

# 14DAYS GREAT ADVENTURE THROUGH VIETNAM

VIETNAM (Ha Noi - Halong - Phong Nha - Hue - Hoi An - Da Lat - Ho Chi Minh - Cai Be - Ho Chi Minh)

# Kayaking + Biking + Zipline + Cave exploration + Trekking (Easy + Moderate grade)

# 1. OVERVIEW:

Throughout Vietnam, there are a multitude of outdoor adventure activities for you to get involved. Your adventurous spirit begins to flourish as you hit crowded streets on two wheels through Hanoi for a fresh perspective off this 1000 year history capital. If Halong Bay in the North boasts some ideal kayaking spots on calm water then the phenomenal caves, staggering valley and green forests of the Phong Nha National Park is the perfect place to spend some hiking and kayaking down jungle-lined rivers. Take a short visit to the DMZ in Hue as a reminder of the Vietnam War before getting on your bike again to cycle out the rural countryside and enjoy the fresh atmosphere. Next, drive along the scenic pass of Ocean Cloud over the hills along the coastline to Hoi An, perhaps Vietnam's most picturesque town. Enjoy some outstanding trek through pine forests in the former colonial hill station of Dalat and finish your adventure in Ho Chi Minh City. This is a tour for the energetic and adventure lovers.

# 2. ITINERARY IN BRIEF

DAY 1: HANOI – ARRIVAL DAY 2: HANOI CITY TOUR DAY 3: HANOI – HA LONG

DAY 4: HA LONG

DAY 5: HA LONG - HANOI - OVERNIGHT TRAIN TO DONG HOI

DAY 6: PHONG NHA CAVE - PARADISE CAVE

DAY 7: DONG HOI – DMZ – HUE DAY 8: HUE – DANANG – HOI AN

DAY 9: HOI AN CITY TOUR DAY 10: HOI AN - DA LAT

DAY 11: DA LAT - HO CHI MINH

DAY 12: HO CHI MINH - CUCHI TUNNELS DAY 13: HO CHI MINH - CAI BE - VINH LONG

DAY 14: HO CHI MINH - DEPARTURE

# 3. THE TOUR

#### **DAY 1: HANOI - ARRIVAL**

Arrival Noi Bai airport, you are warm welcomed by our tour guide & driver then transfer to the city.Driving distance is approximately 45 minutes.

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.

Enjoy welcome dinner with Vietnamese food at a local restaurant.

**Meals: Dinner** 

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Ha Noi

**DAY 2: HANOI CITY TOUR** 

Activities: Biking inside the city and around West lake

Grade: Easy

Morning, start a biking tour to the Ho Chi Minh Complex which features the life of Ho Chi Minh, the nation's founder. Visit Ba Dinh square where former President Ho Chi Minh declared the

Independence of Vietnam in 1945, Ho Chi Minh stilt-house where he lived and worked during Vietnam War. We then bike to Thang Long Royal citadel UNESCO World heritage nearby for 1-hour walking inside the former royal palaces. Enjoy lunch at local restaurant.

After the rest, continue biking around 27km round of West Lake, the largest lake of Hanoi to see the contrast between a new Hanoi and an old Hanoi, skyscrapers standing next to ancient temples and pagodas. Enjoy a cup of jasmine tea or Robusta coffee in a lakeside shop. Biking along the dyke to Long Bien Bridge since 1902, the icon of French colonism in Vietnam during 20th century. View sunset down on Red river and immerse yourselves in daily life before returning to your hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Ha Noi

**DAY 3: HANOI – HA LONG** Activities: Half-hour kayaking

Grade: Easy

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. On the way, 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. Stop half way to visit a handicraft workshop of fine clothes and embroidered paintings.

Arrive in Ha Long City at 11:30 AM and welcome on board a traditional junk at noon time. Check in your seaview rooms and enjoy lunch while cruising around thousands of limestone rocks jutting out from the sea. Visit Sung Sot cave open to tourists since 1936. Short kayaking in the calm area nearby then return to the junk for mini cooking class and swimming. Dinner and overnight on board

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Overnight on Wooden Junk in Ha Long

**DAY 4: HA LONG** 

Activities: Fullday kayaking

Grade: Easy

Today we change into a day-boat trip for your fullday getting around the bay. Explore hidden corners of this UNESCO site and some fishing villages. Sunbathing from your sundeck and enjoy fresh juices. Private kayaks are attached to the boat so that you can play kayaking anywhere you like. Get on small beaches scaterred among the bay for your BBQ seafood lunch, swimming and kayaking again. Back to the overnight junk in the late afternoon.

Dinner on boat and overnight on board

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Overnight on Wooden Junk in Ha Long

#### DAY 5: HA LONG - HANOI - TAKE TRAIN TO DONG HOI

Wake up at 06:30 AM and refresh your body and mind with a Tai Chi exercise on the sundeck. Tai Chi is an ancient internal martial art often practiced in soft and gracefully slow moves to enhance internal harmony and vitality. Have breakfast at sunrise. 09h30 return to the boat. Freshen up and check out of your cabin.

09h30 - 10h30 Continue your cruise exploring the Bay, passing Ba Hang fishing village, Dog

Islet and more...

10h30 – 11h30 While heading back to the habor, watch the cooking demonstration before

enjoying a traditional Vietnamese lunch.

12h00 Disembark the Cruise 12h30 Transfer back to your hotel in Hanoi city center by

shuttle bus.

16h30 – 17h00 See you off at the hotel in Hanoi.

You meet our driver and tour guide then private transfer from hotel to Hanoi Railway station for your onwards train to Dong Hoi city (Quang Binh province). Overnight in a shared 4-soft sleeper compartment on Reunification train SE 19.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Overnight on Train to Dong Hoi

#### **DAY 6: PHONG NHA CAVE & PARADISE CAVE**

Activities: Trekking 11km inside Paradise cave, 1 hour kayaking, 1 hour ziplining

Grade: Moderate trekking/ Easy kayaking and ziplining

Early morning arrival in Dong Hoi Railway station, you meet our tour guide and transfer to the hotel with light breakfast is arranged and a short refreshment before you can leave your big luggages in the hotel lobby.

At 8:00 – 8:15am, the private car picks you up then transfering to Phong Nha – Ke Bang National park. You will explore Paradise cave. Trekking inside 11km in Paradise cave which is newly discovered in 2009 and the World's 2nd biggest cave. Enjoy the grand, the splendid staglamites and know more about the archeology of the area. The magnificent speleothem and cool wether are the most unique features of this cavern. A truly unique experience.

After lunch, 13:00 Kayaking on Chay river to Dark cave. You will have interesting experience with head-light to paddle into the cave on hidden canals. You can walk and swim through Thuy Tien lake if wanted.

Transfer back to Dong Hoi for hotel check in

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Dong Hoi

#### **DAY 7: DONG HOI - DMZ - HUE**

Today we start the tour to the tunnels at Vinh Moc we stop at Quang Tri. This town was once an important citadel city but was heavily damaged in 1972 during a spring offensive. Some of the original ramparts and gates still remain. From here we proceed to Vinh Moc and the amazing 2.8kms of tunnels. Unlike their counterparts in Cu Chi in Southern Vietnam, the Vinh Moc tunnels remain unaltered and therefore offer an authentic view of underground life. We enter the tunnels and explore the subterranean passageways.

The next stop is Khe Sanh, this windswept plateau was the site of a pivotal battle in the American War. The battle of Khe Sanh was important because it attracted worldwide media attention and, along with the simultaneous Tet Offensive, demonstrated the futility of America's efforts to contain their enemy. Later we drive to Hue Imperial city for overnight.

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch** 

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Hue

**DAY 8: HUE – DANANG – HOI AN** Activities: Biking around Hue vicinity

Grade: Easy

Morning we will continue the biking tour to discover the sights, sounds, and smells of the villages surrounding Hue. Set off early, escaping the city for the peaceful streams and verdant fields of the surrounding countryside. You'll ride past rice paddies and small villages to arrive at Thanh Toan, a small village that is home to a legendary market. Disembark your bike to explore the market stalls, stopping to chat with the locals and learn more about life in this part of Vietnam.

A visit will be made to the Thanh Toan Agricultural Museum to discover more about the role of agriculture in local society. Spend time soaking up the atmosphere in town and perhaps call by the beautiful Thanh Toan covered bridge or just take it all in while enjoying a coffee at the village café.

Visit Hue by bike - exploring the area, passing over small streams, riding through pretty villages and stopping to chat with locals fishing, farming ducks and going about everyday life. Pay a visit to a family to learn how they make rice wine and perhaps even visit a local kindergarten to meet the local kids in case you wish.

This bike tour will definitely give you a unique insight into life in the Vietnamese countryside and by the time you pull back into Hue, you'll have worked up an appetite ready to feast on a delicious lunch, and we can happily recommend the perfect places to go. Check out hotel at noon then private car transfer to Hoi An passing through Hai Van "Ocean Cloudy" pass. Check in Hoi An hotel in late afternoon.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Hoi An

#### **DAY 9: HOI AN CITY TOUR**

Meet you at hotel in Hoian then transfer out for city tour to visit the ancient architecture of Hoian is a fascinating combination of Vietnamese traditional characters with Chinese and Japanese influence. There are plenty to see in this delightful town, some of which are the famous Japanese Covered Bridges, the Pottery Museum, the 200 years old Tamky House, the Chua Ong Pagoda, the vibrant market. After your walking tour, you get by a local restaurant for a special lunch with most Hoi An special cuisine as "Cao Lau", "Mi Quang" and "Com Ga".

Afternoon, free at leisure for shopping by yourself at the old town then you can find the way back your hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Hoi An

DAY 10: HOI AN - DA LAT

Activities: Trek/hike-up 14km from 1450m to 2169m

Grade: Moderate

Check out hotel then transfer to Da Nang for flight to Da Lat. Arrival Da Lat, meet with your guide then transfer from Lien Khuong airport to your hotel. On the way, stop to visit Lang Biang mountain.

Afternoon, start a 14km trek – 5 hours trek from the base 1450m to the summit 2169m passing vegetable farm, coffee plantations, pine tree and jungle forest with the sound of birds and wild animals. Your professional, enthusiastic and wide knowledge guides will help you become a conqueror with the highest mountain of Da Lat city in 1 day. Enjoy sublimated feelings of the winner when you reach and stand on the top, look around the commanding view of the highlands: Silver Stream, Golden Lake, forest and whole Da Lat city. End of day, visit Lat Village in order to understand the daily life of Lach ethnic minority people, admire subtle hand-woven brocade products, long houses, visit Traditional Architechture Church then return hotel

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Da Lat

#### DAY 11: DA LAT - HO CHI MINH

Take a full day city tour of Da Lat with visits to Minh Tam flower garden, Old hill train station, Domain church, Love valley, Datanla waterfall – mini cable car is included. You also ride horse-cart in the city center around Xuan Huong romantic lake.

Flight to Ho Chi Minh city in the evening. Arrival airport, meet our guide & driver then transfer to hotel for checking in.

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch** 

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Ho Chi Minh

#### **DAY 12: HO CHI MINH - CUCHI TUNNELS**

Morning, we will visit the Cu Chi Tunnels. The Vietnamese are proud of their resolve in their prolonged history of struggle against invading armies, and the story of the people of Cu Chi is indicative of that spirit. The residents of Cu Chi then took their war underground, literally, developing a network of tunnels that, at its height, stretched as far as Cambodia and included meeting rooms, kitchens, and triage areas.

Try crawling in 1 part of this 31km stunning underground system and know how Vietnamese soldiers (Viet Cong) had lived and fought against American troops during 20 years of Vietnam War. We will return Ho Chi Minh City at 17:30. Enjoy special dinner on Saigon river cruise where you can enjoy

views at the city splendid at night.

**Meals: Breakfast, Dinner** 

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Ho Chi Minh

#### DAY 13: HO CHI MINH - CAI BE - VINH LONG

Morning, pick up at your hotel and transfer about 136km to Vinhlong, a riverside town located in the Mekong Delta. Enjoy a boat cruise to the Caibe floating market with sellers and buyers bargaining and exchangeing goods from their boats, and then to Hoa Binh Phuoc islet where the maze o shady creeks will surely fascinate you. You will have a change to mighle with local peasants, learn the secrets of their bonsai gardening. Visit local homes where the famillies produce tiles and ceramics; drop into rice-paper kiln and coconut-candy kiln; and observe daily country life. A typical Vietnamese lunch at a local home will be arranged.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Overnight at hotel in Ho Chi Minh

#### **DAY 14: HO CHI MINH - DEPARTURE**

After breakfast, you check out then private transfer to Tan Son Nhat international airport for your departure flight. End of services.

**Meals: Breakfast** 

#### 4. EXTENSION TOURS:

Add-on other destination in Vietnam or tours to neighbor countries

#### 5. PRICE:

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

Date: 01 Oct - 30 Apr

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supplement
First Class	\$ 1713	\$ 1480	\$ 1295	\$ 1250	\$ 215
Superior	\$ 2045	\$ 1812	\$ 1626	\$ 1580	\$ 364
Deluxe	\$ 2587	\$ 2353	\$ 2167	\$ 2121	\$ 690

Date: 01May - 30 September (PROMOTION RATE)

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supplement
First Class	\$ 1700	<b>\$ 1467</b>	\$ 1282	\$ 1237	\$ 215
Superior	\$ 2032	<b>\$ 1799</b>	\$ 1613	<b>\$ 1567</b>	\$ 364
Deluxe	\$ 2574	\$ 1786	\$ 1600	\$ 1554	\$ 690

### SURCHARGE FOR FLIGHT TICKET

**Note:** Subject to be changed without prior noticed

From Da Nang (DAN) to Da Lat (DLA):
 From Da Lat (DLA) Ho Chi Minh (SGN):
 US\$ 110 per person
 US\$ 80 per person

# **WHAT IS INCLUDED**

- Private car/van/minibus throughout the tour
- Hotel accommodation and Halong junk overnight
- Different English speaking guides on spot
- Meals as indicated: B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D= Dinner

- 2 bottle of mineral water per day
- All entrance fees and permission
- Private bikes and helmets on cycling days
- Ha Long full day kayaking with escorted boat
- Ziplining and cave exploration in Phong Nha national park
- First-aid kit
- Train tickets Hanoi Dong Hoi (shared 4-soft-berth compartment)

#### WHAT IS NOT INCLUDED

- International & Domestic flight tickets
- Meals, if not specified in the itinerary
- Gratuities for guides and drivers
- Visa stamping fee at the airport (45US\$ in Vietnam paid by cash at the airport)
- 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

#### **Best time to travel:**

• All year round except for Dec – Feb with strong monsoon in Halong bay and July – August with occasional typhoons

# **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)	MAY DE VILLE 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)
Dong Hoi	SAIGON PHONG NHA sgquangbinhtourist.com.vn/ (Superior room)	SAIGON - QUANG BINH www.sqquangbinhtourist.co m.vn (Superior room)	SAIGON BAO NINH HOTEL baoninhbeachresort.com.vn/ (Superior room )
Hue	ASIA HUE HOTEL - www.asiahotel.com.vn (Deluxe)	MUONG THANH HUE HOTEL - www.hue.muongthanh.vn (Deluxe City View)	PILGRIMAGE VILLAGE - (Deluxe)
Hoi An	LOTUS HOI AN - www.hoianlotushotel.com (Superior ( European Market))	HOI AN TRAILS - www.hoiantrailsresort.com .vn (Superior)	PALM GARDEN RESORT - www.palmgardenresort.com.vn (Superior Garden View)
Da Lat	PLAZA HOTEL	DA LAT CADASA HOTEL  www.dalatcadasaresort.vn  L  ( Superior room )	DA LAT EDENSEE LAKE RESORT  www.dalatedensee.com/  ( Superior Mountain View )
Ho Chi Minh	SONNET SAIGON HOTEL www.sonnetsaigonhotel.c om (Deluxe room )	EDEN SAIGON HOTEL - www.edensaigonhotel.com (Deluxe Room)	MAJESTIC SAIGON HOTEL www.majesticsaigon.com.vn (Colonial Superior)

#### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

• All prices are quoted in USD/ per person, based on Double/Twin occupancy

- Supplement for standard Vietnamese menu meals: US\$ 14 for lunch & US\$ 18 for dinner
- Private services & daily departure
- Quotation is quoted based on English speaking guide: Surcharge for other guide
  - Supplement for German Speaking guide: USD 15/day per group
  - Supplement for Spanish Speaking guide: USD 20/day per group
  - Supplement for Italian Speaking guide: USD 35/day per group
- 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 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)