Ninh Binh Ancient Capital & Tam Coc River Journey – 1 Day

1D / 0N	Easy	Private	USD 51 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Embark on a full-day excursion from Hanoi to Ninh Binh, exploring the historic Hoa Lu ancient capital, visiting temples of past Vietnamese kings, and enjoying a tranquil boat trip through the scenic Tam Coc river caves, often called 'Inland Halong Bay'.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

Hanoi → Ninh Binh

TOUR OVERVIEW

Overview of the Hoa Lu & Tam Coc Day Trip

This comprehensive day tour from Hanoi transports you to the serene landscapes and rich historical sites of Ninh Binh province. You will journey south to Hoa Lu, Vietnam's ancient capital, where the legacies of the Dinh and early Le Dynasties are preserved in centuries-old temples. The adventure continues with a picturesque boat excursion through Tam Coc, renowned for its stunning limestone karsts and peaceful rice paddies.

Tour Highlights

Experience the best of Ninh Binh with activities designed to showcase its unique history and natural beauty. From exploring ancient royal grounds to navigating tranquil waterways, this trip offers a diverse range of memorable moments.

Journey Through History and Nature

The route begins with a comfortable drive from Hanoi to Hoa Lu, immersing you in the historical significance of Vietnam's former capital. Following this cultural exploration, the journey leads to Tam Coc, where the landscape transforms into a breathtaking natural spectacle. The day concludes with a scenic return to Hanoi, leaving you with lasting impressions of central Vietnam's charm.

Who This Tour Suits

This day trip is ideal for travelers seeking a blend of historical discovery and natural wonder, perfect for those with limited time but a desire to explore beyond Hanoi. It appeals to individuals interested in Vietnamese history, traditional architecture, and serene river landscapes.

Practical Information

The tour is a full-day experience, departing from and returning to Hanoi. Transportation is provided by private car, ensuring comfort and convenience throughout your exploration of Hoa Lu and Tam Coc.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

* Visit the ancient temples dedicated to King Dinh and King Le in Hoa Lu.
* Ascend Ma Yen mountain for panoramic views of the historic capital area.
* Enjoy a peaceful boat journey through the scenic Tam Coc river system.
* Glide past lush rice fields and towering limestone formations by traditional rowboat.
* Explore the natural grottoes and caves within the 'Inland Halong Bay' landscape.

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* Experience the rural tranquility and natural beauty of Ninh Binh province.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Hanoi Departure, Hoa Lu Exploration & Tam Coc River Cruise

Meals: Lunch | Transport: Private car, Boat

Your day begins with an early morning pickup from your hotel in Hanoi, followed by a comfortable two-hour drive south towards Ninh Binh province. Upon arrival in Hoa Lu, you will step back in time to Vietnam's ancient capital, which served as the political center from 968 AD to 1010 AD. Here, you'll explore the remarkably preserved temples dedicated to King Dinh and King Le, two pivotal figures in Vietnamese history. These structures, nearly a millennium old, offer a glimpse into the architectural and spiritual heritage of early Vietnamese dynasties.

Following the temple visits, an opportunity arises to climb approximately 200 steps to the summit of Ma Yen mountain. From this elevated vantage point, you are rewarded with expansive, breathtaking views of the surrounding Hoa Lu landscape, characterized by its dramatic limestone karsts and verdant fields. This provides a perfect moment for photography and reflection on the historical significance of the area.

Around midday, the journey continues with a short drive to Tam Coc, where a traditional Vietnamese lunch awaits. After satisfying your appetite, prepare for the highlight of the afternoon: a serene boat trip. Often referred to as the 'Inland Halong Bay,' Tam Coc offers a tranquil escape as you are rowed along a peaceful river. The boat glides through a landscape of quiet rice paddies, framed by majestic limestone formations, leading you into three distinct grottoes.

The boat excursion through the grottoes provides an intimate experience with Tam Coc's natural beauty, showcasing the unique geological features of the region. As the afternoon progresses, you will begin the return journey to Hanoi, arriving back at your hotel around 5:00 PM, concluding a day filled with historical insights and natural wonders.

Activities:
Travel from Hanoi to Ninh Binh by private car.
Explore the ancient capital of Hoa Lu.
Visit the temples of King Dinh and King Le.
Ascend Ma Yen mountain for panoramic views.
Enjoy a Vietnamese lunch in Tam Coc.
Take a boat trip through Tam Coc's river and grottoes.
Return to Hanoi by private car.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED	NOT INCLUDED
v Private car transfer	x Personal Expenses
v English speaking local guide	x Drinks
v Boat trip	x Others not mentioned

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- v Admission fees
- v Vietnamese lunch

PRICE INCLUDES

- v Private car transfer
- v English speaking local guide
- v Boat trip
- v Admission fees
- v Vietnamese lunch

CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-CAA9E26E24AE