

DISCOVERY VIETNAM 9 DAYS TOUR

(Ho Chi Minh - Cu Chi - Mekong Delta - Da Nang - Hanoi - Ninh Binh - Halong - Hanoi)

Itinerary Overview

As the name suggests, this DISCOVERY VIETNAM 9 DAYS TOUR is a perfect gift for you and your family to enjoy what this S-shaped country can offer. During 9 days, you can take your time to admire the most notable Vietnamese attractions from South to North such as Ho Chi Minh city, Bana Hill, Halong Bay, Tam Coc... as well as share memorable moments with your beloved ones.

Day	Destination	Meals
Day 1	HO CHI MINH ARRIVAL	/
Day 2	HO CHI MINH CITY TOUR – CU CHI TUNNELS	B/L
Day 3	DAY TRIP TO MEKONG DELTA – FLY TO DANANG	B/L
Day 4	DANANG – BANA HILLS & GOLDEN BRIDGE	B/L
Day 5	DANANG – HOIAN – COUNTRYSIDE & CYCLING TOUR	B/L
Day 6	HOIAN – FREE DAY	B
Day 7	HOIAN – HANOI – HALF DAY CITY TOUR	B
Day 8	DAY TRIP TO HOA LU – TAM COC	B/L
Day 9	DAY TRIP TO HALONG BAY - DEPARTURE	B/L

Note*: B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner

Day 1 HO CHI MINH ARRIVAL

Welcome to Ho Chi Minh City – the largest city in Vietnam. Our driver will meet you at the airport and transfer you to the hotel for check-in. The room is at your disposal from 2 pm onwards. The balance of the day will be free at your leisure. Meals on your own. Overnight at the hotel.

Note*: this is a copy of itinerary on Indochina Treks Travel' Official Website and not the final itinerary.

Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh
- Meals: none
- Tour Guide: none
- Transfer: Private airport transfer

Day 2 HO CHI MINH CITY TOUR – CU CHI TUNNELS

Take the morning trip to visit **Independence Palace**, also known as the Reunification palace, was built on the site of the former Norodom palace. The Independence palace is a widely known landmark of Ho Chi Minh City and was designed by the architect Ngo Viet Thu. Continue seeing the beautiful structures from the French Colonial times such as the **Notre Dame Cathedral**, the historic **Central Post Office**. Followed by the remarkable site of the **War Remnants Museum** the museum has a vast display of the both the Indochina wars.

Have lunch at local restaurant.

Depart for Cu Chi tunnel, the trip will take **approximately one and a half hours bus driving**. Upon arrival, before exploring the tunnels, you will have some short introduction followed by introductory video about how the tunnels were constructed and how the people survived in the harsh conditions of the war time. Then, spend your time to explore the remaining area and tunnel systems which included the special constructed living areas with kitchens, bedrooms side by side with other martial facilities like storage, weapons factories, field hospitals, and command centers helping whoever lives inside the tunnels meet their basic needs. Besides, there are also many hidden trap doors and dangerous traps within the maze-like tunnels for security purpose during the war. Afterward, special tea and cassava (guerilla's food during the war) will be served.

Break time for relax or time for those who want to try the real shooting gun.

Return to Saigon

Inclusions

- Entrance fees
- Accommodation: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh City
- Meals: Breakfast/Lunch
- Transfer: group transfer
- Tour guide: English Speaking guide for the group tour

Day 3

DAY TRIP TO MEKONG DELTA – FLY TO DANANG

07:30 AM: Depart for Cai Be by van/bus via Trung Luong Expressway.

Upon arrival in **Cai Be**, have a boat ride to the remaining site of a renowned wholesale floating market on the Tien River many years ago. This site entitles you to know something about the local trading habit that has changed due to the age of the modern society when more terrestrial transportation and high technique of agriculture have dominated everywhere. There, you can realize how diverse the area is and how rich orchard gardens are, which makes it the basket of fruit in the lower part of the Mekong River.

Ramble in small villages where you will uncover the beauty of an ancient house and learn about the indigenous culture. Make a short visit to a small family business where the locals make coconut fudges and crispy rice popcorn. Savor delicious fresh fruit and feel the slow rhythms of Southern Vietnamese folk music – a kind of music entwined with the life and culture of the Mekong Delta people. Paddle through small canals – an exciting experience since you can look around, unwind, and soak up the wonderful atmosphere of the Upper Mekong Delta. Additionally, after arrival on Tan Phong Island, immerse yourself in nature's tranquility.

At lunch time, you not only enjoy luscious food but also get closer to the locals as it is a chance to learn how to prepare Vietnamese specialties. The meal is cooked on your own and served in the heart of the local garden.

Cycle on the village path through orchards. Meet the local islanders to learn more about the local daily life in the Mekong Delta. Visit **Ba Kiệt's ancient house**.

Take a boat ride back to Cai Be. We drive another 1,5 hours back to Ho Chi Minh City for flight to Danang.

Once arrival in Danang, you will be warmly welcomed by our tour guide to transfer to the hotel in Danang to check-in. Dinner on your own. Overnight at the hotel.

Inclusions

- Entrance fees
- Accommodation: Hotel in Danang
- Meals: Breakfast/Lunch
- Transfer: Group transfer, private car to airport
- Other: Boat trip on Mekong Delta
- Tour guide: English speaking guide for the group tour

Day 4 DANANG – BANA HILLS & GOLDEN BRIDGE

After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to Ba Na hills and take Cable Car which gains 5 world scores to Ba Na hills station. Stop at By Night station to visit Vong Nguyet hills, Linh Ung pagoda, The Old Villas of French, the Golden bridge...

Continue moving up by cable car to the Nui Chua Mountain – the top of Ba Na range, visiting Nghinh Phong top, Le Nim Villas, Orchid Garden... Experience hill climbing train (first and unique funicular in Vietnam) and visit an old French cellar (Debay Ancient Wine Cellar), flower garden Le Jardin D'amour.

Buffet lunch will be served at the restaurant.

In the afternoon, you will be free for joining games in Fantasy Park – the third biggest indoor games zone in Vietnam with series of interesting games: 4 – 5D film, skiver, The death race, dinosaur park... (2 hours). Or discover Ba Na hills on your own.

Around 3pm, we will transfer back the cable car and head to Danang. Dinner on your own. Overnight at the hotel.

Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Danang
- Entrance fees
- Meals: Breakfast at the hotel, lunch
- Transfer: Group transfer
- Tour guide: English speaking guide for group tour

Day 5 DA NANG - HOIAN – COUNTRYSIDE & CYCLING TOUR

Spend a day leisurely cycling through the scenic countryside of Vietnam, far from the traffic the motor scooters, and the noises of the city. You will cross the islands on the Thu Bon river delta using local transportation, including ferries and floating bridges.

During the tour, the guests will discover

- Enjoy a river crossing on a local ferry
- Traditional boat-building yards.
- Inlaid with mother of pearl.
- How to weave the traditional sleeping mats.
- Traditional Vietnamese countryside house.

- Basket boat builder.
- Testing the basket boat.
- Rice wine family maker.
- The story of the countryside family temple.
- Crossing a floating bridge (when is available).
- 40 minutes boat trip on the delta of the Thu Bon river.

And much more depending on the activities of the people we meet along the way

Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Hoian
- Meals: Breakfast at the hotel, lunch with local
- Transfer: Group transfer
- Tour guide: English speaking guide for group tour

Day 6 HOIAN – FREE DAY

You will have free day to explore Hoian town.

Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Hoian
- Meals: Breakfast

Day 7 DANANG – FLY TO HANOI – HALF DAY CITY TOUR

Today, you will be transferred to the airport to take your domestic flight to Hanoi.

Once arrival, we will spend a half day to visit the city. We start with visit to President Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum (Outside). We also visit the famous One Pillar Pagoda nearby. Leaving the President's complex, we continue to visit the Temple of Literature (Van Mieu). Although several Van Mieu can be found throughout Vietnam, the most prominent and famous is that situated in the city of Hanoi, and was functioned as Vietnam's first university.

Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

- Meals: Breakfast
- Transfer: Private airport transfer
- Tour guide: Private english speaking guide

Day 8

HANOI – NINH BINH – BAI DINH PAGODA – TRANG AN – MUA CAVE - HANOI

07:30 – 08:00 – Our guide will meet you at your hotel/stay and start 110km modern bus-journey through verdant landscape of country side. Short-brake en route.

10:00 – Arrive Glimmering Bai Dinh pagoda complexes, the largest pagoda, not only in Vietnam but also in Southeast of Asia. Scenically set on the foot hill of Dinh Mountain surrounded by amazing views of the exquisite river valley below and dotted and the limestone karsts dotted around which will take your breath away.

This pagoda complex is stunningly boasting an array of the most massive and magnificent architecture of Vietnamese tradition refined ever built that it take a full day to explore all. So you will visit some of the highlights that owned the national: 500 stone statues of “La Han” (Arhats), 2 huge bronze bells, one weighs 27 tons, other weighs 36 tones. Visit The Quan Yin statue with thousands arms and eyes, Visit Gautama Buddha statue.

With sacred atmospheres and intriguing Buddhism story which presented by Go Asia Travel’s insider guide, you cannot fail to enchant.

12:00 – Enjoy the lunch at our restaurant with the great local cuisines.

13:30 – Leave for the Trang An Grottoes, an out-standing natural beauty of majestic limestone massif at 20 square kilometer rise dramatically out from rice paddy fields. Deep into the linked chains of towering mountain are pristine places of mystical valleys, numerous fresh water ponds, and jungle. Embark on a traditional sampan gently rowed down the exquisite river through numerous caves: Lam Cave, Vạng Cave, Đạ Cave, Thánh Trượt Cave,...and Cao Sơn Temple, Suối Tiên Temple, Vũ Lâm Temple...

15:30 – Arrive Mua Cave and start an amazing trek up to the top of Ngoa Long mountain for watching the spectacular rice valley with specious view of the nature.

17:15 – Return to our Limousine bus and then come back to Ha Noi

19:30 – Drop you off at your hotel.

Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi
- Meals: Breakfast, Lunch with local food
- Transfer: Private airport transfer
- Tour guide: Private english speaking guide

Day 9

DAY TRIP TO HALONG BAY – HANOI - DEPARTURE

08:15 – 09:00: Our bus and guide pick you up from hotel / stay and follow the new high way to depart for Tuan Chau Island, Halong City, stop over for a rest on the way

12:00: Arriving Tuan Chau Harbor, welcome aboard, and safety briefing

The ship will take you on an over 5 hours journey via 2 day-sleeper boat cruise route which renowned for its striking, passages uninhabited islets and outcrops have been given imaginative names by the locals, due to their perceived shapes, including Cock Fighting and Thumb, while enjoy Vietnamese mouth-watering lunch on boat.

13:45: Arriving Bo Hon archipelago, you will visit **Surprising Cave** to see a lot of stalagmites and stalactites with different shapes of sea lives, the go kayaking or bamboo boat in **Luon Cave** to discovery the beautiful lagoon.

Visiting **Titov Island** with sandy beach adjacent to the towering limestone mountain with excellent backdrop of the Bay, and climb up Titov Peak for a panoramic view of the bay like paradise.

16:30: Returning to We Go Halong Cruise for relaxing and cruising back toward **Tuan Chau harbor.** There are a lot of time for sunbathing on upper deck, enjoy great fun of group touring fellows among world iconic natural scenery.

18:00: Disembarking for going back on the new high way to airport. Trip ends!

Inclusions

- Accommodation: none
- Meals: Breakfast at the hotel, Lunch with local food
- Transfer: Group transfer, private airport transfer
- Tour guide: English speaking guide on cruise

Low Season from May to Sept

Hotel category	Price in INR/person (small group – 12 pax max)			
	2 - 3 pax	4-5 pax	6-7 pax	Single supplement
3* Hotels	47,959	45,338	43,350	12,870
4* Hotels	54,790	52,169	50,181	19,998
5* Hotels	Contact us (book the tour)			

High Season from Oct to Apr

Hotel category	Price in INR/person (small group – 12 pax max)			
	2 - 3 pax	4-5 pax	6-7 pax	Single supplement
3* Hotels	50,426	47,805	45,817	15,444
4* Hotels	57,067	54,446	52,458	22,374
5* Hotels	Contact us (book the tour)			

Note*:

- If you want a **private tour**, or your group size is from **8pax** up, or if you want price for **5* hotels**, please contact us. Please book the tour and note details in our booking form.
- The rate is not applied for peak season as New Year, National holiday, Tet Holiday (Lunar New Year), Christmas. If travelling during these periods, please contact us for price.

Inclusions & Exclusions

Inclusions:

- Accommodation with daily breakfast
- Tours and transfers as mentioned by air-conditioned vehicle
- Joint in tour in Ho Chi Minh city tour & Cu Chi Tunnels, Mekong Delta, Bana Hills & Golden Bridge, Hoian cycling, Hoa Lu, & Tam Coc, Halong Bay
- Boat trips as mentioned in the itinerary
- Local English speaking guides
- Meals where mentioned (B: breakfast; L: lunch; D: dinner)
- Entrance fees
- Government taxes and service charges

Exclusions:

- Vietnam visa fee
- Personal expenses (laundry, telephone, drinks, tip...)
- Travel insurance
- Compulsory tips for guide and driver
- International flights
- Single supplement
- Internal flights in economy class as mentioned in the itinerary: Ho Chi Minh – Danang, Danang – Hanoi.

Cancellation Policy

- Cancellation received 60 days or more before arrival date: 15% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 30 days to 59 days prior arrival date: 25% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 15 days to 29 days prior arrival date: 50% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 7 days to 14 days prior arrival date: 70% of total rate
- Cancellation received less than 7 days prior arrival date or No show: 100% of total rate

Children Policy

- For infant (<02 years old): FOC
- 02 – 6 years old without bed: 35% adult rate
- 06 – 10 years old with extra bed: 85% adult rate
- from 11 years old: 100% adult rate

Important Information

Emergency Contact

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call the travel consultant whom you deal with and then our hot line contacts. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please send us a detailed message and contact information by email to the agent and to info@indochinatreks.com, we may check and return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

Our all travel consultants use WhatApps. Please ensure that you have the contact number. It's best to buy a local sim-card upon arrival. Most hotels offer free wifi. So it's very easy to contact in urgent case.

Emergency contact numbers

Mr. Kelvin Do: +84 986759655

Ms. Thuy Pham: +84 984654964

Accommodation

We would use different hotel categories and you can select any basing on your budget. So your travel companions would not stay at your hotel. A Hotel Voucher will be provided once your tour is confirmed with all hotel details.

Packing List

Conservative Dress

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

Note*: Please pack clothing for the season in which you will be travelling. From Dec-Feb weather can be cold, so please pack warm clothing. From May-Nov it is the wet season, so please bring waterproof clothing.

Documents

- All tickets (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Required visas
- Hotel & Tour Vouchers
- Meeting sign (with your names and flight details that we will use for transfers)

Train Travel

Train travel in Vietnam is very basic and train cleanliness is often not a priority for train staff. Sleeper trains normally have 4 seats per compartment, which convert into sleeping bunks (two upper and two lower). A sheet, pillow and blanket are provided, although many people prefer to bring their own sleeping sheet. At times, passengers of different genders may be required to share a sleeper train berth and/or share a compartment with people not travelling in your group. For short distance - 3 hours (as Hue to Danang or vv), you will do the trip on soft/hard seat carriage.

Simple food is available on the train but many people like to stock up on freshly baked bread, cheese and fruit prior to departure. Water should also be bought before the journey.

Train journeys in Vietnam are an experience and allow you to get a real taste of Vietnam.

Airport transfers

All airport transfers are included in the tour price. You should provide us your arrival/departure flight details and we will arrange things basing on the information. A meeting sign with your name and all flight details will be sent to you. Please be ready at the lobby at pointed time for pickup.

Driver/guide should always be present at the airport before your arrival time. If you could not find the driver, please contact your travel consultant who you deal with. For any reason that airport transfer could not be arranged, please take the taxi to the hotel. We will refund the money then.

Travel insurance

Travel insurance is not included in our tour price. When travelling with us, you are suggested to buy insurance that covers all medical coverage, cancellation, personal liability, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects.

Trip Specific Safety

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

Be aware that petty theft can be an issue in some towns and cities especially late at night. A common tactic is opportunists on motorbikes that drive by and snatch bags. Please always leave valuables and passports etc in your hotel in safety boxes if available and only carry with you enough cash to spend for the day. Bags should always be carried over the neck and not left to sit on your shoulder.

Warming

Please do not buy gems unless you know what you are doing. Even if genuine you should not expect to be able to sell them at home. If you fall victim to a gem scam, we are unable to assist you.

Visas and Entry Requirements

Please note that visas for Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are the responsibility of the individual traveler. The visa requirements for your trip vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. For the most up to date information please check your Governments Foreign Ministry website or with you travel agent as rules do change.

CAMBODIA - Visas can be obtained at the Cambodian border or Siem Reap Airport for approx. \$35 USD very easily. Please have *at least* 2 passport photos with you as well.

VIETNAM - As of March 2017, a select 80 nationalities are now eligible to enter Vietnam with an E-Visa. Please contact your Foreign Ministry or Vietnamese consulate to see if your nationality is eligible. Please note that you should ONLY apply for a Vietnam E-Visa if you are entering Vietnam by international airport - either Noi Bai International Airport (Hanoi) or Tan Son Nhat International Airport (Ho Chi Minh City).

If you are entering Vietnam by land border, please apply for a regular visa for Vietnam. Many of the land borders we travel through do not accept the Vietnam E-Visa. Please view this link to apply E-Visa: <https://evisa.xuatnhapcanh.gov.vn/web/guest/trang-chu-ttdt>

LAOS - Visas are issued upon arrival in Laos. You will need two passport size photographs and approx \$35. Tourists are generally admitted to Laos for 15 days with a visa on arrival or for 30 days with a visa issued at a Lao embassy. Please bring visa photos with you.

Please be aware that you will require four clean pages (minimum) in your passport and at least six months validity.

Tipping

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of

considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$3-\$5 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service.

Electricity

Indochina Countries use 220V, and a mixture of flat 2-pin, round 2-pin or 3 pin plugs. It is recommended to bring a universal plug adapter.