

LUXURY VIETNAM

07 nights / 08 days



Enjoy the beautiful sites of Vietnam, having rich culture and ancient traditions especially in Hanoi which also known as Paris of the East.

A journey of contrasts where pleasant surprise awaits at almost every turn. In Vietnam, still feel the huge impact of Chinese civilization because the Chines ruled Northern Vietnam for more than 1,000 years.

Enjoy your stay at the most luxurious floating home. Vietnam is extremely tourist friendly country. The local are Kind and helpful.



ITINERARY: -

Day 01: Arrive Ha Noi

Welcome. As soon as you arrive at Ha Noi airport, our **Airport Assistance Staff** will meet you just before the entrance to Immigration (or at the entrance of the terminal if there is no jet bridge), holding a signboard with your name(s) on it. The officer will assist and take you to the priority line for immigration procedures and provide support at the visa counter. For those who already have their Vietnam visa, the estimated time to clear immigration is approximately 15-20mins per person. For those applying for a visa on arrival, the estimated wait time for the visa is usually 30 mins, depending on the number of guests in the queue. (FYI, there is only one visa-on-arrival counter at Noi Bai Airport). After clearing immigration, our Immigration Officer will escort you to baggage reclaim to collect your luggage and introduce you to your guide, who will be waiting outside the terminal.

NOTE:

- ❖ The above mentioned service does not include any required visa or associated visa fees.
- ❖ Porter or luggage assistance is at an extra cost. (Not Included)

If you cannot locate your representative, please call the emergency numbers (facilitated before arrival) for assistance.

Your guide will come to meet you up and transfer you to hotel. The rest of day stays at your leisure to explore the old quarter by your own.



The regular check-in time is at 1400. Please note, early check-in is NOT included and subject to availability.

Night stay at Sofitel Legend Metropole Hotel 5* / similar
www.sofitel-legend-metropole-hanoi.com

A Hotel Path of History Tour including the Metropole bomb shelter visit (only available to in-house hotel guests) - 45 minutes with hotel historian. There are 2 tours daily at 5 and 6pm (subject to seasonal change). Advance reservations are recommended - maximum 10 guests per tour.

Day 02: Hanoi**HANOI FULL-DAY CITY TOUR WITH OLD QUARTER CYCLO RIDE:**

Explore the charming city of Hanoi, often referred to as the 'Paris of the East', with its yellow ochre colonial buildings, tree-lined boulevards, and scenic lakes. Visit the historic **Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum**, an imposing monument of marble and granite built to house the preserved body of beloved Vietnam leader Ho Chi Minh, affectionately known to the Vietnamese as "Uncle Ho". Visit the **One Pillar Pagoda**, a Buddhist temple built in 1049 of wood in the shape of a lotus blossom and set on a single stone pillar. Continue on to **Ho Chi Minh's House** nearby, a simple wooden house in a tranquil setting where Ho Chi Minh lived and worked. Some of his belongings are on display and visitors can walk up the steps to see his bedroom. Next, visit the **Temple of Literature**, Vietnam's first national university built in the late 11th century. The picturesque temple is an example of well-preserved traditional Vietnamese architecture and is featured on the back of the 100,000 Vietnamese doing banknote. In the afternoon, visit the fascinating **Museum of Ethnology** (closed on Mondays) which houses an extensive collection of traditional costumes and artefacts from Vietnam's 54 ethnic minority groups.



Drive back to central Hanoi for a 1hr **cycle tour** through the famed **Old Quarter** known for its '36 streets of 36 wares' named after the original 36 artisan guilds that date as far back as the 13th century. Explore the fascinating maze of back streets, fronted by narrow houses known as "tunnel" or "tube houses", built to avoid taxes based on the width of their frontage onto the street, a wonderfully eclectic glimpse into Hanoi street life. Conclude the day by watching an entertaining **water puppet performance**, a uniquely northern Vietnamese art form said to have originated in the flooded rice fields of the Red River Delta. The show uses colorful wooden puppets to depict scenes of rural life and episodes of national history set to music.

NOTES:

- ❖ Suggested Departure time: 08:00
- ❖ Tour duration: 08 Hours
- ❖ The Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum is closed every Monday & Friday, all afternoons and from September until December.

Accommodation: Sofitel Legend Metropole Hotel 5*

Day 03: Fly to Ha Long by seaplane

Our driver and guide will pick you up from hotel in Hanoi downtown and transfer to Noi Bai Airport. Upon arrival, our guide and driver will drop you off at the airport. You will check-in at counter 109, Domestic Hall E, Terminal 1, Noi Bai Airport. (Guide and driver will keep driving to Ha Long bay)

Flight with seaplane HAI601 HAN-HLG

Depart from Noi Bai Airport. Enjoy one-hour flight and see Halong Bay from the sky before landing (45-minutes flight + 15-minutes scenic tour). Viewing Halong Bay from a seaplane is a great way to get a panoramic view of the mystical seascape, one of natural world heritage site recognized by UNESCO. After 15' scenic flight over Halong Bay, land on water.

Arrive in Tuan Chau Island at **Villa T7, Tuan Chau Marina, Halong City**. Seaplane's buggy will pick you up and drop off at **Heritage Line's welcome lounge at the Tuan Chau Marina**.



After meeting at Heritage Line's welcome lounge at the Tuan Chau Marina, you take a quick speedboat transfer to your luxurious floating home before starting our unique journey of exploring one of the wonders of nature – Lan Ha Bay and its main island of Cat Ba. The first highlight of the cruise is lunch, which we serve in Ginger's nearly 360-degree light-flooded restaurant. Our live cooking in the open kitchen is a one of a kind experience – enjoy the culinary display along with fantastic panoramic views of the passing scenery. Relax on the terrace deck or on your private balcony and soak in the enchanting aura which emanates from the surreal seascape. While we cruise along in the early afternoon, there is time to enjoy our unique facilities on board. Take a plunge in the pool with infinity-like vistas or let us pamper you with a selection of fine treatments and massages in the beautiful Ginger Spa. As we reach the shore of a small lagoon on Cat Ba Island, we hop on bicycles (electric cart transfers are also available) for a tour along small, paved roads towards **Viet Hai village**. Little has changed in Viet Hai since the ancestors of the 80 households settled here centuries ago. Situated in a valley within **Cat Ba National Park** and surrounded on all sides by forest and mountains, the locals are isolated from the island's other villages and towns. The community is self-sufficient, as the residents provide for themselves by working the farms, fishing, or collecting rainwater for drinking. Here you have the unique and authentic opportunity to meet the local inhabitants, learn about the fruits and vegetables

grown in the valley, have a glimpse of local households and try some homemade liquors. Back on board, our chef is prepared for an interactive cooking class in the restaurant's open kitchen. Learn about local ingredients as well as the preparation of classic Vietnamese dishes. As the sun sets, we arrive at a tranquil anchor spot for the night. In this hidden spot, you can revel in the memories of the day's adventures with a cocktail under the stars. After a delicious dinner, you may like to unwind at our bar with a digestif or watch a movie in the evening cinema which is set up in the dining area later on. Or join our team and have some fun fishing for squid before retiring to your room.

NOTES:

- ❖ For 2D1N trip to Ha Long bay, when flying with seaplane, you can bring a carry-on luggage within 7kg with important items such as money, passport, valuable things, items such as sunglasses, hat, sunscreen, or anything else you think is necessary. Your big luggage will be brought along to Ha Long bay by our guide and driver by car and put into your cabin on cruise.
- ❖ Pax overweight charge: Due to the seat loading and for the comfort of all our passengers to fully enjoy the seaplane flight, seaplane requires that passengers of size OVER 110 kg to purchase a second seat.
- ❖ Please bring your original passport for seaplane check-in. Show up at the check-in counter at least 45 minutes before departure time.
- ❖ All mentioned times are approximate. Although it is our intention to operate the proposed itinerary as outlined above, we cannot be held responsible for any changes of the program and activities that might be necessary due to operational factors.



Accommodation: Heritage Line Ginger

<https://heritage-line.com/ship/ginger/>

Day 04: From Ha Long Bay transfer to Hai Phong – Flight to DA Nang – Transfer to Hoi An

Wake up early and join our Tai Chi session on the terrace deck to ease your mind and muscles with the first rays of the sun touching the water. Coffee, tea, and breakfast pastries await you in the dining room to start the new day. It is time for Ginger to lift her anchors and cruise to Frog Lake, a secluded spot which is perfect for our morning excursion. Go for a refreshing "bay swim" or explore this captivating marine landscape **via kayak**. The cliffs stretch vertically out of the water and you feel a sense of freedom while meandering through this green medley of water and tree-topped islets. Back on board, we serve a hearty breakfast while cruising back to our mid-bay anchoring spot, from where we will transfer you back to the welcome lounge at the pier. Savour the last moments of this unique journey while relaxing on comfy sun beds on the terrace deck.

You will be transfer to the airport in Hai Phong for flight to Da Nang.

Suggested flight: VN1673 HPH-DAD 15:05 16:25 (by Vietnam Airlines)

Upon arrival at Danang Airport, please proceed to exit gate and look for your guide who will be waiting at the lobby, holding the signboard with your name on it, if you cannot locate your guide, please go to the nearest Information counter and have them call the emergency number (+84) 9 1349 3398 for assistance. Your guide will come to meet you up and transfer you to hotel in Hoi An.

Night stay at Four Seasons Resort The Nam Hai Hoi An 5* / similar

<http://www.fourseasons.com/hoian/>

Day 05: Hoi An

Walking & boat trip in Hoi an ancient town & making lantern with local handicraftsman:

Between the 15th and 19th centuries, Hoi An known then as 'Faifo', was a prosperous trading port, attracting Chinese, Japanese, Dutch, Portuguese and Spanish ships amongst others. Today, this World Heritage ancient town is recognized for its well-preserved architecture, pedestrian-only streets, and distinctive local cuisine, allowing visitors a glimpse of its illustrious past. Hoi An's narrow lanes are ideal for a guided walking tour of its many atmospheric sights including: **old merchant houses** with influences from Chinese, Japanese and Vietnamese architecture; the 400-year-old **Japanese Covered Bridge**, first built in the 1590s by the Japanese community to link them with the Chinese quarters across the stream; the **Assembly Hall of the Chaozhou Chinese Congregation** with its intricate woodcarvings; and **the colorful market** with stalls brimming with local specialties including silk, which can be turned into fashionable garments within a day or two.

Silk lanterns, the simple yet colorful handicraft is now an essential part of Hoi An culture. The lantern is inspired and hand-made by local artisans and is meant to bring good fortune. It has really made a comeback thanks to experienced



men who were born in traditional lantern making families. Chat with a local handicraftsman for a brief introduction to the history, shape, and colour of the lanterns as well as the stages of production. **Try creating your own lantern and take it home as a souvenir.** Enjoy **an hour-long boat trip** on the Thu Bon River for up close views of fishing boats and country villages before returning to your hotel.

NOTES:

- ❖ Availability: Morning, Afternoon
- ❖ Suggested Departure time: 09:00, 14:00
- ❖ Duration to make lantern: 1 hour
- ❖ Tour duration: 4.5 Hours

The rest of day stays at your leisure to enjoy the beach or at the Spa.

Night stay at Four Seasons Resort The Nam Hai Hoi An 5*

Day 06: Hoi An – Transfer to DA Nang – Flight to Ho Chi Minh

The regular check out is 12:00. At the right time, you will be picked up and transferred from your Hoi An hotel to Danang airport (with guide). Upon arrival at Tan Son Nhat airport in Ho Chi Minh, picked up and transferred to your hotel.

Suggested flight: VN 121 DAD-SGN 11:30 12:55 (by Vietnam Airlines)

☞ PULSE DIAGNOSIS AND TRADITIONAL HERBAL MEDICINE

- Pulse reading is considered one of the most important diagnostic tools in Vietnamese medicine, demanding assiduous study and innate talent. Visit the Museum of Traditional Medicine for insight into the history and methods of this ancient practice. Continue on a walking tour of Chinatown with its many herbal medicine shops to learn about the multiplicity of active chemicals in a single herb as well as how herbs are combined for traditional therapies. You may also choose to stop at a local traditional medicine shop and have a pulse diagnosis by the practitioner, who will provide you with an overview of your health based on the pulse readings and external observations of your eyes, tongue, and skin.

NOTES:

- ❖ Availability: Afternoon.
- ❖ Tour duration: 03 hours.
- ❖ Driving times: 15 minutes from downtown to Traditional Medicine Museum; 20 minutes to Chinatown.

☞ THE MIST SHOW & MODERN VIETNAMESE CUISINE

- Late this afternoon, head to the Ho Chi Minh City Opera House to see “The Mist” show - a picture of early-morning countryside rural life which is cleverly expressed through a contemporary dance and music performance. With a combination of lissome dances, powerful voice expression, splendid visual and lighting effects, all the familiar daily works of farmers such as tending rice fields, husking rice, and preparing for the early morning market are vividly performed accompanied with sensational live traditional music. Hand-made bamboo pipes and baskets are used throughout the show which has made it a successful art demonstration.



After the show, enjoy beautifully decorated dishes of innovative Vietnamese cuisine in a different approach at Dining Room restaurant. Then drive back to the port to embark the ship.

NOTES:

- ❖ Availability: Evening only, upon request (check the show schedule).
- ❖ Suggested time: Public show: 18:00, 20:00.
- ❖ Duration: 3 hours.
- ❖ Drinks at dinner & bar are on consumption at own expense.
- ❖ Venue: Saigon Opera House.
- ❖ Upgrade with extra charge to W seat zones for better view; the show is only suitable for children from 05 years old.

Night stay at Hotel Park Hyatt Saigon 5* / similar

Day 07: Ho Chi Minh

☞ CITY HIGHLIGHTS TOUR

With over eight million inhabitants and four million motorbikes, Saigon is truly a city that never sleeps. Despite its modernity, Saigon maintains a strong link to the past and our city tour takes in some of

Saigon's most historic landmarks including the Notre Dame Cathedral, a red brick edifice with twin spires constructed from materials imported from France (entrance is only permitted when no services are being performed). Then head across the square to the Central Post Office, completed in 1891. A short drive away is the former Presidential Palace, the headquarters of the Saigon Government during the American War. Continue to the War Remnants Museum for a vivid perspective of



the American War through the eyes of the Vietnamese. (Please note that some of the displays are very graphic.) Experience Saigon's famed street coffee culture while your guide provides a brief language lesson as well as insights into daily life of a Saigonese before returning to your hotel.

NOTES:

- ❖ Availability: Morning, Afternoon
- ❖ Suggested departure time: 08:30, 13:00
- ❖ Tour duration: 04 hours
- ❖ Outside visit only due the renovation at Notre Dame Cathedral until late 2023

Night stay at Hotel Park Hyatt Saigon hotel 5* / similar

Day 08: Ho Chi Minh

☞ CU CHI TUNNELS BY PRIVATE SPEEDBOAT

On arrival to Saigon (Nha Rong port), disembark the ship and meet your guide. Transfer to Tan Cang jetty and board a chartered speedboat to the Cu Chi tunnels. This river journey provides a glimpse of the changing faces of Vietnam - from the glittering skyscrapers and busy commercial centers to green paddy fields and pottery villages dotted along the Saigon River. The tunnel complex was initially started in 1948 to protect the Viet Cong guerrillas from the French air and ground sweeps. The tunnels also served as communication routes, storage facilities for food and weapon caches as well as hospitals and living quarters for guerrilla fighters throughout the American war. A visit to the underground villages will provide a better understanding of how the tunnels were constructed, the hardship of life in the tunnels and the Vietnamese resilience during combat. The speed boat will bring you back to Saigon with a stop en route for lunch at Villa Song restaurant by the riverbank. Then drive back to the port to embark the ship.

**NOTES**

- ❖ Availability: Morning, Afternoon.
- ❖ Duration: 5 hours.
- ❖ There is an extra charge for transfer from other ports.

Night stay at Hotel Park Hyatt Saigon hotel 5* / similar

Day 09: Departure

The regular check out is 12:00. At the right time, you will be picked up and transferred from your hotel to the airport. On arrival at the airport (3hrs before flight time for international flights), our representative will collect your tickets, passport and luggage and proceed to check in and obtain your boarding pass. When all your documents are in order, our representative will hand them over to you and assist you with immigration procedures before escorting you to the waiting area.

NOTE:

- ❖ Surcharge for airport assistance service for guests travelling with Turkish Airlines, Jetstar Airways & Emirates amongst others. Please confirm with your travel consultant.

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