

Highlights of Vietnam



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 Start Location

 Plane

 Cruise

 Over night

 Visited Location

 End Location

 Train

 Ferry

Day 1 | Welcome to Hanoi



On arrival, we have airport transfers arranged for you. Relish the warm embrace of Vietnam and her welcoming people, who will touch you with their humility and entrepreneurial spirit throughout your journey across this intoxicating land. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel before meeting your Travel Director and fellow travelers for a dinner at a local restaurant.

Meals: Dinner

Hotel: Silk Path Hotel

Day 2 | A Day to Discover Hanoi



Ready to step into Vietnam's past? You'll visit the Temple of Literature, Vietnam's first national university from the 11th century. It's a beautiful example of traditional Vietnamese architecture—and if you've got a 100,000 dong note, you'll spot it right there. Next, hop on a cyclo, a three-wheeled bicycle taxi, and cruise through Hanoi's Old Quarter, known for its 36 streets once home to artisan guilds. You'll also view the striking Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and then go inside the One Pillar Pagoda and Ho Chi Minh's peaceful wooden house. Then, meet Mr. Liem Phan, a skilled artisan who brings the ancient art of water puppetry to life. Hear the story behind this unique tradition, enjoy a show, and even try your hand at puppet-making. End the day at your leisure, soaking in Hanoi's charm and culture.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Silk Path Hotel

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Hanoi Street Eats after Dark - Start your Hanoi culinary adventure with a leisurely evening walk through the bustling Old Quarter. Guided by a Local Specialist, you'll discover the best of Hanoi's street food culture. Try tasty dishes like Pho Ga, the nation's beloved chicken noodle soup, and Banh Mi, Vietnam's famous sandwich. Stroll through the lively Dong Xuan Night Market and test your bargaining skills before ending the evening like a local—with a refreshing glass of Bia Hoi at Beer Corner.

Adult: 37.00 USD

Day 3 | Cruise Ha Long Bay



Board your cruise, check in to your cabin and meet the crew over a drink before listening to a safety briefing. Enjoy lunch as the boat cruises towards the southeast of Ha Long Bay, with its limestone scenery unfolding around you. You'll explore the Ho Ba Ham area by kayak before freshening up and getting ready for the evening. As the sun sets, enjoy happy hour drinks, then join a cooking competition on the sundeck or in the restaurant where you'll practise making Vietnamese dishes before dinner. The rest of the evening is yours, with the option to join a rice wine tasting, try squid fishing or enjoy a second happy hour with your fellow passengers.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Hotel: Au Co Cruise

Day 4 | Sunrise at Halong Bay and Trinh Nu Adventures



Ease into the day with a Tai Chi lesson as the sun rises over Ha Long Bay, followed by breakfast on board. Choose to visit Tien Ong Cave and discover its archaeological heritage, or explore the Cua Van Floating Culture Center by kayak or traditional rowing boat. After checking out of your cabin, enjoy your final views of the bay as you cruise back to the wharf. You'll continue to Hanoi Airport for your flight to Danang, followed by a transfer to Hoi An. Your evening is free to explore the old town and discover why Hoi An is known as the tailoring capital of the world.

Meals: Breakfast

Day 5 | Uncover Historic Hoi An



Step into Hoi An, a UNESCO World Heritage Site with roots as a 15th-century trading port. Once a bustling hub for merchants from China, Japan, and Europe, this town now welcomes you to explore its rich history and blend of cultures. Stroll through narrow lanes lined with ancient merchant houses, cross the iconic 400-year-old Japanese Covered Bridge, and admire the intricate carvings of the Chaozhou Assembly Hall. Afterward, visit the market, where you'll be greeted by the enticing aroma of fresh spices and the shimmer of colorful silk. Browse the market stalls and you'll certainly find a Hoi An treasure to bring home. Your afternoon is free but why not try one of our Optional Experiences.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Allegro Hoi An

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Discover Thanh Dong Organic Farming - a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience - Visit Thanh Dong Village, home to Hoi An's first organic farm. Don a traditional ba ba uniform and join local farmers to experience daily activities like harvesting fresh vegetables. Learn about chemical-free farming and the environmental benefits while immersing yourself in the serene countryside. After your experience, enjoy cassava and green tea, followed by a soothing traditional foot massage.

Adult: 52.00 USD

Magical Evening in Hoi An - Begin your evening at the 400-year-old Japanese Covered Bridge. Stroll through Hoi An's ancient streets, alive with colorful lights, bustling markets, and unique art galleries. As the sun sets, take a peaceful boat ride along the Thu Bồn River and enjoy local delicacies at a riverside restaurant with views of the lantern-lit town. End your magical evening with a leisurely riverfront walk, taking in the vibrant lights, street vendors, and the tranquil beauty of Hoi An by night.

Adult: 42.00 USD

Day 6 | Local Life in Hoi An



Spend the morning at leisure—explore Hoi An at your own pace or relax at your hotel. Alternatively, join one of our Optional Experiences: visit the ancient My Son Sanctuary or uncover history at the Ky Anh tunnels in Tam Thanh village. In the afternoon, Dive into Culture at the Red Bridge Cooking School. Start with a welcome drink at Hai Cafe, shop for fresh ingredients at the market, then take a boat to your private cooking class, enjoying your creations with a river view.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Allegro Hoi An

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

My Son Temple - One of Southeast Asia's premier Hindu temple complexes. Once a key religious site for the Cham civilization, it now features 20 stunning monuments. Encircled by hills and watched over by Cat Tooth Mountain, this UNESCO-listed site offers a captivating journey into Cham culture and history, find out why this site was such an important place of worship.

Adult: 36.00 USD

Biking Through Tra Nhieu Village - Begin your day with a scenic bike ride from your Hoi An hotel to the pier. Cruise to Cam Kim Island, where you'll cycle along peaceful village roads and lush countryside on a 10 km (6 mi) route. You'll discover Tra Nhieu Village, with its traditional livelihoods like farming, fishing and mat weaving and visit local homes to learn the craft of making rice wine, noodles and rice paper.

Adult: 85.00 USD

Tam Thanh Vibrant Art & History - Explore Tam Thanh Village, a fishing spot turned open-air gallery with over 100 houses decorated with vibrant murals showing local life and culture. Next, visit the Ky Anh Tunnels, a historic underground network beneath Thach Tan Village, where you'll gain a deeper understanding of Vietnam's wartime resilience. Finish at the Heroic Mother Thu statue, a striking 18.6-meter-tall tribute to Nguyen Thi Thu, a mother who lost 12 children and grandchildren in wars against Vietnam, honoring her sacrifice and enduring spirit.

Adult: 48.00 USD

Day 7 | Head to Hue via Red Beach



Hoi An's waterways, a lifeline for villagers and a window into its past. Visit a fishing village to learn the art of casting Vietnamese fishing nets and try paddling traditional round basket boats through coconut-palm groves. Hear stories of the area's wartime history as you cruise back with a refreshing drink in hand. This afternoon, cross the spectacular Hai Van Pass, famed for its breathtaking views, and stop at Red Beach, where American marines first landed in Danang. Wrap up the day in Hue, Vietnam's imperial capital, for an overnight stay steeped in history.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: White Lotus Hue

Day 8 | See the Sights of Hue



You'll navigate the busy streets of Hue on the back of a cyclo en route to the UNESCO-listed Imperial Citadel, once home to Nguyen emperors. From here, you'll drive to Thien Mu Pagoda, Hue's best-preserved religious monument. Boarding a local dragon boat next, cruise along the Perfume River to the house of the former Princess Ngoc Son, the daughter of Emperor Dong Khanh. Although the house is no longer owned by royalty, you will meet the current Phan family for a Be My Guest lunch to gain a glimpse of their life in this historic house. The afternoon is yours to enjoy at leisure or consider joining one of our Optional Experiences.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Hotel: White Lotus Hue

OPTIONAL EXPERIENCES:

Enamel Art Tour - Enamel (phap lam) plays a huge part in Vietnamese history, particularly in Hue where enamelware was used for imperial structures and royal families during the Nguyen Dynasty. The art form, taking the name Hue phap lam showcased local artisan inventiveness, the independent spirit of the Vietnamese culture, economy and politics. After becoming lost in existence after nearly 200 years, Hue people are starting to relive this traditional fine art. Meet with the artisan Mr. Triet Do, a famous expert at Enamel Hue and learn about his endeavour to restore this way of art by combining industries of many sectors of handicrafts. Take the opportunity to see the complete process of making a stunning Phap Lam product, manually create your own or pick up one as a decorative souvenir gift.
Adult: 51.00 USD

Lavin Home Crafts - a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience - Discover the inspiring work of a local non-governmental organization in Hue, dedicated to supporting and empowering the vibrant deaf community through training, employment, and opportunities to connect. Enjoy a hands-on experience at Lavin House Craft, where talented artisans teach you the traditional art of paper flower making. Here, you'll see how expression goes beyond words. As your day unfolds, you'll gain a deep appreciation for the resilience and creativity of this remarkable community.

Your experience contributes to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 10: Reduced Inequalities.

Adult: 23.00 USD

Day 9 | Journey to Ho Chi Minh City



A short flight this morning brings you to the bustling heart of Ho Chi Minh City. Get ready to uncover its sights on a walking tour along vibrant Dong Khoi Street. Marvel at the Opera House and the former Hotel de Ville, then stroll up to the majestic Notre Dame Cathedral and the Central Post Office, crafted by none other than Gustave Eiffel. Take a poignant journey through the War Remnants Museum, offering a glimpse into the war through the eyes of locals, before walking through Ben Thanh market, a treasure trove of history and culture. Later, your Stays with Stories experience at Grand Hotel Saigon is a French colonial gem right in the city's historic heart. End the day with dinner at KOTO restaurant, where your MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience supports life-changing opportunities for disadvantaged youth.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Grand Saigon

Day 10 | Meander Along the Mekong Delta



The mighty Mekong beckons today, as you take a day trip to Cai Be town, in the heart of the Mekong Delta. You'll transfer to a charming traditional boat where you will cruise and explore the bustling riverbanks. Visit a beautifully preserved ancient house dating back to the 19th century, passed down through many generations of the family. Enjoy a leisurely sampan ride through the narrow canals, stopping for a home-hosted lunch of delicious Mekong Delta specialties, before returning to Ho Chi Minh City for an evening at leisure.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Hotel: Grand Saigon

Day 11 | Visit the Cu Chi Tunnels



Uncover Vietnam's fascinating past with a visit to the Cu Chi Tunnels, an intricate underground network used by the Viet Cong. A veteran shares how these tunnels served as homes, hospitals and hideouts. You'll return to Ho Chi Minh City by private speedboat, with free time to unwind. Later, you'll step into history at the former home of US Ambassador Henry Cabot Lodge, followed by dinner to end the day.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Grand Saigon

Day 12 | Farewell to Ho Chi Minh City



Our discovery of the iconic and unexpected highlights of Vietnam at its end. The offered complimentary transfers arrive at Ho Chi Minh City airport at 04:00 and 16:00 on the last day of the tour only. Please speak to your Travel Director for further information.

Meals: Breakfast

This document was last updated 15 October 2026.

While all information is correct at the time of publication, occasionally details or timings may differ.

Please refer to our website or speak to your Travel Director for the latest updates.

