

# 13-Day Vietnam Heritage: Hanoi to the Mekong Delta

Follow Vietnam from early capitals and imperial courts to Cham sanctuaries, trading ports and southern waterways, with history grounded in the places visited.



## Duration

13 days / 12 nights

## Travel style

Leisurely, curious and historically grounded

## Accommodation

4-star or equivalent, confirmed in the final proposal

## Route

Hanoi - Ha Long cruise - Hue - Hoi An - Ho Chi Minh City - Cần Thơ - Ho Chi Minh City

## Trip highlights

- Cổ Loa and Thăng Long
- Citadel and Tự Đức
- Museum and Mỹ Sơn
- Collections and Chợ Lớn

## Recommended for

Leisurely, curious and historically grounded

## Season note

Heat changes the workable time at exposed archaeological sites.

This is a sample itinerary, not a quotation or booking confirmation.

Hotels, availability, exact inclusions, pricing and booking terms will be confirmed in a personalised proposal from your travel advisor.



#### Route covered

Arrive in Hanoi; Cổ Loa and the Imperial Citadel of Thăng Long; Hanoi museums and historical centre; Hanoi to Ha Long Bay

### Day 1 - Arrive in Hanoi

- Airport transfer and a calm arrival.
- A welcome dinner introduces the broad arc of the journey without a formal lecture.

Overnight: Hanoi

### Day 2 - Cổ Loa and the Imperial Citadel of Thăng Long

- Visit Cổ Loa to consider early state formation and defensive landscapes, then return to the Imperial Citadel of Thăng Long for archaeology, political continuity and the layered capital.

Overnight: Hanoi | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

### Day 3 - Hanoi museums and historical centre

- Use the Vietnam National Museum of History and selected Hanoi streets to connect objects, urban trade and dynastic change.
- Keep the late afternoon free.

Overnight: Hanoi | Meals: Breakfast

### Day 4 - Hanoi to Ha Long Bay

- Travel to the bay and board an overnight cruise.
- The day shifts from sites to landscape, with light context on prehistoric occupation and coastal life.

Overnight: Ha Long cruise | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



**Route covered**

Ha Long Bay and fly to Hue; Hue Imperial City and Tự Đức Tomb; Hue to Hoi An via the Cham Museum

## Day 5 - Ha Long Bay and fly to Hue

- A relaxed cruise morning, then transfer for the flight to Hue.
- No forced sightseeing after arrival.

Overnight: Hue | Meals: Breakfast

## Day 6 - Hue Imperial City and Tự Đức Tomb

- Explore the Imperial City, then visit the tomb of Emperor Tự Đức as a more intimate landscape of royal memory, poetry and retreat.

Overnight: Hue | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

## Day 7 - Hue to Hoi An via the Cham Museum

- Travel over Hai Van Pass.
- Stop at the Museum of Cham Sculpture in Da Nang before reaching Hoi An, giving the group a visual vocabulary before Mỹ Sơn.

Overnight: Hoi An | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



**Route covered**

Mỹ Sơn and the trading world of Hoi An; Fly to Ho Chi Minh City; Ho Chi Minh City museums and Chợ Lớn

## Day 8 - Mỹ Sơn and the trading world of Hoi An

- Visit Mỹ Sơn in the morning, then return to Hoi An for its merchant architecture, river trade and conservation story.

Overnight: Hoi An | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

## Day 9 - Fly to Ho Chi Minh City

- Fly south and begin with a light architectural and neighbourhood orientation focused on the southern city rather than war-history sites.

Overnight: Ho Chi Minh City | Meals: Breakfast

## Day 10 - Ho Chi Minh City museums and Chợ Lớn

- Visit the Ho Chi Minh City History Museum, then use Chợ Lớn to discuss migration, commerce and the region's wider trading networks.

Overnight: Ho Chi Minh City | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch



**Route covered**

Óc Eo–Ba Thê and onward to Cần Thơ; Cái Răng and return to Ho Chi Minh City; Departure

### Day 11 - Óc Eo–Ba Thê and onward to Cần Thơ

- Travel to the Óc Eo–Ba Thê area for the archaeological landscape and museum collections, then continue to Cần Thơ for the night.
- The visit focuses on the archaeological landscape and the collections that help explain it.

Overnight: Cần Thơ | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

### Day 12 - Cái Răng and return to Ho Chi Minh City

- Visit Cái Răng early to connect ancient waterways with a living commercial system.
- Return to Ho Chi Minh City for a light afternoon and farewell dinner.

Overnight: Ho Chi Minh City | Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

### Day 13 - Departure

- Keep the final hours in Hanoi flexible until the onward flight is confirmed.
- Private transfer, luggage storage and any day-room requirement are timed around departure; no missed core visit is pushed into the last morning.

Meals: Breakfast



## Inclusions and practical information

This sample itinerary illustrates a proposed route and experiences. Hotels, availability, exact inclusions and pricing will be confirmed in a personalised proposal from your travel advisor.

### Included

- Accommodation in the stated overnight locations, based on the rooming arrangement confirmed in the final proposal.
- Daily breakfast and the lunches or dinners specifically marked against each day.
- Private ground transport for the airport transfers, touring and intercity movements shown.
- English-speaking local guide services for scheduled sightseeing and hosted activities.
- Entrance fees and activities explicitly listed in the confirmed itinerary.
- Domestic flights, cruises or boats shown in the itinerary, subject to final schedules, fares and operating conditions.

### Not included

- International flights and any airfare not specifically included in the final proposal.
- Passport, visa, vaccination, travel insurance and personal medical costs.
- Tips, drinks, laundry, minibar, personal purchases and other incidental expenses.
- Early check-in, late check-out, room upgrades and special room arrangements unless confirmed.
- Optional activities, independent meals and services requested after the itinerary is confirmed.

### Final details to be confirmed

- Exact hotel names, room category, bedding and check-in arrangements.
- Guide coverage and any supplier- or host-dependent visits.
- Final flight, cruise, train and transfer timings.
- The complete inclusion list, price, payment schedule and cancellation terms.

**Your travel advisor remains your point of contact.**

The final proposal replaces this sample once dates, travellers and service choices are confirmed.