

# HO CHI MINH – CU CHI TUNNELS – MEKONG DELTA DA NANG – HOI AN – BA NA HILLS HA NOI – HA LONG BAY

# Duration: 7 nights 8 days DAY 01: HO CHI MINH ARRIVAL – HALF DAY CITY TOUR (L)

Arrive Tan Son Nhat international airport. Tour guide and driver will pick you up and transfer to hotel. Check in hotel.

**Afternoon**: We begin with a visit **Notre Dame Cathedral**, a red brick edifice with twin spires constructed, a familiar landmark in Ho Chi Minh City since the 1880s.

Then head across the square to the historic **Saigon Central Post Office**, a grand and impressive building incorporating Gothic and Renaissance styles - you may wish to send a postcard home. We continue to visit the **Reunification Palace**, the headquarters of the Saigon government during the American war.

We will explore the **China Town** called **"Cho Lon"**. This place is now a significant commercial center of the Chinese in Saigon which still preserves the precious values of culture, religion and architecture dating back thousands of years. The pipe-shaped tiled roofs in Chinatown streets combining with typical Chinese architectures feature a unique classic beauty. Here we will visit the **Thien Hau Temple**, which was built in the early 19th century and dedicated to the goddess of seafarers. We delve deeper into China town, visiting the amazing **Cho Lon & Binh Tay Markets**, which are full of energy and dazzling array of goods.



Free your time at leisure. Overnight in Ho Chi Minh city.

# DAY 02: HO CHI MINH - CU CHI TUNNEL – MEKONG DELTA

(B,L).

Breakfast at hotel. Our guide and driver will pick you up at the lobby of your hotel and then transfer to Cu Chi district, 50 km to the northwest of Saigon city.

The incredible underground network in Cu Chi stretched over 200 kilometers and became legendary during the American war. The extensive tunnels have been specially constructed with living areas, storage facilities, weapon factories, filed hospitals, command canter, plus accommodation.

Upon arrival to the **Cu Chi Tunnels**, watch a short introductory video showing how they were constructed, then spend the next hour exploring the maze of tunnels. Experience history first-hand as you crawl the



legendary Cu Chi tunnels, sample local food and food eaten by soldiers who lived in the wonder of Vietnam's unique military art. A war veteran will show you around, allowing a moving insight into the struggles they endured.

We transfer to **My Tho City**. It's famous for its extensive orchards and immense rice fields. On the way passing rice fields to discover rural activities of the local people, gardening, fish pond, rice planting.

#### Have lunch at local restaurant.

We then take a private leisurely boat trip, stocked with cold, cloth towels, bottled water, fresh, seasonal fruits, and green tea, cruise around the four beautiful islands known as **Dragon**, **Unicorn**, **Phoenix and Tortoise islands** (04 sacred animals of Buddhism). We can see the fishing market and visit the floating fish farm.

Enjoy a rowing boat ride in the shadows of the water-coconut palms along the tiny canals to discover **"Coconuts homeland"**, **Ben Tre**. Enjoying fresh coconut juice on the boat. We will visit the picturesque orchards and sample the freshly picked fruit at the invitation of friendly local farmers. Spend some time in the villages to learn about the daily lives of the inhabitants, enjoying some kinds of tropical fruits while listening southern traditional music. You can learn how to make coconut candy. You can try some candies, visit the honey bee farm and try the honey, banana wine, ginger jams, soy beans... made by the villagers.

**Enjoy a horse-cart** around the village to have a look at the orchards and visit local people's house. Enjoy a relaxing cup of honey tea before returning to My Tho via a natural canal, cruising under the shadows of water coconut palms.

We boat back to My Tho via a natural canal, cruising under the shadows of water coconut palms.

Transfer back to Ho Chi Minh city. Free your time at leisure. Overnight in Ho Chi Minh city.

#### DAY 03: HO CHI MINH – FLY TO DA NANG – HOI AN

Breakfast at hotel. Free your time at leisure until our driver pick you up at the lobby of your hotel then transfer to Tan Son Nhat airport to take a flight to Da Nang

Upon arrival Da Nang airport, you are welcome by our driver and then be transferred to **Hoi An ancient town** 

On the way to the town, we will visit **Son Tra Peninsula**. Located atop a hill by the coast of Son Tra Peninsula, this is the largest Buddhist temple in Da Nang. Overlooking the city beachfront, its grandeur Buddha shrines are surrounded by bonsai gardens dotted with sculptures. For locals, it's sacred equally to two older **Linh Ung pagoda**. There are many monkeys from the nature reserve nearby coming here for food handed out from tourists. Rising up to 67 meters from the ground, the Lady Buddha Da Nang is the tallest of its kind in Vietnam. She faces the city to shelter the citizens from disasters and patronizes fisher mans. Sculpted by hands of the Non Nuoc marble village's artisans, it houses a Buddha shrine on each floor inside.

We then explore the famous **Marble Mountain**. Around the top of Marble Mountains, the visitors will see Da Nang's oldest Buddhist temples,



**(B)** 





grandest grottoes, holiest shrines to local people, pretty outlooks and heritage trees. A viewpoint where all mountains are in sight is included in the trekking. In the surrounding, 400-years-old Non Nuoc marble village is proud of its traditional sculpture carving. One of the largest statue galleries is recommended, providing many opportunities for photography. The Giant Lady Buddha was sculpted by artisans here.

Free your time at leisure. Overnight in Hoi An.

## DAY 04: DA NANG - BA NA HILL – HOI AN TOWN

**(B)**.

Breakfast at hotel.

08h00: Tour guide will pick you up at the lobby of your hotel & transfer to **Ba Na Hills**, pass the sea-shore on Nguyen Tat Thanh Street, one of the most beautiful roads of Danang City and Red Beach, where the French first landed in Da Nang.

08h45: Arrive at the Cable car station at the foot of Ba Na Mountain. Enjoy the first leg Cable car, which achieves two Guinness World records in 2009, longest non-stop cable car (5,042m) and highest non-stop cable car (1,292m). Sitting in the cabin, in midair, looking upon the endless tree line of the forests, bring you with spectacular views of the lush jungle and fairly waterfalls along the way. Experience pristine ecological systems of the Ba Na Mountains will leave you the sense of unforeseeable discovery.

Visit the **Le Jardin**, old wineries, remains of French Villas and **Linh Ung Pagoda** with 27m high Buddha status. We then leave the Le Jardin for the second cable car station to visit the top of mountain and see the remain of old villas. Conquer the **Peak of Chua Mountain** at the height of 1,487m. View the whole Danang city under the cluster of white clouds. Leave Peak of Chua Mountain, visit the trail of **Dreaming Stream, Rainbow Waterfall, Suspension Bridge, Golden Valley**, and ruined **Opera House**...

Next, visit the **Fantasy Amusement Park**, and enjoy the 4D Movie and optionally a few free games. (Games which have rewards, are payable at the location). Play with wild monkeys and take photos. Free time for visiting Ba Na Hills.

15h00: We return to Cable car station at foot of Ba Na Mountain.

We transfer to Hoi An town. Enjoy a walking tour of the ancient town, visit the **400-year old Japanese Covered Bridge** - The symbol of Hoi An. The Japanese covered bridge was the first bridge in Hoi An and was constructed in 1593. It was built by the Japanese community of Hoian to link them with the Chinese quarters across the stream. We continue to visit the **Chua Ong Pagoda** and **Tan Ky old house**, with more than 200 years of history.

Enjoy a short cruise on the river to experience the **Lantern Floating**, a small boat riding with a lantern drop for good luck. Free your time at leisure. Overnight in Hoi An.

# DAY 05: DA NANG – FLY TO HA NOI (B).

Breakfast at hotel. Free your time at leisure until our driver pick you up at the lobby of your hotel then transfer to Da Nang airport to take a flight to Ha Noi. You are welcome at Noi Bai airport by our driver and then transfer to the hotel

Afternoon: Enjoy a half day city tour.





We will visit the Vietnam Museum of Ethnology - The museum has successfully recreated the daily life together with the religious rituals and the symbolic festivals of each ethnic group in Vietnam. Visitors have the opportunity to admire costumes, embroidery as well as outside stilt houses and habitats from the 54 ethnic groups in Vietnam. (Note: Museum of Ethnology is closed on Monday weekly). We continue transfer to the West Lake to admire the sixth-century Tran Quoc Buddhist Pagoda.

Walk around the heart of Hanoi "The Hoan Kiem Lake".

Start your evening with a traditional water puppet performance "Roi Nuoc". The stage is actually a large container of water where the characters (carved wooden puppets) "act" out the story, most of the stories are whimsical and fun, and the puppeteers stand in waist deep water behind a screen controlling the puppets with rods that mostly are under the water.

Free your time at leisure. Overnight in Hanoi.



(B, L).

Breakfast at hotel. Our diver will pick you up at the lobby of your hotel.

Enjoy a private Ha Noi full day city tour, starting with the Ho Chi Minh **Complex**. Follow a long queue to get inside the mausoleum. Take a short walk to Ho Chi Minh's former house, which is built on stilts.

Then we visit the nearby One Pillar Pagoda (built in 1049), it's one of Vietnam's most iconic temples.

(Note: The mausoleum is open in the morning on every Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday. The mausoleum is closed on Monday & Friday weekly. Normally, each year, the mausoleum will be closed for about 2 months for maintenance, usually from September to November).

Next up is a short drive to visit to the Temple of Literature - Vietnam's first university. Constructed in 1070, the temple is dedicated to one of the world's most famous scholars, Confucius, inside the temple grounds huge stone stele rest on the backs of even larger stone turtles (in Vietnamese culture the turtle represents longevity).

We then visit the Maison centrale in Hanoi, also known as Hoa Lo Prison or the 'Hanoi Hilton' housed Vietnamese revolutionaries and American POW during the Vietnam War and hear from a war veteran about his firsthand experiences.

Enjoying a cyclo ride through Hanoi's Old Quarter, also known as "36 streets." This bustling area of narrow streets and alleys is home to thousands of small businesses and shopkeepers. It's a great place to explore with plenty of photo opportunities all around you. You will have some free time to explore the old quarter and enjoy interaction with local artisans.

Free your time at leisure. Overnight in Hanoi.

# DAY 07: HANOI - CRUISE ON HA LONG BAY (B,L,D).

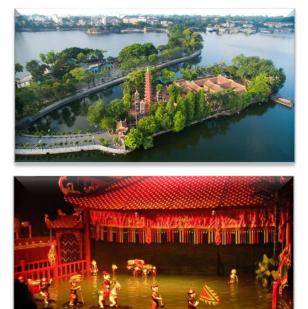
World Natural Heritage site and a World of New7Wonders.

Breakfast at hotel. Our diver will pick you up at the lobby of your hotel. We depart for Ha Long city to visit Ha Long Bay, a









Ha Long Bay features thousands of limestone karsts and isles in various sizes and shapes with 1969 islets. Several of the islands are hollow, with enormous caves, other support floating villages of fishermen. You have chance of observing scenic country side of Vietnam dominated by enormous lush rice field.

Upon arrival in Ha Long. Check-in between 11:30 - 12:00 at the boat port. Enjoy a refreshing "Welcome cocktail" upon check-in on the sun deck. Enjoy your lunch as the vessel sails to Ha Long Bay passing the **Fighting cocks Islet**, the **Elephant leg Islet**, the **Castle Islet**, the **Soi Sim Island**...

Arrive at **Surprise Grotto** - one of the most famous grotto in the entire Ha Long, we will visit the cave by tender.

After taking a lot of photos and admire the beauty of the cave we will visit the **fishing village** by local rowing boat with the opportunity to interact with fishermen who have been living in the bay for almost three generations then we return to the vessel for free time at your leisure. You can swim in the clear emerald waters, soak up the sun over a cool beer on the top deck sun lounge or try your hand at some kayaking (your account) amongst the huge limestone outcrops that surround us.

We retire to the cruise and relax on the top deck and enjoy a refreshing drink from the bar. Enjoy and learn the **Vietnamese cooking demonstration** on the sundeck, you can attend the chef's cooking demonstration and try your skills in the art of traditional Vietnamese cooking. Your delicious seafood dinner will be served at the restaurant. Stay overnight on cruise for a more in-depth experience.

At night, you may join some activities like: Fishing, shrimp fishing, squid fishing with the crew on board. It's a good time to drink a beer with the squid you caught.

# DAY 08: HA LONG BAY - FLY DEPARTURE (B,L).

Greet the day with a morning **Tai Chi Exercise** with an opportunity to view the sunrise over the bay. Sitting on the upper desk we can enjoy the breath - taking beauty of the rocky islands rising from the crystal-clear water of the bay. We can hear the birds singing, cicadas chirping ashore and the gentle lapping of the waves against our boat, the perfect soundtrack to accompany the fresh air and gentle breeze.

Enjoy the international brunch buffet served in the restaurant. Check-out on board and disembarkation at boat port. Our driver will pick you up then transfer to Ha Noi.

Enjoy shopping time at Hanoi old quarter until out driver picks you up at the loppy of your hotel then transfer to airport to take your departure flight.

#### SERVICE INCLUSIVE OF

- ✓ Local English-speaking guides.
- ✓ All accommodation double share with daily breakfast.
- $\checkmark$  All meals as indicated on itinerary.
- ✓ Private air-conditioned car.
- ✓ Private airport arrival & departure transfers.
- ✓ Private boat with seasonal fruits on Mekong delta.
- ✓ Meals as mentioned in ITN
- ✓ Boat and lantern in Hoi An.
- ✓ Water puppet show in Hanoi.
- ✓ Cable car round trip Ba Na Hills.
- ✓ All entrance fees & permits during guided time.
- ✓ Domestic gov't tax and service charge.







✓ Complimentary 02 bottles mineral water per person on touring days provided on the coach.

#### SERVICE EXCLUSIVE OF

- ✓ International air tickets/Domestic air tickets & airport taxes.
- ✓ Passport & visa fees, visa stamping.
- ✓ Items of a personal nature, such as laundry, telephone calls, room service, alcoholic & non-alcoholic beverages, etc.
- ✓ Single room (quoted separately), Child or adult in triple sharing room.
- ✓ Other language may be on request.
- ✓ Vegetable meals may be on request.
- ✓ Bottled/mineral water during any meal.
- ✓ Gratuities to tour guides, drivers and restaurant staff for services rendered.
- ✓ Local tourist guides where not specified above.

#### **CHILDREN POLICY:**

- ✓ Child under 5 years old sharing room with two (2) adults without extra bed: Free of charge (no meal is provided)
- ✓ Child 5-under 10 years old sharing room with two (2) adults without extra bed: 50% of package cost
- ✓ Child 5-under 10 years old sharing room with two (2) adults with extra bed: 80% of package cost
- ✓ Child under 10 years old sharing room with one (1) adult: 100% of package cost
- ✓ Child 10 years old and above: 100% of adult cost

#### **NOTE:** Surcharge for Public Holidays: please contact for details

- + National Day: Sep 1 3
- + Christmas: Dec 24 26
- + New Year: Dec 27 Jan 3

ACCOMMODATION IN HO CHI MINH CITY	
3* Hotel	4* Hotel
LIBERTY GREENVIEW 3* or SIMILAR	ALAGON SAIGON HOTEL & SPA 4* or SIMILAR
Add: 187 Pham Ngu Lao St., District 1	Add: 289 -291 Ly Tu Trong, Ben Thanh, Dist 1
https://www.libertysaigongreenview.com/vi/	www.alagonhotels.com
ACCOMMODATION IN HOI AN	
3* Hotel	4* Hotel
PAVILLON HOI AN – PARADISE HOTEL or Similar	DELICACY HOTEL & SPA or Similar
508 Hai Ba Trung, Hoi An	116 Hung Vuong, Hoi An
https://lepavillonhoiangroup.com/paradise-hotel	https://hoiandelicacyhotel.com
CRUISE IN HALONG BAY	
GARDEN BAY CRUISE	LA RIGINA CRUISE
https://tonkincruise.com/	https://lareginacruises.com
ACCOMMODATION IN HA NOI	
HA NOI BOUTIQUE HOTEL & SPA or Similar	IMPERIAL HOTEL & SPA or Similar
07 Ngo Gach, Hang Buom, Hoan Kiem, Hà Nội	44 Hang Hanh, Hoan Kiem, Ha Noi
https://www.hanoiboutiquehotel.vn	https://hanoiimperialhotel.com

## **COMPULSORY TIPS POLICY:**

- Group from 2-5 pax: Minimum USD 5/ pax/ day
- Group from 6-10 pax: Minimum USD 4/ pax/ day
- Group from 11 pax & above: Minimum USD 3/ pax/ day