

## A TASTE OF VIETNAM

7 DAYS / 6 NIGHTS



### I. HIGHLIGHTS

- Marvel at the natural beauty of Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, as you cruise past nearly 2,000 limestone islets rising from the emerald waters of the Gulf of Tonkin.
- Explore the imperial past of Hue with visits to the majestic Imperial Palace, the tomb of Emperor Tu Duc, and the bustling Dong Ba Market, immersing yourself in Vietnam's rich history and culture.
- Wander through the quaint streets of Hoi An on a walking tour, discovering its ancient culture and architecture, including the iconic Japanese-covered bridge and a historic old house, all within a UNESCO-recognized town.
- Delve into the colonial charm of Saigon with visits to historic landmarks such as Notre Dame Cathedral and the Central Post Office, while also enjoying shopping activities at bustling markets like Ben Thanh Market, offering a glimpse into modern Vietnamese life.

## II. ITINERARY

### DAY 1

#### Arrival in Hanoi, Transfer to Halong Bay

Welcome to Vietnam! Upon your arrival at the Airport, before midday, you will be greeted by your guide. From there, you will embark on a scenic journey directly to the breathtaking Halong Bay, a drive of approximately 3.5 hours. Once you arrive, the remainder of the day is yours to unwind and explore at your leisure.

### DAY 2

#### Halong Bay Cruise, Return to Hanoi

Prepare to be mesmerized by the stunning beauty of Halong Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage Site renowned for its almost 2,000 limestone islets emerging from the emerald waters of the Gulf of Tonkin. Spend six unforgettable hours cruising through this picturesque bay, where you'll have the opportunity to explore two limestone caves adorned with vibrant stalagmites and stalactites. Indulge in a delectable lunch of fresh seafood served on board before returning to Hanoi by vehicle.

### DAY 3

#### Explore Hanoi, Flight to Hue

Delve into the rich history and culture of Hanoi during a captivating half-day city tour. Highlights include Ba Dinh Square, Ho Chi Minh's former residence (exterior viewing), the iconic One-pillar Pagoda, the historic Temple of Literature, scenic Hoan Kiem Lake, and the revered Ngoc Son Temple. This tour also allows time for shopping and mingling with locals. Later, you will be transferred to the airport for your flight to Hue.

### DAY 4

#### Discover Hue's Imperial Treasures

Embark on a journey through Hue's imperial past as you visit the majestic Imperial Palace, where the Nguyen Dynasty once ruled Vietnam. Enjoy a leisurely cyclo ride through the palace grounds, and explore the tomb of Emperor Tu Duc, a masterpiece of royal architecture set amidst lush surroundings. Conclude your day with a visit to Dong Ba Market, immersing yourself in the vibrant sights and sounds of this bustling local market.

### DAY 5

#### From Hue to Hoi An, with Cultural Gems

Embark on a traditional 'Dragon Boat' for a serene 40-minute cruise along the Perfume River to the iconic Thien Mu Pagoda, a symbol of Buddhism in central Vietnam. Then, journey to Hoi An via the scenic Hai Van Pass, with a stop at the Cham Museum in Danang to admire its exquisite collection of Cham sculptures. Arrive in Hoi An, where you'll spend the night.

## DAY 6

### Explore the Charms of Hoi An, Flight to Saigon

Begin your day with a fascinating walking tour of Hoi An, starting at the Culture and History Museum. Stroll through the authentic local market before visiting the Chinese Assembly Hall and the iconic Japanese-covered bridge, emblematic of Hoi An's rich cultural heritage. Conclude your tour with a visit to a historic old house, offering insights into the town's UNESCO-recognized significance. Later, transfer to Danang Airport for your flight to Saigon.

## DAY 7

### Discover Colonial Saigon, Departure

Embark on a captivating half-day tour of colonial Saigon, exploring its vibrant history and culture. Visit landmarks such as the History Museum, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Central Post Office, and the Old Town Hall. Spend the remainder of your time indulging in shopping activities around Dong Khoi Street and Ben Thanh Market before transferring to the airport for your departure. Safe travels, and we hope you've had an unforgettable experience exploring the wonders of Vietnam!

— END OF SERVICES —

**Tour extensions: pre-tour or post-tour extensions are available, which would include accommodation and private transfers, please speak to Focus Asia travel consultant for further details.**

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