

8 Days North Vietnam Highlights Tour



Route: Hanoi Arrival – Ha long Bay Cruise – Sapa – Hanoi Departure

Key Elements: B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner, G=Guide

Tour Objectives:

1. Sightseeing for nature beauty of Halong Bay, one of Vietnam's, and indeed Southeast Asia's, most spectacular natural attractions, whose staggering beauty has seen it listed as one of the eight natural wonders of the world. A UNESCO World Heritage site, Halong Bay presents a quite extraordinary vista of hundreds of limestone islands (over 1600 at last count) that rise from the jade green waters of the bay like the scales of some great submerged dragon
2. Communicate with local high school students to know more about Vietnam daily life;
3. Have a general idea about Vietnam from history & culture visit in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh;
4. Mekong Delta daily life;
5. Enjoy local food;
6. Creating fun for the students.

Safe Guarantee:

1. An E-travel guidebook will be sent to you before arrival. The contents of the guidebook will include the daily schedule of the tour, the contact numbers and addresses of the hotels, the emergency contact person and phone number.
2. Provide good buses and drivers. Limit the speed of the bus driving.
3. Only use those restaurants which in good sanitary condition.
4. All of the trips will be supervised by the experienced tour guide.

Day by day itinerary:

Madrid to Hanoi	
Flight 1	Saturday, October 01, 2011
Departure:	16:30 Madrid, Spain - Barajas, terminal 2
Arrival:	20:05 Warsaw, Poland - F. Chopin, terminal A
Airline:	LOT Polish Airlines LO434 
Aircraft:	Boeing 737-400
Change of plane required. Time between flights: 2:35.	
Flight 2	Saturday, October 01, 2011
Departure:	22:40 Warsaw, Poland - F. Chopin, terminal A
Arrival:	14:25 +1 day(s) Hanoi, Viet Nam - Noibai
Airline:	LOT Polish Airlines LO85 
Aircraft:	Boeing 767-300/300ER

Day 1 – Sunday 2nd October, 2011

Hanoi arrival (Guide pick up)

Transfer via: International flight arrive in afternoon

On arrival at Noi Bai Airport in Hanoi, our tour guide will meet you at the airport with **Indochina Odyssey Tours welcome board** and transfer to hotel in the center of Hanoi.

Hanoi, Vietnam's capital is a stylish and gracious city that retains an unique old world charm and some Asia's most striking colonial architecture. The many lakes and parks make for relaxing atmosphere.

After the hotel check-in, free at leisure for the rest of the day. (If you requested, our tour guide would love to suggest you to a good local restaurant for lunch first.).

Overnight in Hanoi

Accommodation: [Hanoi Emotion Hotel \(Superior Room\)](#)

<http://www.hanoiemotionhotel.com/>

Day 2 – Monday 3rd October, 2011

Hanoi city tour (Meal: B/L/D) (G)

After breakfast at hotel, start at 9:00 from your hotel by car to visit

Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum (also called Lang Bac or Luminous Mausoleum), opened in 1975, the year Vietnam was reunified. In the tradition of Lenin and Stalin before him, the final resting place of Ho Chi Minh is a glass sarcophagus set deep in the bowels of a monumental edifice that has become a site of pilgrimage.

Ho Chi Minh's House, built of the finest wooden materials in 1958, is next to a carp- filled pond. The simple two-story wooden house in which Ho Chi Minh lived (just how much time Ho actually spent here is questionable) is situated among banyan, frangipani, poinciana and milkweed trees.

Ho Chi Minh's Historical Museum, once called the museum of the Ecole Francaise d'Extreme Orient. Its exhibits include artifacts from Vietnam's prehistory, proto- Vietnamese civilizations, the Dong Son Civilization, the Eco-culture of the Mekong Delta, the Indianised kingdom of Champa, the Khmer kingdoms, various Vietnamese dynasties and their resistance to Chinese attempts at domination, the struggle against the French, and the history of the Communist Party.

One Pillar Pagoda (the Chua Mot Cot), a miniature pagoda once called the Temple of Love, was built in 1040 on a pillar constructed of a single large tree trunk.

Quan Thanh (Temple of the Northern Spirits) is also known as Tran Vo or Tran Vu, but is incorrectly called the Pagoda of the Grand Buddha.

Fine Arts Museum serves as the Ministry of Information under the French. The museum's exhibits consist almost exclusively of politically correct folk art, sculpture, engravings and lacquer ware by contemporary artist.

Temple of Literature. Emperor Ly Thanh Tong, who dedicated it to Confucius in order to honor scholars and men of literary accomplishments, founded the Temple of Literature in 1070 - four years after the Norman invasion of England.

Wonder around Hoan Kiem Lake then visit **Ngocson Temple**.

Visit Hanoi's old quarters by **cyclo**. The cyclo or rickshaw will take you along narrow streets of the diverse **Ancient Quarter**, the characterized by numerous narrow streets, which date from the 15th century, each one bears a name that reflects the business once conducted there. Examples of which are Silk Street, Rice Street, Paper Street, Jeweler's Street and so on. This area now houses a variety of different other shops.

Transfer back to hotel for refreshing after the tour. Attend **Water Puppet Show** and enjoy Vietnam typical dinner in the Old Quarter in the evening.

Overnight in Hanoi

Accommodation: [Hanoi Emotion Hotel \(Superior Room\)](#)

<http://www.hanoiemotionhotel.com/>

Day 3 – Tuesday 4th October, 2011

Hanoi – Ha long Bay Cruise (Meal: B/L/D) (G)

After breakfast at hotel,

8:30: taking a 3 hours scenic private car transfer from Hanoi east to the World Heritage sight of Ha long Bay. With thousands of limestone peaks, dotted caves and traditional fishing villages, it's a place you will never forget. Spend one night cruising through the magic of the Bay on a traditional junk.

11.30 -12.00: Arrival in Ha Long Tourist Wharf. Transfer to Ha long Emotion by tender

12.00 - 12.30: Welcome cocktail on board. Check into your private cabin, while we start cruising towards Bai Tu Long Bay

13.15 -14.30: Vietnamese lunch served on board, against the stunning backdrop of limestone formations and islands such as: Coc Island, Cap De Island, Bo Cau Island, Vong Vieng fishing village.

16.00: Arrive in Vong Vieng fishing village, discover the life of local people by a sampan. Enjoy one of optional activities:

Available activities as:

- Visiting the village by sampan
- Diving to discover Bai Tu Long bay
- Swimming in Cong Troi beach (transferred by tender, included)
- Kite flying, relaxing on sundeck
- Kayaking

18.00: Stop in Trong cave area /Ho Dong Tien cave area for overnight.

19.00: Have dinner with fresh seafood provided by fishing villagers in the bay.

20.00-24.00: Freely enjoying the beauty of Ha long at night, join with one of optional activities: Release the windlamp, fight up the fireworks, enjoy traditional music (on special occasions) or barbecue (up on passenger's request).

Overnight in junk in Ha long bay

Accommodation: [Emotion junk \(Private Deluxe Cabin\)](#)

<http://www.halong-emotion.com>

Day 4 – Wednesday 5th October, 2011

Cruising in Ha long bay and back to Hanoi – Sapa by overnight train (Meal: B/D) (G)

6-6.30: Practice Tai Chi on the Sundeck

6.30-8.00: Start your day with a light breakfast

8.15- 9h30: A fantastic cruise on the bay, passing Dinh Huong Island, Fighting Cock Island, Dog Island. Arrive in Ba Hang Floating fishing village, a peaceful village. Visit local houses, fish farms, schools and chat with friendly fisher men.

9:45: Check out

10:00- 11:00. Have brunch and clear bills.

11.30. Back to the Tourist Wharf

Drive back to Hanoi. Have dinner at local restaurant before transfer to the airport to take evening soft sleeper train to Lao Cai.

Overnight on soft sleeper train

Accommodation: [4 berths Cabin on Fanxipan soft sleeper train](#)

<http://www.fanxipantrain.com/>

Day 5 – Thursday 6th October, 2011

Sapa - Lao Chai - Ta Van (Meal: B/L/D) (G)

Arrive in the early morning in the border town of Lao Cai where it's a short transfer to Sapa. In the terraced hills and mountains of this area, the monotony of the expansive green landscape is enlivened by the colours of its hill tribe population. It is here you will find hands stained with colour from fabric dyes and shades of blue, red and green intricately embroidered and stitched into jackets, waistcoats, pants, skirts, caps, purses and leggings.

After breakfast at a local restaurant, take a morning walking tour of Sapa for a visit to the busy market where Red Dao, Black & Flower H'Mong, Tay and other ethnic minority people converge from the surrounding countryside to sell their silverware and handicrafts, and to buy provisions. Afterwards, take a light trek (escorted with private bus) to discover Sapa's quaint hill tribe villages (Cat Cat and Sin Chai).

Overnight in Sapa

Accommodation: [Chau Long Hotel \(Superior in new wing\)](#)

<http://www.chaulonghotel.com/>

Day6 – Friday 7th October, 2011

Lao Chai – Ta Van – Sapa

After breakfast, drive to visit Lao Chai and Ta Van village of the Black H'mong and the Day people where you can enjoy fresh air, amazing scenery of the imposing mountain range, trek down world's most beautiful terraced rice fields and learn unique culture and life of these ethnic groups. Back to Sapa, free at leisure for the rest of the day.

Overnight in Sapa

Accommodation: [Chau Long Hotel \(Superior in new wing\)](#)

<http://www.chaulonghotel.com/>

Day 7 – Saturday 8th October, 2011

Sapa – Coc Ly Market – Lao Cai & Train to Hanoi (Meal: B/L) (G)

Breakfast at hotel;

This morning, we drive to visit colorful weekly ethnic market in Coc Ly. Meet many different ethnic minorities; see interesting local products and unique culture and life. Around noon, take the beautiful boat trip down Chay River to enjoy fresh air and amazing scenery. Pick up for the drive back to Lao Cai train station for the overnight train back to Hanoi.

[Overnight on soft sleeper train](#)

[Accommodation: 4 berths Cabin on Fanxipan soft sleeper train](#)

<http://www.fanxipantrain.com/>

Day 8 – Sunday 9th October, 2011

Hanoi local high school communication departure (Meal: B/L) (G)

Transfer via: International flight depart in the evening

Arrive at train station at around 5am. Transfer to hotel in Hanoi for breakfast and take a short rest.

After breakfast, drive to a local English high school to study with local students together and then have one class to communicate with the local students. Please some games together before ending the visit at noon.

Have lunch at local restaurant; then free to do some shopping in Old Quarter before transferring to the airport to take afternoon flight back home.

It's time to say goodbye, we thank you for travelling with us and warmly welcome you to come again.

Hanoi to Madrid	
Flight 1	Sunday, October 09, 2011
Departure: 23:25	Hanoi, Viet Nam - Noibai
Arrival: 06:05 +1 day(s)	Warsaw, Poland - F. Chopin, terminal A
Airline: LOT Airlines LO86 	Polish Aircraft: Boeing 767-300/300ER
Change of plane required. Time between flights: 5:35.	
Flight 2	Monday, October 10, 2011

Departure: 11:40 Warsaw, Poland - F. Chopin, terminal A

Arrival: 15:30 Madrid, Spain - Barajas, terminal 2

Airline: LOT Polish **Aircraft:** Boeing 737-400
Airlines LO433 e

-----Service ends-----

Accommodation at 3 star hotels:

City	Hotel name	Duration	Room type
Hanoi	Hanoi Emotion Hotel http://www.hanoiemotionhotel.com/	2 nights	Superior Room
Ha long	Emotion Cruise http://www.halong-emotion.com	1 night	Deluxe cabin
Sapa	Chau Long Hotel (Superior in new wing) http://www.chaulonghotel.com/	1 night	Superior Room in new wing
Overnight train	Fanxipan soft sleeper train http://www.fanxipantrain.com/	2 nights	4 berths Cabin