TOUR 15: HO CHI MINH - DA NANG - HANOI - HALONG 8 DAYS

DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1: HO CHI MINH ARRIVAL – CITY TOUR (PRIVATE TOUR)

Welcome to Ho Chi Minh City - Vietnam!

Upon arrival, you will be collected by our Driver (No Guide) at Tan Son Nhat Airport and transferred to the hotel, then checked-in as per hotel's standard check-in time.

Afternoon, start with a visit to the Independence Palace, also known as the Reunification Palace. Built on the site of the former Norodom Palace, it stands as a prominent landmark of Ho Chi Minh City, designed by architect Ngo Viet Thu.

Next, see some beautiful examples of French Colonial architecture, including the Notre Dame Cathedral (viewed from the outside due to ongoing construction) and the historic Central Post Office.

Continue to the War Remnants Museum, which offers a comprehensive display of both the Indochina wars, providing deep insights into the wartime history and its impact.

Conclude the tour with a visit to Ben Thanh Market, a bustling hub where you can explore local crafts, souvenirs, and street food. Enjoy some free time to shop and experience the vibrant atmosphere.

Overnight at hotel in Ho Chi Minh

DAY 2: HO CHI MINH – MEKONG DELTA TOUR (MY THO – BEN TRE) – HO CHI MINH (SIC TOUR) (B/L)

Breakfast at hotel.

Pick-up time: ~ 07:30 / Drop-off time: ~ 17:30

Leave the hustle and bustle of Ho Chi Minh City behind and embark on a trip to My Tho, a town located on the left bank of the Mekong River.

Upon arrival, visit the Vinh Trang Pagoda, a historic site dating back to the late 19th century.

Board a sampan and cruise along the Mekong River, passing by the four beautiful islands: Dragon, Unicorn, Phoenix, and Tortoise.

Stop at Unicorn Island and take a leisurely walk along country lanes, exploring local orchards and sampling tropical fruits. Enjoy a performance of traditional folk songs by local artists.

Continue with a ride on a hand-rowed sampan through the Thoi Son Canal, immersing yourself in the picturesque countryside. Visit a family-run business, see a honey bee farm, and experience a workshop on making coconut candy. Enjoy a taste of honey tea and other local treats.

Have lunch at a local restaurant and take a break to relax.

In the afternoon, choose between cycling around Tan Thach Village to meet local villagers and experience daily life in the Mekong Delta, or relax in a hammock and enjoy the cool breeze for those who prefer not to cycle.

Return to Ho Chi Minh City in the late afternoon.

Overnight at hotel in Ho Chi Minh

DAY 3: HO CHI MINH – CU CHI TUNNELS (SIC TOUR) - AFTERNOON FLIGHT AFTER 17:00 TO DA NANG (B)

Breakfast at hotel and check out.

Pick-up time: ~ 07:30 / Drop-off time: ~ 14:30

Depart for the Cu Chi Tunnels, a journey of approximately one and a half hours by bus. Upon arrival, receive a brief introduction and watch an introductory video about the construction of the tunnels and how people survived under wartime conditions. Explore the extensive tunnel systems, including specially constructed living areas with kitchens, bedrooms, and other facilities like storage rooms, weapons factories, field hospitals, and command centers. Discover hidden trap doors and dangerous traps that were used for security during the war.

After your exploration, enjoy special tea and cassava, a staple food of the guerrillas during the war. There will also be time for relaxation or an optional opportunity to try shooting real guns (at your own expense).

Return to your hotel.

Head to the airport with a driver (no guide) for your flight to Danang (air tickets excluded).

Upon arrival, you will be collected by our local guide at Danang Airport and transferred to the hotel to check in.

Overnight at hotel in Danang.

DAY 4: DANANG – COCONUT FOREST BY BASKET BOAT - HOI AN CITY WITH A LANTERN BOAT RIDE (SIC TOUR) (B/D)

Breakfast at hotel. Morning at leisure.

Pick-up time: ~ 12:00 noon / Drop-off time: ~ 19:30

The van and tour guide will pick you up from your hotel in the Da Nang area and start your adventure at Cam Thanh Coconut Village. Experience traditional fishing techniques and learn how to row unique Vietnamese bamboo basket boats while exploring the serene coconut palm waterways. Gain authentic social and cultural insights into local life through hands-on activities that are fun, safe, and suitable for everyone.

Then, depart for Hoi An Old Town. Visit the Phuc Kien Chinese Assembly Hall, known for its vibrant gates, dragon statues, and elaborate rooftops. Learn about ancestor worship at the family altar and observe local devotees making offerings. Explore the well-preserved Phung Hung Ancient House or Tan Ky Ancient House, which have withstood 200 years of weather and conflict. Discover the history of the prosperous merchants who once lived here and engaged in global trade. Enjoy an art show at the Hoi An Traditional Performing Arts House. Stop at the Japanese Bridge, which spans a small waterway and was built over 400 years ago to connect the Japanese community with the Chinese residents. Admire the intricate carvings and paintings on the bridge, learning about their symbolism and cultural significance.

Browse through Hoi An’s renowned handicraft shops and artwork galleries. Wander through smaller laneways and local neighborhoods to appreciate the endless charm of Hoi An.

Enjoy dinner featuring a local specialty.

At 18:00, take a boat ride on the Hoai River and release flower lanterns to wish for good luck for you and your family. Immerse yourself in the enchanting atmosphere of the lantern-lit streets and explore the night market, taking in the shimmering beauty of Hoi An. Return to your hotel. Overnight at a hotel in Danang.

DAY 5: DANANG – BA NA HILLS WITH THE GOLDEN BRIDGE (SIC TOUR) (B/L)

Breakfast at hotel.

Pick-up time: ~ 7:30 / Drop-off time: ~17:30

Our car and guide will meet you at your hotel to begin your trip to Ba Na Hills.

Upon arrival at Ba Na Hills, board the cable car for a breathtaking ride on the world’s longest non-stop cable car (11,587 meters) and the heaviest cable roll (141.24 tons).

At the top station, visit Le Jardin D’Amour Flower Garden and marvel at the stunning Golden Bridge. Enjoy the opportunity to take photos of this iconic landmark.

Next, explore Linh Ung Pagoda, home to the tallest Buddhist statue in Vietnam.

Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant and take a brief rest.

After lunch, continue your adventure by discovering the French Square and having fun at Fantasy Park, where you can play a variety of games and enjoy the amusement park attractions. Later, take the cable car back down the mountain. Return your hotel in Da Nang.

Overnight at hotel in Danang.

DAY 6: DANANG - MORNING FLIGHT TO HANOI - CITY TOUR (PRIVATE TOUR)

Breakfast at hotel and check out

Free at leisure until transfer with driver (no guide) to the airport for your flight to Hanoi (air tickets excluded).

Upon arrival, you will be collected by our local guide at Noi Bai Airport and transfer to the hotel, then check-in as per hotel's standard check-in time.

Afternoon, start with a visit to the Ho Chi Minh Complex, including the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum (outside only since it's closed on Mondays, Fridays and all afternoon), Presidential Palace, Ho Chi Minh's Stilt House, and the One Pillar Pagoda.

Next, head to Hanoi's Train Street to experience the unique sight of a train passing through the narrow street. Enjoy a coffee at a local café here if you wish (at your own expense).

Following that, a walking tour in the Old Quarter will allow you to explore the bustling streets, traditional shops, and colonial architecture.

The tour concludes with a drop-off at your hotel. Overnight at hotel in Hanoi.

DAY 7: HANOI - HALONG BAY - TRANSFERRED BY SHUTTLE BUS - OVERNIGHT ON CRUISE (SHARED BOAT) (B/L/D)

After breakfast at the hotel and check-out, transfer to Ha Long Bay by the cruise's shuttle bus.

Upon arrival, board the cruise and begin your journey through the stunning Ha Long Bay while enjoying a lunch of local cuisine on board. Ha Long Bay, meaning "Descending Dragon Bay" in Vietnamese, is steeped in legend as the place where a sacred dragon descended from the sky. The bay, recognized as one of the world's wonders and a UNESCO World Heritage Site, boasts around 2,000 karst islands and islets spread over 1,553 km², with a geological history dating back 500 million years.

After lunch, participate in a guided tour of a grotto, where you'll marvel at the fascinating formations of stalactites and stalagmites. Continue with a visit to a nearby island, where you can relax on the beach or take a short hike to a viewpoint for a panoramic view of the bay.

As the day winds down, return to the cruise to unwind and take in the breathtaking bay view at sunset. Then, join a cooking class where you can learn to make traditional Vietnamese dishes and later enjoy a dinner featuring local specialties on board.

In the evening, join in on optional activities such as squid fishing. Overnight on the cruise.

Note: The cruise itinerary may vary based on your chosen cruise. A stationed English-speaking guide will be available on board.

DAY 8: HALONG BAY - HANOI - TRANSFERRED BY SHUTTLE BUS - DEPARTURE FLIGHT AFTER 18:30 (B/BR)

In the morning, start your day with a refreshing Tai Chi session on the sundeck at dawn, taking in the serene beauty of Ha Long Bay. Enjoy tea and coffee on board as you continue exploring the bay's stunning 2,000 islets and some of its major highlights.

Later, you have the option to go kayaking or take a bamboo boat ride to explore hidden lagoons and get up close to the towering limestone cliffs. Around 9:00, check out of your cabin and savor a brunch (local food) while cruising back toward the shore. As you approach the mainland, enjoy some final moments on the deck, taking in the last views of the magnificent bay. Disembark at around 11:00 AM and transfer back to Hanoi by shuttle bus.

Head to the airport with driver (no guide) for your departure flight.

End of service!

ACCOMMODATIONS (BELOW HOTELS OR EQUIVALENT)

CITY	3-STAR	4-STAR	5-STAR
Ho Chi Minh	**Prague Hotel** Superior with window (double bed only)	**Sky Gem Hotel Sora** Superior (Internal View)	**Hotel Grand Saigon** Deluxe
Da Nang	**Anfada Hotel Da Nang** Superior Inside View	**Grand Gold Hotel** Deluxe Ocean View	**DLG Hotel** Deluxe Ocean View
Hanoi	**First Eden Hotel** ROH (Superior & Deluxe)	**La Passion Classic** Deluxe Room	**Grand Vista Hotel** Deluxe

Halong Bay	**Le Journey Premium Cruise** Deluxe Cabin	**Dragon Bay Premium Cruise** Deluxe Balcony

Note: Some hotels may request security deposits at check-in.

QUOTATION: Price per person in USD, based on group size stated.

From 1st October 2026 to 30th Apr 2027 (except black-out dates)

Hotel category	1 pax	2 – 3 pax	4 - 5 pax	6 pax	Single supplement
3-star	770	490	468	445	182
4-star	881	546	523	501	235
5-star	1,209	710	688	663	387

From 1st May 2026 to 30th Sep 2026 (except black-out dates)

Hotel category	1 pax	2 – 3 pax	4 - 5 pax	6 pax	Single supplement
3-star	767	489	466	444	181
4-star	867	539	516	494	228
5-star	1,299	755	733	708	430

Note: Rates for 1 pax include the single supplement.

INCLUSIONS	EXCLUSIONS
Accommodations based on twin/double occupancy (Standard check-in time: ~14:00 – 15:00, standard check-out time: ~11:00 – 12:00 noon) Cruise based on twin/double occupancy on a shared boat (Check-in/ check-out time: as per cruise's standard) Meals mentioned in the itinerary: B=Breakfast, Br=Brunch, L=Lunch, D=Dinner. Tours and sightseeing as per the itinerary Transfers by vehicles with A/C Private airport transfers Private vehicle(s) for private tour(s) Shared bus for SIC tours Boat trip(s) as mentioned in the itinerary Tour guide(s) escort as per the itinerary (English-speaking guides – different guides in different cities and SIC tours) Bottles of water on vehicles for tour days and transfers: 2 bottles per person per full day 1 bottle per person per half day or airport transfer	E-Visa to Vietnam (Single entry) Meals not mentioned in the itinerary Single Supplement. Early check-in and late check-out charges. Room upgrades. Flights tickets (International and Domestic) and airport taxes Bank transfer fees for payment and taxes (GST, TCS…) Personal expenses (laundry, beverages, and tips for **SIC tours' staff**, hotels' staff, restaurants' staff, boatmen…) Services not mentioned in the itinerary Compulsory tipping for tour guides and drivers **if having private tours:** USD 3 per person per full-day tour USD 1.5 per person per half-day tour or airport transfer