Northern Vietnam Luxury: Hanoi, Ninh Binh, & Halong Bay Cruise – 7 Days

7D / 6N	Easy	Private	USD 1,739 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Experience the best of Northern Vietnam on a 7-day luxury tour, exploring Hanoi's ancient capital, the stunning landscapes of Ninh Binh, and an unforgettable 5-star overnight cruise through the magnificent Halong Bay.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

Hanoi → Ninh Binh → Ha Long

TOUR OVERVIEW

Overview: Northern Vietnam Luxury Escape

Embark on a premium 7-day journey through Northern Vietnam, meticulously designed for discerning travelers seeking comfort and authentic cultural experiences. This exclusive itinerary combines the historical grandeur of Hanoi with the serene natural beauty of Ninh Binh and the breathtaking seascape of Halong Bay. From ancient temples to vibrant craft villages and majestic limestone karsts, every moment is curated for an indulgent and enriching adventure.

Journey Highlights

This tour offers a unique blend of cultural immersion and natural wonder. Discover the intricate process of incense making in Quang Phu Cau, marvel at the ancient Bich Dong Pagoda, and glide through the tranquil waters of Tam Coc and Trang An on traditional sampan boats. The pinnacle of your journey includes conquering Ngoa Long Mountain for panoramic views and an opulent overnight stay on a 5-star cruise amidst the UNESCO-listed Halong Bay.

The Route

Your journey begins in the bustling capital of Hanoi, where you'll delve into its rich history and vibrant street life. From there, venture to the picturesque province of Ninh Binh, often called 'Halong Bay on land,' to explore its unique grottoes and pagodas. The adventure culminates with a luxurious cruise through the iconic limestone formations of Halong Bay, before returning to Hanoi for your departure.

Ideal For

This private tour is perfectly suited for luxury travelers who appreciate high-end accommodations, personalized service, and a well-paced itinerary. It caters to those interested in Vietnam's rich cultural heritage, stunning natural landscapes, and unique local experiences, all while enjoying the comfort and convenience of a premium travel package.

Practical Details

This 7-day, 6-night tour includes 6 breakfasts, 4 lunches, 1 brunch, and 1 dinner, ensuring delightful culinary experiences throughout your trip. All transfers are provided by private air-conditioned vehicles, shuttle bus, and a luxury cruise. Accommodations include 5 nights in 5-star hotels and 1 night on a 5-star cruise, guaranteeing a restful and luxurious stay. English-speaking guides accompany you on all excursions.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

* Overnight on a luxury 5-star cruise in the UNESCO-listed Halong Bay, complete with water activities.
* Explore the ancient Temple of Literature, Vietnam's first university, and Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum in Hanoi.
* Discover the traditional craft of incense making in the vibrant Quang Phu Cau village.

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* Glide through the serene landscapes of Tam Coc and Trang An on a traditional sampan boat.
* Ascend Ngoa Long Mountain to Mua Cave for breathtaking panoramic views of Ninh Binh's rice valleys.
* Experience a Tai Chi session on the sundeck of your Halong Bay cruise at dawn.
* Delight in authentic Vietnamese cuisine at local restaurants and on your luxury cruise.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Hanoi Arrival & Optional Old Quarter Food Walk

Meals: NA | Stay: Hotel de l'Opera Hanoi MGallery by Sofitel | Transport: Car

Upon your arrival at Noi Bai International Airport, a ATT Asia Travel representative will warmly welcome you and provide a comfortable transfer to your hotel. Standard check-in time is typically 2:00 PM, allowing you time to settle into your accommodation. The remainder of the day is at your leisure, perfect for unwinding after your journey or preparing for the exciting days ahead.

For those eager to immediately experience Hanoi's culinary scene, an optional Street Food Walking Tour is available. This guided excursion offers a fantastic introduction to the city's vibrant flavors and bustling atmosphere, allowing you to sample local delicacies and soak in the evening ambiance of the Old Quarter.

Day 2 — Hanoi Historical Landmarks & Ethnology Museum

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel de l'Opera Hanoi MGallery by Sofitel | Transport: Car

Start your day with a hearty breakfast at your hotel before embarking on a comprehensive sightseeing tour of Hanoi's most significant historical and cultural sites. Your guide will meet you at 8:00 AM to begin exploring the city's rich heritage. The first stop is the Temple of Literature, Vietnam's inaugural university, a remarkable example of traditional Vietnamese architecture and a symbol of Confucian scholarship.

Next, visit the unique One Pillar Pagoda, renowned for its distinctive design resembling a lotus flower emerging from water. Nearby, you'll find Ba Dinh Square and the sacred Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum. Your guide will share insights into the nation's history, including the momentous declaration of independence. Please note that the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum is closed on Mondays and Fridays, and undergoes renovation from June to August; during these times, visits are limited to the exterior and surrounding areas. A delicious Vietnamese lunch will be served at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, the tour continues to the Museum of Ethnology, an excellent institution dedicated to preserving and showcasing the cultural diversity of Vietnam's 54 ethnic groups. Here, you can examine a wide array of artifacts, photographs, and films that illustrate the daily lives, traditional costumes, tools, and customs of various minorities. This enlightening experience concludes as you return to your hotel around 4:30 PM, enriched with new knowledge about Vietnam's diverse cultural tapestry.

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Day 3 Incense Village, Bich Dong Pagoda & Tam Coc Boat Trip

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Emeralda Resort Ninh Binh | Transport: Car

After enjoying breakfast and completing your check-out from the hotel, depart at 8:00 AM for Quang Phu Cau Incense Village. This scenic 1.5-hour drive takes you away from the urban bustle into the tranquil Vietnamese countryside. Upon arrival, take a leisurely stroll through the village, observing locals engaged in the traditional craft of incense making, from bamboo preparation to dyeing and drying the colorful bundles. Engage with artisans to learn about the history of this age-old profession and capture unique photographs amidst the vibrant displays of incense. A rustic lunch will be served at a local eatery.

In the afternoon, continue your journey to Ninh Binh, a province celebrated for its pure natural ambiance. Your first stop here is Bich Dong Pagoda, a captivating site where three distinct Buddhist pagodas are nestled into a mountain. The poetic scenery, especially during the lotus season (June to July), provides a stunning backdrop. Listen to fascinating folk tales associated with this spiritual location.

Next, proceed to Tam Coc for a serene two-hour sampan boat ride, expertly rowed by locals along the Ngo Dong River. Marvel at the lush natural scenery, including expansive rice fields that turn golden in May and June. The boat journey takes you through three impressive caves, revealing spectacular limestone formations. As you navigate the winding stream past rice paddies and ancient temples, you'll gather a collection of stunning landscape photographs, concluding a day rich in countryside discovery. In the evening, you will be transferred to your hotel in Ninh Binh for a relaxing night.

Day 4 Mua Cave Ascent & Trang An Grottoes Sampan Ride

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Emeralda Resort Ninh Binh | Transport: Car

Begin your day with a fortifying breakfast, as today's itinerary involves some physical activity. Meet your guide and travel to Mua Cave, a renowned destination in Ninh Binh offering spectacular panoramic views from Ngoa Long Mountain. Prepare for a climb to the mountain's summit, where you will be rewarded with an unparalleled vista of the astonishing rice valleys below, a perfect spot for photography enthusiasts. After descending, enjoy a delicious lunch at a local restaurant to refuel.

In the afternoon, your adventure continues to the final highlight of the day, Trang An Grottoes. Here, you will embark on a traditional sampan cruise along the graceful Sao Khe River. This tranquil journey allows you to admire numerous caves and limestone mountains, passing by significant temples such as Lam Cave, Vang Cave, Dai Cave, Thanh Truot Cave, Cao Son Temple, Suoi Tien Temple, and Vu Lam Temple. The serene environment and impressive karst formations create a memorable experience.

After a day filled with exploration and capturing beautiful travel memories, you will be transferred back to your hotel. The evening offers a peaceful opportunity to relax and prepare for your upcoming luxurious cruise expedition.

Day 5 Ninh Binh to Halong Bay & Luxury Cruise Boarding

Savor a final breakfast amidst the peaceful surroundings of Ninh Binh before checking out from your hotel. A comfortable luxury bus will then transport you to the magnificent Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage site, where your cruise adventure awaits. Upon reaching the cruise's dedicated waiting lounge in Halong, you'll receive a warm welcome from the staff and proceed with

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a swift check-in process.
A speedboat will transfer you to your luxurious cruise vessel. During this transfer, the cruise manager will provide essential safety instructions and share fascinating stories about the bay. Around 12:15 PM, you'll officially embark on the cruise, greeted by the captain and crew with a refreshing welcome drink. After checking into your cabin, a sumptuous lunch will be served in the onboard restaurant.
Enjoy your delicious meal while the cruise glides through thousands of stunning limestone karsts and islets dotting the sparkling green waters. The afternoon is dedicated to engaging water activities, bringing you closer to the bay's natural wonders. Depending on the specific cruise itinerary, you might climb to an island's peak, explore a cave, or enjoy kayaking through the breathtaking ocean scenery. Later, return to the cruise for a cooking class led by the chef or relax with cocktails during Happy Hour (5:00 PM - 5:30 PM), offering a

Day 6 Morning Serenity on Halong Bay - Return to Hanoi

Stay: Hotel in Hanoi | ~100 km

Morning
Around 6:00: A Tai Chi class is opened for early birds who want to practice health or just let their hair down among the fresh air from the room. Fulfill with a light breakfast and continue the outing.
Get to the further spots to understand the lifestyle in the fishing village or chill out and immerse yourself in the water. Return to the cruise to refresh and recharge with the last complete brunch.
Please process the check out at 10:00 - 10:30 whistle cruising towards the pier.
Transfer to the speedboat to get to the port, say goodbye to the captain, and cruise crew, and arrive at the port around 11:15
Afternoon
Be picked up by a luxury limousine and transferred to the hotel in Hanoi. Arrive at your hotel around 14:45 and the rest of the time is yours.
Below are some suggested optional that you should consider on your last night in Hanoi

Activities: Meals: Breakfast, Brunch
Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

Day 7 Departure - Farewell to Vietnam's Elegance

Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

Delight the last breakfast in Hanoi and check out before 12:00. Our driver will transfer you to the airport for your departure flight. We are honored to accompany you to Vietnam for 6 days. Wish you a safe flight, and see you on the next journey!
Meals: Breakfast
Accommodation: NA

Activities:

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WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v 6 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 1 Brunch, 1 Dinner.
- v Local English-speaking guides.
- v 3 nights accommodation in Hanoi.
- v 2 nights accommodation in Ninh Binh.
- v 1 night accommodation on a Ha Long Bay Cruise.
- v All transfers by private air-conditioned vehicle.
- v All excursions and visits mentioned.
- v Entrance tickets and boat fees.
- v Taxes and service charges.

NOT INCLUDED

- x Travel insurance.
- x Early check-in or late check-out surcharges.
- x Surcharges during peak season.
- x Vietnam Visa.
- x International or domestic flight tickets.
- x Lunches and dinners not specified in the itinerary.
- x Alcoholic beverages, bottled water, and drinks not included with meals.
- x Personal purchases and souvenirs.
- x Tips for guides, drivers, and porters.
- x Other unmentioned expenses.
- x Fuel surcharge if prices increase by over 15%.

PRICE INCLUDES

- v 6 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 1 Brunch, 1 Dinner.
- v Local English-speaking guides.
- v 3 nights accommodation in Hanoi.
- v 2 nights accommodation in Ninh Binh.
- v 1 night accommodation on a Ha Long Bay Cruise.
- v All transfers by private air-conditioned vehicle.
- v All excursions and visits mentioned.
- v Entrance tickets and boat fees.
- v Taxes and service charges.

AVAILABLE DEPARTURES

Departure Date	Return Date	Price / Person	Availability	Languages
01 Jan 2026	20 Dec 2026	**USD 1,739**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 1,792**	Available	–

CANCELLATION POLICY

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Tour Code: IMP-FFB0ED5DAEDA