



Vietnam Panorama

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 Tho.

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, 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, 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 Junk.

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 our flight to Da Nang. Upon arrival, we visit the Cham Sculpture Museum, which boasts the finest collection of Cham sandstone sculptures





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 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/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 quarters and a downtown pedi-cab ride for approximately one hour. An evening show includes the famous Water Puppets (1st class seats).

Day 12 Hanoi 🚆 Train to Lao Cai

Meal: B

Today is at leisure (late check out requested) until transfer to Hanoi Train Station for your train TSC Express departs at 21:40 (Standard cabin wooden 4 berth sharing) to Lao Cai which is located in the mountains of Vietnam near the Chinese border. Overnight on train.

in the world. Continue to Hoi An, the most charming town in Vietnam. Here we 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. 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 USD35 pp. This is subject to final confirmation, minimum 2 participants.

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 USD40 pp.

Day 8 Hoi An 🚗 Da Nang ✈️ Hanoi

Meal: B/D

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

Day 9 Hanoi 🚢 Ha Long Bay

Meal: B/L/D

This morning we depart from Hanoi and



Day 13 Lao Cai ⇄ Sapa Meal: B/L/D

Upon arrival at around 6am in Lao Cai; breakfast served before we drive to the ethnic markets (Tuesday Coc Ly Fair, Wednesday Cao Son Fair, Thursday Lung Khau Nhin Fair, Saturday Can Cau Fair, Sunday Bac Ha Fair). Enjoy watching 6 different minorities peoples (Flower H'mong, Black Dzao, Tay, Dzay, Ha Nhi and Nung) in their traditional colourful costumes, gathering to buy and sell their homemade products including vegetables, bamboo shoot, mushrooms, medicinal herbs and souvenirs in the festive market. This is the weekly chance for the minorities to meet and share joy and sorrows after the crops. Complete your action-packed itinerary by hopping on a traditional Vietnamese boat for a ride down the snaking path of the Chay River before your return to Sapa. Overnight in Sapa Town.

Day 14 Sapa Meal: B/L/D Suoi Ho – Ma Tra – Ta Phin

We leave Sapa town and trek to Suoi Ho village to see tea plantations and cardamom gardens. Follow the buffalo trails to visit the hospitable villages of the Black Hmong minority people in Ma Tra. You can admire the rice paddy fields and spectacular scenery along the way. Picnic lunch will be served on the way before arriving at Ta Phin village to visit Red Dao people.

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

Day 15 Sapa Meal: B/L/D Lao Chai – Ta Van – Giang Ta Chai

After breakfast, transfer to Lao Chai, a village of the Black Hmong ethnic people. Here we will discover their daily life and how they make their traditional clothes, handicraft, indigo... We visit the biggest valley which offers to you the best views of the golden rice terrace fields in Vietnam. After the Lao Chai village, we walk to Ta Van, a village of Giay people who still preserve a rich and traditional culture. We enjoy lunch with a local family in one of the beautiful traditional houses located on their rice paddy fields.

After lunch, we walk through the fantastic rice paddy field where we have a nice photo session of the amazing surrounding landscape, then keep trekking through a tropical bamboo forest before reaching a nice waterfall where you will have a panoramic view of Giang Ta Chai village. Afterward we go to the main road to take a bus back to Sapa. Overnight in Sapa at Topas Ecologde.

Day 16 Sapa ⇄ Hanoi Meal: B

After breakfast, we take a 6 hour drive back to Hanoi. Rest of the day is at leisure. 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 to Australia.

Day 18 Australia
Arrive in Australia this morning.**Vietnam Panorama Dates & Prices**

Tour code	Start HCMC Monday	End Hanoi Wednesday	Full package with international airfare departing from Sydney / Melbourne / Brisbane# / Adelaide# / Perth#		
			Vietnam Air	Cathay Pacific	Singapore Air
VP180129	29-Jan-18	14-Feb-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP180212	12-Feb-18	28-Feb-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP180226	26-Feb-18	14-Mar-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP180312	12-Mar-18	28-Mar-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP180326	26-Mar-18	11-Apr-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP180409	09-Apr-18	25-Apr-18	\$4,280	\$4,480	\$4,580
VP180423	23-Apr-18	09-May-18	\$4,280	\$4,480	\$4,580
VP180514	14-May-18	30-May-18	\$4,280	\$4,480	\$4,580
VP180618	18-Jun-18	04-Jul-18	\$4,280	\$4,480	\$4,580
VP180716	16-Jul-18	01-Aug-18	\$4,280	\$4,480	\$4,580
VP180910	10-Sep-18	26-Sep-18	\$4,280	\$4,480	\$4,580
VP181008	08-Oct-18	24-Oct-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP181029	29-Oct-18	14-Nov-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP181112	12-Nov-18	28-Nov-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP181126	26-Nov-18	12-Dec-18	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP181224	24-Dec-18	09-Jan-19	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP190121	21-Jan-19	06-Feb-19	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP190204	04-Feb-19	20-Feb-19	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP190225	25-Feb-19	13-Mar-19	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP190311	11-Mar-19	27-Mar-19	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780
VP190325	25-Mar-19	10-Apr-19	\$4,480	\$4,680	\$4,780

Land only: \$3880 Single supplement: \$990

* 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 arranged.

* 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. 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, Sapa Legend Hotel & Spa (1N); Sapa Topas Ecologde (2N) or similar.

Pre / Post Stay Hotel: \$160 (HCMC) / \$160 (Hanoi) - per room per night with breakfast