



EXCLUSIVE

PERSONALLY ESCORTED

By Dianne Ray



This is the best itinerary to discover Vietnam with both traditional culture and authentic beautiful scenery. We depart from Hanoi, our elegant charming capital to the 800 year old village of Duong Lam, where we can see the typical daily life of Vietnamese people and its unique architecture. Meanwhile, Mu Cang Chai and Sapa is truly the link of Heaven and Earth with authentic beautiful rice terraces and the unchanged hill tribes. The North Vietnam part of the trip ends with a “happy ending” at the wonderful Halong Bay, which was twice voted as “World Natural Heritage Site” and recently “one of the 7 New Wonders of the World”. We then move onto the graceful, historic Hoi An. This is Vietnam’s most atmospheric and delightful town. Once a major port, it boasts the grand architecture and beguiling riverside setting that benefits its heritage. This is one trip that really shows you all that Vietnam has to offer.

Vietnam Venture Tour

including Sapa, Ha Long Bay & Hoi An



Hi everyone,

I am excited to be able to invite you to join me on Dianne's Venture Tours trip to Vietnam. My passion is travel and I have come up with a tour for likeminded people who enjoy travel, sightseeing, company and good food.

I have liaised with a Vietnam tour guide to give you a comprehensive itinerary visiting some beautiful areas in Vietnam, with plenty of sightseeing and relaxation, including staying in 3/4 star hotels with lots of inclusions.

Good travels and eating. Dianne



Day 1. Hanoi Arrival (D)

Xin Chao, Welcome to Hanoi the capital of Vietnam. Our guide picks you up from Noi Bai Airport to the city. Check in at your hotel and relax after the long flight. Late afternoon, visit Hoan Kiem Lake area, have a drink and enjoy the story of the lake. Welcome dinner served with Vietnamese food in fine restaurant.

Day 2. City tour of Hanoi with open itinerary (B)

Hanoi, our 1000 year old capital of Vietnam is an elegant and charming city. One day city tour with "your choice of sightseeing", you will experience the traditional commercial quarter, French colonial quarter and lifestyle of the local people. Everyone's interests are different so today is your day to choose your sightseeing. You can select up to 5 destinations/activities from the list below:

1. Leisurely morning walk in the French quarter then explore the Old quarter with its 36 streets and guilds. Enjoy a cup of Vietnamese coffee, just as the locals do.
2. There are numerous museums in Hanoi and we do recommend you visit one of these:
 - a. Museum of Ethnology (it shows you an overview of 54 groups of people in Vietnam)
 - b. History Museum (showing you a thousand years of Vietnamese history)
 - c. Army Museum (it focuses on the Army of Vietnam during the two famous wars in the 20th century)
3. Ho Chi Minh complex (you will see Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, Ba Dinh square and his living quarter)
4. Confucius Temple and The First Royal University in Vietnam (Temple of Literature)
5. Tran Quoc Buddhist Temple (The oldest Buddhist temple in Hanoi with stunning view to the West Lake)
6. Hoa Lo prison known as Hanoi Hilton
7. Hoan Kiem lake and Ngoc Son Temple
8. Water puppet show
9. Enjoy Bia Hoi (draught beer) like local people

Day 3. Hanoi-Duong Lam Village-Nghia Lo (B/L/D)

Good bye to the bustling city, as we head to the rural area and mountain. En-route we visit the unique traditional village of Duong Lam, where you will enjoy real daily life of Vietnamese and its iconic architecture. Our trip continues with stunning views of a tea farm with a photo stop and walking in Dong Khe village, the village of Tay ethnic group before arriving in Nghia Lo. Make sure to check your camera batteries are recharged tonight for all your photo opportunities tomorrow.

Day 4. Nghia Lo-Mu Cang Chai (B/L/D)

They said "happiness is not only the destination but also the way leading to the destination". This is true for today, when we head to Mu Cang Chai with spectacular scenery laid out along the road from the Township of Nghia Lo to Mu Cang Chai. En-route, we do some light hiking in Tu Le, the stunning valley with different hill tribes such as Tay, Thai, and Dzao. Local food for lunch, will be served in the village. After lunch, we drive to La Pan Tan where you will be amazed with the most beautiful view of rice terraces in the world. At this location, you can enjoy the spectacular views and scenery. Our trip continues along Khau Pha pass, located 1400m above sea level. Afterwards we do a short hike amongst the breathtaking rice terraces before arriving at our homestay.

Day 5. Mu Cang Chai-Sapa (B/L)

Tranquil morning, you wake up in an isolated village. A simple breakfast will be served. We start our day with easy trekking around Mu Cang Chai for 6km to visit amazing rice terraces and the authentic village of H'Mong tribe. After lunch we leave Mu Cang Chai for Sapa. En-route, we stop for a great view from the highest pass in Vietnam, 2300m above sea level-Tram Ton pass. There are two activities to choose from: trekking around 2 km in the jungle to visit stunning "Love" waterfall or visit Thac Bac (Silver) waterfall before arriving at your hotel in Sapa.

Day 6. Sapa hiking (B/picnic lunch)

Located 1600m above sea level, Sapa is truly a link between heaven and earth. Its highlights are unchanged hill tribes, spectacular mountain scenery, beautiful waterfalls and stunning terraces. It is an ideal district for trekking and hiking of all different levels. Today, you will have the opportunity for a lie in and a quiet relaxing morning as we start our tour at 10 am. Taking a short transfer by car to the ticket counter, we hike on the most impressive trail in Sapa. Our trekking route is downhill and meandering stream and villages of Y Linh Ho, Lao Chai and Ta Van. Looking down at the stunning deep valley with numerous rice terraces, enjoy the great view to the massive mountain range of Hoang Lien Son. You will also meet different tribes like Black H'Mong, Red Dzao and Dzay. Our trekking trip ends with a cup of coffee or moonshine in the home of the local Dzay people before we transfer back to our hotel.

Day 7. Sapa-Hanoi (B)

Free time this morning to explore Sapa town for shopping, visiting the Catholic Church or just getting a cup of coffee and enjoy the view towards Muong Hoa valley. After lunch, we drive back to Hanoi along the high way. Late afternoon check in at your hotel. Tonight enjoy your free evening. We recommend you pack everything this evening in to a smaller bag that you will need for your 3 day/2 night stay in Halong Bay. Your remaining luggage will be stored here at the hotel

Day 8. Hanoi-overnight on Halong bay (B/L/D)

Recognised as a “World Natural Heritage Site” by UNESCO. Halong Bay is one of the best highlights for everyone during their time in Vietnam. Enjoy an overnight trip on the bay in this unique area of Vietnam. Departing from Hanoi at 8am, we arrive at the dock by noon and board our cruise. Lunch will be served while we cruise slowly around the limestone islands in the bay. In the afternoon, soak up the atmosphere of Halong Bay whilst enjoying a drink on the sundeck. You will have the opportunity of a Sampan boat ride along the bay. Late in the afternoon, take part in a cooking demonstration as the sun sets on Halong Bay. Overnight on the cruise.

Day 9. Halong Bay

Wake up in the dawn to enjoy sun rise with Tai Chi lesson (your choice) on the sundeck. Breakfast will be served in the restaurant then we do the morning excursion: Kayaking in Ho Ba Ham area and visiting Ba Men temple with beautiful beach. We will be back to the boat for lunch. In the afternoon, we will visit a pearl farm and you have a chance to swim in Ti Tov island. Overnight on boat in Halong bay

Day 10. Halong Bay-Hoi An(B/Brunch)

Awake early in the morning to do Tai Chi on the sundeck or take this time to enjoy the tranquility of the bay whilst enjoying a cup of coffee. A light breakfast will be served in the restaurant before visiting one of the most beautiful caves in Halong Bay, Sung Sot cave. Back on board our cruise for more sightseeing followed by brunch while we cruise back to the dock. Good bye Ha Long bay, good bye the North of Vietnam, we drive to the airport to fly to Da Nang. Our guide pick you up from Da Nang and drive to Hoi An city, check in and free evening.

Day 11. Hoi An (B cooking class)

Recognised as the World Culture Heritage Site by UNESCO in 1999, Hoi An is famous as a typical Vietnamese port from 17th to the 19th century. Nowadays, coming to Hoi An, you will see the port city like it's hundred years ago with houses, temples, communal houses and authentic local lifestyle. Today, we do walking along the streets and visit Phung Hung old house, Japanese bridge, Tan Ky old house and Phuc Kien Communal house. We take lazy time in Hoi An Lantern Town restaurant to enjoy a cup of coffee and see people walk around. We drive to Tra Que Vegetable Village to see how local people cultivate vegetable in organic way. We also take a cooking class with the excellent chef then enjoy lunch eating your own cooking creations. Back to hotel and free time with pool or hang around the city for shopping

Day 12. Hoi An (B/BBQ dinner)

It's relaxing day for you. We also give out some optional excursions for you to take a drive to visit Ngu Hanh Son mountain and Hai Van pass. Visit Thanh Ha pottery village and enjoy sunset boat trip

Day 13. Good bye Vietnam (B)

Your guide and driver will pick you up from your hotel 3 hours before your scheduled flight and transfer you to the airport. Tam biet Vietnam and have good flight home!

Meal key: Breakfast (B), Lunch (L), Brunch (Br), Dinner (D)



Holiday inclusions & highlights

- Meet and assist at Hanoi (Noi Bai) International Airport
- Private transfers including English speaking guide.
- Porterage throughout the tour
- Walking, visiting traditional villages and a market
- 2 nights' accommodation out at Halong Bay on a junk boat
- Kayaking, swimming, visiting caves, ride on sampan boat, cooking demonstration, Tai Chi—your choice
- Airfares included *price accurate at time of issue (airfares subject to change)
- Accommodation at 3/4 star rating
- Breakfast, lunch and dinner per itinerary

Holiday Pricing

Air & Land Incuded: All inclusive. Contact Dianne for 2018 pricing

A 50% initial deposit is required on your booking and the remaining 50% is to be paid 30 days before departure

Please note each traveler can arrange their own airfares to Hanoi to start the tour on Monday 10th July should they wish to do so. You will be met at the Hanoi (Noi Bai) International Airport by your guide Ahn. We need to know your arrival time to be picked up. Variation in price will be allocated to those wishing to choose this option

*All travelers are to arrange their own Travel Insurance and Vietnam Visa (we are able to apply for the Visas on your behalf should you wish us to do so.)



Discover & Enjoy

General Conditions

All arrangements have been reserved as per the terms and conditions of the North Vietnam tour guide.

Tour Price

Tour price as per person based on twin share and is subject to a minimum number of 5 passengers and a maximum of 12 passengers. Should minimum number not be met, extra surcharges may apply. Pricing is not guaranteed until full payment has been made. Deposits merely hold the reservation and do not guarantee prices.

Luggage Limit

Suggestion is to have 1 x 20kg suitcase and 7kg hand luggage.

Bike Rental

All bike rental fees are included in your tour package price

Security Deposit, Final Payment & Payment Option

A non-refundable and non-transferrable deposit of \$1,000 is payable at time of reservation. We strongly recommend travel insurance is arranged at this time. Your remaining balance must be paid no later than 30 days prior to departure date. It is the traveler's responsibility to ensure that payment is made by this date. Payment can be made by credit card, eftpos, cash cheque or direct deposit. If payment is made by credit card a surcharge will apply.

Travel Insurance

Your holiday safety and enjoyment is important to us and we support the Australian Government's recommendation that all traveler's arrange travel insurance. Possession of adequate travel insurance is a compulsory condition of travelling

Tour Fare Inclusions

Please refer to the full list of inclusions and exclusions as listed in this tour brochure. The fare price is air & land. The air component has been included into this price and was accurate at time of issue so note that airfares could be subject to change.

Tour fare does NOT include

Items such as (and not limited to): * drinks *optional sightseeing *travel insurance *items of personal nature *laundry *passport & visa costs * meals and beverages not specified a included in the above itineraries *all gratuities for driver/guides and hotels

Single Accommodation

A limited number of single rooms can be requested at time of booking. A single supplement price will be given to you if you request this.

Itinerary

The tour itinerary is subject to change at any time due to unforeseen circumstances

Passport & Visas

Well before travelling please ensure you have a current passport that is valid for at least 6 months after the scheduled return home to Australia. Your reservation must be made in exactly the same name as your passport. Travelling to Vietnam a Visa is required and this will be at your own expense.

Amendment Fees

Should you alter your arrangements a minimum fee of \$75 per person per change is payable to Dianne's Venture Tours to cover administrative and communication costs, in addition to any applicable fees charges by the North Vietnam guide.

Cancellation

Cancellation must be in writing and such notice is not effective until received by Dianne's Venture Tours. The cancellation fee prior to 30 days from departure date is \$1000 per person. A 100% cancellation fee will apply to reservations cancelled on or after this date.

Documentation

Your documentation will be available approximately two weeks prior to departure.

*Conditions apply. Prices and information are correct at time of issue and subject to availability and change at time of booking. Prices are per person, twin share. Prices may fluctuate due to changes in charges, taxes and currency. Service charges may apply. Please note a surcharge may be imposed on credit or charge card transactions. For current information on travelling overseas and official Government travel advisories visit www.smarttraveller.com.au

Numbers are limited, so call TODAY to book your Exclusive Personally Escorted Holiday for 2018

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