

Highlights of Vietnam Tour - 14 days

(Hanoi – Ninh Binh – Halong – Hoian – Hue – Saigon – Mekong)

Itinerary Overview

Day	Destinations/Activities	Meals
Day 1	HANOI ARRIVAL	--
Day 2	HANOI –HALF DAY CITY TOUR	B
Day 3	HANOI – NINH BINH – HOA LU – TAM COC	B/L
Day 4	NINH BINH - HALONG BAY - NIGHT ON BOARD	B/L/D
Day 5	HALONG BAY – HANOI – HOIAN	B/L
Day 6	HOIAN - FREE AND EASY DAY	B
Day 7	HOIAN & COUNTRYSIDE CYCLING TOUR – 9KM	B/L
Day 8	HOIAN –MY SON TOWERS TOUR	B/L
Day 9	HOIAN - FREE AND EASY DAY	B
Day 10	HOIAN - HUE SCENIC TRAIN JOURNEY	B
Day 11	HUE CITY TOUR - LATE FLIGHT TO SAIGON	B/L
Day 12	SAIGON – CU CHI & MEKONG RIVER DELTA	B/L
Day 13	SAIGON – FREE AND EASY DAY	B
Day 14	SAIGON DEPARTURE	B

Note*: B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner

Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 HANOI ARRIVAL

Arrive in Hanoi. Greeted by your driver at the airport. Transfer to your hotel in the city centre for check-in.

Note*:

- The hotel room will be available at 2:00pm, and in case that you would like to secure an early-check in, an additional charge will be applied.
- Please be advised that both international and domestic might be crowded at sometimes during the day, so in case that you arrive and cannot find our representatives, please be presented at Pole **No.16** outside lobby A2 (International) or Lobby of domestic arrival (Domestic flight) and contact us, so we could easily search for you.

Meals: N/A

Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

Day 2 HANOI HALF DAY CITY TOUR

Free in the morning.

In the afternoon, half day tour to visit Hanoi. We start with visit to President Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum (Outsite). We also visit the famous One Pillar Pagoda nearby. Leaving the President's complex, we continue to visit the Temple of Literature (Van Mieu). Although several Van Mieu can be found throughout Vietnam, the most prominent and famous is that situated in the city of Hanoi, and was functioned as Vietnam's first university

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

Day 3 HANOI – HOA LU – TAM COC

07.15– 07.45: Pick up from your hotel or private address and departure to Ninh Binh.

09.00: Have a short break for relaxing at a stop-over in Dong Van, Ha Nam province.

10.00 Visiting a local family in Tam Coc area. They are a traditional Vietnamese family with three generations living together. Here you will get the chance to see the house architecture and their daily life and their handicraft job of making traditional embroidery.

10:30 Leaving the family, you will take a bike and start riding to explore the rice fields and limestone mountains with an unique route.

12:00 Come back the local family, enjoy a special lunch with the local cuisine featuring the yin-yang balance of the Asian culture. After lunch, a break with a cup of tea will be served before you continue the journey of discovery Ninh Binh.

13.30: Visit Tam Coc by a small boat rowed by a local for about 1.5 hours. Known as "Halong Bay on land", the boat trip is a nice journey along the river with the peaceful scenery of Limestone Mountains, rice paddy if traveling during harvest season.

15:30 Arrive at Hoa Lu, the ancient capital of Vietnam in the 10th century, visit the temple of King Dinh. Under the introduction of our local guide, you will get to know more about the Vietnamese history.

Drive to your hotel in Ninh for checkin

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Ninh Binh

Day 4

NINH BINH - HALONG BAY - NIGHT ON BOARD

07:00 – 07:15 : Pick up at your hotel by shuttle bus

12:30 – 12:30 : Embark the cruise at Tuan Chau harbor. Enjoy welcome drink, cruise briefing & start cruising.

13:00 – 15:30 : A stunning lunch is served while cruising into the Halong Bay with thousands of extraordinary shaped limestone islands considered as the heaven on the earth

15:30 – 17:00 : Explore the area and be charmed by the outstanding masterpiece of the Mother Nature. Visit Mê Cung Cave – one of the most beautiful caves in Halong Bay. Climb up & see the panoramic view of the bay from above. Enjoy swimming in the crystal water of the peaceful Bay.

17:00 – 19:00 : Return to the cruise the Sunset party and admire the best moment of the day when the sun starts to set. Or enjoy the massage treatment in your comfortable cabin.

19:00 : Savor an amazing and dreamlike dinner in Fairy cave (or Drum cave) with extremely delicious food which is not only impressed by its incredible taste, but also by great fruit and vegetable carving performance. Socialize with new friends and crew members, enjoy squid fishing or leisurely relax on the top deck in the middle of the tranquil bay.

Note*: the itinerary and activities on board would vary depending on the boat you choose. Please see the choice of boat in Hotel Inclusions.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Night on Board

Day 5

HALONG BAY – HANOI - HOIAN

07.00: Coffee and tea will be served

08.00: Continue cruising

08h15: Visit splendid Sung Sot Cave

09h00: Check out and enjoy a fantastic cruise on the bay, passing Dinh Huong Island, fishing villages, Ga Choi Island, Dog Island and Sail Island.

09.30: Buffet brunch (breakfast/lunch) while cruising back through Halong Bay to the pier

11h30: Arrive at the pier. Time to say goodbye to the crew.

12.00: Return from Halong to Hanoi. Arrive Hanoi at about 17pm.

Airport transfer for late flight to Danang. Transfer to the hotel in Hoian upon arrival.

Note*: the itinerary and activities on board would vary depending on the boat you choose. Please see the choice of boat in Hotel Inclusions.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoian

Day 6

HOIAN FREE AND EASY DAY

Free and easy day for shopping and personal activities in Hoian ancient town upon arrival.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoian

Day 7

HOIAN & COUNTRYSIDE CYLCING TOUR – 9KM

Pickup at the hotel at 08:00.

Today, you spend a day leisurely cycling through the scenic countryside of Vietnam, far from the traffic, the motor scooters, and the noises of the city. You will cross the islands on the Song Thu river delta using local transportation, including ferries and floating bridge.

This tour will take you to discover how wooden river boats are made, learn the secret of weaving the colorful straw "Hoi An" sleeping mats. Try the renowned Vietnamese basket boats. You will spend the day with first-hand contact with one of the rural inhabitants of the region, far from the usual tourist circuits.

At lunchtime you will be invited into the home of a local Vietnamese family for a traditional Vietnamese meal, and learn their customs and traditions. After you have relaxed for a while under the shade of a mango tree, you will begin your return towards Hoi An, which will take about an hour.

Arrive Hoian at about 3pm.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoian

Day 8 HOIAN - MY SON TOWERS TOUR

Pickup at the hotel at 7:50 am, we drive to visit My Son. The My Son temple complex is regarded one of the foremost Hindu temple complexes in Southeast Asia and is the foremost heritage site of this nature in Vietnam. It is often compared with other historical temple complexes in Southeast Asia, such as Borobodur of Java in Indonesia, Angkor Wat of Cambodia, Bagan of Myanmar and Ayutthaya of Thailand. Although badly damaged by bombing raids in the 1960s, the site still has more than 20 structures and was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1999.

Leaving My Son for boat station and taking a boat trip on Thu Bon river. You could visit the living of the local people and feeling the fresh air. Enjoy the beautiful views along the river. Arrive Hoian in early afternoon. Free time to explore Hoian ancient town.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoian

Day 9 HOIAN - FREE AND EASY DAY

Enjoy your free day for shopping and personal activities in Hoian.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoian

Day 10 HOIAN - HUE SCENIC TRAIN JOURNEY

Free in the morning.

In the afternoon, transfer to the station for day train to Hue. Enjoy scenic view of Hai Van Pass on the way. Arrive Hue in late afternoon. Transfer to the hotel and enjoy free time.

Note*:

- Train schedule is subject to change depending on availability
- Train journeys are part of a great local experience. The train take about 2.5 hours. Restrooms at either end of the carriages.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hue

Day 11 HUE CITY TOUR - FLIGHT TO SAIGON

08:00: Pickup at the hotel.

Today, we will spend a full day touring Hue city.

In the morning: visit Old Imperial City, Flag Tower, Thien Mu Pagoda and Dong Ba bustling market.
Lunch at the local restaurant.

In the afternoon: visit Royal Tombs of Minh Mang and Khai Dinh. We will also visit a Conical hat village and incense stick village

Then airport transfer for late afternoon flight to Saigon. Transfer to your hotel for checkin upon arrival.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Saigon

Day 12 SAIGON – CU CHI & MEKONG RIVER DELTA

07:30: Pick up at your hotel and drive to Cu Chi (60km – 1,5 hours).

Upon arrival, watch a documentary film and learn more about the handmade weapon and traps. We will then explore an underground city and taste streamed tapioca and hot tea. Visit rice paper workshop.
After Cu Chi Tunnel, we go ahead to My Tho and have lunch on the way at local restaurant.

Arrival My Tho, the boat trip takes you to visit some small Island with many landscapes. Here we can enjoy some of tropical fruits while listening to traditional South Vietnamese folk songs performed by local artists. Then we will visit small Bee Farm, where we can play with the pythons and trying some honey tea, and taste local confectionery.

Finally, we will have a short rowing boat ride to small canal, enjoy the fresh air under the cool green water palm.

Drive back HCMC late afternoon.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Saigon

Day 13 SAIGON FREE AND EASY DAY

Today, you are free and easy to explore Saigon.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: hotel in Saigon

Day 14 SAIGON DEPARTURE

Today, you are free till airport transfer for departure flight. Trip ends!

Note*: depending on your flight schedule, we will arrange airport transfer accordingly (2.5 hours for domestic flight/ 4 hours for international flights).

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: N/A

Hotel Inclusions

Location	Hotel		
	2-3*	3-4*	4*
Hanoi	La Suite Hotel & Spa	Hanoi Noble Hotel	Golden Silk boutique hotel
Halong Bay Cruise	A Class Cruise	Aclass Stellar Cruise	Huong Hai Sealife Cruise
Hoian	Uptown Hoi An Hotel	Vinh Hung Emerald Resort	Vinh Hung Riverside Resort
Hue	Orchid hotel	Hue Cherish Hotel	Eldora Hotel
Saigon	Saigon Beautiful 3	Tan Hoang Long Saigon Hotel	Grand Silverland Hotel & Spa
Ninh Binh	Tam Coc Boutique Garden	Tam Coc Boutique Garden	Hidden Charm Resort

Note*:

- All prices are in USD per adult, in Double/Twin sharing
- Small group tour - daily departure with max 12 pax (for Halong Cruises, you will join bus by boat companies)
- In some major cities in Vietnam, hotel rooms may not have windows.
- Similar hotels are selected if any of above are booked
- Early checkin/late checkout is not included
- Surcharge will be applied for single traveller or single room request

Inclusions & Exclusions

Inclusions

- Overnights in selected hotels or similar
- Vietnam visa approval letter
- Halong bay 2 day Cruise package
- Domestic flights (Hanoi – Danang, Hue – Saigon)
- Local English speaking guides
- Excursions as mentioned in the itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Entrance fees for sightseeing mentioned in the itinerary
- Tours and transfers as mentioned by air-conditioned vehicles (bus and group tour)
- Danang – Hue day train Journey

Exclusions

- Meals and services other than those noted in the itinerary
- Visas fee stamping fee (US\$25 – pay at the airport)
- Laundry, telephone calls, and personal expenditures
- Gratuities for guides, drivers, porters, boat crew, and personal, non-itinerary services

Children Rates

- FOC for infant under 2 years old (full charge for flight tickets - US\$180)
- 02 - 6 years old without bed: 35% adult rate
- 06 - 11 years old with extra bed: 75% adult rate
- 06 - 11 years old in twin share: 90% adult rate

Note*: The rate for children applicable for one child sharing a twin or double cabin with two adults

Booking Terms & Conditions

Payment

- To guarantee your land tour booking, a deposit 30% must be paid in advance. The balance must be settled **either** in USD Cash on arrival **or** 1 week before arrival date via any other methods.
- We accept payments in cash, by credit card or by bank transfer and Western Union. Any charges to settle the payment must be paid by the Clients. We will recognize the amount receive only.

Cancellations

Cancellations for all or any part of the trip will not be effective until received in writing. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply:

- 65 days or more before departure: 15% of total tour cost
- Between 64 and 35 days before departure: 30% of total tour cost
- Between 34 and 15 days before departure: 50% of total tour cost
- Between 14 and 7 days before departure: 80% of total tour cost
- 6 days or less before departure / No Show: 100% of total tour cost

Full charge is applied for all flights

Note: We strongly recommend for your protection that you purchase a trip cancellation insurance.

Important Information

Emergency Contact

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call the travel consultant whom you deal with and then our hot line contacts. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please send us a detailed message and contact information by email to the agent and to info@indochinatreks.com, we may check and return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

Our all travel consultants use WhatApps. Please ensure that you have the contact number. It's best to buy a local sim-card upon arrival. Most hotels offer free wifi. So it's very easy to contact in urgent case.

Emergency contact numbers

Mr. Kelvin Do: +84 986759655

Ms. Thuy Pham: +84 984654964

Combo Trip

If you book small group tour option, please note that the tour combines with our other tours. As such, some travel companions on your tour may have previously been travelling together with us. Likewise, some travel companions may be continuing together on another tour after your trip concludes.

You can start the tour on any date (please contact our consultant in advance to avoid peak dates or holidays) and customize itinerary with extra days/activities at any destination.

Internal Flights

For all internal flights, we would use Vietnamairlines, Vietjesair, Jestar, Cambodia Angkorair or Laos Airlines. Most domestic flights in Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar, airlines would use small 70 seat ATR72 for short distances. Most airlines in Vietnam use the Airbus A321. 20kg for checkin luggage and 7kg for hand-bag is included in the price.

International flights before/after the tour must be booked by yourself before travelling date.

Accommodation

We would use different hotel categories and you can select any basing on your budget. So your travel companions would not stay at your hotel. A Hotel Voucher will be provided once your tour is confirmed with all hotel details.

Packing List

Conservative Dress

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

Note*: Please pack clothing for the season in which you will be travelling. From Dec-Feb weather can be cold, so please pack warm clothing. From May-Nov it is the wet season, so please bring waterproof clothing.

Documents

- All tickets (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Required visas
- Hotel & Tour Vouchers
- Meeting sign (with your names and flight details that we will use for transfers)

Train Travel

Train travel in Vietnam is very basic and train cleanliness is often not a priority for train staff. Sleeper trains normally have 4 seats per compartment, which convert into sleeping bunks (two upper and two lower). A sheet, pillow and blanket are provided, although many people prefer to bring their own sleeping sheet. At times, passengers of different genders may be required to share a sleeper train berth and/or share a compartment with people not travelling in your group. For short distance - 3 hours (as Hue to Danang or vv), you will do the trip on soft/hard seat carriage.

Simple food is available on the train but many people like to stock up on freshly baked bread, cheese and fruit prior to departure. Water should also be bought before the journey.

Train journeys in Vietnam are an experience and allow you to get a real taste of Vietnam.

Airport transfers

All airport transfers are included in the tour price. You should provide us your arrival/departure flight details and we will arrange things basing on the information. A meeting sign with your name and all flight details will be sent to you. Please be ready at the lobby at pointed time for pickup.

Driver/guide should always be present at the airport before your arrival time. If you could not find the driver, please contact your travel consultant who you deal with. For any reason that airport transfer could not be arranged, please take the taxi to the hotel. We will refund the money then.

Travel insurance

Travel insurance is not included in our tour price. When travelling with us, you are suggested to buy insurance that covers all medical coverage, cancellation, personal liability, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects.

Trip Specific Safety

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

Be aware that petty theft can be an issue in some towns and cities especially late at night. A common tactic is opportunists on motorbikes that drive by and snatch bags. Please always leave valuables and passports etc in your hotel in safety boxes if available and only carry with you enough cash to spend for the day. Bags should always be carried over the neck and not left to sit on your shoulder.

Warming

Please do not buy gems unless you know what you are doing. Even if genuine you should not expect to be able to sell them at home. If you fall victim to a gem scam, we are unable to assist you.

Visas and Entry Requirements

Please note that visas for Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are the responsibility of the individual traveller. The visa requirements for your trip vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. For the most up to date information please check your Governments Foreign Ministry website or with you travel agent as rules do change.

CAMBODIA - Visas can be obtained at the Cambodian border or Siem Reap Airport for approx. \$35 USD very easily. Please have *at least* 2 passport photos with you as well.

VIETNAM - As of March 2017, a select 80 nationalities are now eligible to enter Vietnam with an E-Visa. Please contact your Foreign Ministry or Vietnamese consulate to see if your nationality is eligible. Please note that you should ONLY apply for a Vietnam E-Visa if you are entering Vietnam by international airport - either Noi Bai International Airport (Hanoi) or Tan Son Nhat International Airport (Ho Chi Minh City).

If you are entering Vietnam by land border, please apply for a regular visa for Vietnam. Many of the land borders we travel through do not accept the Vietnam E-Visa. Please view this link to apply E-Visa: <https://evisa.xuatnhapcanh.gov.vn/web/guest/trang-chu-ttdt>

We will help you apply an approval letter for visa on arrival if you enter Vietnam through international airports. You will have to pay for stamping fees to the custom at the airport. View how visa on arrival works through this link:

https://www.indochinatreks.com/Vietnam_Visa_On_Arrival

LAOS - Visas are issued upon arrival in Laos. You will need two passport size photographs and approx \$35. Tourists are generally admitted to Laos for 15 days with a visa on arrival or for 30 days with a visa issued at a Lao embassy. Please bring visa photos with you.

Please be aware that you will require four clean pages (minimum) in your passport and at least six months validity.

Tipping

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use.

Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$3-\$5 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service.

Electricity

Indochina Countries use 220V, and a mixture of flat 2-pin, round 2-pin or 3 pin plugs. It is recommended to bring a universal plug adapter.