
VIETNAM DISCOVERY 16 DAYS

Highlights: Hanoi, Sapa trekking & home-stay, Halong Bay, Hue Imperial City, Hoi An ancient town, Ho Chi Minh City, Mekong Delta, Cao Dai Temple, Cu Chi Tunnels.



US\$ 1135 p.p.
US\$ 1489
Free visa service

Departure/End: Hanoi/Ho Chi Minh City
Duration: 16 days

Hotel options: 2-star, 3-star
Tour type: Group tour (Min. 2; Max. 16)



Hoi An Old Town



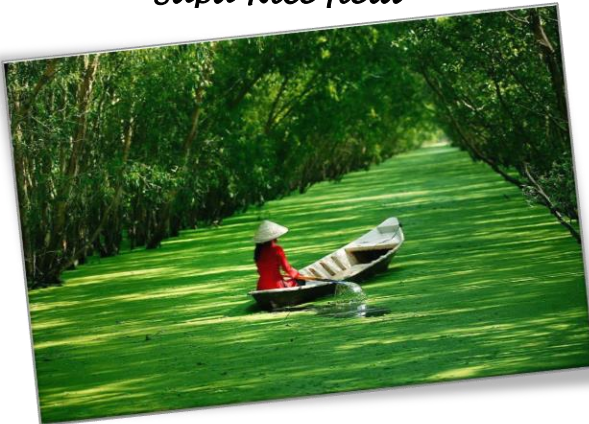
Sapa Rice field



Hue Imperial Citadel



Hoan Kiem Lake



Mekong Delta



Ho Chi Minh City

Guaranteed departure dates 2018:

Months	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Days	3, 17	28	14, 28	11	2, 16	6, 20	4, 18	1, 15	5, 19	3, 17, 31	14, 28	5

For departure on your desired dates, please contact at mail@tuanlinhtravel.com

BRIEF ITINERARY AND SERVICES

Day	Route	Transfer	Accommodation	Excursion, tourist attractions	Meals
1	Hanoi arrival		Hotel in Hanoi	Pick up at the airport and transfer to hotel in Hanoi center. Free for leisure.	
2	Hanoi - Lao Cai	Car, train	On train (4-berth cabin)	Hanoi city tour: Ho Chi Minh mausoleum, Presidential Palace (outside), the House-on-stilt, the One-pillar Pagoda, Temple of Literature, Ethnology Museum, Cyclo, Old street quartet, water puppet show	B, L, D
3	Lao Cai - Sapa	Car	Homestay with hill tribe people	Trekking through terrace field and local village of H'Mong, Dzay, Dao hill tribe	B, L, D
4	Sapa	Car	Hotel in Sapa	Enjoy landscape on trekking route, see more local hill tribes in their daily life	B, L, D
5	Sapa - Hanoi	Car, train	On train (4-berth cabin)	Visit Bac Ha market, Ban Pho village	B, L, D
6	Hanoi - Halong	Car, boat	On board (Private cabin for 2 with bathroom)	Halong Bay cruise: Enjoy the beauty of Halong Bay, visit Thien Cung, Dau Go cave. Over a romantic night on board.	B, L, D
7	Halong – Hanoi - Hue	Car, train	On train (4-soft berth cabin)	Halong Bay cruise. Night train to Hue.	Brunch
8	Hue arrival – city tour	Flight	Hotel in Hue	Visit Imperial Citadel and Purple Forbidden city, Dong Ba market	B
9	Hue	Car, boat	Hotel in Hue	A nice day with cruising, biking, walking along Perfume river to visit Sinh painting village, Thuy Bieu village which is famous for grapefruit, Thien Mu pagoda – the symbol of Hue, local market. Finally, visit royal tomb of King Tu Duc.	B, L
10	Hue - Hoi An	Car	Hotel in Hoi An	Enjoy stunning panoramic view over Lang Co beach from Hai Van pass. Stop on the way to visit Cham museum and Marble mountain.	B
11	Hoi An – My Son – Hoi An		Hotel in Hoi An	Join a group to visit My Son Holy Temples of Cham civilization, a World Heritage Site of UNESCO. Enjoy 2 hours on boat along Thu Bon river with lunch on board.	B, L
12	Hoi An - HCMC	Flight	Hotel in HCMC	Free for leisure until car pick up and transfer to the airport for flight to HCMC.	B
13	HCMC - Cu Chi	Car	Hotel in HCMC	Join group tour to visit HCMC in the morning and visit Cu Chi underground tunnels in the afternoon.	B, L
14	HCMC - Mekong	Car, boat	Homestay in Mekong Delta	Mekong River cruise: Enjoy landscape and daily life of people in Mekong delta, visit local village, tropical orchard	B, L, D
15	Mekong - HCMC	Car	Hotel in HCMC	Mekong boat cruise visit floating market	B, L
16	HCMC departure	Car			B

QUOTATION : OPT 1 (2-star hotels): **US\$ 1135**

(US Dollars/person) : OPT 2 (3-star hotels): **US\$ 1252**

Single surcharge: : OPT 1 (2-star hotels): **US\$ 215**

: OPT 2 (3-star hotels): **US\$ 296**

Free visa arrangement and more bonuses for group booking.

* Single room is not applied on trains.

* Price includes service charge and Government tax.

Includes:

Accommodation:

- Twin-shared rooms at 2, 3-star hotels.
- Twin-shared cabin on board (private bathroom), Halong Bay (1 night).
- 4-soft berth cabin on train Hanoi – Lao Cai and vice-versa (2 nights).
- 4-soft berth cabin on train Hanoi – Hue (1 night)
- Homestay with local people in Sapa and Mekong Delta (2 nights)

Transportation:

- Land transfer by A/C coach in touring days.
- Train ticket from Hanoi to Lao Cai and vice-verse (A/C soft sleeper, 4 berths cabin).
- Air ticket and all taxes from Da Nang to HCMC.
- Airport/station transfer to hotel and vice-versa (except airport transfer in the first and last days)
- Boat trip in Halong Bay (private cabin with bathroom).
- Boat trip in Mekong River.

Others:

- Join group tour as in the itinerary.
- Meals as mentioned in the program.
- Bottled water in touring days.
- English speaking guide in touring days.
- Entrance fees in touring days.
- Free visa service.

Excludes:

- Visa stamping fee.
- Travel insurances.
- Drinks and personal expenses (laundry, phone calls etc.).
- Early check-in and/or late check-out (if any)
- Tips and gratuities.
- Services not clearly mentioned above.

DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES IN OUR TOUR

Accommodation: This tour includes wide range of accommodation: hotels, home stay, overnight trains, boat. This makes your trip more interesting with new experience. All our hotels are in city center, bathroom en-suite with hot shower, towel, air-condition, coffee/tea making facilities, table, chairs, TV, Internet access...

Transportation:

- Transfer provided in our tour help you penetrate deeply to local life with all key means of transportation in Vietnam: train, boat, flight, car/bus.

Within cities you can travel easily by various means of transportation: meter taxi, xe om (paid motorbike), cyclo, or city bus. Except for meter taxi, you should ask for price before using other means of transportation.

- On touring days you will join with group and transfer by 16-seat van (Ford Transit), 29-seat minibus County or 45-seat bus Hyundai.

- Train travel in Vietnam is basic. Sleeper carriage normally have 4 berths in a cabin, there is a toilet for a carriage. A sheet, pillow and blanket are provided. Sometimes, passengers of different genders have to share a cabin with people not in the same group.

- For overnight bus, travelers have soft berth to sleep, on the way, they have stop for going to toilet. In some bus they have a toilet inside.

- You may yourself carry your pack on and off trains and buses, up hotel steps, etc.

- It is important to recognize that the standard of transfer service in some areas, though improving, is not yet comparable to service standards in big cities.

Vehicles in our tour:

4-seat car

For group of 2 people



16-seat van (Ford Transit)

For group from 3-10 people



29-seat minibus (County)

For group from 10-25 people



Meals: Your breakfast is included in hotel room. Other meals are also included on some tours. To give you the maximum flexibility in choosing what, where and whom to eat with, not all meals are included in the itinerary. Your guide will suggest favorite restaurants during your touring days. Our hotels located in city center so you have much chance to enjoy Vietnamese cuisine in right its homeland.

Simple food is available on the train but tourists like to buy their food and water prior to departure.

Tours: Travelers will be pickup in touring days to join group tours. Since the tour guide has to pickup other travelers so there is no punctual time for picking up but travelers have to wait (about 15 to 30 minutes) at hotels' lobby/reception to be pickup.

Guide: Our guide will escort you on touring days only. You will meet different tour guides on different tours/areas.

Pick-up in touring days: From 07:30 to 08:00 at your hotel lobby/reception.

Since the tour guide has to pickup other travelers in different location so there is no punctual time for picking up but travelers have to wait (about 15 to 30 minutes).

LIST OF HOTEL ON TOURS

City	Hotel Name	Website	Rating
Hanoi	Golden Spring Hotel	http://goldenspringhotel.com/	2*
	Golden Cyclo Hotel	http://www.goldencyclohotel.com/	3*
	Boss Legend Hotel	http://www.bosslegendhotel.com/default-en.html	4*
Sapa	Fansipan View Hotel	http://www.fansipanview.com/	2*
	Sapa Panorama Hotel	http://www.sapapanoramahotel.com/	3*
	Sapa Legend Hotel	http://www.sapalegendhotel.com/	4*
Halong Bay	V' Spirit Cruise	http://www.vspiritcruises.com/en/	3*
	Garden Bay cruise	http://www.gardenbaycruise.com/	3*
	Grayline Cruise	http://www.graylinehalong.com/	4*
Hue	Duy Tan Hotel	http://www.duytanhotel.com.vn/	2*
	Hue Cherish Hotel	http://www.cherishhotel.com/	3*
	Eldora Hotel	http://www.eldorahotel.com/	4*
Hoi An	Vinh Hung 2 Hotel	http://www.vinhhungcityhotel.com/	2*
	Kim An hotel	http://www.kimanhoiannhotel.com/	3*
	Essence Hoi An Hotel	http://www.hoianessencehotel.com/	4*
HCMC	Elegant Inn Saigon	http://www.elegantinnsaigon.com/	2*
	Elios Hotel	http://www.elioshotel.vn/	3*
	Eden Saigon	http://www.edensaigonhotel.com/	4*
Can Tho	Huynh Lac Hotel	http://www.huynhlacanthohotel.com/	2*
	International Hotel	http://www.internationalhotel.vn/	3*
	West Hotel	http://canthowesthotel.com/	4*

DETAIL PROGRAM

Day 1: Hanoi Arrival

Arrival at Vietnam airport, our driver will meet outside with a meeting board showing your name to transfer you to hotel in Hanoi.

Overnight at Hotel in Hanoi.

Day 2: Hanoi exploring

Our guide will pick up you at your hotel for a city tour. Highlighted tourist attractions in Hanoi: Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, President Palace, Ho Chi Minh's house-on-stilt, One-pillar Pagoda, Van Mieu Temple (the first University in Vietnam), Ethnology Museum, Hoan Kiem Lake, Water puppet show, Cyclo trip. After dinner take a night train to Lao Cai.

Overnight on train to Lao Cai.

Day 3: Lao Cai arrival - Sapa - Y Linh Ho - Lao Chai - Ta Van

An early morning arrive Lao Cai station. Our guide will pick-up you with a meeting board showing your name. Transfer to Sapa town.

Join a group to start 12 km of trekking, visit Y Linh Ho and Lao Chai villages of the H'mong minority. After lunch at a local family in Lao Chai or in a drinking shop nearby the river bank, we keep on hiking to Ta Van village of the Dzay where we stay overnight in a local family. Here you have opportunity to experience their daily life and custom.

Day 4: Trekking Ta Van - Su Pan - Sapa

Today we have 14 km walking to visit 2 villages of the red Dzao, the H'mong (Giang Ta Chai & Su Pan). Visit a beautiful waterfall and rattan bridge. Enjoy landscapes... through bamboo forest on the way to the main road to get the car to return to Sapa. Overnight at a hotel in Sapa.

Day 5 (Sunday): Sapa - Bac Ha - Lao Cai - Hanoi

Upon leaving Sapa we set off on our scenic drive through the border town of Lao Cai to the colorful Sunday Market at Bac Ha.

Located at 110 km from Sapa, Bac Ha mountain town is well-known among travelers for the most colorful market of the hill tribes in the North of Vietnam. This every-Sunday-market attended by at least 8 ethnic groups and last from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM. It is also chance for tourists to discover the H'Mong King's palace (old building built by the French & Chinese).

In the afternoon, we go for a light trek to visit Ban Pho, the village is home to flower H'mong minority.

Afternoon transfer to Lao Cai city, after dinner take the train back to Hanoi.

Overnight on the train to Hanoi.

Day 6: Hanoi - Halong Bay

Our guide will pick-up and take you to hotel in Hanoi by taxi for refreshing before joining the trip to Halong Bay.

Upon arrival at Halong harbor, embark on our junk boat followed by a short safety briefing. Then savor a multiple course lunch while the boat smoothly gliding through numerous limestone islands that emerging unevenly from emerald green water. This afternoon, we will visit Amazing Cave (Hang Sung Sot), one of the most beautiful caves in the Bay which will surprise your eyes as indicated in its name. And before entering it, be patient to listen to your tour guide to introduce the interesting legend of Halong Bay, why it has the name "Ha Long – Descending Dragon". After the cave's explosion, return to the main boat, enjoy sunset party with fresh fruits, juices and sweets then attend a short cooking demonstration with our chef.

Dinner is served at around 19.00. After that, we will play some board game together, join squid fishing, socialize with others, making friends or just laze around. Stay overnight on boat (private, AC, twin cabin with bathroom).

Day 7: Halong Bay – Hanoi - Hue

Let's get up early to catch the sunrise, a wonderful moment for nice photo shooting. Warm up your body with our Tai Chi exercises on sundeck to be ready for more activities later. Have breakfast at the dining room while the boat starts cruising to the Natural Preservation Zone. Finally, it's time for you to enjoy wonderful kayaking on the Bay, you can choose to explore yourself the surrounding areas or visit floating house to learn about the daily life of the fisherman who live there. After that, return to the main boat to cruise back to the harbor. Have farewell lunch and last chance to enjoy the scenic beauty of Halong Bay.

Get on shuttle bus to return to Hanoi, arrive at your hotel at around 16.30-17.00. You will be dropped off in the Old Quarter and have some time for dinner then manage yourself to go to the train station for night train to Hue. Overnight on train in 4-soft berth cabin with air conditioner.

Day 8: Hue city tour half day

Arrive in Hue station at around 10am. Meet your tour guide and be transferred to hotel for some relaxing. In the afternoon, visit the Imperial Citadel Complex of Hue located on the north bank of Perfume River. It is a huge complex covering an area of 520ha and comprising three circles of ramparts: Hue Capital Citadel, Royal Citadel and Forbidden Citadel. This is a good chance to learn about Vietnamese feudalism as well as the history of the last feudal dynasty of Vietnam.

If time permit, we will spend sometimes at Dong Ba market before returning you back to your hotel. Free in the evening. Overnight at hotel in Hue.

Day 9: Hue Countryside and Royal Tomb

After breakfast at hotel, we head to Bao Vinh old wharf for a nice boat cruise on Perfume river. Then by bike to visit Sinh village which is famous for traditional painting, followed by Thanh Tien paper flower making village.

Return to the boat and continue cruising along the river. We will then stop at Thien Mu pagoda erected during the reign of the first Lord Nguyen Hoang, lays on the bank of the river.

Next stop is Thuy Bieu village, famous for its plantation of high quality grapefruits. The village contains many centenarian houses hidden among fruit trees. The characteristics of these houses – gardens contribute to the preservation of the customs and traditions of Vietnamese culture and architecture of Nguyen Dynasty. We will have chance to enjoy the tranquility of the village by cycling around to visit local temples, school, houses, market..., and observe the local daily life.

Lunch is served in a local family and you will also enjoy some foot massage with medicinal herbs.

Afternoon program is to visit the Royal Tomb of Tu Duc, then visit incense making and conical hat making workshops. Return by car to Hue city center, drop off at your hotel. Stay overnight in Hue.

Day 10: Hue - Hoi An

The coastal drive from Hue to Hoi An is viewed as the most beautiful drive in Central Vietnam. It takes you through the unique combination of rural, mountainous and coastal settings. On the way, you will enjoy spectacular view over Lang Co beach from Hai Van pass and stop to visit Cham museum and Marble Mountain. Arrival in Hoi An, free for leisure.

Overnight at hotel in Hoi An.

Day 11: Hoi An – My Son – Hoi An

Today we will join group tour to visit My Son Sanctuary, the “Valley of Kings” as described by French historians and was once the capital of Champa Kingdom from 4th to 15th century.

Following a traditional dance performance, your walking tour to the Cham ruins begins with a short ascent along a jungle bordered track. While you explore the area your guide will explain the history of the religious site which served as a burial place for the Cham monarchs centuries ago.

Drive back to Hoi An to start our boat trip on Thu Bon river. Departing from Nguyen Hoang dock, your boat journey of approximately two hours will take you past Duy Hai fishing village, Tra Nhieu - weaving village, Kim Bong carpentry village and Cam Thanh coconut jungle village. The boat trip will finish at Nguyen Hoang dock in the old town. You will be free to explore the old town or return to your hotel by your own means.

Overnight at hotel in Hoi An.

Day 12: Hoi An - HCM City

Enjoy your free morning in the charming Hoi An town until pick-up time to go to the airport for flight to HCMC.

Upon arrival, get your private transfer to go to your hotel in city center. Free for your own activities. Overnight at hotel in HCM City.

Day 13: Ho Chi Minh City - Cu Chi

Join a group to have a city tour and visit Cu Chi tunnels.

In the morning, we will visit the most famous tourist attractions in city center including Notre Dame Cathedral, Center Post Office Building, Reunification Palace and War Remnants Museum. Ben Thanh market is optional in this morning if time permit.

In the afternoon, we leave the city center for Cu Chi commune. Located 60km from HCMC, Cu Chi is now a popular spot for both Vietnamese & foreign tourists - the network of over 200km of tunnels became legendary when they played a vital role in the War. In their heyday, the tunnels were functioning underground cities including numerous trap doors, specially constructed living areas, storage facilities, weapons factories, field hospitals, command centers & kitchens.

Today, ducks and water buffalos happily co-exist in the rivers along the side of the road. However, the peaceful rural rice paddy scenery belies the area's violent history. Visitors will find it hard to imagine the destruction, damage & defoliation over this whole area, caused by bombing and mines. There is plenty of evidence of the fierce battle that took place here during the 1960s when Cu Chi was a "Free Target Zone".

Before entering the tunnels visitors can watch a short introductory video showing how the tunnels were constructed. You will spend the next hour exploring the tunnels. Afterwards, enjoy tea, cassava (guerrilla's food during the war). Return to HCMC center.

Day 14: Ho Chi Minh City - Mekong tour

Leave Ho Chi Minh city, enjoy the scenic journey along the way bordered by green rice fields. On arrived at My Tho, visit Vinh Trang pagoda, take a leisurely boat ride along the river, view stilt houses, fruit plantations and fishing villages along the river bank. Proceed to Tortoise islet, have lunch in the orchard garden. Then a boat ride to An Khanh – a less touristy attraction in Ben Tre, enjoy cruising on a hand-rowed sampan under the shade of the water coconut trees along natural canals, then enjoy seasonal fruit& honey tea to the sound of "Southern Vietnamese folk music", performed by the locals. Visit a family business which epitomizes the idyllic rural lifestyle, taste delicious coconut candy& observe the pastoral life as you roam through fruit plantations and villages. Proceed to Can Tho. Free time to visit bustling Can Tho market.

Overnight at homestay

Day 15: Mekong - Ho Chi Minh City

Take a leisurely boat trip to explore the picturesque tributaries of the Lower Mekong river (Bassac River), then proceed to visit Cai Răng floating market (& Phong Dien is optional), which are the liveliest in the whole region.

Have you ever tasted Vietnamese vermicelli soup? Well, now go and see how it is made. Then wander around the village and meet the friendly local people and experience how to cross a "Monkey bridge" which is built by only one stem of bamboo. Visit the orchard garden. Stop for lunch. Back to HCM city.

Day 16: Ho Chi Minh City - Departure

Free time to relax or further explore Ho Chi Minh City until pick-up time to go to Tan Son Nhat Airport for departure.

Packing list: Passport, towels, toiletries, flash light, change of clothes, sun block, sun glasses, sun hat, insect repellent, proper hiking shoes and rain coat.

ROUTE MAP OF VIETNAM 16-DAY TOUR

