

VIETNAM NORTH TO SOUTH

Hanoi • Halong Bay • Hue • Hoi An • Saigon

Day 1 USA - Hanoi

Depart on your flights to Hanoi, Vietnam.

Day 2 Hanoi

Arrive in Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam. Often described as an old fashioned city, Hanoi has sidewalk cafes, lakes, parks, villas and mansions - it's all here in Hanoi, a microcosm of Vietnamese culture. To begin your meandering, take a walking tour around the city's lovely French Quarter, filled with artifacts from Vietnam's colonial past.

Day 3 Hanoi

After breakfast at the hotel, depart for a full day tour in this charming town. Proceed to the historical monument which contains Ho Chi Minh's tomb. The mausoleum is truly monumental, built of marble, granite and precious wood. Close by, you will see Ho Chi Minh's house, as well as a famous pagoda built in the 11th century. Continue your tour of Hanoi, highlighting the restored Opera House, Temple of Literature and Hoa Lo Museum. Later, enjoy a traditional water puppet show followed by a cyclo tour and welcome dinner. B,L,D

Day 4 Hanoi - Halong Bay Cruise

Drive to Halong Bay, north of the city. This is considered the eighth wonder of the world, and once here, it's easy to see why. Three thousand spectacular chalk and limestone outcroppings, cliffs, arches and coves form a dragon's tail across the bay. Board a traditional junk boat (pictured above) and cruise along the emerald green waters, exploring many islands and caves. Enjoy sunset on top of Titov Mountain followed by dinner. Overnight on board. B,L,D

Day 5 Halong Bay Cruise - Hue

Enjoy sunrise and breakfast onboard. Optional kayaking is available for further exploration. Disembark after lunch and transfer to the airport in Hanoi for your flight to Hue. One of the country's foremost cultural, religious and educational

centers, Hue began its existence as the citadel of Phu Xuan in 1687. Today you'll visit two important Nguyen Dynasty tombs, the first belonging to Emperor Tu Duc. This site boasts traditional architecture, paved walkways and resting pavilions overlooking tranquil lotus ponds. In stark contrast, the tomb of Khai Dinh sports colonial architecture and its glass mosaic frieze dominates the interior. B,L

Day 6 Hue - Da Nang - Hoi An

Depart on a half day tour with a boat cruise on the Perfume River to visit Thien Mu pagoda and Imperial Citadel. Afterwards, travel overland across spectacular Hai Van Pass to Da Nang with lunch en route. One of the most ancient cities in Vietnam, Da Nang was the center of the Cham Dynasty from the 2nd century and boasts the largest collection of Cham artifacts. Continue to Hoi An for the night. B,L

Day 7 Hoi An

Hoi An was cut off from outside influences by destroyed rail lines and today this gem is untouched by war and frozen in time. Visit the unique covered Japanese bridge, former merchant homes, temples and art galleries and absorb the atmosphere of one of the country's most colorful marketplaces. In the afternoon, take a bike tour through the surrounding villages and get a unique glimpse into the lives of rural villagers. B,L

Day 8 Hoi An - Saigon

Depart on your flight to Saigon, informally known as Ho Chi Minh City. Arrive and begin a guided city tour. Representing the country's future, Saigon is booming with new economic, technological and cultural opportunities. View the General Post Office (1886), City Hall and Notre Dame Cathedral. Next, see Reunification Palace, the War Remnants Museum, followed by lunch. Balance of the day is free to explore. B, L

Day 9 Saigon

After breakfast, begin a full day tour, visiting a Cao Dai Temple and Cu Chi tunnel. The Great Temple at Tay Ninh is the center



of the Cao Dai religion, which is unique to Vietnam. Continue on to have lunch at a local restaurant. Then proceed to Cu Chi where you will visit the vast underground network of tunnels built as a defense against the French and later used in the American war. Return to Saigon for a free evening. B,L,

Day 10 Saigon

Journey south of Saigon to the Mekong River town of Cai Be for a boat tour of the river's ecosystem. Also see the floating market, where merchants' items are displayed hanging from bamboo poles. Enjoy lunch at a local farmer's home and then cruise to Vinh Long. Return to Saigon for a relaxing free afternoon, then savor a delicious farewell dinner at one of the best restaurants in town. B,L,D

Day 11 Saigon - USA

Board your return flight to the USA. B

Custom tour options:

Tour dates:

Priced at: \$ _____ participants

Early booking discount:

For further information contact: