VIETNAM TOUR FUN

TAILOR-MADE TRAVEL. PERSONALLY PLANNED.

Vietnam and Thailand Explorer – 20 Days

20 days · Tailor-made itinerary



Tour photograph · Hoi An

Your journey. Your pace. Your experiences.

Hanoi - Halong Bay - Hue - Hoi An - Ho Chi Minh City - My Tho – day trip - Bangkok - Ayutthaya – day trip - Chiang Mai - Phuket

From USD 3,375 per person

Indicative price · international arrival and departure flights excluded

A tour idea we can personalise together.

Your journey at a glance

Destinations: Vietnam · Thailand



1. **Hanoi**
2. **Halong Bay**
3. **Hue**
4. **Hoi An**
5. **Ho Chi Minh City**
6. **My Tho – day trip**
7. **Bangkok**
8. **Ayutthaya – day trip**
9. **Chiang Mai**
10. **Phuket**

Itinerary Arrival & departure

Connections are schematic. Flights depend on your travel arrangements.

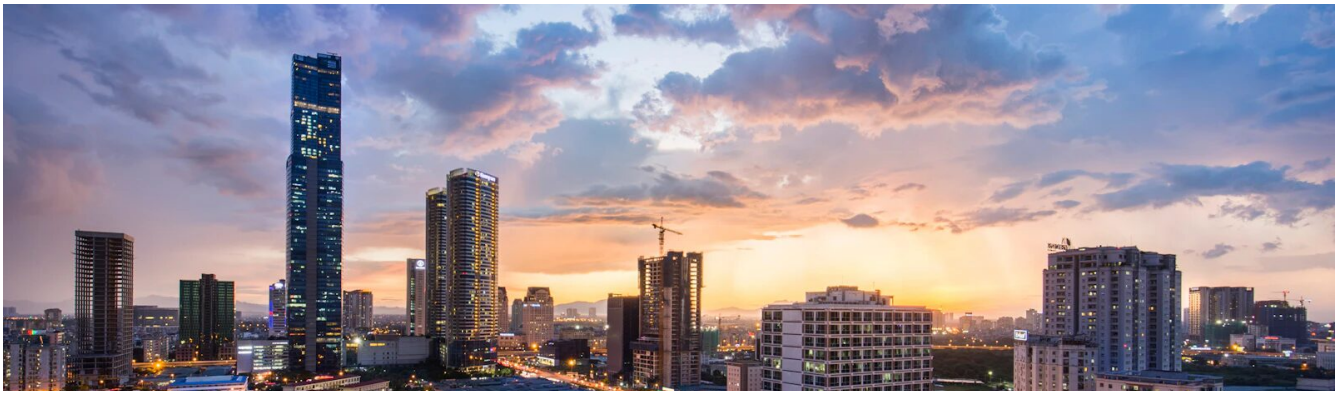
Map data: Natural Earth.

What makes this journey special

- Overnight Halong Bay cruise
- Hue and the Hai Van Pass
- Basket boat and cooking class in Hoi An
- Ho Chi Minh City, Cu Chi and the Mekong Delta
- Bangkok's temples and traditional markets
- Ayutthaya and overnight train to Chiang Mai
- Doi Suthep, elephant sanctuary and Phuket

DAY 1

Welcome to Vietnam: arrival in Hanoi



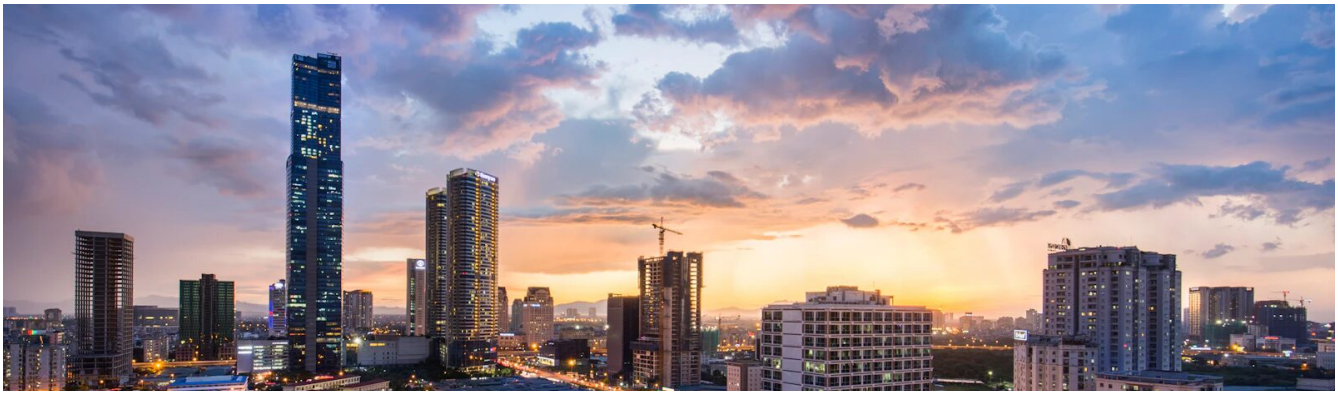
Tour photograph · Hanoi

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

Hanoi: full-day group city tour (B/L)



Tour photograph · Hanoi

Set beside the Red River, Hanoi brings together well-preserved colonial buildings, old pagodas, temples and distinctive museums.

Your guide will collect you between 08:00 and 08:30. At 08:45, visit Tran Quoc Pagoda on Golden Fish Island in West Lake, a historic pagoda with origins in the sixth century.

At 09:30, explore the Ho Chi Minh Complex, including the mausoleum when open, the gardens and the houses where Ho Chi Minh lived and worked between 1954 and 1969. Continue to the One Pillar Pagoda, dedicated to the Goddess of Mercy.

Please cover your shoulders and knees when visiting the mausoleum, temples and pagodas. Mausoleum access is subject to opening days and maintenance closures, and will be confirmed for your travel dates. The surrounding grounds can still be visited when access to the mausoleum itself is unavailable.

At 11:15, visit the Vietnam Museum of Ethnology to learn about the country's 54 ethnic groups. On Mondays, the programme visits the Vietnamese Women's Museum instead. At 12:45, enjoy lunch at a restaurant with a selection of eight Vietnamese dishes.

Between 14:00 and 14:15, continue to the Temple of Literature, founded in the 11th century and associated with Vietnam's first university. At 15:15, visit Hoa Lo Prison Museum. The French colonial authorities first used it for political prisoners; North Vietnam later held American prisoners of war here, who nicknamed it the 'Hanoi Hilton'.

The tour ends with your return to the hotel between 16:15 and 16:30.

Overnight in Hanoi.

DAY 3

Hanoi to Halong Bay: shared cruise and bus transfer (B/L/D)



Tour photograph · Halong Bay

Check out this morning and meet the cruise team's transfer service. Travel through the Red River Delta's green rice fields towards Halong Bay, then board your boat to discover its limestone formations and caves.

After your first views of the bay, enjoy a seafood lunch. Visit a limestone cave, then have time for kayaking or swimming, with an opportunity to see floating communities and shops from the water.

Return on board in the evening for an early dinner. Afterwards, join an onboard activity or simply relax.

DAY 4

Halong Bay to Hanoi and flight to Hue (B/L)



Tour photograph · Hue

Enjoy breakfast as the boat heads towards the harbour, stopping at a limestone cave to see its stalactites and stalagmites. Transfer back to Hanoi and take a short break before your airport transfer and flight to Hue. On arrival, continue to your hotel.

Overnight in Hue.

DAY 5

Hue: full-day city tour (B/L)



Tour photograph · Hue

Your guide and vehicle will collect you from your centrally located hotel between 08:00 and 08:30. Take a dragon boat along the Perfume River for around 30 minutes to historic Thien Mu Pagoda.

Visit the Imperial Citadel, seat of the Nguyen dynasty, Vietnam's last royal dynasty. Continue to Dong Ba Market to browse its food and goods, watch the trading and shop for souvenirs if you wish.

After lunch featuring Hue specialities, take a break and enjoy an herbal foot bath. Then visit Khai Dinh's tomb, which combines Eastern and Western influences, and Minh Mang's tomb, whose stately design blends harmoniously with its natural setting.

On the return journey, stop at villages making conical hats and incense, with a chance to learn about the crafts directly from local makers. Return to your hotel between 16:00 and 17:00.

DAY 6

Hue to Hoi An via the Hai Van Pass (B)



Tour photograph · Hoi An

After breakfast, travel by private vehicle from Hue to Hoi An. The scenic route crosses the Hai Van Pass, with views of the mountains and sea. Check in to your hotel and spend some time exploring your new surroundings.

Overnight in Hoi An.

DAY 7

Market, basket boat, fishing and cooking (B/L)



Tour photograph · Hoi An

Discover Hoi An's palm-lined waterways and learn to prepare distinctive regional dishes.

At a colourful local market, learn about shopping with vendors and the ingredients used in your meal. Continue to Cam Thanh, a village connected with the history of the wars against France and the United States.

Ride a bamboo basket boat through the nipa-palm waterways. Discover small gifts woven from palm leaves, such as hats, watches and rings, and learn about casting fishing nets and catching small purple crabs in the canals.

During the cooking class, learn about ingredients and traditional Vietnamese methods, then enjoy the five dishes you have prepared.

Overnight in Hoi An.

DAY 8

Transfer from Hoi An to Da Nang and fly to Ho Chi Minh City (B)



Tour photograph · Ho Chi Minh City

Enjoy your remaining time in Hoi An before your private driver takes you to Da Nang Airport for your flight to Ho Chi Minh City. Your driver will meet you at Tan Son Nhat Airport and take you to your accommodation. The rest of the day is free.

DAY 9

Ho Chi Minh City and Cu Chi (B/L)



Tour photograph · Cu Chi

This morning, visit the Independence Palace, also known as Reunification Palace. Designed by architect Ngo Viet Thu on the site of the former Norodom Palace, the building holds an important place in Vietnam's modern history.

Admire French colonial architecture at Notre Dame Cathedral and the Central Post Office, then visit the War Remnants Museum, whose extensive collection explores the Indochina wars.

After lunch at a local restaurant, travel by bus to Cu Chi, around 1.5 hours away. A short introductory film explains how the tunnels were built and the harsh conditions of wartime life. Explore the underground network, including living spaces, kitchens, storerooms, weapons workshops, field hospitals and command centres, and see concealed entrances and defensive systems.

Afterwards, try tea and cassava, a staple food for guerrilla fighters. Take a break or choose an optional shooting-range activity under the operator's conditions and charges before returning to Ho Chi Minh City.

Overnight in Ho Chi Minh City.

DAY 10

Mekong Delta: group excursion (B/L)



Tour photograph · Mekong Delta

Travel to My Tho in the Mekong Delta and visit Vinh Trang Pagoda. Board a sampan for a cruise past the islands known as Dragon, Unicorn, Phoenix and Turtle.

On Unicorn Island, walk along rural paths among orchards, taste tropical fruit, listen to local folk musicians and visit a fruit plantation.

Take a hand-rowed sampan through Thoi Son Canal. Visit a family business, a bee farm and a coconut-candy workshop, and try honey tea.

After lunch at a local restaurant and a break, cycle through Tan Thach to meet local residents. If you prefer not to cycle, relax in a hammock instead. Return to Ho Chi Minh City afterwards.

DAY 11

Fly from Ho Chi Minh City to Bangkok (B)



Tour photograph · Bangkok

After breakfast, enjoy free time to relax or shop in Ho Chi Minh City before your included airport transfer. Fly to Bangkok, where your driver will meet you and take you to your hotel to check in. Explore the city or relax for the rest of the day.

Overnight in Bangkok.

DAY 12

Bangkok's temples: half-day tour (B)



Tour photograph · Bangkok

After hotel pick-up, travel through some of Bangkok's distinctive neighbourhoods and visit the Golden Buddha and Reclining Buddha.

At Wat Traimit, see the immense solid-gold Buddha, weighing around 5.5 tonnes. Continue to Wat Pho, one of Bangkok's oldest temples, to see the gilded Reclining Buddha, representing the Buddha's entry into nirvana. The temple is also renowned as a centre of learning, traditional medicine and massage.

DAY 13

Maeklong Railway Market and Damnoen Saduak (B/L)



Tour photograph · Bangkok

Your driver will collect you for the journey to Maeklong Railway Market, or Talad Rom Hoop, in Samut Songkhram province. Watch vendors move their produce stalls aside as a train passes through the busy market.

Continue to Damnoen Saduak Floating Market in Ratchaburi province. From the pier, take a long-tail boat for around 30 minutes past plantations and villages along the river channels and canals.

At the market, vendors sell local food, tropical fruit and handicrafts from their boats. You can also experience the atmosphere on a paddle-boat ride. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before transferring back to your hotel.

DAY 14

Ayutthaya and Bang Pa-In; overnight train to Chiang Mai (B/L)



Tour photograph · Ayutthaya

Visit Ayutthaya, around 76 km north of Bangkok. Founded in 1350 by King U Thong, it served as the capital for 417 years before its destruction in 1767. The surviving ruins and artworks offer a vivid introduction to this period of Thai history.

See Wat Phra Si Sanphet, whose grounds once formed part of the royal residence under King Ramathibodi I. Continue to Wat Phanan Choeng, which predates the capital and houses a revered Buddha approximately 19 metres tall.

At Wat Mahathat, see the famous Buddha head entwined in tree roots. This 14th-century temple once hosted royal ceremonies and was destroyed in 1767. Visit Wat Yai Chaimongkol, known for its large chedi and rows of Buddha figures; Wat Chaiwatthanaram may be visited as an alternative.

Take a boat trip towards Bang Pa-In, the former royal summer palace, enjoying Ayutthaya's riverside scenery from a long-tail boat. The route may change according to river conditions.

Return to Bangkok and board the overnight train to Chiang Mai.

DAY 15

Arrival in Chiang Mai and Doi Suthep (B)



Tour photograph · Chiang Mai

Transfer from Chiang Mai station to your hotel and have breakfast at a local restaurant. After hotel pick-up, visit the sacred hilltop temple of Wat Phra That Doi Suthep.

Climb the 306-step Naga Staircase, lined with mythical serpent figures, to reach the temple. Within the cloister stands a gleaming chedi with a five-tiered golden parasol, sheltering sacred Buddha relics.

DAY 16

Elephant Jungle Sanctuary: private transfers, shared activities (B/L)



Tour photograph · Chiang Mai

The half-day programme is offered in the morning or afternoon. The schedule below describes the morning visit. Exact pick-up and return times will be confirmed, allowing for the journey to and from the sanctuary.

At 07:00, drive around 1.5 hours south of Chiang Mai through hills, forests and farmland. Arrive at Elephant Jungle Sanctuary around 08:30, learn about the elephants, change into traditional Karen clothing and prepare remedies for the animals.

From 09:00, feed the elephants and give them the prepared remedies while learning about their behaviour and histories. There will be opportunities to interact and take photographs. The programme continues with a mud bath around 09:45, then a walk to the river and bathing activity at 10:30.

At 11:30, enjoy a traditional meal and say goodbye to the elephants. The planned return journey begins around midday and takes approximately 1.5 hours. Final return timing will be confirmed for your chosen departure.

DAY 17

Chiang Mai and flight to Phuket (B)



Tour photograph · Phuket

After breakfast, enjoy free time until your private airport transfer with an English-speaking guide. Fly to Phuket, where your guide will meet you on arrival.

Transfer to your hotel in a private, air-conditioned vehicle with an English-speaking guide, then check in.

DAY 18

Phuket at leisure (B)



Tour photograph · Phuket

Enjoy free time on the beaches and make the most of your island stay.

DAY 19

Another free day in Phuket (B)



Tour photograph · Phuket

Spend another free day enjoying Phuket's beaches and relaxing.

DAY 20

Departure from Phuket (B)



Tour photograph · Phuket

Enjoy breakfast on the final day of your trip. After check-out, you may have time to browse local markets for souvenirs before your transfer to the airport and flight home.

Your journey comes to an end.

Included services

Accommodation

- Accommodation type and room or cabin depend on the selected travel package.

Flights

- Flight from Hanoi to Hue with 20 kg of baggage per person.
- Flight from Da Nang to Ho Chi Minh City with 20 kg of baggage per person.
- Flight from Ho Chi Minh City to Bangkok with 20 kg of baggage per person.
- Flight from Chiang Mai to Phuket 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.

Guide

- Experienced English-speaking guide. German-, French-, Spanish- or Dutch-speaking guides are available on request for a supplement.

Meals

- Meals as listed in the itinerary: B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner.

Transport

- Private door-to-door collection and drop-off.
- Return air-conditioned bus transfers between Hanoi and Halong Bay.
- Air-conditioned buses or private vehicles for excursions.
- Air-conditioned overnight train from Bangkok to Chiang Mai.

Other included

- 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.

Final inclusions and availability will be confirmed in your personal proposal.

Excluded Services

Excluded Services

- All other flights, international arrival and departure flights, and departure taxes.
- 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 and during Tet, where applicable. The programme lists 21 January for Tet; dates must be confirmed when booking.
- Holiday surcharges at Christmas, New Year, Tet in Vietnam and local New Year celebrations in Cambodia, Laos and Thailand, where applicable.
- Airport-transfer surcharges between midnight and 5 am.
- Entry visa fees: the programme lists Vietnam at USD 25 per person. Please confirm current requirements and fees before travelling.
- Other activities and services not expressly included.

The items above are excluded from the tour price unless specifically stated in your personal proposal.

Carefully selected accommodation

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

Hanoi

3 stars	4 stars	5 stars
San Premium Hotel or similar	Tirant Hotel or similar	Apricot Hotel & Spa or similar

Halong Bay

3 stars	4 stars	5 stars
Le Journey Cruise or similar	La Pandora Cruise or similar	Doris Cruise or similar

Hue

3 stars	4 stars	5 stars
Cherish Hue Hotel or similar	Eldora Hotel or similar	Silk Path Grand Hue Hotel & Spa or similar

Hoi An

3 stars	4 stars	5 stars
Kim An Hotel Hoi An or similar	Silkotel Hoi An or similar	Palm Garden Hoi An or similar

Ho Chi Minh City

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

Bangkok

3 stars	4 stars	5 stars
True Siam Rangnam or similar	Aira Hotel or similar	Amari Watergate, now Amari Bangkok, or similar

Chiang Mai

3 stars	4 stars	5 stars
De Charme Hotel or similar	Novotel Nimman Journeyhub or similar	Meliá Chiang Mai or similar

Phuket

3 stars	4 stars	5 stars
Kata Poolside Resort or similar	Novotel Phuket Kata Avista or similar	Avista Grande Phuket Karon or similar

Check-in is from 2 pm and check-out is by noon, unless your itinerary specifies otherwise. One night is spent on the air-conditioned sleeper train from Bangkok to Chiang Mai. Final hotels, cabins and the cruise vessel are 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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