562
Books & Maps.....	540	Train.....	544	Thazi	562
Media.....	541	Boat.....	544	Inle Lake Region	562
Radio & TV	541	Local Transport.....	545	Inle Lake	562
Film & Photography.....	541	Yangon (Rangoon)	545	Kalaw & Pindaya.....	563
Health	541	Around Yangon	550	Other Places	563
Dangers & Annoyances.....	542	Bago (Pegu).....	550		

THE PHILIPPINES.....565

Facts about the Country	565	San Pablo & Alaminos.....	600	Bongabong, Roxas & Mansalay	625
History	565	Pagsanjan	600	San Jose.....	625
Geography	569	North Luzon	601	Sablayan & North Pandan Island.....	625
Climate	569	Zambales Coast.....	601	Mamburao.....	625
Economy.....	569	Hundred Islands, Lucap & Alaminos.....	602	Romblon	626
Population & People.....	569	Bolinao.....	603	Romblon Island.....	626
Arts & Culture	569	Lingayen, Dagupan & San Fabian	603	Tablas Island	626
Religion	570	Agoo & Aringay	603	Sibuyan Island.....	626
Language	570	Bauang	604	Masbate	627
Facts for the Visitor	571	San Fernando (La Union)	604	Masbate Town	627
Visas.....	571	Baguio.....	605	Panay	627
Money.....	571	Mountain Province	607	Iloilo City	627
Tourist Offices	572	Bontoc.....	608	Guimaras Island	628
Business Hours	572	Sagada.....	608	South Coast	628
Post & Telecommunications...	572	Banaue	609	San Jose de Buenavista.....	629
Books & Maps.....	573	Vigan.....	610	Roxas.....	629
Media.....	573	Laoag	611	Kalibo.....	629
Dangers & Annoyances.....	573	Laoag to Aparri.....	612	Ibajay.....	630
Accommodation	573	Tuguegarao	612	Caticlan	630
Food.....	574	Baler & East Luzon	612	Boracay	630
Drinks	574	South Luzon	613	Negros	633
Things to Buy	574	Lucena.....	613	Bacolod	633
Getting There & Away	574	San Miguel Bay	613	Around Bacolod.....	634
Air.....	574	Naga	614	Dumaguete.....	634
Getting Around	575	Iriga & Lake Buhi.....	614	Mambucal	635
Air.....	575	Legaspi.....	615	San Carlos	635
Bus	575	Around Legaspi	615	Maluay (Malatipay) & Zamboanguita	635
Train.....	575	Mayon	616	Cebu	635
Boat.....	577	Tabaco.....	616	Cebu City	636
Local Transport.....	577	Tiwi	616	Around Cebu.....	641
Manila	578	Catanduanes	617	Bohol	642
Rizal Park - The Luneta.....	582	Sorsogon, Gubat & Bulan	617	Tagbilaran	642
Forbes Park & Tondo	584	Bulusan & Irosin.....	617	Panglao Island.....	643
Around Manila	595	Matnog.....	617	Other Islands	644
Olongapo & Subic	595	Other Islands	618	Chocolate Hills	644
Angeles.....	596	Marinduque	620	Other Places	644
Around Angeles.....	596	Boac	621	Leyte	644
Corregidor	596	Santa Cruz.....	621	Tacloban.....	645
Las Piñas.....	598	Other Places.....	621	Ormoc	645
Tagaytay (Taal Volcano).....	598	Mindoro	621	Other Places	646
Nasugbu & Matabungkay	599	Puerto Galera	622	Samar	646
Batangas	599	Calapan	624		
Los Baños & Calamba.....	600				

Allen	646	Butuan	649	Sulu Archipelago	655
Calbayog	646	Balingoan	649	Palawan	655
Catbalogan	646	Cagayan de Oro	650	Puerto Princesa	655
Camiguin	647	Iligan	650	Central Palawan	656
Mambajao	647	Dipolog & Dapitan	651	South Palawan	656
Around the Island	647	Zamboanga	651	North Palawan	657
Mindanao	648	Davao	653		
Surigao	649	General Santos (Dadiangas)	655		

SINGAPORE **658**

Facts about the Country	658	Money	662	Getting Around	668
History	658	Tourist Offices	663	To/From The Airport	668
Geography	659	Business Hours & Holidays ..	663	Bus	668
Climate	659	Festivals	663	MRT	668
Economy	659	Post & Telecommunications ..	663	Taxi	668
Population & People	659	Books & Maps	664	Other Transport	669
Arts	659	Health	664	Around Singapore	669
Culture	659	Accommodation	664	Things to See	669
Religion	662	Things to Buy	664	Places to Stay	677
Language	662	Getting There & Away	665	Places to Eat	680
Facts for the Visitor	662	Air	665	Entertainment	687
Visas & Embassies	662	Land	666		
		Sea	667		

THAILAND **689**

Facts about the Country	689	Air	706	Tak	759
History	689	Bus	707	Kamphaeng Phet	759
Geography	692	Train	707	Mae Sot	760
Climate	692	Car & Motorbike	708	Mae Hong Son	760
Economy	693	Hitching	709	Pai	761
Population & People	693	Boat	710	Fang & Tha Ton	761
Culture	693	Local Transport	710	Around Fang & Tha Ton	762
Religion	694	Bangkok	710	Chiang Rai	764
Language	694	Bangkok Region	729	Chiang Saen	765
Facts for the Visitor	695	Ayuthaya	729	Around Chiang Saen	765
Visas & Embassies	695	Bang Pa In	732	Mae Sai-mae Salong Area	765
Money	697	Lopburi	732	Phrae	768
Tourist Offices	698	Saraburi	733	Nan	768
Business Hours & Holidays ..	698	Suphanburi	734	North-Eastern Thailand	769
Post & Telecommunications ..	699	Nakhon Pathom	734	Nakhon Ratchasima	
Books	699	Ratchaburi	734	(Khorat)	769
Maps	700	Kanchanaburi	735	Around Nakhon Ratcha-	
Media	700	Jeath War Museum	735	sima	770
Film & Photography	700	Around Kanchanaburi	738	Prasat Phanom Rung	772
Health	700	Sangkhlaburi & Three		Khon Kaen	772
Aids	701	Pagodas Pass	738	Around Khon Kaen	773
Women Travellers	701	Pattaya	740	Udon Thani	773
Dangers & Annoyances	701	Rayong	740	Nong Khai	773
Accommodation	703	Ko Samet	740	Around Nong Khai	774
Food	703	Trat Province	741	Nong Khai to Loei	774
Drinks	704	Ko Chang National Marine		Loei	774
Getting There & Away	704	Park	743	Lom Sak	775
Air	704	Northern Thailand	744	Beung Kan	775
Land	705	Chiang Mai	746	Nakhon Phanom	775
Sea	706	Around Chiang Mai	754	That Phanom	775
Leaving Thailand	706	Phitsanulok	756	Yasothon	776
Getting Around	706	Sukhothai	756	Ubon (Ubol) Ratchathani	776
		Around Sukhothai	759		

Surin	776
Southern Thailand	777
Phetburi (Phetchaburi).....	777
Around Phetburi	778
Hua Hin	778
Prachuap Khiri Khan.....	779
Thap Sakae & Bang Saphan....	779
Ranong.....	780
Around Ranong	780
Chaiya.....	780

Surat Thani.....	781
Ko Samui	781
Ko Pha-Ngan	785
Ko Tao.....	787
Nakhon Si Thammarat.....	788
Phattalung	788
Songkhla	789
Around Songkhla.....	791
Hat Yai	791
Around Hat Yai	793

Satun	793
Phuket	794
Khao Sok National Park	799
Krabi	799
Around Krabi	800
Ko Phi Phi.....	800
Trang	801
Around Trang	801
Sungai Kolok	801

VIETNAM 803

Facts about the Country 803	
History	803
Geography	804
Climate	804
Government	806
Economy	806
Population & People.....	806
Arts & Culture	806
Religion	806
Language	807
Facts for the Visitor	808
Visas & Embassies	808
Documents	810
Customs	810
Money	810
Tourist Offices	812
Business Hours & Holidays ...	812
Post & Telecommunications...	812
Books & Maps	812
Media.....	812
Film & Photography	813
Health	813
Dangers & Annoyances.....	813
Accommodation	813
Food	814
Drinks	814

Getting There & Away	815
Air	815
Land	815
Leaving Vietnam.....	815
Getting Around	815
Air	815
Bus	816
Train	816
Car.....	816
Hitching	816
Boat.....	817
Local Transport.....	817
Tours	817
Ho Chi Minh City	817
Around Ho Chi Minh City.....	833
Cu Chi Tunnels	833
Tay Ninh	833
Vung Tau	835
Mekong Delta	837
Mytho.....	837
Vinh Long	839
Other Areas	839
Central Highlands.....	840
Dalat.....	840
Around Dalat	843

Buon Ma Thuot.....	844
Around Buon Ma Thuot.....	844
Pleiku	845
Kontum	845
South-Central Coast.....	845
Nha Trang	845
Hoi An (Faifo).....	848
Around Hoi An.....	849
Danang	851
Hué	854
DMZ & Vicinity.....	859
Hanoi	860
The North	874
Sam Son Beaches.....	874
Tam Dao Hill Station	874
Hoa Lu	874
Perfume Pagoda	874
Haiphong.....	874
Around Haiphong	876
Halong Bay	876
Cat Ba National Park	877
Lang Son	877
Lao Cai.....	879
Sapa.....	880
Dien Bien Phu.....	880

APPENDICES 882

Religions of South-East Asia 882	History Chart	885	Climate Charts	887
----------------------------------	---------------------	-----	----------------------	-----

GLOSSARY 890

INDEX 892

Maps	892	Text	893
------------	-----	------------	-----