

13 DAYS VIETNAM - MYANMAR IMPRESSION

Vietnam & Myanmar (Hanoi, Ha Long, Da Nang, Hoi An, Ho Chi Minh City, Yangon, Bagan, Heho, Inle Lake)

1. OVERVIEW:

Blessed with rich cultures, long-established traditions, diverse landscapes and hospitable people, a trip to Vietnam and Myanmar is simply a strong desire for any visitors to Southeast Asia. In North Vietnam, ride a cyclo tour through 36 crowded streets of Hanoi Old Quarter and practice Tai Chi on a traditional junk boat through Halong Bay. Then you will be treated a cultural feast of unique Asia architectures in Hoi An and elegant relics of royal tombs and citadels of the Nguyen dynasty in the former imperial capital of Hue. Apart from extensive sightseeing in Ho Chi Minh City, visit the famous Cu Chi tunnels to see the Vietnamese creativity and ingenuity in the face of life and death adversity. In Myanmar, discover the ancient land and centuries-old spiritual traditions when visiting Buddhist temples and monasteries of Bagan. For a taste of riverine life, Inle Lake is perfect choice with floating houses and the Intha people known for their unique rowing style. The tour finishes in the colonial-era city of Yangon.

2. ITINERARY IN BRIEF

DAY	ITINERARY
1	HA NOI ARRIVAL
2	HA NOI FULL DAY CITY TOUR
3	HA NOI - HA LONG OVER NIGHT ON BOAT
4	HA LONG - HA NOI - DA NANG - HOI AN
5	HOI AN HALF DAY CITY TOUR
6	HOI AN - DANANG - HO CHI MINH CITY (SAIGON)
7	HO CHI MINH CITY TOUR & CU CHI TUNNELS
8	HO CHI MINH - YANGON - HALD DAY SPIRITUAL SHWEDAGON PAGODA
9	YANGON - BAGAN - CITY TOUR
10	BAGAN - LESSER- KNOWN TEMPLES AND NYAUNG U MARKET
11	BAN GAN - HEHO - INLE LAKE
12	INLE LAKE - HE HO - YANGON
13	YANGON DEPARTURE

3. THE TOUR

DAY1: HA NOI ARRIVAL

Arrive at Noi Bai International Airport, meet your driver for an airport transfer with a private vehicle and English speaking guide. The driving distance is approximately 45 minutes.

Your visa should be pre-arranged, or be sure that your visa-on-arrival letter is in your carry-on luggage. Please go to custom desk as your first point of entry into the country and present these documents for visa upon arrival.

Hanoi or "River-bound City" as its name literally means is Vietnam's capital with a thousand-year-old history dating back to 1010. The city's fascinating beauty which is characterized by unique cultural relics, ancient streets of antique houses, elegant French colonial buildings, tree-lined boulevards and romantic lakes has made it one of the most charming cities of Asia.

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Ha Noi (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 2: HA NOI FULL DAY CITY TOUR

The city tour begins with a visit to the Ho Chi Minh Complex which features the life of Ho Chi Minh, the nation's founder. At the complex, visit the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, where the nation's founder's body is preserved (closed on Monday, Friday and through October - November), the colonial Presidential Palace, originally the French Governor Office and a fine example of French architecture in Hanoi, and the rural style Ho Chi Minh's house on stilts where Ho Chi Minh lived and worked. Stop by one of Hanoi's icons, the One Pillar Pagoda, built in the 11th Century in dedication to Bodhisattva Avalokiteshvara or Buddha of Compassion and reminiscent of a lotus blossom rising from a pond. Continue to the Temple of Literature, known as the first university of Vietnam built in 1070 by the Ly Dynasty to honor Confucius, sages and outstanding Vietnamese scholars.

Afternoon, continue the tour to one of the following museums of choice namely the Museum of Fine Arts, the National Museum of Vietnamese History, the Museum of Revolution, the Museum of Military History or the Museum of Ethnology. Next, head for Hoan Kiem Lake, the center point of Hanoi whose name "The Return Sword Lake" originated from a legend of a sacred sword and home to a rare endangered giant turtle species and visit Ngoc Son Temple on the lake. Take a one-hour cycle tour of the Old Quarter of Hanoi with its ancient streets representing traditional trades from the past. Finish the tour at the Thang Long Opera Theatre with a traditional Vietnamese water puppet show.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Ha Noi (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 3: HA NOI - HA LONG OVER NIGHT ON BOAT

Morning pickup at 8:00 AM from your hotel for transfer to Ha Long Bay, which is about 160 km or 3.5-hour drive away. The transfer is approximately 3 hours. You will see some rural areas of the Red River Delta with plenty of chances to take photos of Vietnamese farmers working in paddy fields and you may stop on the way to admire the local scenery.

Arrive in Ha Long City at 11:30 AM and check in aboard the booked junk right after the welcome drink is served. Start cruising while having lunch on board and enjoy the mighty bay view.

Arrive in Ha Long City at 11:30 AM and check in aboard the booked junk when your journey across Ha Long Bay starts. Ha Long Bay meaning Descending Dragon Bay in Vietnamese as legend has it that it was where a holly dragon landed down from sky. The bay, famous as one of the world's wonders and heritage sites whose formation dates back 500 million years, consists of around 2,000 karst islands and islets scattered over an area of 1,553 km².

After lunch, take a short trek to a nearby summit for a panoramic view of the bay dotted with golden sails, go swimming on a quiet beach or sunbath on the sundeck. Later in the afternoon, you will visit an interesting fishing village with an opportunity to interact with local people who have been living in the bay for almost three generations. An optional kayaking trip is available weather permitting. Back onboard enjoy a lavish dinner and enjoy the bay view at sunset. Spend a night on board.

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Overnight on cruises in Ha Long Bay (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 4: HA LONG - HA NOI - DA NANG - HOI AN

In the morning, refresh your body and mind with a Tai Chi exercise on the sundeck at the break of dawn. Have tea and coffee onboard and continue exploring Ha Long Bay sailing across its 2000 islets and visiting some of its major highlights. Normally, check out at 09:30, have a buffet brunch while cruising back to shore. Disembark at 11:00 AM to transfer to Hanoi capital.

Free at leisure until meet our guide then transfer to airport for flight to Da Nang. Flight time is approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes

Arrival Da Nang airport, you are transferred to Hoi An ancient town by private car & guide. The transfer from Da Nang to Hoi An is approximately 40 minutes.

Meal: Brunch

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Hoi An (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 5: HOI AN HALF DAY CITY TOUR

In the morning, you will meet your private guide at your hotel who will take you to visit the town. Once a bustling maritime commercial port of Asia between 15th and 19th centuries, Hoi An, recognized by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site, is now a peaceful town of exceptionally well-preserved architecture, lifestyles and traditions. The town exemplifies a fascinating fusion of cultures between Vietnam and the outside world including China, Japan, Thailand and the Philippines. Your sightseeing will include the iconic 400-year-old Covered Bridge with a small temple attached to one side as a prominent example of Japanese architecture, the Museum of Trade Ceramics which is an elegant Vietnamese style wooden house built in 1858 showcasing antique ceramic artifacts, the 200-year-old Tan Ky House typifying an ancient Chinese merchant residence, the Ong Temple built in 1653 by Chinese settlers to worship Guan Yu, an ancient Chinese general whose character stands for loyalty, bravery and justice and the local market vibrant with colors and activities.

Return to your hotel at noon time for leisure time

Meal: Breakfast,

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Hoi An (3*, 4* or 5*)

Note: Hoi An is famous for speed tailor-made clothes with 4 to 24hours for tourist.

DAY 6: HOI AN - DANANG – HO CHI MINH CITY (SAIGON) BY FLIGHT

Morning, transfer to Da Nang airport for flight to Ho Chi Minh City
Flight time is approximately 1.5 hours.

Meet your driver for an airport transfer with a private vehicle and guide. The transfer distance is approximately 30 minutes

Start the tour with a visit to the Notre Dame Cathedral, a neo-Romanesque cathedral constructed between 1877 and 1883 using bricks from Marseilles and stained-glass windows from Chartres. Continue on to the Old Saigon Post Office, former US Embassy and Cholon, the Chinatown with its Quan Am Pagoda and the Emperor Jade Pagoda (Phuoc Hai), one of the most interesting pagodas in Vietnam. It was built in 1909 by the Cantonese community. It's filled with smoky incense and fantastic carved figurines and still buzzing with worshippers, many lounging in the front gardens.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Ho Chi Minh City (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 7: HO CHI MINH CITY - CU CHI TUNNELS

Today, meet your guide and transfer about 75 km North-west of downtown Ho Chi Minh City. Discover the famous Cu Chi Tunnels, which were once a major underground hideout and resistance base of Viet Cong forces during the two wars against the French and the Americans. The tunnels, entirely hand-dug, formed a highly intricate network of interlinked multilevel passageways at times stretched as far as the Cambodian border and totaling over 120 km in length. Its complexity was beyond imagination containing meeting rooms, kitchens, wells, clinics, schools, depots, trenches and emergency exits all aimed for guerrilla warfare. The tunnels were deep and strong enough to withstand destructive bombings and self-contained enough to outlast prolonged sieges.

Return to your hotel at noon time and rest of the day is free at leisure

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Ho Chi Minh City (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 8: HO CHI MINH - YANGON - SPIRITUAL SHWEDAGON PAGODA

Meet your driver for an airport transfer with a private vehicle and guide.

Fly from Ho Chi Minh City to Yangon, Myanmar (Schedule flight isn't daily operated but on Tuesday, Thursday & Sunday only). Flight time is approximately 2 hours.

On arrival at the Yangon international airport, welcomed by our guide and transferred to your hotel for check in and has a rest (Check in time is 14:00 and early check in is subject to availability).

Start tour with half day in Yangon. The former capital Yangon is the largest city and the most important commercial center in Myanmar. Visit the 2,600 years old Shwedagon Pagoda, the most sacred Buddhist pagoda for the Burmese can be seen from almost anywhere in Yangon.

Witness the colors transform on the 100-meter pagoda which is literally covered with over 60 tons of gold leaf. So what's behind the golden façade of the Shwedagon Pagoda? You will learn about the full history of the pagoda, the daily life of all people living in its immediate surroundings and a deeper insight in the Buddhist religion and how the spiritual belief is mixed with the belief in nats – the Myanmar spirits. An intriguing day starting from the

bottom of the hill and passing the workshops, markets and monasteries which will be useful or even essential to understand more of the country during the rest of your journey. Then return to the hotel.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Yangon (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 9: YANGON - BAGAN - CITY TOUR

Free at leisure until transfer to airport for domestic flight to Bagan city. Flight time is approximately 1.5 hours.

Arrival airport, you are transferred to Bagan ancient town by private car & guide.

Bagan is really quiet, it's a beautiful area, and the temples here are often completely deserted. Your experienced guide through Bagan will show you the best-known temples of the area. Start the day climbing a pagoda to get a first impressive view over the whole area. From here you continue to move to the other amazing temples that have been here for hundreds of years. Places like the Ananda, Dhammayangyi, Sulamani, and Thatbyinnyu will certainly impress you.

Return to hotel afterwards your guide pick you up again at around 16.00 pm to continue the tour by horse cart to Pyathagyi pagoda for sunset.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Bagan (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 10: BAGAN - LESSER-KNOWN TEMPLES AND NYAUNG U MARKET

Begin your day at Nyaung U market - a busy market in New Bagan when people from all around town come and buy their vegetables, herbs, meat and other ingredients for dinner. The guide will give an assignment to go and buy and taste 3 different kind snacks typical for the region.

Visit Taungbi village where you visit the old wooden monastery built for royalty and two temples that are not well known but certainly worth a visit. The guide will explain to you the reason why so many pagodas were built here. The rest of the day the car and guide are available for additional visits of the temples till 18.00 pm if wanted.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Bagan (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 11: BAN GAN - HEHO - INLE LAKE

Morning, transfer to airport for domestic flight to Heho. Flight time is approximately 1hour. Meet your driver for an airport transfer to Inle Lake.

Inle Lake in southern Shan State is a vast natural lake surrounded by traditional Shan villages. Surrounding and on the lake itself the Intha people have been living for many centuries in villages built entirely on stilts. Embark on a private motorboat around the lake to discover its natural beauty, visit the floating gardens, see some of the famous leg rowers, and have a cup of tea at a local family's house. On and around the lake, traditional markets are held in different villages according to a 5-day rotating schedule. You will be taken to visit

one of these colorful markets frequented by Shan and PaO people. You certainly also visit a local cheroot factory (where the Burmese cigars are made), Phaung Daw Oo Pagoda, Intha Heritage house - where the Burmese cats are bred, a weaving factory and floating tomato gardens if wanted.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Inle (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 12: INLE LAKE - HE HO - YANGON

After breakfast, you have time enough for relaxing before take flight back to Yangon. Just free all the day today with a last night in Yangon city before back your home tomorrow. Try to discover the city & experience your time as much as possible at Myanmar

Meal: Breakfast

Overnight at hotel in Yangon (3*, 4* or 5*)

DAY 13: YANGON DEPARTURE

Today you are free at leisure until meet our guide & driver transfer to airport for flight departure

4. EXTENSION TOURS:

Add-on beach relaxation or tours to neighbor countries; Laos, Cambodia and Thailand or Myanmar

5. PRICE: All rates are per person sharing DBL or TWN/FB Basis, in US dollar, net and non-commissionable.

Date: 01 Oct 2015 – 31 Apr 2016

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-8 pax	9-10 pax	Single Supp
First Class	1,272	1,116	932	928	863	+391
Superior packages	1,727	1,572	1,387	1,384	1,319	+796
Deluxe packages	2,281	2,126	1,941	1,937	1,872	+1298

Date: 01 May 2016 – 30 Sep 2016

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-8 pax	9-10 pax	Single Supp
First Class	1,284	1,129	953	949	876	+402
Superior packages	1,715	1,560	1,385	1,380	1,308	+754
Deluxe packages	2,213	2,058	1,882	1,878	1,805	+1245

Date: 01 Oct 2016 – 31 Dec 2016

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-8 pax	9-10 pax	Single Supp
First Class	1,314	1,153	965	960	893	+411
Superior packages	1,786	1,625	1,437	1,432	1,365	+804
Deluxe packages	2,329	2,169	1,981	1,976	1,909	+1314

SURCHARGE FOR FLIGHT TICKET

Note: Subject to be changed without prior noticed

- From Hanoi (HAN) to Da Nang (DAN): US\$ 115 per person
- From Da Nang (DAN) to Ho Chi Minh (SGN): US\$ 115 per person
- From Ho Chi Minh (SGN) to Yangon (RGN): US\$ 379 per person
- From Yangon (RGN) to Nyanyng U (Bagan): US\$ 135 per person
- From Nyanyng U (Bagan) to Heho (Inle Lake): US\$ 120 per person
- From Heho (Inle Lake) to Yangon (RGN): US\$ 135 per person

WHAT IS INCLUDED

- Accommodation in a double or twin or double room with daily breakfast
- Lunch or dinner as specified in the itinerary
- Services of a driver and private air-conditioned vehicle during all tours and transfers.
- Experienced English-speaking guide during all tours and transfers
- Vietnam visa approval letter on arrival as complementary
- Private board for sightseeing as mentioned in the program, Entrance fees for all visits as mentioned in the itinerary
- Mineral water is available as complementary

WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED

- International & Domestic flight tickets
- Meals, if not specified in the itinerary
- Gratuities for guides and drivers
- Visa upon arrival & Myanmar stamping fee at the airport (35US\$ in Vietnam paid by cash at the airport)
- Vietnam stamping fee at the airport (US\$ 45 per person paid by cash)
- Travel insurance (we highly recommend that you purchase adequate insurance)
- Personal expenses, such as laundry, telephone, drinks, etc. All other services not specified in the itinerary
- All other services not specified in the itinerary

LIST OF HOTELS USED:

Destination	First Class – 3 star	Superior packages – 4 star	Deluxe packages – 5 star
Ha Noi	LAROSA HOTEL - www.hanoilarosahotel.com (Superior)	THE ANN HOTEL - www.theann.com.vn (Deluxe)	INTERCONTINENTAL HANOI WESTLAKE - www.intercontinental.com/hanoi (Superior)
Ha Long	ORIENTAL SAILS - www.orientalsails.com (Superior)	PELICAN CRUISE - www.pelicancruise.com (Deluxe Ocean View)	PARADISE CRUISE - www.paradisecruises.vn (Deluxe (ROH))
Hoi An	LOTUS HOI AN - www.hoianlotushotel.com (Superior)	HOI AN TRAILS - www.hoiantrailsresort.com.vn (Superior)	PALM GARDEN RESORT - www.palmgardenresort.com.vn (Superior Garden View)
Ho Chi Minh	SONNET SAIGON HOTEL www.sonnetsaigonhotel.com (Deluxe)	EDEN SAIGON HOTEL - www.edensaigonhotel.com (Deluxe Room)	MAJESTIC SAIGON HOTEL - www.majesticsaigon.com.vn (Colonial Superior)
Yangon	New Aye Yar Hotel - www.newayeyarhotel.com/index.html (Deluxe)	Taw Win Garden Hotel - www.tawwingardenhotel.com/ (Deluxe)	Traders Hotel - www.shangrila.com/yangon/suleshangrila (Deluxe Room - new rooms)

Bagan	Bawga Theidi Hotel www.bawgatheiddhihotel.com (Superior)	Aye Yar River View Resort www.ayeyarriverviewresort.com/ (Deluxe)	Aureum Palace Resort www.aureumpalacehotel.com/bagan.html (Deluxe Room)
Inle	Golden Island Cottages I & II - www.gichotelgroup.com (Standard)	Myanmar Treasure Resort - www.myanmartrasureresorts.com (Superior (Garden View))	Aureum Inle Resort & Spa - www.aureumpalacehotel.com/inle.html (Villas in the Lake (2nd Row - Lake View))

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- All prices are quoted in USD/ per person, based on Double/Twin occupancy
- Supplement for standard Vietnamese & Myanmar menu meals: US\$ 14 for lunch & US\$ 18 for dinner
- Private services & daily departure
- Surcharge for Compulsory dinner for Xmas and New Year Eve
- Surcharge for Peak Season at above mentioned hotels (if have)
- Surcharge for Vietnamese Lunar (TET) New Year from 6 – 14 Feb 2016 - 25% of adult prices

FREE OFFER

- Mineral water is available during transfers
- Vietnam visa approval letter on arrival (this fees isn't refundable even clients don't need)