

10 DAYS – VIETNAM BOUTIQUE

Vietnam (Hanoi, Sapa, Ha Long, Da Nang, Hoi An, Ho Chi Minh City, Cu Chi Tunnels)

1. OVERVIEW

Take a cyclo tour around the Old Quarter and delve into traditional culture in a water puppet show in Hanoi. Jump a comfortable train to the Northern for discovering the ethnic diversity of Sapa where buffalo paths and rice fields unfold an exotic landscape and colorful market. Head south to Ho Chi Minh City for absorbing the sights and sounds of Cholon, the city's vibrant Chinatown and a delightful fusion of French colonial influences. Descend into the Cu Chi tunnels, the subterranean network used by the Vietcong during the wartime. Between Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh lies tiny Hoi An where you will catch a glimpse of this fascinating town, totally peaceful and tranquil from the modern world. Explore nature up-close in style aboard luxury junk in Halong Bay. Add more elegance by wining and dining in trendy restaurants, and you have a recipe for the trip of a lifetime in Vietnam.

2. ITINERARY IN BRIEF

DAY	ITINERARY
1	HA NOI ARRIVAL
2	HANOI FULL DAY CITY TOUR - TAKE TRAIN TO LAO CAI
3	SAPA ARRIVAL - HALF DAY LAO CHAI & TA VAN VILLAGE
4	BAC HA MARKET - BUFFALO CART & BOAT TRIP (Sunday) - LAO CAI
5	HANOI - HA LONG - OVERNIGHT ON BOAT
6	HA LONG - HA NOI - TAKE FLIGHT TO DA NANG
7	HOI AN FULL DAY ANCIENT TOWN
8	HOI AN - DA NANG DEPARTURE - HOCHIMINH
9	FULL DAY HOCHIMINH CITY TOUR & CU CHI TUNNELS
10	HOCHIMINH DEPARTURE

3. THE TOUR

DAY 1: HA NOI ARRIVAL – CAPITAL OF VIETNAM

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. Fast track service can be booked in advance.

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 Sofitel Metropole Hotel in Ha Noi (5* luxury)

SOFITEL METROPOLE: Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi is the most luxury and elegant hotel in Hanoi nowadays. It was built by French in the colonial style in the early 1900s, combines old-world charm with modern convenience. With its rich history and evocative public spaces, we easily imagine the days when Graham Greene propped up the bar and intrigue radiated from every room. Located few steps from the Opera House in Hanoi’s French Quarter this legendary hotel brings guests into intimate contact with the opulence of another era. The hotel features 363 rooms and suites and a beautiful interior garden with a swimming pool and fitness center. Le Beaulieu serves fine French cuisine while Hanoi specialties are served at the Spices Garden. There are two Wings; the finest heritage accommodation of Hanoi's French Quarter in the historic Metropole Wing and The Opera Wing with the Neo Classical luxury accommodation. Luxury rooms and suites have welcomed many of the World greatest luminaries so far. Enjoy a historic setting that makes a monumental impact and the beautiful city of Hanoi is just at the doorstep, ready for you to explore its sights and sounds.

DAY 2: HANOI FULL DAY CITY TOUR - TAKE TRAIN TO LAO CAI

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.

Evening, our guide & driver will transfer you to Hanoi Railway station to take a night train to Sapa about 380 km North of Hanoi (Departure time is around at 8:20 PM)

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight on Victoria Express 4* stars Train

Note: we can also tailor-made tour with private transfer through the new highway instead of night train

DAY 3: SAPA ARRIVAL - HALF DAY LAO CHAI & TA VAN VILLAGE

Reach to Lao Cai in morning at around 06:30 AM, meet our guide & driver then transfer to beautiful town of Sapa. The transfer distance from Lao Cai to Sapa is approximately 1hour.

Check in hotel if room is available otherwise leave luggage, have breakfast and relax at hotel lobby

30 minutes transfer with a private vehicle and driver to the Silver Waterfall (best in the rainy season from May to November). Take a short walk to the waterfall where a great view is offered of the surrounding mountains and the lush forests of Hoang Lien National Park. Along the way, your guide will explain about this special part of Sapa, where many tree species are grown such as plum and peach trees. Continue by car up to Heaven's Gate where you can see Fansipan Mountain, 'the roof of Indochina' at the height of 3143 meters above sea level.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at Victoria resort in Sapa (5* luxury)

VICTORIA SAPA RESORT: The Victoria Sapa Resort is the only luxury hotel in Sa Pa of Vietnam, and was built as a traditional mountain chalet with accented welcoming stone hearth fireplace and wooden décor. It overhangs the village, blending in perfectly with the natural surroundings like the Lake Sapa, Cathedral, Sapa Square and center market. The resort features stylishly designed rooms, each with private terrace, wood flooring and a warm touch of local decoration. Enjoy fine dining at Ta Van Restaurant and drink a glass of red wine by the fireplace at Ta Fin Bar. After a day of sightseeing in the Sapa region, unwind at the spa center before turning in. The location and luxury services of the hotel have been carefully planned to allow guests to experience something different and unique, in close harmony with nature and with the local hill tribe people. This is perfect choice for you and your family.

DAY 4: BAC HA MARKET - BUFFALO CART & BOAT TRIP (Sunday) - LAO CAI

Today we leave Sa Pa early in the morning to travel by car about 2.5 hours through winding mountain roads to Bac Ha Market. You'll have an opportunity to discover the big outdoor market known as the venue for largest fairs in the region and watch the colorful market lively with minorities of various groups buying and selling assorted goods including handicraft, working tools and livestock.

Afternoon, continue to travel by car about one hour to Trung Do village, a settlement of the Tay ethnic minority people. Take a leisure ride on a cart pulled by a water buffalo around the village and observe hospitable villagers with their peaceful lifestyle. From the village, embark on a boat to cruise down the Chay River and enjoy sighting the magnificent mountainous landscape along the way. Disembark and refresh with a cup of tea before transferring back by car to either to Sa Pa or Lao Cai railway station.

Late afternoon, transfer to Lao Cai railway station to take an express train to Hanoi (Departure time is around at 09:00 PM)

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight on Victoria Express 4* stars Train

VICTORIA SAPA TRAIN: Victoria Express Train offers one dining carriage and two sleeping carriages to make your traveling experience a comfortable one. With its elegant carriages, the Victoria Express Train recalls a more romantic era. The route will pass through the exotic landscapes between the charming cities of Hanoi and Lao Cai. Watch the beautiful scenery in front of you from the luxury of your seat, or take a nap in the comfort of your cozy sleeping carriage. The train is a 8.5 hour trip from Hanoi to Lao Cai, Each sleeping carriage has 6 superior cabins (4 berths) and 1 deluxe cabin (2 berths), all are air-conditioned, wood paneled, with individual reading lights, baggage storage and oversized windows. You can indulge yourself in the dining carriage, "Le Tonkin", where you can savor the delights of traditional Vietnamese and Western cuisine and tips the nice wines, adding a further exquisite touch to a memorable experience. *Please note the dining car is not always available, it is only part of some departures.

Train schedule:

Itinerary	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
HANOI-LAO CAI ETD 21:50-ETA 06:30	With h	Without DC	With DC	Without DC	With DC	No tra	Without DC
LAO CAI-HANOI ETD 20:45-ETA 05:45	Without DC	With h	Without DC	With DC	Without DC	No tra	With DC

DAY 5: HANOI - HA LONG - OVERNIGHT ON BOAT - UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE

Meet your driver for a train station transfer with a private vehicle and English speaking guide.

If you request refreshment service at 3star hotel near railway station for a shower & breakfast, extra charge is 15US\$ per person. Room is used from 5:30 AM to 8:00 AM

In the morning, transfer from Hanoi to Ha Long Bay. The transfer is approximately 3 hours. You may stop on the way to admire the local scenery.

Arrive in Ha Long City at 11:30 AM and relax at waiting launch room until check in onboard at 12.15 (Boarding time)

12.30 : Welcome Drink – cruise briefing, safety instructions, check-in cabins.

Strong believers in the holistic nature of premium service, your Paradise Private Butlers are trained in all areas of service for you to take away with you priceless memories of a professional and efficient but still warm and personal service.

Your heavenly journey across Halong Bay commences.

13.00: Seafood Lunch Platter. Enjoy your meal in the elegant dining-room, the private dining of your cabin or even on the balcony for a better view of the amazing landscape that unleashes before your eyes.

Paradise Cruise gives you the chance to see more undiscovered parts of the Bay- not only will you cruise through Halong Bay but you will also pass by many amazing areas. You will pass Luon Cave called the "Tunnel Cave" in English, due to its long 60 meters leading to a tranquil

lake; Trong Cave, which enchanting interior is often used for gala-diner and banquet; Ho Dong Tien cave whose mouth, you will see, is right at sea level.

15:00 - 16:30: In the afternoon take to a kayak and paddle your way around while collecting trash from around the bay- you will be given all the equipment needed and staff will be ready and waiting onboard to receive what you've picked up and dispose of it properly after returning to shore.

16.30 – 18.00: Continue cruising and sightseeing on the Bay while the Afternoon Tea is served on the Sundeck: A Coffee and Tea brewing demonstration will introduce you to the traditional culture of tea and coffee in Vietnam. Nibbles include cakes and biscuits.

You can request a cooking demonstration with your butler to discover the Vietnamese cuisine. Try making the spring rolls yourself, with the assistance of your butler or the Chef.

18.00 – 19.15: Relax or book on-board Spa Services (refer to the menu in your cabin)

19.30 – 21.00: Dinner À La Carte

21.00 – 23.00: Evening Activities – relax at leisure; choose from our selection of movies to watch in the intimacy of your cabin; try Squid Fishing or book a Beauty Spa service onboard.

Meal: Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Overnight on Paradise Peak Cruise in Ha Long Bay (5* luxury)

PARADISE PEAK CRUISE: The latest masterpiece of the Paradise fleet, Paradise Peak is Paradise Cruises' offers a luxurious floating hotel that has redefined the boundaries of five stars junk boats. All 8 grand suites are designed to deliver the ultimate comfort and cares for guests. The cruise is well-equipped with elegant facilities, and the crew composed to make sure a perfect service worthy of the most sumptuous hotels. The boat also features the complete spa facilities, the very first and only library and fitness room in Ha Long Bay. Not only offering unique traveling experience and exceptional services, Paradise Peak also allows you to dream with your eyes wide open.

DAY 6: HA LONG - HA NOI - DA NANG - HOI AN

6.30: Tai Chi session on the Sundeck at the break of dawn

7.00 – 7.30: Light breakfast: Tea, coffee and assorted pastries

7.30 – 8.30: Choose among visiting Luon Cave on a rowing bamboo boat with local people; exploring Sung Sot Cave, one of the largest and most beautiful caves in Halong Bay or swimming, kayaking and trekking at Titop Island.

8.30: Breakfast À La Carte

9.45: Cabin Check-out and bill settlement

10.30 : The boat anchors in the wharf. Time for you to go ashore from the boat and we arrange private car with guide to pick you up upon disembarking and transfer directly to Hanoi 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.

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Meal: Brunch

Accommodation: Overnight at ANANTARA HOI AN RESORT in Hoi An (5* luxury)

ANANTARA HOI AN RESORT: Anantara Hoi An Resort enjoy a blissful blend of riverside relaxation in Anantara luxury, a UNESCO World Heritage site on your doorstep and a peaceful beachside life within a short bike or boat ride away. Centrally located on the banks of the Thu Bon River, the resort offers a charming boutique retreat in Hoi An while still representing the town's characteristics of the fascinating cultural diversity between the local tradition and foreign influences. All level rooms and suites open onto porches with comfortable beds overlooking the river or a tranquil garden courtyard. An elegant restaurant with view of the river provides guests authentic local dishes plus popular international flavors. Sit back in wine bar for an atmospheric view of street life or lounge by the pool with an exotic cocktail.

DAY 7: HOI AN FULL DAY ANCIENT TOWN

Morning, city tour to discover the charm of Hoi An as a renowned World Heritage Site. Once a bustling maritime commercial port of Asia between 15th and 19th centuries, Hoi An is now a peaceful town of exceptionally well-preserved architecture, lifestyles and traditions. After receiving a brief introduction to the history, shape, and color of traditional lanterns, start a walking tour around the town to see its highlight sightseeing include the town's 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.

Afternoon, take a boat cruise on the Thu Bon River to enjoy the countryside landscapes and land on Kim Bong village where carpentry has been practiced since the 16th Century as the village's trademark to visit some old-fashioned boatyards using timber as the main material. Afterwards, move on to Thanh Ha village to see its traditional ceramic production trade still alive and thriving despite the 500-year passage of time. Return to hotel.

Meal: Breakfast,

Accommodation: Overnight at ANANTARA HOI AN RESORT in Hoi An (5* luxury)

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

DAY 8: HOI AN - DA NANG - HOCHIMINH

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

Meal: Breakfast,

Accommodation: Overnight at PARK HYATT HOTEL in Ho Chi Minh (5* luxury)

PARK HYATT HOTEL: The Park Hyatt is ideally located within short walk to the business centers, shopping malls, entertainment and some main tourist attractions in the downtown of Ho Chi Minh City. It boasts colonial style rooms with wooden floors, white marble baths, luxurious walk-in rain shower and stunning pool view. Guests can enjoy the view of Lam Son Square while dining at the casual yet contemporary Morocco Restaurant or at Square One which offer authentic Vietnamese and Western dishes. For a sheer relaxation, the Xuan Spa is a tranquil place tucked away from the hustle and bustle of the city. Let's indulge yourself, refresh your senses and spirit in the luxurious setting and spa treatments.

DAY 9: FULL DAY HOCHIMINH CITY TOUR & CU CHI TUNNELS – STORY OF WAR

Morning, 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 the city at noon time for a rest

Afternoon, tour in the city starting with Saigon Notre-Dame Basilica, a neo-Roman cathedral built over 130 years ago by the colonial French with materials entirely imported from Marseilles and stained-glass windows from Chartres. Next, visit Sai Gon Post Office, a fine colonial building which was designed and built in the early 20th Century by the famous French architect Gustave Eiffel. Move on to Cho Lon or the city's China Town where you will visit the Jade Emperor Temple (Phuoc Hai), a rare Taoist structure in Vietnam built in 1909 in dedication to the Lord of Heaven. It's filled with smoky incense and fantastic carved figurines and still buzzing with worshipers, many lounging in the front gardens.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight at PARK HYATT HOTEL in Ho Chi Minh (5* luxury)

DAY 10: HOCHIMINH DEPARTURE

Meet our guide & driver at the hotel lobby then transfer to Tan Son Nhat airport for flight...

Meal: Breakfast

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 May 2016 – 30 Sep 2016

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supp
VIP - 5* luxury	2,293	2,131	2,045	2,040	+1136

Date: 01 Oct 2016 – 31 Dec 2016

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supp
VIP - 5* luxury	2,479	2,317	2,231	2,225	+1285

Date: 01 Oct 2015 – 30 April 2016

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supp
VIP - 5* luxury	2,376	2,224	2,144	2,139	+1242

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

SUPPLEMENT FOR BUSINESS CLASS:

- From Hanoi (HAN) to Da Nang (DAN): +US\$ 30 per person
- From Da Nang (DAN) to Ho Chi Minh (SGN): +US\$ 30 per person

SUPPLEMENT FOR VICTORIA EXPRESS TRAIN (depends on schedule):

- With schedule when your round trip has both 2 ways on Dining carriage: + 30 USD per cabin
- With schedule when your round trip has 1 ways on Dining carriage: +20 USD per cabin

WHAT IS INCLUDED

- Accommodation in a twin or double room with daily breakfast
- Lunch or dinner as specified in the itinerary
- 2Days/ 1Night Ha Long Boat cruise
- Return train ticket from Hanoi to Lao Cai (Superior 4 beds cabin on Victoria Sapa Express Train)
- 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 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

LIST OF HOTELS USED:

Destination	VIP – 5 star
Ha Noi	SOFITEL METROPOLE HANOI HOTEL - www.sofitel-legend.com (Premium Room)
Sapa	VICTORIA SAPA RESORT & SPA - www.victoriahotel.asia (Deluxe)
Ha Long	PARADISE PEAK CRUISE - www.paradisecruises.vn (Junior Suite Cabin)
Hoi An	ANANTARA HOI AN RESORT - www.hoi-an.anantara.com (Deluxe room)
Ho Chi Minh	PARK HYATT HOTEL - www.saigon.park.hyatt.com/en/hotel/home.html (Park City View Room)

IMPORTANT NOTE:

- All prices are quoted in USD/ per person, based on Double/Twin occupancy
- Supplement for good quality Vietnamese menu meals: US\$ 16 for lunch & US\$ 25 for dinner. More or less, you can send us order
- 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 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)