

# A land of staggering natural beauty and cultural complexities, of dynamic mega-cities and hill-tribe villages, *Vietnam* is exotic, compelling and a must-see!

Vietnam should be on the top of everyone's travel list. It's that simple. With its dramatic landscapes, fascinating history, epic food and pulsating energy, Vietnam will electrify all of your senses and seize you from all angles as it's crazy and serene, thrilling and relaxing - all in one.

| DAY    | Day    | ITINERARY                              | Night in |
|--------|--------|--|----------|
| Day 1  | 6 May  | Departure                              | Plane    |
| Day 2  | 7 May  | Arrival in Hanoi                       | Hanoi    |
| Day 3  | 8 May  | Hanoi                                  | Hanoi    |
| Day 4  | 9 May  | Hanoi – Ninh Binh - Hanoi              | Hanoi    |
| Day 5  | 10 May | Hanoi – Danang – Hoi An (Plane)        | Hoi An   |
| Day 6  | 11 May | Hoi An                                 | Hoi An   |
| Day 7  | 12 May | Hoi An                                 | Hoi An   |
| Day 8  | 13 May | Hoi An                                 | Hoi An   |
| Day 9  | 14 May | Hoi An - Saigon – Mekong Delta (Plane) | Mekong   |
| Day 10 | 15 May | Mekong Delta                           | Mekong   |
| Day 11 | 16 May | Mekong Delta - Saigon                  | Saigon   |
| Day 12 | 17 May | Saigon                                 | Saigon   |
| Day 13 | 18 May | Saigon Departure                       | Plane    |
| Day 14 | 19 May | Arrival in Europe                      |          |

### Your itinerary : VIETNAM

#### Your detailed itinerary:

#### Day 1: Departure

Direct flight VN 54 from LHR to HAN. Dep LHR at 11:00 AM – Arr HAN at 05:05 D+1

#### Day 2: Arrival in Hanoi

(Note: mentions of B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner indicates which meals are included)

Welcome to Hanoi!

We have conceived with care this itinerary to comfortably welcome wheelchair users, answering the needs of less mobile travelers to enable an exciting and serene visit of Vietnam.

We wish you a great trip to Vietnam, rich in encounters and discoveries!



Welcome and greetings at the airport by your guide and your driver. Transfer to the hotel. **Early Check in included.** 

Morning at leisure to recover.

Afternoon: Guided introduction of the capital city by cyclo with a visit of the historical quarter of Hanoi, located around the Hoan Kiem Lake, also called the "Lake of the Returned Sword". Enjoy wandering in this calm yet lively area and visit the little Ngoc Son Temple located at the center of the lake, linked by a bright red traditional bridge.

The excursion continues northbound at the famous quarter of the "36 old streets and guilds": the historical heart of the city. Each street, called "Hang" is specialized in an activity: Hang of silversmiths, Hang of coconut carpets, Hang of sweets, Hang of metal workers...old houses and temples are also located in those little streets.

Vietnamese set dinner at the hotel.

Overnight in Hanoi.

<u>Transportation</u>: 45mn to 1 hour drive from the airport to the city center + a short ride from the hotel to the lake area. <u>Toilets</u>: Accessible toilets at the airport.

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#### Day 3: Hanoi.

(Note: mentions of B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner indicates which meals are included)

Breakfast at the hotel.

#### Morning Visits:

Proceed to the Ethnology Museum to learn about habits and ancestral traditions of the 54 ethnics composing the country: the courtyard of the museum displays impressive communal houses of the Banhar ethnic minority presenting a singular design.

Lunch in a Vietnamese villa.

#### Afternoon visits:

Afternoon dedicated to the most renowned man of the nation: Ho Chi Minh. An impressive mausoleum hosts his body and, located nearby, many personal belongings are displayed in his former house. You will also visit the peculiar "One Pilar Pagoda".

Dinner at the hotel. Overnight in Hanoi.

<u>Transportation:</u> Short rides within the city center. <u>Toilets:</u> Adapted toilets at the museum.

#### Day 4: Hanoi – Dry Halong Bay - Hanoi

Breakfast at the hotel.

#### Full day visits:

Only 2 hours drive away from Hanoi, the "dry Halong Bay" less touristy than the maritime one, offers an amaizing landscape of karst mountains: one of the most spectacular scenary in Vietnam.

At the 10th century, this region was the capital of 3 feodal dynaties: visit of temples and historical buildings.

Lunch in Ninh Binh made of the region's specialties.

Visit a lost temple in the countryside and continue with a stunning promenade among the lush rice paddies and majestic karst mountains.

Back to Hanoi with arrival in late afternoon. Dinner at the hotel. Overnight in Hanoi.

<u>Transportation:</u> 4 hours return trip. <u>Toilets:</u> Accessible toilets during the visit in Ninh Binh.





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#### Day 5: Hanoi – Duong Lam – Airport – Danang – Hoi An

Breakfast at the hotel.

#### Morning visits:

Even if Hanoi is a large capital city, one can escape it easily and quickly. Only 45km away from Hanoi, there is the little village of Duong Lam. Founded 1200 years ago, the village has preserved traditional houses built with prestigious local materials of fine woods and rocks. From the old Banyan tree, wander in the narrow streets

passing by the communal house and the small market. An out of time visit, far from modern Vietnam.

Drive to Hanoi airport. Check in for your flights. Light lunch at the airport.

Flight for Danang (1 hour flight). – *Flight suggested is VN 177 with departure at 15h00* - On Arrival in Danang, warm welcome by your guide and your driver. Transfer to your hotel located in Hoi An.

Dinner at the hotel. Overnight in Hoi An.

<u>Transportation</u>: 1.5 hour drive to Duong Lam village. 1 hour drive from Duong Lam to Hanoi airport. 40mn from Danang airport to the hotel in Hoi An. Toilets: Accessible toilets at both airports.

#### Day 6: Hoi An.

Breakfast at the hotel.

Hoi An is the dreamed place to wander and shop. Listed as a UNESCO heritage site, the old town of Hoi An is entirely pedestrian.

Visit the beautiful little streets of Hoi An, with houses painted in warm colors, hanging lanterns on their

doorsteps. Cross the popular Japanese bridge from the 16th century, built to link the Chinese and Japanese communities.

Lunch in a restaurant of the old town.

Hoi An is world famous for its lantern making: this afternoon have fun making your own lantern class! The workshop is located in a former temple court. The association making the lanterns helps the disabled Hoi An residents to find jobs in lantern making.

Dinner in the old town. Overnight in Hoi An.

Transportation: By walk only.

*Toilets:* Accessible toilets at the lunch restaurant and at 2 different spots in the old town.





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#### Day 7: Hoi An

Breakfast at the hotel.

The countryside of Hoi An remains quite authentic. It is only at a 10mn ride from your hotel that you reach the rural village of Tra Que located along a little canal.

Your guide will introduce you to the history of the village but also to the agricultural activity of this zone where all the work is still done manually thanks to ancestral techniques.

Take a stroll on the paths along the plantation fields and then continue to a local house where you will watch a cooking demonstration. Enjoy tasting the local food specialties such as the "Tam Huu" rolls or the "ban Xeo" pancakes.

Rest of the afternoon at leisure. Dinner at leisure Overnight in Hoi An.

#### Transportation: 2 Short rides.

#### Day 8: Hoi An

Breakfast at the hotel. Day at leisure to enjoy shopping, the spa, or go to the beach. Overnight in Hoi An.

#### Day 9: Hoi An – Saigon – Mekong Delta

Breakfast at the hotel.

Today, drive to Danang airport and take a flight southbound to take you to Saigon, the economic capital of the country.

Flight for Saigon (1 hour flight). – *Flight suggested is VN* 125 with departure at 14h00 –

#### Light lunch at Danang airport.

At the airport in Saigon, be welcome by your guide and driver. Drive directly to the region of the Mekong Delta.

Endless rice paddies, plenty of small canals with traditional little ferry boats, lush orchards: a complete day among this colorful landscape and with engaging locals. Installation of your hotel located along the mighty river. Dinner at the hotel.

#### Overnight in Cai Be.

<u>Transportation:</u> 45mn Hoi an to Danang airport and 2.5 hours from Saigon airport to Cai Be.<u>Toilets:</u> At both airports and at a rest stop on the way from Saigon to Cai Be.





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#### Day 10: Mekong Delta

Breakfast at the hotel

Today, you will visit the very dynamic little market of Cai Be. This market is located all along the Mekong River and it offers a great variety of product locally produced: plenty of fruits, vegetables but also all the fish and shells produced in the Mekong River. The market is also the place where you will find the cooking utensils, gardening tools, the coal, the incense etc because supermarket are not popular in the countryside and markets remains the main grocery place.

After the visit of the market, continue to a local manufactory of coconut candies, of pop-rice and liquor.

Back to the hotel to refresh and relax. Lunch at the hotel. This afternoon, take the little ferry boat for a short ride to an island. Have a little tour in the quiet and lush countryside to witness the living style in Mekong's countryside.

Dinner at the hotel. Overnight in Cai Be.

<u>Transportation:</u> 2 Short rides. <u>Toilets:</u> N/A

#### Day 11: Mekong Delta - Saigon

Breakfast at the hotel

This morning, take your time to enjoy the scenery of the Mekong River before heading back to the city.

Drive back to Saigon.

Lunch in a Chinese restaurant of the Chinese quarter of Saigon.

This afternoon, visit of the Chinese quarter: "Cho Lon" which means « the big market place ».

Visit a superb pagoda where incense burns perpetually. Locals come to give offerings to gods for protection.

Continue for check in at your hotel. Overnight in Saigon.

<u>Transportation:</u> 2 hours from Cai Be to lunch place in Saigon – 20 mn from Cho Lon to hotel. Toilets: At lunch restaurant.





B,L,D

Breakfast at the hotel.

Named Ho Chi Minh City or Saigon, the economic capital of Vietnam is here, and one can feel it: trendy youth, overloaded traffic of scooters, luxury shops!

Today will be dedicated to the visit of the city's architectural highlights: Notre Dame Cathedral built with French pink bricks, the Central Post



Office designed by the famous French architect Gustave Eiffel, the Reunification Palace also called Independence Palace ... not forgetting an enjoyable break at the park, under the shadow of the trees, to taste a local favorites: "cà phê sữa đá", a sweet iced coffee!

Lunch in a nice colonial style villa.

Afternoon at the War Remnants Museum and at the central market. Dinner near your hotel. Overnight in Saigon.

<u>Transportation:</u> Short rides. <u>Toilets:</u> At lunch time.

#### Day 13: Saigon – Departure

Breakfast at the hotel.

Good morning Saigon! Vietnamese wake up early to enjoy the morning fresh air for exercising and hang out with their domestic birds.

Departure toward Tao Dan Park, located in the heart of the city. You will enjoy wandering in there to watch the locals performing Tai Chi: a gracious martial art originally from China.



This park is however less known for its birds owners: a group of men meet there every morning to show their favorite bird and teach them how to sing. Enjoy this unusual scene with a local tea or coffee.

Take a ride to the flower market of "Ho Thi Ky" to delight yourself with this beautiful sight and smell of photogenic tropical flowers.

Afternoon at leisure. Lunch and dinner are kept at leisure for more flexibility. Room available until 6pm and departure to the airport for your international flight.

*Direct flight VN 51 departs early hours of the 19<sup>th</sup> May at 00h15* (be careful, we go to the airport on Friday evening but the plane takes off just after midnight so 1 day later)

Transportation: 30mn from hotel to Saigon airport.

<u>B,L,D</u>

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Arrival on 19<sup>th</sup> of May at 07:15 AM

---- End of our services ----

| City   | # of<br>Nights | Hotel              | Star | Room<br>Type      | Notes                              |
|--------|----------------|--------------------|------|-------------------|------------------------------------|
| Hanoi  | 3 + ECI        | Skylark Hotel      | 3*   | Deluxe            | Accessible rooms / City center     |
| Hoi An | 4              | Atlas hotel        | 4*   | Deluxe            | Accessible rooms / In the old town |
| Mekong | 2              | Mekong Riverside   | 4*   | Bungalow          | Accessible rooms / Mekong River    |
| Saigon | 2 + LCO        | Liberty Green View | 3*   | Premier<br>Deluxe | Accessible rooms / City center     |

#### Your selection of accommodations

## **Details**

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# Date: 6th - 19th May Estimated Cost: £2435 per person (based on double occupancy of a twin shared room)

# Please Note: All wheelchair users must travel with a manual folding wheelchair.

#### Terms of travel:

All wheelchair users must travel with a manual foldable wheelchair. The program is also suitable for slow walkers.

**Assistance:** Roll in Asia does not provide personal care services. Our guides and the tour leader (me) will be always around to help travelers during excursions to pass small obstacles when needed.

**Transportation:** Wheelchair users will seat in the car seat of a convenient but regular vehicle. The wheelchair will be folded in the trunk of the car.

**Accommodations:** In accessible but not adapted bedrooms. Bedrooms can be with king or twin bed. Possibility to install a mobile shower chair in all hotels upon request prior to departure