Vietnam Artisan Crafts & Heritage Journey – 8 Days

8D / 7N	Easy	Private	USD 999 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Explore Vietnam's rich crafting traditions from Hanoi's ancient guilds to Hoi An's vibrant workshops. This 8-day private tour includes hands-on experiences, a scenic Lan Ha Bay cruise, and culinary discoveries, tracing the country's artistic legacy.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

Hanoi → Ha Long → Hoi An

TOUR OVERVIEW

Overview: Vietnam's Artisan Heritage Tour

This exclusive 8-day private tour invites you to uncover the enduring artistic spirit of Vietnam, journeying from the bustling capital of Hanoi to the tranquil, ancient town of Hoi An. Delve into centuries-old traditions, observing skilled artisans at work and participating in hands-on workshops that bring local crafts to life. From the intricate process of conical hat making to the vibrant art of Dong Ho folk painting and the delicate skill of silk weaving, this journey offers a unique insight into the cultural heart of the nation.

Tour Highlights

Explore traditional craft villages near Hanoi, focusing on conical hat weaving and incense production.

Participate in engaging workshops to learn traditional Vietnamese cake making, folk painting, and pottery.

Experience a day cruise through the stunning Lan Ha Bay, including a visit to the secluded Viet Hai fishing village on Cat Ba Island.

Discover Hoi An's creative soul through a lantern-making class, visits to silk and wood carving villages, and a guided street food adventure.

Enjoy immersive cultural performances and historical site visits within Hoi An Ancient Town.

Route Summary

Your journey commences in Hanoi, where you'll spend four days exploring its vibrant street food scene and visiting surrounding craft villages. The tour then takes you on a captivating day cruise through the majestic Lan Ha Bay, offering breathtaking limestone karst scenery and local village encounters. Afterward, a short flight transfers you to Hoi An, where the final three days are dedicated to its rich artisan traditions, ancient architecture, and culinary delights, concluding with your departure from this charming coastal town.

Who This Tour Suits

This private tour is ideal for travelers with a keen interest in cultural immersion, traditional arts, and authentic local experiences. It caters to those who appreciate hands-on learning and wish to understand the craftsmanship that defines Vietnamese heritage. Food enthusiasts will also enjoy the various culinary explorations included. The pace allows for both guided activities and personal leisure time, making it suitable for individuals, couples, or small groups seeking a deeper connection with Vietnam's artistic landscape.

Practical Information

Accommodation throughout the tour consists of comfortable hotel stays, totaling seven nights. Daily breakfasts are included, along with four lunches and two dinners, providing a taste of local cuisine. All ground transportation in air-conditioned vehicles

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and internal flights are arranged for your convenience. An English-speaking local guide accompanies you during tours, offering insights and facilitating interactions. Please note that the detailed itinerary for the Lan Ha Bay cruise may vary based on weather conditions and specific cruise operator schedules.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

* Observe traditional conical hat craftsmanship in Lang Non village near Hanoi.
* Witness the vibrant, intricate process of incense stick creation at Quang Phu Cau.
* Engage in hands-on workshops for making traditional Vietnamese cakes and Dong Ho folk paintings.
* Cruise through the serene waters of Lan Ha Bay, exploring hidden lagoons and floating villages.
* Visit Viet Hai Village on Cat Ba Island, experiencing local life and nature.
* Craft your own silk lantern during a workshop in the historic town of Hoi An.
* Discover the ancient art of silk weaving and pottery making in Hoi An's artisan communities.
* Stroll through Hoi An Ancient Town, admiring the Japanese Covered Bridge and historic houses.
* Savor authentic Vietnamese street food on guided culinary tours in Hanoi and Hoi An.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Hanoi Arrival & Old Quarter Culinary Walk

Meals: Dinner | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi | Transport: Airport transfer, walking tour

Your journey commences with a warm welcome to Hanoi, Vietnam's historic capital. Upon landing, a private transfer will take you directly to your hotel for check-in, allowing time to relax and settle in after your travels. The city's atmosphere, a vibrant mix of ancient traditions and modern life, offers an immediate sensory experience.

As evening approaches, at approximately 5:30 PM, meet your guide for a captivating street food tour through Hanoi's famous Old Quarter. This culinary exploration introduces you to an array of local delicacies. Depending on the day, you might savor a comforting bowl of Pho Bo or Bun Thang, or perhaps the spicy notes of Bun Bo Hue. Quick bites like Banh Cuon and the iconic Banh Mi are also popular choices. The tour often includes snacks such as Nom Bo Kho or Nem Chua Ran, culminating with a taste of Hanoi's unique Egg Coffee. Please inform us of any dietary needs in advance to ensure a tailored experience.

Activities:
Receive airport greeting and transfer to hotel
Check into your Hanoi accommodation
Embark on a guided street food tour through the Old Quarter
Taste local dishes like Pho Bo, Bun Thang, Banh Mi, and Egg Coffee

Day 2 — Hanoi's Traditional Craft Villages Exploration

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Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi | Transport: Private vehicle transfers

Today's itinerary delves into the rich artistic heritage surrounding Hanoi, taking you beyond the city's bustling center to traditional craft villages. The morning begins with a visit to Lang Non, a village renowned for its intricate conical hat making. Here, you'll observe skilled artisans meticulously shaping simple materials into Vietnam's iconic headwear, witnessing the precision and dedication involved in preserving this cultural symbol.
Following a lunch featuring authentic regional cuisine, the afternoon continues with an excursion to Quang Phu Cau village. This location is famous for its vibrant incense stick production, where bundles of drying incense create striking visual displays under the sun. These handcrafted items are integral to spiritual practices across Vietnam. The tour then offers a choice between visiting Ha Thai lacquer village to learn about the ancient art of lacquerware, or exploring To He, where colorful glutinous rice dough is sculpted into playful figurines. Throughout the day, engage with local craftspeople, gaining insight into their centuries-old techniques and appreciating the enduring beauty of Vietnam's cultural identity.

Activities:
Visit Lang Non to observe conical hat making
Enjoy a local lunch with regional specialties
Explore Quang Phu Cau village, known for incense production
Choose to visit Ha Thai lacquer village or To He figurine village
Learn about traditional Vietnamese craftsmanship

Day 3 Hands-On Artisan Workshops & Culinary Creations

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi | Transport: Private vehicle transfers

This day offers a deeper dive into Vietnam's artisanal world, beginning with a culinary experience. In the morning, you'll step into local kitchens to learn the art of making traditional Vietnamese cakes. Discover the secrets behind symbolic treats like 'banh phu the' (husband and wife cake), 'banh khuc' from Lang Diem, and 'banh te' from Lang Cho. These recipes are steeped in cultural significance and flavor, and you'll have the pleasure of tasting your own freshly made creations.
The afternoon shifts focus to creative workshops in various craft villages. Unleash your artistic side by shaping pottery at Phu Lang ceramic village, where you can try your hand at the potter's wheel. Next, engage with the vivid tradition of Dong Ho folk paintings, using natural pigments to create colorful scenes. You'll also learn the delicate process of making Giay Do, a traditional Vietnamese handmade paper. These immersive experiences not only reveal the stories behind each craft but also provide you with unique, handmade souvenirs to cherish as memories of your journey.

Activities:
Participate in a traditional Vietnamese cake-making class
Taste your homemade traditional cakes
Try pottery shaping at Phu Lang ceramic village
Create Dong Ho folk paintings with natural pigments
Learn the process of making Giay Do handmade paper

Day 4 Lan Ha Bay Cruise & Viet Hai Village Discovery

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi | Transport: Shuttle bus, boat, electric car/bicycle

Your day begins with a convenient pick-up from your Hanoi Old Quarter hotel, followed by a scenic shuttle bus journey to Cat

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Ba Island. The route offers picturesque views of the countryside and glimpses of coastal life. Upon arrival at Cat Ba, you'll travel through the lush landscapes of Cat Ba National Park before reaching Beo Pier, where your cruise awaits. A welcome drink and a brief orientation set the stage for your Lan Ha Bay adventure.

As the boat glides through the calm, emerald waters of Lan Ha Bay, you'll pass by Cai Beo, one of Vietnam's oldest floating villages, observing stilted houses amidst towering limestone karsts. A delicious Vietnamese lunch is served onboard. In the afternoon, the cruise docks at Viet Hai Port, leading to Viet Hai Village, a serene hamlet nestled within Cat Ba National Park. Explore the village by electric car or bicycle, visit local homes, and enjoy a relaxing fish-foot massage. After returning to the boat, the captain will select an ideal spot for water activities, offering opportunities for kayaking or swimming in the refreshing bay. The day concludes with a sunset tea party on the sundeck, featuring fresh fruit and Vietnamese tea, as the boat cruises back to Beo Pier for your shuttle transfer to Hanoi.

Activities:
Travel by shuttle bus to Cat Ba Island
Embark on a cruise through Lan Ha Bay
Observe Cai Beo floating village
Enjoy lunch served onboard the cruise
Visit Viet Hai Village by electric car or bicycle
Experience a fish-foot massage in Viet Hai Village
Go kayaking or swimming in Lan Ha Bay
Relax with a sunset tea party on the sundeck
Return to Hanoi by shuttle bus

Day 5 Journey to Hoi An & Leisure Time

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An | Transport: Private transfer, domestic flight

After breakfast in Hanoi, a private transfer will take you to the airport for your domestic flight to central Vietnam. This aerial journey provides stunning views, transitioning from the northern mountains to the country's diverse coastline. Upon arrival at Hoi An's airport, you'll notice a distinct shift in climate, with warmer temperatures and gentle coastal breezes welcoming you. A driver will meet you at the airport and transfer you directly to your hotel in Hoi An. After checking in, the rest of the day is yours to enjoy at your leisure. You might choose to unwind at the hotel, or if you're eager to explore, take a relaxed stroll through the charming ancient town. Begin to soak in the unique atmosphere of Hoi An, preparing for the cultural discoveries that await in the coming days.

Activities:
Enjoy breakfast at your Hanoi hotel
Transfer to Hanoi airport for your flight
Fly from Hanoi to Hoi An
Receive airport transfer to your Hoi An hotel
Check into your accommodation
Enjoy free time to relax or begin exploring Hoi An

Day 6 Hoi An's Artisan Crafts & Traditional Villages

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An | Transport: Private vehicle transfers

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Today, immerse yourself in Hoi An's rich artistic legacy, preserved through generations of dedicated local artisans. Your morning begins with a visit to a traditional lantern workshop, where skilled craftspeople demonstrate how bamboo and silk are transformed into vibrant light fixtures. You'll learn the complete process, from constructing the frame to covering it with silk, and even create your own lantern to keep as a cherished souvenir.
The journey continues to a silk village located just outside of town, offering insights into the ancient art of sericulture, from raising silkworms to the intricate process of weaving. Next, explore Thanh Ha Pottery Village, a peaceful riverside community celebrated for its centuries-old ceramic traditions. Here, you can observe artisans shaping clay into beautiful items and even try your hand at making a small pottery piece. The afternoon concludes with a visit to Kim Bong Carpenter Village, renowned for its exquisite wooden furniture and traditional craftsmanship. Witness master artisans demonstrate intricate carving techniques, once used to adorn temples and historic buildings across central Vietnam, showcasing a profound connection to the region's architectural heritage.

Activities: Visit a traditional lantern workshop and make your own lantern
Explore a silk village to learn about sericulture and weaving
Observe pottery making at Thanh Ha Pottery Village and try crafting an item
Visit Kim Bong Carpenter Village to see wood carving demonstrations
Discover centuries-old artisan techniques

Day 7 Hoi An Ancient Town Exploration & River Evening

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An | Transport: Walking, boat

In the afternoon, around 3:00 PM, your guide will meet you at your hotel to begin an immersive exploration of Hoi An Ancient Town. Start at the bustling Hoi An Market, a vibrant hub where daily life unfolds amidst a colorful array of fresh produce and local street food. Continue to the Phuc Kien Assembly Hall, a significant spiritual gathering place for Chinese immigrants, followed by a visit to either the beautifully preserved Tan Ky or Phung Hung Ancient House, showcasing traditional architecture and the importance of ancestral reverence.
The tour proceeds to the Museum of Folk Culture, offering deeper insights into local traditions, and includes a cultural performance at the Traditional Performing Arts House, where music and dance reflect Hoi An’s heritage. Stroll across the iconic Japanese Covered Bridge, admiring its intricate carvings, before exploring local handicraft shops and galleries that embody the town’s artistic spirit. As night falls, board a small boat for a serene river ride, where you can release a flower lantern onto the water, a traditional gesture for luck and happiness. The evening culminates with a guided street food tour through the lantern-lit streets, tasting beloved local treats such as Banh Mi, Fried Banana Pancake, Cao Lau, or Quang Noodles. Around 7:30 PM, your guide will escort you back to your hotel, concluding a day rich in cultural and culinary discoveries.

Activities: Explore Hoi An Market
Visit Phuc Kien Assembly Hall
Tour Tan Ky or Phung Hung Ancient House
Discover the Museum of Folk Culture
Attend a cultural performance at the Traditional Performing Arts House
Walk across the Japanese Covered Bridge
Browse local handicraft shops and galleries
Enjoy a boat ride on the river and release a flower lantern

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Embark on a street food tour, tasting local delicacies

Day 8 Hoi An Departure

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: NA | Transport: Airport transfer

Your final morning in Hoi An is reserved for personal enjoyment and reflection. Take this opportunity to revisit a favorite cafe, enjoy a peaceful stroll along the riverside, or browse local shops for any last-minute souvenirs to remember your journey. This relaxed pace allows you to fully absorb the timeless charm of Hoi An before your departure.

As your tour concludes, a private transfer will take you to the airport for your onward journey. The memories of Vietnam's artisan trail, woven into the experiences and crafts you've encountered, will accompany you long after you leave.

Activities: Enjoy free time for leisure or last-minute souvenir shopping
Prepare for departure
Transfer to Hoi An airport for your onward flight

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v 7 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 2 Dinner
- v Hotel accommodation for 7 nights
- v Overnight in shared Twin/Double room with air-conditioning at hotel
- v All transport during tour in air-conditioned vehicle as per itinerary (including airport pick-up & drop-off)
- v All in-tour stationed local English speaking guide
- v Meals as indicated in the program
- v Entrance fees as per itinerary

NOT INCLUDED

- x Not specified in the tour details.

PRICE INCLUDES

- v 7 Breakfasts, 4 Lunches, 2 Dinner
- v Hotel accommodation for 7 nights
- v Overnight in shared Twin/Double room with air-conditioning at hotel
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CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-90F4E99B716E