

INDEPENDENT TRIPS

Vietnam Explorer 15D/14N (from Ho Chi Minh City)

Cultural

15 Days / 1 Country

Vietnam

Departure city: **Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon),**

Vietnam

End city: **Hanoi, Vietnam**



HIGHLIGHTS

- Explore verdant Dalat on a motorcycle day trip
- Discover imperial Hue tombs & the riverside port of Hoi An
- Cruise through the spectacular scenery of Halong Bay

Experience Vietnam's history and highlights on a 15-day trip from Saigon to Hanoi with convenient in/out airport transfers and amazing activities included.

MAP

 Map

What is included



Independent Trips

Include all of your accommodation, transport and experiences on a pre-set trip that you can customize to perfectly suit your travel needs.



Accommodation: 12

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------|
| • 1 Hanoi Junior suite | 1 Nha Trang Junior suite |
| • 1 Hanoi Junior suite | 2 Dalat Junior suite |
| • 1 Hue Junior suite | 1 Ho Chi Minh City Junior suite |
| • 2 Hoi An Junior suite | 1 Ho Chi Minh City Junior suite |

Included in Halong Bay Cruise 2D/1N

- | | |
|---|--|
| • Cabin on cruise | Private room can be arranged for an additional \$38 USD per person |
| • Standard boat accommodation in shared double room | |

Included in Mekong Delta Highlights Adventure 2D/1N

- 1 night in a double shared room



Transport: 7

- | | |
|--------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| • Hanoi Airport Transfer | Dalat to Nha Trang |
| • Hue to Hanoi | Ho Chi Minh City to Dalat |
| • Hoi An to Hue | Ho Chi Minh City Airport Transfer |
| • Nha Trang to Hoi An | |



Meals: 16

- 9 Breakfast(s), 4 Lunch(es), 3 Dinner(s),



Experiences: 6

- | | |
|---|---|
| • Halong Bay Cruise 2D/1N | Hoi An Bicycle Day Trip |
| • Vietnamese Meal with Local Family (Hanoi) | Countryside Motorcycle Adventure |
| • Tombs & Pagoda Day Trip | Mekong Delta Highlights Adventure 2D/1N |

What is not included

- | | |
|--|--|
| • Guide throughout the trip | Personal Expenses |
| • Meals not mentioned in the itinerary | Accommodation pick-up drop-off from Bus Stations |
| • Travel Insurance | |
| • Tips | |

*Prices for optional activities are subject to change at any time without prior notice. Please confirm these prices before departing on your trip.

Experiences Included

Mekong Delta Highlights Adventure 2D/1N



Get to know the famous Mekong Delta and discover the traditional Vietnamese way of life on an amazing 2-day trip. Begin your adventure from Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) and see bustling floating markets, riverside villages, beautiful landscapes.

INCLUDED

- 1 night in a double shared room
- All land & boat transportation
- 1 Breakfast / 1 Lunch / 1 Dinner
- Discover the scenic waterways of the Mekong Delta
- Can Tho free time
- Cai Rang floating market
- Vinh Long market visit
- English-speaking guide

NOT INCLUDED

- Other meals & drinks
- Accommodation pick-up & drop-off in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon)
- Accommodation in Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon)
- Personal expenses
- Tips for guide & driver
- Travel insurance

Countryside Motorcycle Adventure



Take an exciting motorcycle ride around Dalat with an English speaking driver/guide. Ride on the back of a motorcycle and admire the region's beautiful lakes, waterfalls, lush forests in the countryside and discover the local culture.

INCLUDED

- Motorcycle Tour with English Speaking Guide
- (You ride on the back of the motorcycle with a guide to take you around.)

NOT INCLUDED

- Meals
- Drinks
- Personal Expenses
- Travel Insurance

Hoi An Bicycle Day Trip



Ride through the Vietnamese countryside just outside of Hoi An to small islands, local artisans, and have a homemade lunch with a local family.

INCLUDED

- Minivan Transportation
- English Speaking Guide
- Bicycle
- Entrance Tickets
- Boat Trip
- Lunch

NOT INCLUDED

- Soft Drinks and Alcoholic Beverages
- Other Meals/Drinks
- Tips
- Personal Expenses
- Travel Insurance

Tombs & Pagoda Day Trip



Go back in time by walking through the elaborate tomb complexes of venerated Vietnamese emperors and imagine what it must have been like to live here during the golden years of the dynasty. Don't miss out on a visit to the Forbidden Purple City, one of the largest and most well-preserved royal cities in Vietnam.

INCLUDED

- Bus & boat transportation
- English Speaking Guide
- Lunch

NOT INCLUDED

- Other Meals & Drinks
- Entrance Fees
- Personal Expenses
- Tips

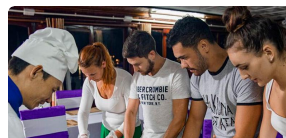
Vietnamese Meal with Local Family



INCLUDED

- Local English-speaking host
- Local meal/drinks
- Small group experience

Halong Bay Cruise 2D/1N



INCLUDED

- Cabin on cruise
- Standard boat accommodation in shared double room

Itinerary

Day 1: Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam



Ho Chi Minh City Airport Transfer

Type: **Transfer**

Departure Times: **24h**

Duration: **hrs.**



Check-In Vietnam Backpacker Hostel Saigon

Day 2: Mekong Delta, Vietnam



Mekong Delta Highlights Adventure 2D/1N

Departure Times: **07:45**

Transfer from Ho Chi Minh City to Can Tho

We will first make our way to Ben Tre, where we should arrive around 9:30 am. There we will take a little boat ride through the labyrinth of little canals that make the Mekong Delta. After that, we will drive to nearby villages and you can see first hand how villagers tend their rice fields and their vegetable gardens. You will also visit a family and see how they earn a living by making rice paper and coconut candy. We will have a delicious Vietnamese lunch by the riverside.

After lunch we will take the boat back through the canals to Ben Tre. At about 3:00 pm, we will drive to interesting locations such as Rach Mieu, My Thuan and Can Tho Bridge, before arriving in Can Tho. In Can Tho you will have free time to sightsee. There will also be a bus transfer to Ninh Kieu wharf and back to the hotel. We will spend the night in Can Tho.

Day 3: Mekong Delta - Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam



Mekong Delta Highlights Adventure 2D/1N

Departure Times: **07:45**

Return Transfer to Ho Chi Minh City

We will have an early breakfast at 6:00 am and then depart about 7:00 am. We will get on a motorboat and will first visit Cai Rang, where the biggest and most colourful floating market on the Mekong takes place. You will see how hundreds of little boats congregate to sell their fruits, vegetables, plants, and food. After enjoying this smorgasbord of vendors, we will continue with a motorboat along narrow leafy canals to a local orchard where we will taste some tropical fruit. We will return to our hotel at around 10:30 am and you will have free time to sightsee or cycle around. After checking out of your hotel at noon, you will have lunch (not included). Afterwards, we will slowly make our way back to Ho Chi Minh City. But before, we will make a quick stop at Vinh Long Market. We will be back in Ho Chi Minh City at approximately 6:00 pm.



Check-In Vietnam Backpacker Hostel Saigon

Day 4: Ho Chi Minh City - Dalat, Vietnam



Ho Chi Minh City to Dalat

Type: **Transfer**
DepartureTimes: **08:30**
Duration: **7 hrs.**

 **Check-In Dalat Hostel**

Day 5: Dalat, Vietnam

 **Countryside Motorcycle Adventure**

DepartureTimes: **08:30**
Duration: **8 hrs.**

Take an exciting motorcycle tour around Dalat with an English speaking driver/guide. Ride on the back of a motorcycle to admire the beauty of this region filled with natural wonders such as lakes, waterfalls, lush green forests and floral gardens. Take a break at the Truc Lam meditation center and see the beautiful Paradise lake, Elephant waterfall and Linh An pagoda. Immerse yourself in the local way of life at a Chicken minority village (K' ho people) and learn about the local industry as we stop by a vegetable farm, a mushroom farm, a coffee farm and a silk factory. Arrive back to Dalat around 16:00 pm.

 **Dalat Hostel**

Day 6: Dalat - Nha Trang, Vietnam

 **Dalat to Nha Trang**

Type: **Transfer**
DepartureTimes: **07:30, 13:00**
Duration: **4 hrs.**

 **Check-In Nha Trang Hostel**

Day 7: Nha Trang, Vietnam

 **Nha Trang to Hoi An**

Type: **Transfer**
DepartureTimes: **19:00**
Duration: **11 hrs.**

Day 8: Hoi An, Vietnam

● **Free Day**
Explore on your own, or add an optional extra experience

 **Check-In Vietnam Backpacker Hostel Hoi An**

Day 9: Hoi An, Vietnam

 **Hoi An Bicycle Day Trip**

DepartureTimes: **08:00**

Duration: **5 hrs.**

This morning you will be picked up at your accommodation to go pick out a bike before heading out on your unforgettable day tour to Cam Kim island. We will cross the Thu Bon river along with plenty of locals heading to school or to the central market. Here we will make a stop in the Kim Bong carpentry village and take a look at the fishing boat builders on the riverbank. Here there are several families famous for generations of boatmaking and carpentry. They also contributed in building Hoi An's beautiful wooden houses for Chinese and Japanese traders that make the town such a charming destination today.

Leaving the town, we will cycle past a scenic rice field and small river branches where you can see large fishing nets hanging over the water. We will visit a family on a small local island to see the most common local occupation: weaving sleeping mats, a tradition hundreds of years old.

Finally, we will cycle through the tranquil countryside to another family's house for a homemade local lunch. After a great meal with even better company, we will cycle back to town. After returning your bike you will be dropped off at your hostel in the afternoon.



Vietnam Backpacker Hostel Hoi An

Day 10: Hoi An - Hue, Vietnam



Hoi An to Hue

Type: **Transfer**

DepartureTimes: **8:30, 13:45**

Duration: **4 hrs.**



Check-In Hue Hostel & Sports Bar

Day 11: Hue, Vietnam



Hue to Hanoi

Type: **Transfer**

DepartureTimes: **17:30**

Duration: **hrs.**



Tombs & Pagoda Day Trip

DepartureTimes: **07:30**

Duration: **9 hrs.**

We will pick you up at your hostel around 7:00 am to start off our exciting day early. We first bring you to the impressive Khai Dinh Tomb. Khai Dinh was an important Vietnamese emperor who ascended the throne in 1916 and died in 1925. Then we will watch a performance of the fascinating martial art called Vo Kinh Van An. We continue to the Tu Duc Tomb which was completed in 1867. Walk around the extensive gardens filled with huge stone temples and structures, rivers and a reflection lake imagining what splendid life was lived here by the faithful Tu Duc court. Our final pit stop before lunch is visiting a village where incense making and conical hat making has become their speciality. For lunch, we will have a delicious buffet of Vietnamese, Asian and Western dishes. After lunch, at about 1:30 pm, we will continue with the tour to the Citadel of Hue, which was built by the emperor Gia Long in 1804. It's also known in Vietnamese as the Forbidden Purple City, a term similar to the Forbidden City of Beijing. Our next stop is the Thien Mu Pagoda, which is Vietnam's tallest pagoda. It has an iconic status in Hue and it is known as the unofficial symbol of the former imperial capital. The way back to Hue will be on a boat down the beautiful Perfume River, where you will see local fishermen and traditional villages. Our journey ends upon arrival to the Toa Kham pier.

Day 12: Hanoi, Vietnam



Vietnamese Meal with Local Family (Hanoi)

DepartureTimes: 17:00, 17:30, 18:00, 18:30, 19:00, 19:30, 20:00, 20:30

Duration: 3 hrs.

Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam, is a bustling city waiting to be explored. It is home to ancient sites, peaceful parks, busy marketplaces and more. Enjoy the amazing scenery through the eyes of a local as you'll get more than a delicious meal in this experience!

Meet a real Vietnamese host family and dine in their own house, you'll experience the daily local food. What to expect? Think gourd and shrimp soup, fried fish with fish sauce or caramel pork with a healthy side of steamed vegetables and so much more! All our hosts can personalise their menu to meet your preferences, what are you waiting for?



Check-In Vietnam Backpacker Hostel Hanoi Downtown

Day 13: Halong Bay, Vietnam



Halong Bay Cruise 2D/1N

DepartureTimes: 8:00

Hanoi - Halong Bay - Fairy lake Cave - Kayaking - Cooking class

Today your cruising adventure will start at 8 AM from Old Quarter area in a transfer to Halong Bay. Around 12 - 12:30 PM You will arrive to your cruise where you can check into your cabin until lunch on board while you cruise through the bay. Around 3 Pm we will have a stop at the famous Ha Dong Tien (Fairy Lake Cave), one of the most beautiful caves on Halong Bay. It has high historical and geological value. After, you will have the possibility to kayak around Trong Cave, where it is more suitable and enjoyable for kayaking, as the area is more open.

Around 5 PM you will arrive back on board your cruise ship. Here, if you are interested in cooking, you can join Chef and learn how to make traditional Vietnamese food. Afterwards, enjoy dinner and the rest of the evening you are free to relax in your cabin, or if you wish you can join the staff at the reception for squid fishing.

Overnight on Cruise

Day 14: Hanoi, Vietnam



Halong Bay Cruise 2D/1N

DepartureTimes: 8:00

Halong Bay activities - Hanoi

This morning you will start bright and early, with a Tai Chi lesson on the sundeck at 6:15 AM. While having breakfast you will continue cruising through the Halong Bay. You will have a stop at Soi Sim Island where you can spend your time swimming or you can choose to climb to the peak of the island for amazing panoramic view of the bay. After, head back to the ship, where you should get all packed up and ready before disembarking and heading back to Hanoi. You will have some time to relax on the sundeck and have a lunch before the time to leave will come. Around 15:30 you will arrive back to Hanoi where your adventure with us ends. Have a safe journey onwards.



Check-In Vietnam Backpacker Hostel Hanoi Downtown

Day 15: Hanoi, Vietnam



Hanoi Airport Transfer

Type: **Transfer**

DepartureTimes: **24h**

Duration: **hrs.**

