

DISCOVER VIETNAM...*in style!*

A Deluxe 11-day Fully Guided Small Group Tour

Designed to show the Best of Vietnam at a leisurely pace, this tour includes...

- **Hanoi** with a visit to the bustling old quarter and an insight into Ho Chi Minh - the famed leader
- **Halong Bay** with a cruise onboard a replica superior junk and the thousands of islands jutting from the sea.
- **Hue** and the Imperial City and the spectacular **Hai Van Pass**, a winding road where the sea stretches out before you, with stops at China Beach and Marble Mountain
- **Hoi An** a charming beach town full of delightful art galleries, shops, markets and tailors.
- **Ho Chi Minh City** including the infamous **Cu Chi Tunnels**

To make the most of your holiday we include...

- **2 night stays** to ensure your holiday is leisurely and enjoyable
- **Cruise Halong Bay on a replica superior junk**
- **5 Star Hotels ***
- **Centrally located hotels**
- **One friendly helpful guide throughout your tour**

Vietnam is our favourite and you'll soon see why. Check out the quality and inclusions and feel free to ask any questions you may have.

Itinerary:

Day 1 Arrive Hanoi (D)



Arrive Hanoi where your local English speaking guide will meet you as you exit the arrivals hall of Hanoi airport for the transfer you to your hotel.

For those who arrive before midday, your guide will take you on an afternoon walking tour of the fascinating old quarter and Hoan Kiem Lake.

Tonight get to know your guide and other tour members over a group dinner at a local restaurant – a great introduction to the local cuisine.

2 nights at Sofitel Plaza, Hanoi – 5 Star Hotel

Day 2 Hanoi (B)

Breakfast at the hotel before a half-day city tour to visit some of Hanoi's historical sights. Visits include Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum and Ho Chi Minh's house where he preferred to live simply - behind his Palace. One Pillar Pagoda a small but significant pagoda with a Buddhist representation of the world and the Temple of Literature which was originally built in 1070.

The afternoon is yours at leisure to enjoy the shops and buildings of the old quarter or you may wish to explore the many Museums Hanoi is famous for or enjoy High Tea at the infamous Sofitel Metropole Hanoi

Day 3 **Halong Bay** **(B, L, D)**

After a leisurely breakfast depart by road to the coast at Halong Bay.

Halong Bay is a legendary world just waiting to be explored. Your Bhaya Cruise combines oriental style with contemporary luxury. Together they are the perfect recipe for an enchanting and relaxing holiday. In 1917, Emperor Khai Dinh plied the waters of the Bay in a wonderful wooden junk. Almost a century later you too can embark on a voyage through time – in a ship recreated from the original designs and with impeccable service fit for a King

Arriving at Halong Bay, board your cruise vessel for a delicious lunch as the cruise departs.

Spend the afternoon cruising amongst the limestone islands with stops to explore the Cave of Surprise (Sung Sot Cave) and an excursion to Van Gia Fishing Village

Onboard enjoy optional activities including sunbathing, traditional massage and cooking demonstrations

Anchorage is made around sunset where, if you wish, you can enjoy a Kayak around the islands (optional cost).

Overnight and Dinner onboard Bhaya Cruise

Each cabin offers all the amenities necessary for you to feel comfortable: twin beds or a queen-size bed, air-conditioner, wall fan, refrigerator, en-suite bathroom with shower. Each features a picture window, providing added light and memorable views.

Day 4 **Halong Bay – Hue** **(B)**

For the early risers you can join in with Tai Chi on the sundeck, feel the early morning salt water scent and bask in the sun rising from behind the mountains. After an energizing western breakfast, check out at around 09:30 am as the boat returns to shore at the end of your memorable trip onboard the Bhaya.

11am Your guide greets you for the return drive to Hanoi with a visit to a local village popular for embroidery and textile products. Late afternoon arrive Hanoi airport for the short flight to Hue.

Transfer on arrival in Hue to your hotel.

2 nights at Le Residence Hotel, Hue – in 4 ½ Star Opulence

Day 5 **Hue** **(B, L, D)**

Today explore the historical significance on a city tour of the small city of Hue – the former Imperial City.

Start the day with a boat trip along the Perfume River to Thien Mu Pagoda, built in 1601. Then continue by car to the Ancient Citadel, the capital of Vietnam from 1802-1945, where the last King of Vietnam – Bao Dai King – abdicated on 30 August, 1945.

After lunch at a rather rustic but delicious and popular local restaurant – visit Khai Dinh Tomb with its mix of Asian and Western architecture.

This evening discover the cuisine the Emperor's dined on at a special Imperial Restaurant.



Day 6 **Hai Van Pass** **(B)**

Discover the spectacular Hai Van Pass, rated by National Geographic as one of the 50 'must-do' journeys in the world. This scenic road winds along the coast and along the way a stop is made to visit China beach (have a swim if you wish) and the Cham Museum in Danang.

3 nights at the beachfront Swiss Belhotel Golden Sands resort & Spa, Hoi An – 4 ½ star hotel

Day 7 Hoi An (B)

This morning discover the fabulous town of Hoi An on a short walking tour as your guide takes you inside and around the historic old buildings.

The afternoon is yours at leisure to wander the art galleries, shops and tailors of Hoi An.

During the 17th and 18th centuries Hoi An was a major Asian trading centre, it is a wonderful town for getting clothes tailor made or for buying souvenirs, Hoi An also boasts an excellent beach.

Day 8 Hoi An (B)



Today is yours to enjoy this popular and wonderful town.

Optional tours are available from your guide (additional cost) to the My Lai Memorial site, My Son Holy Land or to take in a half-day cooking class

Alternatively you may simply relax beside the beach or enjoy shopping in the old town.

Your guide is with you if you would like assistance.

Day 9 Hoi An to Saigon (B)

This morning travel to Marble Mountain just outside Hoi An to see the amazing Village that has grown to carve the marble out of the surrounding mountains. Continue through to Danang for the short flight to Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon). On arrival transfer to your hotel.

The afternoon is yours to relax and enjoy the downtown area with its markets, shops and cafés.

The evening we recommend a drink (not included) at the Saigon Saigon Bar on the top floor of the Caravelle Hotel with its wooden bar and open shutters giving nice views out to the city
2 nights Caravelle Hotel, Saigon – 5 Star Hotel

Day 10 Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) (B, L, D)

Today tour the main sights in and around Saigon beginning with a tour to the infamous Cu Chi Tunnels 30km outside of Saigon. Dug by hand the tunnels were home to the Viet Cong during the US war. A video shows their use and parts have been excavated for you to see inside.

On the way back to Saigon a visit is made to a lacquerware factory. This beautifully art is produced on site and offers you the opportunity to view pieces being created.

The afternoon City tour visits bustling Cholon (China Town) wholesale market, the ornate and wonderful Thien Hau Pagoda, Notre Dame Cathedral and if time allows the War Museum.

After time to relax and freshen up tonight a farewell group dinner.

Day 11 Departure (B)

Today is at leisure until your transfer for your International flight departure.
Tour ends.

Extend your holiday – explore the Mekong or relax beach-side!

Relax after your holiday at Phan Thiet Beach - add a 4 day/3 night Beach Package
OR Experience the Mekong and witness the local life in the 'rice bowl' of Vietnam

DISCOVER VIETNAM...*in style!*

The Discover Vietnam is a small group tour (maximum of 10 people) staying in 4 ½ and 5 star hotels. It makes it perfect for those wanting to join with others to share their experiences. We will room-share same-sex single travellers on request and where available. However we regret that should a rooming partner not be available a single supplement will apply.

Small Group Tour **\$ 3250 per person twin share**

SAVE \$ 1000 per couple

Strictly Limited Offer

On sale until 15 March or until sold out, on selected tour dates, SAVE \$ 500 pp

NOW ONLY \$ 2750 pp twin share

Available for departures: May 3rd, May 17th, May 31st, June 14th, June 28th, July 12th, July 26th, Aug 9th,
Aug 23rd, Sept. 6th, Sept. 20th

Single Travelers

Single Supplement \$ 1299

We will happily room-share same-sex single travelers on request and where available. However we regret that should a rooming partner not become available the single supplement will apply.

Departure Dates: Guaranteed Departures *

2010 - Mar 15th, Mar 29th, April 19th, May 3rd, May 17th, May 31st, June 14th, June 28th, July 12th, July 26th, Aug 9th,
Aug 23rd, Sept. 6th, Sept. 20th, Oct 4th, Oct 18th, Nov 8th, Dec 6th

2011 - Mar 14th, Mar 28th, April 11th

Dates in *ITALICS* denotes – SOLD OUT

NOTE: We welcome all people on our tour however we regret we do not accept children under 15 years old on our Discover Tour. If travelling with children please ask us to customize a special family holiday for you

Price includes Small group tour with local English speaking guide throughout tour, all accommodation in 4 ½ and 5 Star Hotels * including daily breakfast, all transfers and sightseeing tours detailed including all entrance fees. All domestic flights, additional meals as indicated (B = Breakfast; L = Lunch, D = Dinner), full pre-departure information and an emergency contact phone number in Vietnam.

Price excludes International flights, Vietnam VISA, Travel Insurance, departure taxes, personal expenses and gratuities.

* **Hotels:** During this tour we use 5 Star hotels where practicable. Some hotels, although rated 5 Star locally, may be given a 4 ½ star rating by our tough standards. However we believe they are the best value in the area.

* **Guaranteed Departure** applies as soon as 2 people are booked on this tour.

Agent Booking Code: DISVIE

NOTE: Itinerary and price subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances beyond our control. Please refer to our full terms and conditions available on our brochure or from our website www.activeasia.co.nz. Active Asia reserves the right to alter the hotels and/or the itinerary if needed due to availability and/or adverse weather conditions.

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