

HANOI AND HALONG EXPLORER 5 DAYS / 4 NIGHTS



I. HIGHLIGHTS

- Experience the rich cultural heritage of Vietnam through visits to ancient temples, traditional folk shows, and interactions with local artisans in Bat Trang village.
- Cruise through the stunning landscapes of Ha Long Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage site, surrounded by thousands of limestone islets rising from emerald waters, and explore mystical caves adorned with colorful stalactites and stalagmites.
- Explore the historic city of Hanoi, with its blend of traditional Vietnamese architecture and French colonial influence, visiting iconic landmarks such as Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum, Ngoc Son Temple, and the Temple of Literature.
- Delight in the unique water puppet show, a traditional art form dating back to the Ly Dynasty, and enjoy a pedicab ride through the bustling streets of downtown Hanoi, immersing yourself in the vibrant local atmosphere.

II. ITINERARY

DAY 1

Arrival in Enchanting Hanoi

Upon arrival at Hanoi's airport, immerse yourself in the charm of Vietnam's capital city, characterized by its tree-lined streets, colonial architecture, and ancient temples. Transfer to your hotel (please note early check-in is not included). Enjoy a delightful dinner accompanied by a traditional folk show.

DAY 2

Ha Long Bay Adventure

Begin your day with a transfer to Ha Long Bay, a UNESCO World Heritage site renowned for its breathtaking beauty. Cruise through the bay's emerald waters, surrounded by nearly 2,000 limestone islets. Explore limestone caves adorned with colorful stalagmites and stalactites, and perhaps engage in activities like canoeing or visiting a floating village, depending on your chosen cruise. Spend the night on board.

Note: Please be advised that your Focus Asia tour guide will not accompany you on the overnight cruise. Additional charges apply if you request a Focus Asia tour guide to be on board with you. Only in-house tour guides are available on board.

DAY 3

Pottery Discovery in Bat Trang

Depending on your cruise itinerary, you may participate in a morning tai chi lesson or simply relish the stunning scenery from the deck. After breakfast or brunch, disembark and proceed to Hanoi with a stop at Bat Trang, a village renowned for its pottery craftsmanship dating back over 500 years. Explore the workshops, kilns, and daily life of pottery families with a local expert. Overnight in Hanoi.

(Remarks: Breakfast and lunch or brunch will be served on board, depending on the cruise.)

DAY 4

Exploring Historic Hanoi

Discover the allure of Hanoi, blending traditional Vietnamese architecture with a French quarter featuring majestic colonial villas and tree-lined boulevards. Visit Ngoc Son Temple within Hoan Kiem Lake, Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum (open for interior visits in the mornings only, closed on Mondays, Fridays, and annually from June 15th to August 15th for maintenance), the One-Pillar Pagoda, the Museum of Ethnology (closed on Mondays), the Temple of Literature, and the old quarters. Conclude the day with a one-hour downtown pedicab ride and a mesmerizing water puppet show, an ancient form of Vietnamese artistic expression.

DAY 5

Departure

Enjoy leisure time before check-out (late check-out not included). Transfer to Noi Bai airport for departure.

Please note that minor program adjustments may occur due to factors such as flight schedules, traffic, and weather conditions.

— 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.
