

# VIET NAM IN DEPTH

*Destination: Ho Chi Minh - Mekong Delta - Hoi An - Hue - Ninh Binh - Ha Noi*  
(Duration: 15D14N)



## ITINERARY DESCRIPTION

### **Day 01: Ho Chi Minh Arrival ( Meal: D)**

Xin chao! Welcome to Ho Chi Minh City - the most populous and dynamic city of Viet Nam.

Upon arrival, you will be met and transferred to hotel. Your adventure begins with a welcome meeting at 6 pm this evening, where you'll meet your tour leader and fellow travellers. After your welcome meeting, heading to a restaurant for your first great welcome dinner in Viet Nam. Tonight the dinner is based on Vietnamese set menu, which the locals eat daily here. After dinner is your free time to discover "Saigon" by night, you can walk to Bui Vien walking street for a cold beer and enjoy the vibe of the biggest city in Viet Nam.

Overnight in Ho Chi Minh

*Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner*

*Guide: English speaking guide*

*Hotel: Blue Diamond 3\* hotel or similar*

### **Day 02: Ho Chi Minh - Cu Chi Tunnels - City Tour (Meal: B,L)**

Breakfast at hotel

This morning, you'll head out of town (70km) to explore the Cu Chi Tunnels. Like an underground maze that stretches over 200km, the tunnels are complete with trapdoors, living areas, kitchens, storage facilities, armoury, hospitals, and command centres. You can try to go through the tunnel en route as you wish. Drive back to Ho Chi Minh

Afternoon, enjoy the most popular dish of Vietnamese cuisine - Pho ( Noodle sop with beef) . Continue to visit War Remnant Museum to understand more about Viet nam history under French and American war (1945 -1975). After that end our learning and discovery day at Central Post Office and Cathedral for photo. Drive back to hotel and free at leisure.

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

Hotel: Blue Diamond 3\* hotel or similar

### **Day 03: Ho Chi Minh - Mekong Boat Trip - Can Tho (Meal: B,L,D)**

Breakfast at hotel , check out the room

This morning you'll wave goodbye to Ho Chi Minh City for the night and travel south to Cai Be (2.5h) . When you arrive, you'll board a small traditional boat and explore the intricate waterways of the Mekong Delta. The delta is known as 'Vietnam's rice bowl' for its abundance of rice paddies, fruit and flower orchards. During the boat trip, you'll stop to sample some of the fresh tropical fruit and visit a selection of cottage industries in the area.

In the afternoon, disembark and heading Southwest to Can Tho ( 1h drive) the capital city of Mekong delta. Overnight in Can tho

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

Hotel: Hau Giang 3\* hotel or similar

### **Day 04 Can Tho - Floating Market - Ho Chi Minh (Meal: B)**

Start early this day to do one of the best experience in Mekong delta - Cai Rang floating market. Coming to this amazing colorful market you will soak in the Mekong people culture , this is where locals people trade, live and entertain. Some of the greatest picture would be take from this market.

After the market trip, you will go back, enjoy breakfast , check out and head back to Ho Chi Minh. A coffee break is on the way.

Check in and overnight in Ho Chi Minh, this evening will be yours to explore, perhaps go in search of the best food with some of your fellow travellers. Our guide would give you some good recommendation.

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

Hotel: Blue Diamond 3\* hotel or similar

### **Day 05: Ho Chi Minh - Hoi An ( Meal: B,)**

Breakfast at hotel, free until the transfer to airport for a flight to central of Viet Nam Upon arrival in Da Nang airport, you will be met and transferred to hotel in Hoi An ancient town.

In the afternoon your local guide will take you on an orientation walk around the World Heritage - listed Old Town. The town was a major trading port with the west during the

16th and 17th-centuries .You'll see Chinese temples, Japanese pagodas, French-colonial houses, wooden shop-houses and old canals during your walk . After the orientation walk you will be free to do your own stuffs. The city offer hundred of shop, café , restaurant so it is a great idea to just stroll around and do whatever please you.

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

Hotel: Vinh Hung 3\* hotel or similar

#### **Day 06: Hoi An - Free at Leisure - Happy Break (Meal: B)**

Breakfast at hotel

Enjoy a free day to further explore Hoi An and its majestic surrounds.

Optional tour: You can choose a lazy morning with late breakfast and join our bike ride optional tour in the afternoon. Hoi An countryside is a great example of Viet Nam village, on this adventurous you will discover some unseen part of the city, passing rice field, farm, water buffalo . The trip last about 4h on easy level biking.

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

Hotel: Vinh Hung 3\* hotel or similar

#### **Day 07: Hoi An - Free At Leisure (Meal: B)**

Breakfast at hotel

Spend another a great beautiful day in this historic town.

There's plenty to see and do here, this is your opportunity to decide how to spend your day. Rent a bike to ride to the beach, join cooking class or if you are history lover you can make a trip to My Son sanctuary which is about 70km south of Hoi An center. Visit to the ruins of My Son – Vietnam's most important Cham site. Located in a verdant valley, surrounded by hills and overlooked by the massive Cat's Tooth Mountain, the elaborate World Heritage-listed temples here reflect the cultural traditions of the Cham civilisation that flourished in this region between the fourth and 12th-century.

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

Hotel: Vinh Hung 3\* hotel or similar

#### **Day 08: Hoi An - Hue (Meal: B)**

Breakfast at hotel

Today ,continue your journey north and drive over the spectacular Hai Van Pass – an incredibly scenic and mountainous view over looking the ocean. Make a lunch stop at beautiful Lang Co to buy yourself some lunch.

In the afternoon, you'll arrive in Hue – Vietnam's former Imperial capital under Nguyen Dynasty, you will visit the Hue Citadel, where we can explore the Imperial citadel, Forbidden city to learn about the life of a Royal family in Viet Nam. It was almost destroyed by the war and natural disaster but Imperial citadel is always a must for people when they visit Hue city. Go back, check in and free at leisure to enjoy this poetic city

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

Hotel: Alba 3\* hotel or similar

#### Day 09: Hue - City Tour (Meal: B, L)

Breakfast at hotel

Today, it's time to discover the historical highlights of Hue. Our first stop of day would be Thien Mu pagoda, a Buddhist monastery dating back to 1601. Then, embark a dragon boat cruise on the iconic Perfume River, known as the soul of the city, after 30 - 45 'cruise you'll make a stop at one of the royal tombs, that of Emperor Tu Duc, with its lake, frangipani and pine trees. After a busy morning of exploring you will stop at a local restaurant for lunch. On the way back to hotel you will make one more stop at incense making village to see how it is made by both, old and new fashion. If you want, just give it a go. Drive back and free to explore the city by night.

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

Hotel: Alba 3\* hotel or similar

#### Day 10: Hue - Ha Noi - City Tour (Meal: B, L)

Breakfast at hotel

This morning you'll take a flight from Hue to Vietnam's charming capital of Hanoi. Upon arrival, enjoy a delicious lunch at KOTO restaurant. After lunch, take a half-day tour of Hanoi that captures the beauty and the history of the city. You'll visit major sights including the Temple of Literature, Ho Chi Minh mausoleum (outside) One Pillar Pagoda and Old quarter. Drive back and check in hotel in Ha Noi.

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

Hotel: Hoa Binh 3\* hotel or similar

#### Day 11: Ha Noi - Ninh Binh (Meal: B, L)

Breakfast at hotel, check out the room

You'll depart Hanoi for Ninh binh (100km) today, it is an ancient capital of the country date back to 10<sup>th</sup> century. On arrival, you'll head straight to the Dinh and Le Temples which were built in the 10th century and dedicated to two of the kings of Vietnam. After that stop for lunch at the local restaurant. In the afternoon go and visit the top of the day in this scenic spot with a rowboat cruise along the Ngo Dong river in Tam Coc. As you paddle, you'll be impressed by the surrounding limestone mountain peaks and rice paddy fields, plus enjoy the pastel hues of a lotus pond along your way. Drive back to and overnight in Ninh Binh.

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

Hotel: Thuy Anh 3\* hotel or similar

### **Day 12: Ninh Binh - Thung Nham Eco Tourism Zone ( Meal: B)**

Breakfast at hotel

In the morning : easy and free

Afternoon off for Thung Nham ecotourism zone, just outside of Ninh Binh. On arrival you'll take a traditional rowboat to discover the largest natural bird garden in the north of Vietnam. Enjoying the calm waters, as you're surrounded by towering mountains, lush greenery and, of course, a mass of beautiful bird species. Then, you'll explore the cave system that features Vai Gioi Cave, But Cave and Tien Ca Cave. From here, your journey will take you to spiritual sights that include the thousand year-old banyan tree, Gii Dai Temple and Linh Than Mieu. Finally, you'll get a chance to unwind as you explore the Thung Nham flower paradise, nursery and vegetable garden.

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

Hotel: Thuy Anh 3\* hotel or similar

### **Day 13: Ninh Binh - Ha Long Bay - Overnight Cruise (Meal: B, L, D)**

Breakfast at hotel

An 4 hour trip to East for the spectacular World Heritage-listed site of Halong Bay. This is one of Vietnam's most beautiful places - a bay of emerald waters flecked with sandstone islands and caves.

Upon arrival embark a cruise for an amazing trip in Ha Long bay, our special treatment starts with a fresh seafood lunch when the boat sets sail. Our journey bring us to the center of the bay to enjoy the most beautiful seascape of the bay, the trip include a visit to Cave of Surprise, Titop island for a small hike or a swim at the foot of the island.

This evening, you're in for a real treat – you'll spend the night on a traditional cruising boat.

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

Hotel: Le Journey 4\* cruise or similar

### **Day 14: Ha Long Bay - Ha Noi ( Meal: B)**

Early wake up today to enjoy the fresh air, sunrise from the bay is a real unforgettable memory for each of us when discovering the bay.

Breakfast is served while the boat is cruising , then stop at Luon Cave for a visit by Kayak or bamboo boat (own expense)

Check out the cabin , having a brunch while our boat cruising back to the mainland

Disembark and drive to Ha Noi, along the way, you'll stop at Dong Trieu Factory to watch locals creating ceramic art pieces , check in and overnight in Ha Noi.

Tonight is a farewell dinner, gather with group to enjoy a special dish from Ha Noi – Bun Cha then you can celebrate your beautiful trip at any bar/club on Ta Hien walking street.

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide



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Hotel: Hoa Binh 3\* cruise or similar

### **Day 15: Ha Noi - Departure (Meal : B)**

Breakfast at hotel

With no activities planned for today, your adventure comes to an end after breakfast. If you would like to spend some more time in Hanoi, we'll be happy to organise additional accommodation for you (subject to availability).

Transport: Van (bus) with air conditioner

Guide: English speaking guide

## **THANK YOU AND HAVE A NICE TRIP**

### **INCLUSIVE**

- All land transportation: Van (bus) with air conditioner
- 3\* hotel
- Meals: Mentioned on program (B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D : Dinner)
- High quality Tourist Cruise to visit Ha Long Bay (4\* shared cruise)
- English speaking guide throughout the tour
- Entrance fees all mentioned spots on tour
- 2 bottle of mineral water/pax/day

### **EXCLUSIVE**

- Air tickets (Domestic and International)
- Visa , early check in, late check out
- Optional tours, personal fees
- VAT
- Tip for local guides and drivers