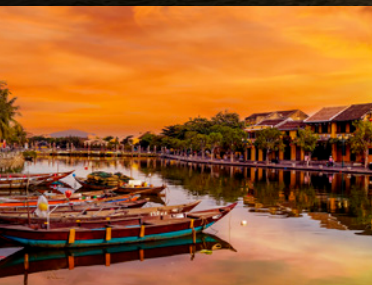


DISCOVA

CLASSIC ITINERARY

Vietnam

11 Days / 10 Nights *(Ho Chi Minh City to Hanoi)*





Itinerary Route Map



Highlights

- Get a refreshing look into Hanoi's bustling streets, culture and history.
- Enjoy an overnight stay surrounded by the famed limestone cliffs at Ha Long Bay.
- Wander through the yellow-bricked scenes of Hoi An Ancient Town.

Itinerary Summary

DAY
01

Arrival in Ho Chi Minh City

Private transfer from Ho Chi Minh City's Tan Son Nhat International Airport by air-conditioned vehicle to your booked accommodation in one of the city's main districts. Located 7 kilometres north-west of the airport, the transfer will take approximately 30 minutes to reach your hotel in the central district in the former capital.

- Overnight accommodation in Ho Chi Minh City is included.

DAY
02

Cu Chi Tunnels

An early morning departure from your Ho Chi Minh City hotel sets the tone for one of the most memorable experiences outside the city – the Cu Chi Tunnels, once a stronghold of the Viet Cong. Upon arrival, watch a brief video about the lives of soldiers who resided there during the war. The narrow tunnels were pivotal in several strategic operations, including the renowned 1968 Tet Offensive, and did not escape damage.

The tunnels served not only as living quarters but also as supply routes and hospitals for thousands of guerrilla fighters. Many succumbed to malaria and other diseases there, while a few were even born or married. Today, they are regarded by some as a testament to the Vietnamese people's resilience. The journey includes a drive through the countryside and stop at an organic farm to comprehend the true meaning of "farm-to-table". These fertile grounds offer an insight into organic farming, local herbs, spices, and vegetables, and showcase the art of mushroom cultivation. After these visits, enjoy a wholesome lunch, primarily prepared with fresh ingredients produced on the farm, before returning to your hotel in Ho Chi Minh City in the early afternoon. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure.

- Overnight accommodation in Ho Chi Minh City included.

- Breakfast and lunch are included.



Itinerary Summary

DAY
03

Mekong Delta River Life Full-Day

After breakfast at the hotel, an early morning start from Ho Chi Minh City brings clients down south to My Tho, one of the main gateways for the Mekong Delta. The scenic ride takes approximately two hours before one spots the contours of the majestic Mekong. Upon arrival, clients will take a private boat to navigate the river and visit islands such as Tan My and Thoi Son to interact with locals as they move around traditional floating fish farms – a quintessential Mekong Delta sight, often left aside.

The sailing journey takes you deeper into the intricate mangrove-laden stream on a traditional rowing boat. The rich vegetation covering large parts of the Mekong are a sight to behold and after the boat ride, you'll head out onto the mainland for an adventurous journey on a bike through some of the tropical fruit orchards.

Lunch is served at a local restaurant right in the heart of the Mekong Delta. Served with locally sourced and fresh ingredients. Additionally, demonstrations on making local pancakes will also add a unique flavour to the experience. Throughout the remainder of the afternoon, guests may even have a sneak peek into a local loom to see how artisanal weavers make some of the finest fabrics.

At the end of the afternoon, catch a leisurely cruise back to the disembarkation point before heading back to downtown Ho Chi Minh City and your booked accommodation.

- Overnight accommodation in Ho Chi Minh City included.
- Breakfast and lunch are included.

DAY
04

Day 4: Ho Chi Minh City – Hoi An

After breakfast and checking out of your Ho Chi Minh City accommodation, transfer to the city's domestic terminal for a short flight to Da Nang. From here, the short transfer time from Da Nang to your accommodation in Hoi An will take less than 30 minutes. The remainder of the morning is at leisure.



Itinerary Summary

In the late afternoon, you will hit the Hoi An streets for a culinary exploration of Central Vietnam, which is recognised as one of the most coastal towns. Together with your local guide, you will explore the stories behind Hoi An's icon cuisine at renowned eateries, starting with Madam Khanh's of one of the best places for "banh mi", a perfect blend of French and Vietnamese flavours; this local restaurant is well respected for maintaining traditional methods and recipes. Here, you will learn the art of making delicate white rose dumplings before enjoying "Cao La" soup. Next, stop at a 250-year-old ancient house for an immersion into the authentic side of Hoi An life. Before returning to your Hoi An accommodation, we round off your culinary journey with green bean cake and Vietnamese coffee.

- Overnight accommodation in Hoi An included.
- Transfers to/from airports included.
- Economy class air ticket between Ho Chi Minh City and Da Nang included.
- Breakfast included at the hotel.
- Street food dinner included during the excursion.

DAY 05

Day 5: Hoi An

After breakfast, you will meet your guide at your hotel lobby before heading out to Hoi An's Ba Mu Gate, an entryway that holds historical significance. The gate continues to represent an important passage in time and for welcoming explorers. From here, walk towards the famous Japanese Bridge, a remembrance of eastern architecture when Japanese traders settled here. The bond Hoi An has with the Land of the Rising Sun remains solidified with the presence of this accessible bridge.

One of Hoi An's hidden gems is a communal house located off the beaten path. Entering its grounds is like taking a step into the past, where stories and sagas remain and retain their value. This unique house is situated in a narrow alley and is one of the town's most well-maintained historical landmarks.



Itinerary Summary

Via the Folklore Museum, a stunning collection of what once was and remains traditionally Hoi An, we end the day with a visit to a coffee shop, tucked away off the main town streets. Rounding off this Hoi An adventure, we end the day with a freshly brewed coffee in this immersive setting, before being guided back to your accommodation, and ending an unforgettable day.

- Overnight accommodation in Hoi An included.
- Breakfast is included at the hotel.

DAY 06

Hoi An

A day at leisure to explore Hoi An at your own pace.

Hoi An, a remarkable gem of a town, is a testament to Vietnam's rich history. A former trading post that once hosted a convergence of merchants from China, the Netherlands, France, Japan, Portugal, and Arabia during the span of the 16th to 18th centuries, Hoi An is renowned for its meticulously restored architecture, locally crafted silk, and delectable array of noodles and seafood.

As you stroll through the pedestrian-only streets of this ancient seaport, it's easy to lose yourself in a vision of the 18th century, when Hoi An was one of Asia's most bustling trading hubs. The town's blend of various Asian and European architecture reflects its cosmopolitan past, offering visitors a glimpse into a Vietnam that has vanished elsewhere.

- Overnight accommodation in Hoi An included.
- Breakfast is included at the hotel.

DAY 07

Hoi An – Hanoi

Enjoy a leisurely morning at your own pace before your transfer to Da Nang Station for a scenic train journey to Hanoi. Travel along the breathtaking Hai Van Pass, one of Vietnam's most picturesque routes. After watching the train weave through stunning landscapes, you'll arrive in Hanoi early the next day, refreshed and ready for new adventures.

- Overnight train tickets included.



Itinerary Summary

DAY
08

Hanoi

Private transfer from Hanoi's train station to your booked accommodation in downtown Hanoi by air-conditioned vehicle. The transfer will take approximately 10-15 minutes to reach your hotel.

- Overnight accommodation in Hanoi included.

DAY
09

Highlights of Hanoi

Meet your guide in your hotel lobby ready for your full day tour of Hanoi. The morning starts at the historic Ba Dinh Square, where Vietnam's journey to independence started. Here, Ho Chi Minh famously declared the nation's freedom, and the iconic Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum now stands as a solemn tribute. With your guide, paying respects to the nation's beloved leader and learning about his pivotal role in liberating Vietnam from French colonial rule is almost a given.

Continue in the late morning to the Temple of Literature, Hanoi's oldest university. The grounds are widely known for their ancient architecture, as a homage to Confucius. Afterwards, delve into Vietnamese women's incredible history at the fascinating Vietnamese Women's Museum. This award-winning museum offers a glimpse into women's lives throughout different ages and phases of women's empowerment in Vietnam.

This full day in Hanoi is concluded with a sweet treat. A local must-try, Vietnamese egg coffee brings forward a unique culinary blend in a charming coffee shop. From here, enjoy the comfort of your journey back to your booked accommodation in downtown Hanoi.

- Overnight accommodation in Hanoi included.
- Breakfast is included at the hotel.
- Lunch is included at a local restaurant.



Itinerary Summary

DAY 10

● Hanoi – Ha Long Bay Cruise

After breakfast, guests are transferred by shuttle bus to the enchanting Ha Long Bay to board a traditional junk boat and set sail through this UNESCO World Heritage site. A speedboat will take you to your cruise ship, welcoming you with a refreshing drink and a comprehensive cruise briefing. As you cruise through the stunning Lan Ha Bay, you can savour a delicious lunch featuring authentic Vietnamese cuisine.

After lunch, you will have the opportunity to visit Titov Island, named after the Russian cosmonaut. Choose between hiking to the summit for breathtaking panoramic views or relaxing on the island's beach. En route before dropping anchor for the evening, explore the awe-inspiring Luon Cave by bamboo boat or kayak (optional; surcharges may apply), cited for its remarkable rock formations and crystal-clear waters.

Before dinner is served, guests can join a spring roll-making class or spend the evening at one of the vessels' treatment rooms (optional; surcharges may apply). As the sun sets over Ha Long Bay, a delectable meal complements the end of a great day there.

- Breakfast included at the hotel.
- Lunch and dinner included on board.
- Overnight accommodation on Cruise included.
- The mentioned Ha Long Bay itinerary is subject to change.
- Additional charges may apply for optional services and drinks



Itinerary Summary

DAY 11

Hanoi

Considered one of the best starts of the morning aboard a Ha Long Bay Cruise, it takes part in a Tai Chi session as soon as the sun rises.






After breakfast, tour the renowned Sung Sot Caves, one of the region's treasures. One of the country's impressive collections of stalactites and stalagmites adorning the cavern is considered a natural marvel incomparable with any other cavern system. It is recommendable wearing non-slippery shoes as the path in and out of the Sung Sot Caves may be slippery.

Once you return to the Ha Long Bay cruise, brunch will be served as the captain and his crew sail back to Ha Long Bay's main harbour before continuing the overland journey to Hanoi International Airport for your departure flight back home.

- Breakfast and brunch are included on board the cruise.
- No dinner included.
- Sole use overnight twin/quad cabin included.
- The mentioned Ha Long Bay itinerary is subject to change.
- Additional charges may apply for optional services and drinks.



Hotels and Destinations

	Destinations	Class	Overnight Address*
	Ho Chi Minh City	Superior	Northern Charm Hotel
	Hoi An	Superior	Saga Hoi An Hotel
	Hanoi - Hoi An	Superior	Night Train
	Ha Long Bay	Superior	Paradise Sails
	Hanoi	Superior	Le Jardin Haute Couture

* Overnight addresses are subject to change based on availability on the booking date. We reserve the right to offer/book suitable alternative accommodation if the mentioned overnight address is unavailable. Alternative accommodation will be sourced at the same or a higher standard at Discova's expense.

Trip Inclusions

- Airport transfers, rail tickets, and domestic flight tickets are included.
- Overnight Ha Long Bay Cruise, sightseeing and day tours as specified in the itinerary.
- Overnight stay based on twin share in stated accommodation or similar.
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary.
- Service charges and any government taxes.

DISCOVA

Learn more about the destination here: [Vietnam Fast Facts](#)

For more information on the tour or for extending your stay, speak to us about our range of pre and post accommodation options, just email our team: agents@discova.com or visit www.discova.com