Southern Vietnam Craft Villages & Mekong Delta Discovery – 4 Days

4D / 3N	Easy	Private	USD 655 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

This 4-day private tour uncovers the cultural heart of Southern Vietnam, blending the dynamic urban landscape of Ho Chi Minh City with the serene, traditional craft villages and waterways of the Mekong Delta region. Engage with local artisans and explore unique natural environments.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

Ho Chi Minh City → Hoi An

TOUR OVERVIEW

This 4-day private journey through Southern Vietnam offers a deep dive into the region's vibrant culture, traditional craftsmanship, and unique natural beauty. Beginning in the dynamic Ho Chi Minh City, you'll explore historical landmarks and savor authentic street food on an exciting evening scooter tour. The adventure continues into the serene Mekong Delta, where ancient craft villages reveal generations-old artistry and rural life unfolds along scenic waterways.

Experience the tranquility of the Tra Su Melaleuca Forest, glide through its emerald waters, and engage with local communities. This carefully curated itinerary combines urban exploration with peaceful countryside immersion, providing a comprehensive and authentic Vietnamese experience.

Tour Highlights

Explore Ho Chi Minh City's iconic landmarks, from the Reunification Palace to the War Remnants Museum.

Savor authentic Southern Vietnamese street food during an exhilarating evening scooter tour through Saigon.

Witness the intricate art of wicker weaving at My An Village, a tradition spanning over a century.

Discover the delicate process of crafting Vietnam's iconic conical "non la" hats in Hoi An Leaf Hat Village.

Experience daily life on the Mekong Delta with a local ferry crossing the Hau River.

Engage in hands-on rural activities, including fish catching and exploring organic gardens at Phan Nam Farm.

Journey through the serene Tra Su Melaleuca Forest by boat and bamboo bridge, observing diverse wetland ecosystems.

Journey Through Southern Vietnam

Your adventure commences in Ho Chi Minh City, where you'll immediately plunge into the local culinary scene. After two days of urban discovery, including historical sites and artisan workshops, the tour transitions to the tranquil An Giang Province in the Mekong Delta. Here, you'll uncover traditional craft villages and experience authentic rural farm life before concluding with an exploration of the remarkable Tra Su Melaleuca Forest. The journey culminates with a return transfer to Ho Chi Minh City.

Who Will Love This Tour

This private tour is ideal for families and culture enthusiasts eager to explore Vietnam's rich heritage. Travelers interested in local traditions, artisan crafts, and authentic rural experiences will find this itinerary particularly rewarding. It offers a blend of bustling city exploration and peaceful natural immersion, catering to those who appreciate both historical insights and hands-on cultural engagement.

Practical Information

The tour spans 4 days and 3 nights, featuring accommodation in comfortable hotels. Meals include 3 breakfasts, 3 lunches, and 2 dinners, offering a taste of local cuisine. Transportation throughout the tour is provided by private car, supplemented by an exciting scooter tour in Ho Chi Minh City, and a local ferry crossing in the Mekong Delta, ensuring seamless and varied travel

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TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

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DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Ho Chi Minh City Arrival & Evening Scooter Food Tour

Meals: Dinner | Stay: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh City | Transport: Private car, Scooter

Upon your arrival in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam’s bustling southern metropolis, you will be transferred to your hotel for check-in. As evening approaches, prepare to immerse yourself in the city's dynamic rhythm with an exciting culinary adventure. At approximately 17:30, a local driver-guide will meet you at your accommodation, ready to whisk you away on the back of a scooter into the vibrant night.

Cruising along Saigon’s illuminated boulevards, you'll pass iconic landmarks such as the towering Bitexco Financial Tower, a prominent feature of the city's skyline. The symphony of scooters, neon lights, and the enticing aromas from street vendors creates an exhilarating urban experience. Your journey into authentic Saigon flavors begins in Chinatown, where the streets buzz with the scents of sizzling woks and fragrant incense emanating from intricate Chinese temples. Explore these lively alleys, appreciating the blend of Vietnamese and Chinese cultures, and perhaps try your hand at bargaining for small souvenirs or local snacks. Be sure to sample classic street food dishes like , Chinese-style dim sum, or .

As the night deepens, the tour leads you to the city’s floral heart: the Ho Thi Ky Flower Market. Established in 1987, this bustling market transforms into a kaleidoscope of colors and fragrances under glowing lights, as florists unload fresh blooms like lilies, orchids, and marigolds. This market is also a hidden culinary gem, offering unique Cambodian-influenced specialties and desserts not easily found elsewhere in Saigon. By 22:00, your scooter will navigate back through the lively streets, returning you to your hotel. With a satisfied palate, a collection of neon-lit photographs, and the city's pulse still echoing, you'll conclude your day having truly experienced Saigon by night.

Activities: Arrive in Ho Chi Minh City and check into your hotel.
Meet your local driver-guide for an evening scooter adventure.
Ride through illuminated streets, passing landmarks like Bitexco Financial Tower.
Explore Chinatown, sampling local street food and observing cultural fusion.

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Visit Ho Thi Ky Flower Market, discovering its vibrant displays and unique Cambodian-influenced dishes.
Return to your hotel by scooter.

Day 2 Saigon Historical Landmarks & Artisan Traditions

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh City | Transport: Private car

Begin your morning at 08:00 with a warm greeting from your local guide, embarking on a comprehensive tour to uncover the rich heritage of Ho Chi Minh City. This dynamic metropolis beautifully blends French colonial elegance with modern vibrancy. Today's exploration will guide you through significant landmarks, spiritual sanctuaries, lively markets, and hidden artisan enclaves, offering a deep insight into the city's character.

Your journey starts at the Reunification Palace, a powerful symbol of Vietnam's tumultuous past and its path to national unity. Wander through its grand conference halls, presidential chambers, and lush gardens as your guide recounts compelling stories of the Fall of Saigon and the palace's crucial role in ending the Vietnam War. From there, you'll step into the sobering environment of the War Remnants Museum. Its carefully curated exhibits and poignant photographs provide a profound perspective on the realities of conflict, fostering a deeper understanding of the country's resilience. Continue to the architectural legacy of the French colonial era at the Notre Dame Cathedral, a striking example of Gothic design. Constructed during the French occupation, this cathedral stands as a testament to the city's rich history and offers a moment of serene beauty. Adjacent to it, the Old Post Office, with its grand arched windows, vaulted ceilings, and antique telephone booths, transports visitors back to a bygone era.

After a relaxing lunch, the afternoon delves into the city's spiritual side with a visit to Giac Lam Pagoda. Founded in the 18th century, this tranquil sanctuary invites contemplation amidst its seven-tiered stupa, ancient statues, and peaceful courtyards filled with the scent of incense and prayers. Next, immerse yourself in the cultural richness of Thien Hau Pagoda, nestled in the heart of Chinatown. Dedicated to the sea goddess Mazu, this ornate temple is adorned with intricate ceramic dioramas and wooden altars, offering a window into the traditions of the Chinese-Vietnamese community. As the sun begins its descent, venture into District 5 to uncover a hidden cultural treasure: a traditional lantern village. In a cozy craft studio, skilled artisans will guide you through the delicate process of making paper toys and lanterns, a cherished tradition particularly vibrant during the Mid-Autumn Festival. Create your own colorful keepsake to remember your day immersed in the soul of Saigon. You will return to your hotel in the late afternoon, filled with the sights, stories, and creative spirit that define this unforgettable city.

Activities:
Begin a guided tour of Ho Chi Minh City's significant sites.
Explore Reunification Palace, learning about its role in Vietnamese history.
Visit the War Remnants Museum for a powerful insight into past conflicts.
Admire the French colonial architecture of Notre Dame Cathedral and the Old Post Office.
Discover the tranquil Giac Lam Pagoda, an 18th-century Buddhist sanctuary.
Tour Thien Hau Pagoda in Chinatown, dedicated to the sea goddess Mazu.
Participate in a lantern-making workshop at a traditional craft studio in District 5.

Day 3 Mekong Delta Craft Villages & Rural Life Experience

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Hotel in Long Xuyen | Transport: Private car, Ferry

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Your day begins early at 07:00 as your guide and driver warmly welcome you at the designated meeting point, ready to embark on a scenic journey southwest to An Giang Province, the gateway to the heart of Vietnam's Mekong Delta. As the urban landscape recedes, you'll enjoy picturesque views of winding river tributaries, lush fruit orchards, and glimpses of local life unfolding along the roads. Following a brief stop for breakfast, the group will proceed to Cho Moi Commune, home to the century-old My An Wicker Village.

This traditional village has been dedicated to crafting exquisite hand-woven wicker goods for over a century. You'll have the opportunity to walk among local artisans, observing as they skillfully transform bamboo and rattan into intricately designed baskets, trays, and various household items. Witness firsthand how cultural pride and expert hands shape each piece, sustaining a craft deeply rooted in the Mekong region's soul. Continue your journey to the nearby Hoi An Leaf Hat Craft Village – distinct from the town of Hoi An. This quiet yet historically rich village, dating back to the 1930s, has long specialized in crafting "non la," Vietnam's iconic conical hats. You'll gain a rare insight into how these timeless symbols are made, with layers of palm leaves delicately sewn into shape, each hat embodying a graceful blend of function, history, and Vietnamese identity.

From there, the car continues towards Long Xuyen, a charming riverside city in An Giang. You'll experience a quintessential Mekong moment by crossing the Hau River via the An Hoa Ferry. The Hau River, one of the Mekong's "Nine Dragons," carries the legacy of generations. As you drift across on this humble yet vital ferry, you'll feel the pulse of the Delta, where water serves as both a thoroughfare and a source of livelihood. Upon reaching Phan Nam Farm, you'll dive into hands-on rural life. At this eco-friendly farm, roll up your sleeves and join locals in the joyful, muddy, and quintessentially Vietnamese experience of catching fish from a pond. Afterward, explore the farm's organic vegetable and fruit gardens, cultivated using clean, sustainable methods. Following your activities, relax and refuel with a fresh farm-to-table lunch, surrounded by the peaceful Mekong landscape. Around 14:00, check into your hotel in Long Xuyen, where you can rest or enjoy some free time to wander and discover the specialties of this Delta city at your leisure. In the evening, regroup for dinner at a local restaurant, savoring authentic regional flavors. After dinner, the night is yours to explore or relax before a restful overnight stay in Long Xuyen.

Activities:
Travel southwest to An Giang Province, enjoying Mekong Delta scenery.
Visit My An Wicker Village to observe traditional hand-weaving techniques.
Explore Hoi An Leaf Hat Craft Village, learning about the creation of conical "non la" hats.
Cross the Hau River by An Hoa Ferry, experiencing local Mekong transport.
Engage in hands-on activities like fish catching at Phan Nam Farm.
Enjoy a farm-to-table lunch featuring fresh local ingredients.
Check into your hotel in Long Xuyen and enjoy free time.
Savor an authentic dinner at a local Long Xuyen restaurant.

Day 4 — Tra Su Forest Exploration & Return to Ho Chi Minh City

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: NA | Transport: Bus

Start your final day with breakfast at the hotel at 6:30. By 8:30, meet in the hotel lobby for check-out and transfer to Van Giao Commune, home to the remarkable Tra Su Melaleuca Forest. This destination is a quintessential wetland forest of Vietnam, renowned for featuring the country's longest bamboo bridge winding through its verdant expanse. During your visit, prepare to engage all your senses: admire the rich natural scenery, feel the clear blue water, listen to the harmonious sounds of birds, inhale the delicate fragrance of melaleuca trees and water lilies, and anticipate enjoying the specialty dishes of An Giang

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At approximately 12:30, you will enjoy a delicious lunch at a local restaurant, featuring fresh, farm-to-table ingredients characteristic of An Giang's cuisine. Afterward, a comfortable bus will pick you up for the transfer back to Ho Chi Minh City. En route, your tour guide will make a stop, allowing you the opportunity to purchase local specialties and perhaps have dinner at your own expense. The journey concludes with your return to Ho Chi Minh City, expected around 21:00, marking the end of your immersive Southern Vietnam adventure.

Activities: Enjoy breakfast at your hotel.
Transfer to Van Giao Commune to visit Tra Su Melaleuca Forest.
Explore the wetland forest, walking the bamboo bridge and taking a boat ride.
Experience the unique biodiversity and serene atmosphere of Tra Su.
Have lunch at a local restaurant, tasting An Giang province specialties.
Travel back to Ho Chi Minh City, with a stop for local purchases.
Arrive in Ho Chi Minh City in the evening.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

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- v 3 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 2 Dinners
- v Hotel accommodation (3 nights, twin/double share)
- v All transport as per itinerary (including airport pick-up & drop-off)
- v Local English-speaking guide during the tour
- v Entrance fees for all Vietnam attractions listed in the itinerary

NOT INCLUDED

PRICE INCLUDES

- v 3 Breakfasts, 3 Lunches, 2 Dinners
- v Hotel accommodation (3 nights, twin/double share)
- v All transport as per itinerary (including airport pick-up & drop-off)
- v Local English-speaking guide during the tour
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CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-733266C318D6