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## The Charm of Vietnam (Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh)

(13 days - Weekday Departures: Mon, Tue, Thu & Fri)

### Day 1: Hanoi Arrival

Arrive at Noi Bai International Airport where we will pick you up with your name on a board. You'll be taken to the Hanoi Old Quarter for lunch on your account.

Overnight at hotel in Hanoi.

### Day 2: Hanoi City Tour – Departure (B/L)

After breakfast, check out & leave your luggage in the hotel lobby.

**AM:** 08:00-08:30, we will pick you up at your hotel in the Hanoi Old Quarter. Then visit the interesting Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and Museum. Discover the architectural and historical aspects of Uncle Ho's final resting-place. Just next door is Ho Chi Minh's house on stilts, and lying to one side of the Mausoleum is the One Pillar Pagoda which was founded by King Ly Thai To in 1049. The structure has become an important symbol for Hanoians. Continue on to visit the Quan Thanh Temple (Taoist dating from the Ly Dynasty) and Buddhist Tran Quoc Pagoda on the West Lake (one of the oldest pagodas in Vietnam). We'll have lunch here.

**PM:** After lunch, we'll proceed to visit the Ethnology Museum, the Literature Temple and Quoc Tu Giam (Vietnam's first university constructed in 1070, it's gardens and well-preserved architecture offers a relaxing glimpse into Vietnam's past). We will take you past Hoan Kiem Lake to see its calm waters, and then visit Ngoc Son temple. For the end of the tour, we'll take a coach trip through the Hanoi Old Quarter. You are free for a spot of shopping and to relax until 15:30. Enjoy the Water Puppet Show at Thang Long Theatre in the evening before having dinner on your account.

Overnight in your hotel.

### Day 3: Hanoi – Hoa Lu – Tam Coc – Hanoi (B/L)

**07:45 – 08:15:** We will pick you up at your hotel in the Hanoi Old Quarter, then transfer to Hoa Lu (2.5 hours). Visit the historic capital of Viet Nam that holds the famous ancient temples of the Le and Dinh Dynasties. Catch a bus to Tam Coc – for the more adventurous, cycle (12km) on picturesque quiet roads next to peaceful villages, rice fields, rivers and rocky outcrops to Tam Coc. We'll stop here for lunch.

**PM:** Take a boat trip to visit Tam Coc to see the wondrous beauty of the karst formations as you pass along their base, rowing into one of the many beautiful caves carved through the limestone. We'll then drive back to your hotel for the night.

### Day 4: Hanoi – Ha Long (B/L/D)

Have breakfast at the hotel.

**08:00:** We will take you to Ha Long City in a modern bus. Get on a luxury junk boat and enjoy a welcome drink and lunch of savory local sea food. Check into your cabin and start cruising around the bay to see the amazing karsts composing different formations including the Lion, Tea Pot, Toad, & Dau Nguoi (Human Head) islet. You'll even be able to stop for a walk through the Sung Sot "Amazing" cave. There will be plenty of free time for kayaking, swimming and sunbathing (weather permitting) after the boat anchors in the calm sea. Enjoy a spectacular sunset dinner in our beautiful restaurant before retiring to the comfort of your cabin. Have dinner and overnight on the boat.

### Day 5: Ha Long – Hanoi (B/L)

**07:15:** Cakes, fruits, tea and coffee will be served. Continue to cruise through Halong Bay.

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**09.30 – 10.30:** Enjoy a delicious lunch after you pack your things and leave the cabin.

**11.30 – 12.00:** Sail back to Ha Long pier and take a bus back to Hanoi.

**16:15:** Arrive in 49 Hang Be street, Hoan Kiem Dist, Hanoi. You are free to have dinner here on your account.

**18:00:** We will take you to the train station for an overnight train to Da Nang city (Schedule 19:00 – 10:30)

#### **Day 6: Da Nang City Tour (L/D)**

**10:30:** Arrive in Da Nang. We'll collect you on arrival for some lunch – enjoy the special Da Nang food and check in at the hotel. Visit the Cham Sculpture Museum and make an excursion around the Son Tra peninsula named 'Monkey Mountain' to visit the Linh Ung Pagoda, then enjoy a swim at My Khe beach – classified as one of the most attractive beaches on earth by Forbes. Enjoy the "Gala Dinner" with its entertaining game show night. You are free to explore Da Nang City and relax.

Overnight in hotel in Da Nang city.

#### **Day 7: Marble Mountain – Hoi An Ancient Town (B/L/D)**

Have breakfast at the hotel. Then visit Marble Mountains – named after the 5 elements of the universe, then we'll tour a stone carving village of Hoa Hai.

Depart for Hoi An ancient town for lunch and to check-in at hotel. Take a walking tour around the old sections of the city – a charming and wonderfully preserved place, combining Chinese, Japanese and European influences), and enjoy some live traditional music at 15:15. In the afternoon you'll have a chance to relax at Cua Dai Beach before dinner at a local restaurant. You are free to discover Hoi An's "ancient night"; take yourself back to the 17th century to explore, shop and soak up the atmosphere.

Overnight in hotel in Hoi An city.

#### **Day 8: Hoi An – Hue Imperial City (B/L/D)**

Have breakfast and check-out. Leaving Hoi An for the Imperial City of Hue, through the Hai Van tunnel, en route, stop to take photos at the top of Cloud–Ocean pass, overlooking the scenic Lang Co fishing village. We'll have lunch and check-in at the hotel on arrival. In the afternoon, continue on to visit the Imperial Citadel – The grand palace of the last dynasty of Nguyen, and the Heavenly Goddess pagoda. Have dinner at a restaurant and take a dragon boat trip to the charming sounds of some Hue folksong on the Perfume river.

Overnight in hotel in Hue city.

#### **Day 9: Hue – Ho Chi Minh City Tour (B/L)**

**06:30:** Have Breakfast at the hotel.

**07:15:** We will pick off you up and take you to Hue airport for the 0840 flight to Ho Chi Minh City.

**10:00:** We will collect you from there to join the Ho Chi Minh City tour. Have lunch at a local restaurant.

**Afternoon:** Visit some of the well-known sights such as the Handicraft workshop, the Reunification Palace, The Notre Dame Cathedral, The General Post Office, and City Hall. The tour will end at around 17:00 in De Tham st – Pham Ngu Lao st. Have Dinner at your account.

Overnight in Ho Chi Minh City.

#### **Day 10: Cao Dai Temple – Cu Chi Tunnel Half Day (B/L)**

Have breakfast at your hotel.

**08:00 – 08:30:** We will take you to Tay Ninh – a province 95kms South East of HCMC, close to Cambodian border. The Cao Dai Temple is commonly known as a 'Walt Disney' fantasia of the East. Its exterior is decorated with multi-colored dragons of all shapes and sizes competing for space with a number of swastikas.

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Above the main entrance is the all-seeing holy eye - the symbol of the Cao Dai sect. The interior is just as engaging with its statues of Jesus Christ, Buddha and the Hindu god, Brahma, all standing side by side.

**13:00:** After lunch, we will leave Tay Ninh and travel to Cu Chi. Everyone coming to Vietnam must see this spot! This is where guerilla warfare practiced and tweaked. You'll learn about the clever design of the tunnels and the strategic positioning of trap doors. Even with B-52 bombers dropping 30-ton loads of explosive, turning the jungle into a pockmarked moonscape, 30 thousand American troops failed to conquer the area! You'll have a good chance to crawl around a portion of the 121 km long, multi-layered tunnel. You'll also learn how thousands of guerillas managed to stay undiscovered beneath the earth for many days at a time, concealing all living activities like cooking smoke. There're a lot more to enjoy, even a real chance to fire real AK bullets for the more adventurous!

**17:30:** Back to De Tham St – Pham Ngu Lao St. Have dinner on your account.  
Overnight in Ho Chi Minh city.

**Day 11: Ho Chi Minh – My Tho – Ben Tre – Can Tho (B/L/D)**

**08:00:** Travel by bus to My Tho

**09:30:** Board a wooden motor boat to get to Unicorn Island. On this boat trip along the river's bank, you'll pass through natural creeks, quiet villages and see the rural people going to work. You will see an interesting fishermen's port with its stilt houses (half on land, half on water). One of the boat's stops during this trip is at a large orchard that has many different types of tasty tropical fruits for you to sample!

Another boat stop is at the Turtle Island - 1 hours journey away from the orchard. Here, on a small rowing boat, you'll see all the interesting transportation modes that local people use to move around. From there, we'll take you to a bee farm where you'll have a chance to taste a delicious cup of authentic honey tea while checking out the folk music (typical to only the people in Southern Vietnam). After that we'll take you to a famous coconut village where you can smell the flavor of coconut candies being made just a few yards away. This is a great chance to witness how skilled the village people are in making candy and handcrafted items out of the coconuts, as well as the diversity of what useful objects they can make.

As your journey ends, you will return to My Tho by motorized boat and before travelling to Can Tho.

Overnight in Can Tho.

**Day 12: Can Tho – Cai Rang – Ho Chi Minh (B/L)**

After breakfast, board a motor boat for a long distance trip to discover the area's largest and most famous floating marketplace! Then cruise through the small channels to visit a famous rice noodle making village, with its large rice mill and yet more fruit gardens.

Experience a climb up the "Monkey Bridge" in the Delta. Before returning to Ho Chi Minh City we'll visit another floating market and stop for lunch. Arrive in your hotel at 19.00 pm for dinner.

Overnight in Ho Chi Minh city

**Day 13: Ho Chi Minh Departure (B)**

After breakfast, you are free until your flight departs. We will collect you 2.5 - 3 hours before departure time after which your tour ends.

**Tour rate**

Tour class	Join group USD/person	Private tour (USD/person)								
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	>=9
<b>Standard</b>	739	2588	1568	1275	1129	1026	959	913	882	857
<b>Superior</b>	910	2899	1760	1474	1326	1228	1169	1126	1089	1060
<b>Deluxe</b>	1266	3999	2606	2130	1983	1883	1819	1775	1740	1716
<b>VIP</b>	1726	5164	3143	2848	2690	2599	2539	2490	2458	2434

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**Includes**

Airport car pick up and drop off if required  
Hotel accommodation as specified or similar (twin sharing or triple)  
A/C Transport & Boat trips in Ha Long Bay, Hoa Lu – Tam Coc, and the Mekong Delta  
Train ticket Hanoi – Da Nang  
Flight ticket Hue – Ho Chi Minh  
English speaking guide  
All meals as per program (B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner)  
Entrance and Sightseeing Fees

**Excludes**

Insurance, Personal expenses, Tips  
Single supplement for the hotel  
Drinks & other costs not mentioned  
Vietnam Airlines Tickets, airport tax on departure and arrival  
Vietnam Visa to enter the country if required

**Children's rate**

1 – 4 years old: Free of charge (sharing bed with parents)  
4 – 11 years old: 50% of above rate (sharing bed with parents)  
Over 11 years old: 100% of above rate

**Note**

The itinerary can be changed due to weather, tide levels and operating conditions  
Special food requests (diet or vegetarian) should be inquired about before your departure date  
The hotel/flight may be changed depending on its availability. The details will be confirmed after getting your deposit/ payment.

**Cancellation policy**

If cancellation made after completed booking of tour: 10% of total amount  
If cancellation made less than 5 days prior to departure date: 50% of total amount  
If cancellation made less than 1 day prior to departure date: 75% of total amount  
Bank fee & refund fee applied if any  
Cancellation will also draw a fee which is 20% of the total train ticket price per person

For any inquiries about customized tours, please email us at [booking@VietnamToursHoliday.com](mailto:booking@VietnamToursHoliday.com)



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