

Ho Chi Minh & The Mekong in Every Breath Ho Chi Minh – Mekong Delta (5 Days)



(Image: Ho Chi Minh City - Vietnam)

#### Trip information:

- Guest's name: []
- Nationality: []
- Travel Period: []
- Number of group: []
- Destinations: Ho Chi Minh, Mekong Delta
- **Trip highlights:** From underground resilience to riverside rhythm explore the vibrant contrasts of Southern Vietnam, where history, culture, and daily life unfold at every turn.
  - ★ Immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of this bustling metropolis. Explore the historical Cu Chi Tunnels a testament to Vietnam's resilience, and gain insight into the country's rich past.
  - ★ Experience the serene beauty of the Mekong Delta on a day tour to My Tho. Cruise through lush waterways, savor local delicacies, and witness the unique lifestyle of riverside communities, all while enjoying the warm hospitality of the region.



- ★ Discover the charm of Can Tho, the heart of the Mekong Delta. Glide through the vibrant Cai Rang Floating Market and visit a traditional rice noodle workshop. Experience the rhythm of local life and the rich traditions of this riverside city.
- Duration: 05 days
- Travel styles: Local Life, Active & Nature, Family, Classic
- Start: Ho Chi Minh Finish: Ho Chi Minh
- Physical: Easy
- Code: SOU0502
- Ages: All ages
- **Group size:** 2-14 (Please contact us for more support if you are a solo traveler or if your group has more than 14 people).
- Map link:

https://www.google.com/maps/d/edit?mid=1QdAoCJvfdQ19uqAwD4ufx0eVF2IuIx4& usp=sharing



<iframe src="https://www.google.com/maps/d/embed?mid=1QdAoCJvfdQ19uqAwD4ufx0eVF2IuIx4&ehbc=2E312F&noprof=1" width="640" height="480"></iframe>



#### • Price:

Price	Group	Group	Group		Group	Group	Group	
USD/pax	2-3 pax	4-5 pax	6-7 pax		8-9 pax	10-11 pax	12-14 pax	
4-star	USD 660	USD 502	USD 430	)	USD 427	USD 402	USD 383	
	per pax	per pax	per pax		per pax	per pax	per pax	
5-star	USD 851	USD 693	USD 622		USD 619	USD 593	USD 574	
	per pax	per pax	per pax		per pax	per pax	per pax	
The above prices are valid from 2025 to 2026, except on public holidays, festivals and major								
events in Vietnam, during which a surcharge of 10% to 20% may apply.								
	4-st	4-star accommodation			5-star accommodation			
Ho Chi	Eden Star	Saigon or	similar:	Lot	tte hotel	Saigon o	or similar:	
Minh	https://www.edenstarsaigonhotel.co				https://www.lottehotel.com/saigon-			
	<u>m/</u> (Premium Deluxe)			hotel/en/rooms (Deluxe city view)				
Can Tho	Muong Thanh Luxury Can Tho or Victoria Can Tho or similar:							
	similar:			https://www.victoriahotels.asia/vi/victori				
	https://booking.muongthanh.com/kh			a-can-tho-resort/ (Superior room)				
	ach-san-muong-thanh-luxury-can-tho							
	(Deluxe room)							

### • Trip Plan: (B: Breakfast; L: Lunch; D: Dinner; ESG: English-speaking local guide)

Day	Activities	Accommodation	Meals
Day 1	Arrival Ho Chi Minh in the morning – Cu Chi	Ho Chi Minh	-/L/D
	Tunnels – Ho Chi Minh (ESG)		
Day 2	Ho Chi Minh – Mekong Delta: My Tho – Can Tho	Can Tho	B/L/D
	(ESG)	can mo	
Day 3	Can Tho – Ho Chi Minh City tour (ESG)	Ho Chi Minh	B/L/D
Day 4	Free time at leisure		
	Optional: Trek Can Gio Mangrove, Monkey Island	Ho Chi Minh	B/-/-
	with Croc Farm & Speed boat option		
Day 5	Ho Chi Minh: driver only transfer to Tan Son Nhat	N/A	B/-/-
	Airport - Departure		



#### **Itinerary:**

## DAY 1: Arrival Ho Chi Minh – Cu Chi Tunnels – Ho Chi Minh (ESG/-/L/D)

- Upon your arrival time in the morning, our English-speaking local guide (ESG) and driver will welcome you at the airport. Proceeding to transfer you to Cu Chi Tunnels, located 50 km from Ho Chi Minh City. Let the city noise fade as you drift into the gentle rhythm of the countryside outside Saigon.
- 12:30 13.30: Enjoy lunch.
- 13:30 15:00: Discover the Cu Chi Tunnels, an impressive complex of underground tunnels spanning over 200 km. Explore the main tunnel system and its branches connecting to hideouts, shelters, and more. You'll have the chance to crawl through this fascinating underground network.



(Image: Our traveler is trying Cassava in Cu Chi Tunnels – Ho Chi Minh – Vietnam)



(Image: Crawling through a tunnel - An unforgettable experience in Cu Chi Tunnels – Ho Chi Minh)

- **17:00**: Return to Ho Chi Minh City for dinner at a local restaurant.
- Transfer to your hotel in the city center. Enjoy free time to explore Ho Chi Minh City at night.



### DAY 2: Ho Chi Minh – Mekong Delta: My Tho – Can Tho (ESG/B/L/D)

- **08:30**: Our guide will pick you up at your hotel in central Ho Chi Minh City and transfer you to **My Tho** (70 km ~ 1,5 hour).
- **10:30**: Arrive at My Tho pier and go along Mekong River by boat to Unicorn Island:
  - See the bee farm and drinking honey tea
  - Visit coconut candy workshop
  - o Taste Vietnamese fruits and enjoy traditional music
  - Ride a horse cart along the island roadside
  - $\circ$  Take the rowing boat on the canal under the shade of the coconut water.
- **12:00**: Head to Phoenix Island to see the crocodile farm and goldfish pond. Enjoy lunch featuring *elephant fish, sticky rice, morning glory, and fish soup.*



(Image: Mekong Delta – Vietnam)

- **13:30:** Return by boat to My Tho boat station and transfer to **Vinh Trang Pagoda**, home to the three largest Buddha statues in Tien Giang Province, famous for its unique blend of Asian and European architectural styles.
- 15:30: Depart for Can Tho.
- 17h30: Check in at your hotel and take a short rest.
- **19h00:** Have dinner at a local restaurant. Enjoy free time to explore Can Tho at night. Overnight in Can Tho.



### DAY 3: Can Tho – Ho Chi Minh City Tour (ESG/B/L/D)

- 05:00: Wake up early. Our English-speaking guide (ESG) and driver will transfer you to Ninh Kieu Wharf. Begin your morning with a scenic boat ride along the Can Tho River, heading to the famous Cai Rang Floating Market — one of the most vibrant and iconic floating markets in the Mekong Delta.
- Experience the lively trading scene as local vendors sell fruits, vegetables, and regional specialties directly from their boats. This is a perfect opportunity to witness the authentic river life and capture unique photos of the bustling market in the soft morning light.



(Image: Cai Rang Floating Market – Can Tho – Vietnam)

- Continue your journey to visit a traditional Vermicelli village a noodle-making workshop along the river. Watch how the chewy rice noodles a beloved dish across Vietnam are made by hand and learn about the craft passed down through generations in this riverside village.
- **08:00:** Return to your hotel for breakfast, then check out.
- 09:30: Head back to Ho Chi Minh City.



- **12:00:** Enjoy your lunch at a local restaurant. After lunch, check in at your hotel and take a short rest.
- **15:30:** Start your walking city tour at **Reunification Palace**, a historic site embodying Vietnam's past and now serving as a museum. Visit the **Notre Dame Cathedral** and the historic **Post Office**, both creating a picturesque scene of architectural beauty. Next, admire **City Hall** and the grandeur of the **Opera House**, showcasing the city's heritage. Conclude your tour at the bustling, alive with energy and local specialties. Finishing with the bustling **Ben Thanh Market** buzzes with energy and local specialties.



(Image: 1. Notre Dame Cathedral; 2. Opera House – Ho Chi Minh – Vietnam)



(Image: 1. Ben Thanh Market; 2. Ho Chi Minh Post Office – Ho Chi Minh – Vietnam)

- 18:30 21:00: Enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. After dinner, take a relaxed walk along Nguyen Hue Pedestrian Street a buzzing avenue full of local flavors, hip cafés, street music, and dazzling light shows. Enjoy a night drink of your choice (coffee / juice, or local draft beer) as our lovely guide shares hidden gems and stories of the city.
- Overnight in Ho Chi Minh.

#### DAY 4: Free at your leisure (B/-/-)

Optional: Trek Can Gio Mangrove, Monkey Island with Croc Farm & Cano Option



### DAY 5: Ho Chi Minh driver only transfers to Tan Son Nhat Airport - Departure (B/-/-)

- After breakfast, free at leisure, check out.
- **Our driver only** will transfer you to Tan Son Nhat Airport for your next flight.

# Thank you for joining us, and have a nice trip!

#### Inclusion:

- ✓ Good air-conditioned private 7-seat car (for 2-3 pax)/ 16-seat minivan (for 4-8 pax)/ 29-seat coach (for 9-14 pax) as per the above itinerary.
- ✓ Water in the car: 2 bottles of 500ml per pax/visiting day.
- ✓ English-speaking local guides (04 days) as mentioned in the above itinerary.

### \*Surcharge (if any):

- → Thailand/French-speaking local guide (USD 6/day/group)
- → German/Mandarin-Chinese/Korean-speaking local guide (USD 20/day/group)
- $\rightarrow$  Spanish-speaking local guide (USD 40/day/group).
- ✓ Accommodatuon including breakfast (B)
- ✓ All entrance fees for sightseeing: Cu Chi Tunnels, Reunification Palace.
- ✓ Boat to explore Unicorn Island, Phoenix Island, Cai Rang Floating Market.
- ✓ Night drink (coffee / juice or local draft beer) at Nguyen Hue Pedestrian Street.
- ✓ Meals as mentioned in the itinerary (B: Breakfast; L: Lunch; D: Dinner): 3 lunches on days 1,2,3 + 3 dinners on days 1,2,3.

#### **Exclusion:**

- ✗ Bank transfer fees
- \* Early check-in and late check-out at hotels
- \* Surcharge for peak seasons and mandatory dinners at hotels (if applicable)
- \* Travel insurance
- \* Vietnam visa (the passport must be valid for over 6 months and have 3 blank pages)
- Personal expenses
- \* Meals not mentioned in the itinerary and beverages during meals
- Airfare (If applicable)
- Tips for guides and drivers (Suggested amount: \$3-5 per person per day). Tipping is optional and should reflect the quality of service received.



#### **Children Policy:**

- The child rate applies to one child sharing a twin or double room with two adults.
- For infants (<04 years old): free of charge, except for domestic ticket cost.
- 04 11 years old without bed: 50% of the adult rate.
- 04 11 years old with extra bed: 75% of the adult rate.
- 04 11 years old in twin share: 90% of the 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 the 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 refund or exchange will be issued. Additionally, no compensation will be provided for any services that remain unused during the tour.

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

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

#### <u>Short Tours (1 – 3 days)</u>

- More than 4 days prior: 50% of the total rate.
- From 1 to 4 days prior: 70% of the total rate.



• Less than 1 day prior or no-show: 100% of the total rate.

#### Important notes:

#### Immigration process:

For visa-on-arrival: Present a valid passport and, if applicable, an entry letter 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.

### Weather:

**Southern Vietnam:** This region experiences a tropical climate with two distinct seasons: dry and rainy. Temperatures remain fairly consistent year-round (typically between 25–35°C), but humidity and rainfall levels vary significantly.

### • Ho Chi Minh City:

- → May November: Rainy season; hot and humid with regular afternoon showers. Rainfall is short but heavy, especially from June to September.
- → December April: Dry season; warm to hot, sunny, and less humid. Pleasant for city tours and day trips.
- Mekong Delta:
- → May November: Wet season; frequent rain, high humidity, and occasional flooding in lowland areas. The landscape is lush and green.
- → December April: Dry season; warm, sunny, and ideal for boat tours, cycling, and exploring local life.
- **Best time to visit** the region: December March (pleasant temperatures, dry weather, and clear skies).
- **Pack Accordingly**: Pack lightweight clothing for hot weather and bring a raincoat or umbrella for the rainy season.

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

### Money matters:

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. However, you should also bring a small amount of cash for services, shopping, meals, etc., 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 consult your tour guide for advice.
- *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 ~ 25,000 26,000 VND (change cash in jewelry shops, the exchange rates are often better than in a bank or at the airport).
- QR code payment: widely accepted in many urban areas in Vietnam.
- Are credit cards accepted widely in Vietnam?
  USD and Major credit cards are widely accepted at large shops, hotels and restaurants in Vietnam. However, smaller vendors, family-run eateries, markets, and rural areas may only accept cash. Carry enough cash for as a backup, especially outside cities.

**Dining:** Please inform your operator or guide in advance if you have any **dietary restrictions 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 in most of the hotels/restaurants on the tour, 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)

<u>Electricity and adapter</u>: 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: Usually between 14:00–15:00 (can be later on weekends, in peak seasons, or at 5-star hotels).



- Check-out: Typically, before 11:00–12:00.
- Early check-in & late check-out: Subject to room availability and hotel policy; charges may apply.
- Amenities: Basic amenities like a toothbrush, towel, comb, hairdryer, and iron are provided in all hotels.

**Laundry**: Local laundry services outside the hotel may offer better rates. However, for expensive clothing, it's safer to use hotel laundry to avoid any risk of damage.

**Shopping**: At local markets, bargaining is common and expected. You can often negotiate 10–30% off the initial price for local goods.

**<u>Safety</u>**: To protect your belongings, always keep your bag or purse in front of you, especially in crowded areas.

### **Business Hours:**

- Offices: 8:00 AM 5:00 PM (Monday to Friday). Most are closed on Saturdays.
- Shops, restaurants, and entertainment venues: Typically, open from 8:00 AM 10:00 PM daily.

#### Is tipping compulsory in Vietnam?

Tipping is not mandatory or a common custom in Vietnam. However, it is greatly appreciated by service staff—such as waiters, hotel porters, drivers, and tour guides—especially when they provide exceptional service. Even a small tip can make a big difference and is considered a gesture of kindness and respect.