

Vietnam Panorama

From \$4,040 per person twin share - 18 Days - Fully Inclusive From Australia

From price includes: Tour Cost \$3,680, Airline fuel surcharge \$268 and Tipping \$92 (subject to change)

Vietnam is stunning. Our most popular tour will take you to some of the country's most wonderful sites. Be they natural or man-made, ancient or modern, each will enthral you. Travel will be overland for most of your tour, allowing you to appreciate Vietnam's fascinating scenery as it unfolds before your eyes.

Your tour starts in the energetic Ho Chi Minh City or Saigon as many people still prefer to call it. Saigon can seem frantic and chaotic at times, yet, beneath all of this frenzy there is a city teeming with a history that will fascinate you. Saigon did not escape the wrath of war and has quite a traumatic history. At the War Remnants Museum you will be confronted with lots of photographs depicting the terror of war. At the Cu Chi Tunnels your history lesson will continue. A visit to the Notre Dame Cathedral will interest many, this late 19th Century cathedral has been a prominent feature of Saigon's skyline and is really quite beautiful. Taking various boat trips you will discover the mighty Mekong Delta. A different world awaits you here. Life in the delta is tightly woven as daily activities and businesses are conducted on the banks of its rivers.

Dalat is probably one of Vietnam's most well known holiday destinations, particularly for honeymooners! Discover the beautiful Lake of Sighs and learn how it got its name. Before settling down for the night in Nha Trang, you will cruise around the nearby islands to take in the beautiful scenery. Nha Trang is well known for its miles of beach and the friendliness of its people.

There are many attractions waiting for you in the UNESCO World Heritage listed town of Hoi An. This former merchant trading port has a mixture of Vietnamese, Chinese, Japanese and French architecture and is a very picturesque town. Some say it is charmingly romantic, others see it as a shopper's paradise! You choose! The drive over the Hai Van Pass to Hue is rather stunning. You will find the scenery along the way quite breathtaking. Hue is among Vietnam's most valued national treasures in terms of history and heritage. A cyclo ride to the Imperial Citadel will be a welcome break, as will a relaxing cruise on the Perfume River.

Finally you reach Hanoi, the capital of Vietnam. A walking tour of the old quarter will fascinate you. The streets are alive and bustling and give an insight into the past as well as the present. Expect to be surprised as you cruise around Halong Bay. The many limestone karsts and islets which rise out of the waters delight most who visit this amazing natural wonder. Vietnam offers an unlimited supply of interesting sites. Join us - you won't be disappointed!

Day 1: Australia to Saigon

Fly with Singapore Airlines via Singapore to Saigon for 2 nights.

Day 2: Saigon

Visit the former Presidential Palace, War Remnants Museum, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office, Cholon (Chinatown), drive past Binh Tay Wholesale Market and visit Thien Hau Pagoda. After stopping at Ben Thanh Market for some shopping, the remainder of the day is at leisure.

Days 3-4: Saigon to Can Tho

Over the next 2 days we explore the Mekong Delta. Taking various boat trips amongst the smaller tributaries to visit local floating markets, villages, home industries and plantations before staying overnight in Can Tho. Tomorrow we continue our explorations along the river before returning to Saigon.

Day 5: Saigon

Explore the famous Cu Chi Tunnels and Tay Ninh, where we experience the midday service at the head temple of the unique Cao Dai religion before returning to Saigon.

Day 6: Saigon to Dalat

This morning we drive north to Dalat.

Day 7: Dalat

Today we visit Lat Village, where numerous ethnic groups live and the Lake of Sighs.

Day 8: Dalat to Nha Trang

Travel to Nha Trang today where upon arrival we cruise around the islands visiting the Tri Nguyen Aquarium, Tam Island and a local fishing village.

Day 9: Nha Trang to Qui Nhon

Continue north along Highway One to Qui Nhon stopping en route at the Cham Po Nagar Towers.

Day 10: Qui Nhon to Hoi An

Leaving Qui Nhon we stop at Son My to pay homage to the victims of the My Lai Massacre before continuing to the town of Hoi An.

Days 11-12: Hoi An

Enjoy a walking tour of Hoi An. Visit an old merchant's home, still lived in by descendants of the original merchant, the Japanese Bridge, Hoi An Market, a local Chinese pagoda and assembly hall. Tomorrow is free to visit the tailors and soak up the charming atmosphere of Hoi An at one of the many riverside cafes along the Thu Bon River.

Day 13: Hoi An to Hue

Leaving Hoi An we visit the Marble Mountains and China Beach before continuing over the Hai Van Pass to Hue. Take a cyclo ride to the Imperial Citadel, continue by coach to Thien Mu Pagoda and enjoy a boat trip on

the Perfume River. This evening partake in a cooking class focusing on select local dishes and cuisine.

Day 14: Hue to Hanoi

Visit Tu Duc and Khai Dinh Royal tombs, before flying to Hanoi. This evening enjoy a performance of the famous Water Puppets, a specialty of the north.

Day 15: Hanoi

Our city tour today includes a visit to Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum (closed Sep-Dec), Stilt House and Museum, One Pillar Pagoda and the Temple of Literature. Drive around Hoan Kiem Lake and enjoy a walking tour of the old quarter and its markets.

Day 16: Hanoi - Halong Bay

Travel to the area that is regarded as the 'Jewel in the Crown of Vietnam' - Halong Bay and cruise through spectacular scenery. After the cruise we return to Hanoi by coach.

Day 17: Depart Hanoi

Enjoy a last minute shopping spree before boarding our overnight flight back home.

Day 18: Arrive Australia

Arrive home this morning.

Halong Bay and Hanoi Extension (2D/1N):

Day 16: Hanoi to Halong Bay

You may choose to leave the group today and travel to Halong Bay where you will spend the night on a junk boat.

Day 17: Halong Bay to Hanoi

Continue cruising around the islands this morning before returning to Hanoi this afternoon.

Day 18: Depart Hanoi

Enjoy a full day at leisure before boarding your overnight flight to Australia.

Day 19: Arrive Australia

Arrive home this morning.

Inclusions

International airfares, all transportation in Vietnam, accommodation, all meals, entrance fees, guides and daily tours, taxes and charges, Australia and Vietnam departure taxes and visa fees for Australian passport holders

Price Guide

18 Days, Fully Inclusive Twin Share

✈ From \$4,040 per person - Departing Sydney, Melbourne, Brisbane and Adelaide with Singapore Airlines

+ Add \$200 per person - Departing Perth

🏠 Single Hotel Supplement - From \$620

🚗 Land Only - From \$2,905 (includes Tipping)

★★ Medium Paced Tour (see page 2)

Make the most of your holiday

- Halong Bay and Hanoi Extension (2D/1N)
+ Add From \$350 per person to the Twin Share price (twin cabin)
+ Add From \$560 to the Single Supplement price (single cabin)
- Singapore Hotels and Touring (see page 45)



Thien Hau Pagoda - Cholon, Saigon

Departures

| Tour Code | Depart Australia | Arrive Australia | Twin Share Price |
|-------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| 2010 | | | |
| V201101* | 25 Jan | 11 Feb | \$4,140 |
| V201102* | 01 Feb | 18 Feb | \$4,140 |
| V201103 | 08 Feb | 25 Feb | \$4,040 |
| V201104 | 15 Feb | 04 Mar | \$4,040 |
| V201105 | 22 Feb | 11 Mar | \$4,040 |
| V201106 | 01 Mar | 18 Mar | \$4,040 |
| V201107 | 08 Mar | 25 Mar | \$4,040 |
| V201108 | 15 Mar | 01 Apr | \$4,040 |
| V201109 | 22 Mar | 08 Apr | \$4,040 |
| V201110 | 29 Mar | 15 Apr | \$4,040 |
| V201111 | 05 Apr | 22 Apr | \$4,240 |
| V201112 | 12 Apr | 29 Apr | \$4,240 |
| V20111201 | 19 Apr | 06 May | \$4,240 |
| V201113 | 26 Apr | 13 May | \$4,140 |
| V201114 | 03 May | 20 May | \$4,140 |
| V201115 | 10 May | 27 May | \$4,140 |
| V201116 | 17 May | 03 Jun | \$4,140 |
| V201117 | 24 May | 10 Jun | \$4,140 |
| V201118 | 07 Jun | 24 Jun | \$4,140 |
| V201119 | 05 Jul | 22 Jul | \$4,240 |
| V201120 | 26 Jul | 12 Aug | \$4,140 |
| V201121 | 02 Aug | 19 Aug | \$4,140 |
| V201122 | 16 Aug | 02 Sep | \$4,140 |
| V201123 | 06 Sep | 23 Sep | \$4,140 |
| V201124 | 13 Sep | 30 Sep | \$4,140 |
| V201125 | 27 Sep | 14 Oct | \$4,240 |
| V201126 | 04 Oct | 21 Oct | \$4,240 |
| V201127 | 11 Oct | 28 Oct | \$4,140 |
| V201128 | 18 Oct | 04 Nov | \$4,140 |
| V201129 | 25 Oct | 11 Nov | \$4,140 |
| V201130 | 01 Nov | 18 Nov | \$4,140 |
| V201131 | 08 Nov | 25 Nov | \$4,140 |
| V201132 | 22 Nov | 09 Dec | \$4,240 |
| V201133 | 29 Nov | 16 Dec | \$4,240 |
| 2011 | | | |
| V2121 | 17 Jan | 03 Feb | \$4,240 |
| V2122* | 31 Jan | 17 Feb | \$4,240 |
| V2123* | 07 Feb | 24 Feb | \$4,140 |
| V2124 | 14 Feb | 03 Mar | \$4,140 |
| V2125 | 21 Feb | 10 Mar | \$4,140 |
| V2126 | 28 Feb | 17 Mar | \$4,140 |
| V2127 | 07 Mar | 24 Mar | \$4,140 |
| V2128 | 14 Mar | 31 Mar | \$4,140 |

Important note: Above prices include Airline fuel surcharges and Tipping of \$360 (correct as at 31 August 2009 and subject to change). Please note the Tipping amount of US\$80 (A\$92) is payable on arrival in Vietnam.

* Departure coincides with Tet New Year celebrations and sightseeing may be affected due to public holiday closures (see page 4)

