



03 Hung Hoa Str., Hai Chau Dist., Da Nang, Viet Nam

Hotline: +84935863823 / +84905122315

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## North & Central Vietnam Heritages Ha Noi - Ha Long - Ninh Binh - Da Nang - Hoi An (9D8N)



### Trip information:

- **Guest's name:** []
- **Nationality:** []
- **Travel Period:** []
- **Number of group:** []
- **Trip highlights:** Thrilling cyclo tour through the bustling streets of the Hanoi Old Quarter.
  - ★ Visit Hanoi Railway street and then enjoy a cup of coffee while waiting for the train to pass through.
  - ★ Embark on a luxurious cruise aboard to Lan Ha Bay - Ha Long and enjoy a sunset party on board.
  - ★ Explore home of many diverse bird species at Thung Nham Bird Park - Ninh Binh
  - ★ Cruise through the scenic complex, featuring limestone karsts, caves, and temples at Trang An Landscape Complex
  - ★ Glide above the clouds at Ba Na Hills, stroll along the iconic Golden Bridge, then wander through the ancient streets of Hoi An, a UNESCO World Heritage site.
  - ★ Snorkel in Cham Island's pristine waters and glide through Cam Thanh Coconut Forest on a basket boat.



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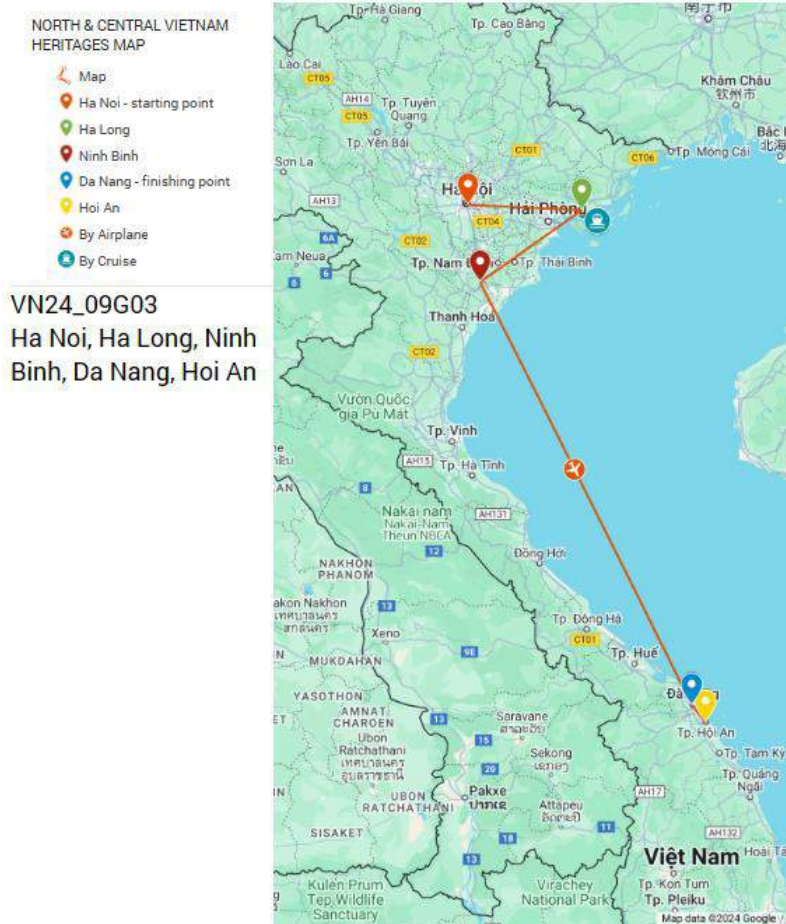
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- **Duration:** 09 days
- **Travel styles:** Classic, Beach, Family, Local Life
- **Start:** Ha Noi - **Finish:** Da Nang
- **Physical:** Moderate
- **Code:** VN24\_09G03
- **Ages:** all ages
- **Group size:** 2-14 (Please contact us for more support if you are a solo traveler or your group has more than 14 people).
- **Map link:**

<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/edit?mid=1BPe8Xx1quC-blivuqrKLBxfX1h8jwBw&ll=18.434380483917188%2C106.52571768744274&z=9>

## NORTH & CENTRAL VIETNAM HERITAGES



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● Price:

Price USD/person	Group 2-3 pax	Group 4-5 pax	Group 6-7 pax	Group 8-9 pax	Group 10-11 pax	Group 12-14 pax
4-star	1110 USD /person	923 USD /person	833 USD /person	826 USD /person	791 USD /person	<b>768 USD /person</b>
5-star	1385 USD /person	1203 USD /person	1.113 USD /person	1.106 USD /person	1.071 USD /person	1.048 USD /person
<b>Exclude holiday surcharge from 10% to 20%</b>						
	4-star accommodation			5-star accommodation		
Ha Noi	La Mejor Hanoi or similar: <a href="https://lamejorhotel.com/room/deluxe-room/">https://lamejorhotel.com/room/deluxe-room/</a> (deluxe room)			Oriental Jade or similar <a href="https://theorientaljadehotel.com/accommodation/oriental-emerald-room">https://theorientaljadehotel.com/accommodation/oriental-emerald-room</a>		
Ha Long	Peony Cruise or similar: <a href="https://www.peonycruises.com/">https://www.peonycruises.com/</a> (Deluxe balcony)			Mon Cheri Cruise or similar: <a href="https://www.monchericruises.com">https://www.monchericruises.com</a> (Ocean Suite Balcony)		
Ninh Binh	An's Eco Garden or similar: <a href="https://anecogarden.com/hotel_room/deluxe-garden-view/">https://anecogarden.com/hotel_room/deluxe-garden-view/</a> (deluxe garden)			Emeralda Ninh Binh or similar: <a href="http://www.emeraldaresort.com/Accommodation.aspx">http://www.emeraldaresort.com/Accommodation.aspx</a> (superior)		
Da Nang	Maximilian Beach hotel or similar <a href="https://maximilan.com.vn/">https://maximilan.com.vn/</a> (Beachfront premier deluxe)			DLG hotel or similar <a href="https://dlghoteladang.com/">https://dlghoteladang.com/</a> (Deluxe OceanView)		
Hoi An	Moodhoian resort (10' from the old town) or similar <a href="https://moodhoian.vn/">https://moodhoian.vn/</a> (Superior mood room)			Palm Garden Resort & Spa or similar (15' from old town) or similar <a href="https://palmgardenresort.com.vn/">https://palmgardenresort.com.vn/</a> (Superior Garden View)		



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- **Trip Outline: (B: Breakfast; L: Lunch; D: Dinner; ESG: English-speaking local guide)**

Day	Activities	Accommodations	Meals
Day 1	Arrival Hanoi – Hanoi half day city tour (ESG)	Hanoi	L/D
Day 2	Hanoi sightseeing (ESG)	Ha Noi	B/L/D
Day 3	Ha Noi - Ha Long - Lan Ha	Ha Long cruise	B/L/D
Day 4	Lan Ha bay - Ha Long bay - Ninh Binh with Thung Nham bird park (ESG)	Ninh Binh	B/L/D
Day 5	Ninh Binh sightseeing – Hanoi – Danang (ESG in Ninh Binh)	Da Nang	B/L/D
Day 6	Da Nang - Ba Na Hills – Hoi An (ESG)	Hoi An	B/L/D
Day 7	Hoi An – Old brick kiln – Coconut forests (ESG)	Hoi An	B/L/-
Day 8	Hoi An – Cham Island - Hoi An (ESG)	Hoi An	B/L/D
Day 9	Hoi An - Da Nang - Departure		B



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- **Itinerary:**

**DAY 1: Arrival Hanoi – Hanoi half day city tour (ESG/ Lunch/ Dinner)**

- Arrive in Hanoi, depending on your arrival time, our **English speaking local guide (ESG)** and driver will welcome you at the airport, then transfer for **your lunch**.
- **14:00:** Check in to your hotel.
- Have a short rest, then, have a very first look at Hanoi Capital to visit the most famous monuments like: **Temple of Literature** is known as Vietnam's first university.



- **Lake of the Restored Sword, Ngoc Son Temple, The Huc Bridge:** an iconic of Hanoi capital, it has accompanied historical development of Vietnam and associated with the spiritual Vietnamese's life. Besides, travelers can take a 01-hour cyclo tour around the old town through the bustling old quarter streets which is submitted to UNESCO for recognition as World Culture Heritage.
- In the evening, have dinner with **Hanoi authentic street food:** Bun Cha (Grilled pork noodle), Banh Cuon (Vietnamese rice roll noodle), Trang Tien sweet soup and ice cream, and draft beer.
- **21:00:** Back to your hotel, free at leisure and overnight in Hanoi.



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## DAY 2: Hanoi sightseeing (ESG/ Breakfast/ Lunch/ Dinner)

- **08:00:** After having breakfast in the hotel, check out your hotel. We have morning time for Ha Noi sightseeing: **Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum** (close on Monday & Friday), **Presidential Palace, One Pillar pagoda, Tran Quoc Pagoda.**
- **In the afternoon:** our driver and tour guide will take you through outskirts of Hanoi to reach the countryside vibe with the most famous incense village in Vietnam, **Quang Phu Cau (40' from Ha Noi center):** You will go through the ancient beauty of the Northern Vietnam countryside and blended with modern elements. The village's impressive beauty and centuries-old history and its colorful incense sticks have been reported by the international press. Let's come here to know more about the daily life of a Vietnamese traditional craft village.



- **16:00:** Move to visit **railway street** - a famous destination in the capital. The train travels by the backyards of these families a couple times each day. We will enjoy a cup of coffee while waiting for the train to pass through.
- **17:30:** Arrive back in Ha Noi, free to relax until time for dinner. You can set time to watch very famous traditional shows: **Vietnamese water puppet show** or **A O acrobatics & bamboo cirque** (free transportation from VN Lovely Travel, **the show tickets are at your expense**). Overnight in Ha Noi.



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### DAY 3: Ha Noi - Ha Long - Lan Ha (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner)

- **09:00 – 09:30:** After breakfast in Ha Noi hotel, **sharing limousine bus and tour guide** will pick you up at your hotel .
- **12:00:** The crew members of **Peony or Mon Cheri Cruise** will welcome you at Tuan Chau Port, lot 16, Quang Ninh.
- **12:45:** You will be taken aboard our support vessel and travel from the wharf via the bay to board our luxurious craft, Peony or Mon Chéri Cruises. Welcome fresh drinks, cold towels and a special lunch of fresh food and an assortment of appetizing delicacies will be served. You will be enchanted when decadently dining on our luxury junk. Life just doesn't get better than this! We then set sail for **Lan Ha Bay** - A member of the World's Most Beautiful Bays.
- **15:30:** We will visit **the Dark and Bright cave** - famous for the pristine natural beauty and poetic, attractive seascape of Lan Ha Bay. Here you will take some photos of the romantic, lyrical local see-sights. This is also the best time for tourists to enjoy bamboo boats or swimming - which is an interesting activity to discover the truest beauty of the limestone mountains and the blue sky of Lan Ha Bay. Afterwards, visitors immerse in the emerald green water of Lan Ha Bay with exciting swimming activities or enjoy a mini pool with a jacuzzi on Peony or Mon Chéri Cruise.



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- **17:30:** Return to Peony or Mon Chéri Cruises. Enjoy a sunset party on Lan Ha Bay. It is an ideal time for photography enthusiasts to capture the stunning moment of sunset at Lan Ha Bay.
- **19:30:** Enjoy a romantic dinner at the restaurant on Peony or Mon Chéri Cruise.







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- **21:00-22:00:** Enjoy the nightlife of the bay from the top deck. Immerse yourself in music, enjoy a glass of cocktail from the bar, watch famous films and relax on the cruise.
- Otherwise, you can fish squid with the sailors or simply relax in the room and watch the bay from the balcony.
- Overnight on the cruise.

#### DAY 4: Lan Ha bay - Ha Long bay - Ninh Binh with Thung Nham bird park (ESG/ Breakfast/ Lunch/ Dinner)

- **06:30-7:30:** Breakfast is served at the Mon Chéri Cruise restaurant.
- **08:00:** You will visit Frog Pond, go kayaking or be free to relax in the four-season mini pool on Lan Ha Bay - A silk ribbon made from green mountains, blue seas and diverse fauna and flora.
- **09:30:** Checking out of your room. Then lunch at the restaurant is ready for you, pay the extra fee (if any) at the reception while traveling to the port. Please make sure to settle any outstanding charges at the front desk (if any) while traveling to the port.
- **10:30 - 10:45:** Disembark and move back to the port.
- **12:00:** Transfer to **Ninh Binh** by private car.
- **15:00:** Check in to your hotel in Ninh Binh, take a short rest.
- **16:00:** Visit **Thung Nham Bird Park**, which is surrounded by tropical forests over limestone mountain chains with many valleys and caves. The bird garden is a living space for many birds such as storks, herons, mallards, etc. There are also two rare species in the Red Data Book, flamingos, and phoenixes. Everything is peaceful and poetic.
- **18:00:** Return to the hotel and have dinner at the hotel. Overnight stay in Ninh Binh.





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**DAY 5: Ninh Binh sightseeing – Hanoi – Danang (ESG in Ninh Binh/Breakfast/ Lunch/ Dinner)**

- **08:30:** After breakfast, we continue visiting the **Trang An Scenic Landscape Complex**. You have a chance to take a leisurely cruise around the area, see 47 grottos and caves, and 31 valleys. Pagodas are located inside the Trang An scenic landscape complex.



- **11:30:** Have lunch at the local restaurant.



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- **13:30:** In the afternoon, we visit **Hoa Lu old capital**, where you can take time to visit Dinh Le Temple, with Dinh Temple worshipping King Dinh Tien Hoang and Le Temple worshipping King Le Dai Hanh since the 17th century, or hear stories about ancient kings and the quintessence of Dai Co Viet history.
- **14:30:** Transfer back to Ha Noi.
- **16:30:** Have dinner at the local restaurant in Hanoi
- **17:30:** Our driver will take you to **Hanoi International airport** for the flight to Danang.
- Our driver in Da Nang will pick you up and transfer to your hotel in Da Nang.

#### DAY 6: Da Nang - Ba Na Hills – Hoi An (ESG/Breakfast/Lunch/ Dinner)

- After breakfast, transfer to **Ba Na Hills**. Spend your time on the most modern cable car in Southeast Asia, then explore Le Jardin D’Amour and Linh Ung Pagoda. Continue on the second cable car to visit the French village, enjoy street music, watch art statues, and visit Linh Phong Monastery, while walking on the **Golden Bridge** amid the foggy hills of the mountain.



- **Have lunch** at Restaurant (buffet lunch with more than one hundred different dishes).
- **15:00:** Descend the mountain and go to discover **Hoi An Ancient Town**—a major Asian trading port in the 17th and 18th centuries. Walk to visit places such as the **Chinese Communal House, Hoi Kien Temple, and the ancient Tan Ki Merchants' houses**.
- Have dinner with Hoi An local food and relish the colorful nightlife. **Take a night boat along the river to see lanterns** in Hoi An before returning to your Hoi An resort/hotel.



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#### DAY 7: Hoi An – Old brick kiln – Coconut forests (ESG/ Breakfast/ Lunch/ -)

- **08:00:** After breakfast at the hotel, our tour guide will escort you to visit the **Old Brick Kiln**—located in the middle of a green rice field, it has become a picturesque destination. Have some coffee and enjoy the peace of the area.





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- **09:30:** Move to **Cam Thanh Village**, and receive a brief introduction to the history there. Take a basket boat along the water coconut river. Fishermen will teach you how to catch crabs (02 passengers per boat). Enjoy basket boat dancing and crab-catching. Then, join the cooking class (Banh Xeo and Fried Spring Rolls) and have lunch with local specialties by the riverside. Menu: *Fresh spring roll, Banh Xeo, salad, fish in a clay pot, morning glory, rice, and dessert.*



- **14:00:** Transfer back to your hotel.
- In **Hoi An's old town**, vibrant alleys burst with color, **with** lanterns casting a magical glow. Among these alleys, tailor shops beckon with skilled artisans crafting traditional garments. The town's rich tradition of craftsmanship shines through in every meticulously created piece, showcasing Hoi An's unparalleled skill and dedication to its heritage arts. Strolling through these alleys offers a delightful shopping experience, where every corner reveals unique artistic treasures waiting to be discovered.
- Afternoon: Free at leisure, you can stroll around the old town's alleys, experience local daily life, try tailor shops, handicraft gifts, or coffee beans, or go and enjoy the beach (3km from the hotel). **Overnight stay in Hoi An.**



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#### DAY 8: Hoi An – Cham Island - Hoi An (ESG/ Breakfast/ Lunch/ Dinner)

- **08:30:** After breakfast, transfer to Cua Dai pier for a snorkeling trip to Cham Island, followed by **high-speed canoe** transportation (shared with other groups). Visit all the local island highlights: Hai Tang Pagoda, Champa Ancient Well, and Sea Conservation.
- Coral reef **snorkeling**.
- **12:30:** Have **lunch** in the biggest restaurant in Cham Island.
- **14:30 :** Go to the high-speed canoe to go back to Cua Dai Pork.
- **15:30:** Arrive back in Hoi An center, take a short rest, then have dinner with local specialties.
- Free evening to discover Hoi An at night. Overnight stay in Hoi An.



#### DAY 9: Hoi An - Da Nang - Departure (Breakfast )

- After breakfast, free at leisure, check out.
- **Our driver only** will pick up and transfer you to the airport for your next destination.

**THANK YOU FOR JOINING US & HAVE A NICE TRIP!**



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### Inclusion:

- ❖ Good air-conditioned **private 7-seat car (2-3 pax)/ 16-seat minivan (4-7 pax)/ 29-seat coach (8-14)** as the above itinerary.
- ❖ Water on car 02 bottles 500ml/person /visiting day.
- ❖ English-speaking local guide (**07 days: day 1,2,4,5,6,7,8**) as mentioned as the above itinerary.  
**\*\*\*Surcharge (if any):**
  - Thailand/French-speaking local guide (**USD 6/day/group**)
  - German/Mandarin-Chinese/Korean-speaking local guide (**USD 25/day/group**);
  - Spanish-speaking local guide (**USD 45/day/group**).
- ❖ Accommodation (R.O.H) including breakfast (B).
- ❖ Halong cruise package 2D1N including 02 lunches, 01 dinner and 01 breakfast with entrance tickets + **sharing tour guide+ transfer by sharing-limousine-bus Ha Noi - Ha Long.**
- ❖ All entrance fees for sightseeings: Temple of Literature, Ngoc Son Temple, Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, Presidential Palace, One Pillar pagoda, Quang Phu Cau incense village, Thung Nham bird park, Trang An Scenic Landscape Complex, Hoa Lu old capital, Hoi An Old Town, Cam Thanh coconut forest.
- ❖ 01-hour cyclo tour in Ha Noi old town.
- ❖ Coffee in Hanoi railway streets.
- ❖ Ba Na Hills round-trip cable car including **buffet lunch on day 6.**
- ❖ Night boat with floating lanterns in Hoi An river.
- ❖ Coffee at Hoi An old brick kiln.
- ❖ Boat trip and cooking class in Cam Thanh coconut forest.
- ❖ Cham Island round- trip speed-boat tickets and snorkeling fees.
- ❖ Meals as mentioned in the itinerary (L: Lunch; D: Dinner): **05 lunches on day 1,2,5,7,8 (USD 8/pax/lunch) + 06 dinners on day 1,2,4,5,6,8 (USD 9/pax/dinner)**

### Exclusion:

- Visa approval letter fees & Vietnam VISA Stamp fee (if any).
- Personal expenses.
- Water puppet show tickets
- A O show tickets
- Debay wine cellar, wax museum ticket in Ba Na Hills.
- Drink with meals and other meals not mentioned in the above itinerary.
- International air tickets (if any).
- Gratitude to tour guide and driver (if any)



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### Children Policy:

- ❖ The rate for children applicable for one child sharing a twin or double cabin with two adults.
- ❖ For infants (<04 years old): FOC except domestic ticket cost.
- ❖ 04 - 11 years old without bed: 50% adult rate.
- ❖ 04 - 11 years old with extra bed: 75% adult rate.
- ❖ 04 - 11 years old in twin share: 90% adult rate.

### Payment & Deposit Terms:

To ensure that all parties meet their respective obligations, we outline our standard payment terms below:

**Deposit:** A confirmation and invoice will be sent to the customer within 24 hours of receiving the booking. A deposit of 50% of the total tour cost, or full payment, is required, depending on the specific tour arrangements and terms outlined in the invoice. Payment can be made through any of our online payment methods.

**Final Payment:** The deadline for the remaining balance will depend on the services booked and will be communicated by our travel consultant and via the invoice during the booking process.

### Cancellations & Refund Policy:

Each local supplier and partner has its own specific cancellation terms, which will determine the applicable cancellation fees. Detailed information about these policies can be found on the individual service pages, particularly under the Rate & Availability section. If a customer decides to discontinue the tour midway, no refunds or exchanges will be issued. Additionally, no compensation will be provided for any services that remain unused during the tour.

#### **Tours (from 4 days above)**

- More than 90 days before arrival date: FREE of charge.
- From 60 to 89 days before arrival date: 20% of total rate.
- From 30 to 59 days before arrival date: 30% of total rate.
- From 15 to 29 days before arrival date: 50% of total rate.
- From 7 to 14 days before arrival date: 70% of total rate.
- Less than 7 days before arrival date or No show: 100% of the total rate.

#### **Short Tours (1 - 3 days)**

- More than 7 days prior: 50% of total rates.
- From 4 to 7 days prior: 70% of total rates.





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- Less than 3 days prior or no show: 100% of total rates.

### **Important notes:**

#### **Immigration process:**

For visa-on-arrival: Present a valid passport and an entry letter (if any) to the customs officer for visa stamping.

For e-visa holders: Present your valid passport and e-visa (or a printed copy) at the immigration checkpoint. No stamp is required.

#### **Note when checking in for domestic flights in Vietnam:**

- When checking in, please bring: Passport (**valid for more than 06 months**). For expatriates and foreigners entering with a separate visa, please bring your passport, visa, and customs declaration when traveling
- You should be at the airport 90 minutes before departure time and carry light luggage, not too bulky.
- Please bear the incurred costs and responsibility if you have a request to change the itinerary, flight date and time, or if there is incorrect information according to the regulations of the airlines.
- Do not leave sharp objects, knives, scissors, etc. or liquids in your hand luggage. All power banks should be placed in hand luggage.
- Self-consciously preserve your luggage during the trip (at hotels and attractions). Keep all important documents related to immigration procedures, such as airline tickets, passports, cash, and valuable personal items, in the safety box provided at your hotel. Avoid leaving them in your room or locking them in your suitcase in case of theft. Consider taking photos of all identification and important information to save on your phone for easy access if needed.
- Vietnam Lovely Travel will not be responsible if the carrier and aviation security refuse to transport due to error in the above information.
- Some order and details in the program may change to suit the objective situation (weather, traffic ...).
- You should bring special medicine (according to a doctor's prescription) if you are being treated for a chronic illness.

#### **Do I need to purchase travel insurance before traveling in Vietnam?**

Absolutely. All passengers traveling with Vietnam Lovely Travel are required to purchase travel insurance before the start of their trip. Your travel insurance details will be recorded by your tour guide on the first day of the trip. Due to the varying nature, availability and



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cost of health care around the world, travel insurance is very much an essential and necessary part of every journey.

**Weather:** Vietnam's unique geography creates a range of weather patterns, with both tropical and temperate zones. The best weather nationwide is from March to May. So, if you're planning a trip to Vietnam, consider visiting during this time for the most enjoyable weather.

Northern Vietnam: In the northern areas of Vietnam there are four seasons. Recommended time to travel to North Vietnam: March – April & August – November

- December - March: cool to cold, misty, cloudy
- April - June: warm to hot, clear skies, sunny
- June - August: stormy, hot, humid
- September - November: mix of sun and clouds, warm to cool

Central Vietnam: This area has 2 seasons only: dry and rainy season. The weather in Central Vietnam is also varying due to the mountain range, Truong Son, which has a great influence on the weather. For example, when crossing the Hai Van Pass between Hue and Da Nang, you'll feel a noticeable shift in temperature and weather. Recommended time to travel to Central Vietnam:

February – August

- Hue:
  - September-February: cool to cold, rainy, cloudy
  - March-August: warm to hot, sunny, clear skies
- Hoi An, Da Nang:
  - September - January: rainy, cool, cloudy
  - February - August: warm to hot, sunny, clear skies

### **Clothes and accessories:**

- You should use caps, sport shoes, sandals, lightweight clothes, which are convenient to move.
- When visiting religious sites such as temples and pagodas, ensure to dress modestly by avoiding attire like shorts and tank tops. Additionally, it is a common practice to remove your shoes before entering both private homes and sacred places.
- Don't forget to bring a swimming suit for cruising day at Ha Long Bay on Day 3 and snorkeling time at Cham Island on Day 8.

### **Money matters**



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When it comes to spending money on the trip, every traveler is a little different. You know your spending habits better than we do, so please budget an appropriate amount for optional meals, drinks, shopping, optional activities, and laundry. Make sure you have read the itinerary and inclusions thoroughly so you know what is included in the trip price and what you may need to pay for while traveling.

- Vietnamese Dong (VND) is the currency of Vietnam
- ATMs: Check if your card is compatible with local ATMs before traveling to Vietnam. Using an ATM card will help ensure safety during your travel. Yet, you should also bring a little cash to pay for services, shopping activities, dining demands,... when needed.
- Scam alert: Be careful of street vendors and local markets using similar colors of 500,000 VND and 20,000 VND bills to scam visitors.
- Counterfeit money: There are some counterfeit banknotes in circulation in Vietnam, particularly for the 500,000 VND, the biggest Vietnam currency note, so you should only exchange money at reputable places or ask for your tour guide experiences.
- Keep small bills on hand: Many vendors and small businesses may not have change for larger denominations, so it's helpful to keep smaller bills on hand.
- Notify your bank: If you plan to use your credit or debit card in Vietnam, notify your bank beforehand to avoid any issues with your account being flagged for suspicious activity.
- USD to VND current exchange rate: 1 USD ~ 24,000 - 25,000 VND (change cash in jewelry shop, the exchange rates are often better than in a bank or at the airport)
- QR code transfer: accepted in Vietnam
- Are credit cards accepted widely in Vietnam?
- USD and Major credit cards are widely accepted by large shops, hotels and restaurants in Vietnam. However, they may not be accepted by smaller vendors such as small family restaurants, market stalls or in remote towns and rural areas. Make sure you carry enough cash for purchases, since credit cards aren't always an option everywhere in Vietnam.

**Dining:** Please inform the tour operator or tour guide in advance if you have any dietary requirements and/or food allergies.

### **Phone and internet access**

- With the modern world you may want to bring along tablets or smartphones for the children to document their adventure - there are a wide variety of apps out there which we suggest downloading before you depart. There will be opportunities to charge (just make sure you bring the correct adapter) and there will be wi-fi available on your trip,



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although it will probably not be at the speeds you are used to at home and it won't be available everywhere.

- E-sim can be a good option for you (less than 10 USD/sim card)

**Electricity and adapter:** 220V - 50Hz. If you are using different ones, our local guide can help you buy an adapter for not more than 1 USD.

### **Accommodation:**

- Check-in from about 14.00 to 15.00 (can be later in the weekend day, peak season or at 5-star accommodation) and check-out before from about 11.00 to 12.00.
- Early check-in & late check-out will be confirmed according to room availability at that time and the hotel charges.
- Amenities: toothbrush, towel, hair comb, iron, etc., are available in all hotels.

### **Laundry:**

You may get better rates outside the hotels, but be careful with expensive clothes, as outside services can sometimes harm the quality of your clothes.

### **Shopping:**

At local markets, you can bargain for **10-30% off** when buying local goods.

### **Safety:**

For safety, keep your pocket/purse in front of you in crowded places.

### **Time schedule:**

- Normal office working time or opening time in Vietnam: 8am-5pm (Mon to Fri); Sat: most offices close
- Shops/restaurants/theaters are mostly opening: 8am-10pm everyday. In Sapa, the closing time at some shops/restaurants may be earlier, around 9 p.m.

### **Is tipping compulsory in Vietnam?**

Tipping isn't mandatory or customary in Vietnam, but a small tip is appreciated by restaurant staff, drivers, and other service workers, especially if the service was particularly good.



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### Destinations:

**Hanoi** is Vietnam's capital, lies on the banks of the Red River. It is cozy with tree-lines, boulevards, lakes, parks, French colonial buildings, elegant squares. As the capital of Vietnam for almost a thousand years, Hanoi is considered to be the cultural center of Vietnam, where every dynasty has left behind their imprint. Even though some relics have not survived through wars and time, the city still has many interesting cultural and historic monuments for visitors and residents alike.

### Attractions:

- **Hoan Kiem Lake:** A must-visit destination for tourists, offering serene views, historical significance, and a perfect spot for leisurely strolls amidst the city's vibrant atmosphere.
- **Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum:** A monumental structure built to house the embalmed body of Vietnam's greatest political leader, Ho Chi Minh.
- **One Pillar Pagoda:** A Buddhist wooden pagoda located in the middle of a lotus pond on a single stone pillar, built by Emperor Ly Thai To in 1049.
- **The Old Quarter:** Hanoi's historic Old Quarter comprises 36 streets, each historically home to artisans and craftsmen who specialized in the merchandise for which their street was named.
- **Ngoc Son Temple:** A historic temple on an island in Hoan Kiem Lake, dedicated to the scholar Van Xuong, military leader Tran Hung Dao, and the deity Quan Thanh.
- **Temple of Literature:** Vietnam's first university, founded in 1070, renowned for its beautiful traditional architecture and tranquil gardens.
- **Saint Joseph's Cathedral:** A stunning example of neo-Gothic architecture in Hanoi, built in the early 20th century, known for its impressive facade and ornate interior.
- **Hanoi Opera House:** This beautiful colonial building is the largest theater in Vietnam, it attracts renowned performers, productions and musicians nowadays.
- **Vietnamese Women's Museum:** The modern museum houses a series of excellent exhibitions presenting artifacts, costumes, crafts, memoirs and photographs from the past 100 years.

**Festivals & Holidays:** Hanoi hosts various festivals throughout the year, including Christmas, New Year, and Lunar New Year, all celebrated with vibrant events and cultural performances.

**Accommodation:** Hanoi offers a variety of accommodation options, from budget hostels to luxury hotels. Booking in advance is recommended, especially during peak tourist seasons.



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Choose from charming hotels in the Old Quarter for a vibrant city experience or luxurious stays by West Lake for a more tranquil atmosphere

### **Clothing:**

- **Summer:** Pack light and breathable clothing such as t-shirts, shorts, and sundresses. Don't forget sun protection like hats, sunglasses, and sunscreen to handle the heat and humidity.
- **Winter/Rainy Season:** Pack warm clothing such as thick jackets, sweaters, and long-sleeve shirts to stay comfortable in the cold temperatures. Bring rain gear, including a waterproof jacket and umbrella, as well as waterproof shoes for the rainy days.

### **Transportation:**

- **Taxis & Ride-Hailing Services:** Convenient options for getting around the city, including ride-hailing apps like Grab.
- **Bicycles & Motorbikes:** Renting bicycles or motorbikes is a popular way to explore Da Nang and its surroundings.
- **Public Buses:** A budget-friendly option for getting around, though not always frequent.
- **Car Rentals:** Renting a car provides the flexibility to explore the city and nearby attractions at your own pace.
- **Electric cars:** you can rent electric cars from various locations, including hotels and rental shops. They are primarily used on certain roads, along the coastal line and for nearby attractions.

### **Local Drinks:**

- **Vietnamese Coffee:** Particularly Vietnamese iced coffee (cà phê sữa đá) is very popular, with Egg Coffee being a notable specialty in Hanoi.
- **Bia Hơi:** A type of fresh beer widely enjoyed in Vietnam, often served in local eateries.
- **Hanoi Bold, Hanoi Light, Hanoi Premium:** Popular beers from Hanoi, commonly found in the city.

### **Local Food:**

- **Miến:** Made from mung beans or sweet potatoes, miến (vermicelli) has a delicious chewy texture and a mild umami taste.
- **Pho:** A famous Vietnamese noodle soup consisting of broth, rice noodles, herbs, and usually meat.
- **Nom Bo Kho:** Beef jerky salad.



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- **Bun Dau Mam Tom:** Fried tofu and fresh rice noodles served with fermented shrimp paste.
- **Mi Van Thang:** Noodles with dumplings.
- **Cha Ca:** Fatty catfish marinated in spices and grilled, then stirred with spring onions and dill right at the table.
- **Bun Cha:** Rice noodles combined with chargrilled pork belly and patties, served with diluted vinegar fish sauce.
- **Bun Thang:** Noodles with slices of Vietnamese ham, shredded chicken, omelette strips, and a clear umami broth.

#### Daily Life Activities:

- **Go Café-Hopping in Hanoi:** Explore Hanoi's vibrant café scene, where many establishments offer unique atmospheres and charming views, whether it's overlooking Hoan Kiem Lake, the bustling streets, or historic buildings. Savor a cup of Vietnamese coffee while soaking in the local ambiance.
- **Savor Local Food:** Hanoi provides a rich culinary experience with an array of traditional dishes, showcasing the diverse flavors of Northern Vietnam.
- **Stroll Around Hoan Kiem Lake:** Take a leisurely walk around Hoan Kiem Lake, enjoying the scenic beauty and the lively atmosphere of the surrounding area. The lake is a perfect spot for relaxation and people-watching.
- **Massage & Spas:** Unwind with a traditional Vietnamese massage or a spa treatment in one of Hanoi's many wellness centers. These services offer a great way to relax and rejuvenate after a day of exploring the city.
- **Night Markets:** Visit Hanoi's bustling night markets for a variety of street food, local goods, and vibrant street performances. The markets are ideal for experiencing local culture and finding unique souvenirs.
- **Bar & Nightlife:** Experience Hanoi's nightlife in its diverse bars and clubs, especially around the Old Quarter and Tây Hồ, like Ta Hien street. Enjoy live music, cocktails, and a lively atmosphere.
- **Cultural Performances:** Enjoy cultural performances in Hanoi, such as traditional water puppetry at the Thang Long Water Puppet Theater and classical music concerts, offering insight into Vietnam's rich heritage through art and storytelling.
- **Shopping:** Explore Hanoi's local markets and shopping areas for a range of handmade goods, clothing, and accessories. From the bustling streets of the Old Quarter to modern shopping centers, there are plenty of opportunities to find unique items.



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- **Biking:** Rent a bike to explore Hanoi at your own pace. Cycle through the historic Old Quarter, along scenic lakes, or explore the outskirts for a different perspective of the city.
- **Motorbiking:** Discover Hanoi's attractions on a motorbike, giving you the freedom to navigate through busy streets, explore hidden corners, and venture into the countryside for a more adventurous experience.

#### **Sports & Water Sports (Weather Permitting):**

- **Golf:** Hanoi is home to several top golf courses, including the Hanoi Golf Club and Sky Lake Resort, offering stunning views and challenging play.
- **Cycling:** Explore Hanoi's scenic routes and historic sites by bike, including the picturesque West Lake area and the Old Quarter.
- **Boating:** Enjoy a relaxing boat ride on West Lake or take a day trip to the nearby Red River.
- **Kayaking:** Paddle through serene waters at West Lake or venture into the lush countryside.
- **Hiking:** Discover hiking trails in the nearby Ba Vi National Park or around the outskirts of Hanoi for a mix of nature and exercise.

#### **Art Performances & Entertainment Shows:**

- Thang Long Water Puppet Theater
- Hanoi Opera House
- Hanoi Old Quarter Cultural Shows

#### **Art exhibitions and museums:**

- Vietnam Museum of Fine Arts
- Ho Chi Minh Museum
- Vietnamese Women's Museum
- Hanoi Museum.

#### **Ha Long:**

Ha Long Bay, located in the northeastern region of Vietnam, is a UNESCO World Heritage Site and one of the country's most iconic natural wonders. Known for its emerald waters and thousands of limestone islands topped with rainforests, Ha Long Bay offers a magical landscape that draws visitors from around the world. The bay is steeped in both natural beauty and cultural significance, making it a must-see destination for nature lovers, adventure seekers, and those interested in Vietnamese history.





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**Beaches:** Ha Long Bay is known for its serene beaches, offering perfect spots for relaxation, swimming, and water sports. Popular beaches include Ti Top Beach, Bai Chay Beach, and Soi Sim Beach. With calm, turquoise waters, these beaches are ideal for sunbathing and water activities like kayaking and snorkeling.

**Attractions:**

- **Sung Sot Cave (Surprise Cave):** One of the largest and most beautiful caves in Ha Long Bay, featuring impressive stalactites and stalagmites.
- **Ti Top Island:** Famous for its pristine beach and panoramic views of Ha Long Bay from the top of the island's peak.
- **Bai Tu Long Bay:** A quieter, less-visited part of the bay, offering a more tranquil experience with stunning landscapes.
- **Dau Go Cave:** An ancient grotto known for its rich history dating back to the Mongol invasions and its spectacular limestone formations.
- **Cua Van Floating Village:** A traditional fishing village where visitors can experience the local way of life, complete with floating houses and small fishing boats.
- **Cat Ba Island:** A larger island near Ha Long, known for its national park, hiking trails, and diverse wildlife.

**Cruises & Water Activities:** Exploring Ha Long Bay by cruise is one of the most popular activities. Many cruises offer overnight stays on the bay, allowing visitors to witness the stunning sunrise and sunset over the water. Water activities such as kayaking, swimming, and snorkeling are common, especially around the limestone karsts and secluded beaches.

**Festivals & Holidays:** Ha Long Bay hosts several local festivals, with the Ha Long Carnival being the most famous. Held annually in April or May, this vibrant festival celebrates the culture and heritage of Quang Ninh Province with parades, street performances, and fireworks. The Lunar New Year and Mid-Autumn Festival are also widely celebrated in the region with traditional activities and family gatherings.

**Accommodation:** Visitors to Ha Long Bay have a wide range of accommodation options, from budget hostels to luxury resorts. Staying on an overnight cruise is highly recommended, as it offers a unique way to experience the bay. On-land accommodations in Bai Chay or Tuan Chau also provide convenient access to the bay and nearby attractions.



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### **Clothing:**

- **Summer (May to Sep):** Light and breathable clothing is ideal for the hot, humid climate. Swimwear is essential for beach days and water activities. Don't forget hats, sunglasses, and sunscreen to protect against the sun.
- **Winter (Nov to Mar):** The weather can be cooler from November to March, so it's a good idea to bring a light jacket or sweater. Warm layers are useful for evening boat cruises.

### **Transportation:**

- **Private Transfers:** Private cars and taxis are common for traveling to and from Hanoi, which is about 3-4 hours away by road.
- **Shuttle Buses:** Many tours offer shuttle buses to Ha Long Bay from Hanoi, making it easy to reach the bay.
- **Cruise Ships:** The main way to explore Ha Long Bay itself is by cruise ship, with options ranging from day cruises to multi-day luxury cruises.
- **Electric Cars & Bikes:** Available for hire in some parts of Ha Long City, electric cars and bikes are eco-friendly ways to explore the area.

### **Local Drinks:**

- **Vietnamese Coffee:** Savor a cup of strong Vietnamese coffee (cà phê sữa đá) while admiring the bay's breathtaking scenery.
- **Coconut Water:** Fresh coconut water is a refreshing drink, perfect for hot days.
- **Ha Long Beer:** A local beer popular in the region, enjoyed by many visitors.

### **Local Food:**

- **Seafood:** Ha Long Bay is famous for its fresh seafood. Enjoy dishes like grilled squid, prawns, and oysters, often served in seaside restaurants.
- **Cha Muc (Squid Sausage):** A specialty of Ha Long, made from fresh squid and served with sticky rice or bánh cuốn (rice rolls).
- **Nem Cua Be (Crab Spring Rolls):** Crispy spring rolls filled with fresh crab meat, a local delicacy.
- **Sam (Horseshoe Crab):** A unique dish often served in local markets and restaurants.
- **Banh Gat Gu:** A soft rice roll that is a regional favorite, often served with a savory dipping sauce.

### **Daily Life Activities:**



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- **Fishing Villages:** Explore traditional floating villages like Vung Vieng and Cua Van to experience the daily life of local fishermen and their families.
- **Island Hopping:** Take a boat tour to discover the hidden gems of Ha Long Bay, including lesser-known islands and beaches.
- **Spa & Wellness:** Many high-end resorts and cruises offer spa services, perfect for unwinding after a day of exploring.
- **Photography:** Ha Long Bay is a photographer's paradise. Capture the iconic limestone pillars, emerald waters, and dramatic landscapes.
- **Explore a floating village:** Ha Long Bay is not just a UNESCO-listed site, it's also home to a number of fishing communities who have lived on the water for centuries. Take a boat tour around a floating village for a glimpse of this rare and beautiful way of life.

#### Shopping:

- **Markets & Night Markets:** Shop for local handicrafts, seafood products, and souvenirs at the Ha Long Night Market. You can find unique items like pearl jewelry and locally made art.
- **Pearl Farms:** Ha Long Bay is home to several pearl farms, where visitors can learn about the cultivation of pearls and purchase high-quality pearl products.

#### Adventure & Outdoor Activities:

- **Hiking:** Cat Ba National Park offers several hiking trails that take you through lush forests and up to breathtaking viewpoints.
- **Rock Climbing:** The limestone karsts of Ha Long Bay are ideal for rock climbing, offering both beginner and advanced routes.
- **Kayaking & Canoeing:** Explore the hidden caves and lagoons of Ha Long Bay by kayak, an immersive way to experience the natural beauty of the area.
- **Swimming & Snorkeling:** The clear waters around the islands are great for swimming and snorkeling, especially at Ti Top Beach and nearby coral reefs.

#### Cultural Performances & Entertainment:

- **Water Puppet Shows:** Experience traditional Vietnamese water puppetry, a unique art form that tells stories of rural life and legends, performed in local theaters.
- **Traditional Music & Dance:** Some cruises and hotels offer live performances of traditional Vietnamese music and dance during dinner, adding a cultural dimension to your stay in Ha Long Bay.

#### [Ninh Bình](#)



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Ninh Binh is a picturesque destination in northern Vietnam, famous for its breathtaking landscapes, rich history, and significant cultural landmarks. Often called “Halong Bay on land,” Ninh Binh offers a tranquil escape with its unique blend of towering limestone karsts, lush greenery, and ancient temples. Located just 100 kilometers from Hanoi, it’s an easily accessible yet serene retreat for both domestic and international travelers.

### **Natural Landscapes:**

Ninh Binh is renowned for its stunning natural beauty, featuring scenic rivers, majestic mountains, and a rich diversity of flora and fauna. Here, nature takes center stage with iconic limestone formations, caves, and rice paddies stretching as far as the eye can see.

### **Attractions**

- **Trang An Scenic Landscape Complex:** A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Trang An offers boat tours through a maze of waterways, limestone caves, and ancient temples. The area is often compared to Halong Bay, but with its own inland charm.
- **Tam Coc (Three Caves):** A popular boat tour destination, Tam Coc features spectacular views of limestone mountains, rice paddies, and caves. It’s an excellent spot for photography and peaceful exploration.
- **Bich Dong Pagoda:** Nestled into a mountainside, this ancient pagoda complex offers a spiritual and serene experience. Climbing the steps to the top provides a breathtaking view of the surrounding countryside.
- **Thung Nham Bird Park:** Surrounded by limestone cliffs and tropical forests, Thung Nham is home to various bird species. The park’s peaceful atmosphere makes it an ideal spot for birdwatching and nature walks.

### **Historical & Cultural Significance:**

Ninh Binh is not only about natural beauty but also holds great historical importance. It was the capital of Vietnam during the Dinh and early Le dynasties in the 10th century.

- **Hoa Lu Ancient Capital:** As the former capital of Vietnam, Hoa Lu is a significant historical site with ancient temples dedicated to King Dinh Tien Hoang and King Le Dai Hanh. Visitors can explore the remnants of the old palace and temples while learning about Vietnam's early history.
- **Phat Diem Cathedral:** Known for its unique architectural style that blends Vietnamese and European influences, this 19th-century cathedral is a testament to the country’s rich religious heritage. The complex includes a grand cathedral, a bell tower, and surrounding chapels.



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### **Festivals & Holidays:**

Ninh Binh hosts several cultural festivals throughout the year. These events, deeply rooted in local traditions, offer visitors a chance to experience the region's vibrant culture.

- **Hoa Lu Festival:** Celebrated annually in March, this festival honors the kings of the Dinh and Le dynasties with processions, traditional games, and cultural performances.
- **Buddhist Festivals:** Various temples in Ninh Binh, such as Bai Dinh Pagoda, hold Buddhist festivals during significant religious holidays, attracting pilgrims from all over Vietnam.

### **Accommodation**

From boutique hotels to luxurious eco-resorts, Ninh Binh provides a range of accommodation options that cater to different tastes and budgets. Many hotels are located in tranquil surroundings, often with views of the region's iconic limestone mountains or rice paddies.

### **Clothing**

- **Summer:** Light, breathable clothes are recommended for the hot and humid weather. Comfortable shoes are a must for exploring caves, temples, and climbing steep pagoda steps.
- **Winter/Rainy Season:** Bring layers, as the weather can be cooler, especially at night. Rain gear such as waterproof jackets and shoes is essential for the rainy season.

### **Transportation**

Getting around Ninh Binh is convenient, with various transportation options:

- **Bicycles:** Renting a bicycle is a popular way to explore the area at a leisurely pace, allowing you to take in the scenic views along countryside roads.
- **Motorbikes:** For those seeking more adventure, motorbikes offer a flexible and efficient way to explore Ninh Binh's attractions.
- **Boat Tours:** Many of Ninh Binh's key attractions, like Tam Coc and Trang An, are best explored by boat, making this a must-do experience.
- **Car Rentals:** Hiring a car provides comfort and the convenience of exploring the region at your own pace.

### **Local Drinks**

- **Vietnamese Coffee:** Just like other parts of Vietnam, Ninh Binh serves excellent Vietnamese coffee. Don't miss trying **cà phê sữa đá** (Vietnamese iced coffee with condensed milk).



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- **Rice Wine:** Known locally as **rượu nếp**, this traditional rice wine is a popular drink in the rural areas of Ninh Binh.

### Local Food

- **Com Chay:** Crispy rice served with savory toppings, a local specialty unique to Ninh Binh.
- **Goat Meat Dishes:** Ninh Binh is famous for its dishes made with mountain goat meat, including **de tai chanh** (goat salad) and goat stir-fry.
- **Bun Moc:** A traditional noodle soup with pork, mushrooms, and pork sausages.
- **Nem Yen Mac:** Fermented pork rolls, a specialty of the Yen Mac region in Ninh Binh.

### Daily Life Activities

- **Cycling through Rice Fields:** Ninh Binh's flat terrain and scenic rice fields make it perfect for cycling. Rent a bike and pedal through the peaceful countryside, away from the busy tourist areas.
- **Boat Rides:** Whether in Trang An or Tam Coc, a boat ride through the limestone karsts and emerald rivers offers one of the most memorable experiences in Ninh Binh.
- **Fishing Villages:** Visit traditional fishing villages where you can learn about local fishing practices and enjoy fresh seafood.

### Shopping

While Ninh Binh is not known for its shopping, you can still find local handicrafts and souvenirs at small markets, such as traditional textiles, handmade bamboo products, and goat leather goods.

### Outdoor Activities & Adventure:

Ninh Binh's natural landscape provides an array of outdoor activities:

- **Kayaking:** Explore the calm waters of Trang An or Tam Coc by kayak, giving you an up-close experience of the limestone caves and cliffs.
- **Caving:** Visit **Mua Cave** for a challenging climb that rewards you with panoramic views of the surrounding rice fields and mountains.
- **Hiking:** Explore the rugged terrain of **Cuc Phuong National Park**, Vietnam's oldest national park, known for its diverse wildlife and ancient trees.

### Cultural Performances:

Ninh Binh also offers cultural experiences:

- **Water Puppet Shows:** A traditional Vietnamese art form, water puppet shows depict scenes from rural life and folklore.



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- **Traditional Music:** In some temples and festivals, you may encounter live performances of Vietnamese traditional music, which adds a deeper cultural dimension to your visit.

### Da Nang:

**Da Nang** is a must-visit destination in Vietnam, celebrated for its picturesque coastline, stunning beaches, and rich cultural and historical significance. Located in central Vietnam, this vibrant city attracts both local and international visitors. With its prime location near three UNESCO World Heritage Sites—Hoi An Ancient Town, My Son Sanctuary, and the Hue Imperial City—and its well-developed infrastructure, Da Nang offers a unique blend of natural beauty and cultural depth, making it an exceptional place to explore.

**Beaches:** Da Nang is renowned for its stunning beaches, including Man Thai, Pham Van Dong, My Khe Beach, and Non Nuoc Beach. Enjoy sunbathing, swimming, and water sports. Don't forget sunscreen and stay hydrated.

### **Attractions:**

- **Marble Mountains:** A cluster of five limestone hills featuring caves and pagodas. It's a great spot for exploration and cultural learning.
- **Dragon Bridge:** An iconic bridge with a dragon design, known for its fire and water show on weekends.
- **Ba Na Hills:** A popular tourist area featuring the Golden Bridge, gardens, and a French village. It also boasts one of the world's longest cable cars.
- **Nui Than Tai Hot Springs:** A hot spring area located not far from Da Nang, ideal for relaxation and mineral water treatments.
- **Son Tra Peninsula:** A beautiful area offering scenic views, diverse wildlife, and the Linh Ung Pagoda with its impressive statue of the Lady Buddha.

**Festivals & Holidays:** Da Nang hosts various festivals throughout the year, including Christmas, New Year, and Lunar New Year, all celebrated with vibrant events and cultural performances.

**Accommodation:** Da Nang offers a range of accommodations, from budget options to luxury high-end hotels and resorts. Booking in advance is advisable during peak seasons. You can choose accommodations in the city center with stunning river views or opt for beautiful beach views along the coast.

### **Clothing:**



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- **Summer:** Bring loose and airy clothes such as maxi dresses or bikinis for beach relaxation. Additionally, bring sun-blocking accessories like hats, sunglasses, and umbrellas in case of weather changes.
- **Winter/Rainy Season:** Pack warmer clothes such as light jackets and long-sleeve shirts. Bring waterproof gear, such as raincoats or umbrellas, and waterproof shoes for rainy days.

### **Transportation:**

- **Taxis & Ride-Hailing Services:** Convenient options for getting around the city, including ride-hailing apps like Grab.
- **Bicycles & Motorbikes:** Renting bicycles or motorbikes is a popular way to explore Da Nang and its surroundings.
- **Public Buses:** A budget-friendly option for getting around, though not always frequent.
- **Car Rentals:** Renting a car provides the flexibility to explore the city and nearby attractions at your own pace.
- **Electric cars:** you can rent electric cars from various locations, including hotels and rental shops. They are primarily used on certain roads, along the coastal line and for nearby attractions.

### **Local Drinks:**

- **Vietnamese Coffee:** Particularly Vietnamese iced coffee (cà phê sữa đá) is very popular.
- **Bia Hơi:** A type of fresh beer widely enjoyed in Da Nang, often served in local eateries.
- **Laque:** A traditional local beer, enjoyed for its refreshing taste.
- **Huda:** A popular beer from Hue, commonly found in Da Nang.

### **Local Food:**

- **Mi Quang (Quang Noodles):** A specialty noodle dish with a rich broth.
- **Bun Cha Ca:** Fish cake noodle soup.
- **Banh Xeo:** Vietnamese savory pancakes.
- **Banh Trang Cuon Thit Heo:** Pork rolled in rice paper.
- **Bun Mam Nem:** Fermented fish noodle soup.
- **Kem Bo:** Avocado ice cream.
- **Yaourt Muoi:** Salted yogurt.
- **Goi Ca:** Fish salad.
- **Che:** A variety of sweet soups and desserts.

### **Daily Life Activities:**





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- **Go cafe-hopping in town:** Visit Da Nang's cafes, many of which offer unique atmospheres and stunning views, whether it's overlooking the river, city skyline, or the surrounding mountains. Enjoy a cup of Vietnamese coffee while soaking in the local vibe.
- **Savor your taste by [local food](#):** Da Nang offers a rich culinary experience with a variety of traditional dishes reflecting the diverse flavors of Central Vietnam
- **Riverside Promenade:** Take a relaxing walk along the Han River and enjoy the city's lights and modern skyline. The riverside is perfect for a leisurely evening, offering beautiful views and a peaceful atmosphere.
- **Massage & Spas:** Relax with a traditional Vietnamese massage or a spa treatment in one of Da Nang's many wellness centers. These treatments are perfect for unwinding and rejuvenating after a day of sightseeing.
- **Night Markets:** Explore night markets like Helio, Son Tra, Bach Dang, An Thuong with a variety of street food, local goods and live music. The markets are a great place to experience the local culture and try some unique dishes.
- **Bar & Nightlife:** Enjoy nightlife in the city's bars and clubs, especially around the beach area and downtown.
- **Cultural Performances:** Enjoy cultural performances in Da Nang, such as the **Symphony of the River Show** and traditional Vietnamese water puppetry. These shows provide insight into the rich cultural heritage of Vietnam through music, dance, and storytelling.
- **Cooking Class:** Join a cooking class to learn how to prepare delicious Vietnamese dishes. Classes often start with a market visit to pick fresh ingredients, followed by hands-on instruction from local chefs in making authentic Vietnamese cuisine.
- **Shopping:** Explore Da Nang's local markets and shopping centers for a wide range of handmade goods, clothing, and accessories. From modern malls to traditional markets, there are plenty of opportunities to find unique items.
- **Biking:** Rent a bike to explore Da Nang at your own pace. Cycle along the scenic coastal roads, through local neighborhoods, or up to the Son Tra Peninsula for breathtaking views of the city and sea.
- **Motorbiking:** Discover Da Nang's attractions on a motorbike, providing the freedom to explore coastal roads, mountain trails, and hidden spots. Whether you're heading to the Marble Mountains or taking a trip up to Ba Na Hills, a motorbike offers an adventurous way to see the city.

#### **Sports & Water Sports (Weather Permitting):**

- **Golf:** Da Nang is home to several world-class golf courses, including Montgomerie Links and Da Nang Golf Club, offering beautiful views and challenging play.



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- **Surfing:** My Khe Beach is ideal for surfing activities.
- **Jet Skiing:** Experience thrills with jet skiing.
- **Parasailing:** Enjoy aerial views with parasailing.
- **Snorkeling & Diving:** Explore underwater life at nearby islands.
- **Kayaking & Paddleboarding:** Enjoy calm waters with kayaking or paddleboarding.
- **Paragliding:** Soar through the air and take in the scenic views.
- **Cycling:** Discover scenic routes and landscapes by bike.

#### **Art Performances & Entertainment Shows:**

- Awaken River
- Symphony of River Show at Da Nang Downtown
- Da Nang International Fireworks Festival

#### **Art exhibitions and museums:**

- Cham Museum (Museum of Cham Sculpture)
- Da Nang Museum
- Contemporary Art Exhibitions
- Da Nang Fine Arts Museum

#### **Hoi An:**

**Hoi An** is a charming and historic destination in Vietnam, renowned for its well-preserved Old Town, traditional architecture, and vibrant cultural heritage. This includes a rich diversity of local food and traditional crafts, which have been passed down through generations. Located in central Vietnam, Hoi An offers a unique blend of historical significance, picturesque rice fields, and scenic beaches. In 2023, Hoi An was recognized as a UNESCO Creative City, celebrated for its thriving arts scene with numerous galleries, art projects, and creative workshops. This recognition highlights the town's dedication to preserving and promoting its cultural and artistic heritage. With its proximity to the bustling city of Da Nang and its UNESCO World Heritage status, Hoi An stands out as an exceptional place to visit.

**Beaches:** Hoi An is close to several stunning beaches, including An Bang, Hidden, Cua Dai, Tan Thanh, and Cham Island Beaches. These beaches offer a serene escape with opportunities for sunbathing, swimming, and enjoying local seafood. Remember to bring sunscreen and stay hydrated.

#### **Attractions:**



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- **Hoi An Ancient Town:** A UNESCO World Heritage Site, known for its well-preserved historical buildings, traditional wooden houses, and lively markets. The town is a romantic little quarter filled with vibrant colors, sounds, textures, and tastes. Simply wandering through the myriad of streets, lined with restaurants, cafes, and art and gift shops, is a perfect start. It's ideal for exploring on foot.
- **Japanese Covered Bridge:** An iconic historical landmark that dates back to the 18th century, showcasing Hoi An's unique cultural blend. The bridge is a symbol of the town and a must-see for visitors.
- **Thanh Ha Pottery Village:** A traditional pottery village where you can watch artisans at work and even try your hand at making pottery. The village has a rich history and offers a hands-on experience of Hoi An's craft heritage.
- **My Son Sanctuary:** A group of Hindu temples and towers set amidst lush greenery, offering insights into the ancient Champa civilization. Located a short drive from Hoi An, this site provides a fascinating glimpse into Vietnam's history.
- **Hoi An Night Market:** A vibrant market that comes alive after sunset, featuring a variety of local crafts, street food, and the iconic lanterns that light up the night, creating a magical atmosphere.
- **Tam Thanh Mural Village:** A coastal village turned open-air gallery, where colorful murals adorn local homes, reflecting daily life and folklore. Nestled by the sea, it's also a traditional fishing community, offering a unique blend of art, beach views, and cultural heritage.
- **VinWonders Nam Hoi An:** A large-scale amusement park and cultural complex offering a blend of entertainment, cultural experiences, and wildlife encounters. It includes theme park rides, a water park, a river safari, and showcases Vietnam's traditional crafts and folk arts, making it a great destination for families.
- **Kim Bồng Carpentry Village:** A traditional village renowned for its woodcraft. Visitors can observe skilled artisans creating intricate wooden sculptures and furniture, and even participate in woodworking workshops. This village highlights the craftsmanship and cultural significance of Hoi An's woodworking tradition.
- **Phước Kiều Bronze Casting Village:** Known for its traditional bronze casting techniques, Phước Kiều Village offers a glimpse into the art of metalworking. Visitors can watch artisans create intricate bronze statues, bells, and other items, showcasing the village's rich heritage in this craft.
- **Tra Que Vegetable Village:** Famous for its organic vegetables and herbs, Tra Que offers visitors a chance to experience traditional farming techniques. You can join in the farming activities, learn about local agricultural practices, and enjoy fresh, farm-to-table dishes.



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- **Thanh Dong Vegetable Village:** Another prominent vegetable-growing village, Thanh Dong is known for its high-quality produce and traditional farming methods. Visitors can explore the fields, engage with local farmers, and sample a variety of fresh vegetables.
- **Cam Thanh Coconut Forest:** Explore the mangrove forest by riding traditional basket boats through lush waterways. Experience local fishing methods and enjoy the serene natural environment.
- **Hoi An Silk Village:** Discover the traditional silk-making process, from silkworm farming to weaving. You can also purchase silk products and join hands-on workshops.
- **Ban Thach Mat Weaving Village:** Learn about traditional mat weaving techniques and see the process in action. Visit local workshops and experience this unique craft.

**Festivals & Holidays:** Hoi An is famous for its lively festivals and cultural celebrations, including:

- **Full Moon Lantern Festival:** Held on the 14th day of each lunar month, this festival features thousands of colorful lanterns illuminating the Ancient Town.
- **Tet (Lunar New Year):** The most significant holiday in Vietnam, celebrated with traditional performances, street parades, and family gatherings.
- **Hoi An Lantern Festival:** A monthly event where the streets of Hoi An are lit up with beautiful lanterns and traditional music.

**Accommodation:** Hoi An offers a variety of places to stay, from cozy guest houses to luxurious resorts, many of which feature local or traditional decor. For the best experience, it's recommended to book in advance, especially during peak tourist seasons and festivals. You can choose from accommodations with stunning river views, lush paddy field views, or beautiful beach views.

#### **Clothing:**

- **Summer:** Light and breathable clothing such as sundresses, shorts, and flip-flops are ideal. Don't forget sun protection like hats and sunglasses.
- **Winter/Rainy Season:** Bring warmer clothes such as light jackets, and waterproof gear like raincoats or umbrellas, and waterproof shoes for the rainy season.

#### **Transportation:**

- **Bicycles & Motorbikes:** Renting a bicycle or motorbike is a popular way to explore Hoi An and its surrounding areas.
- **Taxis & Ride-Hailing Services:** Convenient for getting around the city and to nearby attractions.



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- **Public Buses:** A budget-friendly option, though less frequent.
- **Walking:** The Ancient Town is best explored on foot due to its compact size and pedestrian-friendly streets.
- **Electric Cars:** Ticketed electric cars are available for use primarily within the Ancient Town, offering a convenient way to navigate the historic area.
- **Boat Rides:** Experience Hoi An from the water with scenic boat rides along the rivers and canals.
- **Cyclo:** Traditional three-wheeled rickshaws are mainly used within the Ancient Town, providing a leisurely way to see the sights and enjoy the local atmosphere.

#### Local Drinks:

- **Vietnamese Coffee:** Enjoy traditional Vietnamese iced coffee with condensed milk (Ca Phe Sua).
- **Coconut Water:** Refreshing and widely available in Hoi An.
- **Mót Juice:** often includes ingredients like honey, lime, ginger, and other natural flavors for a refreshing and healthy drink

#### Local Food:

- **Cao Lau:** A distinctive noodle dish featuring tender pork, aromatic fresh herbs, and crispy fried noodles.
- **White Rose Dumplings:** Steamed dumplings filled with either delicate shrimp or savory pork, wrapped in a translucent skin.
- **Banh Mi Hoi An:** A delicious Vietnamese sandwich crafted in Hoi An style, with a variety of savory fillings.
- **Mi Quang:** A local noodle specialty known for its robust broth, served with ingredients like chicken, shrimp, pork, or beef, and complemented with fresh vegetables.
- **Com Ga:** Rice prepared with chicken stock, stir-fried with shredded chicken, vegetables, lime juice, and chili for a flavorful dish.
- **Xi Ma:** A traditional dessert made from black sesame seeds combined with a special blend of herbs and spices, often enjoyed for its digestive benefits.
- **Dau Hu Tofu:** Soft tofu made from soybeans, with a texture akin to panna cotta, often enjoyed in Hoi An.
- **Banh Dap:** A combination of crispy and soft rice paper served with fermented fish sauce, or soy sauce for Western tastes, commonly enjoyed with beer.
- **Banh Xeo:** Crispy Vietnamese pancakes filled with shrimp, pork, bean sprouts, and herbs, typically served with lettuce and a flavorful dipping sauce.



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- **Trung Vit Lon:** A delicacy consisting of a fertilized duck egg with a developing embryo, known for its unique flavor and texture.
- **Chè Hoi An:** A traditional sweet dessert served in a bowl, featuring a mix of beans, fruits, and coconut milk. It's enjoyed for its refreshing taste and variety of textures, typically served both chilled and warm.

#### Daily Life Activities:

- **Riverside Stroll:** Enjoy a leisurely walk along the Thu Bon River and take in the scenic views.
- **Night Markets:** Explore the vibrant markets for local crafts, souvenirs, and street food.
- **Cultural Performances:** Attend traditional music and dance performances in various venues around the town, such as the Hoi An Memories Show and Lune Production Shows, which highlight Vietnam's rich cultural heritage.
- **Tailoring:** Hoi An is famous for its bespoke tailoring. Visitors can have custom-made clothing crafted by skilled tailors, from suits and dresses to traditional Vietnamese attire, all completed within a day or two.
- **Farming:** Experience rural life by visiting local farms. Engage in activities like planting rice, tending to vegetable gardens, or learning about organic farming practices. This hands-on experience offers insight into the agricultural traditions of Vietnam.
- **Lantern Making:** Join a lantern-making workshop to create your own lantern, a symbol of Hoi An. Learn about the history and techniques behind this craft, which plays a significant role in the town's cultural identity.
- **Cooking Class:** Learn to cook Vietnamese dishes with fresh ingredients and guidance from local chefs, often starting with a market visit.
- **Bar & Nightlife:** Enjoy Hoi An's vibrant nightlife with a range of bars offering live music, cocktails, and riverside views.
- **Art Workshop:** Join workshops to create traditional crafts like painting or pottery, guided by local artisans.
- **Shopping:** Explore local markets and boutiques for handmade goods, including clothing, lanterns, pottery, and artwork.
- **Massage & Spa:** Unwind with a traditional Vietnamese massage or spa treatment, perfect for relaxing after a day of exploring.
- **Go Cafe:** Visit cafes with unique atmospheres and enjoy local coffee, often with stunning views of the river, rice fields, or Old Town.
- **Biking:** Explore Hoi An's scenic countryside and charming Old Town by bike, offering a leisurely way to experience local life and stunning landscapes.



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- **Motorbiking:** Discover Hoi An and its surroundings on a motorbike, offering the freedom to explore hidden gems, coastal roads, and rural villages at your own pace.

#### **Sports & Water Sports (Weather Permitting):**

- **Cycling:** Explore scenic routes and countryside by bike.
- **Surfing:** Ideal conditions for surfing at nearby beaches.
- **Kayaking & Paddleboarding:** Enjoy water sports on the calm rivers and coastline.
- **Snorkeling & Diving:** Explore marine life at nearby islands and reefs.

#### **Art Performances & Entertainment Shows:**

- **Múa Rối Nước:** Traditional Vietnamese water puppetry with live music and colorful puppets, depicting folklore and rural life on a water stage.
- **Hoi An Memories Show:** A grand performance featuring over 500 artists, using dance, music, and multimedia to showcase Hoi An's history and cultural heritage.
- **Tehdar Show by Lune Productions:** A vibrant show combining traditional Vietnamese elements with modern circus acts, including acrobatics and aerial performances, enhanced by dynamic lighting and music.
- **Bài Chòi:** A traditional art form from Central Vietnam that combines singing, games, and theatrical performances. Bài Chòi shows are often held during festivals and on weekend evenings at various locations in Hoi An.
- **Lantern Festival:** Held on the full moon of each month, this event features thousands of colorful lanterns lighting up the ancient streets, creating a vibrant and magical atmosphere.
- **Tet Nguyen Dan (Lunar New Year) Festival:** The biggest celebration of the year in Hoi An, with various activities including parades, cultural performances, and traditional games.
- **Hoi An Festivals:** Various seasonal festivals, such as the Food Festival or Cultural Festival, offer opportunities to enjoy local cuisine and participate in traditional cultural activities.