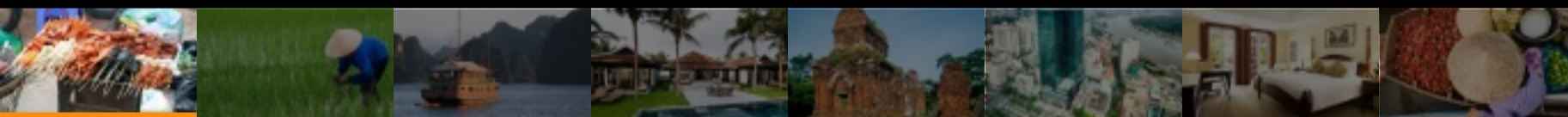


## Vietnam Connoisseur



This 10-day Vietnam trip includes a culinary street tour of Hanoi with a famous food blogger.



**Overview**

The Details

Ask the Editor

## About your stay

Venture through Vietnam on a 10-day tour that explores three of the country's most iconic cities. Starting in the metropolis of Hanoi, you'll explore the temples of Hoa Lu before jetting off to Da Nang, where you'll bike around the Old City and taste Vietnamese-Latin fusion fare in the port town of Hoi An. The trip concludes with a Vespa tour of Ho Chi Minh City and a cruise on the Mekong Delta. This Vietnamese jaunt includes countryside excursions, nights aboard traditional sampans and stays in luxe hotels.

### What we love

- The culinary street tour of Hanoi, guided by a famous food blogger
- Countryside visits to Hoa Lu and a sampan cruise on the Mekong Delta
- Bike, Vespa and walking tours of Hanoi, Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City


### What to know

- The itinerary includes two domestic flights at an additional cost (Ho Chi Minh City to Da Nang and Hue to Hanoi)
- There are two nights aboard a boat
- Plan for a packed schedule, with full-day tours and little downtime

### Customize this Journey

Customize this itinerary with a Jetsetter Travel Planner. You'll be contacted within 24 business hours by a Travel Planner who will help you customize this journey for your dates and group.

[Start your journey](#)

 Got a question? Don't hesitate.  
[877-JSET-USA/877-573-8872](tel:877-JSET-USA/877-573-8872)

# The Review

You'll be contacted by a Mandarin Journeys representative, who will gather more details from you. You'll work with your consultant to customize your itinerary and book your trip.

You can select your travel dates and book the trip as suggested or customize the trip by adding more nights, locations, excursions or activities.

## STARTING RATES

- From \$3,385 per person
- All prices are based on two adults traveling together (double occupancy)
- Prices vary depending on date of travel
- Accommodations are based on availability

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All tours mentioned in the itinerary
- Entrance fees to all sights and museums
- All airport transfers
- All accommodations mentioned in the itinerary

## WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- International airfare to/from your home city
- Domestic airfare from Ho Chi Minh City to Da Nang and from Hue to Hanoi
- Visa fees
- Travel insurance
- Any accommodations/meals not mentioned in itinerary
- Tips and personal expenses
- Extra excursions not mentioned in itinerary
- All other services unless specifically mentioned in itinerary

# Vietnam Connoisseur Itinerary

*10 days/9 nights*

## Day 1: Arrival

Arrive at Noi Bai International Airport in Hanoi, where a local guide will get you through the city to your hotel. The five-star Sofitel Legend Metropole Hotel, a colonial grande dame with a grand white façade, wrought iron accents and classic green shutters. There's a charming courtyard, a serene spa, a rooftop garden and three restaurants serving French, Italian and Asian fare on-site. Enjoy the rest of the day exploring Hanoi's historic sights, which are within walking distance of the hotel.

*Overnight at the **Sofitel Legend Metropole Hotel***

## Day 2: Culinary tour of Hanoi

This morning taste your way through Hanoi on a culinary street tour guided by a famous food blogger. You'll stroll through the Old Quarter, past the Old East Gate, to Thanh Ha market, where you'll learn about Vietnamese cuisine and culture. Wander the Dong Xuan market and taste local delicacies such as pho tui and bun dau. Then walk down Hang Than Street to see the ceremonial cake stalls and try a French-influenced dessert. You'll have a break at the Old Quarter's popular coffee shops before returning to the hotel. In the afternoon head to West Lake and visit one of the oldest Buddhist pagodas in Hanoi, Tran Quoc, and Quan Thanh, a Taoist temple dating from the Ly Dynasty. The remainder of the evening is at your leisure.

*Overnight at the Sofitel Legend Metropole Hotel; breakfast and a street food lunch included*

## Day 3: Daytrip to Hoa Lu

This morning leave the city behind and drive through the countryside to Hoa Lu. Here you'll visit the temples dedicated to emperors Dinh Tien Hoang and Le Dai Hanh, built in the 10th century. After lunch board a private sampan for a scenic cruise down the Tam Coc River, with views of limestone karsts and green rice paddies. If you have energy left, climb Ngu Nhac Mountain to Bich Dong Pagoda, which is composed of structures dating from 1428.

*Overnight at **Emeralda Ninh Binh Resort**; breakfast and lunch included*

## Day 4: Halong Bay

After breakfast you'll be transferred to Halong City to board a traditional wooden ship for the night.



Tuck into a dinner of fresh seafood, salad and fruit onboard.

*Overnight aboard a traditional ship; breakfast, lunch and dinner included*

#### **Day 5: Transfer to Hoi An**

A hearty brunch will be served aboard as the ship winds through limestone formations in Halong Bay. When you return to Halong City, a driver will transfer you to Hai Phong Airport for the flight to Da Nang. Once you land, you'll be driven to Hoi An, where you'll have the rest of the day at your leisure.

*Overnight at the **Nam Hai Resort Hoi An**; breakfast and lunch included*

#### **Day 6: Discover Hoi An and Da Nang**

After breakfast you'll head to the ancient port town of Hoi An to join a walking tour of the city and try Vietnamese-Latin fusion fare. Next, explore Hue, the former imperial capital of Vietnam, before continuing to Da Nang, where you'll visit the Cham Museum and climb the Pass of Ocean Clouds. In the evening you'll be transferred to your hotel.

*Overnight at **La Residence Hotel & Spa**; breakfast and lunch included*

#### **Day 7: Bike Around Danang**

This morning bike around the Old City to Tinh Tam Lake, which is home to a host of local coffee shops and grassy gardens belonging to former emperors. You'll also visit Tay Loc Market, the royal tombs in the pagoda, and Ho Quyen, an arena where citizens would watch animals fight for entertainment. There will also be an opportunity to explore Dinh Palace. Dinner will be served at a feng shui garden house.

*Overnight at La Residence Hotel & Spa; breakfast, lunch and dinner included*

#### **Day 8: Ho Chi Minh City by Vespa**

After breakfast, depart for Hue Airport and fly to Ho Chi Minh City. Once you land you'll enjoy a local lunch and take a Vespa tour of the metropolis. Roll by the Ho Thi Ky flower market, through Chinatown and to Nhi Phu Temple. In the afternoon you'll be driven to District 1 and stop at the post office, Notre Dame, the Reunification Palace, the former CIA office, the opera house and the HCM City People's Committee, which is one of the most photographed buildings in Vietnam. Later in the day you'll wander off the beaten track to the oldest quarter of the city and browse the historical relics on Antiques Street. You'll also check out the art galleries outside the Beaux-Arts Museum.

*Overnight at the **Park Hyatt Saigon**; breakfast and lunch included*

#### **Day 9: Cruise the Mekong Delta**

Leave the hustle and bustle of the city behind for a day winding through the waterways, floating markets and tropical fruit gardens of the Mekong Delta. You'll board a small sampan and discover smaller canals, rice paddies and rural villages. Visit the home of Mr. Huyen Thuy Le, a character from the novel *The Lover* by Marguerite Duras, as well as the Cao Dai Temple. Enjoy a decadent sunset dinner at a 19th-century house before arriving at Can Tho for the night.

*Overnight aboard the boat; breakfast, lunch and dinner included*

#### **Day 10: Departure**

Begin the morning with a visit to the Cai Rang Floating Market, where you'll see rice barges, wooden shipbuilding yards and fruit drying along the Mekong's banks. Then return to Ho Chi Minh City, where you'll have a private car to explore the city independently before being transferred to Tan Son Nhat International Airport for your flight home.

*Breakfast included*

— Chelsea Bengier