



# A Taste of Vietnam

15 September 2025



Fully Hosted Small Group Tour



## A Taste of Vietnam

Join our small, hosted group for “**A Taste of Vietnam**” where we meet some of the kindest people, explore the beauty and culture of this incredible country, and gain a deeper understanding of its fascinating history and remarkable transformation into the vibrant Vietnam of today.

Our journey begins in **Hanoi**, Vietnam’s bustling capital, where we dive into the city’s deep history and vibrant culture. Here, we stay at a charming resort and immerse ourselves in the colorful energy of **Hanoi’s Old Quarter**. Wander through tranquil paddy fields, take in the picturesque landscapes, and experience the genuine warmth of **Vietnamese hospitality** as we share a memorable lunch with a local family.

We embark on a two-night cruise through the famous **Ha Long Bay**, home to over 1,000 islands and breathtaking natural beauty. As we sail through this **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, we witness its stunning limestone landscapes and charming floating villages. All while enjoying the finest cuisine and entertainment onboard, making this an unforgettable experience in one of the world’s most spectacular settings.

Onwards we then travel to the charming town of Hoi An, discovering the stunning rich culture, vibrant markets and heritage. We take a peaceful cruise along the **Thu Bon River**, offering stunning views of Hoi An’s old quarters, and visit one of the town’s famous **lantern workshops**, where we learn to craft our own colorful lanterns and not forgetting our chance to really indulge in local culinary culture with a local cooking class after a market tour with the Executive Chef/Trainer, on a riverside setting — the perfect backdrop to enjoy a meal you just learned to cook.

Our journey continues south to Ho Chi Minh City, formally known as Saigon, Vietnam’s most populist city and the economic heart of the country. The city draws together old and new and from our boutique accommodation at the **Silverland May Hotel**, we journey back in time to the elegance of 1930’s Vietnam, with a touch of timeless French Indochina charm. From here, we visit some of the most important sites related to the Vietnam War, including the **Cu Chi Tunnels**, and the **War Remnants Museum**, gaining insight into Vietnam’s wartime history.

Our tour would not be complete without a visit to the **Mekong Delta**, where we cruise in style on a luxury **sampan**, taking in the sights of rural life along the river. We also visit a local coconut industry, where nothing goes to waste, providing a hands-on experience of local craftsmanship.

Be prepared to be amazed by the beauty, diversity, and rich experiences that await you as we travel from the north to the south of Vietnam



# A Taste of Vietnam

15<sup>th</sup> to 28<sup>th</sup> September 2025

## MON 15 Home - Hanoi, Vietnam

This evening, we depart New Zealand for our overnight flight to Singapore, connecting onto Hanoi, Vietnam

## TUE 16 Hanoi, Vietnam

(L)(D)

Xin chao! Welcome to Hanoi!

Upon arrival in **Hanoi**, we will be welcomed by our local English-speaking guide and head for our first Vietnamese lunch in a local restaurant enroute to the hotel. After lunch, we transfer to the hotel which will be our home for the next three nights.

*Our hotel is the 4\* Aira Boutique Hotel & Spa nestled in the lush tree-lined charming diplomatic Tran Phu Street, which is merely a few steps from the quaint Hanoi Old Quarter, making it a very convenient location for exploring the local markets. The hotels Essencia Spa using ancient healing modalities such as Himalayan Salt Stone Treatment and Ancient Fire Acupuncture for those wanting some pampering.*

The rest of the day is free to relax prior to re-gathering for our **Welcome Dinner** which will set the scene for the coming days.

## Discover the History and Culture of Hanoi

### WED 17

(B)(L)(D)

Today, we embark on a full-day tour to explore the rich history and culture of Hanoi. Our day begins with a visit to the imposing **Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum**, followed by a tour of his tranquil wooden stilt house and the iconic **One Pillar Pagoda**. We then delve into Vietnam's intellectual heritage at the **Temple of Literature**, the country's first university, where we learn about its deep-rooted connection to Confucian philosophy.

After enjoying lunch together, we continue to the peaceful **Hoan Kiem Lake** and the **Ngoc Son Temple**, before visiting a traditional Vietnamese "long house," providing a glimpse into ancient ways of life. To immerse ourselves in the local culture, we'll take a one-hour **cyclo tour** through the narrow streets of Hanoi's bustling **Old Quarter**, offering an authentic experience of the city's timeless charm and traditional Vietnamese architecture.

We conclude the day with a delightful dinner at a local restaurant, savouring the flavours of Vietnamese cuisine.

## Trip Highlights

- Hanoi Sightseeing tour
- Visit Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum - Hanoi
- Visit the Temple of Literature – Vietnam's first University.
- One Pillar Pagoda - Hanoi
- Hoan Kiem Lake and Ngoc Son Temple
- Cyclo Tour of Hanoi's Old Quarter
- Lunch with a local family at Dong Tam Village
- 2-night Ha Long Bay Cruise on the cruise boat, Orchid Classic Boat with balcony
- Visit Hoi An's famous lantern workshop
- Phuc Kien Assembly Hall in Hoi An
- 400-year-old Japanese Covered Bridge & Riverside Market - Hoi An
- Thu Bon River Boat Trip
- Local Culinary Cooking Class
- Ho Chi Minh City Sightseeing Tour
- Cu Chi Tunnels Tour & Mekong Jetboat ride
- War Remnants Museum - Hoi An
- Cai Be Princess - Mekong Sampan River Cruise



### THU 18 Explore Hoa Lu and Van Lon (B) (L) (D)

This morning, we embark on a journey to **Hoa Lu**, Vietnam's ancient capital, where we will explore the historic **Dinh Temple** and **Le Temple**, sacred sites where locals honor the nation's former kings.

Our adventure continues to **Van Long**, where we enjoy a scenic bicycle ride through lush paddy fields, charming pagodas, and traditional villages. Along the way, we will visit a local village, giving us the chance to meet the friendly Northern Vietnamese people and experience their warm hospitality.

For lunch, we join a local family to help prepare a traditional meal together, offering an authentic taste of home-cooked Vietnamese cuisine. In the afternoon, we relax on a **sampan boat ride** through the tranquil **Van Long Nature Reserve**, where we will be mesmerized by the towering limestone cliffs and serene natural beauty.

After a day full of rich cultural experiences, we return to the hotel and savor dinner at a local restaurant.

### FRI 19 Ha Long Bay & Lan Ha Bay Cruise (B) (L) (D)

This morning, we depart in our private coach, traveling through the scenic countryside enroute to **Ha Long Bay**, with a brief stop at a local **pearl farm**. Upon arrival, we board our luxurious boat for a **two-night Ha Long Bay Cruise**.

As we settle in, we take in the spectacular surroundings of our floating home. After a delightful lunch onboard, the afternoon is yours to relax as we glide through the tranquil bays. In the evening, we drop anchor amidst the stunning limestone karsts of **Lan Ha Bay**, where we will spend the night in peace and serenity.

*The **Orchid Classic** is the first high-class cruise to navigate both **Ha Long Bay** and **Lan Ha Bay**. With its elegant Indochina-inspired architecture, all-wooden interiors, and 14 spacious suites featuring private balconies and baths, it sets the standard for luxury. Enjoy top-notch service, an outdoor jacuzzi on the sundeck, and breathtaking views of the gulf, creating an unforgettable experience.*

*Note: The itinerary for the Ha Long Bay Cruise is subject to change without prior notice.*

### SAT 20 Cruise Lan Ha Bay (B) (L) (D)

Today we have another full day onboard our beautiful luxury boat to continue enjoying our cruise and activities as we relax, whilst viewing the beautiful landscape across the bays.

### SUN 21 Ha Long Bay to Hoi An (B) (L) (D)

This morning, we bid farewell to **Lan Ha Bay** with a final, leisurely cruise through its mesmerizing limestone cliffs and emerald waters. Upon docking, we transfer to **Hanoi Airport** for our flight to **Danang**. Upon arrival in Danang, we transfer to the luxurious **5-star Wyndham Hoi An Royal Beachfront Resort**, our home for the next three nights.

The rest of the day is yours to relax and rejuvenate before gathering for dinner at a local restaurant. For those interested, our host will be available this evening to escort you to the famous tailoring districts for a unique shopping experience.

### MON 22 Discover Hoi An (B) (L)

This morning, we visit one of **Hoi An's famous lantern workshops**, where we will have the opportunity to craft your own lantern, a symbol of the town's vibrant culture. We then set off on a walking tour through this **UNESCO World Heritage Site**, visiting highlights such as the ancient merchant house, the **Phuc Kien Assembly Hall**, and the iconic **400-year-old Japanese Covered Bridge**. Following lunch together, we enjoy a peaceful boat trip along the **Thu Bon River**, taking in the scenic views from the water. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to explore Hoi An's charming old town at your leisure or perhaps finalise your made-to-measure clothing orders with local tailors. This evening, enjoy a **self-dining dinner**, allowing you the freedom to explore the market streets and sample the local cuisine at your own pace.





### TUE 23 A Culinary Experience in Hoi An (B) (D)

This morning is yours to relax and enjoy the facilities at the **Wyndham Hoi An Royal Beachfront Resort** at your leisure.

In the early afternoon, we meet with the executive chef of our cookery school for a guided tour of the local **vegetable and meat market**, where we will discuss the fresh ingredients and food commodities used in Vietnamese cuisine. Following the market tour, we head to the renowned **Red Bridge Cookery School** for an interactive cooking class with fellow food enthusiasts. After mastering a selection of local dishes, we'll enjoy the delicious meal we've prepared for dinner.

The evening is free for you to unwind and explore before returning to the resort.

### WED 24 Hoi An to Ho Chi Minh City (B) (L) (D)

This morning, we depart **Hoi An** and head to **Danang Airport** for our flight to **Ho Chi Minh City**. Upon arrival, we transfer to the charming **Silverland Mây Hotel**, our delightful 4-star home for the next three nights.

*Nestled on a quiet street in the heart of the city, the hotel blends modern design with natural accents, offering an indoor-outdoor pool and a serene spa for ultimate relaxation.*

After lunch, we embark on a **city highlights tour**, visiting key landmarks such as the **Reunification Palace**, the majestic **Notre Dame Cathedral**, and the iconic **Central Post Office**. We'll also explore a bustling market in **Chinatown** and stop at either the **Thien Hau Temple** or the **Quan Am Pagoda**.

This evening, we come together for dinner at a local restaurant, savoring the flavors of Ho Chi Minh City.



### THU 25 Ho Chi Minh City & Cu Chi Tunnels (B) (L) (D)

This morning, we start early with a transfer to the local riverside dock for an exciting VIP **covered jetboat ride** along the **Saigon River**. As we cruise, take in the stunning views of the city skyline and the traditional Mekong River life along the banks on our way to the historic **Cu Chi Tunnels**.

Enjoy a **breakfast box** onboard while we sail towards our destination. Upon arrival, we will embark on a guided tour of the **Cu Chi Tunnels**, learning about their significance during the Vietnam War. Afterward, we'll share lunch together at a local restaurant before returning to Ho Chi Minh City by boat in the early afternoon. The rest of the afternoon is free for you to relax or explore the city at your own pace. We will reunite in the evening for dinner together.

### FRI 26 Ho Chi Minh City to Mekong Delta (B) (L) (D)

This morning, we take a scenic drive to **Cai Be** for a full day of exploration in the lush **Mekong Delta**.

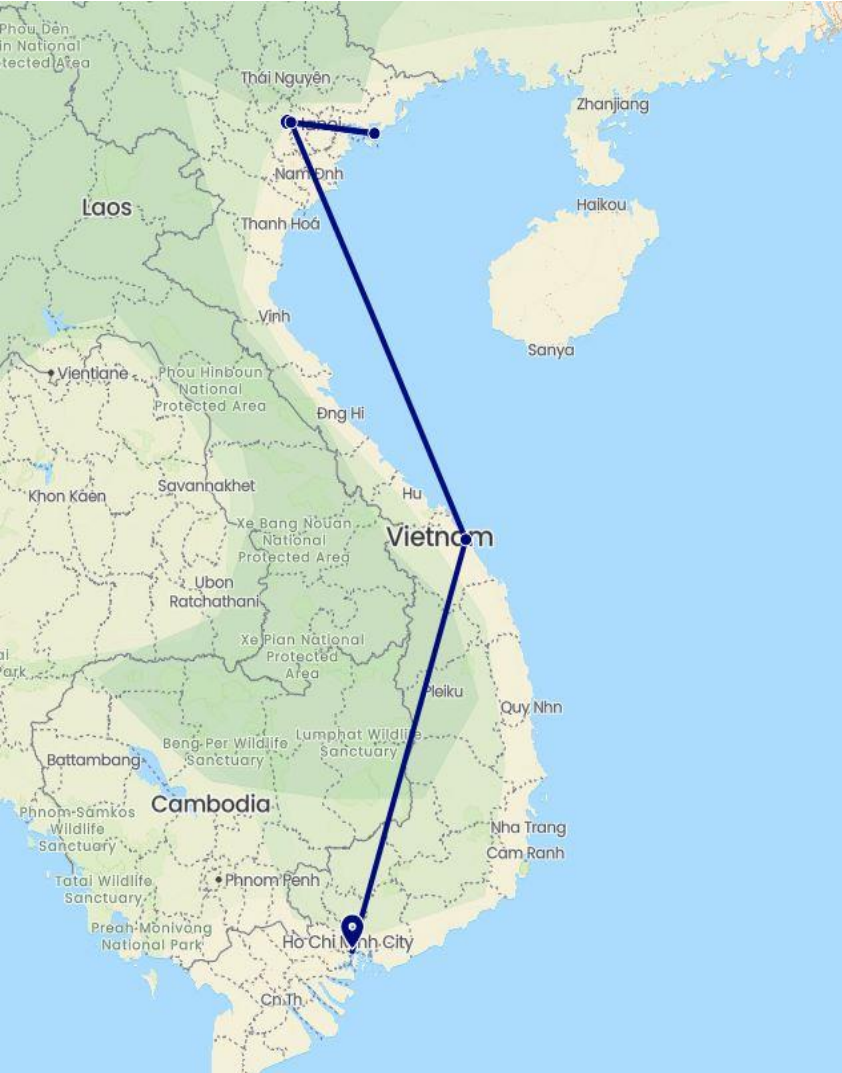
Our adventure begins aboard the luxurious **Cai Be Princess** boat, where we cruise through this picturesque river region. We transfer to a traditional **sampan** at **Tan Phong Islet**, drifting through narrow canals and discovering the vibrant life along the water. We visit a beautifully preserved historic house and stop at local cottage industries to see how rice paper and rice cakes are made.

Lunch is at the iconic **Le Longanier Restaurant**, nestled in a tropical garden, providing a perfect setting to relax and enjoy the local cuisine.

After lunch, we return to Ho Chi Minh City, with the rest of the afternoon free for last-minute shopping or relaxation before coming together for our Farewell Dinner this evening.

### SAT 27 Ho Chi Minh City - Home (B)

Enjoy a **relaxed start** this morning before we transfer to the airport for our flight back to New Zealand. We bid farewell to Vietnam, returning home with cherished memories, and arrive in New Zealand on **Sunday, 28th September**.



# A Taste of Vietnam

## 14 Day Tour Includes

Fully hosted from NZ with a **YOURTours Host**

International flights ex Wellington or Auckland

- Other departure locations available on request
- Flight upgrades available upon request
- Home Pick-up/drop-off T&C's apply

4\* & 5\* hotels & Ha Long Bay cruise accommodation

All flights within Vietnam and all gratuities

Services of local English-speaking guides throughout

All Meals as per itinerary

All excursions and activities as per itinerary

Departs 15 September 2025

Price from \$9,995 pp twin share

Single Price from \$11,995 pp

**You are invited to join us on our fully hosted small group tour. As this is one of our Sapphire tours the maximum number of guests is 18.**

We are based on the beautiful Kapiti Coast with our guests joining us from all corners of New Zealand. We believe you will be pleasantly surprised by just how much we include in our tour price.

You can be reassured that your tour host will always be one of our friendly well-experienced YOURTours Hosts, ensuring everything is taken care of from start to finish, allowing you to relax and enjoy your tour.

**YOURTours**<sup>®</sup>

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