Northern & Central Vietnam Family Journey: Hanoi, Ha Long, Hoi An – 8 Days

8D / 7N	Easy	Private	USD 979 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Embark on an 8-day private family tour through Vietnam's vibrant north and central regions. Discover Hanoi's ancient culture, cruise the stunning limestone karsts of Ha Long Bay, and explore the lantern-lit streets of Hoi An. This journey combines cultural exploration with engaging activities suitable for all ages.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

Hanoi → Ha Long → Hoi An → Da Nang

TOUR OVERVIEW

Tour Overview

This 8-day private family tour introduces travelers to the diverse landscapes and rich cultural heritage of Northern and Central Vietnam. Designed to be engaging for both adults and children, the itinerary balances historical exploration with interactive experiences. Begin in Hanoi, where ancient traditions meet modern life, before sailing through the breathtaking seascape of Ha Long Bay. The journey continues to the charming ancient town of Hoi An, renowned for its well-preserved architecture and tranquil atmosphere, concluding with a departure from Da Nang.

Journey Highlights

Experience the allure of Vietnam through a curated selection of activities. From culinary explorations in Hanoi's Old Quarter to hands-on craft workshops in traditional villages, each day offers a unique insight into local life. The tour also includes a visit to the spectacular Ba Na Hills, featuring the iconic Golden Bridge, providing panoramic views and entertainment for the entire family.

Route Summary

The adventure commences in Vietnam's capital, Hanoi, with cultural city tours and a memorable street food experience. From Hanoi, travel to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Ha Long Bay for an overnight cruise amidst its dramatic limestone formations. A domestic flight then transports you to Da Nang, serving as the gateway to the historic town of Hoi An. Spend several days exploring Hoi An's ancient sites, engaging with local artisans, and discovering the surrounding countryside, before departing from Da Nang International Airport.

Who This Tour Suits

This private tour is ideal for families seeking a blend of cultural immersion, historical discovery, and engaging activities. It caters to seniors, couples, and honeymooners who appreciate a tailored travel experience. The pace is designed to be comfortable, with opportunities for both relaxation and active participation, making it suitable for a wide range of interests and ages.

Practical Information

Accommodation throughout the tour includes comfortable hotels and an overnight cruise, providing a mix of experiences. All necessary transfers are handled by air-conditioned vehicles, and a domestic flight from Hanoi to Da Nang is included. An English-speaking local guide accompanies you during city tours, ensuring a smooth and informative journey. Meal inclusions are clearly outlined, covering most breakfasts, several lunches, and dinners, with options for dietary preferences available upon request.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

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* Savor authentic Vietnamese street food during an evening walking tour in Hanoi's Old Quarter.
* Explore Vietnam's first university, the Temple of Literature, and the unique One Pillar Pagoda in Hanoi.
* Spend a night cruising the emerald waters of Ha Long Bay, surrounded by towering limestone karsts.
* Participate in a cooking demonstration onboard your Ha Long Bay cruise.
* Wander through the historic streets of Hoi An Ancient Town, admiring its Japanese Covered Bridge and traditional houses.
* Engage in hands-on farming and cooking activities at Tra Que Herbal Village near Hoi An.
* Ascend Ba Na Hills via cable car to walk the famous Golden Bridge and enjoy themed gardens.
* Discover family-friendly entertainment at Fantasy Park within Ba Na Hills.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Hanoi Arrival & Old Quarter Food Discovery

Meals: Dinner | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

Upon your family's arrival at Noi Bai Airport, a dedicated guide will greet you and facilitate your transfer to your centrally located hotel in Hanoi. After settling in and perhaps enjoying some relaxation, the evening brings an exciting culinary adventure. Your local guide will meet you near Hoan Kiem Lake, ready to lead a guided food tour through the vibrant, illuminated streets of the Hanoi Old Quarter. This walking excursion offers a sensory immersion into local life, with enticing aromas and lively sounds at every turn.

The journey takes you through hidden alleys and popular local eateries, providing opportunities to sample Hanoi's most celebrated dishes. You might begin with a comforting bowl of Pho Bo or Bun Thang, or perhaps try Bun Bo Hue, each showcasing Vietnam's rich broth traditions. The exploration continues with savory street favorites such as Banh Cuon, delicate steamed rice rolls filled with pork and mushrooms, and the iconic Banh Mi, a crispy Vietnamese baguette sandwich bursting with flavor. Along the way, you'll nibble on popular street snacks like Nom Bo Kho (dried beef salad) or Nem Chua Ran (crispy fermented pork rolls), beloved by local youth.

The culinary evening concludes on a sweet note with a cup of Ca Phe Trung, Hanoi's specialty egg coffee, known for its creamy texture and rich aroma, served in a cozy local café. Please note that standard hotel check-in time is 14:00; early check-in may incur an additional charge. Inform us in advance about any dietary preferences or allergies; vegetarian and vegan options are available upon request.

Activities:
Meet guide at Noi Bai Airport
Transfer to Hanoi city center hotel
Check into accommodation
Join an evening guided street food walking tour
Sample local dishes like Pho Bo, Bun Thang, Bun Bo Hue
Taste Banh Cuon, Banh Mi, Nom Bo Kho, Nem Chua Ran
Enjoy traditional Vietnamese egg coffee (Ca Phe Trung)

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Day 2 Hanoi Cultural Landmarks & Pottery Village Visit

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

Your morning begins with a pickup from your hotel by the tour leader at 08:00 for a comprehensive exploration of Hanoi's historical and cultural sites. The first stop is the Temple of Literature, Vietnam's inaugural university, showcasing beautifully preserved classical Vietnamese architecture. Next, you will visit the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, a revered national monument of immense historical importance to the Vietnamese people. Please be aware that viewing the Mausoleum is from the outside only, and it is closed on Mondays, Fridays, and from June to August.

The tour continues to the remarkable Tran Quoc Buddhist Pagoda, distinguished by its unique architectural design and profound religious and historical significance. Following this, your family will discover the One Pillar Pagoda, an extraordinary Buddhist structure built on a single stone pillar rising from a lotus pond, symbolizing both cultural and architectural ingenuity. After visiting these significant landmarks, take a leisurely walk around West Lake, immersing yourselves in the tranquil serenity of this expansive freshwater body.

Lunch will be served at an authentic Vietnamese restaurant, offering a taste of local cuisine. The afternoon's destination is Bat Trang Ceramic Village, a traditional porcelain village renowned for its craftsmanship. This location provides engaging activities perfect for family bonding. Here, you'll have the opportunity to learn and try your hand at crafting your own meaningful souvenir. As the sun begins to set, you will return to Hanoi, concluding a day rich in history, culture, and hands-on creativity.

Activities:
- Visit the Temple of Literature
- View Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum from outside
- Explore Tran Quoc Buddhist Pagoda
- Discover the unique One Pillar Pagoda
- Stroll around West Lake
- Enjoy an authentic Vietnamese lunch
- Travel to Bat Trang Ceramic Village
- Learn and create a pottery souvenir
- Return to Hanoi

Day 3 Ha Long Bay Cruise & Onboard Activities

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Cruise in Halong Bay

The day begins with breakfast at your hotel before preparing for the journey to Ha Long Bay. Between 08:00 and 08:30, you will be transferred on an approximately 2.5-hour drive to this UNESCO Natural World Heritage site. Upon arrival at the cruise port, your cruise adventure officially commences with a warm welcome from the staff, complete with a refreshing welcome beverage. As the vessel gently sails through the bay's iconic seascape, a delicious lunch will be served onboard, following a detailed itinerary and safety briefing for all passengers.

The afternoon in Ha Long Bay offers a variety of engaging water activities suitable for families. Options typically include kayaking through serene waters, swimming in the bay, exploring hidden caves, or simply unwinding on the sundeck to admire the spectacular views. Following these explorations, a cooking class is held onboard, providing an excellent opportunity for both children and parents to bond while learning about new cultural cuisine. This hands-on experience allows you to delve into the flavors of Vietnam.

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A superb dinner will be served to satisfy your tastes, featuring a range of delectable dishes. The evening offers a dynamic nighttime scene onboard, with a selection of engaging events and entertainment. Please note that a dedicated tour guide will not accompany you on the Ha Long Bay cruise; however, English-speaking staff are available onboard to assist you. The specific activities may vary depending on the chosen cruise itinerary.

Activities:
Travel from Hanoi to Ha Long Bay
Board your chosen cruise vessel
Receive a welcome drink and safety briefing
Enjoy lunch onboard while cruising
Participate in water activities like kayaking or swimming
Visit a cave (depending on cruise itinerary)
Attend an onboard cooking class
Savor a delicious dinner
Enjoy evening entertainment onboard

Day 4 Ha Long Bay Sunrise & Flight to Hoi An via Da Nang

Meals: Breakfast, Brunch | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An

Begin your day by rising early to participate in an invigorating Tai Chi session on the sundeck, designed to enhance your well-being amidst the tranquil beauty of Ha Long Bay. (Alternatively, a Yoga or Vovinam class may be offered, depending on the cruise itinerary.) Afterward, indulge in a delightful breakfast featuring pastries, tea, and coffee. Depending on your cruise's specific schedule, you may engage in further morning activities around Ha Long Bay, such as visiting another cave or enjoying a traditional boat rowing experience.

You will then return to the main cruise vessel for a delectable brunch, allowing you to savor the scenic rock islands as the ship journeys back to the port. Disembarkation typically occurs around 11:30. Following your cruise experience, you will be transferred to the airport for a domestic flight to Da Nang City. This transition provides a comfortable and efficient way to travel from Northern to Central Vietnam.

Upon your arrival at Da Nang Airport, a private vehicle will chauffeur you directly to your pre-booked hotel in the charming town of Hoi An. Once you have completed the check-in process, the remainder of the evening is yours to enjoy at your own pace. You may choose to relax at the hotel, take a leisurely stroll to familiarize yourself with the immediate surroundings, or simply unwind after your journey.

Activities:
Participate in an early morning Tai Chi, Yoga, or Vovinam session
Enjoy breakfast on the cruise
Engage in morning activities (e.g., cave visit or boat rowing)
Have brunch onboard
Disembark the cruise
Transfer to airport for flight to Da Nang
Arrive at Da Nang Airport and transfer to Hoi An hotel
Check into hotel in Hoi An
Enjoy free time in Hoi An

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Day 5 Hoi An Ancient Town Exploration

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An

Your morning in Hoi An commences with a visit to Hoi An Market, a lively hub of activity that offers a truly memorable shopping experience filled with vibrant sights, sounds, and aromas. Just a short distance away lies the Fujian Assembly Hall, a colorful architectural marvel blending ornate gates, intricate dragon sculptures, and distinctive rooftops. Here, you'll gain insights into ancestor worship, observe the family altar, and witness locals making their traditional offerings.

Continue your exploration to some of Hoi An's remarkably preserved ancient houses, such as the Phung Hung Ancient House or Tan Ky Ancient House, both standing resilient after more than two centuries of history and weather. Afterward, head to the Museum of Folk Culture, housed within a 150-year-old Chinese merchant house, where a curated collection of artifacts vividly portrays the traditional daily life of the region. You'll also have the opportunity to enjoy traditional performances at the Hoi An Traditional Performing Arts House.

A mandatory stop is the iconic Japanese Covered Bridge, which spans a small canal and was constructed over 400 years ago to connect the Japanese and Chinese communities. To complete your experience, explore some of Hoi An's famed handicraft shops and art galleries, and wander through charming alleyways and local neighborhoods to fully appreciate the timeless allure of this ancient town. The day provides a deep dive into Hoi An's rich history and vibrant culture.

Activities:
- Visit Hoi An Market
- Explore Fujian Assembly Hall
- Tour ancient houses like Phung Hung or Tan Ky
- Discover the Museum of Folk Culture
- Watch traditional performances at Hoi An Traditional Performing Arts House
- Cross the Japanese Covered Bridge
- Browse handicraft shops and art galleries
- Wander through Hoi An's alleyways and neighborhoods

Day 6 Tra Que Herbal Village & Rural Life Experience

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An

Start your day with a nourishing breakfast at your hotel before embarking on today's unique highlight: a visit to Tra Que Herbal Village, a captivating destination situated on the outskirts of Hoi An. Following your meal, your family will cycle to Tra Que Village, enjoying the picturesque rural surroundings and serene countryside views along the way. Upon reaching the village, prepare to fully immerse yourselves in the local agricultural lifestyle.

You will have the opportunity to explore the farms and observe the daily activities of the amiable villagers, gaining valuable insights into their traditional farming practices. This visit provides an excellent hands-on experience for children, allowing them to get their hands dirty while trying gardening and participating in the harvesting of fresh vegetables. Both you and your kids will also learn how to make rice paper, a crucial ingredient in delicious Vietnamese dishes such as fresh spring rolls.

With expert guidance, you'll engage in the process of rice grinding, paper stretching, and drying. Following these engaging kitchen activities, take a well-deserved break for a satisfying lunch. Enjoy a steaming bowl of Hoi An's renowned Pho, paired with a refreshing bottle of water. This is a wonderful chance to engage in friendly conversations with your guide and the

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villagers, providing an opportunity for your kids to learn about the unique variations of Pho in Hoi An compared to other Vietnamese cities.

As the day draws to a close, gather your cherished memories and prepare for the scenic bicycle ride back to Hoi An. This captivating adventure in Tra Que Village promises lasting recollections of Vietnam's countryside and its warm-hearted inhabitants for both children and parents alike.

Activities: Enjoy breakfast at the hotel
Cycle to Tra Que Herbal Village
Explore local farms and observe villagers' activities
Participate in hands-on gardening and vegetable harvesting
Learn to make traditional rice paper
Enjoy a local lunch featuring Hoi An Pho
Engage in conversations with locals and guide
Cycle back to Hoi An

Day 7 Ba Na Hills Excursion & Golden Bridge Discovery

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An

Our guide and driver will pick you up directly from your hotel to begin a scenic drive towards the stunning Ba Na Hills. This renowned hilltop resort is celebrated for its cool climate and distinctive French-inspired architecture. Upon arrival, you'll check in at the Suoi Mo Cable Car Station and board one of the world's longest non-stop cable cars. As you ascend, take in breathtaking panoramic views of lush mountains, dense forests, and cascading waterfalls below, setting the stage for an extraordinary day.

Your first stop at the top is Marseille Station, which serves as the gateway to Ba Na's most iconic sights. From there, you'll walk to the breathtaking Golden Bridge, a stunning architectural marvel seemingly held aloft by two massive stone hands. This is an ideal spot to capture incredible photos and enjoy sweeping views of the verdant surroundings. Next, take a tranquil stroll through Jardin D'Amour, a collection of exquisitely themed gardens filled with vibrant blooms, playful sculptures, and romantic European-style landscaping, perfect for a leisurely walk.

For lunch, indulge in a flavorful Vietnamese buffet featuring more than 70 local dishes. This extensive culinary spread highlights regional delicacies and seasonal flavors, ensuring there is something to satisfy every palate. After lunch, the adventure continues at Fantasy Park, an indoor amusement park offering a wide range of activities – from 4D cinemas and arcade games to thrilling rides and a dinosaur museum. The entire family is sure to find something fun to enjoy here.

Later in the afternoon, ascend to King Peak, the highest point of Ba Na Hills at 1,487 meters above sea level. From this vantage point, soak in sweeping 360-degree views and admire the pagodas and peaceful temples that crown the mountaintop. Conclude your visit by returning to the cable car station for a final scenic ride down the mountain. Our guide will then escort you back to your hotel, bringing a memorable day to a close. Note that the tour price includes round-trip cable car, entrance fees to key attractions (Golden Bridge, Fantasy Park, King Peak, Moon Castle), and lunch, while certain attractions like the Wax Museum, Debay Wine Cellar, and specific games may incur additional charges.

Activities: Transfer to Ba Na Hills
Board the Suoi Mo Cable Car

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Walk across the Golden Bridge
Stroll through Jardin D'Amour themed gardens
Enjoy a Vietnamese buffet lunch
Explore Fantasy Park indoor amusement park
Ascend to King Peak for panoramic views
Return via cable car
Transfer back to Hoi An hotel

Day 8 Hoi An Departure via Da Nang Airport

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: NA

After enjoying a final breakfast at your hotel in Hoi An, the morning is yours to spend at leisure. You may choose to relax and unwind, take a last stroll through the charming ancient town, or engage in some last-minute souvenir shopping to commemorate your trip. This free time allows for a relaxed conclusion to your Vietnamese adventure, tailored to your family's preferences.

Depending on your scheduled flight, our dedicated driver will pick you up directly from your hotel. You will then be transferred comfortably to Da Nang International Airport. This final transfer ensures a smooth and convenient journey to catch your onward flight. The services conclude upon your arrival at the airport, and we wish you a safe and pleasant journey home or to your next destination.

Activities: Enjoy breakfast at the hotel
Free time for relaxation, exploration, or souvenir shopping in Hoi An
Transfer from Hoi An hotel to Da Nang International Airport
Depart from Da Nang International Airport

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v 7 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 1 Brunch, 2 Dinner
- v Airplane, Car, Trekking, Shuttle Bus transportation
- v Hotel accommodation for 6 nights
- v Overnight cruise in Halong Bay for 1 night
- v Accommodation in a shared Twin/Double room with air-conditioning at hotels
- v All transport during the tour in air-conditioned vehicles as per itinerary (including airport pick-up & drop-off)
- v All in-tour stationed local English speaking guides
- v Entrance fees as per itinerary

NOT INCLUDED

- x Items not specified as included
- x Early hotel check-in fees
- x Personal expenses
- x Tips for guides and drivers
- x Drinks and beverages not included in meals
- x Additional activities or excursions outside the itinerary (e.g., Wax museum, Debay wine cellar, certain games at Fantasy Park)

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- v 1 domestic flight from Hanoi to Da Nang

PRICE INCLUDES

- v 7 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 1 Brunch, 2 Dinner
- v Airplane, Car, Trekking, Shuttle Bus transportation
- v Hotel accommodation for 6 nights
- v Overnight cruise in Halong Bay for 1 night
- v Accommodation in a shared Twin/Double room with air-conditioning at hotels
- v All transport during the tour in air-conditioned vehicles as per itinerary (including airport pick-up & drop-off)
- v All in-tour stationed local English speaking guides
- v Entrance fees as per itinerary
- v 1 domestic flight from Hanoi to Da Nang

AVAILABLE DEPARTURES

Departure Date	Return Date	Price / Person	Availability	Languages
01 Dec 2025	20 Dec 2026	**USD 999**	Available	–
01 Dec 2025	20 Dec 2026	**USD 1,099**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 1,029**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 1,132**	Available	–

CANCELLATION POLICY

Not specified in the source material.

Tour Code: IMP-451CD0979E51