

## 11 Days | Vietnam Highlights with Flights from Melbourne

Hanoi - Ha Long - Danang - Hoi An - Ho Chi Minh - Mekong Delta

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From **\$2,499** Typically \$2,999 ✈️ pp twin share

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Return Economy International and Domestic flights with Bamboo Airways

9 Nights hotel accommodation in Hanoi, Hoi An and Ho Chi Minh City

Embark on an overnight cruise into Ha Long Bay with La Regina Royal

Immerse yourself into the culture and history of Vietnam in its vibrant cities, towns and villages

## Description

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Travelling through Vietnam offers a mesmerizing journey filled with diverse landscapes and rich cultural experiences. Starting in the bustling city of Hanoi, visitors are greeted by the enchanting blend of ancient charm and modern vibrancy. The narrow streets of the Old Quarter are a delight to explore, with their traditional shophouses, lively markets, and aromatic street food stalls. From Hanoi, a trip to the magnificent Ha Long Bay is a must. Cruising through the emerald waters surrounded by towering limestone karsts creates a surreal experience, while exploring the hidden caves and floating villages offers a glimpse into a different way of life. The breathtaking beauty of Ha Long Bay truly leaves a lasting impression.

Continuing southwards, the coastal city of Da Nang captures the essence of Vietnam's pristine beaches and thriving urban development. With its striking Dragon Bridge and golden sandy shores, it offers a perfect blend of modern attractions and natural beauty. A short distance away lies Hoi An, a UNESCO World Heritage site, renowned for its ancient architecture and charming lantern-lit streets. Strolling through the atmospheric alleyways, visitors can admire the traditional yellow-walled houses, visit historic temples, and immerse themselves in the town's rich history. From here, a journey to Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) takes travelers to the bustling heart of southern Vietnam. The city's bustling markets, captivating historical landmarks like the Cu Chi Tunnels, and vibrant nightlife make it an exhilarating destination. Finally, a visit to the Mekong Delta unveils the rural beauty of Vietnam's "rice bowl." Cruising along the winding waterways, witnessing the daily lives of locals, and tasting fresh tropical fruits make for a memorable experience that highlights the country's agricultural heartland.

## Itinerary

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### Day 1

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#### Melbourne ✈ Hanoi

Upon arrival at Noi Bai International airport, you will be greeted by our representative and be transferred to the hotel for check in. The rest of the time is free at leisure.

**Meals:** Inflight Menu

**Accommodation:** CHALCEDONY Hotel

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### Day 2

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#### Hanoi 🚌 Ha Long 🚢 Ha Long Bay

Breakfast this morning will be at the hotel. Your guide will pick you up at the hotel lobby for your transfer to Halong Bay. Arrive at 'La Regina Royal' waiting lounge, Bai Chay, Ha Long, where you can enjoy a welcome drink and express check-in before boarding. Check in aboard with welcome drink from the crew while you are given the safety briefing. The boat will begin cruising forward to Halong bay. You will have a delicious set menu lunch. Your first excursion is a visit to Luon Cave. This is considered as one of the most ideal places in Halong for kayaking or rowing boat. After that, you can visit Titov Island, where you can go swimming or hike to the top for another stunning, panoramic view of the Bay. Come back onboard and relax. Enjoy a special dinner in the restaurant. After dinner, try your luck at squid fishing or have a spa, enjoy some karaoke or just relax.

*\*The cruise itinerary can be changed depends on weather's condition for guest safety.*

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner

**Accommodation:** 'LA REGINA ROYAL CRUISE'

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### Day 3

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#### Ha Long Bay 🚢 Ha Long 🚌 Hanoi

Greet the new day on the sundeck with tai chi. Light breakfast is served at the restaurant. After breakfast, your next excursion is a visit to the magnificent Sung Sot Cave, where you can take in the panoramic views across Halong Bay. You will then check out from the cruise. Before disembarking, a Vietnamese cuisine buffet is served at the restaurant while the boat heads back to the harbor. Disembark at the harbor. Shuttle bus transfer back to Hanoi. Check in to the hotel, then the evening is free at your leisure.

**Meals:** Breakfast and brunch

**Accommodation:** CHALCEDONY Hotel

## Day 4

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### Hanoi

After breakfast at the hotel, take a tour to visit the Ho Chi Minh complex including: Ba Dinh square, Ho Chi Minh mausoleum, Ho Chi Minh Museum, the famous Stilt House and One Pillar Pagoda. Then proceed to visit Hoa Lo Prison which was known as “Hanoi Hilton”. Explore the Hanoi Old Quarter by tricycle (rickshaw). Witness the hustle and bustle of local life in this ancient city, which will be an unforgettable experience for you.

The rest of the day is yours free at your leisure.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** CHALCEDONY Hotel

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## Day 5

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### Hanoi ✈ Danang 🚌 Hoi An

Breakfast is at the hotel. This morning is free at your leisure. You will later transfer to the airport for your afternoon flight to Danang. A local guide will meet you at Danang International airport. Transfer to Hoi An. Check in and the rest of the day is free at your leisure.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** LE PAVILLON PARADISE

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## Day 6

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### Hoi An

Breakfast will be at the hotel. Today the whole day is a day at liesure. Relax by the pool at the hotel or rent free bicycles to explore the ancient town of Hoi An.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** LE PAVILLON PARADISE

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## Day 7

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### Hoi An

Breakfast will be at the hotel. Today is another whole day at liesure. Relax by the pool at the hotel or rent free bicycles to explore the ancient town of Hoi An.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** LE PAVILLON PARADISE

## Day 8

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Hoi An 🚌 Danang ✈ Ho Chi Minh City

Breakfast will be at the hotel. You will then have free time at your leisure. Later the guide and transfer will pick you up at hotel lobby. Transfer to the airport for your flight to Ho Chi Minh (Saigon). A local guide will meet you at Tan Son Nhat international airport. You will be transferred to the city center. Check in to the hotel and then enjoy free time at liesure.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** ACNOS Hotel

## Day 9

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### Ho Chi Minh City

Breakfast is at the hotel. At around 9AM (start time is flexible) our talented guides on motorbikes will pick you up at your hotel for a 4 hour motorbike tour. After the short riding instruction and program introduction, we hop on the motorbikes. First stop is at the attractions in District 1 including Saigon Notre Dame Cathedral, Saigon Central Post Office where you admire the beauty of old French architectural works, learn more about history and culture, take the most beautiful photos in the city. A lovely book street next to the post office is worth wandering. We will visit Venerable Thich Quang Duc Monument. We will tell you some less-known history and story about the monk and his unburned heart. Head to District 3 and the Nguyen Thien Thuat apartment buildings which were built in the 1960s and have been home to many people of Saigon. There you can see the real Saigon local life. Before reaching a local coffee shop, we stop at one of Saigon's Top 3 Banh mi shops, see how they make a great Vietnamese sandwich with crispy crust and amazing fillings. Drive to a small street food stall which is over 20 years old to learn how they wrap and grill one of top Saigon street foods – Grilled banana & sticky rice in banana leaves. It is a big chance to stop at Cheo Leo cafe – an 80-year coffee shop hidden in an alley and famous for its distinct “Vot” coffee. There you sit around a table, take a rest, enjoy the drink, eat Vietnamese bread, Grilled banana in sticky rice, and chat leisurely with the guide as a friend like locals. You also learn how to make a cup of “Vot” coffee and interact with the owner of the coffee shop.

Then we head to District 10 and stop at Ho Thi Ky flower market – a huge wholesale flower market where you have a chance to see thousands of colorful flowers, fresh vegetables, live animals, and many strange things. After that, we drive around hidden parts including fashion street, painting street, medicine street, electronic market, fabric market, lantern market, fruit market, bird market gives you an insider view of the hidden city which is missed on normal city tours by car/bus. Escaping from the noisy and busy streets, we head to Thien Hau Temple to listen to mysterious stories, learn more about the unique architecture and religious life. On the way to District 1, we stop to eat again at an over 20-year-old restaurant known as one of the Top 5 Places to eat Vietnamese pancake in Saigon. The guide shows you how the cook makes thin, large, and crispy pancakes skillfully, how to wrap the cake in vegetables and how to eat it. There, we also enjoy rice noodles with grilled pork/fried roll – a specialty food of the city. The guides will then drive you back to your hotel after passing by Ben Thanh Market.

**Meals:** Breakfast and food on the motorbike tour

**Accommodation:** ACNOS Hotel



## Day 10

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### Ho Chi Minh Mekong Delta Ho Chi Minh

Breakfast will be at the hotel. At 8AM your tour guide will pick you up at the hotel, then transfer to the City of My Tho by bus (1.5 hours). On the way, we will visit Vinh Trang pagoda, the biggest pagoda in the Mekong delta. Upon arrival in My Tho, we will take a boat trip along the Mekong River, where you can see fishing baskets and floating houses on the river. The boat takes you to a small canal, where you can totally escape from the busy town. The boat cruise in the coconut tree canal takes you to a coconut island in Ben Tre. We disembark and have a walk around the village. Stop at a local family home to enjoy tropical fruit, taste the honey tea, honey wine and listen to Vietnamese traditional music, performed by the villagers. Stop by the village coconut candy shop, learn how to make candy and see some handicraft made out of coconut trees. Take a walk through the village and admire the fruits, flowers, trees, local houses, children and people. Then, we head to the local restaurant. Lunch is a set menu with special Vietnamese food. After lunch, relax, go for a walk or bicycle around the area. We'll then travel back to the river ferry and head back to Saigon by bus, arriving at around 430PM.

**Meals:** Breakfast and Lunch

**Accommodation:** ACNOS Hotel

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## Day 11

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### Ho Chi Minh Melbourne

Breakfast will be at the hotel. You will have the whole day free at your leisure. Check out will be at 12PM. You can leave your luggage at the hotel reception until its time to transfer to the airport for your evening flight home.

**Meals:** Breakfast and Inflight Menu

## Inclusions & Exclusions

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### Inclusions

- International and domestic airfare with Bamboo Airways.
- Shared Accommodation in twin/double room with daily breakfast
- All transfers and transportation with air-con vehicles (types of vehicles depending on the number of pax).
- Local ENGLISH speaking guides
- Join in tour (SIC services)
- Meals (Breakfast/Lunch/Dinner) as indicated in the program (Vietnamese Local food)
- 2 bottles of mineral water per person per day on bus (on days of transfer and sightseeing only)

### Important Information:

- Most Museums are closed on Mondays and partly on Fridays and some public holidays.
- The Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum in Hanoi is closed every Monday and Friday and during the entire months of September and October. The Ho Chi Minh Residence in Hanoi is closed every Monday and Friday.
- Notre-Dame Cathedral closed for renovation for 3 years.
- Please note that cyclo rides are subject to government approval.

### Visas:

Australian passport holders need to apply for a visa to visit Vietnam. The visa-free stay period is counted from THE DATE OF ENTRY. Please apply E-Visa to Vietnam at least 15 days before the date of entry. For the Vietnam visa, it can be easily obtained online via this link: <https://evisa.xuatnhapcanh.gov.vn>

It takes 3-5 working days for the visa to be issued. The VISA STATUS can be checked at : <https://evisa.xuatnhapcanh.gov.vn/web/guest/tra-cuu-thi-thuc> after entering the registration code, email, and date of birth. Once the visa is issued, the PDF file can be downloaded and printed. It is advisable to have 2 printed copies to enter/exit Vietnam.

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### Exclusions

- Meals (other than mentioned in the program)
- Drinks
- Visas to Vietnam
- Mineral water beyond that supplied
- Tips
- Early check in or late check out
- Insurances
- Optional excursions and activities
- Additional transfer required due to any emergency situation
- Items of a personal nature (Phone calls, laundry, beverages)
- Peak season surcharges if any (New Year's Eve, Christmas Day etc.)
- All not mentioned above

**Child policy:** Children are allowed on this tour and are at the same cost as a travelling adult.

**Travel Insurance:** We recommend Covermore travel insurance. To quote and book, please click [HERE](#).





**Travelling Solo:** A solo supplement of \$700 applies for this program. If upgrading to 4 Star, \$850 is payable and for 5 Star it is \$1050.

**Upgrades to your Accommodation:** Wanting to upgrade your hotel accommodation? Simply choose your upgrade option on checkout.

**About your airline- Bamboo Airways:** Established in 2017, Bamboo Airways is the first private airline in Vietnam aiming to provide international-oriented services. With the tagline of 'more than just a flight', Bamboo aims to provide exceptional service in the air, at an affordable price. They have expert on-board staff, premium lounges in a variety of cities and a young and up-to-date fleet.

**About your aircraft- Boeing 787-Dreamliner:** The aircraft of choice for many airlines, the Boeing 787-Dreamliner provides exceptional comfort and less fatigue on long-haul flights. Equipped with state-of-the-art technology to optimise performance, provide cleaner air and a smaller carbon footprint, you can be assured of a comfortable journey on this popular aircraft.