Vietnam Wildlife & Cultural Discovery for Families – 12 Days

12D / 11N	Easy	Private	USD 1,999 / pax
Duration	Difficulty	Tour Type	Starting From

This twelve-day family expedition across Vietnam unveils the nation's diverse ecosystems, from ancient forests and protected wildlife reserves to stunning coastal areas. Designed for adventurous families, the itinerary combines jungle treks, cave explorations, and close encounters with local fauna, offering an engaging blend of education and outdoor excitement.

DESTINATIONS & ROUTE

Hanoi → Ninh Binh → Phong Nha → Hoi An → Ho Chi Minh City

TOUR OVERVIEW

Embark on a remarkable twelve-day family expedition across Vietnam, designed to reveal the nation's most captivating natural wonders and diverse ecosystems. This meticulously crafted itinerary guides you from the bustling capital of Hanoi to the tranquil landscapes of Ninh Binh, through ancient national parks like Cuc Phuong and Bach Ma, and into the spectacular cave systems of Phong Nha. Continue your journey to the charming historic town of Hoi An, explore the marine biodiversity of Cham Islands, and conclude your adventure amidst the wildlife sanctuaries near Ho Chi Minh City, including Cat Tien National Park and the Can Gio Biosphere Reserve. This tour offers a unique blend of adventure, education, and relaxation, perfect for families eager to connect with nature and experience Vietnam's rich ecological tapestry.

Tour Highlights

Trekking through Ba Vi and Bach Ma National Parks, observing diverse flora and fauna.

Navigating the majestic Phong Nha Cave system by boat, marveling at ancient rock formations.

Ziplining over lush landscapes for an aerial view of Phong Nha's natural beauty.

Close-up encounters with ostriches and deer at a local farm near Hanoi.

Observing wild monkeys in their natural habitat at Can Gio Biosphere Reserve.

Snorkeling among vibrant coral reefs or enjoying a glass-bottom boat tour at Cham Islands.

Exploring the historic streets and Japanese Covered Bridge of Hoi An Ancient Town.

Experiencing a nocturnal safari to spot wildlife in Cat Tien National Park.

Drifting along the serene Ngo Dong River through Tam Coc's limestone karsts.

Journey Through Vietnam's Natural Splendor

This adventure traces a comprehensive path through Vietnam's most biodiverse regions. Starting in Hanoi, you'll venture into the northern mountains and wetlands of Ninh Binh, home to the ancient forests of Cuc Phuong National Park. The journey then moves south to the central region, where the monumental Phong Nha caves and the serene Bach Ma National Park await. Discover the cultural heart of Hoi An before heading to the southern reaches, exploring the unique mangrove forests of Can Gio and the deep jungles of Cat Tien National Park, culminating in the vibrant metropolis of Ho Chi Minh City. Each destination offers distinct natural beauty and opportunities for wildlife observation.

Who Is This Tour For?

This tour is ideally suited for families with children and nature enthusiasts who seek an active and educational holiday experience. Travelers should be comfortable with moderate physical activity, including trekking and walking on varied terrains. Those with an interest in wildlife conservation, exploring natural landscapes, and experiencing local culture will find this itinerary

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particularly rewarding. The blend of guided excursions and opportunities for relaxation ensures a fulfilling trip for all ages.

Practical Information

Accommodation includes a mix of comfortable hotels and one overnight train journey, providing varied experiences. All internal transportation, including airport transfers and inter-city travel by private vehicle and domestic flight, is arranged for your convenience. Meals as specified in the itinerary (11 breakfasts, 9 lunches, 1 dinner) are included, ensuring you sample local flavors. A local English-speaking guide accompanies the tour, offering insights and assistance throughout your journey. Entrance fees to all specified attractions are also covered.

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

* Trekking through Ba Vi and Bach Ma National Parks, observing diverse flora and fauna.
* Navigating the majestic Phong Nha Cave system by boat, marveling at ancient rock formations.
* Ziplining over lush landscapes for an aerial view of Phong Nha's natural beauty.
* Close-up encounters with ostriches and deer at a local farm near Hanoi.
* Observing wild monkeys in their natural habitat at Can Gio Biosphere Reserve.
* Snorkeling among vibrant coral reefs or enjoying a glass-bottom boat tour at Cham Islands.
* Exploring the historic streets and Japanese Covered Bridge of Hoi An Ancient Town.
* Experiencing a nocturnal safari to spot wildlife in Cat Tien National Park.
* Drifting along the serene Ngo Dong River through Tam Coc's limestone karsts.

DAY-BY-DAY ITINERARY

Day 1 — Hanoi Arrival & Botanical Garden Discovery

Meals: NA | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

Upon arriving in Vietnam's vibrant capital city, Hanoi, travelers will be warmly greeted and transferred directly to their chosen accommodation. After a smooth check-in process and a chance to settle in, the initial exploration of this captivating city begins. The afternoon features a visit to the enchanting Hanoi Botanical Garden. This expansive green sanctuary offers a peaceful respite from the urban energy, showcasing a rich variety of indigenous plant species and providing a habitat for local wildlife. Guests can enjoy a leisurely stroll along its winding, shaded pathways, appreciating the tranquil atmosphere, the gentle rustle of leaves, and the melodic calls of birds. This serene introduction to Vietnam's natural beauty provides a relaxing and contemplative start to the adventure, setting the tone for the diverse landscapes to come.

Activities: Arrive in Hanoi and transfer to your hotel.
Explore the diverse flora and fauna at the Hanoi Botanical Garden.
Enjoy a leisurely walk through the garden's serene pathways.

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Day 2 Ba Vi National Park Trek & Farm Animal Encounters

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hanoi

This morning, depart from Hanoi for a scenic drive through the countryside, heading towards Ba Vi National Park. Upon reaching the park, the journey continues with an invigorating forest trek. Following well-defined trails, the path ascends towards the notable Tan Vien Summit, offering increasingly expansive views of the surrounding natural landscape. Along the ascent, participants can observe the park's rich biodiversity, including various plant life and animal species. Later, the itinerary includes a visit to a local farm, providing an opportunity to interact with ostriches and deer. Guests can participate in feeding these animals, creating a memorable and personal connection with nature. The day concludes with the return drive to Hanoi.

Activities: Travel from Hanoi to Ba Vi National Park.
Hike through the forest trails to Tan Vien Summit.
Observe diverse plant and animal life within the park.
Visit a local farm for an interactive session feeding ostriches and deer.
Return to Hanoi in the late afternoon.

Day 3 Tam Coc Boat Ride & Thung Nham Bird Garden

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Ninh Binh

The day begins with an early journey to Ninh Binh province, known for its dramatic karst landscapes. Here, guests will experience a traditional sampan boat ride through Tam Coc, often referred to as "Ha Long Bay on land." The boat glides along a tranquil river, winding past towering limestone formations and lush rice paddies, offering picturesque views. Following this serene experience, the tour proceeds to Thung Nham Bird Garden, a significant sanctuary for over 40 species of rare birds. Visitors can walk through the reserve, observing various bird species, especially as flocks return to their nests during the late afternoon. A local lunch will be provided, allowing a taste of regional cuisine. Afterwards, check into the hotel in Ninh Binh and enjoy the peaceful rural ambiance as the sun sets over the landscape.

Activities: Travel to Ninh Binh province.
Enjoy a traditional boat trip through the Tam Coc area.
Explore Thung Nham Bird Garden, observing numerous bird species.
Savor a local lunch.
Check into your hotel and relax amidst the countryside.

Day 4 Cuc Phuong National Park & Overnight Train to Dong Hoi

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner | Stay: Overnight train to Dong Hoi

Today is dedicated to exploring Cuc Phuong National Park, Vietnam's oldest national park and a vital conservation area. Guests will embark on a guided walk along ancient forest trails, passing under a dense canopy of trees and experiencing the sounds of the jungle. The park is home to centuries-old trees and a diverse array of plant and animal life, with guides providing insights into the park's ecological importance and ongoing conservation efforts. This immersive experience highlights the park's rich biodiversity. After concluding the exploration of Cuc Phuong, the group will return to Ninh Binh. In the evening, prepare for

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an overnight train journey from Ninh Binh to Dong Hoi, transitioning to the central region of Vietnam.

Activities: Discover Cuc Phuong National Park's ancient tropical forest.
Walk along winding trails, observing diverse flora and fauna.
Learn about the park's conservation efforts from knowledgeable guides.
Board an overnight train from Ninh Binh to Dong Hoi.

Day 5 Phong Nha Cave Exploration & Zipline Adventure

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Dong Hoi

Upon an early morning arrival in Dong Hoi, guests will enjoy breakfast before being transferred to Phong Nha, ready to explore its renowned natural landscapes. The adventure begins with a boat journey into the impressive Phong Nha Cave. Inside, the boat navigates through serene, dark waters, revealing magnificent limestone formations, including delicate stalactites and towering stalagmites, sculpted over millennia. A guide will share details about the cave's geological history. Following the cave exploration, an exhilarating zipline experience awaits, allowing participants to soar above the forest canopy and enjoy unique panoramic views of the lush surroundings. The day concludes with a relaxing and therapeutic mud bath at Hang Toi, offering a chance to unwind and rejuvenate tired muscles.

Activities: Arrive in Dong Hoi and transfer to Phong Nha.
Explore Phong Nha Cave by boat, admiring limestone formations.
Experience a thrilling zipline adventure over the forest canopy.
Enjoy a relaxing mud bath at Hang Toi.

Day 6 Bach Ma National Park Trek & Do Quyen Waterfall

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hue

Today involves a four-hour scenic drive to Bach Ma National Park, situated close to the city of Hue. Upon arrival, the group will embark on a moderate hike along the park's well-maintained trails, offering opportunities to observe the rich variety of local plant and animal life. A key highlight of the hike is a stop at the impressive Do Quyen Waterfall, where cascading waters create a serene and picturesque setting. As evening approaches, an experienced guide will lead a nocturnal wildlife tour, providing a rare chance to witness the park's native species as they become active under the cover of darkness, showcasing the park's vibrant biodiversity.

Activities: Travel by road to Bach Ma National Park near Hue.
Hike along the park's trails, observing local flora and fauna.
Visit the stunning Do Quyen Waterfall.
Participate in a guided nocturnal wildlife tour.

Day 7 Son Tra Nature Reserve & Hoi An Ancient Town

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An

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The morning begins with a transfer from Hue to Hoi An, with a stop at the Son Tra Nature Reserve. On the Son Tra peninsula, guests will take a walk along coastal paths, specifically looking for the red-shanked douc, a visually striking primate known for its vibrant coloration. This encounter highlights the region's rich natural heritage. In the afternoon, the journey continues to Hoi An Ancient Town, a UNESCO World Heritage site celebrated for its remarkably preserved architecture and charming narrow streets. Visitors will explore iconic landmarks such as the Japanese Covered Bridge and the Fujian Assembly Hall, along with various local handicraft shops. As dusk settles, the day concludes with participation in a traditional lantern release event, a local custom symbolizing hope and renewal.

Activities: Travel from Hue to Hoi An.
Visit Son Tra Nature Reserve to observe the red-shanked douc.
Explore Hoi An Ancient Town, including the Japanese Covered Bridge and Fujian Assembly Hall.
Browse local handicraft stores.
Participate in a lantern release ceremony at dusk.

Day 8 Cu Lao Cham Island Snorkeling or Glass-Bottom Boat

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Hoi An

An early start sees guests departing from Hoi An by boat for the serene Cu Lao Cham Islands. The morning light provides a picturesque backdrop for the journey across calm waters. Upon arrival, participants have the choice of two engaging activities. One option is an exhilarating snorkeling session, with all necessary safety equipment including a life vest, snorkel, and goggles provided, allowing for a close-up exploration of the vibrant coral reefs and diverse marine life. Alternatively, guests can opt for a comfortable glass-bottom boat tour, which offers clear views of the intricate underwater ecosystem without the need to enter the water. This day promises a deep connection with the coastal environment.

Activities: Take an early morning boat to Cu Lao Cham Islands.
Choose between snorkeling to explore coral reefs and marine life.
Alternatively, enjoy a glass-bottom boat tour of the underwater world.

Day 9 Ho Chi Minh City & Can Gio Monkey Island

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

The day begins with an early morning flight from Da Nang to Ho Chi Minh City. Upon arrival, the journey continues to the remarkable Can Gio Biosphere Reserve, located approximately 45 kilometers from the bustling city center. This UNESCO-designated coastal sanctuary is a dynamic ecosystem characterized by expansive mangrove forests, salt marshes, and tidal flats, all contributing to a rich diversity of life. These mangroves are crucial for coastal protection and serve as vital breeding grounds for numerous marine species. A highlight of the reserve is Monkey Island, home to over 2,000 wild monkeys that are accustomed to human presence. The experience is enhanced by a boat tour through the intricate mangrove waterways, where local guides provide fascinating insights into the unique coastal ecosystem and its biodiversity.

Activities: Fly from Da Nang to Ho Chi Minh City.
Travel to the Can Gio Biosphere Reserve.
Observe wild monkeys at Monkey Island.

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Take a boat tour through the mangrove forests.
Learn about the coastal ecosystem from local experts.

Day 10 Cat Tien National Park & Nocturnal Safari

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch | Stay: Hotel in Cat Tien National Park

This morning, embark on a 3.5-hour drive to Cat Tien National Park, one of Vietnam's most significant protected areas, celebrated for its rich biodiversity and lush tropical forests. Upon arrival, the visit commences with a tour of the Bear and Rhino Rescue Center. Here, guests will gain understanding of the critical conservation efforts aimed at protecting endangered species, including black bears and rhinoceroses once native to the region, and observe these animals up close. As night falls, an exciting Safari Night experience awaits. This guided tour through the forest provides a unique opportunity to spot nocturnal wildlife such as deer, civets, and porcupines in their natural environment. The day concludes with an overnight stay at an eco-lodge nestled within the jungle, allowing for a deep immersion in nature's sounds.

Activities: Drive to Cat Tien National Park.
Tour the Bear and Rhino Rescue Center.
Learn about endangered species conservation.
Embark on a guided Safari Night tour to observe nocturnal animals.
Stay overnight at an eco-lodge within the park.

Day 11 Jungle Trekking, Bau Sau Stream & Return to HCMC

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

The day begins with an invigorating jungle trek, guided by a knowledgeable expert, revealing the intricate layers of the park's ecosystem. Along shaded forest trails, participants will encounter a rich variety of indigenous flora, from towering trees to vibrant wildflowers, and potentially spot diverse fauna, including colorful birds and elusive mammals. Following the trek, a refreshing swim awaits in the clear waters of Bau Sau Stream, a secluded spot known for its unspoiled beauty and thriving aquatic life. The stream's surroundings, alive with natural sounds and plant life, offer a perfect setting to appreciate the forest's harmonious balance. After this immersion in nature, the journey continues back to Ho Chi Minh City for a comfortable overnight stay.

Activities: Undertake a guided jungle trek, observing local flora and fauna.
Swim in the pristine waters of Bau Sau Stream.
Return to Ho Chi Minh City for the evening.

Day 12 Ho Chi Minh City Departure

Meals: Breakfast | Stay: NA

On the final morning of this extensive journey, guests will have ample opportunity to enjoy a last Vietnamese breakfast and reflect on the extraordinary experiences encountered across Vietnam's diverse terrains and rich cultural heritage. From the

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northern national parks and ancient caves to the central coast's historic towns and the southern wildlife reserves, the memories created will be cherished. The journey has offered a unique blend of adventure, nature, and cultural insights, providing a comprehensive view of Vietnam's natural wonders. After breakfast, the tour officially concludes with comfortable transfers provided to Tan Son Nhat International Airport (SGN) for onward flights. Travelers depart Ho Chi Minh City, carrying with them lasting impressions of Vietnam's timeless allure and perhaps a desire for future explorations of this remarkable country.

Activities: Enjoy a final breakfast at the hotel.
Reflect on the journey's experiences.
Transfer to the airport for departure from Ho Chi Minh City.

WHAT'S INCLUDED

INCLUDED

- v Eleven breakfasts, nine lunches, and one dinner as specified in the itinerary.
- v Ten nights of hotel accommodation and one overnight train journey.
- v Twin or double room sharing arrangements at all accommodations.
- v All internal transportation across Vietnam, including airport transfers.
- v Services of a local English-speaking guide throughout the tour.
- v Admission fees for all attractions mentioned in the daily schedule.

NOT INCLUDED

PRICE INCLUDES

- v Eleven breakfasts, nine lunches, and one dinner as specified in the itinerary.
- v Ten nights of hotel accommodation and one overnight train journey.
- v Twin or double room sharing arrangements at all accommodations.
- v All internal transportation across Vietnam, including airport transfers.
- v Services of a local English-speaking guide throughout the tour.
- v Admission fees for all attractions mentioned in the daily schedule.

AVAILABLE DEPARTURES

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Departure Date	Return Date	Price / Person	Availability	Languages
01 Jan 2026	20 Dec 2026	**USD 1,999**	Available	–
01 Jan 2026	20 Dec 2026	**USD 2,179**	Available	–
01 Jan 2026	20 Dec 2026	**USD 2,569**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 2,059**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 2,245**	Available	–
21 Dec 2026	20 Dec 2027	**USD 2,647**	Available	–

CANCELLATION POLICY

Tour Code: IMP-30FE08FFCB87