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# Vietnam

Escorted Tour

No Single Supplement



**11 days / 10 nights tour from**

# \$2599

per person twin share ex Melbourne, Sydney, Perth, Brisbane & Adelaide

**Departing from Australia**  
**Every Tuesday, Wednesday & Friday**  
**01 Aug to 30 Nov 2018. 01 Feb to 31 May 2019**

There is a \$400 surcharge for Easter 2018 School Holidays

**Book and pay by 31 Aug 2018.**

#### PRICES PER PERSON AUD

Tour Cost (Best of Vietnam Tour) 2,599.00 per person.

**Phone 1300 813391**

#### **Price Includes:**

- Return airfares from Australia Capital Cities to Saigon & Hanoi.
- All intra-flights: Ho Chi Minh-Da Nang & Hue-Hanoi
- 10 nights First Class accommodations
  - 2 nights Ho Chi Minh
  - 2 nights Hoi An
  - 2 nights Hue
  - 1 night Halong Bay
  - 3 nights Hanoi
- Hotel taxes, fees & service charges
- Hotel portorage
- All transfers
- 14 meals: 10 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Services of English-speaking tour manager throughout
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Comfortable wireless earphones for enhanced touring

#### **Special Features**

- Visit the neo-Romanesque Notre Dame Cathedral and the magnificent Saigon Opera house in Ho Chi Minh City
- Old City of Hoi An one of the most important trading ports in Southeast Asia in the 15th century
- Imperial City & 19th century Citadel , Hue

- View the thousands of limestone islands rising out of the sea during the Halong Bay Excursion
- Museum of Ethnology & Water Puppet Show, Hanoi

### **Your Holiday Itinerary:**

#### **DAY 1, Monday - Depart for Vietnam**

Depart for Vietnam. Arrive in Ho Chi Minh (formerly Saigon), the largest city in Vietnam. Transfer to your hotel and enjoy the Balance of the day is at leisure

**Overnight:** Ho Chi Minh

#### **DAY 2, Tuesday - Ho Chi Minh City Tour**

Enjoy the morning at leisure or, join the *optional* half day tour to Cu Chi Tunnels. They were part of an underground tunnel network built by the Viet Cong to control a large rural area near Saigon. The Cu Chi network includes 125 miles of tunnels with many branches connecting to underground hideouts, weapon factories, hospitals, shelters and other tunnels. In the afternoon, participate in a guided tour in Ho Chi Minh City, which includes the neo-Romanesque Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office with its French style architecture, City Hall, and the magnificent Saigon Opera House. From here, visit lively Ben Thanh Market - where an unbelievable assortment of wares and crafts are sold under one roof. Continue to Dong Khoi Street, a major shopping thoroughfare in the center of the city. Early in the evening, enjoy a Welcome Drink and briefing by your Tour Manager on the exciting journey that lies ahead. Remainder of the evening is at leisure. Be sure to check out the diversified dining scene in this culinary rich city

**Optional:** Half Day Cu Chi Tunnels (AM)

**Overnight:** Ho Chi Minh

**Meals:** Breakfast

#### **DAY 3, Wednesday - Flight to Da Nang, Hoi An Walking Tour**

Depart Ho Chi Minh on your flight to Da Nang, one of Vietnam's major ports, situated on the coast of the South China Sea. Travel south to the picturesque ancient town of Hoi An, where people still wear the "*ao dais*", Vietnam's traditional dress. The ancient town of Hoi An, a World Heritage Site, was the most important trading port in Southeast Asia in the 15th century. Its ancient past is superbly preserved in an enchanting collection of temples, pagodas, shop houses and magnificent private homes in the town's Old Quarter. Walking tour of this artistic jewel, with its century's old architecture includes the gorgeous Phuoc Kien Pagoda, the 400 year old bright-red Japanese Covered Bridge and the Ancient House. Afterwards, continue to dinner at a local restaurant

**Overnight:** Hoi An

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

#### **DAY 4, Thursday - Full Day in Hoi An**

Spend a full day at leisure discovering all of the delights of Hoi An independently. Walk through the Old City, stopping at one of the city's many museums, or see artisans using age-old techniques to fashion a variety of crafts. Of special interest are the colorful and elaborate paper lanterns created by lantern artisans for which Hoi An is well known. Or, join the *optional* boat trip on the Thu Bon River visiting the Organic Village, including lunch. The boat trip begins at a local pier in

the Old Town. You'll cruise down streams and past many fishing areas before arriving in Kim Bong village, home of traditional woodworking and boat-building. Return to the mainland and drive to the Traque Organic Village for lunch. Here, you'll learn about the many vegetables and herbs organically grown to support the people of Hoi An. After a Vietnamese culinary lesson and tasting, return to Hoi An

**Optional:** Boat Trip on the Thu Bon River & Organic Village with Lunch

**Overnight:** Hoi An

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 5, Friday - Travel to Hue, Hue Imperial City Tour**

This morning, travel to Da Nang, with stunning views of bowl-shaped Da Nang Bay. Drive by Marble Mountain, a village well-known for its sophisticated hand-made marble products. Journey over the towering mountains to Hue, home to a wealth of palaces, temples, libraries and museums. Afternoon tour of this former Imperial capital, modeled after the Forbidden City in Beijing. Enter the Ngo Mon Gate, principal entrance to the Imperial Enclosure and the central passageway reserved for use by the Emperor. Continue to the Thai Hoa Palace with its spacious hallways and ornamental roof, the Halls of the Mandarins, the Nine Dynastic Urns, and the ruins of the Forbidden Purple City, once home to the royal family. Tonight, spend time at leisure to explore on your own or join the *optional* Cyclo Ride with Dinner at the Citadel. Enjoy a panoramic view of both the daily life and the architecture of Hue with a Trishaw (Cyclo) Tour. Later arrive at a family run restaurant within the Citadel and savor a multi-course dinner replica of the Royal Feast

**Optional:** Cyclo Ride with Dinner at the Citadel

**Overnight:** Hue

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 6, Saturday - Full Day in Hue**

Day at leisure to explore Hue independently. Or, participate in the not-to-be-missed *optional* boat excursion on the gentle Perfume River, which explores the life along the banks of the ancient royal capital city. The river, with its shimmering blue color is dotted with a poetic landscape of boats, gardens, pagodas, towers and temples. The tour continues to the legendary Thien Mu Pagoda, on the north bank of the Perfume River, built in seven successive tiers. Then, a drive to the Tomb of Emperor Tu Duc, final resting place of Vietnam's longest reigning emperor and to Khai Dinh, the last monument of the Nguyen dynasty. Here, a vegetarian lunch will be prepared by Buddhist nuns of the Dong Thien Pagoda. Return to Hue

**Optional:** Perfume River Boat Trip and Lunch at Dong Thien Pagoda

**Overnight:** Hue

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 7, Sunday - Flight to Hanoi, Sightseeing en route to Halong Bay**

Depart Hue on the flight to sparkling Hanoi, cultural center of the country. Upon arrival, travel overland and through the lush Vietnamese countryside to picturesque Halong Bay, considered one of Vietnam's most celebrated attractions. As you approach, you'll see thousands of limestone islands rising out of the sea creating a truly magical scene. Arrive at your hotel in Halong Bay for overnight

**Overnight:** Halong Bay

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

### **DAY 8, Monday - Cruise Halong Bay, Travel to Hanoi**

Incredible views await you today! Halong Bay is considered one of the most breathtaking places on the planet, added to the list of UNESCO Heritage sites and declared recently as one of the "New Seven Natural Wonders of the World".

There are over 3000 islands in the emerald waters and over 1000 have their own names. Numbers of caves and grottos of all sizes and shapes are filled with small waterfalls, stalactites and stalagmites. Sail on a traditional wooden boat on the tranquil bay with lunch served on board. Visit to one of the caves. Afterwards, drive to Hanoi, Vietnam's vibrant capital and check in to your hotel. This city's history is tied to French colonialism - its architecture, cuisine and local culture still bear evidence of the French influence

**Overnight:** Hanoi

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

### **DAY 9, Tuesday - Hanoi City Tour & Evening Water Puppet Show**

Today, visit the Museum of Ethnology, center for the preservation and exhibition of cultural heritage for over 50 ethnic groups in Vietnam. In the evening, attend a performance of the world-famous Water Puppet Show, accompanied by a traditional Vietnamese orchestra and Cheo (*a form of opera*). The show depicts a series of ancient Vietnamese folktales, acted out by puppets over a pool of water

**Overnight:** Hanoi

**Meals:** Breakfast

### **DAY 10, Wednesday - Full Day in Hanoi**

Spend a full day at leisure discovering Hanoi on your own, or, take the *optional* tour to the stunning Thai Pagoda and So Village, including lunch, also known as the "Pagoda of the Master". Nestled against the hillside in Sai Go Village, it shares its compound with the smaller Ca pagoda. Here, you'll also see Thuy Dinh Stage, a water palace on Long Tri Pond, where the ancient form of water puppetry is performed. Continue to So Village, a well-preserved ancient village. Walking tour around the village with its traditional layout and small alleyways in-between the houses. Stop at one of the communal houses to meet villagers who earn their living from making noodles. Tonight, your journey to Vietnam ends with many lasting memories. Farewell dinner with your fellow travelers and Tour Manager

**Optional:** Thai Pagoda & So Village with lunch

**Overnight:** Hanoi

**Meals:** Breakfast, Dinner

### **DAY 11, Thursday - Depart Vietnam**

Transfer to the airport for your departure flight

**Meals:** Breakfast

Saigon Prince Hotel, Ho Chi Minh



This first class hotel (formerly Hotel Duxton) is located in the heart of the city overlooking the Saigon River and historic sites.

**Hotel Details**

Hoi An Trails Resort, Hoi An



This first class hotel is a short ride away from the Hoi An Ancient Town.

**Hotel Details**

Mondial Hotel Hue, Hue



This first class hotel is located in the heart of the city.

**Hotel Details**

Royal Lotus Hotel Halong, Halong Bay



This first class hotel looks out over the picturesque bay and is within walking distance to Halong pier.

#### Hotel Details

### Sunway Hotel, Hanoi



This first class hotel is located near the city center, in Hanoi's Hai Ba Trung neighborhood.

#### Hotel Details

**Book your Optional Tours before you travel. See more, save time, save money.**

- Tours purchased while travelling may cost an extra 10% or more
- Tours often sell out. Avoid disappointment
- Save your cash. Credit card processing may not be possible locally
- Travel insurance only covers services purchased prior to departure
- Book Online or call to book these tours up to 1 week before your departure
- The day the optionals operate varies by the day of the week

### Half Day Cu Chi Tunnels

The Cu Chi tunnels were part of an underground tunnel network built by the Viet Cong to control a large rural area near Saigon. These tunnels were first used during the French/Vietnamese War (1946-1954) and later used by the Viet Cong as a base of operations during the 1968 Tet offensive. The Cu Chi network includes 125 miles of tunnels with many branches connecting to underground

hideouts, weapon factories, hospitals, shelters and other tunnels. The entire structure was dug out of the rock by hand tools without the use of cement. On this tour, you'll learn about the tunnels and other aspects of the war. Opportunity for a brief view of life underground as you enter areas that have been enlarged to create easier access for visitors. The majority of the tour will be above the tunnels. *Please note: This tour is presented from a Vietnamese perspective, based on past wars with France and the United States. If you are uncomfortable with the expressed point-of-views and prefer not to hear this discussion, then we recommend that you do not participate.*

Approximate tour duration is 6 hours.

Day #2

01 Jul 2016 - 30 Jun 2018

AUD\$5



### Boat Trip on the Thu Bon River & Organic Village with lunch

Begin the boat trip at a local pier in the Old Town, cruising down streams and passing many fishing areas before cruising out to the main river. Stop at Kim Bong village, home of traditional woodworking and boat-building families. Return to the mainland and drive to the Traque Organic Village for lunch. Here, meet local farmers and learn about the many vegetables and herbs that are organically grown here to support the people of Hoi An. Walk through the gardens and see how, even today, local farmers work their fields using the traditional methods used hundreds of years ago. A culinary lesson follows on the traditional ways of preparing and cooking Vietnamese food, plus the local specialty called *Banh-xeo*. Once the lesson is over, enjoy the food you helped to prepare.

Departs at 8:30 am. Pick-up and drop-off at the hotel. Approximate tour duration is 6 hours.

Day #4

01 Jan 2017 - 30 Jun 2018

AUD\$7





### Cyclo Ride with Dinner at the Citadel

Enjoy a panoramic view of both the daily life and the architecture of Hue with a Trishaw (Cyclo) Tour. (The Cyclo is a very common mode of transportation in Vietnam.) Begin at the French Quarter with its beautiful French villas. Pass by the school where former presidents Ho Chi Minh and Ngo Dinh Diem, as well as Vo Nguyen Giap - a prominent Vietnamese politician - were educated. Continue via the market to the former Royal Palace. Then, arrive at a family-run restaurant within the Citadel walls; its owner is the descendant of a high ranking Mandarin official, and thus considered "a master of Royal cuisine." Savor a multi-course dinner - each dish will be presented in the shape of a peacock, dragon or turtle. This feast is a replica of the Royal Feast presented to the royal families in the past.

Approximate tour duration is 3 hours.

Day #5

01 Jan 2017 - 30 Jun 2018

AUD\$6



### Perfume River Boat Trip with lunch at Dong Thien Pagoda

Enjoy a boat trip on the beautiful and serene Perfume River with a stop to a local village to learn about the daily life of local people in one of the most traditional parts of North Central Vietnam. Continue to the Thien Mu Pagoda, situated on Ha

Khe hill, on the north bank of the Perfume River. The temple complex stretches north from the river banks in seven successive tiers, each of which is dedicated to a human form taken by the Buddha, or a step to enlightenment. Then, drive to the Tomb of Emperor Tu Duc, the final resting place of Vietnam's longest reigning emperor, set among forested hills and lakes. Lastly, proceed to Khai Dinh, the last monument of the Nguyen dynasty. A vegetarian lunch prepared by Buddhist nuns of the Dong Thien Pagoda is a very special experience, with time to interact with the Buddhist nuns, learning more about their lives in the pagoda.

Departs at 8:30 am. Pick-up and drop-off at the hotel. Approximate tour duration is 7 hours.

Day #6

01 Jan 2017 - 30 Jun 2018

AUD\$8



### Thay Pagoda & So Village with lunch

Today tour the stunning Thay Pagoda and So Village, including lunch, also known as the "Pagoda of the Master." Nestled against the hillside in Sai Go Village, it shares its compound with the smaller Ca Pagoda. Here, you can also see Thuy Dinh Stage, a water palace on Long Tri Pond, where the ancient form of water puppetry is performed. Continue to So Village, a well-preserved ancient village. Walking tour around the village to see the traditional layout with small alleyways in-between the houses. Stop to visit one of the impressive communal houses to meet villagers who earn their living from making noodles and tofu. Enjoy the stunning Thay Pagoda, the "Master's Pagoda," nestled on the foot of Sai Son Mountain.

Departs at 8:30 am. Pick-up and drop-off at the hotel. Approximate tour duration is 6 hours.

Day #10

01 Jan 2017 - 30 Jun 2018

AUD\$7



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Our exclusive focus is on supported travel arrangements which provide our customers with a breadth and depth of service complimented by local expertise that is simply unparalleled

Registered Travel Agents Licence Number 33035

**How to book:**

Our office is located in Kew in Melbourne.

You can call our office on 1300 813391.

You can email us on [mark@ditravel.com.au](mailto:mark@ditravel.com.au)

You can call our office and make an appointment to come and meet with one of travel consultants.

Payment can be made by:

Credit card – there is 2% bank fee charged for all major credit cards that will be added to your tour cost at time of payment.

You can also pay by cash or cheque by depositing these funds directly into our bank account at any Bendigo bank in Australia. There are no bank fees charged when you direct deposit the funds directly into our bank account.

Booking conditions apply. FREE BROCHURES.

These airfares are non-refundable but changeable by paying airline fees

All tours are subject to confirmation from the airlines. hotels and tour operators.

ATAS Accreditation Number: A10718

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We have met these strict standards and criteria in order to become nationally accredited. Our accreditation means we are the best in the industry, credible, well trained and a professional business. This means you can book your travel knowing you're in the safe hands of a trusted and reputable travel agent.

Further information can be found at <http://www.atas.com.au/>

#### Affordable Holidays - HOW DO WE DO IT???

We go directly to our overseas suppliers to source the best possible price and holiday for you. That's why our holidays are so affordable!! There are many overseas wholesalers that currently do not sell their holidays in Australia. We have approached some of these businesses to see if we can represent them here in our country. These travel professionals offer exceptional service and tours at just the right price. If you think you are paying too much for your travel arrangements, please give us a call, we will do our best to find you a holiday that fits within your travel budget.

[www.ditravel.com.au](http://www.ditravel.com.au)

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## **DESTINATION INTERNATIONAL HOLIDAYS BOOKING CONDITIONS**

**Please read this information prior to making your reservation**

### **BROCHURE VALIDITY**

The information presented in our brochure is correct to the best of our knowledge, but is subject to change without notice. Changes can occur with respect to prices, itineraries, duration of holidays, service standards, tour content, airfares and schedules. This is out of our control. Please ensure you advise details of your requirements at the time of booking.

### **GOODS AND SERVICES TAX (GST)**

The Australian GST does not apply to international travel. Any service fees, courier, cancellation and amendment fees are subject to GST. You will be charged GST where applicable.

### **DEPOSIT**

A deposit is required to confirm your booking (varies depending on package booked). Receipt of deposit will be taken as an understanding by Destination International Holidays that the customer has checked their confirmed travel arrangements and has read and agreed to the terms and conditions.

### **FINAL PAYMENT**

Payment in full must be made no less than 90 days before travel, unless required earlier by any supplier.

**PRICES**

All prices for our tours are advised in Australian Dollars (\$AUD). They are based on airfares, schedules and tariffs at the time of printing. Destination International Holidays reserves the right to vary the cost of the tour, taxes and airline prices if necessary by reason of currency fluctuation, cost increase, or airfare increase. All prices are subject to confirmation from local tour operators. Once full payment has been received by Destination International no surcharges in respect to currency fluctuations will be applied.

**ITINERARY CHANGES**

Destination International Holidays reserves

the right to amend the itinerary for reasons such as service requirements, road or weather conditions or unforeseen circumstances. Where a change is of a significant nature, it will be advised to our customers in writing.

Destination International Holidays reserves the right to substitute hotels, lodges, inns and camps with properties of similar standard.

**AMENDMENT FEES**

Should you need to alter your original reservations, there will be an automatic fee charged of \$100 per amendment or transaction.

Additionally, there may be cancellation fees levied by the tour operator or fees may be applicable where arrangements have been pre-purchased.

**CANCELLATIONS**

Cancellation fees will be levied relative to the amount of notice given as follows:

Days' Notice	90 or more	75-90	65-75	65-1
	Loss of Deposit and 50% loss of fare	75%	85%	100%

The above are Destination International Holidays cancellation fees. Airlines and Tour Operators may have additional fees. Transfer of a confirmed booking to another tour or departure date is deemed a cancellation of the original booking. There will be no refund for cancellation of unused services on or after commencement date. Please note that employees of any overseas suppliers are not authorised by Destination International Holidays to make any undertakings to our clients in respect of refunds or other matters.

**ACCOMMODATION**

There will be variations in the size, standard and presentation of rooms and facilities within the one hotel. This is beyond the control of Destination International Holidays.

**CLAIMS**

If you encounter any problems on your holiday, you should try and solve it directly with the supplier whilst overseas. If it is not possible to do so please do so in writing within 30 days of completing your Destination International Holidays arrangements.

**TRAVEL INSURANCE**

You must be insured for the duration of your trip. You need comprehensive travel insurance to cover cancellation, health requirements, luggage and additional expenses. Insurance policies rarely cover for loss of cash.

**PASSPORT, VISA & VACCINATIONS**

You must familiarise yourself with any visa and health requirements that may be applicable in the countries you are visiting. You are responsible for all entry/exit health and any other documents required by laws, regulations, orders, demands or requirements of countries visited or transited. Please note that passport and visa requirements are not the responsibility of Destination International Holidays. We will not be held liable for any loss or expense due to the failure to comply with the above. We recommend that you be in possession of a passport valid for at least 6 months beyond your intended stay overseas.

**CONSULAR ADVICE**

Official travel advice issued by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is available by calling 1300 555 135 or visiting their web site [www.dfat.gov.au](http://www.dfat.gov.au). You must review this information both prior to making your booking and prior to departure.

**TOUR CONDITIONS**

Destination International Holidays does not itself provide carriage services, accommodation, transport or tours. Destination International Holidays acts as an agent for the "Service Providers"). All products and services provided by Service Providers are provided on those Service Providers own terms and conditions which may include limitations and exclusions of liability. All bookings with Destination International Holidays and all tickets, vouchers, receipts, coupons, exchange orders and other like documents issued to the client, are subject to each Service Providers terms and conditions governing the provision of products and services to be provided by that Service provider. Destination International Holidays shall not be liable for any acts, omissions or defaults whether negligent or otherwise, of any Service Providers. Destination International Holidays shall not be liable (whether in contract, tort or otherwise) for any injury, illness, death, loss, damage, expense, delay or inconvenience resulting directly or indirectly from circumstances outside of Destination International Holidays control, including acts of nature, war, civil disturbances, strikes, floods, acts of government or authorities, breakdowns, accidents, disease, quarantine, terrorism, medical or customs regulations, and alterations, cancellations or delays concerning itineraries, timetables or accommodation.

**CONTRACT**

The contract between Destination International Holidays is governed by the laws of the State of Victoria. By booking with Destination International Holidays the client agrees to be bound by the terms and conditions referred to in our brochure.

**Destination International Holidays**

**Reservations Phone 1300 813 391**

