



## **Best Of Vietnam - 10 Days (#18262)**

**Note:** Price printed on this PDF is valid until **23-05-2024** and is subject to change without notice due to Partner changes and currency fluctuations

### **Overview**

- Visit all must-see destinations of Vietnam: Hanoi, Halong Bay, Hue, Hoi An, Ho Chi Minh City, Mekong Delta
- Savor some of the country's most iconic specialties: "bun cha", "banh mi", "cao lau", "egg coffee"
- Enjoy an overnight cruise in the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Halong Bay
- Step back in time at the Imperial Citadel of Hue and Hoi An Ancient Town
- Take a ride on the unique round bamboo basket boat and try your hands on making Hoi An's iconic silk lantern
- Follow writer's Graham Greene's footsteps through the colonial quarter of Saigon
- Overnight at a homestay in the Mekong Delta and fully immerse into rural life of the region.

### **Trip Highlights**

Hanoi – Halong Bay - Hue – Hoi An - Ho Chi Minh City - Cai Be – Vinh Long - Ho Chi Minh City

### **Detailed Itinerary**



**Day 01****Day 1: Arrival in Hanoi**

Welcome to Hanoi, Vietnam, one of Asia's most enchanting cities with full of culture and history. You will be greeted by your driver at Noi Bai International Airport, then, transfer to your hotel. Overnight in Hanoi.

**Meal:** No Meal

**Day 02****Day 2: Hanoi**

After breakfast, you will pass by Ba Dinh Square, the political heart of modern Vietnam, where President Ho Chi Minh read the Declaration of Independence establishing the Democratic Republic of Vietnam on September 2nd 1945. You will stop at the nearby One Pillar Pagoda which was first built in 1049 by Emperor Ly Thai Tong to mark the birth of his heir, based on a dream in which the goddess gave him a son floating on a lotus. After visiting The Temple of Literature, the first university of Vietnam where students still come to burn incense until now, you will take a cyclo ride around the bustling Old Quarter which has been a commercial centre since King Ly Thai To built his palace there in the 11th century.

Finish the morning by savoring two of the most iconic Vietnamese culinary symbols: light lunch with "bun cha" and the unique drink of "egg coffee".

This afternoon is free for you to discover the city.

Overnight in Hanoi.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Lunch

**Day 03****Day 3: Hanoi – Halong Bay**

On this day, you will start your journey with a visit to the coast of Halong Bay. Embark on a beautifully crafted wooden junk for an overnight cruise in the legendary seascape. Once on board, you will be served a delicious seafood-based lunch, while the limestone rocks set the decor. In the afternoon, reach a less traveled area and devote yourselves to relaxation, sunbathing, and a visit to a cave before ending the day on the sundeck while the sun sets. Enjoy an aperitif or attend a cooking demonstration before dinner. Overnight in a comfortable private cabin with attached bathroom.

Overnight on board.

Note: Cruise itinerary and schedule are subject to change due to weather, tide levels and operating conditions. Swimming or kayaking excursions may be canceled due to poor weather.



**Meal:** Breakfast, lunch and Dinner

**Day 04****Day 4: Halong Bay – Hue (Brunch/-/-)**

One of the most special experiences for travelers in Vietnam is watching the sunrise over Halong Bay. Rise early to watch this spectacular and peaceful scene. After breakfast, we continue to cruise through the bay for visiting Sung Sot, a beautiful cave but also an archaeological site. Enjoy a brunch on board before we arrive at the wharf in the late morning and return to the dock, where you will be met and transferred to the airport for the flight to Hue. Upon arrival transfer to hotel. Overnight in Hue.

**Day 05****Day 5: Hue – Hoi An**

Today you will get an insider's point of view to the last feudal capital of Vietnam. Your first stop is a visit to Imperial Citadel, the best-preserved remnant of the vast citadel and royal quarters that once existed on the site. Afterward, you will head to a place of worship and historical treasure presenting an insight look into Vietnam's spiritual heritage, Thien Mu Pagoda. Take a leisure boat ride in the enchanting Perfume River surrounded by the stunning lush landscapes. Enjoy lunch with delicious Hue's specialties in a garden house.

In the afternoon, continue by road to the south until you reach the ancient town of Hoi An. Passing the scenic Hai Van Pass with breathtaking view from the top: north over Lang Co Beach and south over Da Nang. A remarkable scenery, for the route hugs the coastline of the East Sea before winding up the spectacular Hai Van Pass. Overnight in Hoi An.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Lunch

**Day 06****Day 6: Hoi An**

Set off on a day tour of Cam Thanh rural life. You'll first cycle through picturesque villages where life moves at a slower pace to the village pier where we change to bamboo basket boats – a unique way of locals to have a closer look at the ecosystem of mangrove forests and daily work of the village fisherman. Continue to Tra Que Village where you will learn about vegetable farming and witness the farming activities. Afterward, head out to the home of a craftsman where you will get a brief introduction to the history, shape, and color of the lanterns, as well as the stages of making them. The craftsman will show you how to decorate and instruct you in making your own Hoi An lantern.



Light lunch with Hoi An's specialties, "banh mi" and "cao lau".

In this afternoon, take a leisurely walking tour in the Old Town of Hoi An to visit spots that create Hoi An's reputation from Chinese Assembly Hall to the typical hundred-year-old ancient house and the authentic local market. Overnight in Hoi An.

**Meal:** Breakfast and Lunch

### Day 07

### Day 7: Hoi An – Ho Chi Minh City

Transfer back to Da Nang this morning for the flight to Ho Chi Minh City.

This afternoon, you will take a digestive walk around the colonial buildings of District 1. Start at the Reunification Palace, built on the site of the former Norodom Palace, Reunification Palace was the home and workplace of the President of South Vietnam during the Vietnam War. It witnessed the end of the Vietnam War during the Fall of Saigon on April 30, 1975, when a North Vietnamese Army tank crashed through its gates. Today, this building is a museum and sometimes a venue for official receptions. Then, continue the walking tour following writer Graham Greene's footsteps. The Saigon Post Office, which was constructed in classic French colonial style between 1866 and 1891 is still a functioning post office today. The interior is well worth a visit, with huge ceilings, a giant portrait of Uncle Ho, and many beautiful details. The entrance is flanked by statues symbolizing the contributions of the post office's staff in the wartime and present day, which were erected in 1998 on the city's 300th anniversary. Thereafter, you will proceed with passing the French colonial era buildings such as City Hall, Hotel Continental Saigon, Municipal Theatre before enjoying a drink at unique stop: an old apartment building converted to hipster cafes and boutiques. Overnight in Ho Chi Minh City.

**Meal:** Breakfast

### Day 08

### Day 8: Ho Chi Minh City – Cai Be – Vinh Long

Today's journey will start with a transfer to Cai Be in the Mekong Delta. You will come to Tan Phong island for biking or walking on village paths to see the local daily life: orchard, school, church, pagoda, traditional houses... On the way, make some stops to see how locals wave the dried water-hyacinth to make many products: baskets, bags, hats, wallets, shoes... before stopping at the local garden to enjoy some cups of tea when listening to the traditional music. Then, the rowing boat will take you deeper into the countryside on smaller canals to relish the peaceful time in this area. Check in at a local homestay in the afternoon and have a biking trip around the local village. Enjoy dinner with local family. Overnight at homestay in Vinh Long.

**Meal:** Breakfast, lunch and Dinner



**Day 09**

**Day 9: Vinh Long – Ho Chi Minh City**

Have breakfast and check out for a walk along the village to enjoy the fresh air in the morning before you arrive at the local workshop to see how to make rice paper, coconut candy, and pop-rice while enjoying some sweets with a cup of hot tea. Continue with a boat trip to visit the brick kilns where you can see how the local people create beautiful potteries from clay. Then, go along the floating village to witness the process of farming catfish on Mekong river. Also, you can visit Vinh Long market in the town. This is the best choice for you to take pictures of fish, shrimps, prawns, crabs, snakes, rice-field rats, tropical fruits, vegetables... End the cruise in Vinh Long and return to Ho Chi Minh City. Overnight in Ho Chi Minh City.

**Meal:** Breakfast

**Day 10**

**Day 10: Departure from Ho Chi Minh City**

Morning at leisure until your transfer (with driver) to airport for your international flight.

End of our services.

**Meal:** Breakfast

## Inclusions

- 7 nights at 4 star hotel, 1 night on Halong Bay boat & 1 night at homestay.
- 2 economy class flights: Hanoi – Hue & Da Nang – Saigon
- Daily breakfast, 5 lunches & 2 dinners.
- Airport arrival transfer day 1 & departure transfer day 10
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private air-conditioned vehicles.
- Guided sightseeing with local English speaking guides (exclude entrance fees – to be payable locally).
- 02 bottles of mineral water per person per day on bus - on days of transfer and sightseeing only.
- Government tax and service charge.

## Exclusions



- Entrance fees – to be collected locally
- Early check-in or late check-out
- Optional excursions and activities
- Airfares (international)
- Drinks
- Meals (other than mentioned in the program)
- Additional transfer required due to any emergency situation
- Tips
- Visa - as per country requirements
- Peak season surcharges if any
- Items of a personal nature (Phone calls, laundry, beverages, etc.)
- Mineral water beyond that which is supplied
- All not mentioned above
- Personal Insurance

## Note

### Hotel List:

Category: 4\* - The hotels listed below are ones which we frequently use on this tour. We reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

Ha Noi - Lacasa Hotel (Deluxe Room)

Ha Long - Bhaya Cruise (Deluxe Room)

Hue - Romance Hotel Hue (Deluxe Mountain & Stadium View)

Hoi an - Hoi An Rosemary Boutique Hotel & Spa (Rosemary Deluxe)

Ho Chi Minh - Bay Hotel (Deluxe Room)

### \*\*\* Conditions:

- Number of pax: Guarantee to run from 4pax
- Free sales: 30 days prior arrival date
- Less than 30 days prior to arrival date: Check with our team for availability
- Deposit (non-refundable): AUD 333 per person upon booking made.

### Highlights:

Vietnamese Culinary Quest: Relish unique delicacies like Bun Cha and Egg Coffee on a culinary adventure.

Halong Bay Overnight Cruise: Explore the mesmerizing landscapes of Halong Bay on an unforgettable journey.



**Historic Exploration:** Discover Vietnam's rich heritage at the Imperial Citadel of Hue and Hoi An Ancient Town.

**Interactive Vietnam:** Enjoy a bamboo boat ride, craft Hoi An silk lanterns, and dive into local experiences.

**Saigon's Vibrant Pulse:** Follow Graham Greene's route through Saigon's colonial quarter.

**Authentic Mekong Delta Homestay:** Experience rural Vietnam with an overnight stay in the Mekong Delta's heart."

### **Several points to note**

1. The above tour prices are based on our current transportation rates. Increasing petrol rates might affect our transportation and boat fees, in which case we reserve the right to revise our current rates. If any increase should arise we will of course keep you well informed.
2. Availability: Please note that if a certain hotel is not available at the time of booking, then we will gladly make alternative suggestions in the same category. We will advise you accordingly with the surcharge if any. As a result, we would highly appreciate it if you could advise us to block rooms soonest possible to guarantee the rooms and rates in period of high and peak season.
3. All the above points of interest are open for visit based on current updates. In case of closure for construction or any other reason, we will replace with a similar point of interest.
4. Above itinerary is based on the current flight schedule. In case of flight changes, the itinerary will be changed accordingly.
5. No early check in or late checkout is included except those indicated in the program. Generally, the check in time is 14.00pm and check out time is 12.00pm.
6. Visa into Vietnam is required except for countries who have signed the visa exemption contracts. Please contact us for visa information details.

Remarks: Passport must be valid 6 months ahead since the time of departing the visited country

7. Compulsory dinners on Dec 24th (Christmas), Dec 31st (New Year) and applicable public holiday event within your host country will be advised at time of booking.

### **Group Size:**

Min 4pax - Max 16

Departures are guaranteed from 4 pax

For more information or to book a spot on this fantastic Seat In Coach tour, please contact us. If you would like to extend this tour by adding in pre/post options for accommodation or touring, please do let us know and we can happily suggest some customized extensions.

## **Program Touring / Guide**

Escorted Experience



## Fixed Departure

**18 Aug, 2024**

Hotel, boat & homestay  
AUD 1,965 P P twin share  
AUD 2,971 P P single  
AVAILABLE

**15 Sep, 2024**

Hotel, boat & homestay  
AUD 1,965 P P twin share  
AUD 2,971 P P single  
AVAILABLE

**21 Oct, 2024**

Hotel, boat & homestay  
AUD 1,965 P P twin share  
AUD 2,971 P P single  
AVAILABLE

**18 Nov, 2024**

Hotel, boat & homestay  
AUD 1,965 P P twin share  
AUD 2,971 P P single  
AVAILABLE

**09 Dec, 2024**

Hotel, boat & homestay  
AUD 1,965 P P twin share  
AUD 2,971 P P single  
AVAILABLE

