

5DAYS – NORTHERN HIGHLIGHT OF VIETNAM

Vietnam (Hanoi – City Tour – Ha Long Bay – Ninh Binh – Shopping)

1. OVERVIEW

A kaleidoscope of city life, cultural experiences, history and nature is what you are going to get in this tour. Begin by uncover the multi-dimensional charm of the one thousand year Hanoi. Set sail through a magnificent maze of karst islands in Halong Bay on a junk boat before marvel at the natural wonder of another “Halong in land” in Ninh Binh. Join us and see the difference yourself!

2. ITINERARY IN BRIEF

DAY	ITINERARY
1	HANOI ARRIVAL - TRADITIONAL SHOW
2	HANOI CITY TOUR - HA LONG BAY - UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE
3	HA LONG – HANOI
4	HANOI – NINH BINH
5	HANOI - DEPARTURE

3. THE TOUR

DAY 1: HA NOI ARRIVAL (XIN CHAO HANOI)

Arrive at Noi Bai International Airport, welcome by our guide and transfer to your hotel. **The driving time is approximately 40 minutes.**

Afternoon, take a Cyclo tour through Hanoi’s downtown to sightsee the Old Quarter of 36 ancient streets, the Trang Tien Plaza shopping center, the colonial French-built Opera House, an elegant architectural landmark of Hanoi modeled after the Palais Garnier opera house in Paris and visit, Hoan Kiem Lake (The Returned Sword Lake whose name comes from a legend of a sacred sword) at sunset. Shop at a Café shop and then have welcome dinner at an authentic local restaurant in the Old Quarter.

Meals: Dinner (Mam restaurant)

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

DAY 2: HA NOI – HA LONG - UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE

Morning, take a half day city tour to visit **Ho Chi Minh Complex** which features the life of Ho Chi Minh, the nation’s founder. You’ll start at **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 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. Lunch at a Vietnamese restaurant

Afternoon, transfer to Ha Long Bay, which is about 160 km. The driving time is approximately 3 hours. 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 in late afternoon. Check in hotel then spend time at leisure. Dinner at local restaurant

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner (Minh Anh restaurant/Viet nam restaurant)

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

DAY 3: HA LONG - HANOI

Morning, breakfast at hotel between 6-7 AM, transfer to the dock for boarding a cruise boat to explore the legendary Ha Long Bay.

Ha Long means Descending Dragon in Vietnamese as legend has it that a holly dragon landed down here 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. The boat will stop at Dau Go Island for you to visit **Thien Cung Cave** (Heaven Palace) and **Dau Go Cave** (Wooden Stakes). **Dau Go Cave** in 13th Century was a depot to store pointed wooden stakes, which later were used by Vietnamese great military commander Tran Hung Dao to trap and puncture Mongolian naval boats in famous battles of Bach Dang. Continue cruising while fresh seafood lunch is served on board. Return to the dock, disembark and travel back to Hanoi.

Afternoon, drive back Hanoi and shopping in Hanoi Old Quarter. Dinner at local restaurant & leisure time in the evening

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner (daily cruise/ Buffet Sen restaurant)

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

DAY 4: HANOI – HOA LU – TRANG AN

Morning, transfer in a private coach about 100 km South of Hanoi (2.5 hour drive) to Hoa Lu District, Ninh Binh Province. Discover the first capital of Vietnam, which was founded in the 10th Century by the Dinh Dynasty as a stronghold against the Northern invaders and shortly later was inherited by the Le Dynasty. Visit the two old temples one dedicated to Dinh Tien Hoang, the only king of the Dinh Dynasty and also Vietnam's first emperor and the other to the succeeding kings of the Le Dynasty. Lunch at local restaurant

Afternoon, continue to visit Trang An tourist attraction has over 310 species of higher plants, many algae and fungi. In particular, there have some rare woods and amount of valuable trees using for food, medicine. In addition, there has about 30 species of mammals, 50 species of birds, dozens of species of reptiles and some rare animals such as: chamois, leopard, phoenix... take boat trip to visit cave complex: Sang Cave, Toi Cave, Ba Giot Cave, Nau Ruou in mystery and wildness, see scenery of mountain and rivers Ha Long on land of Ninh Binh.

End of day, transfer back to Hanoi. Dinner at local restaurant

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner (Ben Trang An restaurant/ Anh Hoa restaurant)

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

DAY 5: HANOI – DEPARTURE

Free at leisure until transfer to airport for departure 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 valid: 01 Oct 2015 - 30 Apr 2016 & 01 Oct 2016 - 31 Dec 2016:

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supp
First class -3*	497	426	336	298	76
Superior – 4*	552	481	391	353	118
Deluxe – 5*	617	545	456	417	168

Date: 01 May 2016 – 30 Sep 2016

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supp
First class -3*	487	416	326	288	68
Superior – 4*	539	468	378	340	108
Deluxe – 5*	606	534	445	406	159

WHAT IS INCLUDED

- Accommodation in a 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.
- Private board for sightseeing in Halong Bay in 04 hours & Ninh Binh
- Experienced English-speaking guide during all tours and transfers
- Vietnam visa approval letter on arrival as complementary (for foreigners who need visa)
- 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
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LIST OF HOTELS USED:

Place	First Class (3*)	Superior (4*)	Deluxe (5*)
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Hanoi	Demantoid Hanoi Hotel www.demantoidhotel.com Or Similar	Sunway Hanoi Hotel www.hanoi.sunwayhotels.com Or Similar	Nikko Hanoi hotel www.hotelnikkohanoi.com.vn Or Similar
Ha Long	New Star hotel www.newstarhalonghotel.com Or Similar	Saigon Ha Long Hotel www.saigonhalonghotel.com Or Similar	Muong Thanh Quang Ninh www.muongthanh.vn Or Similar

Tour Policy & Notes:

- Infant below 2 years old sharing same room with parents is free of charge.
- Child below 12 yrs old sharing same room with 1 ADL is charged for 90%.
- Child below 12 yrs old with extra bed and sharing same room with parents is charged for 65%.
- Child below 12 yrs old No extra bed & sharing same room with parents is charged for 55%
- Tipping for guide and driver (suggestion):
 - Group from 2 – 4 pax: USD 5/ pax/ day
 - Group from 5 – 9 pax: USD 4/ pax/ day
 - Group from 10 – 15 pax: USD 3/ pax/ day
 - Group above 15 pax: USD 2/ pax/ day
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Surcharge for Chinese new year:

- Surcharge for booking during Lunar New Year from **06.Feb – 12Feb 2016:**
 - US\$25/ pax/ day for FIT booking from 1-4pax
 - US\$15 / pax/ day for FIT booking from 5-9pax
 - US\$10 / pax/ day for GIT booking from 10pax up