9 Days Vietnam Classic

Explore the rich history, vibrant culture, and natural beauty of Vietnam in this comprehensive 9-day itinerary. From the northern capital of Hanoi to the bustling streets of Ho Chi Minh City, this journey also takes you to scenic Halong Bay, the historic imperial city of Hue, and the charming town of Hoi An.

Duration: 9 Days
Route: Hanoi → Halong → Hue → Da Nang → Hoi An → Ho Chi Minh → Mekong Delta

Highlights:

- Discover Hanoi's historical sites, including the Ho Chi Minh Complex, Temple of Literature, and the Old Quarter.
- Cruise through Halong Bay's emerald waters and enjoy an overnight on a traditional cruise ship.
- Explore the ancient Imperial Citadel and visit the royal tombs in Hue.
- Learn about Cham culture in Da Nang and walk through the ancient town of Hoi An.
- Dive into Ho Chi Minh City's colonial charm and vibrant street life.
- Experience the serene beauty of the Mekong Delta with a boat ride and visits to local villages.

Itinerary Highlights

- **Day 1**: Arrive in Hanoi, Vietnam's captivating capital.
- **Day 2**: Tour Hanoi's historical and cultural sites, including the Hoan Kiem Lake and the famous Water Puppet Show.
- **Day 3**: Take a scenic drive to Halong Bay and enjoy an overnight cruise among the stunning limestone formations.
- **Day 4**: Return to Hanoi and fly to Hue to explore its royal past.
- **Day 5**: Cruise on the Perfume River and visit the tombs of the Nguyen emperors.
- **Day 6**: Visit the Cham Museum in Da Nang and enjoy a walking tour of Hoi An Ancient Town.

- **Day 7**: Fly to Ho Chi Minh City and explore the historic Cu Chi Tunnels.
- **Day 8**: Discover the Mekong Delta, visiting villages, local farms, and the Vinh Trang Pagoda.
- **Day 9**: Depart Ho Chi Minh City after a final day at leisure.

Why Choose This Tour?
This itinerary offers a perfect blend of cultural, historical, and natural highlights across Vietnam. From the peaceful landscapes of Halong Bay to the dynamic streets of Ho Chi Minh City, it provides an immersive experience for all types of travelers. With a combination of guided tours and free time to explore, this tour offers a well-rounded Vietnamese adventure.

DETAILS ITINERARY

DAY 01: HANOI ARRIVAL

Upon arrival in Noi Bai International Airport, you will be greeted by local guide and transfer you to your hotel in Hanoi that is Vietnam's capital, ranks amongst the world's most attractive and interesting cities. It was first the capital of Vietnam in A.D. 1010, and though the nation's capital moved to Hue under the Nguyen dynasty in 1802, the city continued to flourish after the French took control in 1888. In 1954, after the French departed, Hanoi was declared Vietnam's capital once again. The remnants of over 1,000 years of history are still visible here, with that of the past few hundred years wonderfully preserved. After checking in hotel, you are free at leisure. There's plenty to do and see or you may choose to find a spot on the lakeside and just watch the world go by - Hanoi is a truly unique city. In the evening you can choose from one of the many restaurants near Hoan Kiem lake or in the Old Quarter. Hanoi is also a fascinating city to enjoy an alfresco drink. Overnight in Hanoi.

Meals included: None

Optional lunch or dinner:

- ✔ *Asia & Local Cuisine:*
- ✔ *Western Cuisine:*

DAY 02: HANOI CITY TOUR

This morning enjoy a full day city tour of Hanoi. First, visit **Ba Dinh Square**, where silent sentries guard the marble and granite mausoleum where Ho Chi Minh lies in state (closed every Friday & Monday and in October & November). See the simple cottage where Uncle Ho lived and worked. Nearby, visit the **Ho Chi Minh Museum**, an extraordinary tribute in abstract form to the life of the 'father of the country' and the evolution of Vietnamese independence. French architecture is a feature of Hanoi, and the nearby former Governor's Residence is a fine example as well as the **One Pillar Pagoda**. Continue to the **Temple of Literature**, built in 1070 and then dedicated to Confucius, it is a serene retreat from the busy streets outside, and later became Vietnam's first university. This afternoon, enjoy an orientation of the tree-lined streets of Hanoi, resplendent with French colonial architecture, including the recently restored Opera House. Pass by Hoan Kiem Lake, also known as Lake of the Restored Sword from the legend that surrounds it en-route to one of the city's fascinating museums. Then take to the streets on foot for a walking tour of the Ancient Quarter or 36 Streets District. This densely populated corner of the city was once a centre of commerce where goods were sold under the street name of a particular guild. Still a thriving community of sellers today, you will see street names such as Sugar Street, Tin Street and Paper Street. Ancient homes and temples are interspersed with stores in this souvenir hunter's paradise! Enjoy a performance of the renowned **Water Puppet show** - an ancient Vietnamese form of entertainment, which enables the puppeteers to control their active marionettes by levers hidden under the water. Water puppet skits generally enact ancient folklore and legends that are rural in origin, and the theme of water is often present, as it defines so much of Vietnam's landscape. Drive to your hotel and overnight in Hanoi.

Meals included: Breakfast

Optional lunch or dinner:

- ✔ *Asia & Local Cuisine:*
- ✔ *Western Cuisine:*

DAY 03: HANOI HALONG BAY OVERNIGHT ON CRUISE

After having a breakfast at your chosen hotel, drive through green rice paddy fields to Ha Long Bay where is located in East Hanoi about 170 kilometers (approximate

3,5 hours). You will board a sailing junk for a cruise amongst hundreds of islets of Ha Long Bay. Enjoy a seafood lunch and a swim (if weather permits) before visiting a grotto of gigantic stalactites and stalagmites. Drop anchor in the late evening for an overnight stay amongst the dramatic limestone peaks rising out of the sea. Overnight on Cruise.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

DAY 04: HALONG HANOI HUE BY FLIGHT (EXCLUDED AIRFARE)

You will spend the morning cruising through the limestone cliffs and emerald waters of Ha Long Bay before returning to the wharf. On the way to Noi Bai Domestic Airport for flight to Hue, stop at a ceramic factory. Upon arrival in Phu Bai Domestic Airport, you will be greeted by local guide and transfer you to your hotel in Hue that Hue is a beautiful and welcoming city. As Vietnam's capital throughout the Nguyen Dynasty (1802-1945), as a centre of Vietnamese Buddhism and scholarship and finally as the setting for some of the Vietnam War's most bloody fighting, Hue provides a unique window into Vietnam and its complex past.

Meals included: Brunch

Optional lunch or dinner:

- ✔ *Asia & Local Cuisine:*
- ✔ *Western Cuisine:*

DAY 05: HUE DA NANG

Have a boat trip on the romantically named **Perfume River**, passing the 10-metre thick protective walls of the Citadel on board a Vietnamese 'dragon boat'. A short distance up river is perhaps Hue's best-known religious site, the **Thien Mu Pagoda** with its distinctive seven-storey octagonal tower. This serene and picturesque landmark is also an important Buddhist sight. From here, in 1963, the monk Thich Quang Duc travelled in his pale blue Austin to Sai Gon and publicly burned himself to death to protest against the anti-Buddhist stance of the President. Visit the **Imperial Citadel**, a vast complex built in the early 19th century and modelled after the Forbidden City of Peking. The original walls stretched for 10 km and were surrounded by a wide moat. Today, most of the buildings have been destroyed due to bombing during the Vietnam-American War, but the monuments

that remain provide a fascinating glimpse into the court life of the Nguyen Dynasty. The hills surrounding Hue are dotted with the tombs of the Nguyen dynasty emperors. Built not only as an eternal resting place, the tombs were designed for recreation; somewhere the Emperor could fish, hunt and enjoy the company of concubines in his twilight years. Your tour combines visits to two of the most contrasting tombs. First, you will visit the **tomb of Emperor Tu Duc**, resplendent in traditional architecture, paved walkways, resting pavilions overlooking tranquil lotus ponds, and a small forest for hunting. In stark contrast, you will continue on to **Khai Dinh's Tomb**. Remembered as the "Puppet Emperor" because of his affiliation with the French, this tomb was designed with colonial flair, and a glass mosaic frieze dominates the interior. On the way to Da Nang, our vehicle will stop at **Lang Co Village** and **Hai Van pass** to take in the spectacular view along the coast. Check in hotel and overnight in Da Nang.

Meals included: Breakfast

Optional lunch or dinner:

- ✔ *Asia & Local Cuisine:*
- ✔ *Western Cuisine:*

DAY 06: DA NANG 🚗 HOI AN ANCIENT TOWN

Visit the Cham Museum. Situated in a quiet area of Da Nang City, the **Cham Museum** was built in 1915. The kingdom of Champa controlled what is now south and central Vietnam from approximately 192 through 1697. At present, the museum houses 297 stone and terracotta sculptural works made between the 7th and the 15th centuries. These are impressive works typical of the Cham culture.

Hoi An is the unique trading town; a civilization cut off by destroyed rail lines and a silted river, leaving it untouched by war and almost frozen in time. No cars are allowed to pass through **Hoi An**, rendering it an excellent walking village. You start your **walking tour** which includes a visit to Chinese communal houses/pagodas, the unique Japanese covered bridge, architecture reminiscent of traders of a bygone era - Japanese, French, Chinese, and Indian, as well as beautifully preserved ancient houses. You will also have chance to visit the Hoi An local market or shop for art at one of the numerous galleries and enjoy the riverside ambience. Back to Da Nang for overnight.

Meals included: Breakfast

Optional lunch or dinner:

✔ *Asia & Local Cuisine:*

✔ *Western Cuisine:*

DAY 07: DA NANG ✈ HO CHI MINH BY FLIGHT (EXCLUDED AIRFARE) 🚗 CU CHI TUNNEL

Take an early domestic flight to Ho Chi Minh. Upon arrival in Tan Son Nhat Domestic Airport, you will be greeted by local guide and transfer you to your hotel in Sai Gon - a vibrant metropolis, Sai Gon teems with energy, activity and motion. Everywhere you look, you see the meeting of traditional and modern life. The emerging modern skyline stands cheek by jowl with colonial buildings and traditional temples. Outside on the streets, young professionals zip by on motorcyles, chatting on cellphones; inside the quiet temple courtyards, worshippers pray amidst clouds of incense.

Journey out of Ho Chi Minh City to the **Cu Chi region**, where you will visit the vast underground network of tunnels built first as a defence against the French, and later expanded during the Vietnam war. It was from here that the North Vietnamese waged their guerrilla warfare. You will marvel at their ingenuity and resilience. See secret trapdoors, underground kitchens, living areas and meeting rooms. The more adventurous may explore the deeper second, and even third level tunnels. For those preferring to remain above ground, there is ample opportunity to view excavated areas from above. Your guide will advise you of the length and level of difficulty of each tunnel before entering - some are easily accessed by stairs. We recommend good walking shoes and sun protection for this tour.

In the afternoon, Visit **the neo-Romanesque Notre Dame Cathedral, Central Post Office**. Strolling along **Dong Khoi Street**, formerly known as the Rue Catinat, the main shopping thoroughfare and heart of old colonial Sai Gon, passing by classic European-style landmarks such as the ornate **City Hall** (Hotel De Ville), the **old Opera House** (both may only be viewed from the outside). Overnight in Ho Chi Minh.

Meals included: Breakfast

Optional lunch or dinner:

✔ *Asia & Local Cuisine:*

✔ *Western Cuisine:*

DAY 08: HO CHI MINH 🚗 MY THO/ MEKONG DELTA

After having a breakfast at your hotel, you will be met by your guide at your hotel and depart Ho Chi Minh City for a scenic morning drive through the **Mekong Delta**. At My Tho, take a boat to an orchard garden. Enjoy a brief walk on the island, trying some tropical fruits grown in the region. Boat along green and empty creek before experience horse cart. Stop at local family to visit bee farm. Sipping Vietnamese tea mixed with bee honey and lemons. Enjoy the Mekong beauty and quietness when rowing sampan through narrow water coconut- creek. After lunch at local restaurant, visit a family-run business making coconut candies. Before returning to My Tho, visit the 150 year old **Vinh Trang Pagoda** combines Vietnamese Khmer and French architecture which reflects the religion and history of the land. Drive back to Ho Chi Minh for overnight.

Meals included: Breakfast

Optional lunch or dinner:

✔ *Asia & Local Cuisine:*

✔ *Western Cuisine:*

DAY 09: HO CHI MINH 🚗 DEPARTURE

After having a breakfast at your hotel, free at leisure until transferring to Tan Son Nhat International Airport for departure.

Meals included: Breakfast

COMPETITIVE PRICE FOR B2B:

- ***CASE BY CASE***
- ***SERI BOOKING***

Services Inclusion	Services Exclusion

✔ Accommodation bases on Twin/Double sharing room with daily breakfast	✔ International & Domestic Airfare/ Alcoholic drinks & drinks at mealtime + Optional visits + Personal expenses (Telephone, laundry...)
✔ Transfer by private A/C vehicles	✔ Domstic Airfare:
✔ Regional English Speaking Guides	Hanoi - Hue: 115 USD/ Adult by Vietnam Airlines (Included All Tax)
✔ Meals as mentioned in the itinerary at local restaurant	Da Nang - Ho Chi Minh: 115 USD/ Adult by Vietnam Airlines (Included All Tax)
✔ All entrance fees as indicated in itinerary	✔ Personal travel insurance
✔ 02 Bottle of pure water per pax per day (500 ml)/ 02 Cold tissue per pax per day	✔ Tips for guide, driver
✔ Boat trip on Perfume River & Mekong Delta	✔ Tips for hotels' porters
✔ Water Puppet Show	✔ Meals not indicated in the itinerary
✔ Cyclo	✔ Vietnam Visa
✔ Reconfirmation of flight ticket	✔ Other services not clearly indicated in the Package Inclusion above

BEING ALWAYS AT YOUR SERVICES