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11-Day Ultimate Vietnam Experience Tour

Immerse yourself in Vietnam's fascinating culture and history on this awe-inspiring journey! Begin your adventure by exploring **Ho Chi Minh City**, the historic southern capital. Discover the ancient pagodas and rice fields of **Hoi An**, along with the imperial treasures of **Hue**. Continue to the bustling city of **Hanoi** and experience the mystical waters of **Ha Long Bay** on an unforgettable cruise.

Route



Ho Chi Minh - Hue - Hoi An - Hanoi - Ha Long Bay - Hanoi

Day 1



Arrival in Hochi Minh

Welcome to **Vietnam!** Upon arrival at Tan Son Nhat Airport and after completing all customs and immigration procedures, please make your way to the exit gate where your guide will be waiting for you, holding a welcome sign with your name. You will then be transferred to your hotel by private vehicle. Overnight stay in Ho Chi Minh city.



Included Meals:

In-flight meals



Accommodation

Acnos Grand Hotel or simliar

Day 2



Ho Chi Minh City

Breakfast at the hotel. Early this morning, set off with your guide on a half-day excursion to discover some of the city's most iconic landmarks. Begin with a visit to the **Reunification Palace**, the **Notre Dame Cathedral**, or the **Central Post Office**, designed by the renowned French architect Gustave Eiffel. Stroll along **Dong Khoi Street**, browsing its charming shops, and round off your tour at the bustling **Ben Thanh Market**. After this, feel free to continue exploring the city at your own pace, or take part in one of our optional activities, such as the Cu Chi Tunnels experience* or a street food tour on a motorbike**. Overnight stay in Ho Chi Minh city.



Included Activities

Half-day visit to Ho Chi Minh City

Visit the city's iconic landmarks, including the Reunification Palace, Notre Dame Cathedral, and the Central Post Office by Gustave Eiffel. Stroll down Dong Khoi Street, then end at the lively Ben Thanh Market.



Optional Activities You Can Join

Half-Day Cu Chi Tunnels experience

Explore the impressive tunnels and underground villages, showcasing the resilience of the Vietnamese during the war. Built for guerrilla warfare, the 200 km network included storage rooms, kitchens, hospitals, and sleeping areas for over 10,000 people.

The Cu Chi Tunnels have been widened for western visitors but can still be dark, hot, and claustrophobic. If you prefer not to enter, there are accessible rooms and areas above ground to explore.

Note

The optional tour is not included in the main package and must be paid for on-site.



Extra Activities You Can Join

Street Food Tour on Motorbike

Explore Ho Chi Minh City's culinary scene from a motorbike, tasting dishes like green papaya salad, "Vietnamese pizza," and steamed seafood. Wander lively backstreets and hidden food gems. Experience the soul of Saigon after dark. Originally constructed for guerrilla operations against the French, the tunnels were expanded during the Indochina War into a 200 km underground network, featuring storage rooms, kitchens, hospitals, and sleeping areas for over 10,000 people. Today, take a 1.5-hour drive from Ho Chi Minh City to explore the tunnels and discover their history, along with the resilience and resourcefulness of the Vietnamese during the war. You will ride with experienced drivers who know their motorbikes and the traffic inside out.

Note

The optional tour is not included in the main package and must be paid for on-site.



Included Meals:

Breakfast



Accommodation

Acnos Grand Hotel or simliar

Day 3



Ho Chi Minh City

Breakfast at the hotel. Today is a free day, giving you the opportunity to explore at your own pace. Alternatively, you can book our optional day tour to the Mekong Delta, where you can experience the region's relaxed vibe and immerse yourself in the local culture. Overnight stay in Ho Chi Minh city.



Optional Activities You Can Join:

Full-Day Mekong Delta Excursion

Embark on this adventure, including lunch, with about a two-hour drive from Ho Chi Minh City. In Ben Tre, board a boat to explore the narrow canals, surrounded by mangroves, coconut palms, and rice fields, while observing local life. Visit a brick kiln and a coconut workshop, where products like oil, sugar, and candies are made. After lunch at a local restaurant, travel by motorised cart or bicycle through shaded paths and rice fields. Finish with a rowboat ride to a water palm stream before returning to Ho Chi Minh City.

Note

The optional tour is not included in the main package and must be paid for on-site.



Included Meals:

Breakfast



Accommodation

Acnos Grand Hotel or simliar

Day 4



Ho Chi Minh - Hue

Breakfast at the hotel. This morning, transfer to the airport for your flight to **Hue**, the former Imperial capital. A charming and peaceful city, Hue is renowned for its stunning architecture, including the citadel, palaces, royal tombs, pagodas, and temples, all built during the Nguyen dynasty along the picturesque Perfume River.

Upon arrival at Hue Airport, proceed to the exit gate where your guide will be waiting for you, holding a welcome sign with your name. You will then be transferred to your hotel by private vehicle. The remainder of the day is free for you to explore the city at your own pace. Alternatively, you may join our Hue Insight Tour*, which includes visits to the Imperial Citadel, the Tu Duc Tombs, and an incense-making village. Overnight stay in Hue.



Optional Activities You Can Join:

Half-Day sightseeing tour of Hue

Explore the Imperial Citadel, a UNESCO World Heritage site, and admire its stunning architecture and gardens while learning about the royal court's history. Despite extensive damage during the Vietnam War, much of the citadel remains well-preserved. Next, visit the Royal Tu Duc Tomb, a tranquil resting place surrounded by pine woods and a lakeside pavilion. This was once a retreat for the emperor, who enjoyed fishing, music, and poetry here. On the way back to downtown Hue, stop at a family-run workshop to see how incense sticks are made.

Note

The optional tour is not included in the main package and must be paid for on-site.



Included Meals:

Breakfast



Accommodation

Thanh Lich Hue Hotel or similar

Day 5



Hue - Hoi An

Breakfast at the hotel. This morning, check out and head to **Hoi An**, enjoying a scenic drive along the coastline. Pass over the **Hai Van Pass**, offering breathtaking views of lush mountains, clear blue skies, and the beautiful Lang Co Beach. From the mountain top, Lang Co appears as a picturesque scene, framed by green trees, crystal-clear waters, and the misty mountains above.

Once a thriving trading port between the 15th and 19th centuries, **the riverside town of Hoi An** still retains many traces of its prosperous past, seen in its lively market, numerous souvenir shops, and tailor establishments. What makes Hoi An so remarkable is the preservation of its Old Quarter. The streets are lined with traditional tile-roofed shop houses, shaded pagodas, and colourful communal halls, contributing to its UNESCO World Heritage status.

This afternoon, enjoy a **half-day guided walking tour of Hoi An** ancient town, known for its well-preserved architecture, pedestrian-friendly streets, and local cuisine. Stroll through the historic merchant houses, ancient pagodas, and places of worship, all reflecting influences from Chinese, Japanese, and Vietnamese cultures. Begin with a visit to the iconic **Japanese Covered Bridge**, over 400 years old, originally built by the Japanese community in the 1590s to connect with the Chinese quarter across the water. Then, head to the **Assembly Hall** of the Chaozhou Chinese Congregation, where you can admire the intricate wood carvings on the beams, walls, and altar, while your guide shares untold stories of the Chinese community's time in Hoi An. Continue exploring the **town's backstreets**, where the gentle hum of sewing machines fills the air. Hoi An is famous for its **tailor shops**, and while the origins remain a mystery, you can stop at a tailor shop to have clothes made to order. Overnight stay in Hoi An.



Optional Activities You Can Join:

Half-Day walking tour of Hoi An

Enjoy a guided walk through Hoi An Ancient Town, famous for its architecture and cuisine. Visit the 400-year-old Japanese Covered Bridge and the Chaozhou Chinese Assembly Hall. Explore the back streets, where sewing machines hum.

Note

The optional tour is not included in the main package and must be paid for on-site.

The 2-3 km walk is easy on flat terrain. The Hoi An entrance ticket gives access to 5 sights for 24 hours and entry to the Ancient Town throughout your stay. Keep it for any future visits.



Included Meals:

Breakfast



Accommodation

Royal Riverside or similar

Day 6



Hoi An

Breakfast at your hotel. Spend the day at your leisure exploring the charming town of Hoi An, or consider visiting the scenic Ba Na Hills and the iconic Golden Bridge. Overnight stay in Hoi An.



Optional Activities You Can Join:

Scenic Ba Na Hills & Golden Bridge

Today, drive for about 1.5 hours from Hoi An to Ba Na Hills, a scenic mountain area with cool temperatures year-round. Take a ride on the modern cable car for stunning views of the landscape, then walk on the Golden Bridge, supported by giant hands emerging from the mountain. Enjoy free time to explore the area, with options to visit European-style villas, indoor games, flower gardens, pagodas, and the French Wine Cellar (extra cost).

Note

The optional tour is not included in the main package and must be paid for on-site.



Included Meals:

Breakfast



Accommodation

Royal Riverside or similar

Day 7



Hoi An - Hanoi

Breakfast at the hotel. This morning, check out of your hotel in Hoi An and transfer to Da Nang Airport for your flight to **Hanoi**. Upon arrival at Noi Bai Airport, your guide will be waiting at the exit gate, holding a welcome sign with your name on it. You will then be transferred to your hotel by private vehicle. The afternoon is free for you to explore Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam, or join the optional tour to discover the Old Quarter and learn more about the fascinating architecture and rich history of Hanoi's ancient streets. Overnight stay in Hanoi.



Optional Activities You Can Join:

Hanoi Old Quarter walking tour

Explore Ha Noi's Old Quarter, or 36 Streets, a historic area with unique architecture and vibrant local life. Once a centre for specialised trades, it now offers a fascinating glimpse into daily life. Wander through narrow alleys, visit Dong Xuan Market for local goods, and experience life along the train tracks, where trains pass through residential streets. End with a stop at a vintage coffee shop to watch the trains pass by, blending the old and modern vibes of Hanoi.

Note

The optional tour is not included in the main package and must be paid for on-site.



Included Meals:

Breakfast



Accommodation

Chalcedony Hotel or similar

Day 8



Hanoi - Ha Long Bay

Breakfast at the hotel. This morning, you will meet your driver in the hotel lobby and depart by shuttle bus (an escorted guide from Hanoi is provided for groups of 10 or more) for the journey to **Halong Bay** (or Lan Ha Bay, a part of Halong), a UNESCO World Natural Heritage site, renowned for its thousands of breathtaking limestone islets and grottoes rising from the clear, emerald waters of the Gulf of Tonkin. Upon arrival, enjoy a welcome drink on board before checking in to the Halong Bay Cruise. Lunch will be served as the boat, a traditional junk, cruises past numerous stone islets, floating villages, and small beaches. Visit a floating fishing village and unwind on the sundeck. Dinner will be served as the boat anchors in a tranquil, designated overnight area. Night on board.

Important: The cruise operator will choose one itinerary to either Halong Bay or Lan Ha Bay. Itinerary is subject to change without prior notice according to weather conditions or local administration regulations. There will be no guide on board.



Included Activities

Ha Long Bay Cruise

Board a traditional junk and begin an overnight cruise on magical Ha Long Bay! Discover the islets, caves and fishing villages of this legendary bay and relax onboard with included welcome drink, lunch, dinner and brunch the following morning.

Note

Depending on weather conditions and local administrative regulations, this cruise might be rerouted to Bai Tu Long Bay or Lan Ha Bay which offer similar views and activities.



Included Meals:

Breakfast & Lunch & Dinner



Accommodation

Hera Cruise or similar

Day 9



Ha Long Bay - Hanoi

This morning, wake up early to witness the sunrise over the bay with a cup of tea or coffee in hand on the sundeck. Afterwards, enjoy a gentle **Tai Chi session**. Savour breakfast in the fresh air of the bay while the boat cruises through some of the most serene and scenic areas. Relax on the sundeck or in the dining room, taking in the stunning views as the boat makes its way back to the wharf. The vehicle will be ready to transfer you back to Hanoi as soon as you disembark. Overnight stay in Hanoi.



Included Meals:

Brunch



Accommodation

Chalcedony Hotel or similar

Day 10



Depart Hanoi

Breakfast at the hotel*. At the indicated time, transfer to the airport for a flight back to Australia. Arrive in Australia* and end your extraordinary trip.

*Depending on the return flight schedule and the hotel breakfast service, you may not be able to enjoy the included breakfast on the last day.

*Depending on your flight choice you might arrive in Australia on the following day.



Included Meals:

Breakfast



Accommodation

In-flight

Day 11



Continue your journey to Vietnam

Continue your journey to Vietnam. As there is a time difference you may lose a day during the outward journey, but this will be recouped on your return trip back home. Don't worry, you are not inflight for two days.

Things To Know



What's Included

- Round-trip international airfare in economy class with default flights
- International flights: Australia - Ho Chi Minh, Hanoi - Australia.
- Internal flights: Ho Chi Minh - Hue, Danang - Hanoi
- 8 nights accommodation in Charm category hotels and 1 night on the Ha Long Bay Cruise.
- Visits and entrance fees as indicated in the itinerary
- Ha Long Bay Cruise
- Transfers in air-conditioned vehicles
- All sightseeing and entrance fees included as outlined in the itinerary
- All air taxes and fuel surcharge
- Experienced English-speaking guide throughout the tour



What's Not Included

- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Tips & gratuities (mandatory \$4 AUD per person per day)
- Personal expenses like beverages, laundry, and phone calls
- Optional tours and activities
- Visa fees
- Travel insurance (highly recommended)
- Costs incurred due to flight delays or airline schedule changes
- Trip delay or interruption caused by airline schedule change
- Any items or services not clearly listed in the itinerary



Fine Print

Payment Terms

To secure your booking, full payment is required at the time of reservation. After creating your booking, you will be directed to your invoice, where you can select your preferred payment method.

Schedule Of Fees

Voluntary Changes: Please note that any changes or upgrades requested after the booking is confirmed will be subject to a fee of AUD220 per person per change, in addition to any applicable supplier costs. This fee covers modifications to flights, hotels, tour dates, or any other services included in your package. To ensure smooth processing, we kindly request that you provide us with a minimum of 72 hours notice for all voluntary changes.

Cancellations & Refunds: Please note that in the event of tour cancellation, a cancellation fee of AUD550 per person will be charged, in addition to any relevant supplier costs. Refund requests must be submitted in writing and will take up to 6 weeks to process. It is important to note that no refunds can be issued once the tour has commenced (for the flight-inclusive package, no refunds can be issued once the flights have been ticketed).

Name Correction Fees: A fee of AUD220 per person applies to name corrections on documents, along with any supplier costs. Kindly note that name corrections must be requested at least 72 hours prior to departure and are subject to approval from the supplier.

Document Change Fees: A fee of AUD220 per person will be charged for any passport changes, in addition to any applicable supplier costs. Please note that train tickets and admission access must be linked to your travel passport details. Any changes to passport information must be requested at least 14 days before departure and are subject to approval from the supplier.

Supplier Fees: In the event that the tour you have purchased is unable to proceed or a travel supplier is unable to fulfil the tour due to external circumstances (such as a Force Majeure event), there may be a fee or amount of money that is withheld by our suppliers and is unrecoverable. This could be due to non-refundable airline tickets, cancellation penalties with cruise cabins, or unrecoverable payments with our land/accommodation partners. As your agent, Better Trip is committed to covering these costs and will make every effort to recover all funds committed and/or paid for your tour. However, please note that this may not be possible in every circumstance. If refunds are unavailable from our suppliers, we will strive to obtain a travel credit with the best possible terms and communicate these options to you. If Better Trip cannot obtain a refund, travel service credit, or only a partial refund, this cost will be passed on to the customer as a supplier fee. It is important to note that this fee is not intended to generate revenue but to cover the payments our suppliers withhold during the recovery process.

Travel Documents

To ensure a smooth journey, it is imperative that you possess a valid passport and have obtained all necessary visas, permits, and certificates for the countries you plan to visit. Please note that passports are mandatory for all travellers when departing from Australia. For a permanent resident to travel on a foreign passport, you must also hold an Australian Re-entry Visa. Additionally, many countries require foreign nationals entering their borders to possess a passport with a minimum of six months validity. Remember, the ultimate responsibility for ensuring the accuracy of your documentation lies with you as the individual traveller. Any fines, penalties, or expenses incurred due to incorrect documentation will be solely your responsibility.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is a requirement for all our travellers and should be obtained at the time of booking. Your travel insurance should cover personal accidents, death, medical expenses, and emergency repatriation, with a recommended minimum coverage of US\$200,000 for each category. We also strongly recommend coverage for cancellation, curtailment, personal liability, luggage loss, and personal effects. On the first day of your trip, you must provide proof of your travel insurance. Please note that joining the trip will not be possible without it. If you would like our assistance obtaining travel insurance, please [CLICK HERE](#).

Airport Transfers

Some of our packages include airport transfers in one or both directions for your arrival or departure from your destination. To determine if transfers are included, please refer to the "What's Included" section of your selected package.

If you arrange pre- or post-tour accommodations independently and the tour includes transfers, please note that these transfers will be forfeited. Transfers are provided only in conjunction with the tour dates and any pre- or post-tour accommodations booked through Better Trip, when available.

Additionally, our standard airport transfers operate on a group basis, which may involve waiting times of up to 2 hours. To avoid any potential delays, we recommend booking a private transfer for a more prompt and personalized service. For more information, please contact us at bookings@bettertrip.com.au.

Default Flights

The default flights included in this package have been predetermined by our product team in collaboration with the airline carriers. Please note the following conditions:

The default flights cannot be changed or refunded at any time. If these flights are not used, any unused segments will be forfeited without a refund.

Flight carriers and schedules will be available approximately three months before the tour date.

For customised flight requests, including changes to flight times, airlines, or classes, a re-quote will be provided at the prevailing market price, and additional charges may apply.

If you have booked a flight-inclusive package and choose not to use the default flights, please notify us at least 72 hours before departure. Failure to do so will be considered a no-show, and the entire tour will be cancelled without a refund.

If you have any further questions or require assistance, please contact us at bookings@bettertrip.com.au.

Important Information

Fitness Requirements

To ensure a safe and enjoyable experience, participants in our tours should have a moderate level of fitness, including the ability to walk for extended periods and navigate varying terrains. The tour may involve physical activities such as hiking and walking tours, so we recommend being comfortable with exertion for several hours. If you have any pre-existing medical conditions, please consult a healthcare professional before booking. Regular physical activity leading up to the tour is encouraged to enhance your experience. Your safety is our top priority, so if you feel unwell during the tour, please inform your local guide.

Accommodation

Accommodations included in your tour package will be specified in your itinerary. While we strive to provide the listed accommodations, substitutions may be necessary due to availability. For bedding configurations, we offer double or twin options for travellers sharing a room, based on availability. Solo travellers who have purchased the single supplement will have the option of a single bed. Check-in is typically between 2:00 PM and 4:00 PM, and check-out usually occurs between 10:00 AM and 12:00 PM; early or late check-in/out may be available upon request, but is not guaranteed. Standard amenities will be provided, although additional services may incur extra charges. We are not liable for any loss or damage to personal property during your stay, so we recommend securing travel insurance for unforeseen events. Lastly, guests are responsible for adhering to any health and safety guidelines set by the accommodation providers.

Underage Travellers

All travellers under the age of 18 must have written consent from a parent or legal guardian to participate in the tour and must be accompanied by a responsible adult who will ensure their safety and well-being. Accommodation arrangements must comply with the policies of the accommodation provider, which may have age restrictions regarding room occupancy. Parents or guardians are responsible for informing us of any medical conditions or special requirements for the minor, and we recommend that all minors have appropriate travel insurance. Some of our packages are exclusively available for adult travellers aged 18 and over. All travellers are expected to adhere to our code of conduct; inappropriate behaviour may result in removal from the tour without a refund. Additionally, some activities may have age restrictions, and it is the responsibility of the accompanying adult to ensure all activities are suitable for the minor.

Tipping

Tipping is not included in your tour package and is expected to be paid during the tour. We recommend a gratuity of AUD 4 per day, per person for tour guides, drivers, and other service personnel to reflect the level of service provided. Tipping can be made in cash and given directly to the service personnel at your discretion. Please note that tipping customs may vary by country, so we encourage you to familiarize yourself with local practices. By participating in our tours, you acknowledge and accept this tipping policy.

Itinerary Modification

The itinerary presented in your tour package is subject to modification due to unforeseen circumstances beyond the control of Better Trip, such as weather conditions and operational requirements. In the event of any changes, we will notify you via email with relevant advice or instructions as soon as possible. While we will strive to provide suitable alternative arrangements, we cannot guarantee that all aspects of the original itinerary will remain unchanged. It is the traveller's responsibility to stay informed of updates prior to departure, and by booking with us, you acknowledge and accept that itinerary modifications may occur.

For more details please visit our website - [\[Terms and Conditions\]](#).