

Discover Vietnam

An aerial photograph of a river valley in Vietnam. The river flows through a valley, surrounded by terraced fields in various colors (yellow, green, brown). The landscape is dominated by tall, jagged karst mountains with steep, rocky slopes. The sky is overcast with soft light.

Vietnam

Touristically, Vietnam delivers. Cruise an azure ocean decorated by surreal-looking limestone islands in Halong Bay, and wind through the majestic inland karst mountains of Cao Bang. Hike mountain tracks and explore tribal villages near Sa Pa. Explore the bewitching backwaters of the Mekong Delta. Finally, no visit would be complete without experiencing the energy of big-city life in Vietnam's capital Hanoi, the grand old lady of the Orient, and Ho Chi Minh City, the engine room of the economy and the nation.

Best Time to Travel

When it comes to weather, it's a tough call, as Vietnam's climate is so diverse. Think frosts and occasional snow in the mountains of the north, and temperatures soaring to 110°F in the south during the dry season.

Vietnam's weather is dictated by two monsoons. The winter monsoon comes from the northeast between October and March, bringing damp and chilly winters to all areas north of Nha Trang, and dry and warm temperatures to the south. From April or May to October, the summer monsoon brings hot, humid weather to the whole country except for those areas sheltered by mountains. For the best balance, travel in April, May or October. For those sticking to the south, November to February is dry and a touch cooler. From July to November, violent and unpredictable typhoons hit central and northern Vietnam.



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Very Vietnam

10 days / 9 nights

Saigon • Mekong Delta • Hue • Hoi An • Hanoi • Ha Long Bay
from **\$1,899*** pp based on double occupancy

In Vietnam, unforgettable experiences abound. Waking up to the surreal seascape of limestone karsts from the deck of a traditional junk in Ha Long Bay. Learning how to cross the road "sticky rice style" in Hanoi. Crossing the Japanese Bridge in Hoi An. Visiting a floating market in the Mekong Delta. Watching the sunset from a rooftop bar in Saigon.

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrive Saigon - Met on arrival at Saigon (HCMC) airport and transferred to your hotel. Rest of day at leisure.

Day 2: Saigon - A morning Saigon highlights tour will introduce you to famous sights such as Notre Dame Cathedral, the Opera House, the ornate City Hall, the art-deco Post Office, and the chaotic-in-an-organized-way Ben Thanh market. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

Day 3: Mekong Delta day trip - The Mekong Delta is Vietnam's 'rice bowl' but fruit orchards and coconut groves also thrive here. A bicycle ride will bring you a lesson on how to climb a coconut tree with your bare hands. A rowboat will take you along the creek giving you a glimpse of daily life on the Delta. Lunch will be an assortment of delicious dishes cooked by one of the locals. Return to Saigon. (B,L)

Day 4: Saigon to Hue - Transfer to Saigon airport for your morning flight to Hue (own expense). On arrival, you will be met and transferred to the Imperial Citadel via the imposing Ngo Mon Gate. Visit Thai Hoa Palace, the Halls of the Mandarins, and the original Nine Dynastic Urns, and Hue Royal Antiquities Museum. (B)

Day 5: Hue to Hoi An - Visit Thien Mu Pagoda which will enchant with its beauty, elegant architecture and evocative past. In the afternoon, drive south from Hue along scenic mountain roads with spectacular coastal views. Highlights along the way include the dramatic Hai Van Pass, Lang Co Beach, and the large coastal city of Danang. (B)

Day 6: Hoi An - Enjoy a morning walking tour of the highlights and history of Hoi An. Afternoon at leisure. (B)

Day 7: Hoi An to Hanoi
Transfer to the airport for your flight to Hanoi (own expense). On arrival met and transferred to a Hanoi highlights tour. Stop to sample Vietnamese coffee and pop into see an ancient house. (B)

Day 8: Ha Long Bay - Transfer to Ha Long Bay. Board the Bhaya Premium and enjoy a welcome drink and an assortment of Vietnamese dishes during a buffet lunch as you cruise towards the southeast of Ha Long Bay, passing Trong Mai islet, Ngon Tay islet, Con Coc islet, Cua Van Floating Culture Center. Kayak to Trinh Nu Cave - one of the finest sunlight-filled caves in the bay. Take a swim or sunbathe on the caves beautiful private beach. Join the cooking demonstration on the sundeck. Savor a delicious dinner in the restaurant. (B,L,D)

Day 9: Ha Long Bay to Hanoi - Start with a Tai Chi lesson on the sundeck. Explore Sung Sot Cave, the largest cave inside Ha Long bay. As you cruise back to port, pass Lo Bo island, Trong Mai islet and Ba Hang fishing village. Return to Hanoi for overnight. (B)

Day 10: Depart - Transfer to the airport for your onward flight. (B)

Inclusions:

- Three nights' accommodation in Saigon
- One night's accommodation in Hue
- Two nights' accommodation in Hoi An
- Two nights' accommodation in Hanoi (pre / post cruise)
- One night's accommodation in Ha Long Bay boat
- Tour guide services provided in English
- Ground transportation in private, air-conditioned vehicle.
- Drinking water and cold towels during sightseeing.
- Multi-lingual 24-hour customer support hotline
- Welcome pack on arrival
- 12 Meals: 9 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 1 dinner

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TERMS & CONDITIONS: *Prices are quoted in USD and are 'from', per person, based on twin share occupancy. Single supplements apply. Black-out dates and surcharges may apply Thu-Sat and during special events and Holidays. All pricing is strictly subject to availability and based on stays Sun-Wed. All prices, itineraries and routing are subject to change without notice. Please call for our current prices. Prices are current at time of posting (1/15/2020) and may differ when you book your travel and are not guaranteed until full payment is received and processed. CA CST: 2076233-40, WA ID 601684531, LA-1282498.