

Vietnam in Depth

This comprehensive trip explores the best sights of Vietnam with stunning landscapes, fascinating cultures, friendly people - plus some exhilarant cities. The main attractions feature the image of both the new and the old city of Hanoi, the imaginary world of Halong Bay, the romance and peacefulness of Hue and Hoian, the hustle and bustle of Saigon and the fertile land of Mekong Delta, the sea paradise of Phu Quoc.



HANOI – SAPA – HA LONG BAY – HUE – DANANG – HOI AN – SAIGON – MEKONG DELTA – PHU QUOC
16 days 15 nights

Day 1 Arrival Hanoi

On arrival in Hanoi, warm welcome by your tour guide and transfer to your hotel for relaxing.

Overnight in Hanoi

Day 2 Hanoi street food and city tour (B,L)

Morning stop at Bach Ma temple and continue walking along the narrow streets to Hang Be market. Taste street foods and learn about “local cuisine culture”, such as cha que (sausage with cinnamon), banh cuon (Vietnamese rolling cakes), bun cha (rice noodles served with cha que), nem (deep fried “square-shape” spring rolls) and che (a popular dessert soup with many varieties kinds of beans). Take a rest at a local cafe.

Afternoon, continue visiting the Presidential Palace (façade only), One Pillar pagoda, the Temple of Literature. Enjoy a cyclo ride through Hanoi's Old Quarter, followed is the water puppet show at Thang Long theatre. Overnight in Hanoi

Day 3 Hanoi – Sapa – half day tour (B,L)

Drive to Sapa (5 hour driving). Arrive in Sapa, have lunch at a local restaurant. Then embark on a lovely trek that will take us along buffalo paths and trails and through the hill tribe villages of Lao Chai & Ta Van, home to Black H'mong, and Dzay people.

Day 4 Coc Ly Tuesday Market - Hanoi (B,L)

Drive to Coc Ly Tuesday Market. It takes us 2 hour driving to reach there. This is a small but very colorful market in a mountainous area where the Flower H'mong mainly gathers to exchange their homemade products. Then we will have a short trek to Trung Do village (Tay). It is the unique opportunity for you to see the traditional lifestyle of tribal minorities and their costumes and handicrafts. Drive back to Hanoi. Check in the hotel. Overnight in Hanoi
The program could be changed in accordance with weekly market in Sapa

Day 5 Hanoi – Halong Bay (B,L,D)

Depart to Halong Bay. Enjoy the landscape of the Red River Delta country side.

On arrival, enjoy welcome drink on board, receive cruise brief programs and safety instructions. Then check-in and enjoy lunch while the cruise starts cruising into quiet area of Halong Bay, passing small islets. Visit caves, grottos by bamboo boat and stop at a beach for swimming or enjoy kayaking (optional). You can enjoy cruise activities such as cooking class, Happy Hour time, watching movies, or squid fishing at night. Enjoy dinner and relaxing time on board.

Day 6 Halong Bay – Hanoi – Hue (B)

The day starts early onboard with **Tai Chi** session on the sundeck. Coffee, tea and pastries for breakfast are served in the dining room with morning view of bay's landscape. Visit one of the biggest caves in Halong bay with beautiful stalactites and stalagmites. Return to the boat, check-out and cruise back to the Wharf. Disembark and say farewell to the crew.

Transfer back to Hanoi airport for flight to Hue, widely known for its monuments built under the Nguyen Dynasty (1802-1945). Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel in Hue check-in. Overnight in Hue.

Day 7 Hue City tour (B,L,D)

Option: you can choose to have Hue City tour by car or by scooter with Aodaigo ladies (our exclusive services in Hue) www.aodaigo.com



Morning we travel eastward along the city river to Thanh Toàn tile-roofed Bridge in Thanh Toàn village, about 8 km from Hue city. Here we will enjoy the peaceful scenery of the countryside with farmers working on their tranquil rice fields, talk to friendly local people in the small market and learn more about their daily life. Leaving Thanh Toàn Village, we head to Vọng Cảnh Hill to have a vista of the beautiful Perfume River. have a stop at Hồ Quyền Arena, built in 1830 on the south bank of the Perfume River. It was the Then we will arena where duels between elephants and tigers were arranged for the entertainment of the Emperors, the royal families and mandarins. We stop for a rest at Hè Café. Its owner, Mr. Nguyen Van He, is an artist and a war items collector. You may be curious and interested in learning the history behind his collection of Vietnam War items, such as canteens, zippo lighters, soldier headgears and etc. A short walk from Hè Café is Từ Hiếu Pagoda, also known as the resting place of the Nguyen Dynasty's eunuchs. Afternoon, visit the former Imperial Citadel, the Forbidden Purple City and the Inner City, giving this unique feudal capital a setting of great natural beauty.

Tonight enjoy a local-experienced dinner at Mrs. Tuyet's family.

Day 8 Hue – Danang - Hoi An city tour (B,L)

Depart for Hoi An. On the way, stop at Danang to visit Cham Museum. Arrive in Hoi An and check-in hotel. Afternoon, we have the walking tour to visit Hoi An Ancient town, featuring Phung Hung Ancient House, Museum of Hoi An, Kwan Kung Temple, Japanese Covered Bridge and Workshops of Traditional Handicrafts, colourful Hoi An Market. Overnight in Hoian.

Day 9 Tra Que and Cam Thanh Villages biking tour full day (B,L)

You start the day by leisurely cycling along country roads witnessing local Vietnamese rural life. We have experience perhaps riding a water buffalo in a rice paddy field. Then visit a organic vegetable village, join in the farmer's daily activities, such as watering and planting vegetables. Then take part in preparing and cooking some of the famous local dishes such as "Banh Xeo" Pancake, "Tam Huu" local Spring rolls with the guidance of the farmer's family or the chef. Enjoy your lunch with local dishes and with dishes that made by yourself.

Next, you will board the boat for a river cruise meeting and engaging with local fishermen to enjoy a hands-on experience of traditional net fishing. You will also experience paddling the unique Vietnamese bamboo basket boats in the waterways of a coconut palm paradise. This tour provides you with a cultural insight into the ways of life of farming and fishing communities.

The rest of day is at leisure. Overnight in Hoi An.



Day 10 Hoi An – Danang – Saigon (B)

We have a leisurely morning until normal check-out. Transfer to Danang airport for flight to Saigon. Upon arrival, meet your tour guide and transfer to hotel check-in. Overnight in Saigon.



Day 11 Cu Chi Tunnels – City tour (B,L)

8:00AM have an excursion to Cu Chi, 70km north of Saigon, famed for its over 200-kilometre-long tunnels that were used by guerrilla fighters during the Viet Nam War. Understand how they managed to prolong the war in such difficult conditions. Stop at the Ben Duoc War Memorial (over 40,000 people have fallen) and test your marksmanship with an AK rifle at local rifle range (optional).

In the afternoon: city tour includes: War Remnants Museum, features Notre Dame Cathedral built by the French in 1880 and City Post office building. Drop by Ben Thanh Market for viewing local people doing their transactions at its busiest time. Overnight in Saigon.

Day 12 Sai Gon - My Tho - Ben Tre - Can Tho (B,L)

Drive to My Tho, explore part of Mekong River by cruising along the river to see the local fishing port where hundreds of fishing boats anchoring to unload fishes. Upon arrival My Tho, we board a private boat for the trip around four beautiful Islets: Dragon, Unicorn, Tortoise and Phoenix on Mekong River – Drop by Dragon island and take a walk to visit candy workshop and taste coconut candy (Special product of Bentre province). Enjoy tasting seasonal fruits and honey tea, visiting the Bee Hives farmed and coconut candy workshop.

Take the (motor cart) or bicycle through coconut gardens of Quới Sơn, Phú An Hoà and An Khánh (three villages). Stop on the way have seasonal fruits. Have sightseeing at local people’s daily activities and enjoy coconut juice. Lunch will be arranged at a farmer garden with Mekong special dishes.

Take rowing-boat on water palm creek. Back to My Tho – on the way to see fish breeding in floating cages along the Phoenix Islet – Back on shore and drive to Can Tho where

to stay overnight. Check in hotel for relaxing. Overnight in Can Tho

Day 13 Can Tho – Phu Quoc (B)

Take the morning boat trip to visit the Cai Rang floating market the biggest one in the Mekong delta in Viet Nam for viewing the busiest of transactions of local people over the river & back to hotel around 2hrs).

Then drive to Can Tho airport for flight to Phu Quoc.

Arrive in Phu Quoc, transfer to hotel by Hotel’s bus. Check in the hotel.

Free time is at leisure. Overnight in Phu Quoc

Day 14 Phu Quoc easy day (B)

Free time is at leisure on beach

Day 15 Phu Quoc easy day (B)

Free time is at leisure on beach

Day 16 Phu Quoc Departure (B)

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight by Hotel’s bus. Have a great trip!

B: Breakfast L: Lunch D: Dinner

Tour cost included:

- Private transportation as in program
- Accommodation on Double/Twin sharing room with breakfast
- Meals as indicated in program (excluded drinks)
- All sight-seeing and boat fees as in program
- Local English speaking guide
- Complimentary 01 bottle of mineral water per person per day tour