

### Summary of the Itinerary

Day 1: Hanoi Arrival N/A  
Day 2: Hanoi City Tour (B)  
Day 3: Hanoi – Mai Chau (B/D)  
Day 4: Mai Chau – Ninh Binh (B/L)  
Day 5: Ninh Binh – Ha Long (B/L/D)  
Day 6: Ha Long – Hoi An (B/L)  
Day 7: Hoi An City Tour (B/L)  
Day 8: My Son Holy Land – Hue (B)  
Day 9: Hue City Tour (B)  
Day 10: Hue – Ho Chi Minh City – Cu Chi (B)  
Day 11: Ho Chi Minh City (B)  
Day 12: Ho Chi Minh – Cai Be – Can Tho (B/L)  
Day 13: Can Tho – Ho Chi Minh (B)  
Day 14: Ho Chi Minh City Departure (B)

### Exclude

- Flights are not mentioned in itinerary
- Travel insurance, visa
- Drinks, laundry or other personal expenses
- Gala Dinner on 24th and 31st December
- Gratuities for guide/driver etc

### Highlights:

- Hanoi Capital City
- Culture of hill tribes
- The magnificent scenery of Halong Bay
- Visit Royal Capital in Hue and Heritage City of Hoi An
- The incredible Cu Chi Tunnels

### Inclusions

- Private English – speaking guide.
- Accommodation at selected hotels.
- Private transportations with A/C
- Meals as mentioned: (B) for breakfast, (L) for lunch, (D) for dinner.
- All entrance fees, performances, boat trips, excursions mentioned in itinerary
- Flights: Hanoi - Danang; Hue - Ho Chi Minh City
- Mineral water bottles daily



## Details

### **Day 1: Hanoi Arrival N/A**

Upon your arrival at Hanoi airport, your tour guide and driver will greet you and escort you to your hotel, help with your check-in. The rest of day is for your relax.

### **Day 2: Hanoi City Tour (B)**

After breakfast, you have a full day today to explore Vietnam's charming capital. With its wide tree-lined boulevards, French colonial architecture, peaceful lakes and ancient oriental pagodas, Hanoi is an eclectic mix that offers something for everyone. Visit Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum and his personal residence, the One Pillar Pagoda and the Tran Quoc Pagoda. End the morning with a visit to the Museum of Ethnology (or Women Museum, History Museum, Hoa Lo Prison or Army Museum)

In the afternoon, visit the Temple of Literature, the first University for the sons of mandarins. Followed by a visit to Ngoc Son Temple nearby Hoan Kiem Lake. Enjoy a one-hour rickshaw sight-seeing tour around Hanoi Old Quarter for great fun. Then, watch a traditional water puppet show in the late afternoon. Back to your hotel, free at leisure and overnight in the hotel of Hanoi.

*Note: please note Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum is closed on Monday and Friday and most of museums are closed on Monday.*



### **Day 3: Hanoi – Mai Chau (B/D)**

After breakfast, depart Hanoi in the morning for a 4 hour drive to Mai Chau. Arrive in the picturesque Mai Chau Valley surrounded by spectacular karst rock formations and rice paddies.

On arrival, start a light trekking through the beautiful villages of White Thai Minorities. Enjoy picturesque views of the scenic landscape and rural villages. Stay overnight in a traditional stilt-house of the Thai people, an incredibly enriching experience in which you can learn about this fascinating culture first hand. Join the local Thai ethnic tasty dinner and attend a dancing show by the villagers.

*Option: Overnight in a 3 star hotel*

### **Day 4: Mai Chau - Ninh Binh (B/L)**

In the morning, feel the peaceful and tranquil life in the valley then after breakfast, start a journey to Ninh Binh,

the destination that is well known with the nick name "Halong Bay on land". On the way, stop at Hoa Lu, the ancient royal capital of Vietnam to visit temples dedicated to the Dinh and Le Kings. Enjoy lunch in a local restaurant and continue your trip to Tam Coc and board a small sampan for a spectacular 2-hour trip through caves, waterways and beautiful rural landscape consisting of limestone cliffs and rice paddies.

In the afternoon, visit the ancient Bich Dong pagoda then drive to your hotel in Ninh Binh. The rest of day is for your relax.



### **Day 5: Ninh Binh – Ha Long (B/L/D)**

After breakfast, we start a 4 hour drive through the Red River Delta, which offers plenty of chances for taking photos of Vietnamese farmers tilling the vast green paddy fields. Stop at half way for taking a short break. Arrive at Halong City, check in and board your junk, enjoy approximately 24 hours journey in the amazing bay: a natural wonderland composed of jutting limestone islands and sparkling turquoise waters. Savor a gourmet lunch of fresh seafood onboard as we sail out into the mystical bay. In the afternoon, enjoy some activities in the bay, or just spend some time relaxing on board (Possibility to swim in the bay if weather permits). Dinner is served on board.

*Note: Visits or activities will be slightly different depending on each junk's itinerary. Your tour guide will be replaced by a local guide on board during your cruise.*



### **Day 6: Halong - Hoian (B/L)**

Awake early and participate in Tai Chi on the top deck or simply relax and enjoy the sunrise over the bay's towering islands.



Enjoy a morning cup of coffee or tea, and a light breakfast before setting out to explore nearby islands by rowboat. Return to the junk then take advantage of the sundeck and admire the amazing rock formations of Bai Tu Long Bay as we navigate back to Halong City. Have brunch on board the boat before returning to Halong pier. Our guide and driver will meet you at the pier then drive back to Hanoi Airport for your flight to Danang. Upon your arrival at Da Nang airport, your tour guide and driver will greet you and escort you to Hoi An (about half an hour drive), help with your check-in in hotel. The rest of day is for your relax.



#### **Day 7: Hoi An City Tour (B/L)**

Take a beautiful bicycle ride from your hotel to Tra Que vegetable village. Upon your arrival, enjoy cold towels & welcome drink before starting your farming tour using Vietnamese traditional hat and farmer's clothes and taking part in farming activities such as: picking up seaweed, digging, land boarding, making beds and watering. After farming tour, soak foot, relax by some herb in Tra Que vegetable garden and enjoy a light food. We will also visit to the rice paper making village where you will be introduced and learnt how to wash the rice, soak the rice and grind the rice by traditional methods. At the end of your trip, join an interesting cooking class. After lunch, take a walk in Hoi An town with visit the former merchants' homes, the 400 year-old Japanese Covered Bridge, Phuc Kien Pagoda.

#### **Day 8: My Son Holy Land – Hue (B)**

After breakfast, Visit to My Son Holy land in the morning, once the spiritual capital of Champa Kingdom that dominated South East Asia for nearly a thousand years and occupied most of the central parts of Vietnam from 2nd century to 16th century with very rich in history and culture.

In the afternoon, leave Hoi An for Hue, the last imperial capital of Vietnam, well-known for magnificent architecture, pagodas and royal tombs laid in small villages and surrounding hills and one of the most popular cities for all the Vietnam Tours. En route have a look at the famous Danang Beach and visit Cham Museum which contains the finest collection of Cham

#### **Day 9: Hue city tour (B)**

After breakfast, spend an entire day touring the Vietnam's former ancient capital. Start the day with a visit to the Imperial Citadel, home to the Imperial City and Forbidden Purple City – once the Emperor's private residence. The Imperial Citadel gives you a better understanding of the beauty of Vietnamese Royal architecture and culture. Then we will take a beautiful dragon boat trip along Perfume River and visit to Thien Mu Pagoda – one of the most popular attractions in Hue. In the afternoon, continue on your tour with the visit to King Ming Mang and King Khai Dinh tombs which are the most beautiful works of



royal architecture of the Nguyen dynasty.

#### **Day 10: Hue – Ho Chi Minh City – Cu Chi (B)**

After breakfast, transfer to the airport for your morning flight to Ho Chi Minh City. Upon your arrival at Tan Son Nhat airport, your tour guide and driver will greet you and escort you to hotel and check in. Then travel outside of Ho Chi Minh City to visit the incredible Cu Chi Tunnels. The Cu Chi Tunnels are an underground labyrinth of passageways, used by the Viet Cong during the Vietnam War (or "American War" as it's referred to here) as protection against American air raids. Those inclined are invited to crawl through selections of the tunnels to better understand what life was like for the Vietnamese soldiers during wartime.

Back to Ho Chi Minh City and enjoy your free time in the most bustling city in Vietnam.



### Day 11: Ho Chi Minh city (B)

Today enjoy a tour of the former Presidential Palace (Reunification Palace), now preserved as a museum. Continue on to the 19th century 'Notre-Dame' Cathedral, the beautiful Central Post Office which are fine examples of classical French colonial architecture. In the afternoon, visit the War Remnants Museum and the bustling Ben Thanh Market. Back to hotel for you to take a rest in the evening.

**Optional tour – Ho Chi Minh Vespa Tour:** Experience as local people with a Vespa and escorted by a driver, visiting the city landmarks that give you a view of the city unlike anything on your Vietnam tour. Take a peek at the history, the streets and the sights that most visitors never even hear about or see. You will pass through the Chinese district of Saigon, stop to see a sweet smelling flower market and visit a breathtaking yet hidden Buddhist pagoda, Saigon Opera House & Post Office which were designed by Gustave Eiffel.



### Day 12: Ho Chi Minh - Mekong Delta - Can Tho (B, L)

Today we will start our exploration of the Mekong Delta, a major rice producing area. This must be one of the most fascinating riverine deltas in the world. After breakfast, drive to Cai Be in the heart of the Mekong Delta.



On arrival, we will make a boat trip to the Cai Be floating Market, visit villages and meet the people of the Mekong Delta. Along the way, stop at a candy factory and orchard garden, where you have an opportunity to listen to traditional music. Enjoy a relaxing lunch at a riverside restaurant, then cross the river by motorized boat to visit some fluvial islands and explore the countryside by bicycle. Then, get on pier at Vinh Long and drive to Can Tho for the night.

### Day 13: Can Tho – Ho Chi Minh (B)

In the morning, we make the boat cruise to see the Cai Rang floating market (the nicest one with heaps of rowing boats), truly highlights of any Vietnam Tours where you will enjoy the beautiful scenery and see the daily activities of the locals who live along the Mekong canals. Then venture deeper into the country-side, passing traditional houses made of wood and palm leaves as you observe the activities of the local people. Return to Can Tho for lunch then drive back to Saigon, arriving in the late afternoon.



### Day 14: Ho Chi Minh City Departure (B)

Free time at leisure for you to wrap up your memorable Vietnam Holiday until our tour guide escorts you to the airport for your departure flight. **Goodbye and see you again.**

