# Vietnam DISCOVERY

# **A Captivating** 12-DAY TOUR





MAI CHAU

**Y NINH BINH** 

HA LONG

HUE

MA IOH Y

T HO CHI MINH

> BEN TRE



PRICE PER PERSON IN USD

1,230 **USD/PAX** 

SUMMER 2024 GUARANTEED DEPARTURES 16 & 30 July 2024 | 06 & 20 Aug 2024

















#### **TOUR SUMMARY**

DAY	TRIP SUMMARY	
1	Welcome To Vietnam - Hanoi Arrival (D)	
2	Hanoi City Tour (B/L)	
3	Hanoi - Mai Chau ( B, L, D)	
4	Mai Chau – Hoa Lu – Tam Coc (B/L)	
5	Ninh Binh – Halong Bay (B/L/D)	
6	Halong Bay – Hanoi - Flight To Hue (B/Brunch)	
7	Hue City Tour (B/L)	
8	Hue – Hoi An (B,L)	
9	Flight to Ho Chi Minh City - Cu Chi Tunnel (B , L)	
10	Mekong Delta - Ben Tre (B/L)	
11	Ho Chi Minh City Free And Easy (B)	
12	Ho Chi Minh City Departure (B)	

#### **DETAILED ITINERARY**

#### DAY 1: Welcome to Hanoi - The Gateway to Vietnam (Dinner)

Upon arrival at Hanoi's bustling airport, you'll be warmly greeted by your personal driver, holding a sign with your name. They will escort you to your exquisite hotel in the city's vibrant heart, just steps from the enchanting Old Quarter. This historic district is a labyrinth of narrow streets framed by colonial architecture, street markets, and traditional Vietnamese puppet theaters. After settling in, enjoy a welcome dinner at a renowned local restaurant, offering a taste of Vietnam's culinary delights.

Spend your first night in Hanoi soaking up the atmosphere of this ancient city.

# DAY 2: Exploring Hanoi's Rich Culture and History (Breakfast/Lunch)

Your exploration begins at 8:00 AM with a knowledgeable local guide leading the way. The day starts with a visit to the tranquil Tran Quoc Pagoda, an oasis of calm on the banks of Hanoi's West Lake. Next, delve into the legacy of Vietnam's revered leader at the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum complex, exploring his residence and the iconic One Pillar Pagoda. After a modestly dressed visit, you'll immerse yourself in the diverse cultures of Vietnam's ethnic groups at the Ethnology Museum followed by a delightful lunch featuring an array of Vietnamese culinary classics. In the afternoon, discover the Temple of Literature's ancient wisdom, Vietnam's first university, and reflect on history at the Hoa Lo Prison Museum.

The evening is yours to enjoy Hanoi's vibrant nightlife or relax in preparation for tomorrow's adventures.





# DAY 3: Mai Chau - A Symphony of Culture and Nature (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

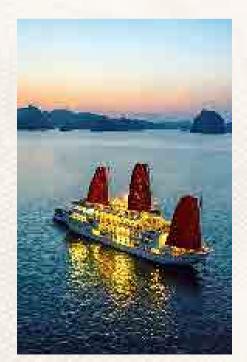
Departing the urban energy of Hanoi, today's journey introduces you to the serene beauty of Mai Chau. After a scenic drive, including a stop at the lively Song Phuong Market, you'll arrive at the Mai Chau Hideaway Resort. Nestled in a tranquil valley surrounded by lush mountains, Mai Chau offers a peaceful retreat with stunning views and rich cultural experiences. Embark on a bicycle tour to nearby traditional villages, where you'll meet local tribes and gain insights into their daily lives and customs. The day ends with a traditional dinner, providing an authentic taste of regional culture.

Overnight in the tranquility of Mai Chau.

# DAY 4: Ninh Binh's Historical Essence and Natural Splendor (Breakfast/Lunch)

Travel to Ninh Binh, a landscape that blends historical depth with natural elegance. Start with the ancient capital of Hoa Lu, exploring temples dedicated to the emperors of the Dinh and Le dynasties. After savoring local dishes for lunch, a sampan boat ride through Tam Coc reveals a breathtaking scene often described as "Halong Bay on land." Glide past towering limestone karsts, through natural caves, and alongside vibrant green rice paddies.

Conclude the day with a peaceful night's stay in Ninh Binh, preparing for the next leg of your



# DAY 5: Halong Bay - A Cruise Amongst Limestone Giants (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

Today, you'll head to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Halong Bay, a place where thousands of limestone islands rise majestically from the emerald waters of the Gulf of Tonkin. Board a luxurious cruise and set sail amongst these natural wonders, enjoying a seafood lunch with views that are nothing short of breathtaking. In the afternoon, kayak or swim in secluded areas of the bay, exploring hidden caves and secluded beaches. As the day fades, enjoy a sumptuous dinner on board and relax under the stars.

Overnight on the cruise, rocked gently by the waves.

Note: In case of bad weather (the boat is not allowed to push off or not allowed to overnight in the sea), the Ha Long bay tour could be canceled without notice. We will consider other replacement tours or a refund based on the specific circumstances.

### DAY 6: Sunrise over Halong Bay and Journey to Hue (Breakfast/Brunch)

Awake early to witness a stunning sunrise over Halong Bay, a moment of serene beauty. After breakfast, explore a spectacular limestone cave adorned with stalactites and stalagmites. Following brunch, disembark and transfer back to Hanoi to catch a flight to Hue, Vietnam's last imperial capital. In Hue, your driver will escort you to your hotel, setting the stage for tomorrow's exploration of this historic city.

Overnight in Hue, a city that echoes the stories of emperors and revolutions.



#### DAY 7: Imperial Hue - Echoes of the Past (Breakfast/Lunch)

Embark on a journey through Hue's storied past, starting with a peaceful dragon boat trip to the Thien Mu Pagoda, an iconic symbol of the city perched on the riverbank. Continue to the Imperial Citadel, a vast complex of palaces, temples, walls, and gates, a testament to the grandeur of the Nguyen Dynasty. Enjoy a lunch of Hue specialties, famous for their delicate balance and royal heritage. In the afternoon, marvel at the architectural wonders of the Khai Dinh and Tu Duc tombs, blending Eastern and Western designs. Visit traditional craft villages, where the art of making iconic conical hats and incense sticks thrives. Return to your hotel by late afternoon, with the evening free to explore Hue's serene surroundings.

Overnight in Hue.

#### DAY 8: Scenic Journey from Hue to Hoi An (Breakfast/Lunch)

After breakfast, journey to Hoi An via the scenic Hai Van Pass, offering breathtaking views of mountains, sea, and cloud-swathed landscapes. Arriving in Hoi An, a UNESCO World Heritage site, you'll step back in time to explore its well-preserved Ancient Town. Wander through streets lined with historic houses, see the Japanese Covered Bridge, and visit the Assembly Hall of the Chinese Congregation. After lunch featuring local favorites, the remainder of your day is free to include in Hoi An's charming atmosphere.

Overnight in Hoi An, a town that perfectly captures the essence of bygone eras.



# DAY 9: Hoi An to Ho Chi Minh City - Unveiling the Cu Chi Tunnels (Breakfast/Lunch)

Savor your last moments in Hoi An before departing for Da Nang airport, flying to the dynamic Ho Chi Minh City. Upon arrival, travel to the historic Cu Chi Tunnels, an immense network of underground passageways used by Viet Cong soldiers. Experience a part of Vietnam's war history by exploring the tunnels, learning about their strategic importance, and understanding the resilience of the Vietnamese people.

Return to Ho Chi Minh City for an overnight stay, ready to discover more of this vibrant city's

# DAY 10: The Mighty Mekong Delta - Life Along the River (Breakfast/Lunch)

Delve into the heart of the Mekong Delta with a day trip to Ben Tre, known for its coconut groves and peaceful waterways. Embark on a boat trip along the Ben Tre River, witnessing daily life unfold on the riverbanks. Visit local workshops to see traditional brick making, coconut processing, and candy production. A tuk-tuk ride through the countryside offers glimpses of rural life before stopping for lunch at a local restaurant. The afternoon brings a leisurely rowboat journey through palm-fringed canals, capturing the serene beauty of the Delta.

Return to Ho Chi Minh City for the night, reflecting on a day immersed in the Delta's vibrant culture and landscapes.

#### DAY 11: Ho Chi Minh City at Leisure (Breakfast)

A free day in Ho Chi Minh City offers endless possibilities. Explore the city's bustling markets, historic sites, and vibrant neighborhoods at your own pace. Sample street food delicacies, visit art galleries, or enjoy a leisurely coffee in one of the city's many stylish cafés. The day is yours to embrace the dynamic spirit of Vietnam's largest city.

Overnight in Ho Chi Minh City, soaking up the urban energy and warmth of its people.

#### DAY 12: Farewell Vietnam - Ho Chi Minh City Departure (Breakfast)

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast and take the morning to gather memories and souvenirs before checking out of your hotel. Your private driver will transfer you to the airport, where you'll depart with a heart full of unforgettable experiences and a deep appreciation for Vietnam's rich history, vibrant culture, and breathtaking landscapes.

Your journey may end, but the stories and memories of Vietnam will stay with you forever.

#### PRICE PER PERSON IN USD

4 Guaranteed Departures (From Hanoi) Date: 16+30 July 2024 | 06+20 Aug 2024 (Tuesday)

Adults >12yr old:

\$1,230/per person twn share.

Child < 12 yr old:

With extra bed: 1.099 USD Share bed with parents: 919 USD Description:

Category 4\*

# **INCLUSIVE**

- Accommodation in twin/double room with daily breakfast at the below indicated room types (see hotel category list below) (check-in and check-out around noontime)
- 2Days/1Night cruise on board a cruise in Ha Long Bay (double/twin cabin on shared boat). NOTE: on the cruise is available for one English speaking guide.
- Services of a driver and private air-conditioned vehicle during all tours and transfers
- 🕏 Experienced 🛮 guide during day tour. Each area.
- Entrance fees for all visits as mentioned in the itinerary
- Meals (B/L/D) (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner) as indicated in the program
- 🧖 🛮 Flight as per program . Vietnam Airlines, economic Class. Hanoi Hue/ Danang Saigon
- 🥏 02 bottles of mineral water per person per day on days of sightseeing .

#### **EXCLUSIVE**

- Early check-in or late check-out
- International flight tickets
- Meals (other than mentioned in the program)
- Additional transfer required due to any emergency situation
- Visa as per country requirements
- Offering tips and expressing gratitude for guides and drivers is recommended at a rate of 5 USD /client /day for guides and 2 USD per client /day for drivers. Feel free to adjust the amount based on your satisfaction with their services.
- Travel insurance (we highly recommend that you purchase adequate insurance)
- Optional excursions and activities

## LIST OF HOTELS USE

CITY	HOTEL / BOAT OR SIMILAR ONES.	WEBSITE
HA NOI	THANG LONG OPERA Deluxe	www.thanglongoperahotel.com
MAICHAU	MAI CHAU HIDEAWAY LAKE RESORT (NEW) Superior	www.maichauhideaway.com
NINH BINH	THE REED HOTEL Deluxe	www.thereedhotel.com
HA LONG	SIGNATURE HALONG CRUISE Suite	www.athenacruise.com
HUE	ELDORA HUE HOTEL	