

## Essential Vietnam 10days

### Day 01 Hanoi arrival

Met upon arrival in Hanoi for transfer to your hotel for check in (after 1300). Free at leisure. Stay overnight in Hanoi.

### Day 02 Ha Noi city tour (B/L)

**8:00** Start full day Hanoi city tour: Visit to HCM complex including Ho Chi Minh mausoleum (outside only), Presidential palace – a beautiful original colonial building, HCM's house on stilts, One pillar pagoda; the Temple of Literature which has been known as the first university of the country; Ethnology Museum – an informative museum about Vietnam cultural diversity; "Hanoi Hilton" prison – where the US airmen were kept during 1964-1973; a Complex of The Hoan Kiem Lake. One hour cyclo ride around the Hanoi Old Quarter to observe daily life of and enjoy shopping. Stay overnight in Hanoi.

### Day 03 Ha Noi – Ha Long (B/L/D)

8:30 we travel over land to Ha Long bay via exotic countryside of the northern Vietnam. You can make photos stops along the way.

Ha Long bay is definitely an outstanding natural beauty which has been well known not only in Vietnam but worldwide also. The rock formations are wonderful with variously shaped islets which many of them contain fabulous caves full of colorful stalagmites and stalactites. The caves, floating villages, beaches are really indispensable to a complete trip. Your trip will commence with an extravagant welcome seafood lunch while the boat is navigating around the magnificent islets reflecting in emerald water to reach a floating village where the locals live on fishing offshore or raising fishes in cages. Especially, the cruise boat would take you to the best cave in Ha Long bay, Sung Sot or Surprising cave before a short walk on a beach from which you can do a moderate exercise by taking four hundred steps to reach island's top for panoramic view of the bay. Dinner and Overnight on board.

### Day 04 Ha Long – Ha Noi (B)

Keep cruising around the bay for further discovering of the fantastic natural beauty. Brunch is served around 9 O'clock. 11:00 disembark the cruise ship with check out procedures including settling your bills. Upon boat disembarkation, drive back to Hanoi for short flight to Hue. Stay overnight in Hue.

### Day 05 Hue city tour – Da Nang – Hoi An by car (B/L/D)

Breakfast at the hotel. We visit the Citadel and the Purple Forbidden City. This royal residence was all but destroyed during the 1968 Tet Offensive; however it is still fascinating to walk among the ruins. Visit tomb of King Khai Dinh or King Minh Mang Or King Tu Duc.

In the afternoon, travel overland to Hoi An via Da Nang city. We have a visit to at marble mounts in Da Nang. Upon arrival in Hoian, if time permits we will do an orientation tour around the ancient town prior to or after hotel check in. Stay overnight in Hoi An.

### Day 06 Hoi An (B)

**Half day city tour (09:00-12:00):** The ancient architecture of Hoian is a fascinating combination of Vietnamese with Chinese and Japanese influences. There is plenty to see in this delightful town, including the famous Japanese Covered Bridges, Pottery Museum, Chua Ong Pagoda and the vibrant market. This morning, we include these sights on a walking tour past many low tiled houses scattered along the small streets and assembly halls, which reflect the town's multi-cultural past.

Stay free in the afternoon.

Stay overnight in Hoian.

### **Day 07 Half day cooking tour (B/L)**

#### **Half day cooking tour 8:30-13:00**

Stay free in the afternoon.

Stay overnight in Hoian.

### **Day 08 Hoian – Danang – Hochiminh city (Saigon-SGN) (B)**

Free morning for shopping around the old quarter.

In the afternoon, you are transfer to Da Nang airport for taking short flight to Hochiminh city (well known as Saigon –SGN). Upon arrival, met by our local guide for transfer to hotel for check in. Rest of the day, at leisure. Stay overnight in Hoian.

### **Day 09 Sai Gon city tour – Cu Chi (B/L)**

After breakfast. Leave for Cuchi tunnels. The tunnels consist of more than 200 km of underground tunnels. This main axis system has many branches connecting to underground hideouts, shelters, and entrances to other tunnels. The tunnels are between 0.5 to 1 m wide, just enough space for a person to walk along by bending or dragging. However, parts of the tunnels have been modified to accommodate visitors. Drive back to Saigon for city tour including: War museum which primarily contains exhibits relating to the American phase of the Vietnam War, and is a major tourist attraction, Reunification Palace which was the workplace of the President of South Vietnam & was then known as Independence Palace. Visit Notre Dame Cathedral, the spiritual and cultural crucible of the French presence in the Orient & the General Post Office, the ancient & with French colonial architecture style. Stay overnight in SGN.

### **Day 10 SGN depature (B)**

Today you are free at leisure till transfer back to airport for departure flight.

#### **Hotels or similar**

Saigon:	Palace hotel - Superior room <a href="http://www.palacesaigon.com">www.palacesaigon.com</a>
Hue:	Eldora hotel – superior room <a href="http://www.eldorahotel.com">www.eldorahotel.com</a>
Hoian:	Hoi An silk marina resort <a href="http://www.hoiansilkmarina.com/">http://www.hoiansilkmarina.com/</a>
Hanoi:	Lan Vien hotel - Deluxe room <a href="http://lanvienhotel.com.vn/">http://lanvienhotel.com.vn/</a>
Halong:	Sealife cruise - <a href="http://huonghaisealifecruise.com/en/">http://huonghaisealifecruise.com/en/</a>