Northern & Central Vietnam Family Journey: Hanoi, Halong Bay & Hoi An – 10 Days

10D / 9N	Easy	Private	USD 1,099 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Discover the cultural richness and natural beauty of North and Central Vietnam on this 10-day family-friendly tour. Experience Hanoi's vibrant streets, the tranquil landscapes of Mai Chau, a scenic Halong Bay cruise, and the charming heritage of Hoi An.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

Hanoi → Mai Chau → Ha Long → Hoi An

TOUR OVERVIEW

Overview: A Family Exploration of Vietnam's North and Central Regions

Embark on a captivating 10-day private tour designed for families, showcasing the diverse landscapes and rich cultural heritage of Northern and Central Vietnam. This journey begins in the dynamic capital of Hanoi, where you'll uncover hidden gems and rural tranquility via a unique Jeep adventure. The itinerary then leads to the serene valleys of Mai Chau for an immersive experience in local village life, followed by a luxurious overnight cruise through the breathtaking karst formations of Halong Bay. The adventure continues southward with a flight to Da Nang, providing access to the enchanting ancient town of Hoi An. Here, families can engage in hands-on activities such as farming in Tra Que Village, crafting traditional lanterns, and enjoying a memorable basket boat ride in Cam Thanh. The tour culminates with the spectacular Hoi An Memories Show, offering a grand artistic portrayal of the town's history, before your departure from Da Nang.

Tour Highlights: Engaging Experiences for All Ages

Explore Hanoi's bustling Old Quarter and peaceful Red River countryside on an exciting Jeep tour.

Discover the ancient charm of Duong Lam Village through a bicycle ride and interactions with local residents.

Experience the serene beauty of Mai Chau with a choice of cycling or trekking through ethnic minority villages.

Enjoy an overnight cruise on the stunning Halong Bay, complete with kayaking, cave visits, and a cooking class.

Participate in a hands-on farming experience at Tra Que Vegetable Village in Hoi An.

Unleash creativity in a traditional lantern-making workshop, crafting unique souvenirs.

Navigate the water coconut forest of Cam Thanh Village on an exhilarating basket boat trip.

Witness the grand spectacle of the Hoi An Memories Show, a vibrant cultural performance.

Route Summary: From Capital City to Coastal Charm

This meticulously planned itinerary guides you from the historic streets of Hanoi to the picturesque rural settings of Mai Chau, then to the iconic seascape of Halong Bay. Following an internal flight, the journey continues to the cultural heart of Hoi An and the serene Cam Thanh Village, concluding with departure from Da Nang. Each destination offers distinct experiences, from urban exploration and rural immersion to scenic cruising and ancient town discovery, ensuring a comprehensive family adventure.

Who This Tour Suits: Ideal for Curious Families

This private tour is perfectly suited for seniors and families traveling with children, offering a blend of soft adventure and cultural interaction. The pace is designed to be comfortable, allowing ample time for relaxation and exploration. With activities ranging from gentle cycling and boat trips to cultural workshops and engaging performances, there are experiences to captivate every family member, fostering memorable shared moments.

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Practical Information: Your Journey Details

The tour includes a variety of transportation methods, ensuring comfortable travel between destinations, including an internal flight from Hanoi to Da Nang. Accommodation is provided in a selection of 3-star, 4-star, or 5-star hotels and an overnight cruise, catering to different preferences. Daily breakfasts are included, along with several lunches, a brunch, and a dinner, offering a taste of local cuisine throughout your journey. Local English-speaking guides will accompany you, providing insights and assistance, while entrance fees to all specified attractions and activities are covered.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

* Navigate Hanoi's historic areas and the tranquil Red River countryside on a thrilling Jeep excursion.
* Cycle through Duong Lam Ancient Village, visiting centuries-old homes and engaging with local farmers.
* Choose between a scenic bike ride or a gentle trek to explore Mai Chau's picturesque rural villages.
* Spend a night aboard a cruise ship in Halong Bay, enjoying kayaking, cave exploration, and culinary lessons.
* Learn traditional farming techniques and cultivate vegetables at Hoi An's renowned Tra Que Village.
* Design and construct your own vibrant souvenir lantern in a hands-on Hoi An workshop.
* Experience an exciting basket boat race and learn local fishing customs in Cam Thanh Coconut Village.
* Attend the mesmerizing Hoi An Memories Show, a spectacular outdoor performance depicting local history.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Hanoi Arrival & Old Quarter Exploration

Meals: NA | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi | Transport: Car

Upon arrival at Noi Bai International Airport, a private transfer will greet your family and provide transportation to your Hanoi accommodation. After settling in and resting from your journey, the remainder of the day invites independent exploration of the historic Old Quarter, known for its narrow streets and traditional commerce. This area is perfect for a leisurely stroll, offering a first glimpse into Hanoi's captivating atmosphere.

Guests should present themselves at Pole No. 10 outside the terminal gate to meet their representative for airport pickup. Standard hotel check-in time is 2:00 PM; however, early check-in may be requested, potentially incurring an additional fee. The initial hours in Hanoi are designed for relaxation and a gentle introduction to the city's unique charm.

Activities: Arrive at Noi Bai International Airport
Receive private transfer to Hanoi hotel
Check into your accommodation
Enjoy free time to explore Hanoi Old Quarter

Day 2 — Hanoi Jeep Adventure & City Highlights

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Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi | Transport: Jeep

Following breakfast, your family will embark on an exciting Jeep tour starting at 8:00 AM, combining countryside tranquility with urban discovery. The journey begins with a 1.5-hour exploration of the peaceful Red River countryside, quickly leaving the city's hustle behind. You'll take a brief walk across a lesser-known bridge, leading to a rugged island for a 4WD adventure along small off-roads, revealing stunning banana plantations, fruit farms, and local communities. Witness farmers at work and enjoy fresh fruits and green tea with a local family, gaining insights into their daily lives.

The morning concludes with a 15-minute walk over the historic Long Bien Bridge, returning to the city. The adventure continues with a 2.5-hour exploration of Hanoi's hidden gems around West Lake and Truc Bach Lake. Traverse vibrant flower street markets and delve into the maze of backstreets near the B52 Lake area, experiencing authentic local life in alleyways, homes, schools, and markets. The tour also passes prominent city landmarks such as the Hanoi Flag Tower, Ba Dinh Square, Opera House, and Thang Long Royal Citadel.

Lunch will be a delightful experience at Hidden Gem Cafe, offering authentic and healthy Hanoi cuisine, with options for vegans and vegetarians. The engaging tour concludes around 12:30 PM, after which you'll return to your hotel. The afternoon is reserved for your family's leisure, allowing for personal relaxation or further independent exploration of Hanoi.

Activities:
- Begin a Jeep tour of Hanoi
- Explore the Red River countryside via 4WD
- Walk across a local bridge
- Visit local villages and interact with farmers
- Enjoy fresh fruits and green tea with a local family
- Walk over the Long Bien Bridge
- Discover Hanoi's hidden gems around West Lake & Truc Bach Lake
- Drive through flower street markets and B52 Lake areas
- Explore small alleyways, local homes, schools, and markets
- Pass major city landmarks
- Savor lunch at Hidden Gem Cafe
- Return to hotel for leisure time

Day 3 Duong Lam Ancient Village & Mai Chau Scenic Drive

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Mai Chau | Transport: Car, Bicycle

At 8:00 AM, your driver and guide will collect you from your hotel for a journey to Duong Lam Ancient Village. Upon arrival, your family will enjoy a bicycle tour through the village's historic lanes, visiting Mong Phu Temple and learning about traditional Vietnamese agriculture and daily life. The tour includes stops at two ancient houses, providing opportunities to engage with the current residents and understand their heritage. Lunch will be served at a local restaurant, featuring traditional dishes from the region.

The afternoon continues with visits to temples dedicated to Ngo Quyen and Phung Hung, two revered historical figures of Vietnam. Ngo Quyen's Temple and mausoleum, situated on east-facing Cam Hill, offer a picturesque and historically significant site. The Temple of Phung Hung impresses with its grand scale and unique construction, reflecting deep cultural importance. Subsequently, you'll visit Mia Pagoda, one of Vietnam's oldest pagodas, renowned for its extensive collection of magnificent statues.

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Following these cultural explorations, the journey proceeds to the stunning town of Mai Chau in Hoa Binh Province. Upon arrival at your Mai Chau hotel, you will check in and have time to relax, surrounded by the beautiful natural scenery of the valley.

Activities: Transfer to Duong Lam Ancient Village
Take a bicycle tour through historic lanes
Visit Mong Phu Temple
Explore old houses and interact with locals
Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant
Visit Ngo Quyen and Phung Hung Temples
Explore Mia Pagoda
Travel to Mai Chau
Check into your Mai Chau hotel

Day 4 Mai Chau Rural Exploration & Return to Hanoi

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi | Transport: Minibus or Bus, Bicycle or Trekking

Begin your day with the majestic sunrise over Mai Chau, followed by a prepared breakfast. Your family has the choice of either a cycling or trekking tour to delve deeper into the beautiful rural areas. Accompanied by a local Thai guide, you will journey to more distant villages of Thai tribes, such as Na Meo, Na Mo, and Xam Pa, gaining a deeper understanding of their traditions and culture. This offers a chance to converse with local people and learn about their customs firsthand.
Spend time walking on flat village paths, soaking in the pretty natural scenery of the area. After exploring the villages and their surroundings, you will check out from your hotel and return to a local host's home for a delicious lunch, experiencing authentic hospitality. In the evening, a minibus or bus will transport your family back to Hanoi.
Upon arrival in Hanoi, you will check back into your hotel and have the opportunity to relax after a day of rural exploration and travel. The evening is yours to enjoy at leisure, perhaps reflecting on the beauty of Mai Chau.

Activities: Witness sunrise in Mai Chau
Enjoy breakfast
Choose between a cycling or trekking tour
Explore distant Thai tribal villages (Na Meo, Na Mo, Xam Pa) with a local guide
Interact with local people
Walk on village paths
Check out of hotel
Have lunch at a local's home
Transfer back to Hanoi by minibus or bus
Check into your Hanoi hotel

Day 5 Halong Bay Overnight Cruise Experience

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Overnight Halong Bay Cruise | Transport: Car, Cruise

After a delightful breakfast at your Hanoi hotel, prepare for an incredible family journey to the magnificent Halong Bay. Between

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8:00 AM and 8:30 AM, you will be picked up for the transfer to this UNESCO World Heritage Site, renowned for its spectacular seascape. Upon arrival at the harbor, you will embark on your chosen cruise ship between 11:30 AM and 12:00 PM. A friendly crew will welcome you with a refreshing drink and provide essential safety instructions before setting sail.

As the yacht glides among the stunning limestone islands and mystical caves, you'll enjoy a delicious seafood lunch. The afternoon is filled with various family-friendly activities designed to explore the bay's wonders, including visits to captivating caves, kayaking through emerald waters, and swimming (activities vary based on the cruise itinerary). Around 5:30 PM, you will return to the cruise ship to relax and admire the breathtaking sunset over the bay, or participate in a cooking class to learn how to make traditional Vietnamese Spring rolls.

The evening culminates with a shared dinner with your family aboard the cruise. Afterward, you can enjoy pleasant night activities such as squid fishing, watching TV, or playing board games, ensuring a memorable overnight experience on the serene waters of Halong Bay.

Activities:
- Have breakfast at Hanoi hotel
- Transfer to Halong Bay
- Embark on the cruise
- Receive welcome drink and safety briefing
- Enjoy a seafood lunch while cruising
- Participate in family-friendly activities (cave visits, kayaking, swimming)
- Return to cruise for sunset relaxation or cooking class
- Have dinner on board
- Engage in night activities (squid fishing, TV, board games)

Day 6 Halong Bay Sunrise & Flight to Hoi An

Meals: Breakfast, Brunch | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An | Transport: Cruise, Car, Airplane

Wake early to witness the miraculous sunrise painting the sky over Halong Bay, followed by an invigorating Tai Chi class to energize your morning. Enjoy breakfast as the cruise navigates through a marvelous area adorned with beautiful islands and islets. Depending on the specific cruise schedule, your family may have the opportunity to explore more stunning caves or enjoy another session of kayaking in the bay's tranquil waters. Between 9:00 AM and 9:30 AM, you will return to the boat to complete the check-out procedures.

A delicious brunch will be served as the cruise makes its way back to the pier, with disembarkation occurring around 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM. Our driver will then pick you up at the pier for the return journey to Hanoi. From Hanoi, you will proceed to the airport for your flight to Da Nang, marking your transition to Central Vietnam.

Upon arrival in Da Nang, your family will be transferred directly to your hotel in Hoi An for check-in and some well-deserved rest. The evening offers the perfect opportunity to begin exploring the enchanting Hoi An Ancient Town, renowned for its charming architecture and vibrant atmosphere.

Activities:
- Witness sunrise over Halong Bay
- Join a Tai Chi class
- Have breakfast on board
- Explore more caves or go kayaking (optional)
- Return to boat and complete check-out

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Enjoy brunch on cruise
Disembark from cruise
Transfer back to Hanoi
Travel to Hanoi airport for flight to Da Nang
Arrive in Da Nang and transfer to Hoi An hotel
Check into Hoi An hotel
Spend evening exploring Hoi An Ancient Town

Day 7 Tra Que Village Farming & Lantern Crafting

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

After breakfast, prepare for a captivating journey into the Hoi An countryside, beginning with a pickup at 8:00 AM. Your guided tour will take you to Tra Que Vegetable Village, celebrated for its organic produce. En route, you'll visit Hoi An's vibrant central market, where you can interact with local vendors and learn about the fresh ingredients used in Vietnamese cooking, setting the stage for your culinary experience.

From 9:00 AM to 9:30 AM, delve into the history of Tra Que Village and its unique vegetable cultivation methods. Observe traditional farming tools like hoes, shovels, and rakes, and examine various vegetable samples. Head to the garden to engage in exciting farming activities, including raking soil, watering plants, and fertilizing with local seaweed. You'll also learn about pest prevention techniques. Afterward, relax your feet in a soothing bath of local medicinal herbs, known for their rheumatism-relieving properties.

At 11:00 AM, join a cooking class with a chef at a local restaurant, where you'll learn to prepare traditional Vietnamese dishes such as Banh Xeo and Spring Rolls. Enjoy the fruits of your labor for lunch, followed by a short rest. The afternoon, at 1:00 PM, includes a final visit to the garden to learn vegetable harvesting. At 2:00 PM, you'll return to your Hoi An hotel for a fun family bonding experience at a Lantern Making Workshop. Here, your family can collaborate to create traditional lanterns as cherished souvenirs. You can choose to build a lantern from scratch (3 hours) or cover a pre-made frame (1.5 hours), selecting your silk style and color. Guided by an experienced English-speaking instructor, even young children can enjoy this activity. Once completed, test your lantern with a light bulb and take your beautiful creation home.

Activities:
Transfer to Tra Que Vegetable Village
Visit Hoi An central market
Learn about Tra Que Village history and vegetable production
Experience farming activities (raking, watering, fertilizing)
Soak feet in medicinal herb bath
Join a cooking class to make Banh Xeo and Spring Rolls
Enjoy lunch with prepared dishes
Learn vegetable harvesting
Participate in a Lantern Making Workshop
Create traditional lanterns as souvenirs
Return to hotel

Day 8 Cam Thanh Basket Boat & Hoi An Memories Show

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Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An | Transport: Car, Basket Boat

At 8:00 AM, your driver will pick you up from your Hoi An hotel for a transfer to Cam Thanh Village, a renowned local attraction. Here, your family will board a traditional basket boat for an exciting exploration among the water coconut palms, guided by local experts. Engage in thrilling basket boat races or experience the exhilarating twists and turns of the boats. You'll also have the opportunity to learn how to row these unique Vietnamese vessels and participate in typical fishermen's activities, gaining insight into their daily lives. Listen to fascinating tales that recount the village's history during the Vietnam War.

After this amusing tour, your family will have free time in the afternoon to relax at your hotel or take a leisurely stroll through the charming Ancient Town of Hoi An. In the evening, between 5:00 PM and 5:30 PM, a driver will transfer you to Hoi An Memories Land. From 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM, you'll receive tickets to the vibrant Hoi An Impression Theme Park, an impressive venue with attractions for all ages. Explore colorful sightseeing spots like Commercial Firm, Vietnam Village, Love Bridge, and Japan Village, perfect for family photos. Visit the Spirituality section, including Thien Duc Pagoda, to learn about Vietnamese spiritual connections.

From 7:45 PM to 9:00 PM, proceed to Hoi An's Memories Theater to witness one of Vietnam's most outstanding art shows. This grand outdoor spectacle features 500 performers and contemporary production techniques, vividly portraying 400 years of Hoi An's history in a captivating one-hour, five-act performance. Guests are advised to arrive by 7:30 PM for check-in. Please note that transportation to and from Hoi An Memories Land after the show will need to be arranged independently.

Activities:
Transfer to Cam Thanh Village
Embark on a basket boat tour among water coconut palms
Join a thrilling basket boat race
Learn to row a traditional Vietnamese boat
Participate in fishermen's activities
Listen to Vietnam War stories
Enjoy free time in Hoi An Ancient Town
Transfer to Hoi An Memories Land
Explore Hoi An Impression Theme Park (Commercial Firm, Vietnam Village, Love Bridge, Japan Village, Thien Duc Pagoda)
Attend the Hoi An Memories Show

Day 9 Leisure Day in Hoi An

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An

Savor a delicious breakfast at your hotel, then enjoy a full day at leisure to explore the captivating town of Hoi An at your own pace. This free day provides an excellent opportunity for your family to revisit favorite spots, discover new corners of the Ancient Town, or simply relax and soak in the unique atmosphere.

Should you wish to delve deeper into the region's offerings, a variety of optional tours are available. These include immersive experiences like an Authentic Hoi An Cooking Class & Biking Full Day, a Half-Day Walking City Tour of Hoi An, a Full Day Join Tour to Cu Lao Cham, a Half-Day Tour to My Son Sanctuary, or a thrilling Hoi An Motorbike Street Food Tour Half Day. Your travel consultant can assist with arrangements for any of these additional activities, allowing you to tailor your Hoi An experience to your family's preferences.

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Activities: Enjoy breakfast at your hotel
Spend a free day exploring Hoi An at your own pace
Optionally choose from a variety of additional tours (e.g., cooking class, walking tour, My Son Sanctuary)

Day 10 Hoi An Departure

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: NA | Transport: Car, Airplane

After enjoying your final breakfast at the hotel, complete the check-out procedures. A private transfer will then take your family from Hoi An to Da Nang International Airport, where you will catch your flight back to your home country. This marks the conclusion of our services, and we look forward to welcoming you on another adventure in the future.

Activities: Have breakfast at the hotel
Check out from your accommodation
Transfer to Da Nang airport
Depart from Da Nang

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v Accommodation with daily breakfast
- v All transportation in air-conditioned vehicles
- v One domestic flight: Hanoi - Danang
- v Hoi An Memories show ticket ECO class
- v Local English-speaking guides
- v Water on coach
- v Entrance fees, performances, boat trips & excursions

NOT INCLUDED

PRICE INCLUDES

- v Accommodation with daily breakfast
- v All transportation in air-conditioned vehicles
- v One domestic flight: Hanoi - Danang
- v Hoi An Memories show ticket ECO class
- v Local English-speaking guides
- v Water on coach
- v Entrance fees, performances, boat trips & excursions

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AVAILABLE DEPARTURES

Departure Date	Return Date	Price / Person	Availability	Languages
01 Jan 2026	20 Dec 2026	**USD 1,099**	Available	–
01 Jan 2026	20 Dec 2026	**USD 1,259**	Available	–
01 Jan 2026	20 Dec 2026	**USD 1,689**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 1,132**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 1,297**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 1,740**	Available	–

CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-E509FD6DF249