

# Vietnam Adventure Tour – 16 days

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## Itinerary Overview

Day	Destination	Meals
Day 1	HO CHI MINH - ARRIVAL	/
Day 2	HO CHI MINH CITY TOUR – CU CHI TUNNELS	B/L
Day 3	HO CHI MINH – CAT TIEN NATIONAL PARK	B/L/D
Day 4	CAT TIEN NATIONAL PARK – DA LAT	B/L/D
Day 5	DA LAT	B
Day 6	DA LAT – LAK LAKE	B/L
Day 7	LAK LAKE – BUON MA THUAT	B/L/D
Day 8	BUON ME THUAT – PLEIKU	B/L/D
Day 9	PLEIKU – HOI AN	B/L/D
Day 10	HOI AN – COUNTRYSIDE & CYCLING TOUR	B/L
Day 11	HOI AN – HUE – SCENIC TRAIN JOURNEY	B
Day 12	HUE CITY TOUR	B/L
Day 13	HUE – FLIGHT TO HANOI – HALF DAY CITY TOUR	B
Day 14	HANOI – HALONG BAY – NIGHT ON BOARD	B/L/D
Day 15	HALONG BAY – HANOI	B/L
Day 16	HANOI - DEPARTURE	B

**Note\*:** B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner

**Note\*:** this is a copy of itinerary on Indochina Treks Travel' Official Website and not the final itinerary.

## Detailed Itinerary

### Day 1 HO CHI MINH - ARRIVAL

Arrive in Ho Chi Minh. Greeted by your driver at the airport. Transfer to your hotel in the city centre for check-in and at leisure in the rest of the day.

**Note\*:**

- The hotel room will be available at 2:00pm, and in case that you would like to secure an early-check in, an additional charge will be applied.
- Please be advised that both international and domestic might be crowded at sometimes during the day, so in case that you arrive and cannot find our representatives, please contact us, so we could easily search for you

**Meal:** n/a

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Ho Chi Minh

### Day 2 HO CHI MINH CITY TOUR – CU CHI TUNNELS

Pickup at the hotel in the morning. Today, you will enjoy city tour and discover Cu Chi tunnel. Our tour will help you to see the best of Saigon. We visit the historic Reunification palace and War Remnants Museum, followed by the architectural treats of French colonial Notre Dame Cathedral and the post Office.

After explore Ho Chi Minh city, we will drive to Cu Chi tunnel. Before exploring the tunnels, you will have some short introduction followed by introductory video about how the tunnels were constructed and how the people survived in the harsh conditions of the war time. Then, spend your time to explore the remaining area and tunnel systems which included the special constructed living areas with kitchens, bedrooms side by side with other martial facilities like storage, weapons factories, field hospitals, and command centers helping whoever lives inside the tunnels meet their basic needs. Besides, there are also many hidden trap doors and dangerous traps within the maze-like tunnels for security purpose during the war. Afterward, special tea and cassava (guerilla's food during the war) will be served.

Break time for relax or time for those who want to try the real shooting gun (optional). Then get back to to city. Enjoy the city by night.

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Ho Chi Minh

### Day 3 HO CHI MINH – CAT TIEN NATIONAL PARK

After breakfast at the hotel, the tour guide picks up you at the hotel in Saigon for the tour to Cat Tien National Park. The traveling distance is about 150 kilometers, and you will need 3 ½ hours to drive. You have lunch at Cat Tien National Park Restaurant.

In the afternoon, we join the 8 km jungle trek or bird watching option. The tour guide in the national park is the best bird-watching guide in Southern Vietnam who will join you on the jeep tour to see nocturnal animals of the park including deer, civet, snakes, and feral cats.

Stay overnight in Cat Tien National Park.

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Cat Tien

### Day 4 CAT TIEN NATIONAL PARK – DA LAT

In the morning, you will jungle trek out to Bau Sau – crocodile lake and back. The trekking distance is 10 kilometers.

Have lunch in the park, then depart for Da Lat. On the way to Da Lat, we can enjoy breathtaking scenery with coffee and tea plantations, jungle blanketed valleys, and pine-forested hills. The traveling distance is about 200 km, and you will need a 4-hour drive to get there.

Check into the hotel in Dalat. Have dinner at a pretty cafe.

Back to the hotel for a good night's rest before the next day's adventure.

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Da Lat

### Day 5 DA LAT

You can choose any of our 1-day trips to explore Dalat. Spend the day Mountain Biking, White Water Rafting, Trekking, Canyoning, or Kayaking, or have a more leisurely tour of the best temples and city sites in the area.

The tour ends at the hotel between 2:30 and 5:00 depending on the trip you choose and level of fitness.

Biking Grade: 8 (Physically Challenging). You will need to be fit enough or at least willing to push yourself.

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Da Lat

## Day 6 DA LAT – LAK LAKE

7:00 am: Pick up at your hotel for 20 minutes ride outside of Da Lat.

From there, you will join the fantastic riding section which is about 17 kilometers downhill to Ta Nung. The road can be either flat or rolling hills. Then, you will be transferred by vehicle (or ride part ways) to the top of Phu Son Pass for an early lunch at 11:30 am.

After lunch, drive down Phu Son Pass to Lak Lake where we stay overnight in Lak Resort. Dinner in Lak Lake.

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch

**Accommodation:** Lak resort

## Day 7 LAK LAKE – BUON MA THUAT

After breakfast, we visit one of the old summer retreats of Emperor Bao Dai. Then, get on a boat to visit a remote village on the far side of Lak Lake. If possible, we will have some light trekking from this village.

Back to Lak Lake, you will have lunch and a rest.

After lunch, we drive 50 km to Buon Me Thuot. Most of the road is flat, and you will arrive in Buon Me Thuat around 4:30.

Have a free evening to explore Buon Ma Thuot.

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Buon Ma Thuat

## Day 8 BUON MA THUAT - PLEIKU

Get picked up from your hotel, then transfer about 6.5 km out of the city. From there, you start to bike

about 10 km on the beautiful country road, and it becomes narrow when you travel further. Then, you continue to wander through small farms and villages for about 15 km. You will also enter into a very stunning rubber tree plantation that continues for 25 km (rolling with some small hills).

We will stop on the way to have a picnic lunch.

After lunch and a short break, we continue to bike 30 km before we transfer to the hotel in Pleiku.

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Pleiku

## Day 9 PLEIKU – HOI AN

Around 8:00 – 8:30, depart by car from your hotel to visit a “Sea Lake”, then a local minority village called Ba Na. We will cross a scenic suspension bridge and a traditional wooden church. Then, continue to visit Russian Tanks and Charlie Hill.

Have lunch in Kontum.

In the afternoon, we drive about 200 km to Hoi An. Arrival in the evening, you will relax in hotel in Hoian

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Hoian

## Day 10 HOI AN – COUNTRYSIDE & CYCLING TOUR

Pickup at the hotel. Transfer to pointed place for cycling tour.

Today, you will spend a day leisurely cycling through the scenic countryside of Vietnam, far from the traffic the motor scooters, and the noises the city. You will cross the islands on the Song Thu river delta using local transportation, including ferries and floating bridge.

This tour will take you to discover how wooden river boats are made, learn the secret of weaving the colorful straw “Hoi An” sleeping mats Try the renowned Vietnamese basket boats and much more. You will spend the day with first-hand contact with one of the rural inhabitant of the region, far from the usual tourist circuits.

At lunchtime you will be invited into the home of a local Vietnamese family for a traditional Vietnamese meal, and learn their customs and traditions. After you have relaxed for a while under the shade of a mango tree, you will begin your return towards Hoi An by boat, which will take about 35 minutes.

Arrive Hoian ancient town at about 3pm. Free to explore Hoian or manage yourself to get back to the hotel.

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Hoian

## Day 11 HOI AN – HUE – SCENIC TRAIN JOURNEY

Free in the morning.

In the afternoon, transfer to the station for day train to Hue.

Enjoy scenic view of Hai Van Pass on the way. Arrive Hue in late afternoon. Transfer to the hotel and enjoy free time.

**Meal:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Hue

## Day 12 HUE CITY TOUR

08:00: Pickup at the hotel. Today, we will spend a full day touring Hue city. In the morning: visit Old Imperial City, Flag Tower, Thien Mu Pagoda and Dong Ba bustling market. Lunch at the local restaurant.

In the afternoon: visit Royal Tombs of Minh Mang and Khai Dinh. We will also visit a Conical hat village and incense stick village. Enjoy free time to explore Hue city.

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Hue

## Day 13 HUE FLIGHT TO HANOI – HALF DAY CITY TOUR

Pickup at the hotel in the morning. Transfer to Airport for the flight to Hanoi. Upon arrival, pickup and enjoy half day Hanoi city tour. Our city tour will help you to see the best of Hanoi.

We start with visit to President Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum (Outside). We also visit the famous One Pillar Pagoda nearby. Leaving the President's complex, we continue to visit the Temple of Literature (Van Mieu). Although several Van Mieu can be found throughout Vietnam, the most prominent and famous is that situated in the city of Hanoi, and was functioned as Vietnam's first university.

Back to the Old Quarter in the late afternoon. Free time to explore Hanoi.

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Hanoi

## Day 14 HANOI – HALONG BAY – NIGHT ON BOARD

08h00: Pick up from your hotel in Hanoi. Drive to Halong City through the paddy fields in the Red River Delta.

10h00: Stopover on the way for a refreshment break

12h00: Arrive at Tuan Chau wharf – Break and photography time

12h30: Board the Cruise for departure. Welcome drink will be served

13h00: Lunch is served while cruising through the bay

15h30: Visit exciting Cua Van fishing village. The village is free of busy roads and streets, electric lights, houses and high rise buildings. Instead, there are only herds of little boats and rafts. You will have the chance to discover the traditional culture and customs of the fishermen.

16h30: Enjoy kayaking or swimming (if the weather permits).

17h00: Back on board and continue cruising.

19h00: Dinner is served.

21h00: Take some leisure time to enjoy chatting at the bar or enjoy some night fishing.

**Note\*:** the itinerary and activities on board would vary depending on the boat you choose. Please see the choice of boat in Hotel Inclusions.

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

**Accommodation:** Overnight on board

## Day 15 HALONG BAY - HANOI

07.00: Coffee and tea will be served

08.00: Continue cruising

08h15: Visit splendid Sung Sot Cave

09h00: Check out and enjoy a fantastic cruise on the bay, passing Dinh Huong Island, fishing villages, Ga Choi Island, Dog Island and Sail Island.

09.30: Buffet brunch (breakfast/lunch) while cruising back through Halong Bay to the pier

11h30: Arrive at the pier. Time to say goodbye to the crew.

12.00: Return from Halong to Hanoi. Arrive Hanoi at about 15pm.

**Note\*:** the itinerary and activities on board would vary depending on the boat you choose. Please see the choice of boat in Hotel Inclusions.

**Meal:** Breakfast/Lunch

**Accommodation:** Hotel in Hanoi

## Day 16 HANOI - DEPARTURE

Enjoy your free time to explore Hanoi till pickup for airport transfer. Trip ends!

**Note\*:** late checkout is not included.

**Meal:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** n/a

### Important Note\*

- PROGRAMS & SCHEDULES SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE
- The itinerary can be customized basing on your interests (you can extend your stay at each location, add/remove activities)

## Inclusions & Exclusions

### Inclusions:

- Overnights in selected hotels or similar
- All in-tour stationed local English speaking guide.
- Entrance fees for sightseeing mentioned in the itinerary
- Excursions as mentioned in the itinerary
- Transfers as mentioned by private air-conditioned vehicles (including pick up & see off)
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Halong bay 2 day Cruise package
- Internal flights (Hue – Hanoi)
- One day train for Danang – Hue

### Exclusions:

- Meals and services other than those noted in the itinerary
- Visa stamping fee
- International flights pre/post tour
- Laundry, telephone calls, and personal expenditures

**Note\*:** this is a copy of itinerary on Indochina Treks Travel' Official Website and not the final itinerary.

- Gratuities for guides, drivers, porters, boat crew, and personal, non-itinerary services

## Cancellation Policy

- Cancellation received 60 days or more before arrival date: 10% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 30 days to 59 days prior arrival date: 20% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 15 days to 29 days prior arrival date: 30% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 7 days to 14 days prior arrival date: 50% of total rate
- Cancellation received less than 7 days prior arrival date or No show: 100% of total rate

## Children Policy

- For infant (<02 years old): FOC
- 02 – 10 years old without bed: 50% adult rate
- 02 – 10 years old with extra bed: 75% adult rate
- 02 – 10 years old in twin share: 90% adult rate
- from 11 years old: 100% adult rate

## Important Information

### Emergency Contact

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call the travel consultant whom you deal with and then our hot line contacts. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please send us a detailed message and contact information by email to the agent and to [info@indochinatreks.com](mailto:info@indochinatreks.com), we may check and return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

Our all travel consultants use WhatApps. Please ensure that you have the contact number. It's best to buy a local sim-card upon arrival. Most hotels offer free wifi. So it's very easy to contact in urgent case.

Emergency contact numbers

Mr. Kelvin Do: +84 986759655

Ms. Thuy Pham: +84 984654964

### Internal Flights

For all internal flights, we would use Vietnamairlines, Vietjesair, Jestar, Cambodia Angkorair or Laos Airlines. Most domestic flights in Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar, airlines would use small 70 seat ATR72

for short distances. Most airlines in Vietnam use the Airbus A321. 20kg for checkin luggage and 7kg for hand-bag is included in the price.

International flights before/after the tour must be booked by yourself before travelling date.

## **Accommodation**

We would use different hotel categories and you can select any basing on your budget. So your travel companions would not stay at your hotel. A Hotel Voucher will be provided once your tour is confirmed with all hotel details.

## **Packing List**

- Conservative Dress
- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

**Note\*:** Please pack clothing for the season in which you will be travelling. From Dec-Feb weather can be cold, so please pack warm clothing. From May-Nov it is the wet season, so please bring waterproof clothing.

## **Documents**

- All tickets (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Required visas
- Hotel & Tour Vouchers
- Meeting sign (with your names and flight details that we will use for transfers)

## **Train Travel**

Train travel in Vietnam is very basic and train cleanliness is often not a priority for train staff. Sleeper trains normally have 4 seats per compartment, which convert into sleeping bunks (two upper and two lower). A sheet, pillow and blanket are provided, although many people prefer to bring their own sleeping sheet. At times, passengers of different genders may be required to share a sleeper train berth and/or share a compartment with people not travelling in your group. For short distance - 3 hours (as Hue to Danang or vv), you will do the trip on soft/hard seat carriage.

Simple food is available on the train but many people like to stock up on freshly baked bread, cheese and fruit prior to departure. Water should also be bought before the journey.

Train journeys in Vietnam are an experience and allow you to get a real taste of Vietnam.

## **Airport transfers**

All airport transfers are included in the tour price. You should provide us your arrival/departure flight details and we will arrange things basing on the information. A meeting sign with your name and all flight details will be sent to you. Please be ready at the lobby at pointed time for pickup.

Driver/guide should always be present at the airport before your arrival time. If you could not find the driver, please contact your travel consultant who you deal with. For any reason that airport transfer could not be arranged, please take the taxi to the hotel. We will refund the money then.

### **Travel insurance**

Travel insurance is not included in our tour price. When travelling with us, you are suggested to buy insurance that covers all medical coverage, cancellation, personal liability, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects.

### **Trip Specific Safety**

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

Be aware that petty theft can be an issue in some towns and cities especially late at night. A common tactic is opportunists on motorbikes that drive by and snatch bags. Please always leave valuables and passports etc in your hotel in safety boxes if available and only carry with you enough cash to spend for the day. Bags should always be carried over the neck and not left to sit on your shoulder.

### **Warming**

Please do not buy gems unless you know what you are doing. Even if genuine you should not expect to be able to sell them at home. If you fall victim to a gem scam, we are unable to assist you.

### **Visas and Entry Requirements**

Please note that visas for Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are the responsibility of the individual traveller. The visa requirements for your trip vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. For the most up to date information please check your Governments Foreign Ministry website or with you travel agent as rules do change.

**CAMBODIA** - Visas can be obtained at the Cambodian border or Siem Reap Airport for approx. \$35 USD very easily. Please have *\*at least\** 2 passport photos with you as well.

**VIETNAM** - As of March 2017, a select 80 nationalities are now eligible to enter Vietnam with an E-Visa. Please contact your Foreign Ministry or Vietnamese consulate to see if your nationality is eligible. Please note that you should **ONLY** apply for a Vietnam E-Visa if you are entering Vietnam by international airport - either Noi Bai International Airport (Hanoi) or Tan Son Nhat International Airport (Ho Chi Minh City).

If you are entering Vietnam by land border, please apply for a regular visa for Vietnam. Many of the land borders we travel through do not accept the Vietnam E-Visa. Please view this link to apply E-Visa: <https://evisa.xuatnhapcanh.gov.vn/web/guest/trang-chu-ttdt>

LAOS - Visas are issued upon arrival in Laos. You will need two passport size photographs and approx \$35. Tourists are generally admitted to Laos for 15 days with a visa on arrival or for 30 days with a visa issued at a Lao embassy. Please bring visa photos with you.

Please be aware that you will require four clean pages (minimum) in your passport and at least six months validity.

### **Tipping**

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$3-\$5 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service.

### **Electricity**

Indochina Countries use 220V, and a mixture of flat 2-pin, round 2-pin or 3 pin plugs. It is recommended to bring a universal plug adapter.