

NORTHERN VIETNAM TRIP – 7 DAYS

(Hanoi – Sapa – Ninh Binh – Halong – Hanoi)

Itinerary Overview

By participating in this group trip, you will have the chance to explore main locations in North Vietnam like Hanoi, Sapa, Ninh Binh, and Halong Bay. When you visit Halong Bay, you will be drawn in by a wonderful location that owns a fantastic blend of pristine natural beauty and a complex of limestone islands.

Day	Destination	Meals
Day 1	HANOI ARRIVAL	--
Day 2	HANOI CITY TOUR – OVERNIGHT TRAIN TO SAPA	B
Day 3	TREKKING Y LINH HO – LAO CHAI – TA VAN VILLAGE	B/L
Day 4	SAPA – HANOI	B
Day 5	HANOI – HOA LU – TRANG AN BOATING – MUA CAVE – HANOI	B/L
Day 6	HANOI – HALONG DAY TRIP – HANOI	B/L
Day 7	HANOI DEPARTURE	B

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

Itinerary Overview

Day 1 HANOI ARRIVAL

Arrive in Hanoi. Greeted by your driver at the airport. Transfer to your hotel in the city center for check-in and at leisure for the rest of the day.

Note*:

- The hotel room will be available at 2:00 pm, and in case you would like to secure an early check-in, an additional charge will be applied.
- Please be advised that both international and domestic might be crowded at sometimes during the day, so in case you arrive and cannot find our representatives, please contact us, so we could easily search for you.

Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi
- Transfer: Private car

Day 2 HANOI CITY TOUR – OVERNIGHT TRAIN TO SAPA (B)

Free in the morning.

In the afternoon, we will spend a half day visiting the city. We start with a 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 functioned as Vietnam's first university.

Back to the Old Quarter. Free on your own.

In the evening, pick up to transfer to the station for an overnight train to Sapa.

Inclusions

- Entrance fees
- Accommodation: Overnight train to Sapa
- Meals: Breakfast at the hotel
- Transfer: Private car
- Tour guide: Private English Speaking guide

Day 3 TREKKING Y LINH HO – LAO CHAI – TA VAN VILLAGE (B, L)

9.00 AM: Meet up your local guide at the hotel and start trekking. The first part is on the road but we soon turn to the right and walk on a small path down the valley to Y Linh Ho village settled down by the Muong Hoa River and from here to the Black H'mong village of Lao Chai. Black H'mong is one of the biggest minority groups in the Sapa area. They are proud of their culture and keep their traditions and way of living. They have their own language and wear traditional indigo blue clothing. The H'mong peoples have just recently changed their living way from sifting style into the sedentary one. So there are still a lot traces of the past time can be seen: rudimentary houses, stone wall around homes...

After that you continue to Ta Van village (1.200m) to visit Zay people. Zay is a fairly small minority group of about 38.000 people who live mainly in the mountains in Northwest Vietnam. The development has meant that some of their old customs have been lost but many women still wear traditional shirts with a purple, blue or green color. The Zay houses are build of wood and bamboo with a clay floor.

If you travel sometime between May and October, you will have chance to observe and experience how the local do planting and harvesting on the beautiful rice terrace fields of Muong Hoa valley, one of the most important activities in the daily life.

After visiting Ta Van village, our car await to take you back to your hotel in Sapa.

Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Sapa
- Meals: Breakfast, Lunch
- Transfer: Group transfer
- Tour guide: English speaking guide on the tour

Day 4 SAPA – HANOI (B)

Free in the morning.

In the afternoon, pick up by a shuttle bus to transfer back to Hanoi. Check in your hotel and free time on your own.

Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

- Meals: Breakfast at the hotel
- Transfer: SHUTTLE BUS Sapa - Hanoi

Day 5

HANOI – HOA LU – TRANG AN BOATING – MUA CAVE – HANOI (B, L)

07:30 – 08:15 – Our guide will meet you at your hotel and start a 120km comfortable Limousine bus journey through the verdant landscape. Stop over for a rest on the way.

10:30 – Visit Hoa Lu Ancient Citadel with King Dinh Temple dating back to the 17th Century.

11:15 – Arrive at Mua Cave and start an amazing trek up to the top of Ngoa Long mountain for watching the spectacular rice valley with a precious view of nature.

12:30 – Enjoy the buffet lunch at our restaurant, a great place to savor the flavors of Vietnamese food.

14:00 – Visit Trang An Grottoes, and get on a rowing boat traveling along the river with scenic mountain and green fields landscape.

17:00 – 19:30 – Return to our bus and then come back to Hanoi. Drop you off at your hotel.

Inclusions

- Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi
- Meals: Breakfast at the hotel, Lunch with local food
- Transfer: Group transfer
- Tour guide: English speaking guide on the tour
- Entrance fees

Day 6

HANOI – HALONG BAY DAY TRIP – HANOI (B, L)

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 Hanoi.

20:00: Dropping off at your hotel / stay.

Inclusions

- Entrance fees
- Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi
- Meals: Breakfast at the hotel, Lunch with local food
- Transfer: Group transfer
- Tour guide: English speaking guide for the group tour

Day 7 HANOI – DEPARTURE (B)

Free until the pickup to the airport for the departure flight. It's time to say goodbye, we thank you for traveling with us and warmly welcome you to come again.

Note*: late checkout is not included.

Inclusions

- Accommodation: None
- Meals: Breakfast at the hotel
- Transfer: Private car
- Tour guide: none

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	28,017	27,002	25,509	7,672
4* Hotels	32,670	31,655	30,162	12,325
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	29,255	28,240	26,747	8,910
4* Hotels	33,660	32,645	31,152	13,315
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 double/twin share with daily breakfast
- Tours and transfers as mentioned by air-conditioned vehicle
- Local English speaking guides
- Meals where mentioned (B: breakfast; L: lunch; D: dinner)
- Entrance fees
- Government taxes and service charges

Exclusions:

- Vietnam visa fee
- Single supplement for single room
- Personal expenses (laundry, telephone, drinks, tip...)
- Travel insurance
- International airfares
- Surcharge for early check

Note: All flights from India to Hanoi arrive at around 05:00 A.M. Hotel check-in hour is 14:00 so we highly recommend clients to check-in early.

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.