Vietnam Luxury Rail Journey: North to South Discovery – 8 Days

8D / 7N	Easy	Private	USD 9,396 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

A refined 8-day rail expedition from Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City, revealing Vietnam's cultural treasures, stunning natural beauty, and imperial history aboard a luxurious train.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

Hanoi → Ninh Binh → Hue → Hoi An → Ho Chi Minh City

TOUR OVERVIEW

Overview: Vietnam by Luxury Train

Embark on an exceptional 8-day rail adventure, traveling from Hanoi in the north to Ho Chi Minh City in the south. This meticulously crafted itinerary offers a unique perspective on Vietnam's diverse landscapes, ancient traditions, and vibrant modern life, all from the comfort and elegance of a luxury train. Each day brings new discoveries, from serene natural wonders to bustling historic towns, ensuring a journey filled with cultural immersion and unparalleled scenic beauty.

Journey Highlights

Overnight rail travel across Vietnam in a private luxury cabin.

Sampan boat excursion through the limestone karsts of Trang An.

Explore Phong Nha Cave within the UNESCO-listed Phong Nha–Ke Bang National Park.

Discover Hue's Imperial Citadel and the poetic Tu Duc Mausoleum.

Engage in traditional crafts like woodblock painting and pottery in Hoi An.

Wander through Hoi An Ancient Town, including the Japanese Covered Bridge.

Visit the historic Mang Lang Church and Phu Tan Mat Weaving Village.

Ascend Ta Cu Mountain to Linh Son Truong Tho Pagoda for panoramic views.

Learn about Vietnam's iconic fish sauce at a dedicated museum in Phan Thiet.

Dine under the stars near the ancient Poshanu Cham Towers.

Route Summary

Your journey begins in the historic capital of Hanoi, then glides through the tranquil landscapes of Ninh Binh, known for its

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Hanoi Arrival & Luxury Train Departure

Meals: Dinner | Stay: Overnight on Luxury Train | Transport: Private transfer, Luxury Train

As the afternoon light gently settles over Hanoi, anticipation builds for your luxurious rail expedition. Around 4:30 PM, a private vehicle will collect you from your hotel, ensuring a comfortable transfer to Gia Lam Station. Upon arrival, a warm reception awaits, and you'll be guided to the VIP lounge for a seamless check-in process. Take a moment to appreciate your elegant surroundings and prepare for the journey ahead.

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As evening descends, approximately 6:00 PM, join fellow travelers in the train's opulent restaurant car. Enjoy engaging conversations over cocktails and canapés as the atmosphere becomes lively. A sumptuous dinner follows, featuring culinary masterpieces expertly paired with fine wines. As the meal concludes, the train gracefully departs Hanoi, gliding into the night. Shortly after, you'll traverse the iconic Long Bien Bridge, a historic landmark, offering glimpses of the shimmering Red River at twilight. With city lights fading, a sense of tranquility settles in, and the rhythmic motion of the train will lull you into a peaceful night's rest, anticipating tomorrow's adventures in Ninh Binh.

Activities: Private transfer to Gia Lam Station
VIP lounge check-in
Welcome celebration with cocktails and canapés
Enjoy a gourmet dinner onboard
Depart from Hanoi by luxury train
Cross the historic Long Bien Bridge

Day 2 Ninh Binh's Ancient Capital & Karst Landscapes

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Overnight on Luxury Train | Transport: Luxury Train, Sampan boat

Wake to the serene beauty of Ninh Binh, where the first rays of dawn illuminate the landscape in soft golden hues. A delightful breakfast is served in the train's elegant dining car, featuring exquisite dishes that set a perfect tone for the day. Following breakfast, your journey continues from the train's comfort to the tranquil expanse of Trang An, often referred to as

Activities: Enjoy breakfast on the luxury train
Board a traditional sampan boat in Trang An
Explore emerald waterways and limestone karsts
Visit Hoa Lu, Vietnam's first ancient capital
Have lunch onboard the train
Enjoy afternoon tea while admiring mountain views
Savor a gourmet dinner onboard

Day 3 Quang Binh Caves & Countryside Charm

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Overnight on Luxury Train | Transport: Luxury Train, Boat

Awaken gently to the rhythmic sway of the train as Central Vietnam's landscapes unfold outside your window. Enjoy a leisurely breakfast onboard, savoring the anticipation of the day's adventures amidst tranquil beauty. Disembark in Quang Binh, a province celebrated for its breathtaking natural scenery. Your exploration begins in Phong Nha–Ke Bang National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its ancient limestone mountains, lush jungles, and extensive cave systems. Board a boat on the Son River, peacefully gliding through emerald waters framed by towering limestone cliffs. As you venture deeper into this pristine wilderness, observe the reflections of mountains rippling across the river's surface. The highlight is a visit to Phong Nha Cave, where a network of chambers and tunnels reveals spectacular stalactites and stalagmites, natural masterpieces sculpted over millennia. After your cave exploration, return to the comfort of your luxury train for a leisurely afternoon of relaxation or optional onboard activities.

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As sunset bathes the Quang Binh countryside, prepare for a memorable home-style dinner amidst endless rice paddies. You may choose to participate in a Vietnamese cooking demonstration, learning to create flavorful regional dishes using fresh, local ingredients. Dine under the open sky, with the gentle sounds of nature providing a soothing backdrop. Later, reboard the train as it continues its journey towards Hue, carrying you into the next captivating chapter of your luxury rail adventure.

Activities:
Have breakfast onboard the train
Disembark in Quang Binh
Explore Phong Nha–Ke Bang National Park
Take a boat trip along the Son River
Discover the majestic Phong Nha Cave
Enjoy leisure time on the train
Experience a home-style dinner in the countryside
Participate in a Vietnamese cooking demonstration (optional)
Reboard the luxury train for overnight travel

Day 4 Hue Imperial City & Royal Tombs

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Overnight on Luxury Train | Transport: Rickshaw, Private van, Luxury Train

Begin your day with a nostalgic rickshaw ride through Hue's peaceful streets. The cool morning air carries the scent of dew, as ancient moss-covered gates and weathered walls whisper tales of a glorious past. Arrive at the Imperial Citadel, once the heart of the Nguyen Dynasty, where towering ramparts, stately palaces, and sacred shrines evoke Vietnam's imperial grandeur. As you wander through tranquil gardens and admire precious relics, the past comes alive in the gentle morning light.
Leaving the Citadel, continue by private van to the Tu Duc Mausoleum, a poetic sanctuary nestled among pine-covered hills. Built as a retreat for the emperor, this exquisite complex reflects a yearning for peace and harmony. Your journey then leads to Hue's famed Incense Village, where the scent of cinnamon, agarwood, and lotus-infused incense fills the air. Watch local artisans craft incense with graceful precision, a tradition passed down through generations. You're invited to try your hand at rolling incense sticks or weaving a conical hat, offering a personal glimpse into Hue's artisanal soul. Enjoy a refined lunch at a local restaurant, where Hue's royal cuisine shines through, showcasing a delicate balance of artistry and flavor.
As the afternoon light softens over the Perfume River, it's time to return to your luxurious train. From your seat, take in the fading silhouettes of pagodas, riverside gardens, and imperial spires, a final farewell to this poetic city. As the train glides southward, the scenery unfolds like a living canvas, revealing the shimmering Lang Co Lagoon, where tranquil waters meet golden sands beneath emerald hills. The gentle hum of the train accompanies you onward, carrying the lingering grace and timeless beauty of Hue, Vietnam’s last imperial capital.

Activities:
Enjoy a rickshaw ride through Hue
Visit the Imperial Citadel
Explore the Tu Duc Mausoleum
Discover Hue's Incense Village
Try traditional craft activities (incense rolling, hat weaving)
Have a refined lunch at a local restaurant
Return to the luxury train
Admire the scenic Lang Co Lagoon from the train

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Day 5 Hoi An's Artisan Villages & Ancient Town

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Overnight on Luxury Train | Transport: Luxury Train, Jeep, Walking

Begin your day with a captivating rail journey from historic Hue, departing in the cool morning. Relax in your carriage as the train glides through tranquil countryside, offering glimpses of emerald hills, glistening lagoons, and charming coastal villages. Upon arrival in Hoi An, unwind amidst lush rice fields, where the serene landscape sets a peaceful tone. Savor a cup of freshly brewed Vietnamese coffee, rich in aroma and flavor, as you soak in the rural ambiance.

Your adventure continues with an exhilarating jeep ride to Au Lac Wood Art, where traditional craftsmanship comes to life. Guided by skilled artisans, you'll learn the delicate process of woodblock painting, designing and printing your own artistic creation. Next, visit Thanh Ha Pottery Village, a historic riverside community where generations of artisans have shaped clay into beautiful works of art. Watch local potters at work and try your hand at the potter’s wheel. Enjoy a home-hosted lunch in a local family’s house, where each dish showcases fresh, locally sourced ingredients and authentic Hoi An hospitality.

Step back in time as you explore Hoi An Ancient Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Begin at the vibrant Hoi An Market, alive with color, sound, and energy. Wander the cobbled streets to the Phuc Kien (Fujian) Chinese Assembly Hall, an architectural masterpiece. Continue to a beautifully preserved merchant home, such as Phung Hung Ancient House or Tan Ky Ancient House, where centuries-old heirlooms tell stories of a thriving trading hub. Your exploration culminates at the Japanese Covered Bridge, Hoi An’s most iconic landmark. Conclude your afternoon with free time to browse charming boutiques and hidden laneways. As twilight descends, return to your luxurious train for an exquisite onboard dinner, blending Vietnamese and international flavors, as the train glides toward Phu Yen.

Activities:
- Travel by luxury train from Hue to Hoi An
- Enjoy Vietnamese coffee in a rural setting
- Take a jeep ride to Au Lac Wood Art
- Learn woodblock painting from artisans
- Visit Thanh Ha Pottery Village
- Try your hand at pottery making
- Enjoy a home-hosted lunch with a local family
- Explore Hoi An Ancient Town
- Visit Hoi An Market, Phuc Kien Chinese Assembly Hall, and ancient merchant houses
- Walk across the Japanese Covered Bridge
- Enjoy free time for shopping and exploration
- Savor an exquisite onboard dinner

Day 6 Phu Yen Coastal Serenity & Traditional Crafts

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Overnight on Luxury Train | Transport: Luxury Train

Awaken to a tranquil morning and enjoy a peaceful breakfast on board as the train glides through the gentle landscapes of Phu Yen, a province where tradition, simplicity, and natural beauty harmoniously blend. Your first stop is Mang Lang Church, one of Vietnam’s oldest and most striking examples of Gothic architecture. With its elegant spires and weathered façade, this century-old church stands as a quiet testament to both faith and endurance. Beneath its graceful arches, you can feel the timeless dialogue between East and West, as soft light filters through stained glass, illuminating whispers of history.

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Continue your journey to the Phu Tan Mat Weaving Village, where generations of artisans have perfected the ancient craft of rush-grass weaving. Wander through the village and observe the artisans' skillful rhythm—hands moving in perfect harmony with time, transforming humble grass into vibrant, intricate mats. The scent of sun-dried reeds and the soft hum of wooden looms fill the air, offering a glimpse into the soul of rural Vietnamese life. This is not merely a visit, but an immersion into a living tradition—one woven with patience, artistry, and pride.

As noon approaches, return to the coast to indulge in Phu Yen's celebrated seafood cuisine. Enjoy a lunch prepared from the freshest local ingredients, a meal that embodies both the richness of the sea and the humble spirit of the fishermen who harvest it. Settle into a seaside restaurant, where the gentle sea breeze complements every bite. Each dish reflects Phu Yen's deep connection to its coastal heritage—simple, flavorful, and heartfelt. After lunch, return to the train for a leisurely afternoon of rest and reflection. At 4:00 PM, the train departs from Phu Yen, setting its course southward toward Binh Thuan Province. As twilight descends, make your way to the elegant dining car for a memorable culinary experience that mirrors the soul of Phu Yen.

Activities: Enjoy breakfast onboard the train
Visit the historic Mang Lang Church
Explore Phu Tan Mat Weaving Village
Observe traditional rush-grass weaving
Indulge in a fresh seafood lunch by the coast
Enjoy leisure time on the luxury train
Savor a refined onboard dinner

Day 7 Phan Thiet's Ancient Cham Culture & Mountain Views

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Overnight on Luxury Train | Transport: Luxury Train

Begin your morning with a scenic journey to the tranquil Ta Cu Mountain, a revered spiritual landmark in Binh Thuan Province. Dating back to the 18th century under the reign of King Tu Duc, this sacred mountain has long been a pilgrimage site for Vietnamese Buddhists. Ascend to the summit to discover the Linh Son Truong Tho Pagoda, an architectural gem offering panoramic views of Phan Thiet and its surrounding countryside. The serenity of the mountaintop and the gentle mountain breeze provide a perfect start to your day.

Continue your exploration with a unique culinary and cultural experience at the Fish Sauce Museum around 10:00 AM. Here, the air is filled with the distinctive aroma of Vietnam's most iconic ingredient—fish sauce, or nuoc mam. Delve into the centuries-old methods of production, learning how this humble condiment became an integral part of Vietnamese identity. Through interactive exhibits and storytelling, gain insight into its historic roots and deep cultural significance, understanding why it is revered as the soul of Vietnamese cuisine. As midday approaches, delight in a leisurely oceanfront lunch where the flavors of the sea take center stage. Indulge in a spread of local specialties that highlight the region's abundance of fresh seafood and coastal produce—a true celebration of Phan Thiet's culinary heritage.

After lunch, return to the comfort of your luxurious train. The afternoon invites you to unwind and enjoy the serene rhythm of travel. Relax in your private cabin or the lounge car, allowing the gentle motion of the train and the soft coastal light to lull you into peaceful reflection. As the sun begins to dip below the horizon, arrive at the ancient Poshanu Tower, one of the most significant remnants of the Cham civilization. These red-brick towers, perched on a gentle hillside, stand as silent witnesses to

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centuries of cultural splendor. Here, amidst this evocative setting, an extraordinary farewell dinner unfolds. Dine outdoors under the soft glow of lanterns and starlight, surrounded by the timeless beauty of the Cham ruins. The evening's menu features the finest seafood and regional delicacies. As night deepens, bid farewell to the captivating Mui Ne region and return to your luxury train. The train gently departs, gliding through the quiet night as it carries you back toward vibrant Ho Chi Minh City.

Activities: Journey to Ta Cu Mountain
Visit Linh Son Truong Tho Pagoda for panoramic views
Explore the Fish Sauce Museum
Enjoy an oceanfront seafood lunch
Relax on the luxury train
Visit the ancient Poshanu Tower
Experience a farewell dinner under the stars
Depart for Ho Chi Minh City by train

Day 8 Ho Chi Minh City Arrival & Departure

Meals: Breakfast | Transport: Luxury Train, Private transfer

As dawn breaks over Vietnam's southern metropolis, your luxury train gently arrives at Saigon Station around 5:00 AM, marking the conclusion of an extraordinary journey through Vietnam's diverse landscapes and rich heritage. Begin your morning with a leisurely onboard breakfast, served until 8:30 AM. Enjoy your final moments in the elegant dining car, reflecting on the unforgettable experiences and cherished memories gathered along the way, as the city awakens beyond your window with the rhythmic hum of motorbikes and morning vendors.
At 9:00 AM, check-out procedures commence. Depending on your onward travel plans, you will be comfortably transferred to your hotel in Ho Chi Minh City for a short rest or directly to Tan Son Nhat International Airport for your departure flight home. Your comprehensive rail voyage concludes here, where Vietnam's dynamic contemporary energy meets its enduring historical charm, providing a fitting farewell to a journey filled with discovery, culture, and timeless beauty.

Activities: Arrive at Saigon Station by luxury train
Enjoy a final onboard breakfast
Complete check-out procedures
Transfer to your Ho Chi Minh City hotel or Tan Son Nhat International Airport

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v 8 Breakfasts
- v 6 Lunches
- v 7 Dinners
- v 7 nights onboard in a double or twin cabin with en-suite

NOT INCLUDED

- x International airfare
- x Early check-in and late check-out
- x Peak season surcharges and compulsory gala dinners (if applicable)

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bathroom, daily servicing, air conditioning, safety box, linens, and amenities.

- v Breakfast, lunch, and dinner prepared onboard with premium local ingredients, plus authentic dining experiences at local restaurants during excursions.
- v Daily complimentary soft drinks, beer, and house wine by the glass (per drinks list).
- v Tea and coffee available onboard.
- v One complimentary beverage served with meals off the train.
- v Dedicated cabin attendant service.
- v Evening turndown service.
- v Experienced Tour Management team.
- v Private airport/hotel transfers in Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City.
- v Guided tours with English-speaking local guides.
- v Entrance fees as per itinerary.

- x Visa (passport valid for at least 6 months with a minimum of 3 blank visa pages)
- x Personal expenses (tips, laundry, gratuities, etc.)
- x Meals and drinks not mentioned in the itinerary

PRICE INCLUDES

- v 8 Breakfasts
- v 6 Lunches
- v 7 Dinners
- v 7 nights onboard in a double or twin cabin with en-suite bathroom, daily servicing, air conditioning, safety box, linens, and amenities.
- v Breakfast, lunch, and dinner prepared onboard with premium local ingredients, plus authentic dining experiences at local restaurants during excursions.
- v Daily complimentary soft drinks, beer, and house wine by the glass (per drinks list).
- v Tea and coffee available onboard.
- v One complimentary beverage served with meals off the train.
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AVAILABLE DEPARTURES

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Departure Date	Return Date	Price / Person	Availability	Languages
02 Dec 2026	09 Dec 2026	**USD 9,396**	Available	–
09 Dec 2026	16 Dec 2026	**USD 9,396**	Available	–
16 Dec 2026	23 Dec 2026	**USD 9,396**	Available	–
23 Dec 2026	30 Dec 2026	**USD 9,396**	Available	–
30 Dec 2026	06 Jan 2027	**USD 9,396**	Available	–
06 Jan 2027	13 Jan 2027	**USD 9,396**	Available	–
13 Jan 2027	20 Jan 2027	**USD 9,396**	Available	–
20 Jan 2027	27 Jan 2027	**USD 9,396**	Available	–
03 Feb 2027	10 Feb 2027	**USD 9,396**	Available	–
10 Feb 2027	17 Feb 2027	**USD 9,396**	Available	–
17 Feb 2027	24 Feb 2027	**USD 9,396**	Available	–
24 Feb 2027	03 Mar 2027	**USD 9,396**	Available	–

CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-050341E2E111