

VIETNAM EXPERIENCE





From bustling cities and ancient culture to the stunning vistas of Ha Long Bay, Vietnam is one of the most fascinating destinations in all of South East Asia. Our premium Vietnam Experience 15 day trip will show you all of the highlights of this beautiful country (and much more) while spoiling you with upgraded boutique accommodation. You'll explore Hanoi on a traditional rickshaw, trek through the lush mountainside of Sapa, sail through Ha Long Bay, learn to cook tasty Vietnamese food, discover traditional villages in the Mekong Delta, and learn some history at the Cu Chi tunnels, all while travelling in style. Plus you'll have an awesome group leader with you from the moment you step off the plane, an instant group of friends to share your adventure with and help with your onward travel. Get ready for the trip of a lifetime!

HANOI - HO CHI MINH CITY

Transport: Minivan, Bus, Boat,

Overnight Train, Plane.

Meals: 13B, 7L, 4D

Group size: 4 - 16
Age Range: 18 - 40's
Local Fees: None

HIGHLIGHTS

- Enjoy premium accommodation including upgraded traditional home stays and fourstar hotels
- Immerse yourself in the buzz of Hanoi on a walking and rickshaw tour
- Trek through the lush mountainsides of Sapa
- Cruise overnight through the magnificent Ha Long Bay
- Be captured by the charm of Hoi An
- Learn about local village life in the Mekong Delta and discover the Cu Chi tunnels



INCLUSIONS

- ✓ Personal Airport Pickup To The Hotel 24/7
- √ 14 Nights Premium Accommodation
- ✓ 24 Meals
- ✓ All Transport & Internal Flight
- √ Awesome Group Leader
- √ Walking & Rickshaw Tour of Hanoi
- √ Night Out in Hanoi
- ✓ Sapa Mountain-Side Accommodation
- ✓ Sapa Trekking
- ✓ Overnight Boat Trip on Ha Long Bay
- √ Kayaking
- √ Local Homestay Experience
- √ Bicycle Tour of Ninh Binh
- √ Rice Paddies
- ✓ River Boat Cruise
- ✓ Dragon Mountain Viewpoint
- √ Cooking Class
- √ Traditional Crab Fishing Basket Boat Tour
- ✓ Lantern Making Class
- ✓ Overnight Mekong Delta Experience
- √ Cu Chi Tunnels Tour
- ✓ Local Village Visit
- ✓ Help with Onward Travel

NOT INCLUDED:

International flights, travel insurance, visas & some meals







ITINERARY & IMPORTANT INFO

DAY 1 - ARRIVE IN HANOI

• HANOI We'll meet you at the airport and take you to your hotel. You'll have plenty of time to rest after your flight before meeting up with your group and getting excited for the experiences to come!

DAY 2 - EXPLORE HANOI

• HANOI Immerse yourself in the bustle of Hanoi with a walking and rickshaw tour of the capital. Together we'll explore the themed trading streets, soak up the intriguing culture and stay fuelled with delicious street food. Tonight we'll head out for dinners and drinks to experience what Hanoi has to offer.

DAY 3 - SAPA TREKKING

• SAPA VILLAGE This morning we'll take a VIP limousine bus to the rolling hills of Sapa. We'll learn from our local guide how different ethnic groups live peacefully together while retaining their customs, then begin our trek deep into the Muong Hoa Valley. Passing rice paddies, mountain views and water buffalo, we might get a little muddy, but it's all part of the fun! Once at our homestay we'll have a well-deserved rest, sharing stories over dinner and a little rice wine.

DAY 4 - VILLAGES & MOUNTAINS

• SAPA Today we trek through terraced hills and discover local villages. A quick drive will take us back to Sapa in the afternoon, where we'll check in to our beautiful mountain-side hotel and take in the serenity of our surroundings.

DAY 5 - DISCOVER SAPA TOWN

 SAPA Explore Sapa at your own pace, or take the cable car up to Fan Si Pan peak, also known as the roof of Indochina. Tonight we'll ride an overnight train for a unique but comfortable trip back to Hanoi.

DAY 6 - HA LONG BAY OVERNIGHT BOAT

• HA LONG BAY We'll head straight to the stunning natural wonder of Ha Long Bay and board our luxurious boat for the night. Known for its emerald waters, magical caves and towering limestone mountains covered in rainforest, we can kayak, swim and sunbathe on deck with a drink in hand.

DAY 7 - NINH BINH HOMESTAY

 NINH BINH Today we head south to the beautiful countryside of Ninh Binh. This evening we'll check in to our unique traditional homestay and watch the sunset whilst relaxing in our riverside bungalows.

DAY 8 - EXPLORE NINH BINH

• NINH BINH We'll hop on bicycles to ride through the lush rice paddies in rural Ninh Binh, then take a local rowboat through rivers and caves. This afternoon we'll tackle the iconic Dragon Mountain viewpoint for jaw-dropping views! We'll then board our surprisingly comfortable overnight train bound for Hoi An.

DAY 9 - EXPLORE HOLAN

• HOI AN Hoi An is full of markets, colourful alleyways and lanterns lighting up the streets. Here you can wander the streets, sip a drink by the canal or get measured for custom clothes at a local tailor. Tonight we'll go out for dinner and drinks to soak up the buzzing nightlife of the town.

DAY 10 - BASKET FISHING & COOKING CLASS

• HOI AN Be guided by local fisherman through coconut groves and learn the art of crab fishing before trying your hand at a traditional Vietnamese cooking class. The afternoon is free for you to relax by the pool, get a massage or try on your new tailored clothes. This evening we'll enjoy more amazing food and heading over to the bustling vibrant night markets.

DAY 11 - LANTERNS & BEACH DAY

• HOI AN This morning we'll learn how to make lanterns. We'll then hop on bicycles for a short ride to the beach for a chilled day at a beach club.

DAY 12 - HO CHI MINH CITY

• HO CHI MINH CITY Enjoy the last bits of Hoi An this morning before we catch an internal flight to Ho Chi Minh City. We'll head straight out to the markets for dinner then up to a rooftop bar to treat ourselves to a drink.

DAY 13 - LOCAL LIFE

 MEKONG DELTA Today we'll explore the lush beauty of the Mekong Delta, learn how locals live on the river and check in to our riverside accommodation for the night.

DAY 14 - CU CHI TUNNELS

• HO CHI MINH CITY Today we learn some history at the Cu Chi tunnels, a fascinating network of hand-dug tunnels that played an important role in the Vietnam War. We'll arrive back to Ho Chi Minh city this afternoon before heading out for our farewell dinner and drinks!

DAY 15 - CHECK OUT

 HO CHI MINH CITY Your amazing 15 day adventure comes to an end. You can either check out and make your way home, or continue your travels around Vietnam or Asia with help from your group leader.

ARRIVAL INFORMATION

Vietnam Experience 15 day starts in Hanoi. It's best to arrive on the actual start date. There's no activities on the first day, so you can arrive at any time. If you do arrive early we'll still pick you up from the airport and will book you into our hotel from the day you arrive. Extra nights can be prepaid with your agent or paid on arrival.

It's also recommended to have onward travel booked out of Vietnam before travelling there, as you may get asked for proof of this before boarding your flight to Vietnam.

AFTER VIETNAM EXPERIENCE

Vietnam Experience 15 day finishes in Ho Chi Minh. You can choose to stay on longer in Vietnam or continue your travels around Asia. Your Group Leader can help with any other onward travel options.

If you need to get back to Ho Chi Minh City Airport then it's a simple taxi ride that will take around 30 minutes and cost around £10/\$20. We can organise this for you in Vietnam.

If you need to get back to Hanoi then the easiest way is to get yourself a cheap internal flight, we can help you with this. Just let your group leader know when you arrive.

VISAS

It's important to check your visa requirements before arriving in Vietnam.

Please refer to our <u>Important Stuff</u> page for all up to date visa information Vietnam.

Please note that while the above information is currently accurate, visa rules can often change so it's always best to check before departing. If you're unsure of your visa requirements or need any help just contact us.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel insurance for Vietnam is compulsory to join Vietnam Experience. Your group leader will ask to see proof of your cover before your trip begins. You can organise a quote and policy for yourself <a href="https://example.com/here/be/he



ACCOMMODATION GUIDE

HANOI - HANOI EMERALD WATERS HOTEL & SPA

3 NIGHTS

Stay right in the heart of Hanoi.

Twin/Double Rooms

Ensuite

WiFi, Air Con & Laundry

Restaurant & Bar

SAPA VILLAGE - CHAPA ECO LODGE HOMESTAY

1 NIGHT

A beautiful lodge surrounded by lush rice paddies and mountains.

Twin/Double Rooms

Ensuite

WiFi, Air Con & Laundry

Bar & Terrace

SAPA - PAO'S SAPA LEISURE HOTEL

1 NIGHT

A stunning 5 star mountain-side hotel.

Twin/Double Rooms

Ensuite

WiFi, Air Con & Laundry

Bar & Insane Views of Sapa!



HA LONG BAY - OVERNIGHT BOAT

1 NIGHT

An amazing boat with incredible views.

Twin/Double Rooms

Ensuite

Air Con

Once In A Lifetime Stay!

NINH BINH - LOCAL HOMESTAY

1 NIGHT

Private riverside bungalows in a magical setting.

Twin/Double Rooms

Ensuite

WiFi

Riverside Hammocks

OVERNIGHT TRAIN

1 NIGHT

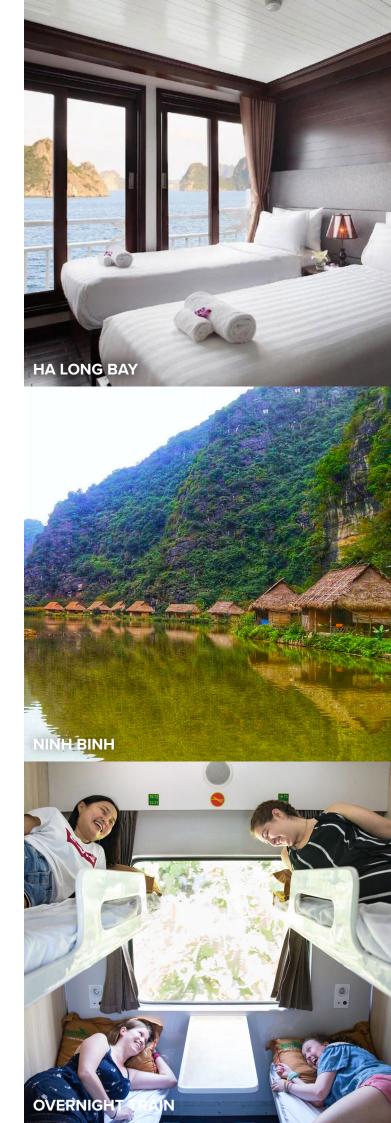
A comfy bed on a great journey.

4 Share Cabin

Bathrooms Onboard

Air Con

Epic Views!



HOI AN - THANH BINH RIVERSIDE HOTEL

3 NIGHTS

A nice hotel nestled on the river.

Twin/Double Rooms

Ensuite

WiFi, Air Con & Laundry

Swimming Pool

HO CHI MINH CITY - ADORA ART HOTEL

2 NIGHTS

A boutique hotel close to all the action.

Twin/Double Rooms

Ensuite

WiFi, Air Con

Rooftop Swimming Pool

MEKONG DELTA - MEKONG LODGE RESORT

1 NIGHT

A beautiful lodge surrounded by gardens and the Tien River.

Twin/Double Rooms

Ensuite

WiFi, Air Con & Laundry

Swimming Pool & Bar



The accommodation featured in this document is our usual properties. At certain locations we use alternative accommodation (of equal standard) when needed.





SUSTAINABLE TRAVEL



PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT



SUPPORTING LOCAL COMMUNITIES



CULTURAL EXCHANGE & EDUCATION



ANIMAL WELFARE

Making a positive difference to the amazing destinations we travel is at the core of what we do.

Small Change is our own socially conscious initiative aimed at making the world that little bit better place to explore!

Click here to learn more!



WE'RE PLANTING 10 TREES FOR EVERY INTRO TRAVEL BOOKING!





DO MANY PEOPLE TRAVEL ALONE?

Yes. Lots of people on our trips are travelling solo. But by doing our trip you'll instantly be part of a group, so it's a great way to meet others and make friends! Most of our accommodation is twin or double share, so we will put you in a room with someone of the same gender.



CAN I CHAT TO MY GROUP BEFORE I LEAVE?

You can start chatting to people in your group and other travellers before you leave. Just go to our Facebook page, click on 'Groups' and choose Vietnam.



WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO VISIT VIETNAM?

It's always a good time to go travelling in Vietnam. Most months of the year you will experience both sunshine and possibly some rain. It's usually quite hot and humid most of the time, but it can occasionally get cold, especially in the north of Vietnam between November and February, so it's always best to bring a couple of warm layers with your summer clothing.



WHAT'S A PREMIUM TRIP?

When we have 2 similar itinerary options in the same destination, the premium trip is the upgraded version. With a higher standard of accommodation, some exclusive activities and more meals.



HOW MUCH SPENDING MONEY WILL I NEED?

All your activities, accommodation, transport and some meals are included with Vietnam Experience, so you'll just need money for some meals, drinks, shopping and any onward travel. We recommend you bring at least \$400 / \$700 spending money.



HOW WILL I ACCESS MY MONEY WHILE I'M AWAY?

It's best to take a Visa or Master Card debit, credit or travel money card. There are ATM's available throughout Vietnam so it's easy to get access to cash. Some places accept credit card but not all.



IS THERE WI-FI THROUGHOUT THE TRIP?

Most accommodations we stay at have free Wi-Fi available apart from the overnight boat and train. The network quality is often lower than you're used to but you can generally connect and do basic stuff.



WHAT LUGGAGE DO YOU RECOMMEND?

We always recommend travelling with a backpack and packing light! 10-20kgs of stuff should be plenty. It's generally quite hot in Vietnam so dragging around a huge suitcase is not much fun. There is luggage storage at the airport or at some accommodations if needed.



WHAT POWER OUTLETS ARE USED?

Vietnam generally uses a flat or round 2 pin socket the same as most of Europe. It's always best to grab yourself an appropriate adaptor if needed before you go.



TERMS & CONDITIONS

For the full set of terms & conditions for our tours including your responsibilities as a traveller with us, please see the Terms & Conditions section of our website.

That's about it for now!

Once you've booked you'll get access to 'Manage My Booking' and the INTRO Travel App, which will give you all the information you'll need on Vietnam and Vietnam Experience, so you can just relax and enjoy the experience.

Of course if you have an more questions just contact us. We're happy to help!