



PLUTON TRAVEL & TOURS

You Dream We Create



SUMMER GROUP - 2024

HIGHLIGHTS OF VIET NAM

Route: Ha Noi - Ninh Binh - Hai Phong - Hoi An - Da Nang - Ho Chi Minh

Tour style: Nature, Culture & History Tour

Tour start: in Ha Noi / **Tour end:** in Ho Chi Minh

Tour Summary

Day	Trip summary
1	HA NOI ARRIVAL + CITY TOUR (D)
2	FULL DAY HOA LU - TRANG AN (B/L)
3	HA NOI - HA LONG OVER NIGHT ON BOAT (B/L/D) - PEONY CRUISE
4	HA LONG - HA NOI - TAKE FLIGHT TO DA NANG THEN TRANSFER TO HOIAN (B/BR/D)
5	FULL DAY CITY TOUR IN HOIAN – HOI AN MEMORIES SHOW (B/L)
6	FULL DAY BANA HILLS – GODLEN BRIDGE (B/L)
7	HOI AN - DA NANG - TAKE FLIGHT TO HO CHI MINH - HALF DAY CITY TOUR (B)
8	FULL DAY MEKONG DELTA (VINH LONG) (B/L)
9	HO CHI MINH – DEPARTURE (B) – OPTION CU CHI TUNNELS & LATE CHECK OUT

Trip details

DAY 1: HA NOI ARRIVAL + CITY TOUR (D)

Arrival Hanoi airport, warm welcomed by our guide & driver then transfer to the city.

Hanoi or “River-bound City” as its name literally means is Vietnam’s capital with a thousand-year-old history dating back to 1010. The city’s fascinating beauty which is characterized by unique cultural relics, ancient streets of antique houses, elegant French colonial buildings, tree-lined boulevards and romantic lakes has made it one of the most charming cities of Asia.

Detail arrangement on the first day

- Pick up at the airport
- Transfer to hotel and check in the hotel around 3:00 PM – 3:30 PM
- 4:30 PM Start for half day tour start with **Ngoc Son Temple**, a pagoda situated on a small island in **Hoan Kiem Lake accessible** by a classically painted wooden bridge. The view of the city from the pagoda is particularly popular. End your day by walking through the iconic **Old Quarter**. The streets of this district are bustling with scooters, bicycles, cyclos and cars zipping around pedestrians. The best way to enjoy the charming colonial architecture is to wander with your guide at a leisurely pace and be sure to stop for a cup of Vietnamese coffee or a local snack from one of the many tantalizing street vendors.
- Have dinner at local restaurant.

Meal: Dinner (Local food)

Overnight at hotel in Ha Noi

DAY 2: FULL DAY HOA LU - TRANG AN (B/L)

Our guide and driver will meet you at your hotel then get on a journey of about 100 km away to **Trang An Scenic Landscape Complex**, the UNESCO World Heritage in Ninh Binh province. Upon arrival, take the boat trip and meander lazily down the peaceful river while passing through a series of caves. The scenery of Trang An is a unique combination of deep turquoise river water, rising limestone mountains, water caves, and a clear blue sky. The sampan boat will be rowed by local people, lasting around 2 to 3 hours. Afterwards, enjoy lunch at a local restaurant with the local specialties.

Afternoon, leave for Hoa Lu, the first capital of Vietnam dating back to the 11th century. Built by the Dinh Dynasty not only for a capital but also as a stronghold against the Northern invaders, **Hoa Lu** shortly later it was inherited by the Le Dynasty. Visit the two old temples one dedicated to Dinh Tien Hoang, the only king of the Dinh Dynasty and also Vietnam's first emperor and the other to the succeeding kings of the Le Dynasty. Though the temples are no longer intact, some precious antique carvings and sculpture of stone and wood are still preserved. Then continue to visit **Bich Dong pagoda**, an ancient three tiered cave pagoda only accessible by steep stone steps, but it is really worth climbing up for a charming pagoda and stupendous view from the top.

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch (Local food)

Overnight at hotel in Hanoi

DAY 3: HA NOI - HA LONG OVER NIGHT ON BOAT (B/L/D) - PEONY CRUISE

08:30 – 09:00: Bus picks up your hotel and transfer to Ha Long

12:00: The crew members of Peony Cruises will welcome you at No.34, Tuan Chau Marina, Quang Ninh. Phone for receptionist at Peony Cruises lounge: +84 987671669 / +84 936905115.

12:30 You will be taken aboard our support vessel and travel from the wharf via the bay to board our luxurious craft, Peony Cruises. Itinerary briefing is announced during this time.

13.00 Welcome fresh drinks, wet towels and a special lunch of fresh food and an assortment of appetizing delicacies will be served. You will be enchanted when decadently dining on our luxury junk. Life just doesn't get better than this! We then set sail for Lan Ha Bay - A member of the World's Most Beautiful Bays.

Enjoy the delicious luncheon of fresh seafood and an assortment of appetizing delicacies while cruising along Lan Ha bay with the breathtaking scenery.

15:30 Visiting Tra Bau area where has known as an area famous for its unspoiled, poetic natural beauty and attractive seascape of Lan Ha Bay. This is the best time for kayaking to discover the truest beauty of the limestone islands.

Immerse yourself in the emerald green water of the bay or enjoy the Jacuzzi pool on the Peony Cruises.

17:30 - 18:30 Joining us for Cooking demonstration to learn how to make one of the most famous Vietnamese cuisines, the spring rolls. Or reach the top deck of cruise where the guests can admire the magnificent sunset over the Gulf of Tonkin.

Enjoy a Happy Hour time – BUY ONE GET ONE FREE at the bar. It is an ideal time for photography enthusiasts to capture the greatest moment of sunset over Lan Ha Bay.

19.30 Enjoy delicious local food prepared and served by our skillful chef. This is a delightful meal in an intimate romantic setting.

21:00 – 22.00 Relax and sip the exotic cocktails and drinks at the sky bar (with surcharge). Indulge yourself with spa service (optional) or simply relax on the top deck just under the cover of a brightly illuminated sky. Or try to get your luck at the squid fishing on the main deck.

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch (Local food), Dinner (Local food)

Overnight on the cruise

DAY 4: HA LONG - HA NOI - TAKE FLIGHT TO DA NANG THEN TRANSFER TO HOIAN (B/BR/D)

6:00 Begin the day full of energy with the Tai Chi session and enjoy the sun just rising up beyond the

	horizon.
6:45 - 7:15	Breakfast is served while cruising back to Gia Luan jetty. (Breakfast time maybe adjust and follow the real itinerary)
7:30 - 9:00	You will join the tour of Cat Ba World Biosphere by transshipment. It takes 30 minutes to transfer from Gia Luan to Trung Trang – one of the most impressive caves in Cat Ba island, Vietnam. The limestone cave has thousands of stalactites in various shapes, offering geological values with a typical cave ecosystem.
9:30	Return to the main boat from the cave and the guests will do the cabin check out. Luggage is placed outside of the cabin.
	Lunch is served at the restaurant. Settle the bar bill by the desk at the restaurant (if any)
10:30 - 11:00	Disembark the Peony Cruises and transferred back to Block #34, Big Bay group terminal, Tuan Chau Marina. Relax and wait for the luggage.
11:30 - 12:00	The guests are ready at Tuan Chau Marina.
	<i>Note: The itinerary is subject to change without notice, in accordance with the weather and other operating conditions</i>

Disembark and transfer back to Hanoi. Then transfer to the airport for flight to Da Nang. Arrival Da Nang airport meet our guide & driver then transfer to Hoi An town. Overnight hotel in Hoi An

Meal: Brunch, Brunch (Local food), Dinner (Local food)

Overnight at hotel in Hoi An

DAY 5: FULL DAY CITY TOUR IN HOIAN – HOI AN MEMORIES SHOW (B/L)

Morning's tour

Meet our guide at your hotel and transfer out for a full day city tour to discover the charm of Hoi An as a renowned World Heritage Site. Once a bustling maritime commercial port of Asia between 15th and 19th centuries, Hoi An is now a peaceful town of exceptionally well-preserved architecture, lifestyles and traditions. The town exemplifies a fascinating fusion of cultures between Vietnam and the outside world including China, Japan, Thailand and the Philippines. Highlights for sightseeing include

- The town's iconic **400-year-old Covered Bridge** with a small temple attached to one side as a prominent example of Japanese architecture
- The Museum of Trade Ceramics which is an elegant Vietnamese style wooden house built in 1858 showcasing antique ceramic artifacts, the **200-year-old Tan Ky House** typifying an ancient Chinese merchant residence,
- The Ong Temple built in 1653 by Chinese settlers to worship Guan Yu, an ancient Chinese general whose character stands for loyalty, bravery and justice and the local market vibrant with colors and activities.

Afternoon's tour

- Move on to **Thanh Ha village** to see its traditional ceramic production trade still alive and thriving despite the 500-year passage of time.
- Go ahead to **Cam Thanh Village** You will have chance to **explore the water coconut forest ecosystem and learn about the daily life of Vietnamese fishermen**, their families and their community. You will learn **some techniques fishing tradition** and how to paddle the unique Vietnamese bamboo basket boats while exploring the now tranquil coconut-palm flanked waterways of a past war. Take rowing the unique Vietnamese bamboo basket boats through these small and beautiful channels, come to inside of the water coco palm forest, see these coconut tree growing and get some water coconut fruit.

06.30PM, our guide will pick you at hotel for a special **"Hoi An Memories" show**.

Hoi An Memories is a unique and grand performance with a charismatic storyline that recreates the culture of more than 400 year-old history of the ancient town, which is the exquisite synthesis of dances, lights, music, poetry, creation form.... Starting from humble beginnings in the small town of Hoi An, it has now grown into a global phenomenon. "The most beautiful show in the world" and "a feast for the eyes" is how some of the audience described the performance where 500 skilled dancers deliver a glimpse of the way Hoi An has been developing from a small harbor town into a vibrant tourists' destination, using breath-taking effects, detailed props and intricate and expressive choreography. Adding to the grandeur of the performance is the 25,000 m2 stage, the biggest outdoor stage in Vietnam that has been built on a natural islet on the Thu Bon River.

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch (Local food)

Overnight at hotel in Hoi An

DAY 6: FULL DAY BANA HILLS – GODLEN BRIDGE (B/L)

07:00 – 08:00 am: Our car and a tour guide will pick you up at your hotel lobby. Our first amazing views will start right away, to reach Ba Na Hills we will take a ride via Cable Cars.

The most modern Cable Car in Southeast Asia, visit the Dream Stream Cable car Station and see the panoramic views of Quang Nam - Danang City from high above.

After finishing the first cable car, you will visit the **Golden Bridge** that has recently gone viral, a France wine cellar, **Le Jardin D'amour** (consists of 9 gardens) and **Linh Ung pagoda**.

Continue the 2nd Cable Car to visit the French Village Campanile, Nine Floor Goddess Shrine, Tombstone Temple, Linh Phong Monastery, Linh Chua Linh Tu Temple & Tru Vu Tea Shop. Watch Carnival Performance Show, Square Du Dome ...Challenge the most popular adventure ride - Alpine Coaster (free ride), Lunch at the Restaurant is included

Join in **Fantasy Park** with a walk in **Fairy Forest**, discover Dinosaur Park, play 5D wild west, enjoy 4D death race ride, watch 3D mega 360degree, ride on Journey into the underground, enter Jurassic Park, challenge Freefall Tower and watch out for the Horror House and over 90 free games. Return to the Cable Car to leave Ba Na Hills and back to Hoi An.

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch (Local food)

Overnight at hotel in Hoi An

DAY 7: HOI AN - DA NANG - TAKE FLIGHT TO HO CHI MINH - HALF DAY CITY TOUR (B)

Free at leisure until transfer to Da nang international airport for flight to Ho Chi Minh

Arrive at Tan Son Nhat International Airport, welcome by our guide and transfer to your hotel. Ho Chi Minh City formerly named Saigon is the largest city and economic center of Vietnam always bustling with activities of modern life. It is where businesses converge and shoppers indulge themselves into unlimited choices. However the city also carries with it a rich historical legacy in contrast with its dazzling glamor.

Afternoon's tour

- The **Reunification Palace** which was the former residence of the President of South Vietnam until end of April 1975.
- **Notre Dame Cathedral** - a neo-Romanesque cathedral constructed between 1877 and 1883 using bricks from Marseilles and stained-glass windows from Chartres

- **Old Sai Gon Post Office**
- **Cho Lon** - the Chinatown of the City
- **The Emperor Jade Pagoda** (Phuoc Hai - one of the most interesting pagodas in Vietnam).

Last, stop for shopping at the French-built **Ben Thanh Market** which dates back to 1870 and whose main entrance clock tower has become a city's symbol. Have dinner at local restaurant.

Meal: Breakfast

Overnight at hotel in Ho Chi Minh

DAY 8: FULL DAY MEKONG DELTA (VINH LONG) (B/L)

Vinh Long is the gateway to island life including **Cai Be floating market**, rural homestays and abundant orchards, which can be a highlight of a Mekong Journey. Today, meet with your guide at your hotel then transfer about 136 km to Vinh Long. The driving time is approximately 3 hours and 30 minutes.

Vinh Long is not the largest town in Mekong Delta but as a major, noisy and chaotic transit hub. Embark a boat cruise to lively Cai Be floating market where sellers and buyers bargain and exchange goods from their boats. One thing you won't see at other floating markets is the huge Catholic cathedral on the riverside – a memorable backdrop for photographs. Proceed through a fascinating maze of shady canals to Hoa Binh Phuoc Island. Beautiful landscape of lush vegetation, zigzag canals, peaceful villages and activities of rural life will make you a delightful sight. There on the island, visit some local farmers' homes, interact with warm-hearted hosts and learn about their trades of bonsai gardening, tile and ceramic production and rice paper and coconut candy making. After tour, we transfer back to Ho Chi Minh

Note: it's best to arrive early in the morning to see Cai Be floating market in the busiest time when wholesalers on big boats moor and hang samples of their goods from tall wooden poles.

Meal: Breakfast, Lunch (Local food) – SAU CA RESTAURANT

Overnight at hotel in Ho Chi Minh

DAY 9: HO CHI MINH – DEPARTURE (B)

Morning have breakfast at hotel then free at leisure until meet our guide then transfer to airport for departure flight.

Meal: Breakfast

OPTIONAL – HALF DAY CU CHI TUNNELS

Morning/Afternoon, take a half-day tour to **Cu Chi Tunnels**, 75 km Northwest of downtown Ho Chi Minh City, which were once a major underground hideout and resistance base of Viet Cong forces during the two wars against the French and later on Americans. The tunnels, entirely hand-dug, formed a highly intricate network of interlinked multilevel passageways at times stretched as far as the Cambodian border and totaling over 120 km in length. Its complexity was beyond imagination containing meeting rooms, kitchens, wells, clinics, schools, depots, trenches and emergency exits all aimed for guerrilla warfare. The tunnels were deep and strong enough to withstand destructive bombings and self-contained enough to outlast prolonged sieges. Back to Ho Chi Minh City for next destination.

(with optional tour) LATE CHECK – OUT AT HOTEL IN HO CHI MINH – UNTIL 20:30PM:

LIST OF HOTELS USE

Destination	4 Stars – Le Jardin Haute Couture	4 Stars – The Ann hotel
HA NOI	LE JARDIN HOTEL HAUTE COUTURE - Classic wing www.lejardinhotels.com	THE ANN HOTEL – Deluxe http://theann.com.vn/
HAI PHONG	PEONY CRUISE - Deluxe Balcony www.peonycruises.com	
HOI AN	HOI AN CENTRAL BOUTIQUE HOTEL & SPA - Deluxe www.hoiancentral.com	
HO CHI MINH	NORTHERN CHARM HOTEL - Deluxe https://northerncharmhotel.com.vn/en/	

INCLUSIVE

- Accommodation in a double or twin room with daily breakfast
- One night cruise on a wooden junk in Ha Long Bay
- Lunch or dinner as specified in the itinerary (B=Breakfast/ L=Lunch/ D=Dinner)
- Services of a driver and private air-conditioned vehicle during all tours and transfers.
- Experienced **English-speaking guide** during all tours and transfers
- **Vietnam visa approval letter on arrival**
- **Visa fast track at the airport**
- Entrance fees for all visits as mentioned in the itinerary
- Mineral water is available as complementary

EXCLUSIVE

- International & Domestic flight tickets
- Visa stamping fee at the airport (**US\$ 25 in Vietnam paid by cash at the airport**)
- Personal expenses, such as laundry, telephone, drinks, etc. All other services not specified in the itinerary
- Meals, if not specified in the itinerary
- **Compulsory tipping for guides, drivers, hotel staff, restaurant staff, boat rider, etc. (US \$ 3 for guide and US \$2 for driver per day per person)**
- Surcharge for Peak season, Tet Lunar New year holidays, and compulsory dinner at some hotel & resort on Xmas and New year's Eve
- Travel insurance (we highly recommend that you purchase adequate insurance).