

13 day Tour to HCMC (Saigon), Ben Tre, Can Tho, Da Nang, Hoi An, Ha Long Bay Cruise & Hanoi

From the boisterous energy of Saigon to the tranquil islands of Ha Long Bay, discover the contrasting regions of this diverse country. An insight into traditional Vietnamese life, learn about the people's life at Mekong Delta, wander around antiquated streets in Hoi An and drive through the lush agriculture and stunning coastal vistas of provincial Vietnam from Hoi An to Hue; then cruise on the World UNESCO site of Ha Long Bay and finish in the historic city of Hanoi.



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 Tho.

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

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.

Day 4 Ho Chi Minh City Meal: B/L/D This morning, we 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, then the war theme continues with a visit to the War Remnant Museum, the Reunification Palace & Cho Ben Thanh Markets, Thien Hall Temple and a lacquer workshop.

Dinner on Saigon River Cruise on Indochina Junk.

Tonight you will board a modern "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 our flight to Da Nang. Upon arrival, we 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 we 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. We then tour to the Chinese Assembly Hall, followed by a one hour cruise along the river. Later on we 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 USD33 pp. This is join- in tour and subject to final confirmation.

B: Optional Half Day My Son Excursion with Lunch

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 USD48 pp.



Day 8 Hoi An 🛱 Da Nang 🛧 Hanoi

Meal: B After breakfast, transfer to Da Nang airport for your flight to Hanoi, Vietnam's capital city which boasts tree-lined streets and centuriesold temples. Afternoon is at leisure to explore Hanoi's Old Quarter.

Day 9 Hanoi A Ha Long Bay Meal: B/L/D This morning we depart from Hanoi and travel by road through the Red River Delta to the beautiful Ha Long Bay. The scenic drive will pass through rural landscapes before arriving at this World Heritage site, recognised by UNESCO in 1994. Upon arrival board the deluxe Junk Boat where you will enjoy a welcome drink and freshly caught seafood lunch whilst sailing out of the bay passing amazing shaped mountains. You will also visit some magical grottoes and relax in the best scenic beauty Vietnam has to offer. You could also do Kayaking or local boat rowing (own expense), attend a morning Tai Chi class & Cooking demonstration, Squid Fishing, or a movie show. Overnight is on the cruise.



Day 10 Ha Long Bay 🛱 Hanoi

Meal: Brunch This morning continues our visit to some of the caves or a pearl farm in Ha Long Bay. After brunch which is served on board, you are transferred back to Hanoi. You stay 2 nights in Hanoi.

Day 11 Hanoi Meal: B/L/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 🖈 Australia Meal: B This morning is at leisure followed by a transfer to the airport for your overnight flight to Australia.

Day 13 Australia Arrive in Australia this morning.



Vietnam Highlights Dates & Prices

Tour code	Start HCMC Monday	End Hanoi Friday	Full package with international airfare departing from Sydney / Melbourne / Brisbane# / Adelaide# / Perth#		
			Vietnam Air	Cathay Pacific	Singapore Air
VH180129	29-Jan-18	09-Feb-18	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH180212	12-Feb-18	23-Feb-18	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH180226	26-Feb-18	09-Mar-18	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH180312	12-Mar-18	23-Mar-18	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH180326	26-Mar-18	06-Apr-18	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH180409	09-Apr-18	20-Apr-18	\$3,050	\$3,250	\$3,350
VH180423	23-Apr-18	04-May-18	\$3,050	\$3,250	\$3,350
VH180514	14-May-18	25-May-18	\$3,050	\$3,250	\$3,350
VH180618	18-Jun-18	29-Jun-18	\$3,050	\$3,250	\$3,350
VH180716	16-Jul-18	27-Jul-18	\$3,050	\$3,250	\$3,350
VH180910	10-Sep-18	21-Sep-18	\$3,050	\$3,250	\$3,350
VH181008	08-Oct-18	19-Oct-18	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH181029	29-Oct-18	09-Nov-18	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH181112	12-Nov-18	23-Nov-18	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH181126	26-Nov-18	07-Dec-18	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH181224	24-Dec-18	04-Jan-19	\$3,850	\$4,050	\$4,150
VH190121	21-Jan-19	01-Feb-19	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH190204	04-Feb-19	15-Feb-19	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH190225	25-Feb-19	08-Mar-19	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH190311	11-Mar-19	22-Mar-19	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
VH190325	25-Mar-19	05-Apr-19	\$3,250	\$3,450	\$3,550
Land only: \$2650 Single supplement: \$790					

* 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 <u>Tour Inclusions</u> and <u>Extending Your Holiday</u> details.
* Triple share on Ha Long cruise not available, a single cabin with surcharge of \$180 can be arranged.
* Land only price: Tour starts from <u>Arrival transfer in HCMC (Saigon)</u> to <u>Departure transfer in Hanoi</u> , 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. Those depart from Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra or Hobart will fly Virgin to connect Vietnam Airlines with surcharge of \$150 pp.
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 arrangement in Singapore or Hong Kong can be arranged at additional cost.
Hotels used for this tour: 4* Saigon Prince Hotel; 4* Can Tho TTC Hotel Premium; 4* Hoi An Thanh Binh Riverside Hotel Garden-view room; 4* Ha Long Bay La Vela Premium Cruise; 4* Hanoi Silk Path Hotel or similar.
Pre / Post Stay Hotel: \$160 (HCMC) / \$160 (Hanoi) - per room per night with breakfast