Vietnam's Luxury Highlights: Hanoi to Mekong Delta – 10 Days

10D / 9N	Easy	Private	USD 2,999 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

Embark on a luxurious 10-day private journey through Vietnam, exploring the ancient charm of Hanoi, the majestic karsts of Halong Bay, the serene beauty of Ninh Binh, the lantern-lit streets of Hoi An, the dynamic energy of Ho Chi Minh City, and the tranquil waterways of the Mekong Delta. This bespoke itinerary combines cultural immersion with opulent accommodations and personalized service.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

Hanoi → Ha Long → Ninh Binh → Hoi An → Ho Chi Minh City

TOUR OVERVIEW

Tour Overview

This exclusive 10-day private tour offers a refined exploration of Vietnam's most celebrated destinations, designed for discerning travelers seeking both cultural depth and premium comfort. From the historic capital of Hanoi to the natural wonders of Halong Bay and Ninh Binh, the ancient trading port of Hoi An, and the vibrant southern hub of Ho Chi Minh City, concluding in the peaceful Mekong Delta, every aspect of this journey is curated for an exceptional experience.

Journey Highlights

Experience Hanoi's Old Quarter from a traditional cyclo and savor authentic street food.

Cruise the emerald waters of Halong Bay aboard a 5-star luxury vessel, including an overnight stay.

Explore the stunning limestone karsts and river systems of Ninh Binh, often called

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Hanoi Arrival & Old Quarter Street Food Walk

Meals: Dinner | Stay: Hotel de l'Opera Hanoi MGallery by Sofitel | Transport: Private transfer, cyclo

Upon landing at Noi Bai International Airport, a private driver will greet you and provide a comfortable transfer to your luxurious hotel in Hanoi. Take some time to unwind and settle into your new surroundings. Later in the day, you will venture out to discover the sights and sounds of Hanoi's historic core aboard a traditional cyclo. Your driver will navigate through lively streets, showcasing colonial architecture, traditional shophouses, and ancient temples. Feel the vibrant energy of the city as you pass by local vendors, silk boutiques, and bustling markets.

As evening approaches, prepare for an exclusive street food tour led by a knowledgeable local expert. This culinary adventure offers a perfect opportunity to delve into the distinctive flavors of Hanoi's gastronomic scene. You will be introduced to iconic dishes such as pho, banh mi, and the famous egg coffee, among other local specialties. This journey not only delights your palate but also provides fascinating insights into the city's rich food culture and traditions.

Activities: Private airport transfer to hotel
Relax and settle into accommodation

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Cyclo ride through Hanoi Old Quarter
Private street food tour with a local expert
Taste local delicacies like pho, banh mi, and egg coffee

Day 2 Hanoi Cultural Landmarks & Ceramic Village Visit

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

Your morning begins with a meeting with your local guide in the hotel lobby, setting the stage for a day of cultural exploration. The journey commences with a visit to the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, where you will learn about the life and enduring legacy of Vietnam's revered leader. Continue to the iconic One Pillar Pagoda, a centuries-old structure built on a single wooden pillar, embodying traditional Vietnamese architectural artistry and rich cultural symbolism. Next, explore the Temple of Literature, Vietnam's first national university, founded during the Ly dynasty. This historic site, with its elegant courtyards and pavilions, honors Confucius and generations of scholars, offering a serene setting for reflection and photography. Conclude your morning at the Vietnamese Women’s Museum, which thoughtfully presents the resilience, diverse roles, and significant contributions of Vietnamese women throughout history. Afterward, enjoy an authentic Vietnamese lunch at a local restaurant.
In the afternoon, depart the city for Bat Trang, one of Vietnam's oldest and most renowned ceramic villages, situated along the Red River. Upon arrival, wander through narrow, ancient alleys lined with traditional workshops and artisan stores. Observe skilled craftsmen demonstrating intricate techniques passed down through generations as they shape and decorate delicate pottery, offering insight into this enduring craft. As the sun begins to set, indulge in an exclusive fine-dining experience at one of Hanoi's premier restaurants. Savor a carefully curated menu of exquisite Vietnamese flavors, expertly prepared by skilled chefs in a sophisticated ambiance, providing a perfect conclusion to your day immersed in the capital's rich culinary heritage.

Activities:
Visit Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum
Explore the One Pillar Pagoda
Discover the Temple of Literature
Tour the Vietnamese Women’s Museum
Enjoy an authentic Vietnamese lunch
Travel to Bat Trang ceramic village
Observe pottery making in traditional workshops
Indulge in a fine-dining experience in Hanoi

Day 3 Journey to Halong Bay & Luxury Overnight Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Elite of the Seas Cruise | Transport: Private transfer, 5-star luxury cruise

Following a delightful breakfast at your hotel, a private transfer will take you on a 2.5-hour journey to Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site celebrated for its emerald waters and towering limestone karst cliffs. En route, admire the expansive rice fields and traditional villages that dot the landscape. Upon arrival, you will receive a warm welcome from the crew as you board your luxurious 5-star cruise. After a special tea in the lounge, check into your cabin before the ship sets sail across the breathtaking bay. The voyage will take you past numerous magnificent natural limestone formations rising dramatically from the water, creating a surreal and picturesque panorama. Be sure to have your camera ready to capture these stunning moments.

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The afternoon is filled with exciting activities following a delicious lunch. You can choose to explore mystical caves adorned with stalactites and stalagmites, or opt for kayaking to glide through hidden lagoons. For a more relaxed experience, a refreshing swim in the bay's calm waters is also an option. As the sun begins to descend, return to the cruise to unwind with sunset cocktails on the deck, watching the sky transform into vibrant hues of orange and pink. Later, relish a sumptuous seafood dinner prepared by expert chefs using fresh, locally sourced ingredients. The remainder of the evening is yours to enjoy the peaceful night on board. (Note: The itinerary may vary slightly depending on the specific cruise selected).

Activities:
- Private transfer to Halong Bay
- Board a 5-star luxury cruise
- Check into your cabin
- Sail through Halong Bay's limestone karsts
- Enjoy lunch on board
- Explore mystical caves
- Go kayaking or swimming
- Relax with sunset cocktails on deck
- Savor a seafood dinner

Day 4 — Halong Bay Tai Chi & Transfer to Ninh Binh

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Emeralda Resort Ninh Binh | Transport: 5-star luxury cruise, private transfer

Start your day early by embracing the serene practice of Tai Chi on the sundeck, a harmonious way to connect with nature as the sun rises over Halong Bay. Afterward, embark on one final excursion to a nearby attraction before returning to the boat for a leisurely brunch. This provides another opportunity to appreciate the unique beauty of the bay from a different perspective. Once brunch concludes, you will disembark at the pier and proceed with a transfer to Ninh Binh, a destination renowned for its year-round natural beauty. Upon reaching Ninh Binh, you will be taken to a scenic eco-lodge, where you will spend the night. Take some time to familiarize yourself with the surroundings by wandering around and soaking in the tranquil atmosphere of this picturesque region.

Activities:
- Participate in Tai Chi on the sundeck
- Visit a final Halong Bay attraction
- Enjoy brunch on the cruise
- Disembark and transfer to Ninh Binh
- Check into an eco-lodge
- Explore the tranquil surroundings of Ninh Binh

Day 5 — Ninh Binh's

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Anantara Hoi An Resort | Transport: Boat, private transfer, flight

Your day begins with a tranquil boat trip through Galaxy Grotto, a hidden treasure within the Trang An limestone complex. Glide along a peaceful river that meanders through majestic karst formations and into a stunning cave, illuminated by sparkling stalactites and stalagmites. As you float through the cave's dimly lit chambers, marvel at the natural artistry shaped over millions of years of geological history. Following this, you will visit Thung Nham Bird Park, a serene ecological site encircled by

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lush mountains and rich wetlands. Enjoy another scenic boat ride through this peaceful landscape, observing native bird species, particularly vibrant flocks of storks and herons nesting in the trees. This area offers a unique chance to witness local biodiversity and immerse yourself in Ninh Binh's unspoiled natural environment. Take time to breathe in the fresh countryside air, capture beautiful photos, and enjoy the calm pace of rural Vietnam before returning for lunch.
In the afternoon, you will head to the airport for a flight to Da Nang. Upon arrival, a private transfer will transport you to the ancient town of Hoi An, where you will check into a charming boutique resort. The evening is yours to relax and prepare for the exciting explorations awaiting you in the days ahead.

Activities: Take a serene boat trip through Galaxy Grotto
Explore Thung Nham Bird Park
Observe native bird species
Fly from Da Nang to Hoi An
Private transfer to Hoi An resort
Check into your boutique resort

Day 6 Hoi An Ancient Town Exploration & Riverside Dinner

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner | Stay: Anantara Hoi An Resort | Transport: Walking

Embark on a guided tour through the vibrant streets of Hoi An Ancient Town, often referred to as the

Activities: Guided walking tour of Hoi An Ancient Town
Visit the Japanese Covered Bridge
Explore Chinese Assembly Halls
Enjoy a private riverside dinner
Taste local and international dishes

Day 7 My Son Sanctuary Discovery & Thu Bon River Cruise

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Anantara Hoi An Resort | Transport: Private transfer, boat

Depart Hoi An for a journey to the ancient My Son Sanctuary, a UNESCO-listed site nestled in a tranquil valley. Wander through the centuries-old temple ruins, gaining insights into the Champa civilization with your knowledgeable guide, and enjoy a traditional performance that reflects its enduring culture. Continue with a visit to a local home, where you'll be introduced to the traditional craft of rice paper making. Participate in the process yourself and taste your freshly made product. Afterward, relax over a home-hosted meal in a peaceful countryside setting, featuring simple yet flavorful dishes and herbal tea. (Note: With the sunset option, this experience is replaced by a light local snack such as banh mi and fresh coconut).
Conclude the day with a leisurely boat ride along the Thu Bon River, enjoying the quiet scenery as you return to Hoi An. After the tour, you are free to enjoy your time at your own pace: take a stroll through the charming old town, relax at a riverside café, or head to Cua Dai beach for a refreshing dip in the ocean.

Activities: Journey to My Son Sanctuary (UNESCO site)
Explore ancient Champa temple ruins
Witness a traditional cultural performance

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Visit a local home for rice paper making
Enjoy a home-hosted meal or local snack
Leisurely boat ride along the Thu Bon River
Free time to explore Hoi An or Cua Dai beach

Day 8 Flight to Ho Chi Minh City & Saigon City Tour

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Renaissance Riverside Hotel Saigon | Transport: Private transfer, flight

After breakfast, you will head to Da Nang airport for a short 1.5-hour flight to Ho Chi Minh City, also known as Saigon. Upon arrival, a guide will greet you and commence a fascinating cultural and historical journey through the city's highlights. Your first stop is the Reunification Palace, a former center of governmental power. Spend time exploring its grand halls and war command rooms, gaining insight into the pivotal historical events that shaped modern Vietnam. Next, visit Notre Dame Cathedral, a magnificent French colonial-era masterpiece standing proudly in the city's heart. Directly across the street, you will find the Central Post Office, another architectural gem designed by Gustave Eiffel, showcasing impressive colonial design. Your exploration continues at the War Remnants Museum, where thought-provoking exhibits offer deep insights into the Vietnam War. Powerful displays of photographs, military equipment, and personal stories provide a moving perspective on the country’s resilience and history. After the private tour concludes, you will be transferred to your hotel, where you can relax and absorb the dynamic energy of Saigon. The evening is yours to explore at your leisure—perhaps enjoy delicious cocktails and appetizers at a rooftop bar or take a leisurely stroll through the busy streets filled with endless sights and sounds.

Activities: Fly from Da Nang to Ho Chi Minh City
Visit Reunification Palace
Explore Notre Dame Cathedral
Discover the Central Post Office
Tour the War Remnants Museum
Check into your Ho Chi Minh City hotel
Free evening to explore at leisure

Day 9 Mekong Delta Excursion & Countryside Exploration

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Renaissance Riverside Hotel Saigon | Transport: Private transfer, private boat, 'xe loi' or bicycle, sampan boat

Today, embark on a captivating journey to the Mekong Delta, often referred to as Vietnam's

Activities: Private boat tour to Ben Tre in the Mekong Delta
Visit a local coconut workshop
Observe traditional mat-weaving
Ride a 'xe loi' or bicycle through the countryside
Enjoy lunch at a riverside restaurant
Take a sampan boat ride through narrow canals
Return to Ho Chi Minh City

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Day 10 Ho Chi Minh City Departure

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

Your unforgettable tour of Vietnam concludes today. After a delightful breakfast, take some time to relax and reflect on the myriad of experiences you have gathered throughout your journey. At the scheduled time, a private transfer will be arranged to take you to Tan Son Nhat International Airport for your onward departure. Though you may be leaving Vietnam, the cherished memories and profound cultural insights will undoubtedly remain with you, and the country eagerly awaits your return for future adventures. We wish you a safe and pleasant flight!

Activities: Enjoy breakfast at the hotel
Relax and reflect on your trip
Private transfer to Tan Son Nhat International Airport
Depart from Ho Chi Minh City

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v 9 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 4 Dinner
- v 8 nights hotel accommodation
- v 1 night Halong Bay Cruise accommodation
- v Accommodation in twin/double sharing rooms at hotels, except overnight on train and home-stay (if any)
- v Car transfers as per itinerary (excluding airport pick up and drop off)
- v All in-tour stationed local English speaking guides
- v Entrance fees for Vietnam attractions, as per itinerary
- v Meals as indicated in the program

NOT INCLUDED

PRICE INCLUDES

- v 9 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 4 Dinner
- v 8 nights hotel accommodation
- v 1 night Halong Bay Cruise accommodation
- v Accommodation in twin/double sharing rooms at hotels, except overnight on train and home-stay (if any)
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CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-ECF2E074A04F