

### **HAPPY LUAN** Vietnam Travel Agency

### **CATALOGUE**

of destinations

















3, Ngõ 465, Đường Ngọc Thuy, Long Biên, Hà Nôi, Việt Nam Téléphone: + 84-4-38716190 - Fax: + 84-4-38715810 luan@happyluan.com

www.happyluan.com

































HAPPY LUAN, c'est le rêve accompli de Luân, une vietnamienne amoureuse de son pays et fière de pouvoir le raconter autrement.

HAPPY LUAN, c'est une petite équipe qui vous fera découvrir le Vietnam avec le respect des lieux et des habitants.

HAPPY LUAN, c'est faciliter votre voyage en réservant pour vous avions, trains, bateaux, bus, hôtels, taxis, restaurants... barques, motos, vélos, charettes...

HAPPY LUAN, c'est prendre en charge les visas et toutes les démarches administratives.

HAPPY LUAN, c'est des « tours clef en main » ou des voyages sur mesure.

HAPPY LUAN, c'est aussi la possibilité d'aller au Laos et au Cambodge.

HAPPY LUAN, c'est la découverte de lieux insolites et des rencontres authentiques.

HAPPY LUAN, c'est la bonne humeur et l'enthousiasme garantis.

HAPPY LUAN, c'est des recommandations de guides de voyages, d'internautes et de voyageurs.

HAPPY LUAN, c'est pas du blabla... C'est là.

### Foreword

### SUMMARY







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I know how tricky it is to organize a trip to a foreign Country... especially when it is a region where the language barrier is a real issue if you want to organize it by yourself. No matter how much you read guide books, listen to advices (often different) on forums ... Choosing a local Agency, but most of all choosing the destinations often remain a real assault course.

Leaving on a tour that suits you and not having last minute surprises is indeed not the result of chance, but it is about a real upstream preparation.

It's in that way that I thought about writing this catalogue, to introduce myself, but also to give you both the best overview of the services I offer and especially of the possible destinations in Viet Nam.

You will then find here information about HAPPY LUAN Travel Agency, and its principal excursions brochures.

Naturally, I do not claim to review the whole Country, but I do hope that this catalogue will help you organizing your trip, maybe having a more precise opinion about a destination or even discovering an area you did not know about... in order to start, with all the pieces, the puzzle of your trip.

Indeed, I offer excursions, either separately or altogether thus making a part or a whole trip in my beautiful Country.

Let me remind you that the tours offered by Happy Luan Travel Agency are private tours; you will always be by yourself, in order to enjoy a real local service/ proximity service and a better discovery of the culture and landscapes!

See you soon, I hope!

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### Introduction

### Happy Luan







## HAPPY LUAN Viet Nam Travel Agency

#### What is « HAPPY LUAN »?

HAPPY LUAN is the accomplished dream of Luan, a woman in love with her country and proud to talk about it, day after day, to those who want to see Viet Nam from a different perspective. **A dream of discoveries, of originalities and of human warmth** that brings together the professionalism, the seriousness and the dynamism of Luan and her small team in this way constituting HAPPY LUAN – Viet Nam Travel Agency.

The agency Happy Luan has of course a tourism official license and is recommended by many guides including "Le Routard" and "Le Michelin Vert".

But Happy Luan is mainly present in many forums of travelers. In a few clicks, you will have access to many comments on the net ...

#### A brief introduction about myself...

My name is Nguyen Thi Luan, or rather Luan JAN since my wedding with Thomas. Our home got bigger with both the births of our little **Line** in 2006 and of **Tim** in 2008.

Thomas is French... well, Breton to be more accurate! He (has) worked during 12 years in NGOs for underprivileged childhood before opening international kindergartens in Hanoi. We first met... in Halong bay! And ever since, we live our cultural differences on a daily basis, which is very enriching / rewarding since we have so much to learn from each other.

I am native of Hung Yen, one of Eastward provinces located 80 km away from Hanoi, in the delta of the Red River. I grew up in a rural area with my parents and my three brothers. I am the youngest. Like most Vietnamese people living outside of the cities, my parents are farmers. They cultivate rice, vegetables, corn and breed pigs and chickens.

I graduated high school at the age of 17 and wished to continue my studies in Hanoi in the tourism sector. But, before that I needed to work in order to pay for/financially support my dream...

**I became a local tour guide in Sapa**, the tourist capital of Northwest Viet Nam. I worked as such for two years and a half before joining the management staff team of a hotel. Mixing with so many different cultures at my age, on one side the ethnic minorities (the 'black' and 'flower' H'Mongs, the red Dao ...) and on the other tourists coming from all over the world really has confirmed my professional / career orientation.

Four years passed in Sapa, enough for me to gather the necessary sum of money in order to take my **B.T.S in Tourism exam in Ha Noi**. Indeed, I did this two years degree as a sandwich course which also allowed me to discover other destinations in Viet Nam, such as the Ha Long Bay, the middle part of the country and its highlands, or the Mekong Delta region. I also learned how to manage an agency and put into practice the theories acquired right after the end of my studies for one of the most important "tour operators" in Ha Noi for/during two years and a half.

Since I could not change the business ethic of those "tourists industries", I decided to open my own agency: HAPPY LUAN - Viet Nam Travel Agency, was created on the 2nd of January 2007.

### Introduction

### Happy Luan





#### My ambitions for my customers

My ambitions are to allow you to discover an authentic image of Viet Nam according to your wishes!

Viet Nam is a country fairly uneasy of access: many visitors want to go out of beaten tracks. Locations or places presenting an 'official tourist attraction" are taken over by the big agencies, whereas other less famous places, just as worthy of interest, are neglected. The language problem is recurrent, and a lot of tourist facilities (hotels, transportation, authorities' agreements...) are defective still.

I told myself that with a little organization, I could introduce you to my country from a different perspective: **authenticity**. Viet Nam and its country sides with their untouched landscapes and welcoming people, its cities and its traditional professions, but also its cuisines (*yummy*)... Without neglecting, of course, the major sites, but with a different approach, more original, more local, closer to people and above all, tailor-made for you.

In order to distinguish ourselves from the tour operators, there are no thousand solutions! **We must inspire encounters with inhabitants and connect with the local culture.** Big agencies cannot meet to the expectations of their customers and can only show them what everybody else has already seen. Those big agencies offer them activities that hardly fit them and accommodate them in those "tourist hotels", not any different from any other hotel in any other country... It would be like reducing the Brittany region of France to the "Pointe du Raz" and to the "Mont Saint Michel" without even taking the time to drink some "chouchen" honey wine in a bistrot bar or to savor a genuine "kouign aman" cake in the city of Locronan...!

#### HAPPY LUAN's purposes

I try as much as I can to put myself in my customer's shoes. I, myself, had the opportunity to travel around Asia and Europe, and I think I can understand the mix feelings between fascination, enthusiasm and sometimes awkwardness that we can experience when we discover a foreign country.

With HAPPY LUAN, I have a desire to come as close as possible to my customers and their expectations in terms of housing, transportation, activities, well-being and satisfaction!

I am aware that each one of us has different desires, ways of functioning and spending budgets. That is the reason why I offer you a range of services going from simple advices to a fully organized trip.

**The "tailor-made" approach is my only goal:** providing you with a circuit tour adapted to your desires and to your budget; a discovery trip of Viet Nam, in the respect of cultures, local people and their way of life. And no need for tour guide for that! You will be in the company of my local contacts when their presence is required such as museum visits or trekking, but in order to "encounter" with Viet Nam, no need for a middleman! Gazing, sharing, understanding and being amazed, those are the key words to a successful journey.

A problem on site? A change of schedule? Specific wishes? From the day you arrive until the day you're leaving, day by day I will be in touch with you over the phone so that you would be entirely satisfied of your trip.

Contact us, ask us, and we will take care of everything! Hotel bookings, tour guides, plane tickets, car rentals, conference rooms etc.

For that matter I also wanted to create **a website as customized as possible...** More than just for commercial use, I especially wanted to share with you my vision of Viet Nam. Many categories are thus dedicated to **local culture and everyday life...** you can also find many cooking recipes online! I also referenced many destinations to visit, but always followed by a **most personal opinion** and annotations depending on the topic. Lastly, many practical advices for before and during your trip are also provided... In other words, **a mini guide that will certainly complement your standard tourist guides!** 

Take the time to have a look at: www.happyluan.com



Between modernity and tradition





Ha Noi, the Vietnamese capital is located at the heart of the North Viet Nam. The 64 lakes of the city, as well as its numerous parks and trees shading over the avenues and streets make it a very pleasant city. Admittedly, Ha Noi is a big and well spread city and the traffic and the intense life-beat can be somewhat "aggressive" but we soon realize that Ha Noi is divided in numerous little nice corners, giving the city a more human feel. In this way, the city is often called Ha Noi the Peaceful City, Ha Noi the Traditional City in opposition to Sai Gon with its appearance of a big and modern city...

I think that you understood how much I like the city of Ha Noi! Apart from the historical and cultural dimensions, I like the atmosphere of the city, its little cafés, its lakes and parks, its population... I won't talk more about it at the risk of sounding chauvinistic and also out of respect for my friends of Sai Gon...

There are many crafts villages around the city where you can discover the local craftsmanship techniques. However my favorite is the village of Duong Lam which is not a craft village but a traditional village with centenary trees, 300 year-old traditional houses and a beautiful pagoda. A simply stunning place...

I am trying my best to find less touristic and **more authentic alternatives** to these visits I think are essential in order to understand **the richness of Vietnamese craftsmanship**. In my opinion, the ideal would be to associate visits to craft villages and visits to nice pagodas around Ha Noi...

### Between modernity and tradition





### HA NOI CITY, PROGRAM 1: 1 day

TEMPLE OF LITERATURE, WEST LAKE AND OLD QUARTER

At 9am, an English speaking guide comes and picks you up at your hotel with a private car.

The first visit is the Temple of Literature.

You will then carry on by foot towards the esplanade of Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum where you will visit the single pillar pagoda.

After that, you will walk pass by the Presidential Palace, the National Assembly, the Quan Thanh Temple and you will arrive to the West Lake where you will be having lunch by the lake.

You will visit the Tran Quoc pagoda, and then the car will drive you to the Old Quarter.

You will visit the outdoor of the Great Opera and walk along Trang Tien street with its libraries and galleries.

Walk around the Hoan Kiem Lake by foot until the Cathedral of Ha Noi and the pagoda next to it.

You will end your program with the visit of a Vietnamese traditional house that just got renovated recently, in Ma May Street.

At \_\_ pm you will attend the water puppet show of Ha Noi.

Diner at liberty.

Accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Private car, Lunch, English speaking Guide, Entrance fees, Theater (free).

### HA NOI CITY, PROGRAM 2: 1 day MUSEUM OF ETHNOLOGY, TEMPLE OF LITERATURE AND OLD QUARTER

#### Note: Tour impossible on Mondays (museums are closed)!

At 9am an English speaking guide comes and picks you up at your hotel with a private car.

You will go to the Museum of Ethnology of Viet Nam.

There, you can discover all the 54 ethnic minorities of Viet Nam and their traditions. Visit the garden of the Museum to explore different ethnic houses.

The car will bring you to a restaurant for lunch where you can savor Vietnamese traditional dishes.

You will then visit the Temple of Literature.

Then the car will drive you to the Old Quarter.

From there, you will get in a rickshaw to visit the 36 professions area.

You will end your program by visiting a Vietnamese traditional house that just got renovated recently in Ma May Street.

At 17h30 you will attend the water puppet show of Ha Noi.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Private car, Lunch, English speaking Guide, Entrance fees, Theater (free).

### Between modernity and tradition







#### **SURROUNDINGS OF HA NOI, PROGRAM 1:1 day**

#### THE VILLAGE OF TRANH DONG HO AND THE BUT THAP PAGODA

At 9am an English speaking guide comes and picks you up at your hotel with a private car.

After an hour long of driving, you will visit the traditional crafts village of Tranh Dong Ho. It is in this village that Vietnamese traditional paintings on rice Paper are created. You can discover there this very ancient painting technique.

Lunch in a local restaurant.

Then, the car will drive you to the But Thap pagoda called the 'Brush Tower" pagoda. Its name comes from the principal stupa that can represent, for some, a brush in its inkpot. This pagoda dating from 1647 and made of 3 buildings has a very peculiar architecture for North Vietnam.

On the way back, a stop is programed at the traditional village of Bat Trang where you can discover the crafts techniques of this very local fabrication.

The car brings you back to your hotel in the end of the afternoon. Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Private car, Lunch, English speaking Guide, Entrance fees.

#### **SURROUNDINGS OF HA NOI, PROGRAM 2:1 day**

THE PERFUME PAGODA « CHUA HUONG »

At 7am the car comes and picks you up at you hotel to bring you to the Perfume pagoda in the province of Ha Tay.

Once onsite, you will go up the very picturesque and romantic "Yen" river on a flat-bottomed sampan.

Following a steep path by foot, you will get to the temples and sanctuaries of the Perfume Pagoda, nested in limestone rocks. However, a cable-car has been recently installed so that the least courageous may also climb it, fatique-free!

The site of the Perfume Pagoda is nationally famous for its pagodas and its temples built on limestone mountains: the Trinh temple, Thien Tru pagoda. You will discover there a very original architecture.

Lunch in a local restaurant.

The tour ends with the visit of the Huong Tich cave, by punt.

The car brings you back to your hotel in the end of the afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Private car, Lunch, English speaking Guide, Boat, Entrance fees,

### Between modernity and tradition





### SURROUNDINGS OF HA NOI, PROGRAM 3: 1 day THE TRADITIONAL VILLAGE OF DUONG LAM

At 9am an English speaking guide comes and picks you up at your hotel with a private car.

After an hour long of driving, you will visit the Thay pagoda, called the Master pagoda. This pagoda is dedicated to the Thich Ca Buddha. It holds in particular a very famous statue of the monk Tu Dao Hanh from the 12th Century.

After the visit, the car will bring you to the traditional village of Duong Lam where you will be having lunch with a local family in the village.

You will then carry on visiting the traditional village of Duong Lam on bicycle. This unique place of North Viet Nam has centenary trees, a very ancient temple, and especially, old traditional houses, 50 of which are over 200-300 years old.

On the way back, a stop is programed at the traditional silk village of Van Phuc. You can do some shopping and visit houses where people weave.

The car brings you back to your hotel in the end of the afternoon. Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Private car, Lunch, English speaking Guide, Entrance fees.

#### PROGRAM 3: Exention 1 day - 1 night

The night before, instead of returning to Hanoi, you go to my place, for dinner and sleep in Ba Vi, in a modern home.

After breakfast, the driver takes you to Dam Long (45 minutes). Arrived at Long Dam, you can visit ecotourism Dam Long Park ... Then you make a bike ride in the forest ensuring a beautiful flora and fauna. There are many monkeys, deers and ducks .... in this plave.

Lunch is taken at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, you return to Ha Noi. On the way back there is a stop at the traditional village of Van Phuc silk. You can go shopping and visit the houses where one manufactures clothing. Dinner and free accommodation in Hanoi.

#### OPTION 1: BA VI

Dinner and night ant my place in Ba Vi, Beakfast, Entrance Fees, Private car, English speaking Guide, bicycles, Lunch.

#### OPTION 2: LA FERME DU COLVERT

The night before, instead of going back to Ha Noi, you go to the "La Ferme du Colvert" for dinner and one Muong dance show. Night in the farm of Mallard happens in a traditional house on stilts.

After breakfast, the guide takes you on a bicycle to visit the Muong ethnic minorites villages and walking at Luong Son area.

You return the "La Ferme du Colvert" to learn Vietnamese cuisine before lunch

After lunch you take the time to rest before returning to Hanoi. Arrive in Hanoi in the late afternoon - noon.

Dinner and free accommodation in Hanoi.

Muong Dance Show, Dinner and night at "La ferme de Colvert", Beakfast, Entrance Fees, Private car, English speaking Guide, bicycles, Lunch.

### Fare information





#### HA NOI BY BIKE, PROGRAM 1 day

ALONG RED AND DUONG RIVERS

At 9 o'clock, an English-spoken guide will pick you up at your hotel by bike to visit you around the city of Ha Noi.

You cross the old neighborhoods and discover the old town before arriving on the Long Bien bridge.

This bridge was designed by Gustave Eiffel and measures 2 km to cross it.

On the other side of the river, you stop at a typical market in North Vietnam, the Ngoc Lam market.

Then you continue the walk to Luan's house, along the Duong River. Lunch is taken at Luan, by the river.

After lunch, you leave on the Bac Cau peninsula, between the Red River and the Duong River.

You visit the temples Doi Co, Rung and Mau Thoai. These are temples known for the "Co" Art of Viet Nam.

You will then return to the hotel in the afternoon.

Dinner and Free Accommodation in Ha Noi.

English speaking Guide, Bikes, Lunch.

A contract of the contract of		

293 €

2 Pers

152 €

120 €

6 Pers

271 €

3 Pers

175€

317 €

216 €

9 Pers

348 €

Number of Persons

Number of Persons

Program 1 day

Program 1 day

5 Pers

237 €

375€



## Hưng Yên my hometown

In the heart of the Red River Delta





**Hung Yen** Province is extending to the east of Ha Noi, about half way in Hai Phong and departures to the island of Cat Ba. Especially the first province where the Red River Delta actually begins.

Beyond some craft villages, a bird collection site, the landscapes are mostly rice fields out of sight, interspersed with small streams and irrigation canals. The province is indeed one of the major rice producers in the Red River Delta.

To be honest, even if it is my home province, Hung Yen has no great tourist interest compared to the multitude of the country sites. However, if I decided to oranize this trip, it is first to try to show you MY VIETNAM, one of my childhood, of my family, of my memories ...

It is therefore primarily a journey to the heart of a traditional Vietnamese family ... my family... Understanding how we live in the countryside, how we grow rice, how civil society is organized, how we cook and with which products ...

A small trip ther with me therefore I think culturally nice, but especially humanely geat. And if I'm available, I will be happy to come with you and personally explain you all this ...

Authenticity and Good Mood guaranteed !!!

### Hưng Yên, my hometown

### In the heart of Red River Delta









#### PROGRAM 1 & 2:1 day

#### HUNG YEN BY BAT TRANG & DAI DONG

At 8am, the tour guide comes and picks you up at your hotel with a private car to bring you at my place in Ha Noi. We go together in traditional ceramic hadicraft village..

The car follow the road in Red River delta.

We will stop in Van Giang village where the cook a local speciality : the "Ban Tre" cake. It is a traditional vietnamese cake !

You will stop at the traditional village of Dai Duong. It is a traditional village where people work with copper and make incense burners, candle lamps, oil lamps ... All of these items constitute the ancestors altar in every families.

You will arrive at La Tien, my home village, around noon. You will have a family lunch at my place. You will be able to taste utterly typical dishes from the Vietnamese countryside.

In the afternoon, you can walk around the village to discover the inhabitants' daily life as well as the historical sites of the village.

At 4pm, the car will bring you to the Stork Island "Dao Co". Once you arrive at the harbor, you will go on a punt to visit the island at an hour where numerous birds will come.

The car brings you back to your hotel in the end of the afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Private car, English speaking Guide, Lunch, Entrance fees, Boat.

#### PROGRAM 3: 2 days - 1 night

#### DISCOVER MY HOMETOWN

#### Day 1

The same than program 1 or 2.

But instead of returning to Hanoi in the early evening, you return at my place to dinner and sleep.

The same + Dinner and night at my place,

#### Day 2

After breakfast, you take the bike with the guide to go to the local market to discover the daily life and handicrafts ....

You come back at my place to "help" in the preparation of family meals.

Family lunch.

You leave by car to Ha Noi in the early afternoon.

On the road, you visit the Cong Phung village where the specialty is the pastry called "Bánh rằng Bua". This is a traditional cake of the Lunar New Year and traditional celebrations.

Arrival in Hanoi in the late afternoon.

Dinner and free accommodation in Hanoi.

Private car, English speaking Guide, Lunch, Bicyles, Entrance fees.

### Fare information



Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Program 1 day	120€	152 €	175€	216 €	237 €

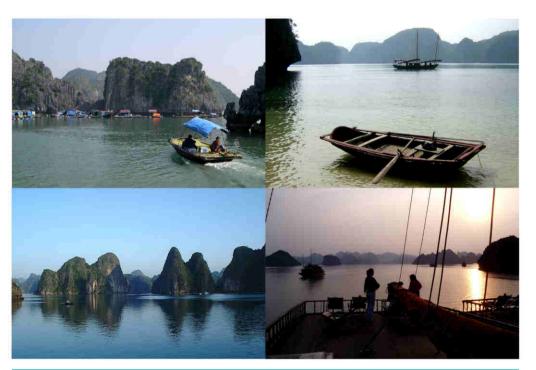
Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Program 1 day	271 €	293 €	317€	348 €	375 €





## Hạ Long & Cát Bà Island

A cruise on private junk





**The Ha Long Bay is a magical place...** Therefore, I always found it a shame to visit this bay in big boats, following each other in a single line all along a large channel, without caring about people's wishes... Based on this observation, I have thus decided to organize the visit of the bay myself, by offering private and customized tours!

Visiting the Ha Long Bay leaving from Cat Ba, is in my opinion the best way since **you enter directly into this mythical bay** from its most beautiful part, the Lan Ha Bay. In this way, **I offer you a tour on small traditional private jonques** that can snake in and out in all the hidden recesses of the bay...

The night onboard is spent in a private cabin on a jonque where only the crew accompanies you to steer the helm and cook the meals.

Admittedly the jonques are less luxurious than the boats from big Agencies who offer classic tours, however these jonques allow a **much more different and original discovery of the Bay.** 

With a wide range of activities during 2, 3 or 4 days, this tour can be adjustable to each of your tastes and wishes...

Lastly, being myself a lover of the culinary art, **I particularly mind the quality of meals**, especially given that Ha Long is the heaven of fish and seafood...

### Hạ Long & Cát Bà Island

### A cruise on private junk







#### BASE OF PROGRAM: 2 Days - 1 Night

THE BAY ON A PRIVATE JUNK

#### Day 1

You will leave for the town of Hai Phong, either at:

- 6.15am, a private car will come and pick you up at your hotel

- Or at 5.15am, from the Long Bien bus station in Ha Noi to go to the Tam Bac bus station in Hai Phong, then, a taxi to the Ben Binh harbor in Hai Phong. With this option, bus tickets and taxi fees are at your charge. A roadmap is given in Annex.

The ferry for Cat Ba Island leaves at 9am. It takes an hour to get there.

One of my contacts will be waiting for you when you arrive and will bring you to a local restaurant for a breakfast on the harbor.

Rest of the morning at liberty by the harbor and possibility to go to the beach.

At noon, you will go to the small harbor of Cai Beo where you will get on board a small private jonque to visit the Lan Ha Bay (the most beautiful part of Ha Long Bay).

Lunch will be taken onboard at 1pm.

In the afternoon stops can be made at will in the bay if you want to go for a swim, do some kayak or visit the inland lake for example. At the end of the afternoon, you will visit the fishermen village. Diner and accommodation onboard, in the middle of the Bay.

Breakfast in Cat Ba, Private car (if car option chosen), Ferry Hai Phong – Cat Ba, Private junk, Tickets and kayak, Lunch, dinner and overnight on board in the bay.

#### Day 2

You will admire the sunrise view during breakfast onboard and possibility to enjoy a morning bath in the bay.

The boat will continue its cruise among the karst peaks and you will take the time to visit every nook and cranny of Lan Ha Bay.

You will be back on Cat Ba island around noon and lunch will be taken in a restaurant on the harbor

The ferry to Hai Phong leaves at 2pm. Once you arrived in Hai Phong, either:

- the car takes you back to Ha Noi (return is scheduled around
- you can go back with a local bus, return scheduled around 7pm. In this option, bus tickets and taxi fees are at your charge.

Breakfast on board, Private junk, Lunch in a local restaurant, Ferry Cat Ba - Hai Phong, Private car (if car option chosen).

#### UPGRADE 1: + 1 Day - 1 Night

#### 24 HOURS LONGER IN THE BAY

#### Day 2 \_\_\_\_\_

You will spend the day in the bay, on board of the junk.

The cruise will continue and you will be able to do the same sea activities than the day before: kayaking, swimming, "laze" on the beach ...

For the evening and the night, 3 options are offered:

- You have dinner and spend the night in a bungalow in the village of Viet Hai.
- You will have diner and spend the night onboard in the middle of the Bay.
- Or you go back to Cat Ba island to have diner in a restaurant of the harbor and spend the night at the ''Holiday View" hotel on the harbor.

ALSO POSSIBLE TO SPEND A NIGHT IN SPRING ON A BEACH.
Prices and list of Resorts to ask.

Breakfast, Private junk, Tickets and kayak, Lunch on board (except drink), Diner and overnight, depending on the option chosen.

#### Day 3

#### After breakfast:

- If you spent the night in bungalow in the village of Viet Hai: Return to Cat Ba harbor by boat (about 2 hour long).
- If Not: You take the car or a motorbike taxi to get to the island's inland following your wishes. You will make a 3 hour long trek in the national park of Cat Ba, listed as a UNESCO World Heritage site. Lunch will be taken in a restaurant on Cat Ba harbor. The ferry for Hai Phong leaves at 2.10 pm.

Once you arrived in Hai Phong, either:

- the car brings you to Ha Noi (return scheduled around 6.30pm),
- Or you take the local bus, return scheduled around 7.30pm.
   In this option, bus tickets and taxi fees are at your charge.

If night in bungalow:
Private junk,
If not:
Motorbike taxi or car,
Tickets.
Breakfast,
Lunch in a harbor
restaurant (except
drink),
Ferry Cat Ba - Hai
Phong,
Private car (if car option
chosen).

### Ha Long & Cát Bà Island

### A cruise on private junk





#### UPGRADE 2: + 1 Day - 1 Night 24 HOURS LONGER IN THE TERRESTRIAL HA LONG BAY

Only possible with the private car option

Day 2 or DAY 3

Same program for the begining of the day Same services included.

Once you arrived in Hai Phong, the car driver wait for you at the landing stage.

The road to Ninh Binh takes around two and a half hours and you will arrive to Tam Coc in late afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at "Nam Hoa" hotel in Tam Coc.

Private car, Diner (except drink),

#### DAY 3 or DAY 4

After breakfast, at 8:30 ', the guide brings you to visit Bich Dong Cave and surrounding the village by bicycle. Lunch is in a local restaurant.

After lunch, a car takes you to the Temple of Hoa Lu.

Hoa Lu is the ancient capital of Vietnam and the temples are dedicated to first Lê and Dinh emperors.

After the driver takes you to Van Long or taking a boat with the guide to visit Van Long winding between the karst rocks and rice

The return to Ha Noi is expected in late afternoon.

Breakfast. Bicvcle, Private car, English speaking guide, Tickets and barque, Lunch.

For more upgrades and programs on the terrestrial Ha Long Bay, check sur "Ninh Binh and The Terrestrial Ha Long Bay" Tour.

Đi xuống Đảo CÁT BÀ bằng xe khách địa phương Comment Aller à Cat Ba en bus Local How to go in Cat Ba Island by local Bus

Quý Khách đi bằng xe ôm hoặc xe Taxi từ Bến xe Gia Lâm. Vous vous rendez en Xe Om ou taxi à la gare de Gia Lâm. You go by Xe Om or Taxi to Gia Lâm Bus Station.

Quý Khách đi bằng xe khách Gia Lâm - Niêm Nghĩa (HẢI PHÒNG) - Quý Khách lưu ý, không đi xe xuống HA LONG!

Vous prenez un bus "Gia Lâm - Niệm Nghĩa" (Gare de bus de Hai Phong) -Attention à ne pas prendre un bus en direction Ha Long!

You take a bus "Gia Lâm - Niêm Nghĩa" (Hai Phong Bus Station) - Be Careful not to take a bus to Ha Long City!

Khi Quý Khách đến Bến Xe Niệm Nghĩa, Quý Khách đi bằng xe ôm hoặc xe Taxi ra Bến BÍNH.

Arrivés à la gare routière de Niệm Nghĩa (HAI PHONG), vous prenez un taxi ou un Xe Om pour aller à l'embarcadère BEN BINH.

When you arrive in Niêm Nghĩa Bus Station (HAI PHONG), you take a taxi or a Xe Om to go in HAI PHONG Harbor: BEN BINH.

Khi Quý Khách đến Bến BÍNH, Quý Khách đưa vé tàu nhanh cho nhân viên trên tàu. Arrivés à l'embarcadère BEN BINH, vous montrez vos tickets et les agents vous orienteront vers le bateau à prendre.

When you arrive in BEN BINH, you show your Boat's tickets to the officers who will show you your boat.

Khi Quý Khách đến Đảo CÁT BÀ, ở đó có người đón quý khách. Arrivés à CAT BA, une personne vous attend à la sortie du bateau. When you arrive in Cat Ba Island, someone will wait for you.

### Fare information



Number of Pers	sons		1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Base (B)	by car		558 €	612€	663 €	713€	764 €
Dase (D)		by Bus	425 €	494 €	550 €	606 €	663 €
B + Upgrade 1	by car		916 €	1 002 €	1 086 €	1 169 €	1 252 €
		by Bus	773 €	874 €	963 €	1 052 €	1 141 €
B + Upgrade 2	by car		852 €	927 €	1 045 €	1 164 €	1 264 €
		by Bus	676 €	788 €	943 €	1 044 €	1 245 €
B + 1 & 2	by car		1 200 €	1 317 €	1 468 €	1 520 €	1 742 €
		by Bus	1 024 €	1 168 €	1 356 €	1 490 €	1 723 €

Number of Persons		6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
by car Base (B)		1 005 €	1 066 €	1 128 €	1 189 €	1 251 €
5655 (57	by Bus	898 €	957 €	1 028 €	1 089 €	1 151 €
by car B + Upgrade 1		1 708 €	1 801 €	1 896 €	1 989 €	2 084 €
	by Bus	1 591 €	1 682 €	1 786 €	1 879 €	1974 €
by car B + Upgrade 2		1 580 €	1 720 €	1 825 €	1 979 €	2 147 €
	by Bus	1 523 €	1 678 €	1 795 €	1 949 €	2 107 €
by car B + 1 & 2		2 283 €	2 455 €	2 593 €	2 779 €	2 980 €
	by Bus	2 216 €	2 403 €	2 553 €	2 739 €	2 930 €

Option with Guide:

This trip is really to relax on the boat, and admire the Ha Long Bay panaorama... Then I feel not necessary to have a guide with follow you. But in the case you to have any guide, the extra fee is 30 EURO / day for a French spoken guide and 25 EURO / day for an english spoken guide. These fees are for all the group, and the guide is already inclued in the 3rd day of the Upgrade 2.

Option Come back to Ninh Binh / Tam Coc:

After Ha Long bay trip, if you prefer to come back in Ninh Binh / Tam Coc and without coming back in Ha Noi, it is for sure possible. Please contact us for the extra fee for this extra road by private car.







## Tử Long & Quan Lạn Island

Beaches and Tranquility





The « TU LUONG » Bay is a very large Bay located around fifty kilometers away north from the Ha Long Bay. It spreads on a large part of the Quang Ninh Province's coasts. It is accessible by the small Van Don harbor of the town of Cam Pha.

The Bay has numerous islands, often several kilometers square wide, all of which are wild or little inhabited islands. **The most visited is the island of QUAN LAN** since it has the necessary infrastructure to the tourism industry development (*electricity*, water, telephone, ...).

The Tu Luong Bay offers a great number of white sand beaches and as of today still remains not so touristy.

Tu Luong is often compared and offered as an alternative to its mythical "little sister" the Ha Long Bay. Many are the agencies selling tours for Tu Luong with photographs of Ha Long... Let's not make any mistake though, this alternative is often offered in order to avoid tourists, but the two Bays are very different. The large spaced out islands of Tu Luong do not offer the same scenery than Ha Long at all!

In my opinion, Tu Luong is not an alternative to Ha Long, but rather a trip of its own, with its charms and its own landscapes, complementary to Ha Long's.

The ideal solution would be to visit them both!

### Tử Long & Quan Lan Island

### Beaches and Tranquility











#### PROGRAM 1: 3 Days - 2 Nights

DEPARTURE BY FERRY AND RETURN BY PRIVATE BOAT

#### Day 1

At 7am, the car will come and pick you up at your hotel to bring you to Van Don - Cam Pha (5h30 long).

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant of the harbor.

The ferry to Ouan Lan island leaves at 2pm. 1hour long to get there. Once arrived in Quan Lan, the guide will bring you to the inhabitant's place. In the afternoon, you will go to the beach for a swim and walk

around the surroundings.

Diner and accommodation at the inhabitant's place in Quan Lan.

Private car, English speaking guide, Lunch. Ferry Van Don - Quan Tickets, Diner and accommodation.

After breakfast, you will visit the surroundings of the Quan Lan island with the guide, either by bicycle or by rickshaw.

Relax at the beach of Minh Chau before Lunch in a local restaurant. In the afternoon, swim and relax by the beach.

You come back to the inhabitant's place in late afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at the inhabitant's place in Quan Lan.

Breakfast, English speaking quide, Tickets, Lunch. Diner and accommodation.

#### Day 3

After breakfast, the guide will bring you the pier and you will visit the Tu Luong Bay on a private jonque.

During the cruise, you will be able to stop to take a swim and to visit fishermen villages and Lunch will be taken onboard.

In the afternoon, the punt will carry on its cruise among the karst peaks and you will take the time to visit the nooks of Tu Long Bay and the Dong Trong cave.

Afterwards, the junk will bring you to Van Don - Cam Pha (1h long). The car will be waiting for you at the Van Don pier to take you to Ha Noi (5h30 long)

Return to Ha Noi around early evening.

Diner and accommodation at liberty.

Breakfast. Private junk, English speaking quide, Tickets, Lunch on board, Privat car.

#### PROGRAM 2: 3 Days - 2 Nights

#### DEPARTURE AND RETURN BY FERRY

#### Day 1

At 7am, the car will come and pick you up at your hotel to bring you to Van Don - Cam Pha (5h30 long).

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant of the harbor.

The ferry to Quan Lan island leaves at 2pm. 1h long to get there. Once arrived in Ouan Lan, the guide will bring you to the inhabitant's place.

In the afternoon, you will go to the beach for a swim and walk around the surroundings.

Diner and accommodation at the inhabitant's place in Quan Lan.

Breakfast, Ferry Van Don - Ouan Diner and accommodation.

#### Day 2

After breakfast, you will visit the surroundings of the Ouan Lan island with the guide, either by bicycle or by rickshaw. You will rest at the beach of Minh Chau.

Lunch at liberty.

In the afternoon, walking around the island and visiting villages

Coming back to the inhabitant's place around late afternoon. Diner and accommodation at the inhabitant's place on the island. Breakfast, Tuk tuk, Diner and accommodation.

#### Day 3

Morning at liberty.

You will take the ferry for Van Don or Hon Gai.

Lunch at liberty.

Afterwards, the car will wait for you and drive you back to Ha Noi. You will be back in Ha Noi around early evening.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Breakfast, Ferry Quan Lan-Van Don or Hon Gai, Private car.

### Fare information



Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Program 1 (3 days 2 Nights)	710 €	770 €	891 €	951 €	1 071 €
Program 2 (3 days 2 Nights)	406 €	439 €	533 €	567 €	661 €

Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Program 1 (3 days 2 Nights)	1 131 €	1 276 €	1 321 €	1 442 €	1 502 €
Program 2 (3 days 2 Nights)	695 €	789 €	822 €	916€	950 €





## Ninh Bình Terrestrial Hạ Long

Trips in the middle of karsts





Located South from Ha Noi, the Province of **Ninh Binh is the most Southern point** of **South East Asia karst peaks highland**... It is also the terrestrial point where these peaks are the most impressive in Viet Nam, which gave it the name of "Terrestrial Ha Long Bay".

First of all there is Tam Coc (or An Trang, less touristy), a site where small rivers weave among karst rocks and rice fields. Not far from it, there is Hoa Lu, the former capital of Viet Nam.

The village carrying the name « Kenh Ga » along the river is also worth the detour. The word "Kenh Ga", meaning "the canal of the chicken", gets its name due to its numerous curves similar to a chicken running away... You can visit the village by boats, with the particularity that they are made of concrete!

Others must-see in the region, the fabulous Phat Diem cathedral, massive wood building, and not to forget the biggest national park of the country: Cuc Phuong.

Lastly, the region is made of a multitude of small path tracks where it is simply enjoyable to drive around on a bicycle...

The terrestrial Ha Long Bay is often criticized because of the great number of tourists, and it is true, punts follow each other in single file along the river... This is why I try my best to find local alternatives in order to insure a change of scene and authenticity...it would be a shame to miss this pretty site...

### Ninh Bình, Terrestrial Ha Long

### Trips in the middle of karsts





#### PROGRAM 1: 2 Days - 1 Night

THE TERRESTRIAL HA LONG BAY THROUGH KENH GA

#### Day 1

At 7am, a private car comes and picks you up at your hotel and brings you to Trang An.

Once arrived, you will get on board of a punt with a guide to visit the Trang An river weaving among the karst rocks and rice fields. Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant before visiting the Hoa Lu

Hoa Lu is the former capital of Viet Nam, and the temples there are dedicated to the first emperors Le and Dinh.

Afterwards, the guide will bring you to visit the Bich Dong cave by bicycle.

Return to the hotel.

Diner and accommodation at "Nam Hoa" hotel in Tam Coc.

Private car,
English speaking guide,
Tickets and punt,
Bicycle,
Lunch in a local
restaurant,
Diner,
Hotel.

#### Day 2

At 8.30am, you will go to Hang Mua either by bicycle or by car. You will climb up about 200 meters by foot. Once you arrived on the summit you will be able to enjoy and admire the panorama of Tam Coc and its beautiful surrounding landscapes...

The car will then go to the traditional village of Kenh Ga, where you will go on board of a ship to visit the village. The word "Kenh Ga", meaning "the canal of the chicken", holds its name from its numerous curves, similar to a chicken running away...

The lunch is taken in a local restaurant.

Afterwards, the car will bring you to the Dich Long pagoda. It is also called "Nam Thien De Tam Dong", meaning "the third most beautiful cave of the Country". You will visit the cave and its surroundings, as well as the pagoda.

You will return to Ha Noi by car around late afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Breakfast, English speaking guide, Bicycle, Déjeuner, Tickets and punt, Private car.

### PROGRAM 2: 2 Days - 1 Night THE TERRESTRIAL HA LONG BAY THROUGH PHAT DIEM

#### Day

At 7am, a private car comes and picks you up at your hotel and brings you to Trang An.

Once arrived, you will get on board of a punt with a guide to visit the Trang An river weaving among the karst rocks and rice fields. Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant before visiting the Hoa Lu

Hoa Lu is the former capital of Viet Nam, and the temples there are dedicated to the first emperors Le and Dinh.

Afterwards, the guide will bring you to visit the Bich Dong cave by bicycle.

Return to the hotel.

Diner and accommodation at "Nam Hoa" hotel in Tam Coc.

Private car,
English speaking guide,
Tickets and punt,
Bicycle,
Lunch in a local
restaurant,
Diner,
Hotel.

#### Day 2

At 8.30am, you will go to Hang Mua either by bicycle or by car. You will climb up about 200 meters by foot. Once you arrived on the summit you will be able to enjoy and admire the panorama of Tam Coc and its beautiful surrounding landscapes...

Then the car will bring you to Bai Dinh to visit the Bai Dinh pagoda. Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

The car will then go to the cathedral of Phat Diem (about 1 hour long journey). You will visit the big wood cathedral that mixes Asian and Western Christians architecture styles.

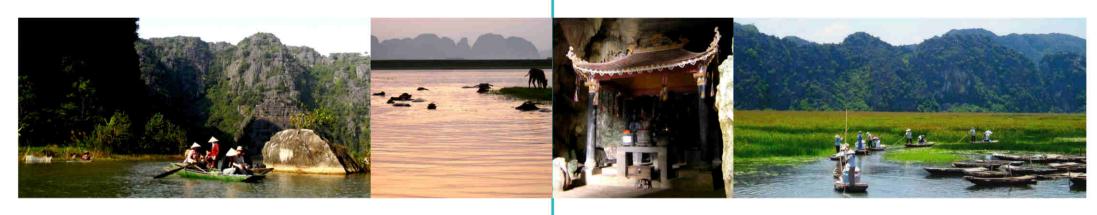
You will be back to Ha Noi by car around late afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Breakfast, English speaking guide, Bicycle, Lunch, Tickets and punt, Private car.

### Ninh Bình, Terrestrial Ha Long

### Trips in the middle of karsts



### PROGRAM 3: 2 Days - 1 Night at the inhabitant's place THE TERRESTRIAL HA LONG BAY THROUGH VAN LONG

#### Day 1

After breakfast, at 7.30, the Enlish speakingguide comes and picks at your hotel with the private car to bring you to Ninh Binh ( $2\ hour\ long$ ).

Once you arrived, you will go on board a punt to visit Van Long. Lunch will be taken at a family's place in Van Long.

In the afternoon, you will ride a bicycle to visit the surroundings of the village. You will continue the visit by the Nhat Tru pagoda, and then the Hoa Lu temples. Hoa Lu is the former capital of Viet Nam and the temples are dedicated to the first emperors Le and Dinh. You will end the visit with the local market and will come back to the inhabitant's place to learn how to cook Vietnamese cuisine. Diner and overnight at the inhabitant.

Private car, English speaking guide, Déjeuner, Tickets, Diner and overnight at the inhabitant.

#### Day 2

After breakfast, you will go by bicycle with the guide to visit the Mua cave. You will climb up about 200 meters by foot. Once you arrived on the summit you will be able to enjoy and admire the panorama of Tam Coc and its beautiful surrounding landscapes...and then the Bich Dong cave.

You will visit the Thai Vi temple before lunch.

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, you will go onboard of a punt with the guide to visit the Trang An river that weaves among the karst peaks and rocks and the rice fields.

You will be back in Ha Noi around late afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Breakfast, Private car, English speaking guide, Lunch, Boat, Tickets.

#### PROGRAM 4:1 Day

#### THE TERRESTRIAL HA LONG BAY BY TRANG AN

At 6.30am, a private car will come and pick you up at your hotel to bring you to Trang An.

Once you arrived there, you will go onboard of a punt with the guide to visit the Trang An river that weaves among the karst rocks and the rice fields.

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant before visiting the Hoa Lu temples. Hoa Lu is the former capital of Viet Nam and the temples there are dedicated to the first emperors Le and Dinh.

You will then go to Hang Mua either by bicycle or by car. You will climb up about 200 meters by foot. Once you arrived on the summit you will be able to enjoy and admire the panorama of Tam Coc and its beautiful surrounding landscapes...

Return to Ha Noi scheduled around end of afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Private car,
English speaking guide,
Tickets and punt,
Bicycle,
Lunch in a loca
restaurant.

#### PROGRAM 5: 1 Day

#### LA BAIE DE HA LONG TERRESTRE PAR TAM COC

At 7am, a private car comes and picks you up at your hotel and brings you to Tam Coc (2 hour long journey).

Once arrived in Tam Coc, you will get on board of a punt with a guide to visit the Tam Coc river weaving among the karst rocks and rice fields.

Afterwards, the guide will bring you to visit the Bich Dong cave. Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant before visiting the Hoa Lu Temple. Hoa Lu is the former capital of Viet Nam, and the temples there are dedicated to the first emperors Le and Dinh.

The car will then go to the traditional village of Kenh Ga, where you will go on board of a ship to visit the village. The word "Kenh Ga", meaning "the canal of the chicken", holds its name from its numerous curves, similar to a chicken running away...

Return to Ha Noi scheduled around late afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Private car,
Guide francophone,
Tickets and punt,
Bicycle,
Lunch in a local
restaurant.

### Ninh Bình, Terrestrial Ha Long

### Trips in the middle of karsts





#### UPGRADE 1: + 1 Day - 1 Night

#### THUONG NHAM PARK

#### Day 2 or Day 3

Instead of returning to Ha Noi the night before, you dined and slept at "Nam Hoa" Hotel.

After breakfast, you leave the hotel by car or bike (about 7 km), to go to the Thung Nham Park.

This is a very nice park in the middle of karst rocks.

You start by climbing over 400 steps to get to the cave Vai Gioi. This cave is divided into 3 parts and covers 50,000 m2.

You continue cycling to a pier where you take a boat to get to the cave of the Buddha (Hang Goal). This is one of the largest caves in the region that is 500 meters long.

After you continue to visit the cave of the siren (Dong Tien Ca).

Then you finally take one last boat to visit the "reserve" to birds.

You end up visiting this place for a walk and explore the local fruit that you can enjoy directly on picking the trees.

Then you come back Ha Noi by car in the late of afternoon.

Dinner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Diner and overnight in hotel the day before, Breakfast, Private car. English speaking guide, Tickets and boat location, Bicvcles, Lunch local restaurant.

#### UPGRADE 2: + 1 Day - 1 Night

#### THE NATIONAL PARK OF CUC PHUONG

#### Day 2 or Day 3

Instead of going back to Ha Noi the night before, you will be having diner and sleep either at the hotel or at the inhabitant's place in Ninh Binh.

After breakfast, you will go by car to the National Park of Cuc Phuong (about 1 hour long journey)

You will do a trek with the guide in the park of Cuc Phuong. Lunch is taken in a local restaurant.

In the afternoon you visit the reserve primates' monkeys.

Return to Ha Noi scheduled around late afternoon.

Dinner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Diner and overnight in hotel the day before. Breakfast, Private car, English speaking guide, Tickets.

#### **UPGRADE 3: + 2 Days - 2 Nights**

#### Day 3 or Day 4

Instead of going back to Ha Noi the night before, you will be having diner and sleep either at the Cuc Phuong Park Hotel.

After breakfast, you will go about 20 km away from Cuc Phuong park by car.

You will go on a trek with the guide to the surroundings of « Ban Khan » village - the Tay minority.

Lunch will be taken with a local family.

In the afternoon, you will keep on walking until the main street where the car will be awaiting for you to go to Ha Noi. Dinner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Diner and overnight in hotel the day before. Breakfast, Private car, English speaking guide, Tickets.

### Fare information



Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Program 1 by Kenh Ga	331 €	404 €	497 €	589 €	716 €
Program 2 by Phat Diem	331 €	404 €	497 €	589 €	716 €
Program 3 by Van Long	295 €	335 €	385 €	469 €	551 €
Program 4 or 5	168 €	196 €	216 €	234 €	299 €
Upgrade 1 or 2	+ 163 €	+ 187 €	+ 247 €	+ 285 €	+ 344 €
Upgrade 3	+ 326 €	+ 372 €	+ 494 €	+ 515 €	+ 688 €

Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Program 1 by Kenh Ga	770 €	866 €	924 €	1 051 €	1 109 €
Program 2 by Phat Diem	770 €	866 €	924 €	1 051 €	1 109 €
Program 3 by Van Long	596 €	651 €	720 €	784 €	835 €
Program 4 or 5	312€	328 €	351 €	393 €	416 €
Upgrade 1 or 2	+ 366 €	+ 420 €	+ 447 €	+ 509 €	+ 529 €
Upgrade 3	+ 729 €	+ 851 €	+ 898 €	+ 1 019 €	+ 1 061 €





# Mai Châu In the heart of hills

A Thai village





When arriving from Ha Noi, the sight of Mai Chau from the pass is truly one of the most beautiful sights. Located in the middle of a magnificent valley, **stilts houses** with thatched roofs of the White Thai families seem to be popping out from nowhere. Village at the foothills of the mountain range (800m in altitude) and with the desire of being authentic, Mai Chau is however one of the most touristic destinations of the Northwest Viet Nam... certainly because it is the first stop in the mountains when arriving from Ha Noi.

Valued for **the beauty of its landscapes**: large rice fields surrounded by verdant mountains, as well as for its forest treks, you will also be able to enjoy the peacefulness and **the 'Man - Nature' harmony ruling in this small town**.

All its enchantment lies in its localization and its inhabitants. The peculiar architecture of the stilts houses and the Thais handicraft (embroidery and couture) are as many must-see things. If you feel like stretching your legs, you can enjoy treks going through Thai, Xa Linh or H'Mong villages. In that case, a guide will be accompanying you in order to make you discover heavenly places you would not imagine...

The inhabitants are now used to **directly welcome people into their places**. The stilts houses are equipped with hot water and electricity. **You will be very warmly welcomed there; you will be offered to share a meal** and even, if you are lucky, to attend to traditional dances.

### Mai Châu, in the heart of hills

### A Thai village





#### PROGRAM 1: 3 Days - 2 Nights

#### TREKS IN THE SURROUDINGSS

#### Day 1

An English speaking guide and a private car will come and pick you up at your hotel at 8am to go to Mai Chau (about 4 hour long journey).

Along the road, you will be able to admire the landscapes and everyday life rural scenes of North Viet Nam.

A stop is possible in the town of Hoa Binh in order to see the largest water dam of the country, supplying over 30% of the water demand of the Country.

Lunch is taken with a Thai family.

In the afternoon, you will walk around Ban Hang Kia.

Diner and accommodation at a H'Mong minority's place.

Private car, English speaking guide, Tickets, Lunch, Diner and overnight at the inhabitant.

#### Day 2

After breakfast, the guide will take you for an 8 kilometer long trek around Ban Hang Kia.

You will go on your stroll towards Cun Pheo village.

A picnic lunch will be taken on the road.

Around late afternoon, you will arrive to Ban Van where you will be having diner and will be sleeping at a Thai minority's place.

Breakfast, Private car, English speaking guide, Picnic lunch, Diner and overnight at the inhabitant.

#### Day 3

After breakfast, you will go on a 2 hour long walk to reach Ban Sam Que village.

You admire and enjoy the mountainous landscapes and surroundings. Afterwards, you will come back by car to Mai Chau where lunch will be taken with a Thai family.

After lunch, the car will bring you back to Ha Noi.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Breakfast, Private car, English speaking guide,

#### PROGRAM 2: 2 Days - 1 Night

#### LOCAL MARKET - ONLY ON SATURDAY / SUNDAY

#### Day

An English speaking guide and a private car will come and pick you up at your hotel at 8am to go to Mai Chau (about 4 hour and a half long journey).

Along the road, you will be able to admire the landscapes and everyday life rural scenes of North Viet Nam.

A stop is possible in the town of Hoa Binh in order to see the largest water dam of the Country, supplying over 30% of the water demand of the Country.

Lunch is taken with a Thai family.

In the afternoon, you will go on a stroll in the villages of Ban Lac and Boom Con. You can witness there the women weaving their Thai traditional clothes.

Diner and accommodation with a Thai family.

#### Day 2: THE LOCAL MARKET OF XA LINH (Only on Sunday)

After spending the night and taking breakfast at the Thai's family, you will go by car towards the village of Xa Linh located approximately 30 kilometers away from Mai Chau to discover the local market of the minorities.

At the market, you will discover local artisanal products sold by the very colorful H'Mong, Muong and Thai minorities...

Afterwards, you will be going on a stroll in the village of Ba Co from the H'Mong minority.

You will then be returning to Mai Chau to have lunch with a Thai family.

Afterwards, the car will drive you back to Ha Noi (about 4 hour and a half long journey)

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Private car, English speaking guide, Tickets, Lunch, Diner and overnight at the inhabitant.

Breakfast, Private car, English speaking guide, Lunch.

### Mai Châu, in the heart of hills A Thai village





#### PROGRAM 3: 2 Days - 1 Night

#### MAI CHAU BY PHU CUONG

homestay.

A guide and private car will pick you up at your hotel at 8 am to go to to Phu Cuong Mai Chau (about 4 hours trip).

Along the road, you can admire the landscapes and scenes of farm life in North Vietnam.

Arrived in Phu Cuong (Tan Lac Hoa Binh), you have lunch in a local restaurant.

You will then visit the village of Ba Khan, people of Muong minorities (12 km walk).

Dinner and Overnight homestay in a traditional house in the village of Khan Ho.

Private car, English speaking guide, Tickets, Diner and overnight at

After breakfast, the guide takes you to visit the area around the

You then visit the Da River boat and its magnificent panorama.

The picnic lunch is provided on the boat.

You return to Hanoi after lunch (4 hours trip).

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Breakfast, Private car, English speaking quide, Tickets. Picnic lunch.

#### UPGRADE: + 1 Day - 1 Night

#### MOC CHAU

#### Day 2 or 3 \_\_\_\_

After lunch, instead of returning to Hanoi, you go to Moc Chau (2 hours trip).

Along the road, you can admire the landscapes and scenes of farm life in North Vietnam.

Lunch is in a local restaurant in Moc Chau

In the afternoon, you take a walk on the steppe, grassland, you see the tea plantation and visit the dairy farm where you can taste and buy dairy products. Then you visit the remains of the site where Ho Chi Minh spoke with ethnic minorities Moc Chau. Then the guide takes you to Dong Ngu Ban On.

Dinner and overnight in the Thai minority living in a stilt house.

Private car, English speaking guide, entry tickets, Lunch. Dinner and overnight homestay.

#### Day 3 or 4 \_\_\_\_\_

After breakfast at 8 am, the guide takes you to visit Dong Son Moc Huong, the waterfall Dai Yem.

You then continue to go to the Thai minority villages, to discover daily life.

Then you visit Chien Vien Moc mail Ly Tay Tien stele Lunch is in a local restaurant in Moc Chau.

At 14h, you return to Ha Noi and arrive in Ha Noi early in the evenina.

Breakfast, Private car, English speaking guide, Lunch.

### Fare information



Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Program 1	414 €	496 €	540 €	664 €	746 €
Program 2 OR 3	253 €	334 €	379 €	423 €	481 €
Upgrade Moc Chau	+ 124 €	+ 165€	+ 197 €	+ 246 €	+ 276 €

Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Program 1	851 €	935 €	1 016 €	1 066 €	1 183 €
Program 2 OR 3	537 €	593 €	651 €	708 €	764 €
Upgrade Moc Chau	+ 318 €	+ 349 €	+ 382 €	+ 421 €	+ 367 €





## Ba Bể Lake

In a warm family





The Natural Park of Ba Be is, in my opinion, one of the most **peaceful and most enjoyable places** in Viet Nam. The Ba Be Park (*the three bays*) is made of **three lakes linked to each other** surrounding the "widow islet" with their arms. All around the lake stand stilts houses from the Thay ethnicity.

Many are the **water excursions** offered in Ba Be, bringing you beyond the waterfalls or in caves with surprising colors... Bring your swimsuits! **Swimming and sunbathing** are also possible!

It is also pleasant to walk around with **one day treks**. The tropical forest is dense and shelters unsuspected resources in terms of **animal and plant biodiversity**. Although many mammals are hardly visible, you won't have any trouble seeing insects, flowers and even some invertebrates! There, you will have all the time to rest, to meet Thay people onsite, to do activities... and all of that in a peaceful and quiet atmosphere!

Long ago, I had the opportunity to meet M. Tho. Ever since, our friendship has never failed and everybody keeps trumpeting about his warm welcome, his availability and his sense of humor...

M. Tho and his family will welcome you directly in their stilts house. The Ba Be Lake remains one of the best memories for many people, both for the peaceful atmosphere and the welcome...

# Ba Bể Lake In a warm family





#### PROGRAM: 3 Days - 2 Nights

#### VISIT OF THE LAKE

#### Day 1 \_

At 7.30am a car will come and pick you up at your hotel in Ha Noi to take you to Ba Be ( $about\ 6\ hour\ long$ )

On the road, stops are scheduled to visit ethnic minorities' villages and to discover beautiful view sceneries of the mountains.

Stops are also scheduled to admire the landscapes and to visit the museum in Thai Nguyen.

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

You will arrive to Ba Be around late afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at the inhabitant's place.

Private car, English speaking guide, Lunch, Tickets d'entrée, Diner and overnight at

the inhabitant.

#### Day 2: OPTION 1: Trek in the surroudings of Ba Be

After breakfast, you will go with a guide for a 15 kilometers long trek in the surrounding mountains. You will go through many Tay minorities' villages.

A picnic lunch will be taken on the road...

In the afternoon, you will go on a boat on the Ba Be Lake.

You will go around the lake and a stop is scheduled to visit the « Dong Puong » cave and then the « Dau Dang » waterfalls.

Return is scheduled around late afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at the inhabitant's place.

Breakfast,
English speaking guide,
Private car,
Tickets,
Lunch,
Punt,
Diner and overnight at
the inhabitant.

#### Day 2: OPTION 2: Visite of Ba Be

After breakfast you will go on a stroll by bicycle with the guide to visit the cave of Hua Me – of the most beautiful cave of Viet Nam. Hua Me, meaning the « Horse's Head », is a cave located on a mountain at an altitude of 300m, 500m long and 50m high.

The Hua Me cave is located on the « Co Don » mountain, meaning "solitary", along the Leng river in the district of Quang Khe at 6km Southwest from the Ba Be lake.

It is an interesting cave in both in geological and cultural terms.

You will then go back to the inhabitant's place for lunch.

In the afternoon, you will take a boat for the Ba Be lake.

You will go around the lake and a stop is scheduled to visit the

"Dong Puong" cave and the "Dau Dang" waterfalls.

Return is scheduled around late afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at the inhabitant's place.

the inhabitant.

Breakfast.

Vélo,

Punt.

Tickets,

Lunch,

English speaking guide,

Diner and overnight at

#### Day 3

After breakfast, take the time to enjoy and visit the local market and its surroundings by bicycle before taking the car back to Ha Noi. Several stops are scheduled on the road to visit Tays ethnic villages. Beautiful pictures can be taken there.

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

Return to Ha Noi is scheduled around late afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

Breakfast, English speaking guide, Private car, Lunch,



Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Program	450 €	541 €	616 €	748 €	878 €

Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Program	972 €	1 063 €	1 151 €	1 296 €	1 383 €





# Sapa and the Fansipan

High mountains & Ethnic minorities





Perched in the mountain side at an altitude of 1650m close to the Chinese border, **Sapa is the main touristy destination of Northwest Viet Nam**, especially in terms of beauty of scenery (*steep-sided valleys*, *rice fieldterraces...*). It mostly shelters the ethnic minorities such as the red Daos and the black H'Mongs. Sapa is also surrounded by many small villages where different ethnicities meet such as the flower H'Mongs, the green Daos and some Tay or even Nung...

The local markets are really worth the detour in those mountainous regions. Apart from buying handicraft and local products, those markets also allow to meet the ethnicities in a festival of colors. Beware however, the markets being weekly, we have to carefully organize the trip to Sapa in order to attend them!

I would advise you to stay at least 3 days in Sapa to do at least a 2 day long trek in the nearby villages, as well as to another market than Sapa's. You will see extraordinary landscapes but also you will also understand the life of the local minorities, their way of life, their cultures and beliefs.

Staying in Sapa « city » can be quite stuffy because of the great number of tourists and the oppressive H'Mongs street vendors... However, the surrounding villages are, in my opinion, must-see places!

# Sapa and the Fansipan

# High mountains & Ethnic minorities







#### PROGRAM 1: 2 Days - 1 Night

#### 24 HOURS HIKING

#### Day 1

The day before, at 9.15pm, you will take the night train to get to Lao Cai.

You will travel with the comfort of sleepers in cabin with air conditioner (4 sleepers per cabin)

Your train arrives in the train station of Lao Cai at 6am. A car or the bus will take you for breakfast in a local restaurant.

At 9am, a local guide will come and pick you up to go on a trek in the garden of roses. You will carry on along the rice field terraces of Muong Hoa.

The trek begins throughout the village of Lao Chai San, inhabited by the Black H'Mong minority.

Afterwards, you will carry on by foot in the village of Lao Chai, inhabited by the Black H'Mong minority where you will be having lunch prepared by the guide.

In the afternoon, you will arrive to the village of Ta Van where you will be having dinner and will be spending the night at Day's place, at homestay.

Sleep train comfort Ha

Noi - Lao Cai. Local guide, Private car or Bus, Petit déjeuner, Tickets d'entrée, Picnic lunch, Diner and overnight at the inhabitant.

#### Day 2

After breakfast, the trek will begin throughout the bamboo forest and you will be visiting the village of Giang Ta Chai, inhabited by the Red Dao minority.

Afterwards, you will carry on along the rice fields terraces to go up to the main road where you will be having your lunch prepared by the guide.

After lunch, a private car will be driving you back to Sapa.

At 6pm, a bus will be waiting for you to get you to Lao Cai (if you choose to take the bus).

Diner at liberty in Lao Cai.

Your night train for Ha Noi leaves at 8.15pm.

You will travel with the comfort of sleepers in cabin with air conditioner.

Breakfast, Local guide, Tickets d'entrée, Lunch, Private car, Bus Sa Pa-Lao Cai, Or Private car (if option Private car chosen) Train Lao Cai - Ha Noi Or Hotel in Sapa (in the case of Upgrade 2).

#### PROGRAM 2: 3 Days - 2 Nights

#### 72 HOURS HIKING

#### Day 1

IDENTICAL TO THE PROGRAM 2

#### Day 2

After breakfast, you will go through a bamboo forest and you will down the Seo bridge where you can rest.

You have a lunch prepared by the guide.

You will climb up the hills to reach for the main road where you will carry on the trek until the village of Ban Ho, inhabited by the Tay minority.

Diner and accommodation at the inhabitant's place.

Local guide, Private car, Picnic lunch, Diner and overnight at the inhabitant.

#### Day 3 \_\_\_\_\_

After breakfast, you will visit the villages of Ban Ho and Nam Toong, inhabited by the Red Dao minority.

The trek will carry on to the village of Thanh Phu, inhabited by the Tay minority where you will be having your lunch.

Then, you willgo back to the village of Ban Ho where a car will be waiting for you to go back to Sapa.

At 6pm, a bus will be waiting to get you to Lao Cai (if you choose the bus option).

Your night train to Ha Noi leaves at 8.15pm. You will travel with the comfort of sleeper's cabin with air conditioner.

Breakfast,
Local guide,
Private car,
Tickets,
Picnic lunch,
Bus Sa Pa-Lao Cai, Or
Private car (if option
Private car chosen)
Sleep train comfort Lao
Cai - Ha Noi.
Ou
Hotel in Sapa (in the

case of Upgrade 2).

# Sapa and the Fansipan

# High mountains & Ethnic minorities







#### **UPGRADE 1**

#### VISIT OF AN AUTHENTIC MINORITY MARKET

TUESDAY: The Coc Ly market THURSDAY: The Lung Khau Nhin market SATURDAY: The Pha Long or Can Cau market SUNDAY: The Bac Ha or Muong Hum market

#### First or Last Day

#### If you arrive by train from Ha Noi:

A local contact of mine will be waiting for you at the train station. You will be having breakfast in a local restaurant in Lao Cai. You will be then going for the minority market with a private car (between 2 and 3 hour long journey, depending which market).

#### If you are already in Sapa (end of the trek the day before):

After breakfast, the local guide will come and pick you up with a private car to go to the ethnic minority market (between 2 and 3 hour long journey, depending on the market).

You will discover the market, the local handicraft products sold by the very colorful Flower Hmong, Day, Dao and Nung minorities... You will take the time to understand the craftsmanship and the business of those ethnicities among all of these very colorful outfits.

Lunch is taken in a local restaurant.

Depending on the market you will be visiting, a stroll is scheduled in the surroundings (by boat in Coc Ly for example) with the visit of villages to get to the closest to the local population and to discover the landscapes of the region.

#### If you leave by train to Ha Noi:

Around late afternoon, you will be going back to Lao Cai. Diner at liberty in Lao Cai. The night train leaves at 8.15pm from Lao Cai train station. You will be traveling with all the comfort of sleeper's wagon and will be arriving around 5am the next morning in Ha Noi.

#### If you are leaving for Sapa (trek starts the next day):

The car will be driving you to Sapa. Diner at liberty in Sapa. You will be spending the night at "Panorama" hotel.

Breakfast, Local guide, Voiture privée, Lunch,

Following the schedule:

- Sleep train comfort Ha Noi - Lao Cai..
- Or Hotel in Sapa.

#### **UPGRADE 2**

#### MOUNT FAN SI PAN ASCENT (3 143 meters)

#### Day 1

At 8am, a local guide comes and picks you up with a jeep. You will go for 15 kilometers to the foothills of the mountain. You will start the trek on the mountain.

The picnic lunch will be taken on the road.

Diner and accommodation in a camp at 2 100 meters high.

#### Dqy 2

After breakfast, you will carry on the trek of this wonderful mountain. Once you arrived on top of the summit, after 4 or 5 hours of walk, you will be having your lunch there. There, you can admire the mountains of Hoang Lien Son and the city of Sapa (the visibility however depends on the weather).

You will then start to descent the mountain. Diner and accommodation in a camp in 2100m high.

Day 3

After breakfast, you will carry on your descent towards Sapa. The picnic lunch will be taken on the road. The jeep will be waiting for you at the foothills of the mountain. Return to Sapa is scheduled around late afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at the "Panorama" hotel.

Local guide,
Jeep,
Tickets,
Picnic lunch,
Diner and
accommodation in a
camp.

Local guide,
Breakfast,
Picnic lunch,
Diner and
accommodation in a
camp.

Breakfast, Local guide, Jeep, Picnic lunch, Diner, Hotel, Breakfast the day after.

# Fare information Fare information





Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Program 2 Days	250 €	350 €	427 €	548 €	647 €
Program 2 Days by bus	179€	285 €	390 €	495 €	602 €
Program 3 Days by car	309 €	438 €	548 €	701 €	833 €
Program 3 Days by bus	236 €	374 €	512€	648 €	786 €
Program 2 Days + Upgrade1 by car	410€	519€	687 €	781 €	928 €
Program 2 Days + Upgrade1 by bus	388 €	497 €	665 €	759 €	907 €
Program 3 Days + Upgrade1 by car	446 €	585 €	787 €	912€	1 090 €
Program 3 Days + Upgrade1 by bus	426 €	543 €	745 €	870 €	1 048 €

Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Program 2 Days by car	747 €	845 €	943 €	1 043 €	1 088 €
Program 2 Days by bus	707 €	812€	917€	1 023 €	1 128 €
Program 3 Days by car	961 €	1 092 €	1 223 €	1 354 €	1 400 €
Program 3 Days by bus	921 €	1 059 €	1 197 €	1 334 €	1 358 €
Program 2 Days + Upgrade1 en voiture	1 037 €	1 183 €	1 291 €	1 438 €	1 547 €
Program 2 Days + Upgrade1 by bus	967€	1 161 €	1 269 €	1 417 €	1 525 €
Program 3 Days + Upgrade1 by car	1 230 €	1 482 €	1 548 €	1 728 €	1 785€
Program 3 Days + Upgrade1 by bus	1 188 €	1 368 €	1 507 €	1 686 €	1 743 €

Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Upgrade 2: Fan Si Pan	+ 320 €	+ 464 €	+ 618 €	+ 808 €	+ 968 €

Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Upgrade 2: Fan Si Pan	+ 1 122€	+ 1 222 €	+ 1 391 €	+ 1 692 €	+ 1 794 €



# The Northwest Big Loop

Discover the ethnic Minorities





Since the road has been renovated, the Northwest loop has become more touristic... It does not mean it is not worth the detour, because, in my opinion, you will see there the most impressive landscapes of Northwest Vietnam, between Dien Bien Phu and Sapa!

First of all, there is **Mai Chau where the peculiar architecture of the stilts houses** and the **Thais** handicrafts (*embroidery and couture*) areof many must-sees.

Then, there is **Son La**, a stage town in the deep of a valley. Some ethnic minorities are largely represented, such as the **black and white Thais, the H'Mongs and some Muongs**. The markets are excellent places to meet them.

A few cable-lengths away from Laos, **Dien Bien Phu** is located in a large valley, crossed over by the Nam Youn river. Surrounded by large wooded hills, **the town has been the site of a historical battle in 1954**, and still keeps its marks nowadays. Today, some ethnic minorities inhabit this province capital: they are mostly H'Mong and Thai people.

Finally, there is **Sapa**. Perched in the mountain side close to the Chinese border, Sapa is the main touristic destination of the Northwest, especially in terms of **beauty of scenery**. It mostly shelters ethnic minorities such as the red Daos and the black H'Mongs. Sapa is also surrounded by numerous small villages where different ethnic groups can meet such as the **flowers H'Mongs**, the green Daos, some Thays or even some Nungs...

# The Northwest Big Loop

## Discover the ethnic Minorities





#### PROGRAM: 8 Days - 8 Nights

#### Day 1 : Ha Noi - Mai Chau

A private car and an English speaking guide will come and pick you up at 8am to go to Mai Chau (about 4h30-long journey).

Along the way, you can admire the landscapes and everyday life rural scenes of North Viet Nam.

A stop is possible in the town of Hoa Binh to see the largest water den of the Country, supplying over 30% of the Country of the water demand of the Country.

Lunch will be taken on the road in a local restaurant.

Once you arrived in Mai Chau around early afternoon, you will go on a stroll in the villages of Ban Lac and Boom Con.

There you will see the women weaving their traditional and very nice Thai outfits.

Diner and accommodation at a Thai family's place.

Private car, English speaking Guide, Lunch, Tickets, Dinner and Night in homestay.

#### Day 2: Mai Chau - Son La

After breakfast, you will hit the road for Son La (about 8 hour long journey).

The landscapes along the way are more and more spectacular. Many stops are scheduled to visit villages from ethnic minorities.

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

Once you arrived in Son La around early afternoon, you will go on a stroll in the villages of the Thai ethnic minorities.

Diner at the inhabitant's place.

Dance and folklore music show in the evening. Liquor tasting (called "Can"), a drink based on fermented rice!!!

Accommodation at the inhabitant's house on stilts of the Black Thais.

Breakfast,
Private car,
English speaking Guide,
Lunch,
Tickets,
Dinner and Night in
homestay.

#### PROGRAM: 8 Days - 8 Nights

#### Day 3 : Son La - Dien Bien Phu

After breakfast, the car will bring you to Dien Bien Phu (about 5 hours long journey).

You can stop on the way to visit the very famous market of Thuan Chau where the Day, Tay, Dao and H'Mong minorities do their local business and sell their productions. The road carries on throughout the tea hills.

In the afternoon, you will be visiting the museum and the surrounding hills.

Dinner will be taken in a local restaurant.

Night at the "Muon Thanh" hotel in Dien Bien Phu.

Breakfast, English speaking Guide, Private car, Tickets, Lunch, Dinner, Hotel.

#### Day 4: Dien Bien Phu - Tam Duong

After breakfast, the car will bring you to Tam Duong (about 4 hour long journey).

On the road, several stops are scheduled to visit different villages from minorities.

Lunch and dinner will be taken in local restaurants.

You will arrive in Tam Duong around late afternoon.

You will spend the night at "Lan Anh 2" hotel. In Paso - Tam Duong.

Breakfast, English speaking Guide, Private car, Tickets, Lunch, Dinner, Hotel.

# The Northwest Big Loop

## Discover the ethnic Minorities





#### PROGRAM: 8 Days - 8 Nights

#### Day 5 : Tam Duong - Sapa

After breakfast, you will leave for the city of Sapa (about 5 hour long journey).

On the road, several stops are scheduled to visit different villages of minorities.

After about 2 hours of driving, a stop is scheduled for a trek in the villages of Binh Lu to visit the Lao, Thai and Lu minorities.

There you can see the women weaving their traditional Thai outfits. Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

Afterwards, you will be leaving by car on the road to Sapa in the mountain. The first pass before arriving to Sapa goes along the Fan Si Pan, culminating at 3143 meters high. You can also contemplate the waterfalls, called the "the silver cascades". You will carry on by going down in the valley.

Arrival in Sapa is scheduled around late afternoon.

Dinner will be taken in a local restaurant.

#### Breakfast, English speaking Guide, Private car, Tickets, Lunch, Dinner, Hotel.

#### Day 6: A 2 days trek in the surroundings of Sapa

At 9am, you will go on a trek in the garden of roses. You will carry on along the rice field terraces of Muong Hoa.

The trek starts throughout the village of Lao Chai San, inhabited by the Black H'Mong minority (about 3 hour long walk).

A picnic lunch will be taken on the road.

Afterwards, you will carry on by foot to the village of Lao Chai, inhabited by the Black H'Mong minority. (about 1 hour long walk) In the afternoon, you will arrive to the village of Ta Van where you will be having dinner and will spend the night at the Day minority inhabitant's place.

Breakfast, English speaking Guide, Private car, Tickets, Lunch, Dinner, Night in homestay.

#### PROGRAM: 8 Days - 8 Nights

#### Day 7

After breakfast, the trek starts throughout a bamboo forest and you will be visiting the village of Giang Ta Chai.

This village inhabited by the Red Dao minority (about 2h30 long walk).

Afterwards, you will carry on along the rice field terraces to get to the main road.  $\,$ 

There, ou will be having lunch prepared by the guide in a local family (about 2 hour long walk).

After lunch, you will be going back to Sapa with a private car.

Afternoon at liberty in Sapa where you can visit the market and the city of Sapa.

Dinner will be taken in a local restaurant.

You will spend the night at the "Panorama" hotel in Sapa.

Breakfast, English speaking Guide, Private car, Tickets, Lunch, Dinner, Hotel.

#### Jour 8: Visit of an authentic Minority Market

TUESDAY: The Coc Ly market - THURSDAY: The Lung Khau Nhin market SATURDAY: The Pha Long or Can Cau market SUNDAY: The Bac Ha or Muong Hum market

After breakfast, the local guide will come and pick you up to go for the ethnic minority market with a private car (between 2 and 3 hour long journey depending on the market).

You will discover the market, the local handicraft products sold by the very colorful H'Mongs, Days, Daos and Nungs... You will take the time to understand the craftsmanship and the business of these ethnic groups among in the middle of all the very colorful outfits.

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

Depending on the chosen market, a stroll is scheduled in the surroundings (by boat in Coc Ly for example) with the visit of villages in order to get to the closest of the local population and to discover the landscapes of the region.

In late afternoon, you will go back to Lao Cai. Dinner will be taken in a local restaurant in Lao Cai.

The night train leaves at 8.15pm from Lao Cai train station. You will be traveling with the comfort of a wagon sleepers and you will be arriving the next morning around 5am in Ha Noi.

Breakfast, English speaking Guide, Private car, Tickets, Lunch, Dinner, Train Lao Cai - Ha Noi.



Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers	
Program	1 423 €	1 687 €	2 230 €	2 604 €	3 146 €	

Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Program	3 414 €	3 955 €	4 220 €	4 763 €	5 030 €





# The Northeast Big Loop

Nature & Authenticity





Many would say that the loop of the Northeast offers less impressive landscapes than the Northwest... It is not totally inaccurate. **However, the authenticity of this loop makes it one of my favorite spot.** 

In **Ha Giang**, the roads weave among a multitude of limestone eruptions punctuating the landscape. **Isolated and crippled** for a long time, the province remains **one of the most authentic and most welcoming one of the Country.** 

For this reason, the activities offered are mostly strolls by car or by foot, with stops to admire panoramas from tagged panorama view points and belvederes. Also for this reason, visiting Ha Giang can only be made with a private car and can be a bit costly...

**The local markets** are also centers of interest where it is possible to meet the population and to buy local products.

**Cao Bang** is also part of the bordering provinces with China and is, for that reason, difficult of access. The rural landscapes are particularly beautiful during rice transplanting and harvesting, when the minorities in their traditional outfits are getting busy in the fields. There, you can visit local markets of the **Thay**, **Nung**, **H'Mong**, **Dao and Lolo people**.

Lastly, the **Natural Park of Ba Be** is of the most peaceful and most enjoyable one. Ba Be remains one of the best memories of my customers, **both in terms of quietness of the place and for M.Tho and his family's warm welcome.** 

# The Northeast Big Loop

# Nature & Authenticity







#### PROGRAM: 9 Days - 8 Nights

#### Day 1 : Ha Noi - Yen Bai

At 8am, a private car and an English speaking guide will come and pick you up at your hotel to bring you to Yen Bai (about 4 hour long journey).

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, you will be going to the Thac Ba lake by motorbike taxi or by car.

You will go on a boat to visit the lake and the water den.

Diner and accommodation in a stilts house of a family from the Dac Ouan Trang minority. Private car, English speaking Guide, Lunch, Boat, Dinner and night in homestay.

#### Day 2: Yen Bai - Ha Giang \_\_\_

After breakfast, the car will bring you to Ha Giang (about 7 hours and a half long journey).

Lunch will be taken in a restaurant on the way back.

Diner will be taken in a local restaurant of Ha Giang.

You will be spending the night at the Quang Ba hotel in Ha Giang.

Breakfast, Private car, English speaking Guide, Lunch, Dinner, Hotel.

#### PROGRAM: 9 Days - 8 Nights

#### Day 3: Ha Giang - Dong Van - Meo Vac

After breakfast, you will take care of all the necessary authorizations needed in order to stay in the Province.

The car will then bring you towards Meo Vac (about 4 hour long journey). You will visit there several surrounding villages.

Nuit à l'hôtel « Hoang Ngoc » de Dong Van.

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

Then, the car will bring you to Dong Van (about 1 hour long journey).

Dinner will be taken in a local restaurant of Dong Van.

Breakfast, Private car, English speaking Guide, Lunch, Dinner, Sleeping autorizations, Hotel.

#### Day 4: Dong Van Market - Ha Giang

( Only possible on Sunday )

After breakfast, a local guide will bring you to visit the Dong Van market.

You will then discover the market, the local handicraft products sold by the very colorful H'Mong, Dao and Nung minorities.

Afterwards, you will visit there an old French post-guard in the surrounding hills. Then, you will carry on the visit by climbing up to the "Ma Ti Lanh" mountain.

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant in Dong Van.

In the afternoon, you will leave by car to the town of Ha Giang by taking a different road until the town of Yen Minh.

Lunch at liberty in a local restaurant on the way.

A stop is scheduled on the way to visit the old palace of the H'Mong king.

Arrival in Ha Giang is scheduled around 6pm.

Dinner will be taken in a local restaurant in Ha Giang.

Night accommodation at the "Hoang Ngoc" hotel in Ha Giang.

If that day does not land on a Sunday, the visit of the market is replaced by a trek in the surroundings.

Breakfast, Private car, English speaking Guide, Lunch, Dinner, Hotel.

# The Northeast Big Loop

# Nature & Authenticity



#### PROGRAM: 9 Days - 8 Nights

#### Day 5 : Ha Giang - Cao Bang

After breakfast, you will leave for Cao Bang (about 8 hours long journey)

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant on the way.

Afterwards, the car will carry on its journey to Cao Bang.

Dinner will be taken in a local restaurant in Cao Bang.

Night accommodation in a local hotel in Cao Bang.

Breakfast, Private car, English speaking Guide, Lunch, Dinner, Hotel.

#### Day 6 : Cao Bang surroundings

After breakfast, the car will bring you to visit the cave of Nguom Ngao and the waterfalls of Ban Gioc.
Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.
In the afternoon, you will be visiting the 36 lakes of Thang Hen.
Dinner will be taken in a local restaurant.
Night accommodation in a local hotel of Thang Hen.

Breakfast, Private car, English speaking Guide, Tickets, Lunch, Dinner, Hotel.

#### PROGRAM: 9 Days - 8 Nights

#### Day 7: Cao Bang - Lake of Ba Be \_

At 7am, you will leave in a private car for Ba Be (about 6 hour and a half long journey)

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant on the way. You will arrive in Ba Be around late afternoon. Dinner and night accommodation at the inhabitant's house.

#### Day 8: Visit of Lake of Ba Be\_

At 8.30am, you will be going on a 15 kilometer long trek in the surrounding mountains.

You will pass by several villages of Tay minority. A picnic lunch will be taken on the way.

Return is scheduled around late afternoon.

Dinner and night accommodation at the inhabitant's house.

#### Breakfast, Private car, English speaking Guide, Picnic Lunch, Dînner and night in homestav.

Dînner and night in homestav.

English speaking Guide,

Breakfast,

Tickets.

Lunch,

Private car,

#### Day 9 : Ba Be – Ha Noi

After breakfast, you will take a boat on the Ba Be lake.

You will go around the lake and stops are scheduled to visit the "Dong Phuong" cave, and the "Dau Dang" waterfalls.

Lunch will be taken with a Tay family.

The car will bring you to Ha Noi after lunch.

Several stops are scheduled to admire the landscapes and to visit the museum of Thai Nguyen.

Return is scheduled around early evening.

The car brings you back to Ha Noi.

Dinner and accommodation at liberty.

Breakfast, Private car, English speaking Guide, Tickets, Boat, Lunch.



Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Program	1 616 €	1 871 €	2 384 €	2 636 €	3 214 €

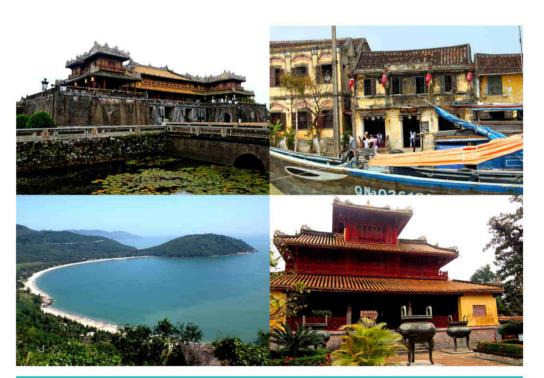
Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Program	3 470 €	3 982 €	4 235 €	4 746 €	5 257 €





# Huế & Hội An

Culture and Idleness





Hue is unquestionably **the capital of Trung Bo, the Middle Part of Viet Nam.** Not far away from the South China Sea, the city is **built on the banks of the Perfume River** (*song Huong*), so much described in poems and painted by artists who used to live there. Hue is registered as **World Heritage site of UNESCO** since 1993.

Raised as **imperial citadel** by the Nguyen dynasty, Hue remains today the **cultural and intellectual center of the Country**, introducing palaces, pagodas and gravestones, more sumptuous and majestic one after the other.

A MUST-SEE for History aficionados, nice buildings and gardens and beautiful stones... Besides, a very peaceful atmosphere reigns in Hue... **Hue won't stop amazing you**. This jewel of the Vietnamese and World heritage holds so much richness; it may be difficult for you to visit all of it.

Hoi An is a seaside resort but also it is one of the oldest harbors and docks of South East Asia. Hoi An is one of the most colorful destination of the Middle Part of Viet Nam. Established on the Thu Bon River, the city enjoys the quietness and peacefulness of the place in order to flourish and blossom to the rhythm of rich local handicraft.

Hoi An is a real outdoor museum where locals and vendors of the entire world used to live for generations there, and in particular **Chinese**, **Japanese and Westerner people**.

The activities are very enriching but limited. It is an ideal place to rest, but note that the small size of the town makes the tourist concentration pretty high!

# Huế & Hôi An

## Culture and Idleness





#### PROGRAM: 4 Days - 4 Nighs

#### Visit of Huê

At 2pm, a guide will come to pick you up at your hotel to visit the Imperial Citadel.

The visit will carry on to the Dong Ba market.

Dinner at liberty. Night accommodation at the « New Star » hotel in Hue.

English speaking Guide, Tickets, Private Car, Hotel.

#### Day 2

After breakfast, at 8.30am, an English speaking guide will come and pick you up at your hotel to take you for a walk to the harbor of the Perfume River.

You will go onboard of a boat for a little cruise on the river. The first stage will be dedicated to the visit of the Thien Mu Pagoda.

You will then be visiting the emperor Tu Duc's gravestone.

Lunch will be taken onboard then you will be visiting the Minh Mang's gravestone.

Return at the hotel is scheduled around 5pm.

Dinner at liberty.

Night accommodation at the "New Star" hotel in Hue.

English speaking Guide, Breakfast, Private boat on the Parfume River, Lunch. Tickets, Private Car.

#### PROGRAM: 4 Days - 4 Nights

#### Visit of Hoi An

#### Day 3

Depending on either you picked the private car or the bus option:

At 8am, a private car will come and pick you up at your hotel to leave for Hoi An. (5 hour long journey). A stop is scheduled at the summit of the Clouds Pass. Possibility to make a stop in Lang Co, from the Clouds Pass, China Beach et to the Cham museum in Da Nang.

At 8am, a bus will come and pick you up to bring you to the town of Hoi An (5 hour long journey)

Meals and afternoon at liberty. Night accommodation at "Thuy Duong 3" hotel in Hoi An.

A guide will come and pick you up at your hotel to bring you to the My Son sites for visit.

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

At 2pm, the guide will bring you to visit the Thu Bon river.

You will go on a boat for a little cruise on the river.

You will go on a stroll by bicycle to visit the Mat village and the traditional village of carpentry.

The visit will end by boat with the coconut palm grove garden.

Dinner at liberty.

Night accommodation at "Thuy Duong 3" hotel in Hoi An.

Private Car or Bus (depends of option chosen), Hotel.

Breakfast,

English speaking Guide, Breakfast, Lunch, Tickets, Private Car, Boat, Breakfast the day after.



Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
If Hue - Hoi An by private car	549 €	599 €	880 €	930 €	1 193 €
If Hue - Hoi An by local bus	471 €	531 €	810 €	870 €	1 144 €

Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
If Hue - Hoi An by private car	1 244 €	1 506 €	1 557 €	1 845 €	1 870 €
If Hue - Hoi An by local bus	1 203 €	1 477 €	1 536 €	1 820 €	1 870 €







# The Middle Part's Highlands

Some ethnic groups really different





The region is the South of the Highlands, less high in altitude than Da Lat or Kon Turn. **The vegetation there is luxuriant**, and the region was famous for its abundant wild fauna: tigers, bears, monkeys, elephants. Unfortunately, not many wild animals remain nowadays, but the region has hence sheltered many emperors' secondary residences who were big hunt aficionados!

In order to enjoy the locations, all you need is to walk around with a good guide in this isolated and authentic region: lakes, ethnic groups' villages, pagodas, waterfalls, riding elephants...you will not lack activities!

The ethnic minorities there are a majority. Although very different from the minorities of North Viet Nam, they do have their own traditions and beliefs which are always interesting to understand.

A very nice tour of 2-3 days can be most enjoyable from Nha Trang, and to get to Sai Gon afterwards. This tour is quite atypical with landscapes you won't be able to see anywhere else in Viet Nam... and this region is still not very touristy.

# The Middle Part's Highlands

# Some ethnic groups really different





#### PROGRAM: 4 Days - 3 Nights

Once you arrived at the airport, somebody will be waiting for you there. A private car will bring you to your hotel. Dinner at liberty.

Night accommodation in a hotel in Buon Ma Thuot.

After breakfast, you will be visiting houses from local inhabitants. Then, you will be visiting the waterfalls of Dray Sap and Dray Nu. Then, you will go by car towards Ban Don (about 1 hour long iourney)

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, you will be visiting the bamboo bridge on the Serepok river, as well as the different royal houses and some minorities' villages.

Dinner will be taken in a local restaurant.

Night accommodation at a M'Nung's family, in a traditional stilts house.

Transfert Airport - Hotel,

Breakfast, English speaking Guide, Private car, Lunch, Tickets, Dinner. Night in homestay.

#### PROGRAM: 4 Days - 3 Nights

After breakfast, a car will bring you to Ho Lak (about 2 hour long). Afterwards, you will go on a boat to visit the Ho Lak lake.

You will then be driving elephants in the surroundings of the village (about 2 hour long stroll)

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

You will be attending a traditional show whiletasting some local liquor and alcohol.

Dinner will be taken in a local restaurant.

Night accommodation at the "Lak" resort of Ban Don.

#### Day 4

Une voiture privée vient vous chercher à votre hôtel pour vous emmener à l'aéroport.

Petit déjeuner, Breakfast, English speaking Guide, Private car, Boat, Lunch, Elephant riding, Tickets & Show, Dinner, Hotel.

Breakfast. Transfert Hotel - Airport.



Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Program	717 €	793 €	1 098 €	1 146 €	1 313 €

Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Program	1 361 €	1 528 €	1 577 €	1 745 €	1 792 €





# Sài Gòn The business capital

The Other Face of Việt Nam





Sai Gon, 8 millions of inhabitants, 4 millions of motorbikes, this city will certainly leave you a particular taste... Nested in a loop of the river carrying the same name located North from the Mekong Delta, the city is the true economic heartbeat of the Country. Often opposed to the "Traditional Hanoi", Sai Gon embodies the Vietnamese modernity and the hope to catch up the economic backwardness of the Country due to the different wars.

It can however be very pleasant to walk around in the big avenues of the city and see the Post Office, the city Hall, the cathedral, the pagodas, the Chinese district of Cho Lon and the Binh Tay markets, more "Asian", are also worth the detour...

A one day tour is also possible outside of the city, to visit **the tunnels of Cu Chi**, forming a gigantic network of underground galleries where the Viet Congs used to take refuge during the war.

You will also be able to visit **the Caodaists temples**. Real cult, the doctrine has tempted to take the purest they could find in every religion. The mediums of the cult only communicate with the Beyond and particularly with illustrious figures such as Victor Hugo, Joan of Arc, Shakespeare, Lenin... **I think you understand how very special this is, but the daily ceremony at noon, open to public, can be worth the detour!** 

Sai Gon is a stage city anyway, at arrival, at departure, or to visit the Mekong Delta. Therefore, you could stay there for a day or two.

# Sài Gòn, The business capital

# The Other Face of Việt Nam





#### PROGRAMME 1:1 Day

#### VISIT OF SAI GON CITY

#### Day 1

At 9am, an English speaking guide will come and pick you up at your hotel to visit the city by rickshaw.

You will be visiting:

- Dong khoi,
- Nguyen Hue Avenue
- The cathedral,
- La Post Office
- The Cho Lon market
- The North of Cho Lon,
- The Giac Vien pagoda

Lunch will be taken in a restaurant.

Afterwards, you will carry on visiting:

- The Binh Tay market
- The Ben Thanh market
- The Thien Hau temple

Around late afternoon, the rickshaw will bring you to your hotel. Dinner and accommodation at liberty in Sai Gon.

English speaking Guide, Rickshaw, Lunch, Tickets.

#### PROGRAM 2:1 Day

#### CU CHI TUNNELS AND CAO DAISTS TEMPLES

#### Day

At 8.30am, a private car will come and pick you up at your hotel to bring you to the tunnels of Cu Chi (about 1 hour and a half long journey).

You will be visiting the site with a local guide who will give you all needed details and information with the help of a videc documentary support.

You will then carry on towards Tay Ninh, to visit the Caodaists temples.

You will be attending the ceremony at noon.

Return to Sai Gon scheduled in the afternoon.

Dinner and accommodation at liberty in Sai Gon.

English speaking Guide, Private car, Lunch, Tickets.



Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Program	120€	152€	175 €	216 €	237 €

Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Program	271 €	293 €	317€	348 €	375 €





# The MEKONG Delta

Along rivers





The Mekong, coming from Cambodia, spreads into 9 big rivers in the very South of Viet Nam, forming a delta on over 100 kilometers. The lands are humid and get flooded every year which brings luxuriant and varied vegetation... The delta is big and can be visited throughout several sites... by taking strolls in the rivers, the canals, visiting the islands, discovering the local life and most of all, passing by the floating markets.

My Tho is the closest departure spot from Sai Gon, only two hours away from the big city. Naturally, the further we go, the more authenticity is offered by the site...: Cai Be, Vinh Long, Can Tho...and especially the primary forest of Xeo Quyt, my favorite site in the surroundings if you want to see an incredible vegetation in which was hidden a military base...

**Can Tho** is a student town, animated and not too big either...ideal to spend an evening there!

Generally speaking, the delta is, in my opinion, a real gem of nature... A must-see both in terms of landscapes and vegetation but also for its markets! The delta itself is enough a reason to visit the South of the Country. The delta is big and 2 to 3 days should be planned for a nice visit.

I offer tours to visit the Mekong as "terrestrial" tours where you go on little cruises in different and varied places, and if you efer, you can also ask me to provide bigger cruises, even if I feel them less interesting and much more touristic.

## The MEKONG Delta

# Along rivers







#### The « Terrestrial » programs (Private)

The "terrestrial" programs are not programs involving walking, far from it!

They are programs where you move around by car to different places of the delta in order to go on some small cruises on small sampans...

The big advantage is the **variety of landscapes** you can meet, indeed you will be navigating **on big rivers just like little creeks** in the middle of the countryside. These programs also allow you to do more activities than if you were on a big cruise. Lastly, these programs are **private tours**.

#### TERRESTRIAL PROGRAM 1: 3 Days - 2 Nights

The Mekong delta by Ben Tre and Cai Be

#### Day 1

At 8.30 am, a guide will come and pick you up at your hotel with a private car to bring you towards My Tho in the Mekong delta (2 hour long journey).

Once arrived in My Tho, you will go onboard of a boat for a cruise on the river.

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

The cruise will carry on its course until Ben Tre.

In the afternoon, once in Ben Tre (1 hour and a half journey). You will be visiting the surroundings by bicycle.

Dinner and accommodation at the inhabitant's house.

English speaking Guide, Private Car, Boats, Lunch, Bicycles, Dinner and night in homestay.

#### Day 2

At 8.30 am, a guide will come and pick you up at your hotel with a private car to bring you towards Cai Lay in the Mekong delta (2 hour long journey).

Once in Cai Lay, you will immediately go onboard of a boat for a cruise on the river. These canals are bordered with trees from the Delta and will make you experience the authentic rural life of Vietnam. A stop is scheduled on the island of the five villages Ngu Hiep where you can see a nursery of fruit trees: plum trees, mango trees, lemon trees, coconut trees... You will be able to taste the seasonal fruits there.

Lunch will be taken at the inhabitant's house.

You will then go on a stroll, either by foot (or by bicycle) to discover the daily life of the delta region.

In the afternoon, the boat will take you to another cruise to come back towards Cai Be (from Cai Lay to Cai Be, about 20 km on the Mekong river). You will be visiting the craft village of Cai Be and its production complexes of Banh Trang Re, of Banh Da, of Nuoc Mam... you will be able to taste coconut sweets.

Dinner and accommodation at the inhabitant's house.

Breakfast, English speaking Guide, Private Car, Boats, Tickets, Lunch, Dinner and night in homestay.

#### Day 3

After breakfast, the guide will carry on the visit with the floating market of Cai Be by boat.

Afterwards, you will go to Xeo Quyt by private car (1 hour long journey).

You will take a traditional sampan to discover the cajuputs forest in Xeo Quyt and will be visiting the site of Xeo Quyt by foot, which still remains primary and very natural.

Lunch will be taken in a restaurant in Xeo Quyt.

The visit continues with the tinctoria forest, where used to be located the base of the Revolution of the Dong Thap province during the war.

You will return to Sai Gon around late afternoon. Dinner and accommodation at liberty in Sai Gon.

Breakfast, English speaking Guide, Private Car, Boats, Lunch.

# The MEKONG Delta

# Along rivers



#### TERRESTRIAL PROGRAM 2:3 Days - 2 Nights

The Mekong delta by Can Tho and Vinh Long

#### Day 1

At 8am, a guide will come and pick you up at your hotel with a private car to take you towards Dong Thap in the Mekong delta (2 hours and a half long journey).

You will go on a cruise along the branches of the river to discover the daily life of the delta region.

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

You will then go on a traditional sampan to discover the cajuputs forest in Xeo Quyt.

The car will then take you to Can Tho (3 hours and a half long journey). Dinner will be taken in a local restaurant.

Night accommodation at the "Ninh Kieu" hotel in Can Tho.

#### Day 2

You will leave early in the morning by boat to visit the floating market of Cai Rang.

The car will then take you towards the town of Vinh Long (3 hour long journey)

A boat will take you to a branch of the Mekong where you will be visiting the craft village of pottery.

Lunch will be taken in a local restaurant.

The boat continues to the island of Binh Hoa Phuoc. There, you will be going on a stroll by bicycle to visit the island, a famous Bonsais garden as well as a tree nursery.

Dinner and night accommodation at the inhabitant's house in Binh Hoa Phuoc.

Breakfast, English speaking Guide, Private Car, Boats, Tickets, Lunch, Dinner and Night in Homestav.

English speaking Guide,

Private Car.

Boats.

Tickets.

Lunch.

Dinner,

Hotel.

#### Day 3

After breakfast, the boat will carry on its course on the river, along the peaceful landscapes of the delta.

A stop is scheduled to visit the local craft village of haberdashery. You will then be visiting the floating market of Cai Be.

Afterwards, the car will bring you towards My Tho (1 hour). Once arrived in My Tho, you will go on a boat to visit the Mekong, and you will go on a ride in a horse carriage in the surrounding villages. The return to Sai Gon by car is scheduled around late afternoon.

Breakfast, English speaking Guide, Private Car, Boats, horse-drawn carriage, Tickets, Lunch.

#### TERRESTRIAL PROGRAM 3: 2 Days - 1 Night

The Mekong delta by Cai Be

#### Day

At 8.30am, a guide will come and pick you up at your hotel with a private car to take you to Cai Lay in the Mekong delta (2 hour long journey).

Once arrived in Cai Lay, you will immediately go on a ship for a cruise on the river. These canals are bordered with trees from the Delta and will make you experience the authentic rural life of Vietnam. A stop is scheduled on the island of the five villages Ngu Hiep where you can see a nursery of fruit trees: plum trees, mange trees, lemon trees, coconut trees... You will be able to taste the seasonal fruits there.

Lunch will be taken at the inhabitant's house.

You will then go on a stroll, either by foot (or by bicycle) to discover the daily life of the delta region.

In the afternoon, the boat will take you to another cruise to come back towards Cai Be (from Cai Lay to Cai Be, about 20 km on the Mekong river). You will be visiting the craft village of Cai Be and its production complexes of Banh Trang Re, of Banh Da, of Nuoc Mam... you will be able to taste coconut sweets.

Dinner and accommodation at the inhabitant's house.

English speaking Guide, Private Car, Boats, Tickets, Lunch, Dinner and Night in Homestav.

#### Day 2

At 8.30am, after breakfast, the guide will carry on the visit with the floating market of Cai Be by boat.

You will take a traditional sampan to discover the cajuputs forest in Xeo Quyt and will be visiting the rice field of Xeo Quyt, which still remains primary and very natural. (1 hour long cruise).

Lunch will be taken in a restaurant in Xeo Quyt.

The visit continues with the tinctoria forest, where used to be located the base of the Revolution of the Dong Thap province during the war.

You will return to Sai Gon by car.

Breakfast; English speaking Guide, Private Car, Boats, Tickets, Lunch.

### The MEKONG Delta

### Fare information





#### TERRESTRIAL PROGRAM 4:1 Day

#### The Mekong delta by My Tho

Day 1

At 8am, a guide will come and pick you up at your hotel with a private car to leave towards My Tho (about 2 hour long journey). Once arrived in My Tho, you will immediately go on a boat for a small cruise on the Tien river. You will be able to admire the 4 surrounding islands: the Dragon island, the Unicorn island, the Turtle island and the Phoenix island. The Turtle island being the most natural one, you will be able to taste seasonal fruits there and to attend to a traditional theater show.

You will go on a stroll on a horse-drawn vehicle to visit the village farm of honey beekeeping and will be able to taste there the Ben Tre

You will go on a small bark throughout the canal to admire beautiful sites and you will return to My Tho after lunch at the Hoa Ai restaurant in Ben Tre.

The guide will take you by car to visit the pagoda of Vinh Trang (the oldest pagoda of My Tho).

You will return to Sai Gon around late afternoon.

English speaking Guide, Private Car, Boats, horse-drawn carriage, Tickets, Lunch.

#### TERRESTRIAL PROGRAM 5: 1 jour

#### The Mekong delta by Cai Be

#### JDay 1

At 8am, a guide will come and pick you up at your hotel with a private car to take you to Cai Be in the Mekong delta (about 2 hour

and a half long journey).
You will go on a cruise along the branches of the river to discover the daily life of the delta region.
A few stops are scheduled to visit local craft villages and you will be

able to taste there some prestigious candies made of coconut, some Banh Com (pastry made from sticky young rice)
You will then be visiting the floating market of Cai Be.
The boat will then be taking you towards Vinh Long.

After lunch in Vinh Long, you will be going on a stroll by foot to visit the island and its famous Bonsais garden of Sau Giao.

Return to Sai Gon is scheduled around late afternoon.

English speaking Guide, Private Car, Boats, Tickets, Lunch.

#### The « Terrestrial » programs (Private)

Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Program 1 Ben Tre - Cai Be	534 €	694 €	831 €	956 €	1 082 €
Program 2 Can Tho - Vinh Long	652 €	754 €	916 €	1 018 €	1 175 €
Program 3 Cai Be	450 €	539 €	629 €	748 €	837 €
Program 4 OR 5	155 €	186 €	214 €	244 €	288 €

Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Program 1 Ben Tre - Cai Be	1 208 €	1 344 €	1 470 €	1 595 €	1 731 €
Program 2 Can Tho - Vinh Long	1 316 €	1 478 €	1 572 €	1 740 €	1 855 €
Program 3 Cai Be	927 €	1 016 €	1 120 €	1 209 €	1 298 €
Program 4 OR 5	312€	339 €	361 €	406 €	444 €

Fare valid until 31/12/2019



## The Other Destinations

### The Services



#### In Viet Nam

**Many other destinations exist in Viet Nam** for which I did not find necessary to write brochures about...not by lack of interest, but rather by lack of contents...

The "beach and farniente" destinations are not detailed in this catalogue, even if they are usually integrated in the tours I offer, so that a nice little seaside break can be taken during the trip.

**Nha Trang** for example, with its beautiful bay and its sea activities, **Mui Ne** with also a beautiful beach, more in the South, or even the peaceful **island of Phu Quoc**, in the very South, are as many valued destinations I'm working with.

#### In the other countries

**Since loops spreading on several countries can allow us to discover more,** in little time, I also offer tour extensions in Cambodia and Laos. You can leave for **Cambodia** from Chau Doc (*in the South*), then go up the Mekong until Phnom Penh in order to reach towards the sites of Angkor. **Laos** (essentially Vientiane and Luang Prabang) can easily be visited from Vietnam by plane.

If your preferences are more specialized in these two countries, I can easily put you in relation with serious local Agencies of quality...but be careful; these international tour extensions will cost you more than if you'd stay in Vietnam. International flights are more expensive than domestic flights, and these two countries are also more expensive than Vietnam.

#### The services provided:

All the services mentioned in the program (right column of the program) are the following:

- The guides mentioned in the program,
- All the means of transportation mentioned (private car, train, boat...),
- Entrance tickets to visit sites mentioned,
- All the food and meals mentioned, except drinks and beverages.

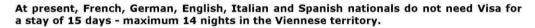
#### Are never included:

- Drinks and beverages,
- Personal insurances,
- Personal purchases and tips.

## Visas for Viet Nam

# The Booking





Attention, in case of a short trip, to a foreign country during the stay in Vietnam, you will need a Visa to return to Vietnam. The minimum period between 2 entries without Visa is indeed 3 months.

For those of you who need a Visa and because Visas are expensive if made from abroad, because everybody don't have the chance to live nearby the Vietnamese Embassy in Paris or in their hometown, therefore I did my best to develop a Visas Service at a reasonable cost, in agreement with the immigration authorities.

They are **Visas delivered at the airport, on arrival, when in Vietnam.** It is a safe, fast, a lot cheaper but also very easy approach:

- Once your dates scheduled, you will send me a scan of your passport,
- About a week later, I will send you an official paper from immigration,
- You will print it out, keep it safe and bring along 2 identity photos with you as well as the price of the Visa,
- You will present the whole thing on arrival at the airport in Viet Nam and you will have your Visa delivered.



Getting in touch with you, getting to know you better, understanding what you are looking for, what you wish and what you don't, these are the first basis of HAPPY LUAN's work. **There is no secret, for a tour to fully succeed; we need to build it together.** And for that, communication is fundamental.

In this regard, Internet is an extraordinary tool, an efficient mean to erase the distance and to bring people from all countries and from all cultures closer together. In order to ensure an efficient contract, I promise to answer you as quickly as possible.

We are going to elaborate our tour together... For that I will send you a first basis of the tour. Naturally, it is not yet customized with your wishes, therefore, it is important that we work on it together later and I will be sending you new versions according to your wishes. The main goal is indeed to refine the tour together so that it fully takes into account your wishes but also your inconveniences. Therefore, do not feel embarrassed letting me know that this point does not suit you, or to tell me that you have changed your mind on that other point, I am here for that! It is indeed essential that the tour I am offering you suits you on every level.

Is the organization of the tour suitable for you? The stop-overs? The hotels? The visits? Is your tour matching with your expectations? Are the prices charged matching with your financial budget? **Well then, you are ready to go!** And we need to finalize our agreement.

### I will send you either a confirmation of reservation of tour, or a travel contract in PDF format!

The reservation confirmation of tour is convenient for small tours or for the tours whose departure is approaching, while the contract, heavier administratively, is preferred for the tours whose departure is in more than 6 months.

The two documents propose the same terms of means of payment, cancellation and reimbursement. The difference is mainly in the distribution of the payment. For the reservation confirmation of the tour, only the payment of the deposit makes the reservation effective while in the contract, it requires an electronic signature in addition.

Rest assured, the document does not make fifty pages written in any small where you have to read the sentences at the bottom to avoid any problems! It is primarily a matter of finalising our agreement in an official way...

## The Payment

## The Cancellation Insurance



For the travel contract, the terms of payment are clearly stipulated to be broken down in the following way:

- -15% at the signing of the contract,
- -70% one month before departure.
- -15% on the day of your arrival in Viet Nam.

For the booking confirmation, this is 30% down payment and 70% at the start of the tour.

#### From abroad, for accounts, you can pay in the following way:

- -By online credit card (Visa, Master card). This payment is made in VND, the exchange rate of the day of the VietcomBank is applied. The customer must inform the Agency in order to receive a secure Internet link to make the payment.
- -By bank transfer to my HSBC International account. The transfer fee depends on each bank (agreement between your bank and HSBC). The transfer fee is the responsibility of the customer, thank you to note it during the transfer. If necessary, the balance will be readjusted.

**For the payment of the balance in Ha Noi**, in addition to the 2 means of paying above (provided that the sum is received before the start of the tour), you can pay:

- -in cash to Ha Noi in the customer's choice currency. In the case of a currency other than the Euro, the exchange rate of the day of payment of the VietcomBank will be applied,
- -By credit card to Ha Noi (Visa, Master card, American Express). Payment is made in VND, the exchange rate of the day of payment of the VietcomBank will be applied. This payment is taxed at 2.5%.

I do not offer actual cancellation insurance... The indirect cost would be too high on your tour given my small activity. However, the following rules are stipulated in the contract:

- In case of cancellation more than one month before departure:
- I reimburse the entire tour.
- In case of cancellation less than a month before departure:

I reimburse the entire tour - 20%.

- In case of cancellation less than one week before departure:

I reimburse the entire tour - 70%.

It is important to understand that I have to pay for a lot of services in advance... In Viet Nam there are no bookings without payment...That being so, in case of cancellation, I always do my best to get my pre-paid fees reimbursed...and it may be possible for me to reimburse you more than what the contract stipulates.

