



VIETNAM GROUP OPERATOR
BY SCIVI TRAVEL

HAN-SGN-14-TH

PRIVATE FOOD & CULTURE JOURNEY

Vietnam Through Food, Markets and Local Life

A privately operated cultural journey exploring how food is grown, traded, prepared and shared across Vietnam — from Hanoi's neighbourhood wet markets to the Khmer borderlands of the upper Mekong Delta.

14 Days / 13 Nights

Hanoi · Hue · Ho Chi Minh City · Long Xuyen · Chau Doc

Private group, 2–16 guests

PREPARED BY

Groups & Trade Team — Vietnam Group Operator

VALID UNTIL

31 December 2027

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A privately operated cultural journey exploring how food is grown, traded, prepared and shared across Vietnam — from Hanoi’s neighbourhood wet markets to the Khmer borderlands of the upper Mekong Delta.

DURATION	GROUP SIZE	PHYSICAL LEVEL	JOURNEY STYLE
14 Days / 13 Nights	2–16 guests	Easy to Moderate	Private Food & Culture Journey

FOOD AS A WAY INTO VIETNAM

This journey uses food as a connecting lens rather than a continuous tasting circuit. Markets, household meals, agriculture, religion, migration and trade reveal how regional cuisines developed and how they continue to change.

The route moves from Hanoi’s everyday kitchen to Hue’s family and vegetarian traditions, then through Saigon’s urban markets and deep into the Mekong Delta. Carefully selected meals support the story, while historic neighbourhoods, landscapes and community encounters keep the journey culturally broad.

Three nights each in Hanoi and Hue create regional depth before the journey moves south through Saigon and the upper Mekong Delta, ending with one final night in Ho Chi Minh City.

ROUTE

Hanoi → Hue → Ho Chi Minh City → Long Xuyen → Chau Doc

HIGHLIGHTS

Five food landscapes, each revealing a different Vietnam

- Hanoi neighbourhood wet market, northern cooking session and egg coffee workshop
- Buddhist life and vegetarian cuisine at Tu Hieu Pagoda, Hue
- Cho Lon: Chinese-Vietnamese migration, preserved ingredients and specialist food streets
- Long Xuyen floating market at dawn; Chau Doc borderland orientation
- Thanh Toan village bicycle ride and Hue family-table lunch in a Kim Long garden house
- Signature ‘From Market to Market’ walk through central Saigon’s commercial layers
- Ben Tre to Long Xuyen — coconut landscapes, waterways and household food producers
- Bay Nui Khmer community, palm sugar production and mango orchards near Cao Lanh



Days 1–6

Day 1 Arrival in Hanoi

Meet the main group arrival and transfer to a centrally located hotel. Separate private transfers can be arranged for guests arriving on different flights. The journey begins with a welcome briefing and dinner, introducing the regional contrasts that will unfold from north to south.

Overnight: Central hotel, Hanoi

Dinner

Day 2 The Hanoi Kitchen

Begin at a neighbourhood wet market, observing how residents shop by season, judge freshness and buy from familiar traders. Continue to a hands-on northern Vietnamese cooking session focused on herbs, fish sauce, acidity, texture and restrained seasoning. Later, join an egg coffee workshop and learn how this Hanoi speciality emerged during a period of scarcity.

Overnight: Central hotel, Hanoi

Breakfast

Lunch

Day 3 Markets, Trade Streets and Everyday Hanoi

Begin at a substantial neighbourhood market to see how produce, meat, fish, herbs and prepared foods move through the city each morning. Continue through selected Old Quarter trade streets and family-run businesses, using food distribution, changing retail habits and long-established commercial relationships to explain everyday Hanoi. A relaxed local lunch and time in communal or residential spaces keep the focus on how the city feeds itself rather than on another formal tasting programme.

Overnight: Central hotel, Hanoi

Breakfast

Lunch

Day 4 Fly to Hue and Settle into the City

Transfer to the airport for the flight to Hue. On arrival, meet the local team and continue to the hotel for check-in and a light orientation to the city. If timing permits, take a short walk through a local neighbourhood or visit a small market before dinner; otherwise, the afternoon remains free. This protects the programme from flight delays and allows the more substantial rural and culinary experiences to begin the following morning.

Overnight: Central hotel, Hue

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner

Day 5 Thanh Toan, Kim Long and the Hue Family Table

Travel into the countryside around Hue, with a short supported bicycle ride or private-vehicle alternative through rice-growing communities to Thanh Toan village. Visit the local market and historic tile-roofed bridge. Continue to Kim Long, where traditional garden houses, ancestral spaces, fruit trees and long-established families provide the setting for selected stages of meal preparation and a home-style lunch. The emphasis is on the balance, seasonality and hospitality of a Hue family table rather than a second formal cooking class.

Overnight: Central hotel, Hue

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner

Day 6 Imperial Hue, Buddhist Life and Vegetarian Cuisine

Visit the Imperial City to understand how court life, ritual and hierarchy influenced Hue culture. Continue to Tu Hieu Pagoda to learn about Buddhist monastic practice and its role in shaping Hue's cultural identity. After a rest at the hotel, travel by cyclo through the evening streets before dinner at a carefully selected restaurant focused on Hue's celebrated vegetarian cuisine.

Overnight: Central hotel, Hue

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner

Days 7–11

Day 7 Fly to Ho Chi Minh City

Fly south and settle into a central hotel. A private orientation walk introduces Saigon through its historic commercial core, public spaces, apartment buildings, cafés, religious landmarks and street life. The walk provides context for the market and migration stories that follow without turning every day into a tasting programme.

Overnight: Central hotel, Ho Chi Minh City

Breakfast

Dinner

Day 8 From Market to Market

Follow food through different layers of Saigon's commercial life, from traditional retail and specialist streets to prepared-food sections and family-run traders. Learn how ingredients move between producers, wholesalers and consumers, and how markets are adapting to supermarkets and delivery platforms. A selected local lunch concludes the route; the afternoon is free for rest or personal interests.

Overnight: Central hotel, Ho Chi Minh City

Breakfast

Lunch

Day 9 Cho Lon: Migration, Trade and Preserved Food Traditions

Spend the day in Cho Lon, where Chinese-Vietnamese migration, wholesale trade and specialist food businesses have shaped one of Saigon's most distinctive commercial districts. Explore selected markets and trading streets with attention to dried seafood, preserved ingredients, noodles, medicinal products, sauces and household staples. Religious and community landmarks help explain the associations behind particular foods and festival traditions. A carefully selected lunch anchors the programme.

Overnight: Central hotel, Ho Chi Minh City

Breakfast

Lunch

Day 10 Ben Tre to Long Xuyen

Travel into Ben Tre for a quieter Mekong experience through coconut landscapes, gardens, small waterways and rural communities. Depending on local conditions, explore by bicycle, on foot and by small boat, with alternatives available. Visit households or producers whose livelihoods combine agriculture, household food production and local trade, then continue by private vehicle to Long Xuyen.

Overnight: Hoa Binh 1 Hotel, Long Xuyen

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner

Day 11 Long Xuyen Floating Market and Chau Doc

Rise early for a private boat visit to Long Xuyen floating market, where agricultural produce moves between farms, traders and riverside communities. Return for breakfast before travelling toward Chau Doc. An orientation to this borderland town introduces the Vietnamese, Khmer, Chinese and Cham influences that shape its markets, waterways and food culture.

Overnight: Victoria Chau Doc Hotel

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner

Days 12–14

Day 12 Bay Nui, Khmer Foodways and Palm Sugar	Travel into the Bay Nui region, where mountains, rice fields and rows of palmyra palms create a distinct landscape. Visit a Khmer community and a household or small producer working with palm sap and sugar. A locally prepared meal connects the day's ingredients, agricultural practices and cultural exchange across the lower Mekong. Overnight: Victoria Chau Doc Hotel BreakfastLunchDinner
Day 13 Chau Doc Markets, Fermentation and Mango Country	Explore Chau Doc market with attention to freshwater fish, preserved foods, fermentation and products moving through the border region. Continue toward Cao Lanh for a private orchard visit, walking or cycling among mango trees and meeting local growers when available. Return to Ho Chi Minh City in the late afternoon. Overnight: Central hotel, Ho Chi Minh City BreakfastLunchDinner
Day 14 Departure	The morning is free according to flight time. A private transfer is arranged to Tan Son Nhat International Airport, with late check-out or additional arrangements available on request. End of journey. Overnight: End of journey Breakfast

Inclusions & Exclusions

INCLUDED

- ✓ 13 nights accommodation in 4- and 5-star hotels (central locations throughout)
- ✓ Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- ✓ 2 domestic flights: Hanoi—Hue and Hue—Ho Chi Minh City
- ✓ All ground transfers by private air-conditioned vehicle
- ✓ English-speaking guide(s) throughout — regional specialists or one guide throughout
- ✓ All entrance fees and activities listed in the itinerary
- ✓ Northern cooking session and egg coffee workshop, Hanoi
- ✓ Thanh Toan village cycling (or vehicle alternative); Kim Long family-table lunch
- ✓ Imperial City visit and Tu Hieu Pagoda; vegetarian dinner, Hue
- ✓ From Market to Market walking experience; Cho Lon food district exploration, Saigon
- ✓ Ben Tre boat and bicycle excursion; Long Xuyen floating market (private boat, dawn)
- ✓ Bay Nui Khmer community and palm sugar visit; Cao Lanh mango orchard
- ✓ Domestic luggage transfers and flight coordination

NOT INCLUDED

- International flights to/from Vietnam
- Vietnam visa fees
- Travel insurance (required — client’s responsibility)
- Meals not specified in the itinerary
- Personal expenses, laundry, minibar, beverages
- Optional activities not listed in the programme
- Tipping for guides and drivers
- Any services not mentioned in inclusions

MEAL KEY

Breakfast

Lunch

Dinner



Vietnam Through Food, Markets and Local Life

HAN-SGN-14-TH · 14 Days / 13 Nights · Includes domestic flights

Representative Hotels

Actual properties confirmed at booking. Equivalent substitutions may apply.



La Passion Hanoi Hotel & Spa
Hanoi

★★★★



Imperial Hotel Hue
Hue

★★★★★



Alagon City Hotel & Spa
Ho Chi Minh City

★★★★★



Hoa Binh 1 Hotel
Long Xuyen

★★★



Victoria Chau Doc Hotel
Chau Doc

★★★★★

PAYMENT TERMS

- 30%** Deposit upon confirmation
- 30%** Due 60 days before arrival
- 40%** Final payment, 30 days before arrival

CANCELLATION POLICY

- 91+ DAYS**
Deposit refundable less USD/CAD 150 admin fee
- 90–61 DAYS**
30% cancellation fee
- 60–31 DAYS**
60% cancellation fee
- ≤ 30 DAYS**
100% non-refundable

CHILD POLICY

- UNDER 2**
10% · No seat, bed or meals · Max. 1 infant per full-paying adult.
- AGES 2–11**
75% · Seat, bed & meals included · Max. 1 child per adult; additional children at adult rate.
- AGES 12+**
Adult rate applies.

NAME CHANGES

- Permitted up to 30 days before arrival.
- Domestic flights non-transferable — 100% airline penalty applies.
- Any supplier-imposed fees will apply.

BOOKING CONDITIONS

- Prices subject to availability until confirmed.
- Minimum numbers may apply for guaranteed departures.
- Passport details required before ticketing.
- Comprehensive travel insurance strongly recommended.



READY TO EXPERIENCE VIETNAM?

Ask your travel advisor

HOW TO BOOK

This itinerary is available exclusively through your travel advisor. Contact them to discuss dates, pricing, and any adjustments to tailor the journey to your group.

Your advisor can request a full proposal, confirm availability for the set departures listed in this brochure, or arrange a fully private departure for your group on dates that suit you.

OPERATED BY

Vietnam Group Operator

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WHY TRAVEL WITH US

Expert Local Knowledge

Our team lives and breathes Vietnam — every route, guide, and hotel is personally vetted.

Fully Private Journeys

Your group travels together, at your own pace, with a dedicated guide throughout.

Seamless Logistics

All transfers, domestic flights, accommodations and activities are arranged for you.

24/7 On-the-Ground Support

A Vietnam-based operations team is reachable at any hour throughout your journey.

Flexible & Tailored

Itineraries, hotels and activities can be adjusted to suit your interests and travel style.