



PHOENIX
VOYAGES

VIETNAM

Our Modules

MODULE TOURS

NORTH OF VIETNAM

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SOUTH OF VIETNAM

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MODULE TOURS – NORTH OF VIETNAM

HALONG BAY ABOARD A TRADITIONAL JUNK (VNMON-01)

2 days / 1 night

A pleasant cruise combining comfort and wonder. A discovery of a peaceful and unusual place.

D1 HANOI–HALONG (L/D)

In the morning, travel by the highway (2.5 hours) to the majestic **Halong Bay**, listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Arrive in Halong by midday and board on a junk for a memorable cruise through the mystical Halong Bay.

Lunch on board the junk.

In the afternoon, navigate between the karts, some of which display extraordinary shapes.

Then a culinary activity on board: a cooking demonstration of the famous Vietnamese egg roll recipe (Nem Ran).

At night, try your hand at squid fishing (depending on the season), an opportunity to learn Vietnamese fishing techniques.

Dinner and overnight on the junk.



D2 HALONG–HANOI (B/Brunch)

After breakfast, the junk resumes its course. During the morning, it crosses the bay and stop to visit a natural cave.

Brunch will be served on board before returning on the coast at around 11h00 and transfer by road to Hanoi.

On the way, **stop at the traditional ceramic factory at Phu Lang Village in Bac Ninh** for a short walk along the street lined with varieties of workshops of home-made ceramic products.

Note: Any bus over 30 seats cannot enter the village of Phu Lang. This visit will be replaced by Dinh Bang village (on the way to Noi Bai) or Bat Trang village (on the way to Ha Noi).

End of our services

EXPLORATION OF HALONG BAY (VNMON-02)

3 days / 2 nights

An excursion to discover the wonders of Halong Bay by soaking-up in its atmosphere. This cruise allows the traveler to enjoy the site at a relaxing pace.

D1 HANOI–HALONG (L/D)

In the morning, travel by the highway (2.5 hours) to the majestic **Halong Bay**, listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Arrive in Halong by midday and board on a junk for a memorable cruise through the mystical Halong Bay.

Lunch on board the junk.



In the afternoon, navigate between the karts, some of which display extraordinary shapes.

Then a culinary activity on board: a cooking demonstration of the famous Vietnamese egg roll recipe (Nem Ran).

At night, try your hand at squid fishing (depending on the season), an opportunity to learn Vietnamese fishing techniques.

Dinner and overnight on the junk.

Note: *The private guide is not authorized to accompany passengers on board the junk. Therefore, during the cruise the private guide will be replaced by a local*



guide.

D2 HALONG BAY (B/L/D)

After breakfast, depart on board a smaller boat to discover a site by kayak. This remote part of the bay shelters semi-flooded tunnels and impressive limestone cliffs.

Lunch is served on board while the rest of the afternoon is spent cruising around to enjoy the amazing scenery. Some various activities will be proposed by the boat's guide according to the time and weather conditions.

Transfer back to the junk and enjoy some relaxing moments for the rest of the day until dinner time.

Dinner and overnight on the junk.

D3 HALONG BAY–HANOI (B/Brunch)

After breakfast, the junk resumes its course. During the morning, it crosses the bay and stop to visit a natural cave.

Brunch will be served on board before returning on the coast at around 11h00 and transfer to Hanoi by the highway (2.5 hours).

Arrival late in the afternoon.

End of our services.

HALONG BAY ABOARD A PRIVATE JUNK (VNMON-03)

2 days / 1 night

An unusual and wonderful cruise in a private junk to discover the hidden treasures of Halong Bay. The quality of service guarantees a pleasant stay.

D1 HANOI–HALONG (L/D)

In the morning, travel by the highway (2.5 hours) to the majestic **Halong Bay**, listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Arrive in Halong by midday, welcome and board on the **private junk** for a memorable cruise through one of the natural marvels of Vietnam.

For lunch, a delicious Vietnamese meal is served while the junk starts its course in the bay.

In the afternoon, some diverse activities take place on site.

At the end of the afternoon, the boat reaches a spot to anchor for the night.



Enjoy a candlelight dinner and overnight on board the junk.

At night, try your hand at squid fishing (depending on the season), an opportunity to learn Vietnamese fishing techniques.

D2 HALONG–HANOI (B)

After breakfast, the junk resumes its course. During the morning, it crosses the bay and stop to visit a natural cave.

Brunch will be served on board before returning on the coast at around 11h00 and transfer to Hanoi by the highway (2.5 hours).

End of our services.

RURAL LIFE IN THE RED RIVER DELTA (VNMON-04)

2 days / 1 night

A discovery of the traditions and culture of Vietnam through the countryside. Exploring the small streets and beautiful rustic landscapes of the region, brightened by the hospitality of the people of the two villages.

CAUTION
FIT

D1 HANOI–MASTER PAGODA–KY SON (L/D)

After breakfast, depart to **Son Dong village** to meet the artisans specialized in wooden furniture and sculptures. Most of the production of this small village consists of ancestors' altars decorated with dragons and golden leaves. Continue to visit the **Master Pagoda**, built on the slope of a small mountain strictly following the concept of Feng Shui architecture. Even today, its mystical atmosphere remains. The place offers a breath-taking view over the region and is covered with mystical atmosphere.

Then drive toward Ky Son Village.

Welcome drink on arrival and settling in with local people before exploring the village.

In the late morning, introduction to Vietnamese cuisine with a short cooking class.

Lunch.

In the afternoon, traditional herbal hand massage. Free time to relax or continue conversing with the host family to learn more about traditional customs.

Afterwards, depart for a walk (you can choose between a short or long walk) around the village of Ky Son to visit a local family making medicinal herbs and take part in daily activities with the villagers, such as transplanting seedlings, picking medicinal plants, harvesting rice or simply taking time to chat with the locals about their farming life.

Afterwards, return to the guesthouse to take part in the preparation of a foot bath (ginger, salt and medicinal mugwort herbs soaked in hot water).

Dinner. After dinner, a relaxing footbath.

Overnight in Ky Son.

Notes: *The Ky Son excursion is temporarily unavailable due to the Moon Garden homestay renovations. Please do not promote it until the homestay is operational again.*

D2 KY SON–DUONG LAM–HANOI (B/L)

Breakfast

Free time. Possibility of having fun and relaxing in the house garden and wearing traditional clothes.

Then, depart for **Duong Lam ancient village and Mong Phu Communal House** with its ancient houses made of laterite and mud. Most of the village has retained its original state of architecture and artistic features of ancient Vietnameses, such as the village gate, the communal well and the temple courtyard.

Lunch at a local restaurant.



In the afternoon, drive to **Van Phuc silk village** to discover some of the famous handicrafts of the Red River Delta.

Later, drive back to Hanoi.

End of our services.

TRADITIONS OF RURAL VIETNAM (VNMON-05)

4 days / 3 nights

A discovery of the mountainous Hoa Binh and the countryside around Hanoi. A visit of the local market, the villages in the middle of the rice fields on foot or by bike, a night with the local people and many other rural activities.

CAUTION
FIT

D1 HANOI-HOA BINH-MAI CHAU (L/D)

In the morning, depart to **Hoa Binh**, in the heart of Tonkin (about 80km west of Hanoi). Along the way, stop at a local market where inhabitants gather to trade daily goods and local handicrafts. After the visit, **drive toward Mai Chau Valley** and check-in at a traditional Thai stilt house of the Poom Coong village.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, visit the ethnic villages and enjoy a walk through rice fields until reaching **Nhot and Na Meo villages (Thai minority)** located at the foot of the mountain.

Dinner and overnight at Poom Coong Village in one of the traditional houses.

***Note:** Traditional Thai stilt houses are made of wood and offer basic comfort. Other options of accommodation of international standard are available (with supplement). Please consult us.*

D2 MAI CHAU-KY SON (B/L/D)

After breakfast, **depart by bicycle to visit the minority villages.**

The valley of Mai Chau offers excellent cycling conditions with easy trails joining villages through vast rice fields.

Lunch at a local restaurant.



In the afternoon, drive towards **Ky Son Village.**

In the afternoon, drive to the small village of Ky Son.

Arrive mid-afternoon and settle in with your hosts. This homestay is set in a landscape typical of the region: rice paddies, gardens, dwellings and more. It's the perfect opportunity to spend 2 days at the pace of a small rural village, in the company of its inhabitants.

In the afternoon, traditional herbal hand massage. Free time to relax or continue conversing with the host family to learn more about traditional customs.

Afterwards, depart for a walk (you can choose between a short or long walk) around the village of Ky Son to visit a local family making medicinal herbs and take part in daily activities with the villagers, such as transplanting seedlings, picking medicinal plants, harvesting rice or simply taking time to chat with the locals about their farming life.

Afterwards, return to the guesthouse to take part in the preparation of a foot bath (ginger, salt and medicinal mugwort herbs soaked in hot water).

Dinner. After dinner, a relaxing footbath.

Overnight in Ky Son.

***Notes:** The Ky Son excursion is temporarily unavailable due to the Moon Garden homestay renovations. Please do not promote it until the homestay is operational again.*

D3 KY SON-DUONG LAM-KY SON (B/L/D)

Breakfast

Free time. Possibility of having fun and relaxing in the house garden and wearing traditional clothes.

Then, depart for **Duong Lam ancient village and Mong Phu Communal House**

with its ancient houses made of laterite and mud. Most of the village has retained its original state of architecture and artistic features of ancient Vietnameses, such as the village gate, the communal well and the temple courtyard.

Return to Ky Son before lunch and enjoy a cooking class at the home-stay.

The afternoon is free to enjoy a walk around the countryside or relax.

Overnight at Ky Son village.

D4 KY SON-MASTER PAGODA-HANDICRAFT VILLAGES-HANOI (B/L)

After breakfast, drive toward the **Master Pagoda**, built on the slope of a small mountain strictly following the concept of Feng Shui architecture. Even today, its mystical atmosphere remains. The place offers a breath-taking view over the region and is covered with mystical atmosphere. Then, drive to the nearby **Son Dong Village** to meet the artisans specialized in wooden furniture and sculptures. Most of the production of this small village consists of ancestors' altars decorated with dragons and golden leaves.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, visit the two other handicraft villages. The **Chuong Hamlet** - a typical village of the Red River Delta specializing in conical hats. Later, drive to **Vac hamlet** to meet the artisans producing small birdcages made of bamboo. Before leaving, stop at one of the remaining families of the village making traditional fans. Visitors will be able to take part in some stages of making a fan before returning to Hanoi. Arrive in the capital late in the afternoon.

End of our services.

ANCESTRAL VILLAGES & NATURAL WONDERS (VNMON-06)

5 days / 4 nights

Close to Hanoi in the heart of the Vietnamese countryside, the village of Ky Son allows the traveler to discover the traditions and culture of the country. Followed by an exploration of the most beautiful and emblematic sites of Halong Bay on Land and Halong Bay.

D1 HANOI–MASTER PAGODA–KY SON (L/D)

After breakfast, depart to **Son Dong Village** to meet the artisans specialized in wooden furniture and sculptures. Most of the production of this small village consists of ancestors' altars decorated with dragons and golden leaves. Continue to visit the **Master Pagoda**, built on the slope of a small mountain strictly following the concept of Feng Shui architecture. Even today, its mystical atmosphere remains. The place offers a breath-taking view over the region and is covered with mystical atmosphere. **Then drive toward Ky Son Village.** Welcome drink on arrival and settling in with local people before exploring the village.

In the late morning, introduction to Vietnamese cuisine with a short cooking class.

Lunch.

In the afternoon, traditional herbal hand massage. Free time to relax or continue conversing with the host family to learn more about traditional customs.

Afterwards, depart for a walk (you can choose between a short or long walk) around the village of Ky Son to visit a local family making medicinal herbs and take part in daily activities with the villagers, such as transplanting seedlings, picking medicinal plants, harvesting rice or simply taking time to chat with the locals about their farming life.

Afterwards, return to the guesthouse to take part in the preparation of a foot bath (ginger, salt and medicinal mugwort herbs soaked in hot water).

Dinner. After dinner, a relaxing footbath.

Overnight in Ky Son.

Notes: *The Ky Son excursion is temporarily unavailable due to the Moon Garden homestay renovations. Please do not*

promote it until the homestay is operational again.

D2 KY SON–HOA LU–NINH BINH (B/L)

Breakfast

Free time. Possibility of having fun and relaxing in the house garden and wearing traditional clothes.

Then, depart for **Duong Lam ancient village and Mong Phu Communal House** with its ancient houses made of laterite and mud. Most of the village has retained its original state of architecture and artistic features of ancient Vietnam, such as the village gate, the communal well and the temple courtyard.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, drive to **Hoa Lu**, the former capital of Vietnam in the 10th century. Arrive at **Truong Yen Village**. After discovering the magnificent landscapes, ancient houses and rice paddy fields, visit the **Dinh and Le Dynasty Temples**. Built in the 10th century, these temples showcase the greatness of Vietnamese people.

Overnight in Ninh Binh.



NINH BINH

Note: *During winter the sun set down earlier, therefore, the visit to Dinh and Le temples will be done the day after.*

D3 NINH BINH–VINH BAO–HAI PHONG (B/L)

After breakfast, **depart to Thung Nang** and embark on a small sampan boat for a spectacular journey through numerous waterways and beautiful rural landscape of limestone cliffs and rice paddies. Visit an impressive natural cave before heading to **Bich Dong Pagoda**, a 15th century scenic complex and a famous historical and cultural relic in Ninh Binh. Its unique characteristic is the perfect combination of ancient pagodas with cross-covered roofs, natural caves, majestic mountains, and hidden in the green tropical forests. Enjoy the pleasant view from the top.



BICH DONG PAGODA

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant and then drive to a **Vinh Bao Village**, famous for its traditional craft of sculpting statues. Upon arrival, walk around the village and meet the artists who create puppets. **Enjoy a water puppet show in the village**, featuring sketches about the daily life and beliefs of the rural people, and taste the sweet delicacies famous in this region. Continue the trip by road towards Haiphong.

Lunch on the junk.

In the afternoon, navigate between the karts, some of which display extraordinary shapes.



HALONG BAY

Then a **culinary activity on board**: a cooking demonstration of the famous Vietnamese egg roll recipe (Nem Ran).

At night, try your hand at squid fishing (depending on the season), an opportunity to learn Vietnamese fishing techniques.

Dinner and overnight on the junk.

Note: *The private guide is not authorized to accompany passengers on board the junk. Therefore, during the cruise the private guide will be replaced by a local guide.*

D5 HALONG–QUAN HO–HANOI (B/Brunch)

After the breakfast, junk resumes its course. During the morning, it crosses the bay and stop to visit a natural cave.

Brunch will be served on board before returning on the coast at around 11h00 and transfer by road to Hanoi.

In the afternoon, visit **Do Temple** (famous for its unique architecture, it was built during the Le Dynasty and has

been altered several times since. The major reconstruction took place under the reign of Le Trung Hung, in the 17th century). Then explore the **Dinh Bang rural village**. Visit its communal house, one of the largest and finest village communal houses in Vietnam and enjoy a local folk songs performance.

Arrive in Hanoi in the late afternoon.



HA LONG BAY

End of our services.

THE VALLEY OF MAI CHAU (VNMON-07)

2 days / 1 night

An exploration of Mai Chau Valley that is characterized by the harmonious landscapes of green mountains, rice paddies, rivers and houses on stilts of the ethnic Thai, offering a breathtaking panorama.

D1 HANOI–HOA BINH–MAI CHAU (L/D)

Depart to **Hoa Binh** in the heart of Tonkin, just 80 km west of Hanoi. Along the way, stop at a local market where inhabitants gather to trade their daily goods and local handicrafts. After the visit, drive toward **Mai Chau Valley** arriving at midday. **Upon arrival at Poon Coong Village**, a village of Thai people, known as a cultural and tourism village. Check-in at a typical Thai stilt house.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, visit the peaceful **Ban Lac minority village** before walking through

rice fields to **Nhot and Na Meo villages** (Thai minority) located at the foot of the mountain.

Dinner and overnight at Pom Coong Village in a traditional stilt house.

***Note:** Traditional Thai houses are made of wood and offer a simple comfort. Other accommodation options are possible in Mai Chau, which meet international standard. Please consult us (supplement applies)*

D2 MAI CHAU–HANOI (B/L)

After breakfast, **enjoy a bicycle tour to the neighbouring minority villages** (Van Mai). Mai Chau Valley offers excellent cycling

conditions with easy trails joining villages through vast rice fields.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the early afternoon, depart by road to Hanoi. Along the way, stop at **Van Phuc Village** in Ha Dong, the most beautiful and famous natural silk-weaving village in Vietnam. According to ancient books, some ancient documents and relics kept showing that the weaving of Van Phuc village came about in the 9th century.

Arrive in Hanoi late in the afternoon.

End of our services.

FROM HANOI TO HALONG THROUGH SOUTHERN TONKIN (VNMON-09)

4 days / 3 nights

From Hanoi, a discovery of the unescapable sites of Southern Tonkin including Halong Bay, a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

D1 HANOI–HOA BINH–MAI CHAU (L/D)

Depart for **Hoa Binh** in the heart of Tonkin, just 80 km west of Hanoi. Along the way, stop at a local market where inhabitants gather to trade their daily goods and local handicrafts. After the visit, drive toward **Mai Chau Valley** arriving at midday. **Upon arrival at Poon Coong Village**, a village of Thai people, known as a cultural and tourism village. **Check-in at a typical Thai stilt house.**

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, **visit the peaceful Ban Lac minority village** before walking through rice fields to the **Nhot and Na Meo villages** (Thai minority) located at the foot of the mountain.

Dinner and overnight at Pom Coong Village in a traditional stilt house.



Note: *Traditional Thai houses are made of wood and offer a simple comfort. Other accommodation options are possible in Mai Chau, which meet international standard. Please consult us (supplement applies)*

D2 MAI CHAU–HOA LU–NINH BINH (B/L)

After breakfast, transfer to **Ninh Binh** via National Road 12A. **Arrive at Truong Yen**

Village after discovering the magnificent landscapes, ancient houses and rice paddy fields, then visit the **Dinh and Le Dynasty Temples**. Built in the 10th century, these temples showcase the greatness of Vietnamese people.



Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, **head to Thung Nang** and board on a small sampan boat for a spectacular cruise through numerous waterways and beautiful rural landscape of limestone cliffs and paddy fields. Finally, **visit Bich Dong Pagoda**, a 15th century scenic complex and a famous historical and cultural relic in Ninh Binh. Its unique characteristic is the perfect combination of ancient pagodas with cross-covered roofs, natural caves, majestic mountains, and hidden in the green tropical forests. Enjoy the pleasant view from the top.

Overnight in Ninh Binh.

D3 NINH BINH–PHAT DIEM–HAI PHONG (B/L)

After breakfast, drive to **Kim Son Village** and visit the magnificent **Phat Diem Cathedral** (built between 1875 and 1899 by Father Pedro Tran Luc). This church consists of a network of ponds, lakes, churches, and artificial caves. En route, stop to admire the beautiful sceneries and typical landscape of the Red River Delta.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, drive toward **Hai Phong**, the most important port in the North with its colonial architecture. On the way, **visit the ancient Tran Temple and Pho Minh Pagoda in Nam Dinh.**

Upon arrival, check-in at the hotel and the rest of the time is at leisure.

Overnight in Hai Phong.

D4 HAI PHONG–HALONG–HANOI (B/L)

After breakfast, enjoy a short tour of Hai Phong including **Du Hang Pagoda**, it is considered an ancient architectural relic of the city, and the 300-year-old **Hang Kenh Communal House**, with its valuable wooden sculptures before driving to Halong.



On arrival, board on a private boat for a 5-hour cruise through the mystical **Halong Bay** (listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO) and admire one of the natural marvels of Vietnam. Visit islets, lagoons and caves.

Lunch on board the junk.

Return to Hanoi by the highway (2.5 hours) in the late afternoon.

End of our services.

THREE JEWELS OF SOUTHERN TONKIN (VNMON-10)

3 days / 2 nights

An authentic discovery of the 3 jewels of South Tonkin by traveling around, from Hanoi to Halong Bay on Land while passing by Mai Chau.

D1 HANOI–PERFUME PAGODA– MAI CHAU (L/D)

In the morning, depart to the **Perfume Pagoda**, a vast complex of Buddhist temples and shrines built into the limestone cliffs of Huong Tich mountains, approximately 70 km Southwest of Hanoi. It is the site of a religious festival, which draws large numbers of pilgrims from across Vietnam.

On arrival, take a sampan for a trip along the gentle Yen River winding through rice fields, before **visiting Trinh Temple**. This temple is believed to have existed for 1000 thousand years, and has been restored and expanded many times throughout history. Further, on, take again the boat for an-hour navigation through rice fields. Then take a walk around 700m to **Thien Tru Pagoda**. This pagoda is the place where people believe that deities can purify souls, cure sufferings and grant offspring for childless families. Then take the cable car to the upper part of the mountain and explore some other sacred places of the Perfume Pagoda.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, continue by road to **Mai Chau**.

Dinner and overnight at Pom Coong Village in a traditional stilt house. Pom Coong

Village is a village of Thai people, known as a cultural and tourism village.

Note:

-Excursion to the Perfume Pagoda is not recommended during and after the period of the Vietnamese Lunar New Year due to a large influx of local pilgrims.

-Muong traditional houses are made of wood and offer a simple comfort.

D2 MAI CHAU–NINH BINH (B/L)

After breakfast, **visit the peaceful Ban Lac minority** villages before walking through rice fields to the **villages of Nhot and Na Meo** (Thai minority) located at the foot of the mountain.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, continue by road to **Ninh**



Binh through picturesque landscapes of the National Road 12.

Overnight in Ninh Binh.

D3 NINH BINH–HOA LU–HANOI (B/L)



After breakfast, depart for a **bicycle ride through traditional villages to reach Bich Dong Pagoda**, a 15th century scenic complex and a famous historical and cultural relic in Ninh Binh. Its unique characteristic is the perfect combination of ancient pagodas with cross-covered roofs, natural caves, majestic mountains, and hidden in the green tropical forests. Enjoy the pleasant view from the top. Then continue to Thung Nang pier, board a small sampan boat for a spectacular journey on the river, through beautiful rural landscapes of limestone cliffs and rice paddies. Visit one cave before returning and **taking lunch at a local restaurant.**

In the afternoon, **visit the temples of Dinh and Le Dynasties**. Built in the 10th century, these temples showcase the greatness of Vietnamese people. Then return to Hanoi later in the afternoon.

End of our services.

FROM NORTH-EASTERN PROVINCES TO THE BA BE LAKE (VNMON-11)

4 days / 3 nights

A visit of Northeast Vietnam with the exploration of the most beautiful waterfalls and the largest lake in Vietnam.

D1 HANOI-LANG SON-CAO BANG (L)

In the morning, drive to **Lang Son**, a hidden gem in Northeastern Vietnam with mountainous beauty and historical relics. Along the way, stop for a **stroll around Dong Dang market** then continue by the famous road RC4 via That Khe and Dong Khe toward **Cao Bang**, with breathtaking landscapes and colourful cultures. **Stop at Nung and Tay minority villages.** The sceneries during the second half of the journey are fascinating, offering views on dipping narrow valleys.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Overnight in Cao Bang.

D2 CAO BANG-BAN GIOC WATERFALLS-CAO BANG (B/L)

After breakfast, depart to a local minority market (the markets of Cao Bang region gather every 5 days according to the lunar calendar. The visit depends whether it is the day of market). Then, stop at the beautiful 800-meter long **Nguom Ngao Cave** (an astonishing cave with stalactites of various shapes). This cave was discovered in 1921, and was recognized as the nature site of national significance in 1998. Arrive at **Ban Gioc Waterfalls** and admire its uniquely exotic, natural beauty. The place marks the border between Vietnam and China and the multiple levels waterfall is set in a lush landscape (the level of water varies between seasons).

Lunch at a local restaurant in Ban Doc.

Return to Cao Bang in the afternoon and stop along the way at the 100-year-old blacksmith **Phuc Sen Village**. It is said that this village was established in the 11th century. Local craftsmen still work manually, mainly based on long-term experience from choosing raw materials, how to forge steel, to apply their own

know-how and to create products such as knives, scissors, hoe, sickle... of premium quality.

Overnight in Cao Bang.

D3 CAO BANG-BA BE-PAC NGOI (B/L/D)

After breakfast, drive through the well-protected **Ba Be National Park** which is an abundant bio-reserve area containing the world's only fresh-water karst lake and several rare species of fauna and flora. The bio-diverse 10,048ha park – home to 1,268 species of flora and fauna, a series of caves and a gigantic fresh water lake – was established in 1992 by the Vietnamese Government to preserve forest ecosystems in the northeast.



BA BE LAKE

Lunch at a local restaurant.

On arrival, board on a small boat to cruise through the Nang River until **Dau Dang Waterfalls**, which is over 1,000 meters long, flowing through rocks with many beautiful shapes. Arrive late in the afternoon at **Tay Ethnic's village** in Pac Ngoi, with more than 40 traditional stilt houses located on the slope of the mountains surrounding Ba Be Lake, which is highlighting the beauty of this famous ecotourism destination.

Check-in at the home-stay in Pac Ngoi Village.

Overnight in Ba Be.

Note: *Tay Traditional houses in Ba Be are made of wood and offer a basic level of accommodation.*

D4 BA BE-HANOI (B/L)

After breakfast, visit the magnificent **Silver Waterfall** with a stop to discover a charming Tay village nearby.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, drive toward the direction of Hanoi. Stop along the way in several villages to meet the ethnic minorities. Then, continue the road back to Hanoi.

Arrive in Hanoi at the end of the afternoon.



BA BE LAKE

Note: *For a group with more than six people, the bus cannot reach Pac Ngoi village. In this case, we will arrange a boat to cross the lake on the spot before taking a short walk to get to the village. Visiting Silver Waterfall and Tay village the next day are replaced by a 1.5-hour walk through the primary forest nearby, a good way to start a new day in a fresh and friendly atmosphere.*

End of our services.

THE OTHER ROAD TO THE NORTH (VNMON-12)

6 days / 5 nights

A discovery of the daily life of the people of Northern Vietnam by visiting the villages and the most emblematic sites of the region.

D1 HANOI–MASTER PAGODA–KY SON (L/D)

After breakfast, depart to **Son Dong Village** to meet the artisans specialized in wooden furniture and sculptures. Most of the production of this small village consists of ancestors' altars decorated with dragons and golden leaves. Continue to visit the **Master Pagoda** (Thay Pagoda), built on the slope of a small mountain strictly following the concept of Feng Shui architecture. The place offers a breath-taking view over the region and is covered with mystical atmosphere. Then drive toward **Ky Son Village**. Welcome drink on arrival and settling in with local people before exploring the village.

In the late morning, introduction to Vietnamese cuisine with a short cooking class.

Lunch.

In the afternoon, traditional herbal hand massage. Free time to relax or continue conversing with the host family to learn more about traditional customs.

Afterwards, depart for a walk (you can choose between a short or long walk) around the village of Ky Son to visit a local family making medicinal herbs and take part in daily activities with the villagers, such as transplanting seedlings, picking medicinal plants, harvesting rice or simply taking time to chat with the locals about their farming life.

Afterwards, return to the guesthouse to take part in the preparation of a foot bath (ginger, salt and medicinal mugwort herbs soaked in hot water).

Dinner. After dinner, a relaxing footbath.

Overnight in Ky Son.

Notes: *The Ky Son excursion is temporarily unavailable due to the Moon Garden homestay renovations. Please do not promote it until the homestay is operational again.*

D2 KY SON–TUYEN QUANG (GREEN VIETNAM) (B/L/D)

Free time. Possibility of having fun and relaxing in the house garden and wearing traditional clothes.

After breakfast, **drive toward Tuyen Quang and the Green Vietnam Project.** This village has totally changed since August 2007 when its inhabitants decided to start growing organic fruits including longans (from the lychee family), oranges, grapefruits... Check-in at the lodge and visit the orchards with the owner to discover the extent of the project and its benefits.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Dinner and overnight in Tuyen Quang.

D3 TUYEN QUANG–PAN HOU VILLAGE (B/L)

After breakfast, the time at leisure for a walk in the village or relax at the lodge. Then depart toward **Ha Giang Province**. Arrive at **Pan Hou Village** and check-in at the lodge. Ha Giang is a remote area of Northern Vietnam, one of the last regions to have open up to tourism and probably hosts the largest ethnic diversity.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, enjoy a short walk-through rice field terraces and visit the **Tay and Nung minorities' villages.**

Overnight at the lodge.



D4 PAN HOU– BAC HA (B/L)

After breakfast, drive to **Bac Ha** through one of the most impressive landscapes of the north of Vietnam, near the border with China. The main reason to visit this town is its beautiful and colourful market. There are lots of Flower H'Mong tribe ladies who are selling their handicrafts with their lovely smile.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Along the way, stop at small minority villages scattered through the mountains. Upon arrival to Bac Ha in the middle of the afternoon check-in at the hotel.

Overnight in Bac Ha.

Note: *For minibuses up to 16 seats, the road passes by Hoang Su Phi but not Viet Quang. In addition, for buses over 16 seats, the detour route will be Panhow - Viet Quang - Bac Ha.*

D5 BAC HA–LAO CAI–OVERNIGHT TRAIN (B/L)

After breakfast, stroll through one of the minority markets of the region. Depending on the day of the week, this market could take place in different villages. Here different hill tribes gather to sell, buy or exchange daily life goods or handicrafts. They also take the opportunity to get news from the neighbouring valleys. If time permits, walk to Tai Giang Pho Village (Hmong minority).

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, depart to a pineapple plantation before visiting a small family tea plantation and meet the owner.

Finally, drive to Lao Cai to take the evening train to Hanoi.

D6 OVERNIGHT TRAIN–HANOI (B)

Arrive early in the morning in Hanoi. Transfer to the city centre for **breakfast at a local restaurant.**

End of our services.

Day of the week	Village	Distance from Lao Cai	Distance from Sapa	Ethic minority
Tuesday	Coc Ly	55 Km	95 Km	H'Mong, Tu Di, Pa Di, Tay, Nung, Hani
Wednesday (Summer: 7am-9m Winter: 7.30am-9.30am)	Sin Cheng	120 Km	160 Km	H'Mong, Nùng, Tày, Thu Lao
	Cao Son	75 Km	115 Km	H' Mong, Phù Lá, Dao, Hán Noir
Thursday (Summer: 7am-9m Winter: 7.30am-9.30am)	Lung Khau Nhin	65 Km	105 Km	H' Mong, Phu la, Dao
Saturday	Can Cau	95 Km	140 km	H' Mong Fleur, H'mong, Rouges & Noirs, Dzay, Tay
	Pha Long	70 Km	110 Km	H'Mong Fleur, Dao, Nung
	Y Ty	70 km	80 km	H' Mong, Dao, Dzay, Ha Nhi
Sunday	Muong Khuong	50 Km	90 Km	H'Mong, Dao, Phu La, Nung, Pa Di, Tu Di
	Bac Ha	70 km	110 km	H' Mong, Tay, Dao, Phu La, Nung

HANOI – SAPA & MINORITY MARKET (VNMON-13)

5 days / 4 nights

A discovery of the markets around Sapa, where the tribes come down once a week from the mountains to sell all kinds of food, handicrafts and medicinal products. A place of exchange and negotiation, and also a place of meeting the ethnic groups and witnessing their cultural practices. A great atmosphere is guaranteed.

D1 HANOI–OVERNIGHT TRAIN

In the evening transfer to the railway station to catch the **night-train to Lao Cai**.
Overnight on board the train.

D2 OVERNIGHT TRAIN–LAO CAI–SAPA (B/L)



Arrive at Lao Cai railway station early in the morning. Depart to one of the minority markets of the region. Depending on the day of the week, this market could take place in different villages. Visit ethnic villages on the way. Here different hill tribes gather to sell, buy or exchange daily life goods or handicrafts. They also take the opportunity to get news from the neighbouring valleys.

Lunch during excursion.

In the afternoon, drive to Sapa and check-in at the hotel. **Sapa** is home to over 30 ethnic minorities and of the highest peak of Vietnam, Mount Fansipan (3,143 m). The evening is at leisure.

Overnight in Sapa.

Note:

-Sapa is a town of altitude, it is not common to experience temperatures below 10 degrees during the winter (November to

February); only few hotels offer in-room heating.

-Due to the early arrival in Lao Cai, we recommend travellers to book a day use room upon arrival.

D3 SAPA (B/L)

After breakfast, early departure for a full-day exploration of the minority villages in the Sapa Valley. The visit begins with **Ta Van Village**, inhabited for over 300 years by the Giay ethnic group, known for their ancestral traditions and peaceful way of life.

Next, a hike begins from Ta Van, crossing the **Muong Hoa River**, followed by a walk through a bamboo forest leading to **Giang Ta Chai Village**. This stretch offers scenic landscapes and encounters with colorful ethnic minorities, particularly the Red Dao. After a break by a waterfall, a short ascent



leads up a small hill, followed by lunch in a peaceful natural setting.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, drive to **Ho Village**, nestled in the heart of the picturesque Muong Hoa Valley. This village, mainly inhabited by the Tay ethnic group, is

renowned for its traditional stilt houses, its rich cultural heritage, and the warm hospitality of its people. Visitors will have the opportunity to observe traditional brocade weaving as well as daily agricultural activities, offering a glimpse into an authentic and well-preserved way of life.

Note: *The hike between Ta Van and Giang Ta Chai, which passes through a bamboo forest, can be physically demanding, and the footpath may be slippery. Depending on individual fitness levels and weather conditions, this route can be replaced with a more accessible alternative to reach Giang Ta Chai village.*

D4 SAPA–LAO CAI–HANOI–OVERNIGHT TRAIN (B/L)

After breakfast, depart for an excursion to the **Tinh Yeu waterfalls**, then a stop at the **Tram Ton pass** offering a superb panorama of mountains and valleys.

Lunch in a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, free time until departure for Lao Cai to take the night train to Hanoi (departure in the evening).

Overnight on board the train.

D5 LAO CAI–HANOI (B)

Arrive in Hanoi early morning and proceed to the city centre for breakfast in a local restaurant.

End of our services.

The Sapa region offers multiple opportunities for hiking with different stages of difficulty and duration. These trekking programs are not recommended during winter (December to February) because of the cold temperature and during the rainy season (July and August).

Below is a sample of trekking in the region. For more information, please consult us.

TREKKING IN SAPA AND SIN CHAI (VNMON-14)



2 days / 1 night

From Sapa, a hike and homestay night to immerse in the landscapes and local life in a very authentic way.

D1 SAPA–THANH PHU–SIN CHAI (L/D)

In the morning, **meet the local guide at the hotel** and transfer to Thanh Phu Bridge where trekking starts along Ngoi Bo River and then uphill to **Muong Bo Village** inhabited by Tay Ethnic Group. Enjoy the spectacular views and rice fields and great encounter with the ethnic people.

Lunch during the excursion.

In the afternoon, continue **trekking to Sin Chai Village**, home of the Red Dao people. It is situated at the roof of Fansipan Mountain in a rainforested area protected by the Hoang Lien National Park. Admire the scenic trek through landscape of rice paddies, streams, and corn fields.

Dinner and overnight at the home-stay (basic comfort).

Note:

-Approx.: 1-hour driving/ 5 hours walking/ 1-hour lunchbreak

-Sapa is a town of altitude, it is not common to experience temperatures below 10 degrees during the winter (November to February); only few hotels offer in-room heating.

D2 SIN CHAI–NAM NHIU–MY SON–NAM TOONG–SAPA (B/L)

After breakfast, start the day by walking downhill towards **My Son** (08km). **Visit a village of Xafo minority people** also considered as the smallest ethnic group in Northern Vietnam. Continue walking by the road through the picturesque landscapes for an hour and a half until the Red Dao Village of **Nam Toong** (2.5km). Admire the beauty of nature and tranquil surroundings and explore the traditional

culture and everyday life of the Red Dao ethnic group.

Lunch during the excursion.

In the afternoon, continue the trek towards **Ban Ho Village** (2km) to enjoy the best of Northern Vietnam (deep valleys and amazing mountains). Visit the village and take some moments to admire the charming natural landscape, the preserved ethnic customs and hospitality of the local residents or swim, if the weather permits before driving back to Sapa town.

End of our services.

Note:

-Approximate 1-hour driving/ 5 hours walking/ 1-hour lunchbreak.

-This program is not suitable in July and August due to heavy rains.



The Sapa region offers multiple opportunities for hiking with different stages of difficulty and duration. These trekking programs are not recommended during winter (December to February) because of the cold temperature and during the rainy season (July and August).

Below is a sample of trekking in the region. For more information, please consult us.

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Dinner and overnight at the home-stay (basic comfort).

Note:

-Approx.: 1-hour driving/ 5 hours walking/ 1-hour lunchbreak

-Sapa is a town of altitude, it is not common to experience temperatures below 10 degrees during the winter (November to February); only few hotels offer in-room heating.

D2 SIN CHAI–NAM NHIU–MY SON–NAM TOONG–SAPA (B/L)

After breakfast, start the day by walking downhill towards **My Son** (08km). **Visit a village of Xafo minority people** also considered as the smallest ethnic group in Northern Vietnam. Continue walking by the road through the picturesque landscapes for an hour and a half until the Red Dao Village of **Nam Toong** (2.5km). Admire the beauty of nature and tranquil surroundings and explore the traditional

culture and everyday life of the Red Dao ethnic group.

Lunch during the excursion.

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End of our services.

Note:

-Approximate 1-hour driving/ 5 hours walking/ 1-hour lunchbreak.

-This program is not suitable in July and August due to heavy rains.

TREKKING IN HOANG LIEN AND MUONG HOA VALLEY (VNMON-15)



4 days / 3 nights

This itinerary avoids the mass tourist and allows the traveler to explore Sapa in a more authentic way! A discovery of the daily life of the people and hiking through the impressive landscapes in the mountains of Tonkin!

D1 SAPA–TAVAN–SEOMITY (L/D)

In the morning, in the company of a local guide who knows well the road to the mountainous region, depart to **Muong Hoa Valley**, where the most beautiful rice field terraces of Sapa are situated. This is the starting point of the trekking to **Giaj minority village of Tavan**. The first day will be mostly going uphill, to enjoy the full view of the picturesque landscapes down the valley.

Picnic lunch during the hike.

In the afternoon, continue hiking along the road toward **Seomity Village of Black Hmong minority tribe** before reaching the campsite, located along the riverbank of the village. There is an opportunity to explore the surroundings or relax at the homestay.

Dinner and overnight at the homestay.

Note:

-Approximate 30 mins of driving / difficult stage: 3.5/5, 5–6-hour walking / 1 hour lunch break.

-Sapa is a town of altitude, it is not common to experience temperatures below 10 degrees during the winter (November to February); only few hotels offer in-room heating.

D2 SEOMITY–DEN THANG–TA TRUNG HO (B/L/D)

After breakfast, start the second day of trekking through the beautiful rice

paddies. Then, cross the old suspension bridge. The trail winds through rainforest leading to **Den Thang Village, home of the Black H'Mong minority tribe.**

Picnic lunch during the hike.

In the afternoon, the trek will become more difficult on narrow footpaths going up and down, which requires more alertness. Arrive at **Ta Trung Ho Village of the Red Dao minority tribe**, which recently started to welcome foreign visitors.

Full board and overnight at the homestay.

Approx.: 7 hours walking/ 1-hour lunch break

D3 TA TRUNG HO–NAM TOONG–THANH PHU (B/L/D)

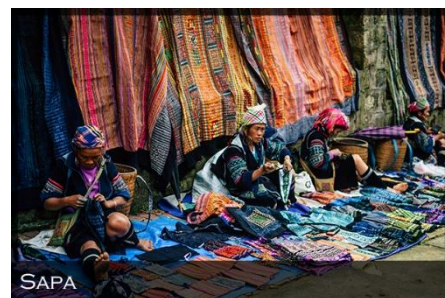
After breakfast, take a short hike to the edge of the rain forest through **Hoang Lien Son Mountain range**, the highest peak in Indochina, which is 3,143 m above sea level. **Continue trekking toward Nam Toong Village of the Red Dao minority.**

Picnic lunch during the hike.

In the afternoon, continue the path through the beautiful rice fields. Cross the bridge before walking downhill toward **My Son, the village of the Xafo minority**, also considered as the smallest ethnic group in Northern Vietnam. Finally, arrive at **Tay Village in Thanh Phu.**

Full board and overnight at a local house (basic comfort).

Approx.: 6-hour-walking/ 1-hour lunch break.



D4 THANH PHU–BAN LECH–SAPA (B/L)

After breakfast, **depart for a 2-hour trekking downhill** to the Muong Bo River deep in the valley and crossing to the other bank. Then start trekking on a challenging and narrow path uphill for 3 hours to **Ban Lech Village of the Red Dao minority tribe.**

Picnic lunch during the hike.

Visit the community before driving back to Sapa town.

Approx.: 1-hour driving / 5-hour-walking / 1-hour lunch break.

End of our services.

THROUGH THE NORTH-WESTERN PROVINCES (VNMON-16)

7 days / 6 nights

An exploration of the mountains of North Vietnam in the northwest loop. Visiting the villages of different ethnic minorities in an amazing setting of successions of rice terraces, tea plantations and other typical landscapes of Northern Vietnam.

D1 HANOI–HOA BINH–MAI CHAU (L/D)

Depart for **Hoa Binh** in the heart of Tonkin, just 80 km west of Hanoi. Along the way, stop at a local market where inhabitants gather to trade their daily goods and local handicrafts. After the visit, drive toward **Mai Chau** (lying in a green valley of paddy fields dotted with rows of stilt houses), arriving at midday. Upon arrival at **Poon Coong Village**, a village of Thai people, known as a cultural and tourism village. Check-in at a typical Thai stilt house.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, visit **Ban Lac minority village** before walking through rice fields to **Nhot and Na Meo villages** (Thai minority) located at the foot of the mountain.

Dinner and overnight at Pom Coong village in a traditional stilt house.

***Note:** Traditional Thai houses are made of wood and offer a simple comfort. Other accommodation options are possible in Mai Chau, which meet international standard. Please consult us (supplement applies)*

D2 MAI CHAU–MOC CHAU–SON LA (B/L)

After breakfast, drive to the upper valley of the Black River to **Son La** (200 km), home of the **H'Mong and the black and white Thai minorities**. Along the way, stop at the **Moc Chau Village** to visit a tea plantation.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

On arrival, visit the **Old French Prison** and its museum as well as the Watch Tower. The rest of the time is at leisure to discover the city.

Overnight in Son La.

D3 SON LA–DIEN BIEN PHU (B/L)

After an early breakfast, depart to **Dien Bien Phu** (180 km, about 5 hours) via Pha Din Pass passing through some amazing sceneries. On the way, stop at **Thuan Chau market**, 40 km from Son La.

Lunch at a local restaurant en route.

Upon arrival, visit **Dien Bien Phu Museum**, where many valuable documents and objects related to the historic Dien Bien Phu Campaign are on display. Then depart to the place where the famous battle took place, a symbol of the end of the French presence in Indochina. The visit includes A1 Hill, the bunker headquarters of the French Commander Colonel Christian de Castries and the Memorial dedicated to the French soldiers.

Overnight in Dien Bien Phu.

D4 DIEN BIEN PHU–LAI CHAU (B/L)

After breakfast, drive to **Lai Chau**, the former region of the White Thai, along the Nam Na Valley. The road passes a succession of rice terraces and other typical landscapes of northern Vietnam.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Stop, along the way, to visit **small villages of the Black Thais, White Thais, Red H'Mong, Kho Mu.**

Overnight in Lai Chau.

D5 LAI CHAU–SAPA (B/L)

After breakfast, visit the local market and drive to the ancient retreat mountain of Sapa (70 km). Stop at the **village of Ban Hon** around Lai Chau where lives the Lu ethnic group, one of the smallest ethnic groups in the region. Stroll through the tea plantations before heading back.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

On the way, stop at **Tam Duong** where the **Dao minorities, Lu and H'mong** gather to sell their products at Binh Lu Market (the most important market is on Thursday). Last, stop at the magnificent **Thac Bac Waterfall** or **Silver Waterfall** (1.3km of walking to reach the waterfalls) before reaching Sapa.

Upon arrival, check-in at the hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure.

Overnight in Sapa.

***Note:** Sapa is a town of altitude, it is not common to experience temperatures below 10 degrees during the winter (November to February); only few hotels offer in-room heating.*



D6 SAPA (B/L)

After breakfast, early departure for a full-day exploration of the minority villages in the Sapa Valley. The visit begins with **Ta Van Village**, inhabited for over 300 years by the Giay ethnic group, known for their ancestral traditions and peaceful way of life.

Next, a hike begins from **Ta Van**, crossing the Muong Hoa River, followed by a walk through a bamboo forest leading to Giang Ta Chai Village. This stretch offers scenic landscapes and encounters with colorful ethnic minorities, particularly the Red Dao. After a break by a waterfall, a short ascent leads up a small hill, followed by lunch in a peaceful natural setting.

Lunch at a local restaurant.



In the afternoon, drive to **Ho Village**, nestled in the heart of the picturesque Muong Hoa Valley. This village, mainly

inhabited by the Tay ethnic group, is renowned for its traditional stilt houses, its rich cultural heritage, and the warm hospitality of its people. Visitors will have the opportunity to observe traditional brocade weaving as well as daily agricultural activities, offering a glimpse into an authentic and well-preserved way of life.

Note: *The hike between Ta Van and Giang Ta Chai, which passes through a bamboo forest, can be physically demanding, and*

the footpath may be slippery. Depending on individual fitness levels and weather conditions, this route can be replaced with a more accessible alternative to reach Giang Ta Chai village.

D7 SAPA-LAO CAI-HANOI (B)

After breakfast, the time is at leisure until the departure to Hanoi by Lao Cai - Ha Noi highway (05 hours).

Arrive in Hanoi in the evening.

End of our services.

LOST VALLEYS OF TONKIN (VNMON-17)

7 days / 6 nights

This loop in Northwestern Vietnam guarantees the most authentic discovery of the country via crossing the Tonkin valleys, its charming villages and stunning natural sites.



BA BE LAKE

D1 HANOI–BA BE–PAC NGOI (L/D)

Depart in the early morning to **Ba Be National Park**. Stop at Thai Nguyen to visit the **Vietnamese Ethnology Museum**, one of the largest museums dedicated to ethnic cultures of Vietnam. Continue the excursion and stop to visit tea plantations and small villages on the way to meet ethnic minorities.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Arrive at the **National Park** in the afternoon which is an abundant bio-reserve area containing the world's only fresh-water karst lake and several rare species of fauna and flora. The bio-diverse 10,048ha park – home to 1,268 species of flora and fauna, a series of caves and a gigantic fresh water lake, and was established in 1992 by the Vietnamese Government to preserve forest ecosystems in the northeast.

Check-in at the home-stay in Tay Village in Pac Ngoi. The rest of the time at leisure to discover the village.

Dinner and overnight at the homestay.

Note:

-Traditional houses in Ba Be are made of wood and offer a basic level of accommodation.

-For group more than six persons, a transfer by a small boat through the lake and a little walk are expected to arrive to the Pac Ngoi accommodation from the car parking.

D2 PAC NGOI–BA BE–CAO BANG (B/L)

After breakfast, board on a small boat to cruise through Nang River until **Dau Dang Waterfalls**, which is over 1,000 meters long, flowing through rocks with many beautiful shapes. Return to Pac Ngoi Village and **lunch at the homestay before driving to Cao Bang**, with breathtaking landscapes and colourful cultures.

Arrive in the late afternoon and check-in at the hotel.

Overnight in Cao Bang.

D3 CAO BANG–BAN GIOC WATERFALLS–CAO BANG (B/L)

After breakfast, stroll through one of the local minority markets (In Cao Bang, the markets are opened once every five days according to Lunar Calendar).

Then, continue to **visit Nguom Ngao cave** (an astonishing cave with stalactites of various shapes). This cave was discovered in 1921, and was recognized as the nature site of national significance in 1998. Arrive at **Ban Gioc Waterfalls** and admire its uniquely exotic, natural beauty. The site marks the border between Vietnam and China and the multiple-level waterfall is set in a lush landscape (the water level varies between seasons).

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Return to Cao Bang in the afternoon and stop along the way at the 100-year-old blacksmith **Phuc Sen Village**. It is said that this village was established in the 11th century. Local craftsmen still work manually, mainly based on long-term experience from choosing raw materials, how to forge steel, to apply their own know-how and to create products such as knives, scissors, hoe, sickle... of premium quality.

Overnight in Cao Bang.



CAOBANG

D4 CAO BANG–BAO LAC (B/L)

After breakfast, drive to **Bao Lac** and enjoy the majestic sceneries and stunning views over the valleys, mountains and bamboo forests. On the way, stop at a local market (whether this is the day of market, according to lunar calendar). Arrive at Bao Lac and check-in at the hotel.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, walk through the surrounding ethnic villages including some inhabited by the Black Lolo tribe.



DONG VAN

Overnight in Bao Lac.

D5 BAO LAC–DONG VAN (B/L)

After breakfast, depart to **Dong Van** by the mountainous roads, numerous valleys and through steep mountain routes, including the famous Happiness Road and the impressive Ma Pi Leng Pass. This stretch of road offers a breath-taking view of the valleys below.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Upon arrival, check-in at the hotel in Dong Van before walking through the old streets with houses over 100 years old.

Overnight in Dong Van.

D6 DONG VAN–PHO BANG–HA GIANG (B/L/D)

After breakfast, stroll through Dong Van (only on Sundays) and visit the Royal Palace of the H'Mong (Vua Meo), the ancient villa of King Vuong Chinh Duc, the only one recognized by the Ha Giang ethnic people as king of the H'Mong ethnic people in the beginning of the 20th century. Recognized as national architectural and artistic relic in 1993, the mansion is an architectural masterpiece of the Mong ethnic people living in Dong Van karst plateau. Continue by road to **Pho Bang Village** featuring ancient multi-level houses made of clay bricks with tiled roofs.

Depending on the day, there is an opportunity to visit an authentic mountain market where all kinds of products, including colourful traditional clothing are sold (this market is gathered once every 6 days, the days of the Rat and Horse).

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, **stop at Lung Tam H'mong village** where people still practice a traditional technique of weaving and embroidery. Then continue to Quan Ba to visit the **Bo Y Village** and the fascinating karst formation of **Binh Yen** before arriving at Ha Giang.

Dinner and overnight in a stilt house of Tien Thang Village.

***Note:** Traditional houses are made of wood and offer a basic level of accommodation. This type of housing is an important part of*

the traveling experience to these remote areas of Vietnam and offer excellent opportunities to share the way of life of the local people.

D7 HA GIANG–HANOI (B/L)

After breakfast, stroll through beautiful vegetation and hamlets on the way. Then drive to **Tay village in Phuong Do** with neat houses on stilts. The village is located in the middle of rice fields and fishponds. The daily life of inhabitants is a succession of simple moments in an unforgettable mountain landscape.

Drive back to the capital, stop en route for lunch at a local restaurant.

Arrive in Hanoi in the late afternoon.

End of our services.

TREKKING TO TA PHIN & HAU THAO (VNMON-18)



4 days / 3 nights

A medium difficult hike, one of the most accessible mountains of Northern Vietnam to Ta Phin and Hau Thao, in the region of Lao Cai. A discovery of the beautiful rice terraces and meeting the ethnic groups.

D1 HANOI–OVERNIGHT TRAIN

In the evening transfer to the railway station to catch the night-train to Lao Cai.
Overnight on board the train.

D2 OVERNIGHT TRAIN–LAO CAI–SAPA–BAN KHOANG–TA PHIN (B/L/D)

Arrive at Lao Cai railway station early in the morning. Transfer by road to **Sapa**, a starting point for a wonderful hike in the mountains of northern Vietnam.

After breakfast, the day is dedicated to the picturesque landscapes of rice terraces and to meet ethnic groups on the trail or in the villages in a remote region.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, continue toward **Ta Phin Village** home of a Red Dao community. Surrounded by gigantic mountains and spectacular rice terraces, Ta Phin Village is regarded as one of the most idyllic and stunning villages in the north of Vietnam. Welcome by a family and settle at the home-stay, the opportunity to better understand their daily lives.

Full board and overnight in Ta Phin.

Note:

- *Sapa is a town of altitude; it is common to experience temperatures below 10 degrees during the winter (November to February); only few hotels offer in-room heating.*

- *Due to the early arrival in Lao Cai, we recommend travellers to book a day use room upon arrival.*

- *15 Km hike (5 to 6 hours) – Difficulty: average*

- *Simple comfort accommodation at homestay.*

D3 TA PHIN–SA SENG–HAU THAO–



SAPA (B/L)

After breakfast, start a new day full of admiring picturesque landscapes and meeting the local people who has treasured their rich culture and traditional customs. Walk to **Sa Seng Village**, located on a highland. Then continue through a pass to reach the **Muong Hoa Valley** and

the **village of Hau Thao** to enjoy amazing panoramic views of the valley.

Picnic lunch at the village before continuing on the trail along paddy fields.

In the afternoon, return to Sapa by road and check-in at the hotel.

Overnight in Sapa.

D4 SAPA–LAO CAI–HANOI (B/L)

After breakfast, **the time is at leisure to discover Sapa until lunch at a local restaurant.**

After lunch, depart by road to Hanoi via Lao Cai and Yen Bai (360 km, a 5-hour drive).

Arrive in Hanoi late in the evening.

End of our services.

Note: *On Sundays there is a chance to drive to Bac Ha or Muong Khuong markets (or Coc Ly market on Tuesdays), to see the Flower H'Mong, Fula, Tay, Nung and other ethnic minorities. Supplement applies.*

QUYNH SON VILLAGE & THE NORTH-EAST REGION (VNMON-19)

5 days / 4 nights

A visit of Quynh Son Village and the northeast region with the most impressive waterfalls of Vietnam in Ban Gioc.

D1 HANOI–DONG MO-BAC SON (L/D)

Depart to **Bac Son** located in Lang Son Province, about 165 km North of Hanoi. It is a scenic landscape region highlighted by limestone mountains, rice fields, and incredible peaceful rural villages. On the way, **stop to visit the cemetery of the French soldiers in Dong Mo**. Continue the road to Bac Son. Photo-stops at some picturesque rice fields and typical villages along the road.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Upon arrival at **Quynh Son Village**, check-in at a typical wooden Tay stilt house. In the afternoon, start to discover the lifestyle of Tay ethnic people which represents the majority of the region. The Tay still preserves their ancestral culture and tradition. Visit a family-owned workshop producing tiles. Then, enjoy a two-hour trekking to the hilltop where the panorama of Bac Son Valley is just breathtaking. Return to the village via the same way.

Dinner and overnight at homestay.

Note: *Traditional houses in Quynh Son are made of wood and offer a basic level of accommodation.*

D2 BAC SON–BANG GIOC WATERFALLS (B/L)

In the morning, after breakfast in the homestay, drive to Ban Gioc Waterfalls. Along the way, photo-stop for the picturesque landscape on the road. Then, continue by the famous road RC4 via That Khe and Dong Khe toward Ban Gioc. Stop at some **Nung and Tay** minority villages, which are located beautifully in the landscape of Limestone Mountain and deep Valley.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

The sceneries during the second half of the journey are fascinating, offering views on dipping narrow valleys.

Overnight in Ban Gioc Hotel, nearby the Chinese border.

D3 BAN GIOC WATERFALLS–CAO BANG (B/L)

After breakfast, depart to explore the stunning **Ban Gioc Waterfalls**, and admire its uniquely exotic, natural beauty. The place marks the border between Vietnam and China and the multiple-level waterfall is set in a lush landscape (the water level varies between seasons). Then visit the beautiful 800-meter long **Nguom Ngao Cave** (an astonishing cave with stalactites of various shapes). This cave was discovered in 1921, and was recognized as the nature site of national significance in 1998.



Lunch at a local restaurant.

Return to Cao Bang in the afternoon and **stop along the way at the 100-year-old blacksmith Phuc Sen Village**. It is said that this village was established in the 11th century. Local craftsmen still work manually, mainly based on long-term experience from choosing raw materials, how to forge steel, to apply their own know-how and to create products such as knives, scissors, hoe, sickle... of premium quality.

Overnight in Cao Bang.

D4 CAO BANG–BA BE–PAC NGOI (B/L/D)

After breakfast, depart for Ba Be, arriving in the late morning. Drive through the well protected **Ba Be National Park** which is an abundant bio-reserve area containing the world's only fresh-water karst lake and several rare species of fauna and flora. The bio-diverse 10,048ha park – home to 1,268 species of flora and fauna, a series of caves and a gigantic fresh water lake – was established in 1992 by the Vietnamese Government to preserve forest ecosystems in the northeast.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Then, board on a small boat to cruise through the Nang River until **Dau Dang Waterfalls**, which is over 1,000 meters long, flowing through rocks with many beautiful shapes. **Arrive late in the afternoon at Pac Ngoi Village** which has more than 40 traditional stilt houses located on the slope of the mountains surrounding Ba Be Lake highlighting the beauty of this famous ecotourism destination.

Check-in at the home-stay in Pac Ngoi Village.

Dinner and overnight in Ba Be.

Note:

Traditional houses in Ba Be are made of wood and offer a basic level of accommodation.

For a group more than six persons, a transfer by a small boat through the lake and a little walk are expected to arrive to the Pac Ngoi accommodation from the car parking.

D5 BA BE–HANOI (B/L)

After breakfast, visit the magnificent **Silver Waterfall** and **stop to discover Tay Village** nearby.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, drive in the direction of Hanoi. **Stop along the way at a tea plantation and at several villages to meet**

the ethnic minorities. Then, continue the road back to Hanoi. Arrive in Hanoi at the end of the afternoon.

End of our services.

Note: *For a group with more than six people, visiting silver waterfall and Tay village the next day are replaced by a 1.5-hour walk through the primary forest nearby, a good way to start a new day in a fresh and friendly atmosphere.*

FROM BAC SON VALLEY TO HALONG BAY (VNMON-20)

4 days / 3 nights

A tour in Northeast Vietnam to discover the rural life and its traditions, ending the trip in the majestic Halong Bay.

D1 HANOI-BAC SON (VIA THAI NGUYEN) (L/D)

Meet the local guide at your hotel lobby at 08h00. Depart towards the direction of Bac Son in Lang Son Province. Stop at Thai Nguyen City; visit the **Museum of Culture of the Ethnic Groups of Vietnam**.

Upon arrival at **Quynh Son Village**, experience the local cultural identity between the peaceful countryside scenery and beautiful nature. Check-in at a typical wooden Tay stilt house.

Lunch at the homestay restaurant in the village.

In the early afternoon, explore the lifestyle of the Tay ethnic group, the majority of them still preserves their ancestral cultures and traditions. Visit a family-owned workshop producing tiles.

Then, **enjoy a two-hour hiking up to the hilltop**, where the panorama of Bac Son Valley is just amazing. Return to the village via the same path.

Dinner and overnight at the homestay.

D2 BAC SON-YEN DUC (B/L/D)

After breakfast, depart to **Yen Duc Village**. On the way, **visit the cemetery of the French soldiers in Dong Mo**. Arrive at Yen Duc Village, a typical agricultural Vietnamese village, and enjoy a welcome drink. **Check-in at Viet House**, built in traditional style houses of the Red River Delta.

Lunch at Viet House.

In the afternoon, enjoy the water puppet show by local artists and discover the

beauty of this unique Vietnamese traditional art.

Then, visit an ancient house in the village, where you will be warmly greeted by the Owner. This will be an opportunity to better understand the traditions of the Vietnamese family. Enjoy a bicycle ride or a walk around the village. You will be captivated by the tranquil atmosphere of the Vietnamese countryside. Then, return to Viet House for relaxation.

A special dinner will be served at Viet House.

Later, learn to make the traditional floating rice cakes (banh Troi).

Overnight at Viet House in Yen Duc.

D3 YEN DUC-HALONG BAY (B/L/D)

Start a new day with a morning gymnastic session. Enjoy a delicious breakfast, and then stroll around the village to **visit the ancient Canh Huong Pagoda** and a local market. Then, stop at a family house to learn about their handicraft works.



Bid good-bye to the host family and travel to the majestic **Halong Bay**, listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Arrive at Halong around noon, board on a junk for a memorable cruise through the mystical Halong Bay. **Lunch will be served**

during the journey between the karts, some display extraordinary and spectacular shapes.

Then, there will be a **culinary activity on board** - a cooking demonstration of the famous Vietnamese egg roll (nem ran).

At night, try your hand at squid fishing (depending on the season), an opportunity to learn Vietnamese fishing techniques.

Dinner and overnight on the junk.

Note:

-The private guide is not authorized to accompany the passengers on board the junk. Therefore, during the cruise the private guide will be replaced by a local guide.

-There is a possibility to enjoy the cruise on a private junk. For more information, please consult us or visit the Private Junk section in this document.

-There is no culinary demonstration on small private boats.

D4 HALONG BAY-HA NOI (B/Brunch)

After breakfast, the junk resumes its course, crossing the bay and stopping to visit a natural cave.

Brunch will be served on board before returning to the coast at around 11h00 and transfer to Hanoi by the highway (2.5 hours).

Photo-stops at some picturesque rice fields and typical villages along the road.

Arrive in Hanoi at the end of the afternoon.

End of our services.

VILLAGES & RICE TERRACES OF THE NORTHWEST REGION (VNMON-21)

5 days / 4 nights

A long-hidden road between Yen Bai, Nghia Lo, Cang Chai Mu and Sapa, offering an authentic circuit to discover the most beautiful rice terraces of Vietnam and interact with the different ethnic groups.

D1 HANOI-YEN BAI (L/D)

Meet the tour guide and driver at your hotel in Hanoi.

Depart at 08h00 to the mountainous Vu Linh region, located in Yen Bai Province.

This province is rarely visited and slowly opening up to tourism. On arrival at **Ngoi Tu Village**, check-in at a stilt house of the **Dao ethnic group**. They are usually dressed in white pants. Built using the techniques of the ethnic minority, their traditional houses blend into the charming setting of Ngoi Tu Village and adapts to the pace of the social and cultural life of the people.

Lunch in the village.

In the afternoon, discover the village and its surrounding community, located at the edge of Thac Ba Lake. In partnership with the local minorities (mostly Dao), the interesting part of this visit is based on the conversation and direct interaction between the travelers and the locals.

Enjoy a boat trip around Thac Ba Lake and visit a family in the village of the Dao ethnic group, where people produce the bamboo woven basket-fishing traps.

The rest of the day is devoted to social and cultural activities with the villagers or just relaxation.

Dinner and overnight at the homestay.

D2 YEN BAI – NGHIA LO (B/L/D)

In the morning, after breakfast, depart to **Nghia Lo Town**. Admire the spectacular mountainous area through different ethnic minority villages and charming countryside – wild nature, forests, rice fields and fresh cool breeze. Some stops

are planned along the way to visit the villages of the tribes living by the roadside, such as the **H'mong and Thai**. Photo stop to capture the breathtaking landscapes - tea plantations, picturesque orchards of peach trees, plum trees, rice fields, villages and other unexpected life scenes.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Approaching Nghia Lo, detour to Suoi Giang, through a road, ascending uphill. Admire the amazing views over the tea plantations at the foot of the mountain. Arrive at **Suoi Giang** located at an altitude of 1,300 meters. Visit the ancient tea trees forest with hundreds of tea bushes, which are up to 300 years old. This is a valuable property of the “**Flowery H'mong**” village of Pang Cang.

Visit the Pang Cang Village, where around 150 families still live in their traditional houses.

Arrive at the basin of Muong Lo, where **Nghia Lo Town** is located. This is the second largest rice bowl of Northwest Vietnam and the capital of the **Thai ethnic group**. Here, for 700 years, they cultivate rice and build their traditional houses in ironwood (iroko wood) and bamboo. Continue the road to **Sa Ren Village**, a charming **black Thai village**, located in the middle of the rice fields, next to a beautiful brook. Check-in at a Thai stilt house.

Dinner and overnight at the homestay in Nghia Lo.



D3 NGHIA LO-MU CANG CHAI- SHORT TREKKING-EASY LEVEL (B/L/D)

After breakfast at the homestay, stroll around Sa Ren Village to discover this fascinating place. A quick stop at the minority market of Nghia Lo. It is a daily market, where the black Thai women come to sell their own products: vegetables, fish, poultry, etc.

Then, drive to the direction of **Mu Cang Chai** through Hoang Lien Son chain, the highest mountains of Indochina.

Stop at Tu Le Valley for a short and easy hike, crossing the rice field terraces and hanging bridges to reach the villages of the Thai ethnic groups, who are welcoming and friendly.

Lunch at a local restaurant in Tu Le.

Then, **climb up Khau Pha Mountain Pass** (Khau Pha means “sky high horn”). The scenery is exceptionally beautiful with cultivated valleys and rice fields terraces on the slopes of the mountains. Stop on top of the pass to admire the panoramic views over the valley: villages, rice fields, streams, etc.



MU CANG CHAI

After the pass, detour to the H'mong villages of **La Pan Tan and Che Cu Nha** to admire the splendid landscapes, an ideal place to capture the best photos of the rice fields terraces in the region of Mu Cang Chai.

Upon arrival at Mu Cang Chai, check-in at the homestay in the village of the White Thai, the only Thai village in the area of Mu Cang Chai, which is populated mainly by the H'mong ethnic group.

Mu Cang Chai is considered a unique paradise and one of the best places in Vietnam to take pictures of the sceneries. **Dinner and overnight at the homestay in Mu Cang Chai.**

D4 MU CANG CHAI-SAPA- 3 HOURS TREKKING – MEDIUM LEVEL (B/L/D)

After breakfast at the homestay, depart to Sapa. On the way, stop at the minority villages of the **H'mong and White Thai**. Then resume the journey to **Tram Ton Pass, the highest pass in Vietnam with an altitude of 2,047 meters**. If the weather is good, the panoramic view over the valleys is spectacular. Stop at the magnificent **Silver Waterfall** (Thac Bac) before reaching Sa Pa.



SAPA

Lunch in Sapa.

Then, check-in at the hotel in Sapa.

In the afternoon, depart for a hike through the **Black H'mong villages of Hau Thao and Sa Seng**. These villages are still authentic and isolated.

Return to Sapa. Explore Sapa: visit a catholic church with a stone belltower, which was built in the 20th century by the French colonizer; the Central Square, a nice place to leisurely walk around or sit

to watch young local people hanging out; and the colorful market.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel in Sapa.

D5 SAPA-HANOI (OVERNIGHT TRAIN) – 3 HOUR TREKKING – MEDIUM LEVEL (B/L/D)

After breakfast at the hotel, transfer to **Ho Suoi**, located in a vast valley. **Enjoy hiking in a serene and captivating setting**, through rice fields terraces, streams, Ma Tra (H'mong) and Ta Phin villages inhabited by the Red Dao ethnic group. Explore the daily life of the people.

Return to Sapa for lunch.

The afternoon is at leisure before driving to the Lao Cai train station.

Dinner at a local restaurant before taking the night train back to Hanoi.

Arrive in Hanoi in the early morning.

End of our services.

HALONG BAY ABOARD A LUXURY JUNK (VNMON-22)

2 days / 1 nights

A dream cruise on Halong Bay from Hai Phong, ensuring a luxurious experience and rich discovery.

D1 HANOI-HALONG (L/D)

In the morning, transfer by the highway (about 2 hours) to the Got Port in Tuan Chau to embark on the junk. Upon arrival on board, check-in and enjoy the welcome drink before cruising and exploring **Halong Bay** - one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

The boat heads to **Da Chong Islet**, where travelers can see a lighthouse built by the French over 100 years ago.

Lunch on board before continuing the journey via the **unspoiled islets of Con Vit and Gia Luan**.

Then, continue the journey to **Trung Trang Cave** by bus on Cat Ba Island which is located in the middle of Cat Ba National Park with Kim Giao Forest around the cave. Discovered in 1938 by Vietnamese and French archaeologists, this cave created an

underground path that is 300 metres long crossing the mountain. The junk gets in the less populated area at Tra Bau. Return to the boat to enjoy the magnificent sunset view over the Gulf of Tonkin. Then, **join a traditional cooking class**. The Chef will demonstrate how to cook some



HA LONG BAY

Vietnamese dishes.

Dinner and overnight on board the junk.

D2 HALONG – HANOI (B/Brunch)

In the early morning, delight in an invigorating **Tai Chi session** on the sundeck before breakfast.



HALONG BAY

After breakfast, continue the journey and explore the bay and its dozens of karst rocks emerging from the emerald-coloured water. There is a possibility for kayaking. A **brunch will be served** before disembarking at the pier.

Return to Hanoi (about 2 hours).

End of our services.

DISCOVERY OF HALONG BAY ON A LUXURY JUNK (VNMON-23)

3 days / 2 nights

A cruise in a relaxed pace, offering more time to get "off the beaten track" and discover the secrets of Halong Bay. A visit of the fishing villages, exploring by canoe and enjoying an unforgettable culinary experience.



HALONG BAY

D1 HANOI-HALONG (L/D)

In the morning, depart by the highway (about 2 hours) to the Got Port in Tuan Chau to embark on the junk. Upon arrival on board, check – in and enjoy the welcome drink before cruising and exploring Halong Bay - one of the Seven Wonders of the World.

The boat heads to **Da Chong Islet**, where travelers can see a lighthouse built by the French over 100 years ago.

Lunch on board before continuing the journey via the **unspoiled islets of Con Vit and Gia Luan**. The junk gets in the less populated area at Tra Bau. Return to the

boat to **enjoy the magnificent sunset view over the Gulf of Tonkin**. Then, **join a**



HALONG BAY

traditional cooking class. The Chef will demonstrate how to cook some Vietnamese dishes.

Dinner and overnight on board.

D2 A DAY IN THE BAY (B/L/D)

In the early morning, delight in an invigorating **Tai Chi session** on the sundeck before breakfast.

Then, transfer by boat to **Viet Hai Village**. Enjoy a **bicycle ride** along the village trail and pass through rain forests and tunnels. The scenery of the rice fields is stunning,

and along the way, stop at the village to relax. Visit an ancient local house, made of hays, bamboos and mud.

Then, return by boat. **Lunch will be served** on the boat.

In the afternoon, continue the wonderful exploration of the bay.

Dinner and overnight on board.

D3 HALONG -HANOI (B/Brunch)

In the early morning, delight in an invigorating Tai Chi session on the sundeck before breakfast. After breakfast, continue the journey and explore the bay and its dozens of karst rocks emerging from the emerald-coloured water. There is a possibility of kayaking. A **brunch will be served** before disembarking at the pier.

Return to Hanoi (about 2 hours).

End of our service

A HARMONY COMBINATION BETWEEN HUMAN BEING AND NATURE (VNMON-24)

2 days / 1 night

DAY 1: HA NOI - MAI HICH (L/D)

Depart in the morning to Mai Hich (3.5 hours) to admire a unique glimpse of local traditions and lifestyle of tribal community. On the way, take a short break at Thung Khe Mountain pass to enjoy spectacular scenery of the North West Forest.

Arrive at **Mai Hich** at noon and check-in at the stilt house.

Then, **savour a memorable lunch cooked with special and typical local foods.**

In the afternoon, enjoy cycling or walking to visit the countryside including

vegetable gardens, fish ponds, stilt houses, terraces etc. Opportunity to experience the normal daily life of Thai people through cultivation and breeding activities. Visit some brocade weaving factories.

Enjoy Thai traditional dinner with folk music as well as dance performances by young Thai people. A good chance to try bamboo dance with friendly farmers and drink **Cần wine** (a traditional alcoholic beverage of ethnic minority groups in Vietnam made from the fermentation of rice starch and various forest fruits in pottery jars).

Overnight at the stilt house.

DAY 2: MAI HICH – HANOI (B/L)

After breakfast, go trekking through rice fields, bamboo forest and visit more villages of Thai people such as Mai Ha, Chieng Chau etc. Upon arriving at *Ban Lac*, visit a small factory where disabled artisans produce manual embroidery and weaved products.

Lunch at homestay.

In the afternoon, drive back to Hanoi.

End of our services.

HIKING THROUGH THE RICE FIELDS TERRACES OF THE WHITE THAI VILLAGES OF PU LUONG (VNMON-25)

2 days / 1 night

Trekking and discovery of the rice fields terraces of Pu Luong nature reserve. Overnight at Pu Luong Retreat, an authentic and comfortable accommodation in the region.

DAY 1: HANOI – PU LUONG (L/D)

5 km of easy walk – 2.5 hours

In the morning, depart to the **Pu Luong Nature Reserve** by road via a route offering a breathtaking panoramic view over the entire stunning valley. Pu Luong is mainly tropical forests, with two ranges of mountains on both sides creating a lush green valley in the middle and dotted with traditional villages.



PU LUONG RETREAT

Arrive at the destination for lunch.

The afternoon is dedicated to the discovery of the fascinating life of the

people in the village. Overview of the daily life, a walk around the agricultural lands



TERRACE RICE FIELD

and rice fields full of lively activities, and discovery of the interesting local culture. Return to "Pu Luong Retreat" for dinner. **Dinner and overnight in Pu Luong Retreat.**

DAY 2: PU LUONG – HANOI (B/L)

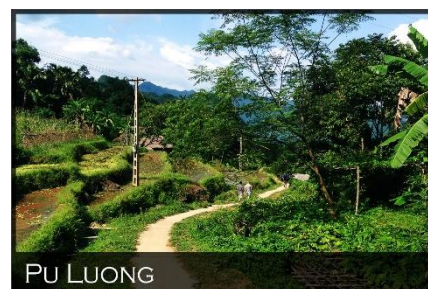
4 km of hiking combined with 40 minutes of cycling.

After breakfast, depart for a hike on trails covered with lush vegetation, passing through a valley full of cultivated rice

fields to reach a rural village. Stop from time to time for a break and a possibility to enjoy cycling around **Lan Village**. Depending on the pace of hiking, visit a local family house and learn about their traditional weaving techniques or return to the retreat.

Lunch at "Pu Luong Retreat".

After lunch, return by road to Hanoi.



PU LUONG

End of our services.

HIKING THROUGH THE RICE FIELDS TERRACES OF THE WHITE THAI VILLAGES OF PU LUONG (VNMON-26)



3 days / 2 nights

Trekking, cycling and discovery of the rice fields terraces of Pu Luong nature reserve. Overnight at Pu Luong Retreat, an authentic and comfortable accommodation in the region.

DAY 1: HANOI – PU LUONG (L/D)

5 km of easy walk – 2.5 hours

In the morning, depart to the Pu Luong Nature Reserve by road via a route offering a breathtaking panoramic view over the entire stunning valley. Pu Luong is mainly tropical forests, with two ranges of mountains on both sides creating a lush green valley in the middle and dotted with traditional villages.



PU LUONG RETREAT

Arrive at the destination for lunch.

The afternoon is dedicated to experiencing the fascinating life of the people in the village. Overview of the daily life, a walk around the agricultural lands and rice fields full of lively activities, and discovery of the interesting local culture. At the end of the afternoon, return to "Pu Luong Retreat".

Dinner and overnight at Pu Luong Retreat.

DAY 2: PU LUONG (B/L/D)

5 km of walk combined with 3 hours of cycling

After breakfast, depart for a hike on trails covered with lush vegetation, passing through a valley full of cultivated rice fields to reach a rural village. Stop from time to time for a break and a possibility to enjoy cycling around **Lan Village**. Visit a local family



TERRACE RICE FIELD

home and learn about their traditional weaving techniques.

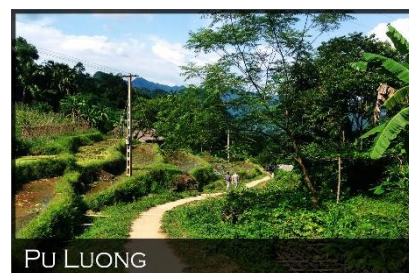
Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the early afternoon, enjoy a bicycle ride through the verdant rice fields, from one village to another, from one bridge to another until **Hieu Village** and its waterfall, regarded as one of the beautiful waterfalls in Vietnam and the only one in the reserve. Return to the local house, and then transfer to Pu Luong Retreat.

Dinner and overnight at Pu Luong Retreat.

DAY 3: PU LUONG – HANOI (B/L)

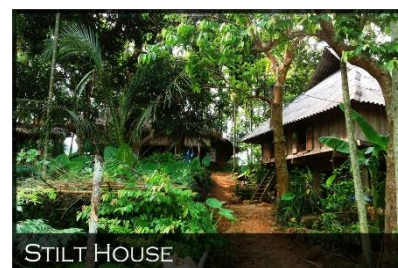
6 km of hiking



PU LUONG

After breakfast, depart for a hike to **Dong Dieng Village**. Descent to the most beautiful valley of Pu Luong. The hike continues to admire the luxuriant rice fields terraces and soak up in the natural splendor of the surrounding mountains... passing through paths of some small hamlets. A possibility to stop at a family home to learn more about the way of life and customs of the villagers.

Lunch at a local restaurant.



STILT HOUSE

After lunch, return back by road to Hanoi.

End of our services.

DISCOVERY OF THE TEA PLANTATIONS IN VINH (VNMON-27)

3 days / 2 nights

Excursion in the Central Coast region of North Vietnam to discover the green tea plantations. Walk in the middle of luxuriant vegetation far from mass tourism. An immersion with the local people and overnight in a house on stilts.

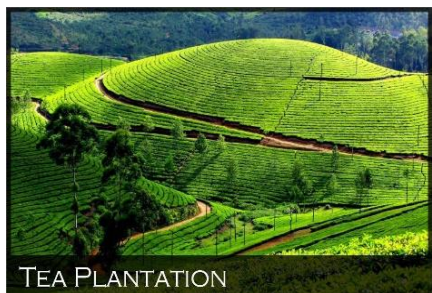


KHE KEM WATERFALL

DAY 1: VINH - CON CUONG (L/D)

Arrive in Vinh in the early morning (by train or plane). Welcome by the guide and transfer to the hotel for breakfast.

The morning will be devoted to the interesting discovery of tea. Depart to the scenic **PuMat Nature Reserve** (about 3 hours drive). On the way, stop at **Thanh Chuong District**, which was recognized by UNESCO as one of the districts of the World Biosphere Reserve in September 2017. Take a short walk in the lush tea plantation. Visit a local factory to discover the production of green tea and enjoy a



TEA PLANTATION

refreshing cup of tea. Proceed by road to **Con Cuong**.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the early afternoon, continue the journey by road to **Khe Kem Waterfalls**, considered as a wonder of nature. The time is at leisure to enjoy the breathtaking landscape or a soothing swim in one of the natural pools (weather permitting). Along the way, stop at a **Tho ethnic village**.

Return back to Con Cuong. Check-in at **Nua Village** in a typical Thai ethnic house on stilts. The time is at leisure for a personal discovery of the village and experience the lifestyle of the local people.

Dinner and overnight at the inhabitant's house.

In option: In the evening after dinner, traditional dance and song performances can be arranged (consult us for the supplement).

Note: *The traditional Thai houses are made of wood and offer simple comfort. Other accommodation options that meet the international standards are possible. (Supplements apply).*

DAY 2: CON CUONG - VINH (B/L/D)

After breakfast, depart to **Đập Phà Lại**. On arrival, take a wonderful bike ride to a suspension bridge, passing through the verdant rice fields until the villages of the Thai minority in the Mon Son valley.



STILT HOUSE

Stop and meet a family for a taste of green tea freshly harvested from the garden with some delicious local sweets. Return to **Đập Phà Lại**, then enjoy a boat trip on the **Giang River** amidst lush vegetation, followed by a moment of relaxation or a refreshing swim depending on the climate.

Local lunch at Đập Phà Lại.

In the early afternoon, return by road to Vinh. On the way, stop at a local cake making workshop "Banh Gai", one of the specialties of the region. This is an opportunity to learn the secrets of making this delicious cake made from sticky rice and mung beans, before enjoying it.

Arrive in Vinh in the late afternoon.

Dinner and overnight at the hotel.

DAY 3: VINH - DEPARTURE (B)

After breakfast, transfer to the train station or airport for departure.

End of our services.



MODULES TOURS – CENTER OF VIETNAM

IMPERIAL CITY AND OLD CITY PORT (VNMOG-01)

3 days / 2 nights

A discovery of the “must-see” sites of Central Vietnam with the visits of the ancient Imperial City of Hue, the Cham Museum of Danang and the old town of Hoi An.

D1 HUÉ

Pick up from the hotel to discover **Huế**, the ancient capital of Vietnam under the Nguyen Dynasty, listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Discover the **Imperial City**, the former imperial seat of government. This is a great sprawling complex of temples, pavilions, moats, walls, gates, shops, museums and galleries, featuring art and costumes from various periods of Vietnamese history. Then **visit the Thien Mu (Celestial Lady) Pagoda**, one of the most venerated sites in the city of Huế.



Later, visit the **Emperor Khai Dinh Mausoleum**, located on a steep hill and was built from 1920 to 1931, taking 11 years to complete. It is a blend of Western and Eastern architecture.

The day will end with the **visit of Dong Ba market**, located on the Perfume River.

Constructed in 1899 under Thanh Thai's reign, it is the largest commercial center in Hue city, where you will find colourful fruit and vegetable stalls as well as spices, all used in the typical regional cuisine.

Overnight in Huế.

D2 HUÉ–DANANG–HOI AN (B/L)

After breakfast, visit the **Mausoleum of Emperor Minh Mang** and the **Tomb of Emperor Tu Duc**, the 4th emperor of the Nguyen Dynasty of Vietnam, who reigned from 1847–1883. The buildings and gardens have been shaped according to the directives of geomancy (Feng Shui). Together, they form a huge park where the

beauty of nature is seen everywhere. **Stop at a family workshop to see how conical hats and incense sticks are made.**

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Then depart to **Danang** via the Hai Van Pass. On arrival, visit **the Cham Archaeological Museum** with an extremely rich collection, tracing the history of this lost civilization.

Continue the journey to the Ancient Town of **Hoi An**, recognized as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.

Check-in at the hotel. The time is at leisure



for a walk in the old city or to enjoy the beach (*if weather permits*).

Overnight in Hoi An.

D3 HOI AN-DANANG (B)

After breakfast, pick up from the hotel to visit the famous **Old Quarter of Hoi An**. This is an exceptionally well-preserved example of a South-East Asian trading port dating from the 15th to the 19th century. Walk around Hoi An ancient town and explore its treasures. The buildings and street plan reflect the influences, both indigenous and foreign, that have combined to produce this unique heritage site. Then, **visit a lantern-making cottage and learn how to make one.**



Depending on the flight schedule, transfer to Danang airport for the departure flight.

End of our services.

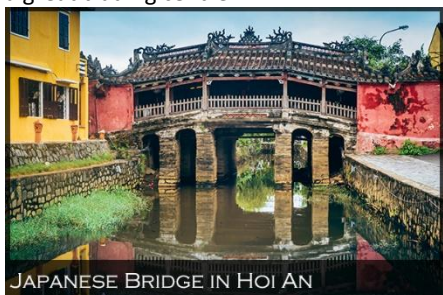
IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE CHAMPA KINGDOM (VNMO-02)

4 days / 3 nights

An exploration of Annam and a discovery of the Imperial City of Hue, the ancient city of Hoi An and the remains of the Cham Kingdom in My Son.

D1 HOI AN (L)

Explore the famous **Old Quarter of Hoi An**. This is an exceptionally well-preserved example of a South-East Asian trading port dating from the 15th to the 19th century. City tour among its narrow streets lined with traditional houses and its most significant monuments such as the **Japanese bridge** or **Phuc Kien Pagoda**, built by Japanese craftsmen who were part of a larger community of Japanese merchants active in Hoi-An at that time and envisioned transforming the town into a great trading centre.



JAPANESE BRIDGE IN HOI AN

Discover a workshop where visitors can try their hand at the delicate task of making lanterns, a symbol of the city.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, **enjoy an excursion by boat on the Thu Bon River** with a stop, along the way, at a traditional ceramic and carpentry village.

The rest of the day is at leisure to enjoy the old city or the beach (*if weather permits*).
Overnight in Hoi An.

D2 HOI AN–MY SON–HOI AN (B/L)

After breakfast, depart for an excursion to **My Son**, a cluster of abandoned and partially ruined Hindu temples constructed between the 4th and the 14th century AD by the kings of Champa, a once powerful Hindu empire. Spend the morning touring the most significant archaeological ruins of Vietnam, listed as a World Heritage site by UNESCO.



MY SON

Return to Hoi An by late-morning and **lunch at a local restaurant.**

The afternoon is at leisure in the ancient city.

Overnight in Hoi An.

D3 HOI AN–DANANG–HUÉ (B/L)

After breakfast, depart to **Hué**, the ancient capital of Vietnam under the Nguyen Dynasty via Hai Van pass and Danang. On the way, visit the famous **Cham Museum**, housing a unique collection about the history of the Champa civilization.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, resume the journey toward Hué and check-in at the hotel upon arrival. Then, explore Hué, listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO.



THIEN MU PAGODA

Discover the **Imperial City**, the former imperial seat of government. This is a great sprawling complex of temples, pavilions, moats, walls, gates, shops, museums and galleries, featuring art and costumes from various periods of Vietnamese history. Then visit the **Thien Mu (Celestial Lady) Pagoda**, one of the most venerated sites in the city of Hué.

Overnight in Hué.

D4 HUÉ (B)

After breakfast, **visit the Mausoleum of Emperor Minh Mang and the Tomb of Emperor Tu Duc**, the 4th emperor of the Nguyen Dynasty of Vietnam, who reigned from 1847–1883. The buildings and gardens have been shaped according to the directives of geomancy (Feng Shui). Together, they form a huge park where the beauty of nature is seen everywhere. **Last stop at a family workshop to see how conical hats and incense sticks are made.**

Return to the hotel in the late morning and the rest of the time is at leisure.

Depending on the flight schedule, transfer to Hué's airport for the departure flight.

End of our services.

HIGHLANDS FROM HOI AN (VNMOOC-03)

5 days / 4 nights

A trip to the highlands of Central Vietnam, traveling between Kontum and Buon Ma Thuot, the cradle of the ancient people, the protectors of the customs and facts that they still preserve today.

D1 HOI AN–KONTUM (L)

In the morning, depart to **Kontum** in the Highlands via National Road 24. On the coastline, stop near Tam Ky to **visit the Chien Dan Cham Tower**, a group of three towers built in the 11th century dedicated to the three deities of the Champa Kingdom: Shiva, Vishnu and Brahma.

Lunch at a local restaurant on the road.

Stop at the communal houses of various ethnic groups and meet the last minority group of the region - the Hre People - pass upon pass, valley upon valley. Arrive in Kontum late in the afternoon and check-in at the hotel.

Overnight in Kontum.



KONTUM WOODEN CHURCH

D2 KONTUM (B/L)

After breakfast, **visit the seminary and the charming wooden church of Kontum, built in 1913.** The prayers are written in the three main languages of the minorities of the region. The Holy Masses are usually attended by impressive crowds; hence, the church becomes too small to welcome all the devotees, who are well dressed for the occasion. Later, enjoy a walk (around 4 km) around the **Banhar villages of Kontum Konam, Kontum Kopong, Konko Wang, Kon Jori and Kon Kotu.** On the way, discover the beautiful sceneries of rice

fields and witness the daily life of the Banhar people.

Lunch at a local restaurant in the city.

In the afternoon, **enjoy an excursion to Jarai Village of Plei Weh** and discover their amazing funerary art. Each tomb is surrounded by carved wooden statues representing each stage of the life of the deceased.

Overnight in Kontum.

***Note:** The visit to Jarai Village is subject to the approval of the Provincial Authority and may be cancelled without prior notice. In this case, it will be replaced by a visit to the artificial Yali Lake.*

D3 KONTUM–BUON MA THUOT (B/L)

After breakfast, depart to **Buon Ma Thuot** (235 Km, approximately 5 hours) through numerous tea and coffee plantations. Along the way, **stop at Chu Se**, near the town of Pleiku to discover the culture of pepper. The striking green of the coffee plantations contrasts with the red color of the soil.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Arrive in the afternoon and the time is at leisure for a walk to the local market, the meeting point of the countryside's ethnics of the region.

Overnight in Buon Ma Thuot.



BUON ME THUOT

D4 BUON MA THUOT– LAK LAKE– BUON MA THUOT (B/L)

After breakfast, **visit the Ethnographic Museum of Buon Ma Thuot**, a display of traditional dresses, agricultural tools, fishing gears, bows and arrows, weaving looms and musical instruments of the ethnic groups. In the late morning, depart along the scenic Highway 27 to **Lak Lake**, located in the heart of a volcanic region.

Stop for lunch at a local restaurant.

Upon arrival, **meet the elephants** (no elephant rides around Lak Lake and visit the village of M'Lieng inhabited by M'ngong ethnic group, who has managed to preserve most of its traditions. Head back to the village of Jun for a walk around the village and discover the traditional long houses, which can accommodate several generations. Enjoy a Gong show and rice alcohol tasting with the M'ngong. Take part in a pottery-making activity.

Return back to the hotel in the late afternoon.

Overnight in Buon Ma Thuot.

D5 BUON MA THUOT–HO CHI MINH CITY (B)

After breakfast, depart for an **excursion to Akodhong Village**, home of the Ede ethnic group, famous for its long houses and its coffee plantations. **Stop at the magical Drei Nur Waterfalls** followed by a bucolic walk in a coffee plantation. Later, depart by road toward Ho Chi Minh City (350 km).

Arrival in the early evening.

End of our services.

HIGHLANDS FROM HO CHI MINH CITY (VNMOC-04)

5 days / 4 nights

A departure from Saigon to explore the highlands of Central Vietnam and discover the local customs. Meeting the ethnic minorities, visit of the local markets.

D1 HO CHI MINH CITY–BUON MA THUOT (L)

Depart early in the morning by road towards **Buon Ma Thuot**, along the Ho Chi Minh Trail and the border with Cambodia.

Near Buon Ma Thuot, **stop at the magical Drei Nur Waterfalls** followed by a bucolic walk in a coffee plantation. Then **enjoy an excursion to Akodhong Village** home of the Ede ethnic group famous for its long houses and its coffee plantations.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Upon arrival in the late afternoon, check-in at the hotel.

Overnight in Buon Ma Thuot.



BUON ME THUOT

D2 BUON MA THUOT–LAK LAKE–BUON MA THUOT (B/L)

After breakfast, **visit the Ethnographic Museum of Buon Ma Thuot**, a display of traditional dresses, agricultural tools, fishing gears, bows and arrows, weaving looms and musical instruments of the ethnic groups.

In the late morning, depart along the scenic Highway 27 to **Lak Lake**, located in the heart of a volcanic region.

Stop for lunch at local restaurant.

Upon arrival, meet the elephants (no elephant rides) **around Lak Lake** and visit the **village of M'Lieng** inhabited by M'nong ethnic group, who has managed to preserve most of its traditions. Head back to the **village of Jun** for a walk around the village and discover the traditional long houses, which can accommodate several generations. Enjoy a Gong show and rice alcohol tasting with the M'nong. Then take part in a pottery-making activity.

Return to the hotel in the late afternoon.

Overnight in Buon Ma Thuot.

D3 BUON MA THUOT–KONTUM (B/L)

After breakfast, depart to **Kontum** (235 Km, approximately 5 hours) through numerous tea and coffee plantations. The striking green of the coffee plantations contrasts with the red colour of the soil.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Arrive in the afternoon and check-in at the hotel.

Depart for a short walk to the local market, a perfect spot to observe the daily life of the region's inhabitants who come to shop and tell the latest stories of their village.

Overnight in Kontum.

D4 KONTUM (B/L)

After breakfast, **visit the seminary and the charming wooden church of Kontum**, built in 1913. The prayers are written in the three main languages of the minorities of the region. The Holy Masses are usually attended by impressive crowds; hence, the

church becomes too small to welcome all the devotees, who are well dressed for the occasion.



KONTUM WOODEN CHURCH

Later, enjoy a walk (around 4 km) around **Banhar villages of Kontum Konam, Kontum Kopong, Konko Wang, Kon Jori and Kon Kotu**. On the way, discover the beautiful sceneries of rice fields and witness the daily life of the Banhar people.

Lunch at a local restaurant in the city.

In the afternoon, visit **Jarai Village of Plei Weh** and discover their amazing funerary art. Each tomb is surrounded by carved wooden statues representing each stage of the life of the deceased.

Overnight in Kontum.

***Note:** The visit to Jarai Village is subject to the approval of the Provincial Authority and may be cancelled without prior notice. In this case, it will be replaced by a visit to the artificial Yali Lake.*

D5 KONTUM (B)

After breakfast, the time is at leisure until the departure to a new destination (Quy Nhon, Hoi An or Nha Trang).

End of our services.

LATERITE & PLANTATIONS (VNMOG-05)

3 days / 2 nights

A visit of Buon Me Thuot Region in the Central Highlands of the country, far from the tourist centers and off-the-beaten track.

D1 BUON MA THUOT

Welcome by our representative upon arrival at Buon Ma Thuot airport, transfer and check-in at the hotel.

Depending on the flight schedule, there is a possibility to visit Akodhong village (Ede minority). Although the modern houses are today slowly replacing the traditional long houses, this visit offers a first glimpse of the local culture.

Overnight in Buon Ma Thuot.



D2 BUON MA THUOT-BUON DON-BUON MA THUOT (B/L)

After breakfast, depart towards the West, to **Buon Don Village**. Along the way stop at a coffee plantation and **Kho Dong Village**, home of the Ede minority. From there, take a short walk through the village down to the source of water, where villagers gather for bathing or laundry or dishwashing. Then, **visit the Tomb of the "King of Elephant Hunters"**, hidden under the forest canopy. Anyone who comes here for the first time feels compelled to discover the mystery of this final resting place. Later, **stop at an Ede cemetery**. According to the local traditions, the graves are left after the ceremony of "abandoning the body" which can last for several weeks in some parts of the region. The graves are often left in the care of wooden totems representing animals or spirits to keep an eye on the dead.

Return to Buon Ma Thuot for lunch.

In the afternoon, **visit the Ethnographic Museum of Buon Ma Thuot**, a display of traditional dresses, agricultural tools, fishing gears, bows and arrows, weaving

looms and musical instruments of the ethnic groups.

Overnight in Buon ma Thuot.

D3 BUON MA THUOT-LAC LAK-BUON MA THUOT (B/L)

After breakfast, depart along scenic Highway 27 to **Lak Lake**, located in the heart of a volcanic region. Upon arrival, meet the elephants (no elephant rides) **around Lak Lake** and visit the **village of M'Lieng** inhabited by M'nong ethnic group, who has managed to preserve most of its traditions. Head back to the **village of Jun** for a walk around the village and discover the traditional long houses, which can accommodate several generations.

Return back to Buon Ma Thuot and the time is at leisure.

Later, transfer to the airport for the departure flight.

End of our services.

DMZ AND PHONG NHA NATIONAL PARK FROM HUÉ (VNMOG-06)

3 days / 2 nights

A discovery of the wonders in the north of Hue and meeting the ethnic minorities. A visit of the famous DMZ and the spectacular Phong Nha caves.

D1 HUÉ–LAO BAO (L)

Depart from **Hué** along the coastline (about 200 Km) before turning west into the mainland. From there, drive to the border with Laos through beautiful landscapes. On the way, stop at the **minority villages of Bru Van Kieu, Ta Oi and Paco**. Upon arrival in **Lao Bao**, stroll through the border market and visit the **old French prison**. The prison was constructed in 1908 by the French colonists on an area of about 10ha, completely isolated from the populated areas. It was one of the 5 largest prisons in French Indochina at that time.

Check-in at the hotel.

Overnight in Lao Bao.

***Note:** Lao Bao region is relatively isolated and far from traditional routes in Vietnam. For this reason, the accommodation options are limited and the hotels offer basic comfort.*

D2 LAO BAO–DONG HA–DONG HOI (B/L)

After breakfast, drive to **Dong Ha** by Road No. 9 and its natural beauty and historical values. Each site is sure to create lasting memories and unforgettable experiences. En route, **visit the remnants of the war including Khe Sanh Combat Base** (a United States Marine Corps outpost south of the Vietnamese Demilitarized Zone used during the Vietnam War), **Con Thien**

Firebase (a military base that started out as a U.S. Army Special Forces camp before transitioning to a United States Marine Corps combat base), **Camp Carroll** (a United States Marine Corps and Army of the Republic of Vietnam artillery base during the Vietnam War), **Ta Con Airfield** (a former airbase used by the US Air Force during the war. **and Dakrong Bridge** (Initially, it was just an iron bridge over the river built by the army in 1975 to connect the important transport route for the Southern route. Later, **visit the famous Hien Luong Bridge** across the Ben Hai River, which was once the border between the North and South Vietnam along the 17th parallel.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Enjoy an excursion to discover the ancient citadel of **Quang Tri**, located about 12 km from Dong Ha. During the Vietnam War, the city received the equivalent of eight atomic bombs with the strength of the one dropped in Hiroshima. The citadel was also marked by a historic 81-day battle in 1972. Then, continue by road to **Dong Hoi** by road No 1. On the way, stop to **visit Vinh Moc Tunnels and the underground village at the northern part of the DMZ (Demilitarized Zone).**

Arrive in the late afternoon and check-in at the hotel.

Overnight in Dong Hoi.

D3 DONG HOI–PHONG NHA–HUÉ (B/L)

After breakfast, depart for **an excursion to Phong Nha Caves** to discover an exceptional site listed as a World Heritage of Humanity by UNESCO. The Phong Nha plateau is probably one of the finest and most remarkable examples of a complex karsts landscape in Southeast Asia. It shelters some of the largest natural caves in the world.



From there, depart by boat for about 40mn cruise on the river before reaching Uot cave's entrance. Continue the visit on foot. If the weather condition permits, visit the Kho cave as well.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, drive back to Hué (approximately 5 hours).

End of our service.

IN THE HEART OF THE ANNAMITE RANGE (VNMO-07)

2 days / 1 night

An excursion from Hue to meet the ethnic groups near the Laotian border.

D1 HUÉ–LAO BAO (L)

Depart from **Hué** along the coastline (about 70 Km) before turning west into the mainland. From there, drive to the border with Laos through beautiful landscapes.

On the way, stop at the **minority villages of Bru Van Kieu, Ta Oi and Paco**. Upon arrival in Lao Bao, stroll through the border market and visit the **old French prison**. The prison was constructed in 1908 by the French colonists on an area of about 10ha, completely isolated from the populated areas. It was one of the 5 largest prisons in French Indochina at that time.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Check-in at the hotel. **Overnight in Lao Bao.**

***Note:** Lao Bao region is relatively isolated and far from traditional routes in Vietnam. For this reason, the accommodation options are limited and the hotels offer basic comfort.*

D2 LAO BAO–A LUOI–HUÉ (B/L)

After breakfast, depart toward **A Luoi**, a small town on a plateau among the hills, located along the border with Laos. On the way, **visit the minority villages of Bru Van Kieu and Ta Oi**.

In the afternoon, return on the road to Hué.

End of our services.

HIGHLAND AND LAK LAKE DISCOVERY (VNMO-08)

2 days / 1 night

D1 ARRIVAL-VILLAGE DISCOVERY (L/D)

Upon arrival, **welcome at the pier in Lak Lake.** Enjoy a guided village tour to discover the **M'Nong Village.** During this enriching immersion, take the opportunity to explore the lifestyle of the M'Nong people, their customs and traditions, as well as their authentic architecture. **(3 hours cultural sightseeing, seat-in-coach, tour).**

Check-in and followed by lunch.

In the afternoon, the time is at leisure to explore the rural and tranquil surroundings of the countryside.

In the evening, enjoy a Gong performance followed **by dinner at Y Lak.**

Overnight at the Camp.

D2 DEPARTURE (B)

In the early morning, **take a short boat cruise on the scenic Lak Lake,** the largest natural fresh water lake in Central Highlands of Vietnam surrounded by lush green mountains. **Capture the splendind sunrise and experience the atmophere in the countryside,** as the people awaken in the morning. Watch the anglers while fishing and gently floating in the calm rhythm of the lake.

Breakfast before checkout.

End of our services.

IN THE HEART OF THE IMPERIAL CITY (VNMOG-09)

2 days/1 night

D1 THE IMPERIAL CITY DISCOVERY (L/D)

Pick up from the hotel to discover **Huế**, the ancient capital of Vietnam under the Nguyen Dynasty, listed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO. Discover the Imperial City, the former imperial seat of the government. This is a great expansive complex of temples, pavilions, moats, walls, gates, shops, museums and galleries, featuring the arts and costumes from various periods of the history of Vietnam. Then, **visit the Thien Mu (Celestial Lady) Pagoda**, one of the most venerated sites in Huế.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Later, visit the **Emperor Khai Dinh Mausoleum**, located on a steep hill. A blend of western and eastern architecture, it was built from



THIEN MU PAGODA

1920 to 1931, taking 11 years to complete. The day will end with a visit to **Dong Ba market**, located on the Perfume River. Constructed in 1899 under Thanh Thai's reign, it is the largest commercial center in Hue city, where you will find colourful fruit and vegetable stalls as well as spices, all used in the typical regional cuisine.

Then, transfer to a homestay and check-in.

Then, enjoy a relaxing herbal footbath before **savoring an authentic home cooked dinner**.

In the evening, practice Vietnamese language with the host, experience the peaceful atmosphere in the countryside or explore the selection of books and movies about Hue.

Overnight at the homestay.

D2 HUE - DEPARTURE (B/L)

After breakfast, **take a leisurely cycling tour** (2-4 hours with several stops) to explore the peaceful surroundings of **Kim Long ancient village**. Stop at some local houses making handicrafts, enjoy some fun and interactive experiences with the locals and witness their daily life. Continue the visit to the hidden temples, cultural relics, and engage in a tea and chat with the host family.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, the time is at leisure until the transfer to the airport for the departure flight.

End of our services.



MODULES TOURS – SOUTH OF VIETNAM

MEKONG DELTA: CAN THO (VN MOS-01)

2 days / 1 night

An excursion in the Mekong Delta, the most fertile region of Vietnam, exploring the countless canals, a small floating market and its hidden treasures.

D1 HO CHI MINH CITY–CAI BE–VINH LONG–CAN THO (L)



MEKONG DELTA

Drive to **Cai Be** in the heart of the Mekong Delta.

On arrival, embark on a sampan boat for a cruise on the Mekong River and its myriad

of canals to Vinh Long. Visit an old colonial house and a rice popcorn factory.

Enjoy a **tasting of local specialties for lunch**, and then continue the journey to **Can Tho**, the largest town in the Mekong Delta.

Overnight in Can Tho.

D2 CAN THO–MY THO–HO CHI MINH CITY (B/L)



MEKONG FLOATING MARKET

After an early breakfast, embark on a local boat to visit a small floating market in the Mekong Delta with boat vendors selling fresh fruits and agricultural products from the region. However, over the years, due to the development of the road infrastructure, the floating market is slowly

diminishing. Witness the rural life and the beautiful vegetation along the riverbanks. This excursion to the arroyos leads visitors to a garden for a tasting of fresh exotic fruits.

Then **visit the century-old Binh Thuy house**, and its peaceful surroundings, built in 1870, it has long been renowned for its ancient beauty along with its unique architecture. It is an ideal place to explore the region's history. Later, discover Can

Tho's colourful market before driving back to Ho Chi Minh City.

Enjoy a vegetarian lunch at Phuoc Long pagoda, located in the centre of the city of My Tho. This pagoda is famous for its collection of antiques and for the excellent vegetarian food prepared by the monks.

In the afternoon, continue the journey to Ho Chi Minh City and **stop at a Cao Dai Temple** to discover one of the most

amazing Vietnamese religious specificities. Founded in 1921, this religion is a mixture of Christian, Buddhist, Taoist and Confucian elements.

(or Vinh Trang pagoda if Tay Ninh is already included in the program).

Arrive in Ho Chi Minh City late in the afternoon.

End of our services.

MEKONG DELTA: BEN TRE (VN MOS-02)

2 days / 1 night

A visit of Ben Tre, a peaceful province in the Mekong Delta. It has the largest number of coconut plantations in Vietnam. A boat trip under the shades of palm and coconut trees will allow the traveler to observe the picturesque scenes of the daily life in the delta.

D1 HO CHI MINH CITY–BEN TRE (L/D)

In the morning, depart from Ho Chi Minh City by road to **Ben Tre Province** in the Mekong Delta. On arrival, enjoy the photogenic visit of a brick factory located on the bank of the river. Embark on a boat and cruise on the Mekong River, in the middle of its activity and the never-ending criss-crossing of sampans. Stop on the way to visit a coconut candy workshop and discover the processing of dried coconut. Take a boat to Cai Son and Nhon Thanh creeks to see how people make mats.

Lunch at a local restaurant.



MEKONG DELTA

Start cycling or take a “xe loi” along the local route through gardens and vegetable fields, **before transferring to the restaurant for lunch.**

In the afternoon, take a rowing boat along water palm creek and along Cai Coi creek. Then, stop at a market gathering many regional produces.

In the late afternoon, settle at the home-stay and the rest of the time is at leisure to enjoy the beauty of the natural surroundings.

Dinner and home-stay in Ben Tre.

D2 BEN TRE–HO CHI MINH CITY (B/L)

Early in the morning, depart by bicycle to visit the local market before returning to the home-stay for breakfast.

Then, driving back to Ho Chi Minh City.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Arrive early in the afternoon.

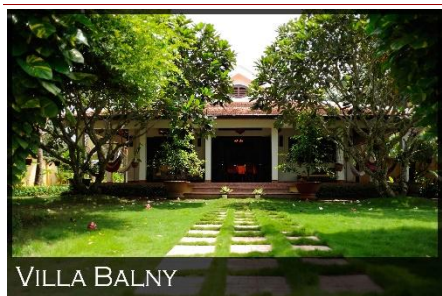
End of our services.

MY THO : VILLA BALNY, THE JEWEL OF THE MEKONG (VNMOS-03)

3 days / 2 nights

This package combines the essential sights of Ho Chi Minh City with a unique 2-night homestay experience in My Tho. This town, located 70 kilometres south of the country's economic capital, is the gateway par excellence to the Mekong Delta. Villa Balny is an exclusive Phoenix Voyages product offering the chance to relax and immerse yourself in the life of the villagers, while enjoying comfortable accommodation. It's like stepping back in time to the 1930s! The programme includes bike rides, walks in the surrounding area, and helping to prepare a Vietnamese dinner with the host family.

D1 HO CHI MINH CITY–MY THO (L/D)



VILLA BALNY

Depart from the hotel for a morning devoted to discovering Saigon, the country's economic capital. Visit the old colonial residential quarters, starting with the **City Hall**, a beautiful French colonial style building. Continue on to the **Opera House**, constructed in 1897 by the French Architect Eugene Ferret, the contemporary Independence Palace (exterior) and the elegant 19th century **Notre-Dame Cathedral**. Finally, a stroll around the **Central Post Office**, built in neo-classical

style at the beginning of the 20th century by the famous Gustave Eiffel.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Early afternoon, depart by road towards **My Tho**. Arrive and check-in at Villa Balny - a beautiful, traditionally decorated guest house hidden away in the greenery.

Dinner and overnight in the home stay in My Tho.

D2 MY THO (B/L/D)

After breakfast, depart for a bicycle ride (12km) through gardens. Then, stroll around the market that brings together an impressive number of typical products of the region. The rest of the time is at leisure for personal purchases. This bike tour can be replaced by a leisurely walk to the village.

Return to Villa Balny for lunch.

After lunch, time to relax in the villa or in a hammock, take full advantage of the garden, or go for a walk in the surrounding area. At the end of the day, you can help prepare a typical Vietnamese dinner in the company of your hosts.

Dinner and overnight in the home stay in My Tho.



VILLA BALNY

D3 MY THO-HO CHI MINH CITY (B)

After breakfast, return to Ho Chi Minh City by road or continue on to your next destination.

End of our services.

MEKONG DELTA: FROM CAN THO TO CHAU DOC (VN MOS-04)

3 days / 2 nights

A tour to discover the Mekong Delta including: cruising through the arroyos, Cai Rang small floating market, climbing up Mount Nui Sam and visiting the Cham Muslim villages in Chau Doc at the border with Cambodia.

D1 HO CHI MINH CITY–CAI BE–VINH LONG–CAN THO (L)

Depart from Ho Chi Minh City by road to **Cai Be** in the heart of the Mekong Delta. On arrival, embark on a sampan boat for a cruise on the Mekong River and its myriad of canals to Vinh Long. Visit an old colonial house and a rice popcorn factory.



MEKONG DELTA

Enjoy a tasting of local specialties for lunch, and then continue the journey to **Can Tho**, the largest town in the Mekong Delta.

Overnight in Can Tho.

D2 CAN THO–CAI RANG–CHAU DOC (B/L)



MEKONG FLOATING MARKET

After an early breakfast, visit the **Cai Rang small floating market** in the Mekong Delta with boat vendors selling fresh fruits and agricultural products from the region, and witness the rural life and the beautiful vegetation along the riverbanks. However, over the years, due to the development of the road infrastructure, the floating market is slowly diminishing. This excursion to the arroyos leads visitors to a garden for a tasting of fresh exotic fruits. Then visit the **century-old Binh Thuy house**, and its peaceful surroundings, built in 1870, it has long been renowned for its ancient beauty along with its unique architecture. It is an ideal place to explore the region's history. Discover the colourful **Can Tho's Market** before driving towards **Chau Doc**, at the border with Cambodia.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Upon arrival, climb up **Mount Nui Sam** (284m), a centre of Buddhist pilgrimage also dotted with dozens of temples and pagodas bringing together Chinese, Cham and Khmer's influences. Visit the most important religious sites before heading back to town and check-in at the hotel.

Overnight in Chau Doc.

D3 CHAU DOC–HO CHI MINH CITY (B/L)

After breakfast, navigate through a **fascinating floating village** where fishes (for export) are bred in their natural environment. Stop at a **Cham village** on the way back to Ho Chi Minh City, to meet the minority Muslim community and visit a mosque.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Return to Ho Chi Minh City by Cao Lanh's Road. Arrive in the evening.

End of our services.

DALAT AND NHA TRANG & PHAN THIET BEACHES (VNMO5-05)

5 days / 4 nights

These few days of travel are devoted to discovering the most beautiful beaches of South Vietnam and Dalat, the city of eternal spring.

D1 HO CHI MINH CITY–DALAT (L)



DA LAT TRAIN STATION

In the morning, depart by road to the ancient cool hill station of **Dalat** (310 km, about 8 hours), known as “Petit Paris” during the colonial times. Located in the Central Highlands of the country, the city has preserved its colonial heritage through its art deco villas (mid-twentieth century), and Savoyard chalets.

Lunch at a local restaurant on the way.

In the afternoon, **visit a rubber and tea plantation in Bao Loc**, before arriving in Dalat later. Check-in at the hotel.

Overnight in Dalat.

D2 DALAT–NHA TRANG (B/L)

After breakfast, discover some of Dalat’s attractions, history, culture and unique architecture. View some of Dalat’s spectacular landscapes and visit the sites such as the **Old Railway Station**, built during the French colonial times and its famous old diesel train serving the route Dalat - Trai Mat. **There is a possibility for a**

short train ride that circumnavigates Dalat. See below the condition of this option).

Then, explore the historic **Linh Phuoc Pagoda** (built by some monks and nuns, and Buddhists from Thua Thien – Hué in 1949) and the **villa of Emperor Bao Dai** (who was the 13th and last emperor of the Nguyen Dynasty of Vietnam).



CAU DAT GREEN TEA HILLS

Lunch at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, depart by road to **Nha Trang** (220 Km), Vietnam’s premier beach resort. On arrival, check-in at the hotel and the time is at leisure.

Overnight in Nha Trang.

Note: *The diesel train to Trai Mat can only ensure its departure for a minimum of 20 passengers. In case of departure, passengers will purchase by themselves the ticket on arrival at the station.*

D3 NHA TRANG (B)

After breakfast, the day is at leisure to enjoy the beach. There is a possibility for

excursions to the islands of the bay, for snorkelling or diving (please consult us).

Overnight in Nha Trang.

D4 NHA TRANG–PHAN THIET (B/L)

After breakfast, drive to **Phan Thiet** (250 km). On the way, **stop at Poklong Garai Cham Temple**, a 13th century Cham Hindu temple built in honour of the legendary King Po Klaung Garai by the historic King Jaya Simhavarman III, who ruled Champa from 1285 to 1307.

Lunch at a local restaurant.



FISHING PIER

On arrival, explore the country’s largest sand dunes and the fishing hamlet of Mui Ne. The rest of the day is at leisure to relax and enjoy the beach.

Overnight in Phan Thiet.

D5 PHAN THIET–HO CHI MINH CITY (B)

After breakfast, the morning is at leisure. In the early afternoon, drive back to Ho Chi Minh City.

End of our services.

SOUTHERN POINT OF VIETNAM (VN MOS-06)

6 days / 5 nights

A tour from Ho Chi Minh City to discover Southern Vietnam, the countless canals and colorful orchards of the Mekong Delta.

D1 HO CHI MINH VILLE–CAN THO–CA MAU (L)

Depart in the morning for a day's drive toward **Ca Mau** (340 Km), this little town marks the southern tip of the Mekong Delta and Vietnam. By midday, stop in **Can Tho**, main city of the Mekong Delta. Visit the **century-old Binh Thuy house**, built in 1870, it has long been renowned for its ancient beauty along with its unique architecture. It is an ideal place to explore the region's history. Observe the rural life and admire the lush vegetation along the riverbanks and discover the Can Tho market.

Lunch at a local restaurant and later resume the drive to Ca Mau. On arrival, enjoy the first discovery of this provincial town out-off- beaten track then check-in at the hotel.

Overnight in Ca Mau.

D2 CA MAU–NAM CAN–CAI NAI BIRD SANCTUARY–CA MAU (B/L)

After breakfast, **transfer to Nam Can Village** whose inhabitants live mainly from shrimp farms. Upon arrival, embark on a small boat to visit the **Cai Nai Bird Reserve**, a wonderful habitat for species of birds. Thereafter, visit a shrimp farm. This is an opportunity to participate in the activities of the daily life of the inhabitants.

Enjoy a tasting of local specialties for lunch, then, return back to the hotel and the rest of the time is at leisure.

Overnight in Ca Mau.

D3 CA MAU–RACH GIA (B/L)

After breakfast, the time is at leisure before resuming the drive until Rach Gia, southern city and gateway to Phu Quoc Island.

Upon arrival, lunch at a local restaurant, and then proceed for a city tour and visit the **Nguyen Trung Truc Temple**, which is dedicated to Nguyen Trung Truc, the leader of an insurrection who rose up against the French in the South in 1860.

Check-in at the hotel and the time is at leisure.

Overnight in Rach Gia.

D4 RACH GIA–HA TIEN–CHAU DOC (B/L)

After breakfast, depart by road to **Chau Doc**, border town with Cambodia located on the Hau Giang riverbank.

Along the way, stop at **Thach Dong Cave**, the most remarkable cave-pagoda in the region. Then continue to **Ha Tien**, one of the fishing ports on the Gulf of Thailand. Visit **Phu Dong Pagoda**, built in the 18th century and embellished with Buddhist bronze and Taoist statue.

Lunch of fish specialties at a local restaurant.

Visit the **Mausoleum of Mac Cuu**, the founder of the region, composed of traditional Chinese tombs where some family members were buried. The largest tomb is dedicated to the General himself who lived in the 17th and 18th century.

Arrive in the afternoon in Chau Doc and transfer to the hotel.

Overnight in Chau Doc.

D5 CHAU DOC (B/L)

After breakfast, climb up **Mount Nui Sam** (284m), a centre of Buddhist pilgrimage also dotted with dozens of temples and pagodas bringing together Chinese, Cham and Khmer's influences.



Then, visit the most important religious sites before heading back to town for **lunch at a local restaurant.**

In the afternoon, depart for a boat trip to discover the fish farms where thousands of fishes are bred for export. Stop at a **Cham village**, to meet the minority Muslim community and visit a mosque.

Overnight in Chau Doc.

D6 CHAU DOC (B)

After breakfast, the day is at leisure in Chau Doc. Then, drive back to Ho Chi Minh City or continue toward Cambodia (Phnom Penh).

End of our services.

CAT TIEN NATIONAL PARK (VN MOS-07)

3 days / 2 nights

Located northeast of Ho Chi Minh City, Cat Tien National Park forms one of Vietnam's largest natural reserves. It is the home to an incredible variety of animals and the site is classified by UNESCO among the six biospheres World Heritage of Humanity.

D1 HO CHI MINH CITY–CAT TIEN NATIONAL PARK (L)

Depart in the morning by road to the north toward the **Cat Tien National Park** (about 4-hour-drive), one of the largest in the country home to flora and fauna so remarkable that UNESCO has ranked it among the six biospheres as a World Heritage Site. On the way, stop at a rubber plantation to learn more about cultivating, harvesting and processing of these natural resources typical of Vietnam.

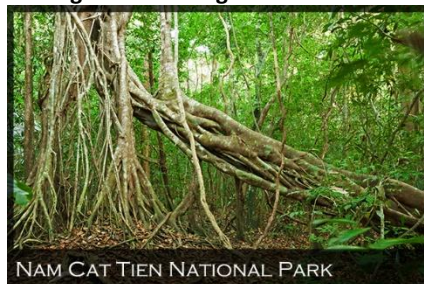
Arrive in Cat Tien, **check-in at the lodge and lunch.**

In the afternoon, **visit Dao Tien Centre** dedicated to endangered Primate Species. The centre's mission is to rescue and rehabilitate primates and bears in their natural habitats. **(This visit is temporarily suspended)**

The end of the day is at leisure to explore the natural surroundings.

In the evening, enjoy a night walk to observe the wildlife.

Overnight at the Lodge.



D2 CAT TIEN NATIONAL PARK (B/L)

After breakfast, transfer in the early morning for a 5-km trek (approximately 1h30) through the jungle to the **crocodile lake**. The walking trail is all along complemented by the singing of birds and wildlife of the park. On arrival, and with a little luck, visitors can see "Siamese" crocodiles, a species in serious danger of extinction.

Picnic lunch during the excursion then return to the Lodge in the afternoon and the time is at leisure.

Overnight at the Lodge.

D3 CAT TIEN NATIONAL PARK– HO CHI MINH CITY (B/L)

After breakfast, **depart for a 3-hour hike through the park** to discover the fauna and flora. There are some specimen trees that are up to 70m tall and the leaves of some plants reach a surprising size. The wildlife is also present, but the density of the forest often makes observation difficult. However, the most attentive and the most patient ones will walk away with great memories.

Lunch on the way.

Drive back to Ho Chi Minh City after lunch. Arrival late in the afternoon.

End of our services.

AUTHENTICITY AND SOUTHERN CHARM (VN MOS-08)

5 days / 4 nights

This itinerary allows you to discover the Mekong Delta in a more authentic way! Discover the typical daily life of the locals and cruise through the impressive landscapes of the 9 Dragons Delta! It also includes a unique 2-night home-stay experience in My Tho. Villa Balny is an exclusive Phoenix Voyages product offering the chance to relax and immerse yourself in the life of the villagers, while enjoying comfortable accommodation.

D1 HO CHI MINH CITY–CAN THO (L/D)

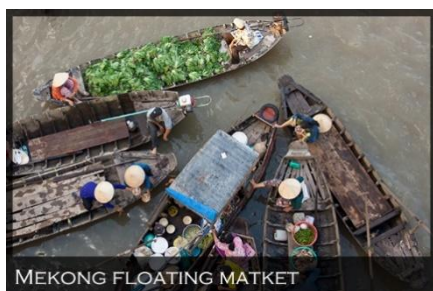
In the morning, depart by road toward **Can Tho**, the main city of the Mekong Delta.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

Upon arrival, stroll around Can Tho's market and visit the century-old **Binh Thuy House in Binh Thuy and its peaceful surroundings**, built in 1870, it has long been renowned for its ancient beauty along with its unique architecture. It is an ideal place to explore the region's history.

Settle in the bungalow and the time is at leisure for a stroll around the lodge and enjoy the tranquillity of the village.

Dinner and overnight at the lodge.



MEKONG FLOATING MARKET

D2 CAN THO (MEKONG RUSTIC) (B/L/D)

Depart in the early morning to visit the However, over the years, due to the development of the road infrastructure, the floating market is slowly diminishing. Then, visit a local family who have been making noodles by hand for 3 generations and will give you the chance to try your hands at the local techniques.

A light breakfast will be served.

Then, take a bicycle ride to visit a blacksmith family making thousands of knives. Stop at the traditional house to learn how to make and enjoy the special banana cake.

Savour a local lunch in an authentic house with orchard garden.

Dinner and overnight at the lodge.

Note:

-The visit of the floating markets will be in the early morning to enjoy the atmosphere.

-Despite being designated a national intangible cultural heritage site in 2016, the appeal of the Cai Rang floating market in Vietnam has declined in recent years due to modernization. However, the city government has already started a project to preserve and develop the floating markets.



BASSAC

D3 CAN THO – MY THO (B/D)

After breakfast, depart by road towards **My Tho**.

Arrive and check in at Villa Balny, a beautiful, traditionally decorated guest house hidden away in the greenery.

Dinner and overnight in My Tho.

D4 MY THO (VILLA BALNY) (B/L/D)

After breakfast, depart for a bicycle ride (12km) through gardens. Then, stroll around the market that brings together an impressive number of typical products of the region. The time is at leisure for personal purchases.

Return to Villa Balny for lunch.

After lunch, time to relax in the villa or in a hammock, take full advantage of the garden, or go for a walk in the surrounding area.

At the end of the day, you can help prepare a typical Vietnamese dinner in the company of your hosts.

Dinner and overnight in the home stay in My Tho.



MY THO

D5 MY THO–HO CHI MINH CITY (B)

After breakfast, drive back to Ho Chi Minh City.

End of our services.

LOCAL DAILY LIFE IN THE DELTA MEKONG (VN MOS-09)

2 days / 1 nights

D1 HO CHI MINH CITY–CAI BE–CAN THO (L/D)



MEKONG DELTA

After breakfast, drive to **Cai Be** in the heart of the Mekong Delta. On arrival, board on a sampan boat for a cruise on the Mekong River and its myriad of canals. Visit an old colonial house and a rice popcorn factory.

Enjoy a tasting of local specialties for lunch.

In the afternoon, drive to **Can Tho**, the largest town in the Mekong Delta.

Overnight at the lodge.

D2 CAN THO -HO CHI MINH (B/L)

Depart in the early morning to visit the Cai Rang small floating market in the Mekong Delta with boat vendors selling fresh fruits and agricultural products from the region. However, over the years, due to the development of the road infrastructure, the floating market is slowly diminishing. Then, visit a local family who have been making noodles by hand for 3 generations and will give you the chance to try your hands at the local techniques.

A light breakfast will be served.

Then, take a bicycle ride to visit a blacksmith family making thousands of knives. Stop at the traditional house to learn how to make and enjoy the special banana cake.

Savour a local lunch in an authentic house with orchard garden.



MEKONG FLOATING MARKET

In the afternoon, drive back to Ho Chi Minh City.

Note:

-The visit of the floating markets will be in the early morning to enjoy the atmosphere.

-Despite being designated a national intangible cultural heritage site in 2016, the appeal of the Cai Rang floating market in Vietnam has declined in recent years due to modernization. However, the city government has already started a project to preserve and develop the floating markets.

End of our services.

MEKONG DELTA: TYPICAL CAN THO TO BEN TRE (VNMOS-10)

4 days / 3 nights

This itinerary allows you to discover the Mekong Delta from Can Tho to Ben Tre, including a unique 2-night homestay experience at Villa Balny in My Tho. Villa Balny is an exclusive Phoenix Voyages product offering you the chance to relax and immerse yourself in the life of the villagers, while enjoying a comfortable accommodation.



D1 CAN THO (L/D)

Arrive in Can Tho, the main town in the Mekong Delta.

Lunch at a local restaurant.

The rest of the day is at leisure.

Dinner and overnight at the lodge.



D2 CAN THO – MY THO (B/L/D)

After an early wake-up call, depart for the small floating market of Cai Rang, in the Mekong Delta with boat vendors selling fresh fruits and agricultural products from the region. However, over the years, due to the development of the road infrastructure, the floating market is slowly diminishing.

Continue the visit to a local family, who have been making noodles by hand for 3 generations and will give you the chance to try your hands at the local techniques.

A light breakfast will be served.

Then, take a **bicycle ride** to visit a **blacksmith** family making thousands of knives. Stop at the traditional house to learn how to make and enjoy the special banana cake.

Enjoy a local lunch.

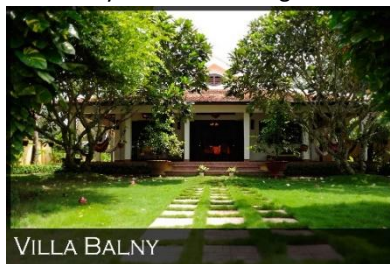


Note:

-The visit of the floating markets will be in the early morning to enjoy the atmosphere.

-Despite being designated a national intangible cultural heritage site in 2016, the appeal of the Cai Rang floating market in Vietnam has declined in recent years due to modernization. However, the city government has already started a project to preserve and develop the floating markets.

In the afternoon, drive to **My Tho**. Arrive and check-in at Villa Balny - a beautiful, traditionally decorated guest house



hidden away in the greenery.

Dinner and overnight at Villa Balny.

D3 MY THO (B/L/D)

After breakfast, depart for a bicycle ride (12km) through gardens. This bike tour can be replaced by a leisurely walk to the village. Then, stroll around the market that brings together an impressive number of typical products of the region. The rest of time is at leisure for personal purchases.

Lunch at Villa Balny.

After lunch, you can relax in the villa or a hammock, take full advantage of the garden, or go for a walk in the surrounding area. At the end of the day, you can help prepare a typical Vietnamese dinner in the company of your hosts.

Dinner and overnight at Villa Balny.



D4 MY THO–BEN TRE–HO CHI MINH CITY (B/L)

After breakfast, depart towards **Ben Tre** province, in the Mekong Delta. On arrival, enjoy the photogenic visit of a **brick factory** located on the bank of the river. Embark on a boat and cruise on the Mekong River, in the middle of its activity and the never-ending criss-crossing of sampans. Stop on the way to visit a coconut candy workshop and discover the processing of dried coconut. Continue the boat trip to Cai Son and Nhon Thanh creeks to see how people make mats. **Then, cycle or take a "xe loi"** along local route through gardens and vegetable fields, before **transferring to the local restaurant for lunch.**



In the afternoon, take a rowing boat along water palm creek and Cai Coi creek. Then,

stop at a market gathering many regional produces.

Then, return to Ho Chi Minh City by road.
Arrival late in the afternoon.

End of our services.

