

Vietnam Discovery (12 Days/11 Nights)

Discover Vietnam's beauty from Halong Bay to Mekong delta: Cruising in Halong bay – UNESCO World Heritage Site or along Perfume river in Hue or on Mekong River to observe the real landscapes, get in touch with local people...



Itinerary:

- Day 1: Hanoi - Arrival
- Day 2: Hanoi city tour
- Day 3: Hanoi – Halong bay
- Day 4: Halong - Hanoi - Hoian
- Day 5: Hoian – My Son
- Day 6: Hoian - Hue
- Day 7: Hue
- Day 8: Hue - Saigon
- Day 9: Saigon – Cuchi tunnels – Caodai temple
- Day 10: Saigon – Mekong delta home stay
- Day 11: Ben Tre – Saigon
- Day 12: Saigon - Departure

Day 1: Hanoi – Arrival (-/-/-)

Meet upon arrival at Hanoi International Airport, then transfer to the hotel for check-in. Time at leisure. Accommodation in Hanoi. Check - in time at 2:00pm.

Day 2: Hanoi city tour (B/L/-)

We discover Hanoi-the charming capital of Vietnam today:

Hochiminh's mausoleum complex (closed on Monday, Friday, every afternoon & in October, November) and his residence, Presidential Palace, One pillar pagoda, Tran Quoc pagoda, French colonial quarter, Temple of Literature, Hanoi Opera. You can select one of the museums below for your preferences (Fine Arts Museum, Museum of History, Museum of Army, Museum of Women, Museum of Ethnology).

Then explore Hoan Kiem lake and a short walk in the Hanoi Old quarter to observe the daily life of local people.

Attend a performance of water puppet show. Accommodation in Hanoi.



Day 3: Hanoi – Halong bay (B/L/D)

8:00am depart for Halong bay, 180km east of Hanoi, listed as World Heritage Area for its Outstanding beauty by UNESCO in 1994.

12:00 we board a traditional junk style to discover the 8th World Wonder where the movie "Indochine" was realized with Catherine Deneuve, French star in the 1990's. Lunch on boat with fresh seafood. It is time to relax on the deck through the most beautiful landscapes with more than 3,000 islands and limestone islets rising from the emerald water. Visit a natural cave, the most picturesque grotto in the bay. Swimming if possible and relaxing on the deck. Dinner & Overnight aboard.



Day 4: Halong - Hanoi – Hoian (B/L/-)

Continue our excursion in the bay.

11:50 Disembark at Tuan Chau wharf and have lunch at local restaurant

13:00 Drive to Hanoi domestic airport. Visit a workshop of potteries en route and a typical village of the Red River delta.

Fly to Danang **VN1519 @ 18:00-19:15**

Meet our guide at Danang airport and proceed to Hoian. Check-in at hotel. Leisure time. Accommodation in Hoian.

Day 5: Hoian – My Son (B/L/-)

After breakfast, discover Hoian ancient town, known to early Western merchants, the city was one of the major trading centers of South East Asia in the 16th century. Hoian has a distinctive Chinese atmosphere with low, tiled-roof houses and narrow streets. Many of the houses were constructed of rare timbers and decorated with lacquer panels engraved with Chinese characters and pillars carved with ornamental designs. Visit historic merchants, community houses, places of worship and Japanese covered bridge, Hoian market.



PM: Drive to My Son sanctuary, the former royal city of Cham empire during 4-16th centuries. My Son was listed as UNESCO's World Heritage in 1999.

Back to your hotel for refreshment. Overnight in Hoian.

Day 6: Hoian – Hue (B/L/-)

Depart for Danang. The scenic 3hours and half drive via Hai Van (Cloud) pass offers spectacular views of mountains, the sea, idyllic beaches and villages.

Visit Cham museum on the way. We continue further north to the charming historic city of Hue.

Upon arrival, check-in at hotel. Free time. Overnight in Hue.



OPTIONAL: Enjoy Royal Dinner with music show, you will be KING and QUEEN once in your life. Please contact our Tour Managers for more details.

Day 7: Hue (B/L/-)

Full day to explore Hue, the former Royal city of the 13 ruling Nguyen dynasties: visit the Imperial Citadel and Forbidden city, Tu Duc king' mausoleum and a local market Dong Ba.

Enjoy a boat trip on the Perfume River to discover Thien Mu pagoda, the wonderful architectural structures for religious worship in Hue. Lunch at local restaurant. We continue our journey to the village producing conical hats to watch the artisan's daily works. Accommodation in Hue.



Day 8: Hue – Saigon/ Hochiminh city (B/L/-)

Transfer to Hue Domestic Airport for flight to Saigon **VN1371 @ 08:00 – 09:20**

Meet on arrival, transfer to the hotel for check-in. Lunch at local restaurant.

PM: Discover Hochiminh city (formerly Saigon), the biggest economic center in the country: visit Opera house, Notre Dame cathedral, Post Office, China town, War Remnants Museum, a lacquer factory. Accommodation in Saigon/ Hochiminh city.

Day 9: Saigon – Cuchi tunnels – Caodai temple (B/L/-)

Depart for Tay Ninh to discover Caodai temple where the world is in peace with Buddhism, Catholicism, Taoism and Confucianism. Lunch at local restaurant.

Drive to Cu Chi tunnels. At its height, the tunnel system stretched from Saigon to Cambodian border and was three levels deep. There are more than 200km of underground tunnels, consisting of a main axis system with many branches connecting to underground hideouts, shelters and other tunnels. The remaining tunnels have become a major tourist attraction giving the visitor a unique experience and a feel of what underground life in the war must have been like. On the way back to Saigon, stopover at local homes producing rice papers & rice wine. Overnight in Saigon/ Ho Chi Minh city.



Day 10: Saigon – Mekong delta home stay (B/L/D)

Today we discover daily life and activities of local people in Mekong delta.

Upon arrival, enjoy a boat trip on Tiền river to the other side (Bến Tre land): visit fishing farms, floating market along the Dragon island on the way. Cruising through Xếp canal in Bến Tre (coconut land) to see coconut collection sets and how the local people make handicrafts from coconut trunk and shell. Taste seasonal fruits and listen to traditional music. Take the horse-carriage on village path and stop at Mr Ba Phát orchard, taste honey with tea or wine. See bees-breeding in wooden boxes under longan trees.

Take rowing-boat along canal under two rows of water coconut. Boat to coconut candy workshop to taste coconut candy (local special product) and visit how to make coconut candy step by step. Then having lunch on islet. Boat to An Khanh village for home stay.

On arrival at local people' house, you will take a walk around the village or join to cook dinner with local people. After that taking rowing boat to watch or catch the fire flies along the small canal. Return to having dinner and overnight at local house.



Day 11: Ben Tre – Saigon (B/-/-)

After breakfast, enjoy a short cycling around the village on small roads to breath landscapes with rice fields, coconut trees, lush orchards of tropical fruits.

Drive back to Saigon. Check-in at hotel. Leisure time for shopping. Overnight in Saigon/ Ho Chi Minh city.

Day 12: Saigon – Departure (B/-/-)

Breakfast at hotel,

Transfer to HCM/Tan Son Nhat International Airport for departure flight. Tour ends. Check-out before 12:00

Including:

- Double/Twin room at selected hotels and on junk (NON-PRIVATE BOAT) in Halong bay
- Entrance fees and permits
- Boat trips in Halong bay, the Perfume River, Mekong delta
- Private air-conditioning transfer
- ENGLISH speaking guides
- Meals (B: Breakfast, L: Lunch; D: Dinner) as mentioned in program

Excluding:

- Vietnam visa fees,
- International airfares & airport's taxes to/from Vietnam,
- Domestic airfares & airport taxes Hanoi – Danang/Hue – Saigon Economy Class on Vietnam Airlines
- Christmas Gala Dinner on 24 December 2013 & New Year Dinner on 31 December 2013
- Tips, drinks,
- Travel insurances
- Other personal expenses...

Trip cost: All rates are NET in United States Dollars (US\$) per person of group:

2 pax	3-5 p	6-9 p	10-14 p	15p + 1	20p + 1	25p+1	30p+1	35p+1	Single Supplement
1,249	1,131	950	817	820	776	744	729	715	292

Valid: 1 November 2013 - 31 October 2014

Hotels:

1. AUTHENTIC Hotel R.O.H (***) or similar in Hanoi
2. BAI THO Junk DELUXE (***) in Halong Bay
3. ROMANCE Hotel SUPERIOR (****) or similar in Hue
4. THUY DUONG 3 Hotel SUPERIOR (***) or similar in Hoian
5. HOANG HAI LONG Hotel DELUXE (***) or similar in Hochiminh city
6. HOME STAY in Ben Tre/ Mekong delta

Supplement: (subject to change by the carrier without prior notice)

- Domestic airfares & airport taxes Hanoi–Danang/Hue–Saigon: US\$220/person Economy Class on Vietnam Airlines

Note:

1. These prices do not apply during Chinese Lunar New Year 2014 (30 January 2014 – 06 February 2014)
2. Our rates may be changed if Vietnamese Government applies new taxes and fees