

18 day tour to HCMC (Saigon), Ben Tre, Can Tho, Da Nang, Hoi An, Ha Long Bay Cruise, Hanoi, Lao Cai & Sapa

Delve further into Vietnam on this overland journey, which reveals treasures many tourists miss. Learn about the country's moving history in Ho Chi Minh City, leisure at Hoi An ancient town and beach, explore the history of the Royal Empire in Hue, cruising on Ha Long Bay's emerald water. A trip to Sapa is a journey into the fascinating lives of the ethnic minority villagers that thrive in the unique conditions that life high in the mountains brings.



Day 1 Australia ⊀HCMC (Saigon)

Fly from Australia to Ho Chi Minh City, formally called Saigon, the economic and commercial center of Vietnam. Overnight in HCMC.

Day 2 Ben Tre 🛱 Can Tho

Meal: B/L/D

After checking out of your hotel. please leave your big luggage at the hotel and simply take an overnight bag with you. Enjoy a full day excursion to Ben Tre, 80km south of Saigon, a peaceful town on the banks of the Mekong River. The Tour comprises of a cruise on the Mekong River, a visit to local homes & orchards, a taste of season fruit and honey tea, a performance of traditional southern singing, a horse drawn cart through the village paths and a sampan ride along palm-shaded creeks. Lunch is served as a Mekong specialty at a restaurant on the islet. Continue your journey to Can Tho (110km). Words simply cannot describe this surreal adventure. If time permits you can relax by the pool or take in a massage at the hotel spa on the banks of the Delta. Overnight in Can

Day 3 Can Tho 🛱 Ho Chi Minh City Meal: B/L/WD

Enjoy an early morning boat ride along the Mekong River to the bustling Cai Rang floating market, thronged with buyers and sellers moving around in boats laden with produce. This is a journey you won't forget and is a "must-see" to appreciate the simplicity of the lives and culture of the Vietnamese people. Return to the hotel for a late breakfast and some time to relax.

After lunch drive to Ho Chi Minh City and check into your hotel. A buffet dinner is served tonight.

Day 4 Ho Chi Minh City Meal: B/L/D

This morning, you head to Cu Chi, 70km north of Saigon, which is famous for its 200-kilometre-long tunnels and it was the base for the Viet Cong during the Vietnam War. Return to Ho Chi Minh City for lunch, followed by a city tour featuring the War Remnant Museum, Cho Ben Thanh Markets, Thien Hau Temple and a lacquer workshop.

Dinner on Saigon River Cruise on Indochina

Tonight you will board on modern and safety boat "Indochina Junk" for a magnificent and memorable dining and entertainment spectacle on the Saigon River.

Day 5 Ho Chi Minh City ★ Da Nang ⊞ Hoi An Meal: B/D

Transfer to the airport for your flight to Da Nang. Upon arrival, you visit the Cham Sculpture Museum, which boasts the finest





collection of Cham sandstone sculptures in the world. Continue to Hoi An, the most charming town in Vietnam. Here you will stay 3 nights.

Day 6 Hoi An Meal: B/L/D

Today your guide will show you the ancient town. Hoi An, is so called a 'Living Museum City' because of its well-kept original historical buildings and ancient backstreets. Visit one of the three city's oldest homes, each built over 200 years ago and still occupied by descendants of the families that originally built them. You then tour to the Chinese Assembly Hall, followed by a one hour cruise along the river. Later on you visit to the unique Japanese Bridge. Dinner is served at a local restaurant by the river.

Day 7 Hoi An Meal: B

Today is at leisure to explore more of Hoi An at your own pace, possibly to do some shopping, get some tailor-made clothes or enjoy a rest on the beach or join one of our optional tours below.

A: Optional Red Bridge Cooking Class with Lunch



The staff from the restaurant will show you around the market in the morning, then take you to the restaurant and teach you how to cook simple and healthy Vietnamese food. You will enjoy your cooking, plus another two courses from the chef. Please book direct with the local guide, estimate cost USD35 pp. This is subject to final confirmation, minimum 2 participants.

B: Optional Half Day My Son Excursion with

This morning you are transferred to the Ruins of My Son to see Cham Holy See. Return to Hoi An late in the afternoon. Please book direct with the local guide, estimate cost USD40 pp.

Day 8 Hoi An

□ Da Nang

→ Hanoi □ Ha Long Bay Meal: B/D

After breakfast, transfer to Da Nang airport for your flight to Hanoi. Your tour guide will meet you at the airport and then drive to Ha Long Bay, 170km from Hanoi (it takes approximately 3-4 hours). You stopover at the ceramic and hand embroidery workshops en route. Check in at hotel in Ha Long Bay.

Day 9 Ha Long Bay Cruise Meal: B/L/D Morning city highlights tour in Ha Long. Board your deluxe cruise - Pelican Cruise for a beautiful cruise along Ha Long Bay, a World Heritage site recognised by UNESCO in 1994. You will also visit some magical grottoes and relax in the best scenic beauty Vietnam has to offer. You could also do kavaking, local boat rowing, attend a morning Tai Chi class

Day 10 Ha Long Bay 🛱 Hanoi Meal: runch

& cooking demonstration, squid fishing, or a

movie show. Overnight is on the cruise.

This morning continue your visit to some of the caves in Ha Long Bay. After brunch served on board, you are transferred to Hanoi, Vietnam's capital city which boasts tree-lined streets and centuries-old temples. You stay 2 nights in Hanoi.



Day 11 Hanoi Meal: B/I /D

This morning's sightseeing tour features both cultural and historical highlights, comprising of Ho Chi Minh's Former Residence, the West Lake, the Temple of Literature, the Ethnology Museum, Lake Hoan Kiem, the old guarters and a downtown pedi-cab ride for approximately one hour. An evening show includes the famous Water Puppets (1st class seats).

Day 12 Hanoi 🖶 Lao Cai 🖶 Sapa Meal: B/D

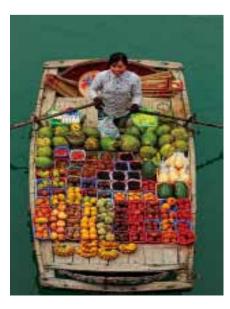
This morning is at leisure. At midday you are picked up from your hotel and depart to Lao Cai. You have the opportunity to enjoy the beautiful scenery on the both sides of this road. At approximately 6.30pm you arrive in Sapa, and enjoy dinner with local Vietnamese dishes. After dinner, you will check in at your hotel. Overnight in Sapa Hotel.

Day 13 Sapa 🖺 Cat Cat 🖺 Sin Chai Meal: B/L

This morning transfer to Cat Cat village 5km from Sapa. You will have the chance to walk through the H'mong village and you will have the opportunity to see the villagers working on the paddy fields with their animals, such as chickens, water-buffaloes and pot-bellied pigs. You can also see the old hydro-electric power station which was built by the French in the early 20th Century, and a beautiful waterfall that is a good place for resting and taking pictures. Going up and down by steps and then you keep walking to Sin Chai village where the black H'mong people also live. You then are picked up at Sin Chai and transferred back to Sapa. Overnight in Sapa.

Day 14 Sapa 🖷 Matra 🛱 Ta Phin Meal: B/L/D

This morning, transfer by car to Ma Tra village, home of black H'Mong people. You can admire the rice paddy fields and spectacular scenery along the way. You will enjoy your lunch before arriving at the Taphin village. Here you can hear about the unmixed



cultural life of Black Hmong and Red Dao minorities, the 2 largest ethnic groups in the area. Enjoy walking among the local people. The trip also offers you the opportunity to visit the local houses as well as the local caves. Then the vehicle will be waiting for you and drive back to Sapa. Overnight in Sapa.

Day 15 Sapa Meal: B/L

This morning you visit Ham Rong (Dragon's Jaw) Mountain to have a panoramic view of Sapa town, Muong Hoa Valley and Fanxipan mountain range with its peak - the roof of Indochina Peninsula. After lunch, transfer back to your hotel. This afternoon is at leisure. Overnight in Sapa.

Meal: B/I

This morning transfer to the ethnic markets (Bac Ha market Sunday, Can Cau Saturday, Coc Ly Tuesday, Cao Son Wednesday, Lung Khau Nhin Thursday). You will see different minorities of people including the Black Dzao, Ha Nhi, Tu Di, Flower H'mong, Tay...wearing their traditional costumes which they make themselves. They come every day to sell local products including vegetable, bamboo shoot, mushroom, medicinal herbs and souvenirs... Great photo opportunities. After lunch transfer back to Hanoi. Overnight in Hanoi.

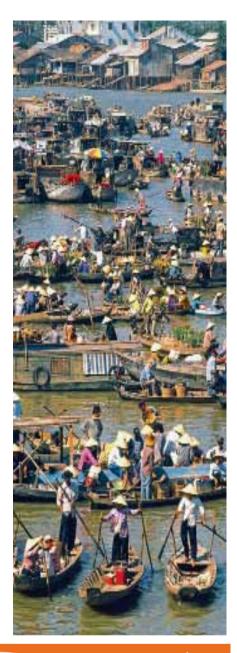
Day 17 Hanoi ★ Australia Meal: B This morning is at leisure followed by a transfer to the airport for your overnight flight bound for Australia via Saigon or Singapore depending on your preferred airline.

Day 18 Australia

Arrive in Australia this morning.







Vietnam Panorama Dates & Prices

Tour code	Start HCMC	End Hanoi Wednesday	Full package with international airfare departing from Sydney / Melbourne / Brisbane# / Adelaide# / Perth#		
	Monday		Vietnam Air	Cathay Pacific	Singapore Air
VP170213	13-Feb-17	01-Mar-17	\$4,380	\$4,580	\$4,730
VP170227	27-Feb-17	15-Mar-17	\$4,380	\$4,580	\$4,730
VP170313	13-Mar-17	29-Mar-17	\$4,380	\$4,580	\$4,730
VP170410	10-Apr-17	26-Apr-17	\$4,380	\$4,580	\$4,730
VP170424	24-Apr-17	10-May-17	\$4,380	\$4,580	\$4,730
VP170508	08-May-17	24-May-17	\$4,280	\$4,480	\$4,630
VP170522	22-May-17	07-Jun-17	\$4,280	\$4,480	\$4,630
VP170612	12-Jun-17	28-Jun-17	\$4,280	\$4,480	\$4,630
VP170703	03-Jul-17	19-Jul-17	\$4,380	\$4,580	\$4,730
VP170724	24-Jul-17	09-Aug-17	\$4,280	\$4,480	\$4,630
VP170814	14-Aug-17	30-Aug-17	\$4,280	\$4,480	\$4,630
VP170904	04-Sep-17	20-Sep-17	\$4,380	\$4,580	\$4,730
VP170925	25-Sep-17	11-Oct-17	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,830
VP171009	09-Oct-17	25-Oct-17	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,830
VP171016	16-Oct-17	01-Nov-17	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,830
VP171030	30-Oct-17	15-Nov-17	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,830
VP171113	13-Nov-17	29-Nov-17	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,830
VP171127	27-Nov-17	13-Dec-17	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,830
VP171218	18-Dec-17	03-Jan-18	\$4,880	\$5,080	\$5,230
VP180129	29-Jan-18	14-Feb-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,830
VP180212	12-Feb-18	28-Feb-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,830
VP180226	26-Feb-18	14-Mar-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,830
VP180312	12-Mar-18	28-Mar-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,830
VP180326	26-Mar-18	11-Apr-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,830
VP180409	09-Apr-18	25-Apr-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,830

- * This tour is a guaranteed departure based on a minimum of 2 people. Full package prices above include airport taxes and fuel surcharges
- * Please refer to Page 7 for Tour Inclusions and Extending Your Holiday details.
- * Triple share on Ha Long cruise not available, a single cabin with surcharge of \$180 can be
- * Land only price: Tour starts from Arrival transfer in HCMC (Saigon) to Departure transfer in Hanoi, including domestic Saigon - Da Nang - Hanoi air tickets & taxes but excluding any international air tickets.
- * Vietnam arrival single entry visa fee included.
- * Package prices of Vietnam Airlines are for departures from Sydney or Melbourne only.
- # Package prices of Singapore Airlines and Cathay Pacific are for departures from Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane, Adelaide or Perth. Any cost including hotel or meals incurred due to the connecting flight in Hong Kong or Singapore will be at your own expenses
- Stopover in Singapore permitted if flying with Singapore Airlines; One stopover in Hong Kong permitted if flying with Cathay Pacific. Extra airport taxes apply. Land arrangemen in Singapore or Hong Kong can be arranged at additional cost.

Hotels used for this tour: 4* Saigon Millennium Boutique Hotel; 4* Can Tho TTC Hotel Premium; 4* Hoi An Thanh Binh Riverside Hotel Garden-view room; 4* Ha Long Bay Royal Lotus Hotel; 4* Ha Long Bay La Vela Premium Cruise; 4* Hanoi Mercure Hotel; 4* Sapa Legend Hotel & Spa or similar.

Pre / Post Stay Hotel: \$135 (HCMC) / \$145 (Hanoi) - per room per night with breakfast