

The Best of Vietnam — 14 Days from Sapa to Saigon

14 days · Tailor-made itinerary



Tour photograph · Ninh Binh

Your journey. Your pace. Your experiences.

Hanoi - Ninh Binh – day trip - Sapa - Ta Van - Halong Bay - Hoi An - Ho Chi Minh City - My Tho – day trip

From USD 1,233 per person

Indicative price · international arrival and departure flights excluded

A tour idea we can personalise together.

Your journey at a glance

Destinations: Vietnam



- 1 Hanoi
- 2 Ninh Binh - day trip
- 3 Sapa
- 4 Ta Van
- 5 Halong Bay
- 6 Hoi An
- 7 Ho Chi Minh City
- 8 My Tho - day trip

— Itinerary - - - Arrival & departure

Connections are schematic. Flights depend on your travel arrangements.

Map data: Natural Earth.

What makes this journey special

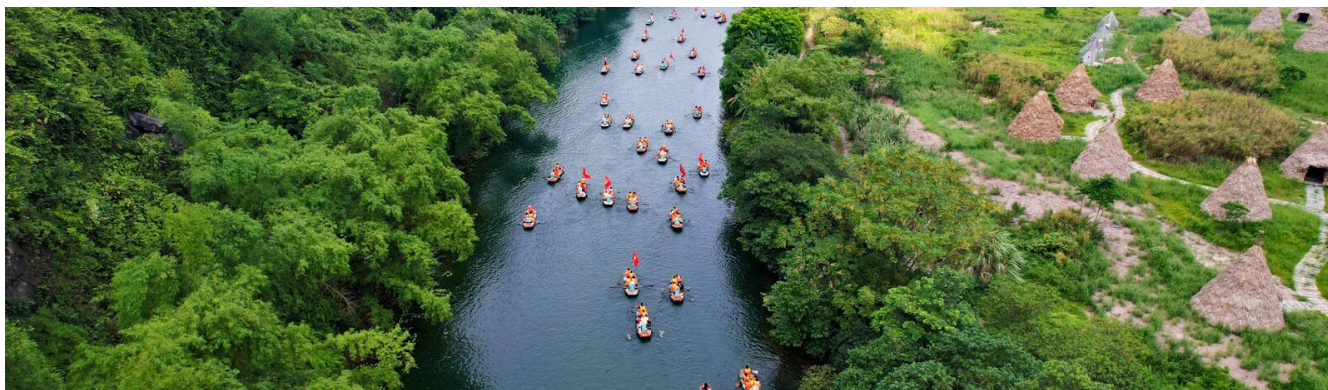
- Hoa Lu, Tam Coc and the Mua Cave viewpoint
- Sapa walks and a Dzay homestay
- Overnight Halong Bay cruise
- Free days in Hoi An
- Optional market visit, basket boats and cooking class
- Mekong Delta and Saigon's cultural sights

DAY 1**Welcome to Vietnam: arrive in Hanoi**

Tour photograph · Hanoi

Your journey begins on arrival in Hanoi. Your private driver will meet you at the airport with a sign bearing your name and take you to your accommodation in the city centre, close to the Old Quarter. Explore at your own pace or relax at your hotel after the flight.

Overnight in Hanoi.

DAY 2**Hoa Lu, Tam Coc and Mua Cave — shared tour (B/L)**

Tour photograph · Ninh Binh

Your guide collects you for the journey to Ninh Binh. After a short break along the way, visit Hoa Lu, Vietnam's capital from 968 to 1010. Learn about the Dinh, Le and Ly dynasties, then cycle through the village for a glimpse of local life.

Enjoy a buffet at Ninh Binh Excursion Restaurant, with local dishes such as goat, spring rolls, fish, chicken, fried rice and vegetable salad. Vegetarian options are available.

Take a bamboo boat through Tam Coc for around 1.5 hours, passing rice fields, river scenery and caves in the landscape known as 'Halong Bay on land'.

Continue to Mua Cave and climb almost 500 steps to the Lying Dragon viewpoint. Enjoy panoramic views of Tam Coc and nearby lotus fields, especially colourful in summer. Return to Hanoi and your hotel.

Overnight in Hanoi.

DAY 3**Hanoi to Sapa by bus (B)**

Tour photograph · Sapa

After an early breakfast and check-out, take a limousine bus to Sapa, a journey of approximately six hours. Transfer to your accommodation on arrival. The rest of the day is free to explore the mountain town.

Overnight in Sapa.

Accommodation examples listed in the programme are Sapa Panorama Hotel, Amazing Sapa and Silk Path Grand Resort & Spa, or similar. Your final hotel selection will be confirmed.

DAY 4**Y Linh Ho, Lao Chai and Ta Van — shared tour
(B/L/D)**

Tour photograph · Sapa

After breakfast, meet your guide at around 9:30 am for a walk of approximately 12 km. Visit the Hmong villages of Y Linh Ho and Lao Chai, enjoying rice terraces and mountain views along the way. Stop for lunch near the river in Lao Chai.

Continue walking to Ta Van, a Dzay village. Stay overnight with a local Dzay family and learn about their daily life and traditions.

Please bring only a small bag with clothes and essentials for the walk and homestay night. Your remaining luggage can be stored at your hotel's reception in Sapa. You will return there to collect it the next day before travelling back to Hanoi.

DAY 5**Ta Van, Giang Ta Chai and Su Pan, then return to Hanoi (B/L)**

Tour photograph · Sapa

After breakfast, walk towards the Red Dao village of Giang Ta Chai. Your route passes through bamboo forest in Hoang Lien National Park, with a waterfall and a rattan bridge where you can rest and enjoy the surroundings. Stop for lunch in a scenic spot.

Continue to Su Pan, a small village beside the road. From there, return to Sapa by car and travel onwards to Hanoi by limousine bus.

Overnight in Hanoi.

Accommodation examples listed in the programme are Mina Hotel, Tirant Hotel and Apricot Hotel, or similar. Your final hotel selection will be confirmed.

DAY 6**Hanoi to Halong Bay: shuttle and shared overnight cruise (B/L/D)**

Tour photograph · Halong Bay

After breakfast, meet the cruise team at your hotel. Travel through the Red River Delta, passing broad green rice fields. On arrival in Halong, board your boat and discover the bay's limestone cliffs and karst caves.

After your first views of the bay, enjoy a seafood lunch. Visit a well-known limestone cave, then take time to kayak or swim for a closer look at floating villages and shops.

Return to the boat for an early dinner. Afterwards, join activities on board or simply relax.

Overnight on board.

Cruise examples listed in the programme are Le Journey Cruise, La Pandora Cruise and Doris Cruise, or similar. Your final boat selection will be confirmed.

DAY 7**Halong Bay to Hanoi (B/Brunch)**

Tour photograph · Halong Bay

Rise early for a tai chi session or a leisurely breakfast. On the return towards the harbour, visit a limestone cave with stalactites and stalagmites. Disembark at the main pier and travel back to Hanoi, arriving at around 5 pm. The rest of the day is free.

Overnight in Hanoi.

Accommodation examples listed in the programme are Mina Hotel, Tirant Hotel and Apricot Hotel, or similar. Your final hotel selection will be confirmed.

DAY 8**Fly to Da Nang and transfer to Hoi An (B)**

Tour photograph · Hoi An

After breakfast, enjoy free time until your private airport transfer for the flight to Da Nang and onward journey to Hoi An.

Overnight in Hoi An.

Accommodation examples listed in the programme are Kim An Hotel Hoi An, Silkotel Hoi An and Palm Garden Hoi An, or similar. Your final hotel selection will be confirmed.

DAY 9**Hoi An at your own pace (B)**

Tour photograph · Hoi An

After breakfast, spend the day as you wish. Tailoring is an important part of Hoi An's economy, with hundreds of shops making clothing, shoes and bags. The programme suggests that some suits can be made in a day and certain bags or shoes in around four hours, but confirm timing and allow for fittings. Visit a shop early if you are interested.

The afternoon is a good time to explore on foot. Before setting out, try a banh mi sandwich, with Hoi An's own take on the bread and filling. The programme suggests Madam Khanh's shop, known as the 'Banh Mi Queen'.

After dark, lanterns transform the Old Town. Hoi An is a centre of lantern making and trade, and the lantern market offers a chance to watch craftspeople at work and choose a souvenir.

An open-air theatre offers a chance to see Vietnamese folk dancers and musicians. The programme mentions a free public performance from 9-10 pm at the square on Nguyen Thai Hoc Street; confirm the schedule locally. Before returning to your hotel, you may like to release a floating candle with a wish. Candles are sold along the canal.

Overnight in Hoi An.

Accommodation examples listed in the programme are Kim An Hotel Hoi An, Silkotel Hoi An and Palm Garden Hoi An, or similar. Your final hotel selection will be confirmed.

DAY 10**Free day; optional market, basket boats and cooking class (B)**

Tour photograph · Hoi An

Explore Hoi An according to your interests: historic Japanese merchant houses, pagodas, temples and old warehouses, or a relaxed café beside the Thu Bon River.

Optional excursion, 8:30 am–1 pm: visit a colourful market to learn about ingredients and shopping with local traders. In Cam Thanh, hear about the village's wartime history and ride a bamboo basket boat through the nipa palm forest. Small handmade palm-leaf souvenirs, such as hats, watches and rings, complete the visit.

Learn to cast fishing nets and look for small purple crabs in the canals. A cooking class introduces traditional ingredients and techniques, followed by a meal of five Vietnamese dishes you have prepared.

The afternoon is free for the Old Town or relaxing at your hotel.

Overnight in Hoi An.

Accommodation examples listed in the programme are Kim An Hotel Hoi An, Silkotel Hoi An and Palm Garden Hoi An, or similar. Your final hotel selection will be confirmed.

DAY 11**Fly from Hoi An to Ho Chi Minh City (B)**

Tour photograph · Ho Chi Minh City

After breakfast, fly from Da Nang to Ho Chi Minh City. Check in and enjoy free time to recharge.

Overnight in Ho Chi Minh City.

Accommodation examples listed in the programme are Acnos Hotel, Alagon Saigon Hotel and The Myst Dong Khoi, or similar. Your final hotel selection will be confirmed.

DAY 12**Mekong Delta — shared excursion (B/L)**

Tour photograph · Mekong Delta

After breakfast, you are collected at 7:20 am for the journey to My Tho. Board a sampan and cruise past Dragon, Unicorn, Phoenix and Tortoise islands.

On Unicorn Island, walk along village lanes and through orchards. Taste tropical fruit, listen to folk music performed by local musicians and visit a fruit plantation.

Take a hand-rowed sampan through Thoi Son Canal. Visit a family business, bee farm and coconut candy workshop, and enjoy honey tea. After lunch at a local restaurant and a break, cycle through Tan Thach village and meet its residents. If you cannot or prefer not to cycle, relax in a hammock.

Return to Ho Chi Minh City at around 5:30 pm.

Overnight in Ho Chi Minh City.

Accommodation examples listed in the programme are Acnos Hotel, Alagon Saigon Hotel and The Myst Dong Khoi, or similar. Your final hotel selection will be confirmed.

DAY 13**Ho Chi Minh City — shared half-day tour**

Tour photograph · Ho Chi Minh City

At 8 am, begin with the Independence Palace, also known as the Reunification Palace. Designed by architect Ngo Viet Thu on the site of the former Norodom Palace, it is one of the city's major landmarks.

See French colonial architecture at Notre Dame Cathedral and the historic Central Post Office. Continue to the War Remnants Museum for its collection relating to the two Indochina wars.

Noon: transfer back to your hotel or the meeting point.

Overnight in Ho Chi Minh City.

Accommodation examples listed in the programme are Acnos Hotel, Alagon Saigon Hotel and The Myst Dong Khoi, or similar. Your final hotel selection will be confirmed.

DAY 14**Depart from Ho Chi Minh City (B)**

Tour photograph · Ho Chi Minh City

Enjoy breakfast on your final day. After checking out, you may have time to visit local markets and buy souvenirs for family and friends before the airport transfer and your flight home.

Your journey comes to an end.

Included services

- Flight from Hanoi to Da Nang with 20 kg of baggage per person.
- Flight from Da Nang to Ho Chi Minh City with 20 kg of baggage per person.
- Child airfares follow the airline's conditions at booking. Please contact us for a quote if travelling with more than one child.
- Experienced English-speaking guide. German-, French-, Spanish- or Dutch-speaking guides are available on request for a supplement.
- Meals as listed in the itinerary: B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner.
- Private door-to-door collection and drop-off.
- Return limousine-bus transfers between Hanoi and Sapa.
- Return air-conditioned bus transfers between Hanoi and Halong Bay.
- Air-conditioned buses or private vehicles for excursions.
- All sightseeing and admission tickets listed in the itinerary.
- Tissues and drinking water in the vehicle.
- Service charges and government taxes.
- 24/7 assistance through our hotline.

Your personal proposal will set out the included services. Any changes and availability will be confirmed before you book.

Additional costs

- International arrival and departure flights.
- Travel insurance.
- Drinks, personal expenses and tips.
- Early check-in and late check-out unless expressly included.
- Compulsory gala dinners on 24 and 31 December, where applicable.
- Holiday surcharges at Christmas, New Year and Tet in Vietnam, where applicable.
- Airport-transfer surcharges between midnight and 5 am.
- Vietnam e-visa.
- Other activities and services not expressly included, including the optional Hoi An eco-tour.

Your personal proposal will set out the included services. Any changes and availability will be confirmed before you book.

Carefully selected accommodation

Suggested hotels by destination and category. Your personal proposal will confirm room types and availability.

Hanoi

3 stars**Chalcedony Hotel or similar****4 stars****Le Jardin Haute Couture or similar****5 stars****Apricot Hotel or similar**

Sapa

3 stars**The View Sapa Hotel or similar****4 stars****Aliana Boutique Sapa or similar****5 stars****Silk Path Grand Sapa or similar**

Halong Bay

3 stars**Le Journey Premium Cruise or similar****4 stars****Milalux Cruise or similar****5 stars****Amanda Luxury Cruise or similar**

Hoi An

3 stars**Hoi An Riverside Villas & Apartments or similar****4 stars****The Saga Hoi An or similar****5 stars****Palm Garden Hoi An or similar**

Ho Chi Minh City

3 stars**Queen Ann Hotel or similar****4 stars****Alagon Saigon Hotel & Spa or similar****5 stars****The Myst Dong Khoi or similar**

Check-in is from 2 pm and check-out is by noon, unless your itinerary specifies otherwise. One night with a Dzay family in Ta Van is planned. This table follows the accommodation list; examples of hotels and boats in

Your accommodation · continued

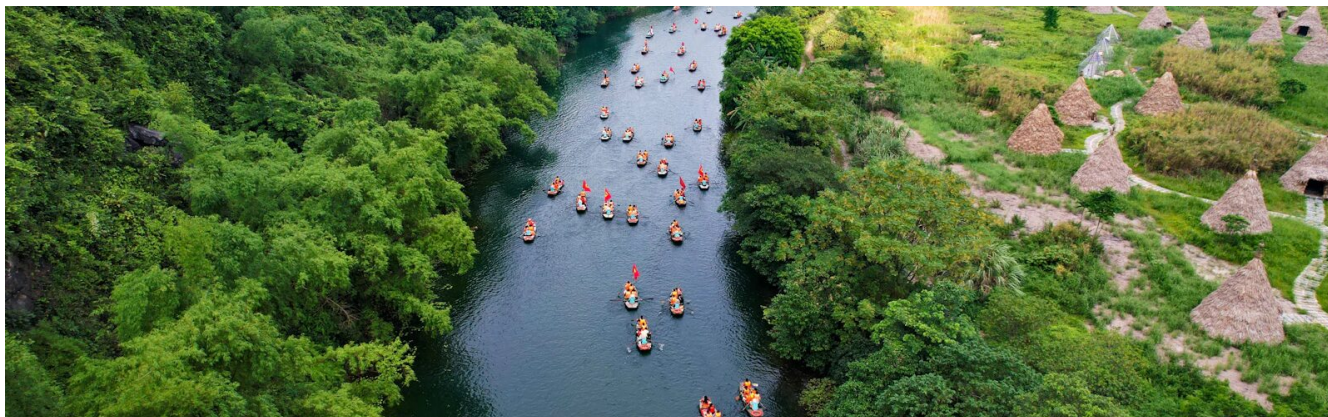
individual daily descriptions may differ. The final selection is confirmed when you book.

These hotels are suggestions, not reservations. If unavailable, a comparable alternative will be offered.

Columns show the trip categories; some lodges, homestays and cruises may be the same across categories.

Turn your idea into your journey.

Discuss your route, pace, accommodation and activities with our local travel team. We will help you shape a trip around your interests, with personal advice in English.



Tell us what you have in mind.

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Local experts in Vietnam · Tailor-made Southeast Asia tours

Plan this trip

Chat on WhatsApp

This document is a flexible tour idea, not a booking confirmation. Your personal proposal confirms the agreed services and accommodation. Photographs illustrate the journey and may not show your exact booked arrangements.

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