

**Highlight**

- Kayaking in the amazing Halong Bay
- Biking in the majestic former capital of Hue
- Charming ancient town of Hoi An
- Floating market of Cai Rang

**Itinerary at a glance**

- Day 1:** Arrival in Hanoi
- Day 2:** City tour of Hanoi
- Day 3:** Drive east to Halong Bay
- Day 4:** Kayaking Halong Bay
- Day 5:** Cruise/drive back to Hanoi
- Day 6:** Fly Hue/city tour in Hue
- Day 7:** Transfer to Hoi An
- Day 8:** In Hoi An
- Day 9:** Fly Saigon
- Day 10:** Mekong Delta tour
- Day 11:** See floating market/drive back to Saigon
- Day 12:** Departure

**Trip note**

- Duration:** 12 days, 11 nights
- Group size:** 08 persons
- Arrival:** Hanoi
- Departure:** Saigon
- When:** Year round
- Activities:** Kayaking, Biking, River cruise, Culture expedition
- Grade:** Introductory
- Transportation:** Airplane, AC vehicle, Junk, Boats (in Mekong Delta), Bicycle
- Accommodation:** 11 nights hotels
- Tour guide:** 1 tour guide in each area (north, centre, south)
- Meals:**
  - Day 1: Dinner
  - Day 3,4: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
  - Day 5-11: Breakfast, Lunch
  - Day 12: Breakfast



**Note on client safety**

we reserve the right to deviate from this itinerary for any reasons, including road and weather conditions, frequency of visits to a village, or for any other factor which may influence client safety.



**Tour cost**

Please contact our **Customer Service** at [info@activetravel.asia](mailto:info@activetravel.asia) or call +84 1234 272728 (24/7 LiveHelp)

**Inclusion:**

- Hotels based on twin shared room
- Twin shared AC cabin on junk
- AC vehicle
- Sit-on-top double kayak
- Boats in Mekong Delta
- Bicycle
- Water puppet show
- English or French speaking guide
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Water & Snacks
- Entrance & Sightseeing fees

**Exclusion:**

- Travel insurance
- Visa
- Air-tickets
- Tips
- Personal expenses

## Food

All meals, which are indicated in the itinerary, are included in the price of this trip. While in big towns we will enjoy Vietnamese cuisine in fine restaurants. Once we travel away from big towns, the emphasis will be on healthy and nutritious fresh local produce.

## Hotel

In cities we use fine 3-star hotels with centre location. Please contact us if you prefer higher hotel categories. In small town we use the best hotels or guest houses available.

## ATA tour guide

The tour will be led by one of our tour guides who is experienced in guiding trekking tours in Vietnam. He has been carefully trained in this field and is fully licensed in tour guiding by the government. In addition, he has been trained in first-aid by SOS International and he knows how to deal with difficult situations. You will have a great time traveling with him.

## What to bring

Trekking boot, sun block, hat, anti-insect repellent, sunglasses, sleeping bag (optional), rain coat, flashlight, toiletries, original passport,

## Detailed Itinerary

### Day 1: Arrival in Hanoi

Arrive in Noi Bai Airport. Meet ATV guide at the airport and transfer to our hotel in downtown Hanoi. Welcome drink and tour briefing in the afternoon (If you come in the afternoon, the tour briefing will be done at dinner time)

In the evening, enjoy a special Water Puppet show and have welcome dinner with local delights. Overnight Hanoi.

#### Summary

Transfer: 45 mins  
Activities: Tour briefing & Water puppet show  
Transportation: AC vehicle  
Meals: Dinner  
Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

### Day 2: Hanoi city tour

After breakfast in the hotel you will take an interesting guided city tour of Hanoi including Ho Chi Minh complex (the mausoleum, the house & garden and the museum) and One Pillar Pagoda, a unique ancient architecture. After here we move to Temple of Literature, the site of Vietnam's first university, dates back to 1070. Its peaceful gardens and pavilions offer a relaxing respite from Hanoi's busy streets. Lunch in local restaurant.

In the afternoon, we enjoy a relaxing cyclo tour in the ancient part of Hanoi. Walking down some small and lively street to see busy local market then join locals for green tea or coffee in local café. Free time for shopping. Overnight in Hanoi

\* Cyclo is three wheeled rickshaws, operated by pedal-power, with a seat attached to the front.

#### Summary

Activities: Full-day city tour  
Transportation: AC vehicle  
Meals: Lunch  
Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

### Day 3: Hanoi – Halong Bay

Leave Hanoi for Halong Bay at 8.30am.

On the way we will have a short break for refreshment at a handicraft centre. Upon arrival in Halong City we board a wooden boat for a fine seafood lunch and a short cruise to Thien Cung Cave. After a short exploration of the cave we start our kayaking time paddling through an amazing area of limestone islets. We will pass a floating village to reach Luon Cave, which is a tunnel thrusting through a mountain. Paddling through the tunnel to explore a beautiful secluded lagoon. We will meet the mother boat, a junk in Chinese style, in front of the cave. Aboard the junk for dinner and overnight in AC, private cabin.

#### Summary

Transfer Hanoi – Halong: 3.5 hrs  
Transportation: AC vehicle, Boat, Kayak  
Activities: Kayaking 2.5 hrs  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner  
Accommodation: Twin shared cabin



#### Day 4: Kayaking Halong Bay

After breakfast we start paddling to Van Chai Floating village and then continue paddling to Dark Cave. Tide permitting, we explore this amazing cave by kayak. The cave is a 200m long, dark tunnel thrusting through a limestone mountain. The tunnel is the only entry to a secluded and beautiful lagoon. Lunch on support boat in front of the cave. After lunch we paddle to Ba Trai Dao Lagoon, along a stunning and fairly rough sea channel, to explore its beautiful beaches. Continue paddling to Lan Ha Bay, which is smaller than Halong bay but much more interesting with lots of secluded beaches. Cruise back to Halong Bay for dinner and overnight on mother boat

##### Summary

Activities: 6 hr kayaking in calm sea  
Transportation: Kayak, Boat  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner  
Accommodation: Twin shared cabin

#### Day 5: Halong Bay – Hanoi

Breakfast on the junk and enjoy the sundeck of the junk while she navigates amazing rock formations of Bai Tu Long Bay to get back to Halong City. Lunch on the junk before reach Halong Harbor for a drive back to Hanoi. On the way back to Hanoi we will have a stop in Dong Trieu Town for refreshment and visiting to a ceramic factory. Overnight in Hanoi.

##### Summary

Activities: Sightseeing  
Transfer Halong – Hanoi: 3.5 hrs  
Transportation: AC vehicle  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch  
Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

#### Day 6: Hanoi – Hue:

Take early flight to Hue City, the former capital of Vietnam in 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> century. Hue has been recognized a World Heritage Site by UNESCO thanks to its outstanding cultural and historical values. Upon arrival we transfer to our hotel in Hue. After check-in we take a short drive to the Imperial City to visit the impressive Royal Palace and other beautiful royal buildings.

Lunch in local restaurant with local delights. After lunch we embark on a relaxing biking tour to the rural area of Hue, passing scenic villages and green rice fields to reach Emperor Minh Mang Tomb, one of the most beautiful Emperor's tombs in Hue. The tomb is particularly impressive being extravagant complex of pavilions, temple, courtyards, and lakes. After visiting to the Emperor's tomb we will take a boat trip on the peaceful Perfume River to get back to Hue City. Overnight in Hue.

#### Summary

Activities: Sightseeing, biking 15km and 1.5 hr boat trip  
Transportation: Airplane, AC vehicle, Bicycle, Boat  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch  
Accommodation: Hotel in Hue

#### Day 7: Hue – Hoian

Breakfast in the hotel and leave Hue for Hoian. Hoian is a small, beautiful ancient town by the bank of Thu Bon River. The town thrived on trading with the Chinese, Japanese, Spanish,...some hundred years ago. On the way we will have a short stop in Lang Co beach for refreshing. Upon arrival in Hoian Town we check in hotel and have lunch in local restaurant.

In the afternoon, we will take an interesting guided walking tour to see the ancient town of Hoian. We will visit to ancient houses, old Chinese communal houses and the lively market of Hoian. Overnight in Hoian.

##### Summary

Activities: Walking tour of Hoian  
Transportation: AC vehicle  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch  
Accommodation: Hotel in Hoian

#### Day 8: Hoian

Breakfast in hotel. Today is your free day to do whatever you want. There are some options for you to choose; shopping in the town – Hoian is the paradise for those who like shopping, going to the beautiful beach of Cua Dai which is only 5 km from the town, take a short guided biking tour to the beautiful surrounding villages – this is included in the tour. Overnight in Hoian.

##### Summary

Activities: Free time  
Transportation: N/A  
Meals: Breakfast  
Accommodation: Hotel in Hoian



### Day 9: Hoi An – Da Nang – Saigon

Breakfast in hotel. Transfer to Da Nang for a short flight to Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon). Upon arrival in Tan Son Nhat Airport we transfer to our hotel downtown Saigon. The busy city of Saigon, used to be the capital of South Vietnam, is the biggest commercial and cultural centre of Vietnam. We will have lunch in a local restaurant before taking an interesting city tour of Saigon including the Unification Palace, the Post Office, the Jade Emperor Pagoda and Ben Thanh Market. Overnight in Saigon.

#### Summary

Activity: City tour of Saigon  
Transportation: Airplane, AC vehicle  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch  
Accommodation: Hotel in Saigon

### Day 10: Saigon – Vinh Long – Can Tho

Breakfast in hotel before leaving Saigon for an exciting day tour in Mekong Delta. After two hour driving we will reach Vinh Long. From here we take a boat trip on the mighty Mekong River to reach a peaceful island on the river. On the island, we will walk through fruit orchards and visit to local family. We will try many different kinds of tropical fruit cultivated on the island, and we will be entertained with songs and music performed by villagers. After here we take a rowed boat trip on small canals, which are shaded by water coconut trees. We visit to a coconut candy factory and have lunch in a local restaurant. After lunch we travel further south to Can Tho City. On the way we will cross a branch of Mekong River



on public ferry. Overnight in Can Tho.

#### Summary

Activities: Sightseeing, Boat trip  
Transportation: AC vehicle, Boats  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch  
Accommodation: Hotel in Can Tho

### Day 11: Can Tho – Saigon

Get up early in the morning and take a boat trip on Mekong River to see one of the most lively and colorful floating market in Southeast Asia. The best time to see the market is around 8 am. Taking boat trip back to Can Tho for breakfast. Leave Can Tho for Saigon with a stop on the way for lunch. We will reach Saigon early afternoon. Overnight in Saigon.

#### Summary:

Activities: Boat trip to floating market  
Transportation: Boat, AC vehicle  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch  
Accommodation: Hotel in Saigon

### Day 12: Departure

Breakfast in hotel and relax until pick-up time. Transfer to Tan Son Nhat Airport for flight home.

#### Summary

Activities: Transfer to airport  
Transportation: AC vehicle



## Holiday Extensions

### **Angkor Wat Classic:** 3 day tour of Angkor Wat by bicycle, tuk tuk or car

"The temples of Angkor were spiritual, political, cosmological, and astronomical or geophysical centers. They embodied and encapsulated the world spheres through which the Khmer culture and power structures moved, lived, breathed. In their scope and conception alone, they are among the most spectacular of human achievements." - Eleanor Mannikka

### **Beach Escape**

**Nha Trang Beach:** The south central coast has Vietnam's finest beaches and the best-known beach resort is Nha Trang with its white sandy beach and swaying palm trees.

A boat trip on the clear blue-green waters of Nha Trang Bay with some snorkeling among the coral reefs and a fresh seafood lunch is a great way to spend a day in Nha Trang. For scuba divers there are several diving shops along the beach offering professional dive services.

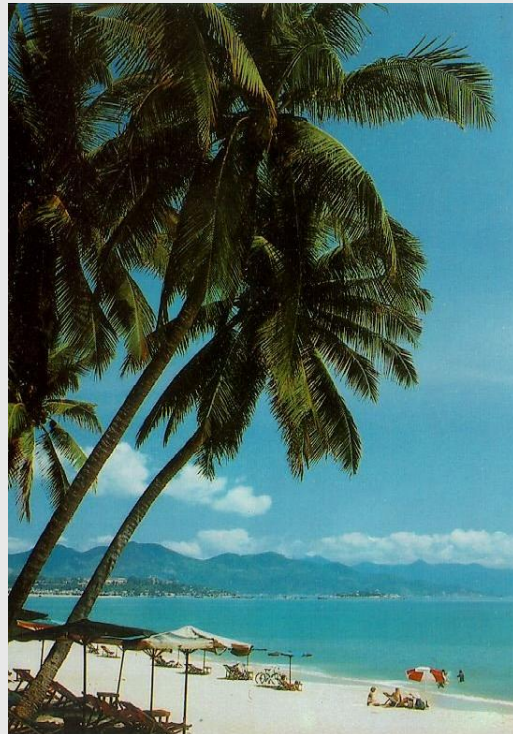
Away from the beach Nha Trang has some other interesting attractions including Long Son Pagoda, with its enormous seated white Buddha statue, and the 7th century Po Nagar Cham Towers.

**Phan Thiet – Mui Ne Beach:** Further south, and just 200km north of Ho Chi Minh City, is the small fishing town of Phan Thiet.

While Phan Thiet is a pleasant enough town, the real attraction is the nearby Mui Ne Peninsula and its 10km of sandy beaches and coconut groves. Many attractive small-scale beach resorts have opened up in recent years amongst the palm trees of Mui Ne and it has become a popular place to rest up for a few days.

**Phu Quoc Island:** A mountainous island that is still mostly forested, Phu Quoc is blessed with some beautiful white sandy beaches and clear blue seas.

The island is famous throughout Vietnam for the production of black pepper and its fish sauce, said to be the best in the country. Several small-scale beach resorts have opened over the past few years on Phu Quoc and it is connected by a daily flight to Ho Chi Minh City.



**ACTIVELY EXPLORING HIDDEN LANDS**