

Best Vietnam 3 week itinerary

(Hanoi – Sapa - Ninh Binh - Halong – Hoian – Hue – Saigon – Mekong – Mui Ne)

Itinerary Overview

Day	Destination	Meals
Day 1	HANOI ARRIVAL	--
Day 2	HANOI CITY TOUR	B
Day 3	HANOI – SAPA	B
Day 4	SAPA – BAN LECH – THANH PHU – SIN CHAI	B/L/D
Day 5	SIN CHAI – NAM THAN – NAM NHIU – NAM SAI	B/L/D
Day 6	NAM SAI – NAM TOONG - SAPA	B/L
Day 7	SAPA - HANOI	B
Day 8	HANOI – NINH BINH – TRANG AN	B/L
Day 9	NINH BINH – HALONG BAY – NIGHT ON BOARD	B/L/D
Day 10	HALONG BAY – HANOI – DANANG – HOIAN	B/L
Day 11	HOIAN FREE DAY	B
Day 12	HOIAN – COUNTRYSIDE & RIVER BY CYCLING TOUR	B/L
Day 13	HOIAN - HUE SCENIC TRAIN JOURNEY	B
Day 14	HUE CITY TOUR	B/L
Day 15	HUE – HO CHI MINH CITY	B
Day 16	HCMC – CU CHI TUNNELS & MEKONG TOUR	B
Day 17	HCMC – PHAN THIET – MUI NE	B/L/D
Day 18-20	MUI NE - FREE	B
Day 21	MUI NE - HCMC DEPARTURE	B

Note*: B: Breakfast / L: Lunch / D: Dinner

Note*: this is a copy of the itinerary on Indochina Treks Travel Official Website and not the final itinerary.

TRAVEL MAP



Detailed Itinerary

Day 1 HANOI ARRIVAL

Arrive in Hanoi. Greeted by your driver at the airport. Transfer to your hotel in the city centre for check-in and at leisure in the rest of the day.

Note*:

- The hotel room will be available at 2:00pm, and in case that you would like to secure an early-check in, an additional charge will be applied.
- Please be advised that both international and domestic might be crowded at sometimes during the day, so in case that you arrive and cannot find our representatives, please contact us, so we could easily search for you.

Meals: N/A

Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

Day 2 HANOI CITY TOUR

Free to relax in the morning.

Pickup at 13:30. We will spend a half day to visit the city. We start with visit to President Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum (Outside). We also visit the famous One Pillar Pagoda nearby. Leaving the President's complex, we continue to visit the Temple of Literature (Van Mieu). Although several Van Mieu can be found throughout Vietnam, the most prominent and famous is that situated in the city of Hanoi, and was functioned as Vietnam's first university.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

Day 3 HANOI - SAPA

Enjoy your free day to relax and explore Hanoi by yourself.

In the evening, pickup and transfer to the station for overnight train to Sapa.

Note*: late checkout at the hotel is not included.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Overnight train to Sapa.

Day 4 SAPA – BAN LECH – THANH PHU – SIN CHAI

Arrive Lao Cai station in the early morning. Pickup and transfer to Sapa for breakfast. Then transferred 18 km to Ban Lech village of the Red Zao. We will trek along a narrow valley downhill for 2 hour to the Ngoi Bo River, then uphill for 1 hour to Muong Bo Village at the center of Thanh Phu Commune where your lunch will be provided in a local house.

After lunchtime, you will trek gradually uphill to Nam Cum Village and then head to Sin Chai B village of Red Dzao where the night will be spent in a bamboo hut in the village.

Meal: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Homestay

Day 5 SIN CHAI – NAM THAN – NAM NHIU – NAM SAI

Today's trek takes you through terraced rice paddies, bamboo forest and villages of the Red Zao and Tay such as Sin Chai A, Nam Than, Nam Nhiu with many stops for visiting local homes, schools as well as for taking photos. Your lunch will be prepared and served in a local house.

In the afternoon, you head to Ban Sai village of Tay minority, near the center of Nam Sai Commune. Here you will walk around to explore this village and home stay overnight here in a house on stilts. Dinner will be served with Vietnamese dishes.

Meal: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Homestay

Day 6 NAM SAI – NAM TOONG - SAPA

On the last day of the trek you will cross several suspension bridges and trek through lush rice paddy fields and stunning scenery. Once leaving Ban Sai, you will cross the river after paying visit to My Son – a village of the Xa Pho group and then follow a narrow trail uphill to Nam Keng and continue to Nam Toong, where you have lunch in a local school.

In the afternoon, your trek will be firstly downhill to Ban Ho village where you will have time for a swim in the river. The car will meet you there and return you to Sapa. Enjoy free time to relax and explore Sapa Town.

Meal: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Sapa

Day 7 SAPA – HANOI

Free and easy to explore Sapa Town till pickup in early afternoon to transfer to Hanoi by luxury minivan. Arrive Hanoi in the evening. Free to relax.

Meal: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

Day 8 HANOI – NINH BINH – TRANG AN

08:00: Pick up you from your hotel. Transfer to Ninh Binh.

09.10: We have a short break on the way for you have rest room or enjoy some tea or coffee

10,00: You will arrive at Ninh Hai village located near Tam Coc where you start your visit and discover the beautiful of the area, when we arrive will get a mountain bike and start cycling to discover the rural

villages to see how of the local people live and see their culture. Our tour guide will lead you to cycle through the narrow alley and special unique countryside road where few tourists know or see of the area

10.30: Our tour guide will take you to visit a local family and you will have chance to see the daily life and learn about their culture after visiting the local family you will cycle through Tam Coc Valley where you see the AMAZING landscape with beautiful Nature and all limestone mountain look amazing the area call Halong On Land

11.00: Visit Thai Vi temple where dedicated Tran dynasty and temple was built by King Tran Thai Tong in 1258

11.30: We head to our local home restaurant for lunch.

13.20 Get on the van to take you to Tranq An harbors for the bamboo Boat trip to visit the AMAZING Landscape called Halong on land, Board the sampan boats (2 to 4 people share a boat) traditional sampan gently rowed down the exquisite river through numerous caves; Hang Toi (Dack) cave, 320 meters long, Sang (Light) cave, 90 meters long, and Hang Nau Ruou (Cooking wine) cave, 250 meters long.

15.45: Arrive at Hoa Lu, the ancient capital of Vietnam in the 10th century, and visit the temple of King Dinh. Under the introduction of our local guide, you will get to know more about Vietnamese history. We will then drive to the hotel in Ninh Binh for overnight.

Meal: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Ninh Binh

Day 9

NINH BINH - HALONG BAY - NIGHT ON BOARD

08h00: Pick up from your hotel. Drive to Halong City through the paddy fields in the Red River Delta.

10h00: Stopover on the way for a refreshment break

12h00: Arrive at Tuan Chau wharf – Break and photography time

12h30: Board the Cruise for departure. Welcome drink will be served

13h00: Lunch is served while cruising through the bay

15h30: Visit exciting Cua Van fishing village. The village is free of busy roads and streets, electric lights, houses and high rise buildings. Instead, there are only herds of little boats and rafts. You will have the chance to discover the traditional culture and customs of the fishermen.

16h30: Enjoy kayaking or swimming (if the weather permits).

17h00: Back on board and continue cruising.

19h00: Dinner is served.

21h00: Take some leisure time to enjoy chatting at the bar or enjoy some night fishing.

Note*: the itinerary and activities on board would vary depending on the boat you choose.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner

Accommodation: Sleep on board

Day 10

HALONG BAY – HANOI – DANANG – HOIAN

07.00: Coffee and tea will be served

08.00: Continue cruising

08h15: Visit splendid Sung Sot Cave

09h00: Check out and enjoy a fantastic cruise on the bay, passing Dinh Huong Island, fishing villages, Ga Choi Island, Dog Island and Sail Island.

09.30: Buffet brunch (breakfast/lunch) while cruising back through Halong Bay to the pier

11h30: Arrive at the pier. Time to say goodbye to the crew.

12.00: Return from Halong to Hanoi. Arrive Hanoi at about 17pm.

Airport transfer for late flight to Danang. Transfer to the hotel in Hoian upon arrival.

Note*: the itinerary and activities on board would vary depending on the boat you choose.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoian

Day 11

HOIAN FREE DAY

Free and easy day to explore Hoian town or swim at nearby beach.

Optional tour:

- My Son Tower Tour
- Golden Hand Bridge Tour

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoian

Day 12

HOIAN – COUNTRYSIDE & RIVER CRUISE – CYLING TOUR

Pickup at the hotel. Transfer to pointed place for cycling tour.

Today, you will spend a day leisurely cycling through the scenic countryside of Vietnam, far from the traffic the motor scooters, and the noises the city. You will cross the islands on the Song Thu river delta using local transportation, including ferries and floating bridge.

This tour will take you to discover how wooden river boats are made, learn the secret of weaving the colorful straw “Hoi An” sleeping mats Try the renowned Vietnamese basket boats and much more. You will spend the day with first-hand contact with one of the rural inhabitant of the region, far from the usual tourist circuits.

At lunchtime you will be invited into the home of a local Vietnamese family for a traditional Vietnamese meal, and learn their customs and traditions. After you have relaxed for a while under the shade of a mango tree, you will begin your return towards Hoi An by boat, which will take about 35 minutes.

Arrive Hoian ancient town at about 3pm. Free to explore Hoian or manage yourself to get back to the hotel.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoian

Day 13

HOIAN - HUE SCENIC TRAIN JOURNEY about 2.5 hours

Free in the morning.

In the afternoon, transfer to the station for day train to Hue. Enjoy scenic view of Hai Van Pass on the way. Arrive Hue in late afternoon. Transfer to the hotel for checkin and enjoy free time.

Note*: Train journeys are part of a great local experience. Restrooms at either end of the carriages.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hue

Day 14

HUE CITY TOUR

08:00: Pickup at the hotel. Today, we will spend a full day touring Hue city. In the morning: visit Old Imperial City, Flag Tower, Thien Mu Pagoda and Dong Ba bustling market. Lunch at the local restaurant.

In the afternoon: visit Royal Tombs of Minh Mang and Khai Dinh. We will also visit a Conical hat village and incense stick village.

Then enjoy your free time to relax and explore Hue city.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Hue

Day 15

HUE – HO CHI MINH CITY TOUR

Pickup for the morning flight to HCMC. Upon arrival, enjoy the city tour.

Our city tour will help you to see the best of [Ho Chi Minh](#). We visit the historic Reunification palace and [War Remnants Museum](#), followed by the architectural treats of French colonial Notre Dame Cathedral and the post Office. Then we visit the Ben Thanh bustling market. Free for shopping before

getting to the hotel for checkin. Free to explore HCMC.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in HCMC

Day 16

HCMC – CU CHI TUNNELS & MEKONG TOUR

Pick up at your hotels in Ho Chi Minh City. The trip to Cu Chi will take you an approximately one and a half-hour bus drive. Before exploring the tunnels, you will watch an introductory video about how the tunnels were made and how Vietnamese people survived in the harsh conditions of the wartime. Then, spend your time exploring the remaining areas and tunnel system which include special living areas with kitchens and bedrooms side by side with other martial facilities like weapons factories, field hospitals, and command centers helping whoever lives inside the tunnels meet their basic needs. Besides, there are also many hidden trap doors and dangerous traps within the maze-like tunnels for the security purpose during the war. Afterwards, special tea and cassava (guerrillas' food during the war) will be served. Break time.

After lunch at local restaurant, continue to visit My Tho city. With boat trip on Tien River, you will be excited by the light breeze from the river and the natural beauty of four beautiful islands such as Dragon, Unicorn, Phoenix and Tortoise along the riverside.

Cruise through the small canal by sampan, treating yourself to the beauty of the countryside, and taking a short cycling around the village which will certainly be an unforgettable experience when participating in the Mekong Delta tour. Visit the coconut candy workshop, and enjoy seasonal delicious fruits & honey tea. Get a chance to listen to the Southern Vietnamese folk music which is performed by local people.

Return to Ho Chi Minh City in the late afternoon. Free.

Meals: Breakfast/Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in HCMC

Day 17

HCMC – PHAN THIET – MUI NE

Free and easy till pickup to transfer to the Resort in Mui Ne – Phan Thiet. Enjoy your free time to relax at beautiful beach resort.

Nestled along the picturesque coastline of Vietnam, Mui Ne is a tranquil paradise that seamlessly blends relaxation and natural beauty. With its golden sand dunes and azure waters, Mui Ne offers a serene escape from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. As the sun gently dips below the horizon, the sky transforms into a breathtaking canvas of warm hues, making for unforgettable sunsets by the beach. Whether you're unwinding on the sandy shores, indulging in delectable seafood at beachside restaurants, or embarking on a kite surfing adventure, Mui Ne's charm captivates every

traveler.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Mui Ne

Day 18 - 20

MUI NE – FREE & EASY

Enjoy your free time to relax and explore Mui Ne

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Mui Ne

Day 21

MUI NE - SAIGON DEPARTURE

Enjoy your free time to explore Mui Ne till pickup to transfer to the HCMC airport for departure flight. Trip ends.

Note*: late checkout is not included.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: N/A

Inclusions & Exclusions

Inclusions

- Overnights in selected hotels or similar
- Halong bay 2 day Cruise package
- All in-tour stationed local English speaking guide.
- Entrance fees for sightseeing mentioned in the itinerary
- Excursions as mentioned in the itinerary
- Transfers as mentioned by air-conditioned vehicles (including airport pick up & see off)
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- Internal flights (Hanoi – Danang, Hue – Saigon)
- 1 day train for Danang – Hue
- 1 overnight train for Hanoi – Lao Cai (for Sapa)

Exclusions

- Meals and services other than those noted in the itinerary
- Visa fee
- International flights pre/post tour

Note*: this is a copy of the itinerary on Indochina Treks Travel Official Website and not the final itinerary.

- Laundry, telephone calls, and personal expenditures
- Gratuities for guides, drivers, porters, boat crew, and personal, non-itinerary services

Booking Terms & Conditions

Payment

- To guarantee your land tour booking, a deposit 30% must be paid in advance. The balance must be settled **either** in USD Cash on arrival **or** 1 week before arrival date via any other methods.
- We accept payments in cash, by credit card or by bank transfer and Western Union. Any charges to settle the payment must be paid by the Clients. We will recognize the amount receive only.

Cancellations

Cancellations for all or any part of the trip will not be effective until received in writing. Should you have to cancel, the following terms will apply:

- 65 days or more before departure: 20% of total tour cost
- Between 64 and 35 days before departure: 30% of total tour cost
- Between 34 and 15 days before departure: 50% of total tour cost
- Between 14 and 7 days before departure: 80% of total tour cost
- 6 days or less before departure / No Show: 100% of total tour cost

Full charge is applied for domestic flights

Note*: We strongly recommend for your protection that you purchase a trip cancellation insurance.

Important Information

Emergency Contact

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call the travel consultant whom you deal with and then our hot line contacts. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please send us a detailed message and contact information by email to the agent and to info@indochinatreks.com, we may check and return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

Our all travel consultants use WhatApps. Please ensure that you have the contact number. It's best to buy a local sim-card upon arrival. Most hotels offer free wifi. So it's very easy to contact in urgent case.

Emergency contact numbers

Mr. Kelvin Do: +84 986759655

Ms. Thuy Pham: +84 984654964

Combo Trip

If you book small group tour option, please note that the tour combines with our other tours. As such, some travel companions on your tour may have previously been travelling together with us. Likewise, some travel companions may be continuing together on another tour after your trip concludes.

You can start the tour on any date (please contact our consultant in advance to avoid peak dates or holidays) and customize itinerary with extra days/activities at any destination.

Internal Flights

For all internal flights, we would use Vietnamairlines, Vietjesair, Jestar, Cambodia Angkorair or Laos Airlines. Most domestic flights in Laos, Cambodia and Myanmar, airlines would use small 70 seat ATR72 for short distances. Most airlines in Vietnam use the Airbus A321. 20kg for checkin luggage and 7kg for hand-bag is included in the price.

International flights before/after the tour must be booked by yourself before travelling date.

Accommodation

We would use different hotel categories and you can select any basing on your budget. So your travel companions would not stay at your hotel. A Hotel Voucher will be provided once your tour is confirmed with all hotel details.

Packing List

Conservative Dress

- Modest clothing that covers knees and shoulders (Long pants, long skirts, shirts that cover shoulders)
- Shawl or scarf (for temple visits)

Note*: Please pack clothing for the season in which you will be travelling. From Dec-Feb weather can be cold, so please pack warm clothing. From May-Nov it is the wet season, so please bring waterproof clothing.

Documents

- All tickets (required)
- Passport (required) (With photocopies)
- Required visas
- Hotel & Tour Vouchers
- Meeting sign (with your names and flight details that we will use for transfers)

Train Travel

Train travel in Vietnam is very basic and train cleanliness is often not a priority for train staff. Sleeper trains normally have 4 seats per compartment, which convert into sleeping bunks (two upper and two

lower). A sheet, pillow and blanket are provided, although many people prefer to bring their own sleeping sheet. At times, passengers of different genders may be required to share a sleeper train berth and/or share a compartment with people not travelling in your group. For short distance - 3 hours (as Hue to Danang or vv), you will do the trip on soft/hard seat carriage.

Simple food is available on the train but many people like to stock up on freshly baked bread, cheese and fruit prior to departure. Water should also be bought before the journey.

Train journeys in Vietnam are an experience and allow you to get a real taste of Vietnam.

Airport transfers

All airport transfers are included in the tour price. You should provide us your arrival/departure flight details and we will arrange things basing on the information. A meeting sign with your name and all flight details will be sent to you. Please be ready at the lobby at pointed time for pickup.

Driver/guide should always be present at the airport before your arrival time. If you could not find the driver, please contact your travel consultant who you deal with. For any reason that airport transfer could not be arranged, please take the taxi to the hotel. We will refund the money then.

Travel insurance

Travel insurance is not included in our tour price. When travelling with us, you are suggested to buy insurance that covers all medical coverage, cancellation, personal liability, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects.

Trip Specific Safety

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

Be aware that petty theft can be an issue in some towns and cities especially late at night. A common tactic is opportunists on motorbikes that drive by and snatch bags. Please always leave valuables and passports etc in your hotel in safety boxes if available and only carry with you enough cash to spend for the day. Bags should always be carried over the neck and not left to sit on your shoulder.

Warming

Please do not buy gems unless you know what you are doing. Even if genuine you should not expect to be able to sell them at home. If you fall victim to a gem scam, we are unable to assist you.

Visas and Entry Requirements

Please note that visas for Vietnam, Cambodia and Laos are the responsibility of the individual traveller. The visa requirements for your trip vary depending on where you are from and where you are going.

For the most up to date information please check your Governments Foreign Ministry website or with you travel agent as rules do change.

CAMBODIA - Visas can be obtained at the Cambodian border or Siem Reap Airport for approx. \$35 USD very easily. Please have *at least* 2 passport photos with you as well.

VIETNAM - As of March 2017, a select 80 nationalities are now eligible to enter Vietnam with an E-Visa. Please contact your Foreign Ministry or Vietnamese consulate to see if your nationality is eligible. Please note that you should ONLY apply for a Vietnam E-Visa if you are entering Vietnam by international airport - either Noi Bai International Airport (Hanoi) or Tan Son Nhat International Airport (Ho Chi Minh City).

If you are entering Vietnam by land border, please apply for a regular visa for Vietnam. Many of the land borders we travel through do not accept the Vietnam E-Visa. Please view this link to apply E-Visa: <https://evisa.xuatnhapcanh.gov.vn/web/quest/trang-chu-ttdt>

LAOS - Visas are issued upon arrival in Laos. You will need two passport size photographs and approx \$35. Tourists are generally admitted to Laos for 15 days with a visa on arrival or for 30 days with a visa issued at a Lao embassy. Please bring visa photos with you.

Please be aware that you will require four clean pages (minimum) in your passport and at least six months validity.

Tipping

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$3-\$5 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service.

Electricity

Indochina Countries use 220V, and a mixture of flat 2-pin, round 2-pin or 3 pin plugs. It is recommended to bring a universal plug adapter.