

12 Days South North Compact

Tour code: PH 03

HO CHI MINH – CAN THO- DA NANG – HOI AN- HUE – HANOI – HALONG – NINH BINH

From the south to the North, you are given an opportunity to visit most of the must-see and highlight destinations that would bring you wonderful moments to share with your friends, from a night cruise trip in world heritage Halong Bay to wandering under the tranquil atmosphere of old town Hue and Hoi An or experiencing the difference in life between modern city

Highlights:

- Soak up the bustling life of Saigon and the rustic beauty of the Mekong Delta
- Delve into an underground world of guerrilla warfare in the incredible Cu Chi tunnels.
- Explore the culture and customs of the locals in the famous Hanoi's Old Quarter
- Get a stunning experience on a comfortable cruise amongst the breathtaking beauty of Halong Bay
- Delve into the historic sites in Hue Imperial City
- Discover the hidden charm of the ancient town of Hoi An

Day 1: Ho Chi Minh arrival (D)

Tour guide and car pick up at the airport and then transfer to the hotel for checking in. Have a special dinner cruise on SaiGon river.

Overnight at hotel

Day 2: Ho Chi Minh city city – Cu Chi tunnels (B, L)

Experience the very best of Ho Chi Minh City on a half-day city tour. Soak up the history of Dong Khoi Street, home to several colonial-style buildings. Visit the Reunification Palace, also known as the Independence Palace, and the poignant War Remnants Museum. In the afternoon experience the Cu Chi Tunnels, an incredible underground network of tunnels, rooms, and passageways used by Vietnamese soldiers.

Overnight in Ho Chi Minh

Day 3: Ho Chi Minh – Ben Tre - Can Tho (B, L)

Breakfast at the hotel, and transfer to Ben Tre, On arrival in Hùng vương Pier (Bến Tre town). Take a boat on Bến Tre river – one of tributaries of Mekong river, Sight-seeing lively activities along river as fishing, water transferring..... Stop at brickwork to see how to make bricks in handy traditional style by printing and baking. Visite one of plenty of coconut processing workshops located along the canal. Turn on natural scissors creeks where they look smaller and smaller to go to the village. Take a walk to the family workshop making sleep mats and enjoying some fruits and tea. Take a motor cart (xe lôi) or cycle riding under tree shades, pass by green rice fields and vegetable plains to be able to touch on real life and find out about tropical culture from Peasants. Lunch at a restaurant on the riverside. Afternoon - Take rowing-boat along water palm creek. and boat back to Hùng Vương Pier. Pick up and transfer for Can Tho city, about 2 hours. Check in at your hotel. Take a look at Can Tho Night market.

Overnight in Can Tho city.

Day 4: Can Tho- Da Nang – Hoi An (B, L) by flight

Early in the morning, the tour guide meets you at your hotel. You are transferred by boat to visit the Cai Rang floating market (about 50 minutes from your hotel) where you can see the products hung on the

bole of the boat. The local people just only sell and buy the tropical fruits at a cheap price. Next, you visit a factory where people make rice noodles. Say goodbye Can Tho city

Overnight in Hoi An

Day 5: Hoi An old town – Lantern village (B,L)

In the morning, explore Hoi An old town . You will be escorted to the Japanese bridge, TanKy old house, assembly hall... to contemplate their special architectural features and hear your tour guide introducing the establishment and history of each place.

Continue to the town to the home of a craftsman in the village. Here we will have a brief introduction to the history, shape, and color of the lanterns as well as the many stages of making them. We can make our own lantern and keep it as a souvenir. After 1 – 1,5 hour learning and practicing. Back to the hotel.

Free and overnight at hotel in Hoi An

Day 6: Hoi An – Hue (B, L)

After breakfast, I reached Hue. Arrive in DaNang: we will explore the **Marble Mountains**– A masterpiece of nature presented to Da Nang. Challenge yourself to climb up to over 120 steps to get to the Marble of Water (Thuy Son). After that, we will go to visit the **Cham Sculpture Museum**. It is a collection of various sandstone sculptures of the Gods in Hinduism of the Champa Kingdom.

In this fantastic and rich history museum, our tour guide will tell you a lot of stories about the lives and culture of Cham people, their gods, and their architecture as well.

Drive to Hue, spend time in LangCo beach enroute, taking photographs from HaiVan Pass (The pass of Sea and Cloud).

Overnight in Hue

Day 7: Hue city – Hanoi (B, L) by flight

In the morning, **Boat trip to Thien Mu pagoda**: you get on the dragon boat. You will cruise along the **Perfume River** about 30 minutes. After that, the boat will stop at another boat station. Here you can freely visit **Thien Mu pagoda**, which is the oldest pagoda in **Hue city**.

Then visit **Minh Mang King's Tomb**: Considered as the most majestic of all Nguyen Dynasty royal tombs, **Minh Mang Tomb** is a complex of 40 constructions: palaces, temples, pavilions, etc. Many say that it's a perfect combination of man-made and natural beauty in Hue, where architecture fits harmoniously into the surrounding landscape.

In the afternoon, **visit Khai Dinh tomb and Imperial Citadel** where Nguyen Dynasty ruled between 1802 and 1945 with numerous of attractive places to see like Flag Tower, Noon Gate, Nine Dynastic Urns, Nine Holy Cannons, Thai Hoa Palace, and Forbidden Purple City. Thai Hoa Palace.

The tour ends by shopping at Dongba Market - Dong Ba market is the biggest and most significant central market of Thua Thien Hue province and the adjacent regions.

Transfer to Hue airport for flight to Hanoi . Pick up at Hanoi airport and transfer to the hotel.

Overnight in Hanoi

Day 8: Hanoi city tour (B, D)

After breakfast, Experience the rich culture of Hanoi. Spend time at the Temple of Literature, One Pillar Pagoda and the Presidential Palace. Visit the Vietnam History Museum and the Hanoi Opera House.

Afternoon, the local guide will meet you at the hotel and transfer to **West Lake** – the biggest freshwater lake in the northwest center of Hanoi. Take a witness to a golden sunrise casting its magical spell and scenic sight of lotus flowers by boat.

Visit **Tran Quoc Pagoda** as known as the oldest pagoda in the city, originally constructed in the sixth century during the reign of Emperor Ly Nam De, and then keep walking to **Quan Thanh Temple**, as one of the Four Sacred Temples of the capital.

Enjoying a walking tour through the maze of bustling streets that make up Hanoi's Old Quarter, we tempt our tastebuds with the famed Hanoi dish **Banh Cuon** at a local eatery. Watch in awe as the skilled chefs demonstrate for you how this tasty dish is put together. Continuing into the atmospheric heart of the Old Quarter, we wander past street stalls and quiet residential lanes where you can observe local life that has changed little since Hanoi was founded over 1000 years ago.

Our next stop is where we sample some **Bun Cha** consisting of vermicelli, herbs and grilled pork. At Hanoi's best kept secrets, a hidden café, we will watch the demonstration and then try some **egg coffee**, a scrumptious local delicacy.

Continue to other food stalls in Hang Bo and Ho Hoan Kiem Street where we try some dishes such as Che "Vietnamese style pudding" - this specialty is one not to be missed!

List of street bites and food that you will have;

- 1, Banh Cuon Thanh Van (Vietnamese Steam Rice Rolls)*
- 2, Bia Hoi Hà Nội (Hanoi draught beer with peanuts)*
- 3, Xôi Chè Bà Thìn (Vietnamese style pudding)*
- 4, Bun Cha & Egg Coffee (grilled pork with vermicelli/ Vietnamese egg coffee with demonstration).*

Overnight in Hanoi

Day 9: Hanoi – Halong bay (B,L,D) Overnight on cruise

In the morning, journey through verdant farmlands on your way to boarding a traditional wooden junk boat and an overnight journey on the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Halong Bay. Visit the Surprise Cave, and maybe take a invigorating swim or hike on Titov Island. There are many optional activities that can be booked locally including a cookery class, massage, and kayaking.

Overnight on cruise

Day 10: Halong bay – Ninh Binh (B, Brunch)

You may start the day with Tai Chi on the sundeck, followed by breakfast, before exploring the Dark and Bright Caves. A tasty brunch will be served as the boat winds through the limestone landscapes. Disembark and journey to Ninh Binh.

Check in arriving and overnight at hotel

Day 11: Ninh Binh city > Hoa Lu citadel > Tam Coc > Ha Noi capital (B,L)

Transfer to Hoa Lu. Visit the historic capital of VietNam and the famous ancient temples of Le and The Dinh Dynasties. Then transfer to Tam Coc. Boat trip to visit TamCoc to see the beauty of the karst formations as you pass along their base and row into one of the many caves carved through the

limestone. Back to Tam Coc for lunch. Then take a bicycle to Bich Dong pagoda. Visit Bich Dong pagoda. Dive back to Ha Noi.

Overnight at hotel

Day 12: Hanoi – departure (B)

Free at leisure in morning time. At the appropriate time, you'll transfer to the airport to catch your flight home. Have a nice flight and see you next time!

All prices quoted in USD per person Valid till 30 Sep 2023

- Number of Persons -							
Class	2	3	4	5-7	8-11	12-15	Single Sup
3 stars	1577	1386	1228	1134	1042	1002	280
4 stars	1727	1536	1378	1284	1194	1152	428
4-5 stars	2042	1851	1694	1598	1509	1467	721

Accommodation offering in this trip (click to see):

Cities	3 stars	4 stars	5 stars
Hanoi	Mayde Ville Classic	The Q hotel	Peridot Grand hotel
Halong	Syrena cruise	Senna cruise	Le Theater cruise
Hoian	Golden Holiday	Silko hotel	Bliss Hoi An resort
Hue	<u>Rosaleen</u>	Eldora	<u>Senna Hue</u>
Saigon	Blue Diamond hotel	Eden SaiGon	Majestic SaiGon
Can Tho	Hau Giang hotel	West hotel	Vinpearl Can Tho
Ninh Binh	Hoang Son hotel	Legend Ninh Binh	Emerald resort

Tour Cost includes:

- Full transportation by private car or bus as the tour program indicated.
- Meals as itinerary indicated (B= Breakfast, L= Lunch, D= Dinner)
- 2 Domestic flights with airport taxes : Can Tho- Da Nang, Hue- Hanoi
- English speaking guide.
- Entrance fees.
- Boat trip at sights mentioned
- Double/Twin-share accommodation with daily breakfast; (AC room)

- Mineral water for tour

Tour Cost excludes:

- Visas to Vietnam , Dinners, Travel insurance; Tips, Personal expenses, emergency transfers