

## 7 DAYS EXPLORE NORTH OF VIETNAM

(Hanoi – Sapa – Halong Bay)

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### Itinerary Overview

Day	Destination	Meals
Day 1	HANOI – ARRIVAL	/
Day 2	HANOI – CITY & STREET FOOD TOUR	B/D
Day 3	HANOI – SAPA – SHORT TREK TO Y LINH HO – LAO CHAI – TA VAN	B/L/D
Day 4	TA VAN – GIANG TA CHAI – CAT CAT - SAPA	B/L/D
Day 5	SAPA - HANOI	B/L
Day 6	HANOI – HALONG BAY – NIGHT ON BOARD	B/L/D
Day 7	HALONG BAY – HANOI - DEPARTURE	B/L

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

### Detailed Itinerary

#### Day 1 HA NOI - ARRIVAL

Welcome to Hanoi. Our driver will come to pick you up to transfer to your hotel to check-in. The room is at your disposal from 14:00 PM.

Meals on your own. Overnight at the hotel..

## Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi
- Transfer: Private transfer

## Day 2 HANOI – CITY TOUR & STREET FOOD TOUR

Free to relax in the morning.

**13:30:** Pick up at your hotel. 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.

After that, your local guide will then take you to one of Hanoi's best kept secrets, a hidden street food restaurant to taste top ten street foods in Hanoi is **Banh My Hanoi**, and enjoy the famous **Egg Coffee**. This hard-to-find café is one of the few left in the narrow street inside the old quarter of Hanoi. Or, if coffee is not your style, a cold beer awaits!. At the end of the trip you are free to continue exploring the area or your guide will assist you back to your hotel.

## Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi
- Meals: Breakfast/Dinner
- Transfer: Private car
- Tour guide: English speaking guide

## Day 3 HANOI – SAPA – TREK TO Y LINH HO – LAO CHAI - TA VAN

**6.30 – 7.00:** Pick up from your hotel/accommodation, get on big bus and depart for Sapa Town.

**9.30:** Follow the highway to Lao Cai city with the first comfort break

**11.00:** Second comfort break at Lao Cai city before approaching Sapa

**13.00:** Arrive Sapa Town with colorful traditional costumes of H'Mong, Dzao, Tay ethnic People.

- Welcome drink and itinerary briefing, enjoy the lunch with local Vietnamese dishes

**14.15:** A short drive to Y Linh Ho then trek through the rice terraces and along Muong Hoa Stream to the Black Hmong village of Lao Chai to see the spectacular landscape of Hoang Lien Son Mountain. You approach Ta Van village where Dzay Ethnic People inhabits in late afternoon.

**Trekking distance is about 9 kms and it lasts for 3.5 hours**

**17.45:** Check in homestay; get to know the family of Dzay People. Spend time to enjoy the mountain life on Sunset. You may attend cooking local dishes with the family and enjoy dinner in peace.

In the evening, you can join the local bar nearby with music and socialize with other tourists then overnight at The Yen Homestay in Ta Van Village.

### **Inclusions**

- Accommodation: Homestay in Sapa
- Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner
- Transfer: Group Transfer
- Tour guide: English speaking guide for group tour

## **Day 4 TA VAN – GIANG TA CHAI – CAT CAT - SAPA**

**8.00:** Have breakfast prepared by the family and start a new day with more interesting trek.

**8.45:** Keep walking to the rice paddies where you have a nice photo session of the amazing surrounding

landscapes; a trek through the bamboo forest; stop to have a panorama view of Giang Ta Chai village—home of red Dzao People.

**11.00:** Trek through the Giang Ta Chai Bridge to main road, bus picks you up to come back Sapa Town.

**Trekking distance is about 4 kms and it lasts for 2 hours**

**12.00 – 14.00:** Welcome drink at hotel, have lunch with delicious Vietnamese dishes and check in procedures.

**14.30:** A short drive to the gate of Cat Cat village which is home of Black H'mong ethnic people and is located near the bottom of a deep valley at the foot of Fansipan Peak. Our local guide will show you the daily life activities of the locals, trek down to the valley bottom to the waterfall where the French built a Hydraulic Power Station, stop for photo with bridge and waterfall then you will walk uphill for bus to pick up to get back to Sapa in the afternoon.

**16.30:** Come back to Sapa Town. Have dinner and overnight in hotel with night activities.

### **Inclusions**

- Accommodation: Hotel in Sapa
- Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner
- Transfer: Group Transfer
- Tour guide: English speaking guide for group tour

## Day 5 SAPA - HANOI

**7.30 – 11.30:** Have breakfast at hotel and free times to discover Sapa town by yourself.

**11.30:** Check out and clear all the bills.

**12.30 – 13.30:** Have lunch at the hotel.

**13.30 – 14.45:** Relax and leisure on your own, have shower in the public bathroom in the hotel if you want.

**14.45 – 15.00:** Meet all group members at hotel to get ready for Hanoi.

**15.30:** Get on bus to go back to Hanoi with two comfort breaks.

**21.15:** Get back to your hotel.

### Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi
- Meals: Breakfast/Lunch
- Transfer: Group Transfer
- Tour guide: English speaking guide for group tour

## Day 6 HANOI – HALONG BAY – NIGHT ON BOARD

You will be picked up at your hotel in Hanoi Old Quarter and transferred to Ha Long **11:30-12:00**

Upon arrival at Tuan Chau International Cruise Port, you will enjoy a warm welcome by our cruise staff in the waiting lounge and complete check-in procedure.

**12:30** Upon boarding, our crew welcome you with a refreshing drink and cold towel before checking into your cabin. The vessel leaves Tuan Chau Marina, taking you on an exciting journey to discover the beauty of **Ha Long Bay**. Along the way, you can enjoy the view of some of the most beautiful spots in Ha Long and admire the grandeur of the Bay with thousands of limestone islands while the vessel heads to Surprising Cave.

Enjoy your lunch at our luxurious restaurant on board while the vessel cruises toward Surprising Cave.

**14:45** Explore the Surprising Cave – the most beautiful cave in HaLong Bay.

After that, we will take you to visit Titop Island – swimming, climbing up to the Top of the Island – take the best view of Ha Long Bay in the Summer time.

**17:30-18:00** Back on board, you will participate in **Sunset party & cooking class** while the vessel cruises toward the shore. You can enjoy relaxing moments while sipping a cup of traditional Vietnamese

tea or coffee on the sundeck amid wonderful scenery and beautiful sunset. Ha Long Bay is calm during the day, but when the sun goes down, the Bay becomes even more tranquil and peaceful.

You will be instructed to make delicious **Fresh Spring rolls** by our chef and then enjoy the rolls made on your own.

**17:30-18:30** Happy hour - **BUY 2 DRINK GET 1 FOR FREE** (cocktails, mocktails...)

**19:00-20:00** Enjoy your dinner on the Sundeck (if the weather is favorable)

After dinner, you will enjoy a peaceful view of the Bay at night on the deck. Enjoying music and some drinks at Sky Bar while admiring the breathtaking view of the Bay at night or squid fishing.

**The cruise ship anchors for your peaceful night stay in quiet area**

## Inclusions

- Entrance fees
- Accommodation: Overnight on Halong Bay Cruise
- Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner with local food
- Transfer: Shuttle bus for Hanoi – Halong Bay
- Tour guide: English Speaking guide on Cruise

## Day 7 HA LONG BAY – HANOI - DEPARTURE

Have breakfast on board while the boat starts cruising to the Natural Preservation Area.

**07:45-09:00** Kayaking to explore Luon Cave. If you are lucky, you can catch great photos with mischievous monkeys jiggling up and down around the cliffs

**09.30** Check-out time. Please put your luggage outside your cabin and leave the room key at the reception desk. Our staff will transfer your luggage to the waiting area. While waiting, you can shop for some products of the cruise.

**10.00** Enjoy an early lunch at the restaurant on the 2nd floor and settle the bills if any.

**11.00** Arrival at Tuan Chau Marina and transfer to hotel in Hanoi. Our driver will meet you and transfer to airport for flight departure. Trip ends!

## Inclusions

- Accommodation: none
- Meals: Breakfast, Brunch with local food
- Transfer: Shuttle bus for Halong Bay – Hanoi, private airport transfer.
- Tour guide: English speaking guide on the 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	33,066	31,395	30,302	23,265
4* Hotels	37,472	35,801	34,708	27,671
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	33,561	31,890	30,797	23,760
4* Hotels	37,868	36,197	35,104	28,067
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 in a double/twin share with daily breakfast
- Tours and transfers as mentioned by air-conditioned vehicle
- Joint in tour
- Local English speaking guides
- Meals where mentioned (B: breakfast; L: lunch; D: dinner)
- Entrance fees
- Halong bay 2 day Cruise package – Join tour

**Exclusions:**

- International flight ticket
- Vietnam visa fee
- Single supplement surcharge
- Drinks, other than water on activity days
- Personal expenses (laundry, telephone, drinks,...)
- Compulsory tips for guide and driver
- Travel insurance

## 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](mailto: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.