

9DAYS _ EXOTIC OF VIETNAM

Vietnam (Hanoi, Ha Long, Ho Chi Minh City, Cu Chi Tunnels, Vinh Long, Can Tho Mekong Delta, Phu Quoc Island)

1. OVERVIEW

Traveling Vietnam throughout the country, this trip is exclusively designed to deliver the utmost in comfort and service that far more than an ordinary one, with plenty of things to experience. From the charming capital of Hanoi to the natural wonder of Halong Bay, from the peaceful Hoi An town to the dynamic Ho Chi Minh City and the Mekong – the country’s largest delta. Travel by traditional cyclo through Hanoi’s Old Quarter. Send colorful floating lanterns on water for luck or hang out with a cup of coffee on a rooftop café. Learn how to cook Vietnamese delicacies or hear from a war veteran who shares his eye-opening experience during your visit to the Cu Chi tunnels. Experience the Vietnamese art when you visit and talk to a famous artist, savor a cozy meal hosted by a local family in the melodious music of piano and flute and be wowed at a special A O show. There is no limit to what we can do to add value to your trip with us and make it unforgettable.

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 ANCIENT TOWN
6	HOI AN – DA NANG – HO CHI MINH (SAIGON)
7	HO CHI MINH – CU CHI TUNNELS
8	HO CHI MINH – MYTHO (MEKONG DELTA)
9	HOCHIMINH DEPARTURE

3. THE TOUR

DAY 1: 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. Fast tract service can be arranged upon booking.

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: HA NOI – OLD QUARTER 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.

Option 1:

Around 4:30PM, you will drive out of town to visit the studio home of Mr. Khanh, a well-known Vietnamese painter, sculptor, performance artist and member of the Vietnam Fine Arts Association. Enjoy an interactive cocktail reception while browsing an exhibition of Anh Khanh's paintings on the ground floor of his house.

Supplement charge: USD 200\$ per group per time & USD 10\$/pax for Cocktails served

Option 2:

Afterward, you'll go to the home of a musician couple (a flutist and pianist) for a home-cooked dinner, enjoying the meal hosted in the cozy dining room, where you can chat and share with them life experiences. Afterward, be delighted by a melodious performance of flute and piano under sparkling candles.

Supplement charge: USD 55\$/pax

Meal: Breakfast,

Accommodation: Overnight at Sofitel Metropole Hotel in Ha Noi (5* luxury)

DAY 3: HA NOI - HA LONG OVER NIGHT ON BOAT - UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE

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 Paradise Luxury Cruise in Ha Long (5*)

Paradise Luxury I, II, III & IV were built based on the traditional Vietnamese junk design and present a lavish outfit blending in subtle harmony with the natural environment. Each Paradise Luxury Cruises offer 17 luxurious cabins and suites as well as an exciting array of activities to be enjoyed while experiencing the spectacular scenery of the "Bay of Descending Dragons". Each vessel features a stylish restaurant and bar for an exclusive dining experience on the third deck. Celebrated for being the only cruisers in Ha Long Bay to provide complete spa facilities with Jacuzzi, massages, dry sauna, and beauty treatments, Paradise luxury boats offer spa facilities aiming at reviving the senses and nurturing well-being. Lie down on the top deck that is a perfect place to enjoy the sunshine and discover the splendid beauty of Ha Long bay with a 360° view while benefiting from the presence of

the Moonlight Bar. The Paradise Luxury fleet is committed to bringing customers a genuine yet prestigious experience in Ha Long Bay.

DAY 4: HA LONG - HA NOI – DA NANG

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 then take a flight from Ha Noi airport to Da Nang city. Flight time is approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes

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

Meal: Brunch

Accommodation: Overnight at ROYAL HOTEL in Hoi An (5*)

ROYAL HOI AN – MGALLERY COLLECTION:

Hotel Royal Hoi An is located in a short driving distance from Cham Museum, My Son Holy Land and Marble Mountain and also right located on the banks of the Thu Bon River in the UNESCO World Heritage town of Hoi An, Hotel Royal Hoi An is a perfect blend of historical charm and modernity. Its style inspired by Art Nouveau has a delicate touch of Japanese and Vietnamese cultures and offers spectacular views of the river and ancient town. The hotel features while spa, pool and 2 restaurants make it the perfect destination for events, a family vacation or a romantic getaway. It also offers complimentary shuttle bus to An Bang beach, which is located only 7 minutes away. It is very convenient for you and your family to relax on the beach, take sightseeing surrounding and enjoy luxury service at MGALLERY ROYAL HOI AN.

DAY 5: HOI AN ANCIENT TOWN – COOKING CLASS

Vietnamese cuisine is going to famous in the world so today let us take you on a quick adventure into the wonder world of Vietnamese cuisine. Meet your guide this morning and transfer out to a local market. Begin the morning with a delightful wander around Ben Thanh market with your cooking instructor, an experienced local chef. He / she tell you about a real shopping experience, provide you with knowledge on ingredients an how to select the best in local market. We then transfer to the Cookery Center with bags full of vegetables, tropical fruits, meat and exotic herbs and seasonings, you will then start practice cooking the Vietnamese way. The chef definitely will share her / his secrets with you from recipes to techniques of processing the ingredients, mixing them in the right balance and cooking them into fine dishes. You might be surprised to find out how much you can do in making typical main dishes, drinks and desserts. After finishing, sit back relaxed and enjoy your self-cooked lunch feeling accomplished.

Afternoon, 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.

Enjoy an unforgettable time with dinner at Full Moon Restaurant, where you'll participate in a traditional activity: sending the floating lanterns "hoa dang" down to the water. Hoi An is well known as the Lantern City, and this blend of exceptional cuisine with beautiful tradition is magnificent.

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Overnight at ROYAL HOTEL in Hoi An (5*)

DAY 6: HOI AN – DA NANG – HO CHI MINH (SAIGON)

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

Tour today starts with the War Remnants Museum which features a comprehensive collection of the machinery, weapons, photos, and documentation of Vietnam War with both the French and Americans, and the Reunification Palace, which was the former residence of the President of South Vietnam until end of April 1975. Last, stop for shopping at the French-built Ben Thanh Market which dates back to 1870 and whose main entrance clock tower has become a symbol of the city.

Option:

End with a coffee at the rooftop of Rex Hotel or derisively named "The Five O'Clock Follies" for interesting history from the presentation of Tim Doling about the city and hotel itself.

Supplement charge: USD 500\$ per group for Tim Doling presentation & USD 12\$/pax for coffee at rooftop of Rex Hotel

Evening, dinner at Lady Hau cruise on Saigon river

Meal: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Overnight at Inter Continental Asiana Hotel in Ho Chi Minh (5*)

THE INTERCONTINENTAL ASIANA SAIGON: We recommend you The InterContinental Asiana Saigon which is an exciting landmark and located in the heart of Ho Chi Minh. It is within the famous colonial sights of Notre Dame Cathedral, Reunification Palace, Old Saigon Post Office, Opera House and City Hall. InterContinental Asiana Saigon Residences features discerning guests a short or long term stay in the finest and most contemporary serviced apartments in Ho Chi Minh City. You'll totally be comfortable and enjoyable in a nice room and luxury hotel we choose.

DAY 7: HOCHIMINH & 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.

[Take this popular tour with a VC veteran who lived and fought during Vietnam war in this area to get to know more about the tunnel and their lives during the war.](#)

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 Inter Continental Asiana Hotel in Ho Chi Minh (5*)

DAY 8: FULL DAY –BEN TRE ON MANGO CRUISE (MEKONG DELTA)

Depart the city this morning and head south to Ben Tre to begin a Mekong Delta day of discovery. Arrival, take a Xe loi ride (cycle-drawn carriage) through a lush green town, enjoy a boat cruise through small canals with beautiful tropical scenery, even voyage on a traditional sampan boat, and visit is also made at a local multi-generational family surviving on traditional means.

Stop shortly in at a brick making factory and a rice noodle factory, and jump on a bicycle for another vantage point as you ride to My Long to visit a former Viet Cong soldier who survived

two years fighting the Khmer Rouge in Phnom Penh, now making rice paper for a modest living.

You'll have a chance to enjoy a delicious 5-course lunch, then visit a nearby house of Mr. Hung, who is a famous sticky rice maker in his village. Feed his stock of catfish and walk through his fruit garden if wanted.

Option:

Late afternoon return to Ho Chi Minh City for an *À Ố Show*, a new kind of art performance which blows apart the conventions of previous art shows in Vietnam

Supplement charge: USD 65\$/pax (Wow ticket)

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Overnight at Inter Continental Asiana Hotel in Ho Chi Minh (5*)

DAY 9: HO CHI MINH DEPARTURE

Meet our guide & driver at the hotel lobby then 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: 01 Oct 2015 – 30 Apr 2016

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supp
Luxury package	1,689	1,576	1,472	1,465	+1027

Date: 01 May 2016 – 30 Sep 2016

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supp
Luxury package	1,767	1,647	1,505	1,485	+956

Date: 01 Oct 2016 – 31 Dec 2016

Description	2 pax	3-4 pax	5-6 pax	7-9 pax	Single Supp
Luxury package	1,881	1,761	1,619	1,599	+1053

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

WHAT IS INCLUDED

- Accommodation in a twin or double room with daily breakfast
- One night cruise on a wooden junk in Ha Long Bay
- 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 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	LUXURY TOUR – 5*
Ha Noi	SOFITEL METROPOLE HANOI HOTEL - www.sofitel-legend.com (Premium Room)
Ha Long	PARADISE LUXURY CRUISE - www.paradisecruises.vn (Deluxe with Balcony)
Hoi An	ROYAL HOTEL HOI AN www.accorhotels.com (Deluxe room)
Ho Chi Minh	INTER CONTIENTAL ASIANA HOTEL - www.ihg.com/intercontinental (Deluxe room)

IMPORTANT NOTE:

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