# ESSENTIAL VIETNAM TOUR



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# Vietnam Escorted Tour with Halong Bay

**Duration:** 7 days

Stay: 6 nights hotels

Travel style: Guided tour Booking code: VIETG7M

Call 1300 168 910 to speak to experts at My Travel Experience

Email hello@mytravelxp.com

# 7 Days Essential Vietnam Tour

## About the holiday

Discover Vietnam's colourful cities, stunning natural beauty, historic sites and rich culture on this value-packed tour!

This tour starts in the south and travels north from Ho Chi Minh City to Hanoi. In Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon), there's leisure time to enjoy exploring the city with its magnificent French colonial architecture. View the thousands of limestone islands rising out of the sea during the Halong Bay excursion and discover the fascinating blend of East and West in the capital city of Hanoi.

An internal flight is included to make the most of your time and local guides will share their knowledge and insights into this remarkable country.

Why you'll love this trip...

It's great value, with the ideal balance of free time and included activities

Cruise Halong Bay, view the picturesque limestone islands & emerald green waters

Enjoy the comforts of 4-stay hotels and convenience of daily breakfast included

An English-speaking tour manger is with you throughout the 8-day tour

#### Travel dates

2024 to 2025 - Regular departures from Ho Chi Minh City\*

\*Departures are subject to confirmation at time of booking. Price may vary depending on your travel date. Contact us current rates and other travel options.

Want to stay longer or add flights?

Call our office on 1300 168 910 or email hello@mytravelxp.com

for current rates & travel deals.



# Tour package includes:

- Intra-flight: Ho Chi Minh City-Hanoi
- 6 nights accommodation in 4-star hotels
  - o 3 nights Ho Chi Minh
  - o 1 night Halong Bay
  - 2 nights Hanoi
- Hotel taxes, fees & service charges
- Hotel porterage
- 7 meals: 6 breakfasts, 1 lunch
- · Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Services of English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- · Comfortable wireless earphones for enhanced touring

## Package excludes:

Flights to Vietnam - please contact us for the latest airfare deals Visa fees

Meals & sightseeing not specified in the inclusions or itinerary Optional tours & activities

Personal items, such as drinks, snacks, laundry, WiFi etc.

Gratuities for tour managers & drivers

Video & camera permits

Travel insurance is essential

Prices are based on twin share, please contact us for single rates

Subject to confirmation by hotels, tour company & local operators.

Booking conditions & cancellation fees apply.

For more info, call 1300 168 910 or email hello@mytravelxp.com

## **Itinerary:**

#### DAY 1, Thursday - Arrive in Ho Chi Minh City

Arrive in Ho Chi Minh (formerly Saigon), the largest city in Vietnam. Make your own way to the hotel and enjoy the balance of the day at leisure

Overnight: Ho Chi Minh

#### DAY 2, Friday - Full Day in Ho Chi Minh City

Spend the full day at leisure or, join the *optional* morning half day tour to Cu Chi Tunnels. They were part of an underground tunnel network built by the Viet Cong to control a large rural area near Saigon. The Cu Chi network includes 125 miles of tunnels with many branches connecting to underground hideouts, weapon factories, hospitals, shelters and other tunnels. In the afternoon, choose to participate in an *optional* half day tour of Ho Chi Minh City, which includes the neo-Romanesque Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office with its French style architecture, City Hall, and the magnificent Saigon Opera House. From here, visit lively Ben Thanh Market - where an unbelievable assortment of wares and crafts are sold under one roof. Continue to Dong Khoi Street, a major shopping thoroughfare in the centre of the city. Early in the evening, enjoy a Welcome Drink and orientation meeting with your Tour Manager. Remainder of the evening is at leisure. Be sure to check out the diversified dining scene in this culinary rich city

Optional: Half Day Cu Chi Tunnels (AM)

**Optional:** Half Day Ho Chi Minh City Tour (PM) **Overnight:** Ho Chi Minh. **Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 3, Saturday - Full Day in Ho Chi Minh City

Today is at leisure to further explore the city on your own or, join the *optional* full day Mekong Delta River Tour. Today's journey into the Mekong Delta region will take you along the newly built highway, picturesque countryside and seemingly endless paddy fields. Upon arrival at My Tho, you will board a private motor boat for a fascinating cruise along the river, observing the daily life of local people on the waterways. The tour includes a visit to a coconut factory, handicraft workshop and honey bee farm. You will be introduced to the daily life of the local people, learning about local fruit and plants as well as an opportunity to sample some local tropical fruit in an orchard. The tour ends with a great lunch at a local restaurant by the river bank

**Optional:** Full Day Mekong Delta River Tour **Overnight:** Ho Chi Minh. **Meals:** Breakfast

#### DAY 4, Sunday - Fly to Hanoi, Transfer to Halong Bay

Depart Ho Chi Minh on a flight to sparkling Hanoi, cultural centre of the country. Upon arrival, travel overland and through the lush Vietnamese countryside to picturesque Halong Bay, considered one of Vietnam's most celebrated attractions.

As you approach, you'll see thousands of limestone islands rising out of the sea creating a truly magical scene. Arrive at your hotel in Halong Bay for overnight Overnight: Halong Bay. Meals: Breakfast

#### DAY 5, Monday - Cruise Halong Bay, Travel to Hanoi

Incredible views await you today! Halong Bay is considered one of the most breathtaking places on the planet, added to the list of UNESCO Heritage sites and declared recently as one of the "New Seven Natural Wonders of the World". There are over 3,000 islands in the emerald waters and over 1,000 have their own names. Numbers of caves and grottos of all sizes and shapes are filled with small waterfalls, stalactites and stalagmites. Sail on a traditional wooden boat on the tranquil bay with lunch served on board. Visit one of the caves and afterwards, travel to Hanoi, Vietnam's vibrant capital and check into your hotel. This city's history is tied to French colonialism - its architecture, cuisine and local culture still bear evidence of the French influence

Overnight: Hanoi. Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

#### DAY 6, Tuesday - Full Day in Hanoi

Spend the day at leisure discovering all of the delights of Hanoi independently, or join the optional full day tour of Hanoi City and Water Puppet Show with Lunch. Embark on a city tour of Hanoi that includes a cyclo ride around the bustling Old Quarter of Hanoi. The cyclo is a very common mode of transportation in Vietnam. Visit the Ho Chi Minh historic complex, and walk through its grounds to view the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum (where the late president's embalmed body is displayed), the Presidential Palace, House on Stilts and One Pillar Pagoda. Afterward, learn the craft of Vietnamese cooking! Visit the local market with a Chef, followed by a private cooking class. Sample and savour your personally cooked lunch. In the afternoon, visit Ngoc Son Temple, Hanoi's most visited temple and one of the city's Tube Houses, a tall dwelling with narrow frontage, to see first-hand how residents once lived. Later, attend a performance of the world-famous Water Puppet Show, accompanied by a traditional Vietnamese orchestra and Cheo (a form of opera). The show depicts a series of ancient Vietnamese folktales, acted out by puppets over a pool of water. Tonight, join you Tour Manager and newfound friends for a Farewell Reception Optional: Full Day Hanoi City Tour and Water Puppet Show with Lunch

Overnight: Hanoi. Meals: Breakfast

# DAY 7, Wednesday - Depart Vietnam

Check out this morning and make your own way to the airport if flying out today.

Meals: Breakfast

Please note: The day by day descriptions are intended as an indicative guide only. Travel by nature is unpredictable. Weather patterns, road conditions, public holidays, travel restrictions and many other factors may necessitate itinerary changes that are ultimately for the client's benefit. It is essential that clients are flexible in this regard.

# **Important Information:**

#### Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is essential for this tour. We recommend purchasing travel insurance as soon as possible after purchasing this package. Please enquire for further information and to see if our policy is suitable for you.

#### Passports & Visas

A Tourist visa is required. It is the traveller's responsibility to ensure they're holding a current visa for the countries they're visiting. If the traveller is on a non-Australian passport, a valid re-entry visa may be required.

**Important:** Please start arranging your visa at least 6-8 weeks prior to departure to account for any delays due to consulate operating hours and processing time.

A valid passport with a minimum validity of 6 months beyond your return travel date is required for all passengers (including children and infants).

#### Health & Vaccinations

Travellers are advised to check the vaccine requirements for their trip with their local health professional at least 45 days prior to departure, as some vaccines require 30 days or more to be effective.

Please check with local authorities that you hold the appropriate vaccination entry requirements for your destination. It's your responsibility to be eligible for travel and meet any visitor requirements at the time of booking.

## **Tipping**

Tipping and gratuities are not included in the package and are at your own discretion. As a guide, approx. VND232,852 - VND349,245 per person, per day, is the industry standard.

## Is this trip right for you?

This Value program provides the comfort of an escorted tour, with the freedom to explore on your own. Minimal inclusions plus a variety of optional excursions allow maximum customisation. The program is minimally active, unless all optional tours are selected. If so, this moderately active program covers a good amount of ground each day. The pace is moderate, however the majority is over uneven surfaces, stairs and steps.

Have any questions? Call our office on 1300 168 910 or email hello@mytravelxp.com

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Call 1300 168 910 to speak to us about planning your next holiday.

Travel On Demand Pty Ltd trading as My Travel Experience



#### MY TRAVEL EXPERIENCE BOOKING CONDITIONS

#### Please read the following information prior to making your reservation

Our full set of terms and conditions can be <u>viewed and downloaded on our website</u>, or supplied on request from our office. We highly recommend you read My Travel Experience booking conditions prior to making your holiday reservations. This is the contract under which both parties enter, therefore we request that you only make a booking if you agree with these conditions.

#### This is a summary in brief for our customers:

- 1. Upon making a reservation with My Travel Experience you will receive a booking form, which needs to be filled out and signed to confirm that you agree to the terms and conditions.
  - 2. Your booking will then be confirmed to you in writing and you will be required to pay a deposit to hold your reservation.
- 3. At this time, you must take out travel insurance for your holiday to protect you against any unforeseen circumstances.
  - 4. 120 days prior to departure you will be asked to make the balance payment for your trip (the exact due date for your travel supplier will be advised at the time of booking).
    - 5. 10 days prior to departure you will be sent your travel documents via email.

My Travel Experience manages a professional client operating account. All booking payments are held securely to pay for your travel services. We do not retain your money and funds are distributed promptly to travel service providers, including but not limited to, airlines, tour operators, cruise lines and hotels. We are required to pay the providers deposits and final payments and in some instances these items are non-refundable.

If you wish to cancel you must notify us of your cancellation in writing. We will then write to the Suppliers to cancel your booking and request a refund (if applicable) for any elements of your holiday that are refundable. You will need to make an insurance claim for any travel arrangements that are non-refundable. If you have any issues during the refund or cancellation process, you have 30 days to contact our office in writing to lodge a complaint so an immediate resolution can be found for you.

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