



HANOI & HALONG BAY SHORT STAY

Short Stay | 5 Days | Physical Level 1
Hanoi (1N) - Halong Bay (1N) – Hanoi (2N)

This introductory foray into the wonders of Vietnam is perfect for those wanting to explore the rich history of capital Hanoi and the magical beauty of Halong Bay, where you'll spend a night out on the water.

TOUR INCLUSIONS:

- Accommodation
- Meals as stated
- Daily tours and entrance fees
- Transportation and transfers as stated
- English speaking guide

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrive in Hanoi

Meals: D

On arrival in Hanoi you will be met and transferred to your hotel by private car.

Spend your first night savouring delicious local flavours on a guided street food tour through the alleys of the Old Quarter. Meet your guide at your hotel, before strolling to a secret eco-friendly coffee shop and enjoy a demonstration of the preparation the iconic Vietnamese egg coffee (with a twist). Then, set off into the maze of alleys and try various local food including a fried nem, pho, banh ran (sweet fried sticky rice), banh mi Vietnamese roll and a real exotic experience: fried chicken legs (or wings for the less daring travelers).



Finally, your local gastronomy immersion will end with the most social activity in Vietnam: bia hoi. Grab a stool at the neighboring Bia Hoi Corner and watch the commotion as this spot comes to life in the evening, while sipping a tall glass of cold local draft beer. After your refreshing drink, your tour guide will bring you back to your hotel, or feel free to stay and enjoy more of Ta Hien Street by yourself for a fun evening out.

Destination Information

Hanoi - With a population of approximately four million, Hanoi is a charming and richly historic city of lakes, shaded boulevards and leafy open parks.

Day 2: Cruise Halong Bay

Meals: B, L, D

Today you will be transferred by private car 3.5 hours to Halong. Here you will board your overnight cruise ship for an exhilarating trip exploring the far-most corners of the tranquil waters of this beautiful bay.

Enjoy lunch onboard as you cruise out into the bay, stopping to anchor for an afternoon of activities (which are subject to change due to cruise selection and weather conditions). Sightseeing includes visiting underground caves on the islands, which require climbing up and down steps inside and outside of the caves.



End the day on deck with a drink in hand to watch the sunset over the bay followed by a freshly prepared dinner, before retiring to your cabin for the night.

Your cruise ship will be as follows, or similar:

Standard: Bhaya Cruise- Deluxe Balcony Cabin

Superior: Paradise Sail - Deluxe Balcony Cabin

Deluxe: Paradise Elegance Cruise - Deluxe Balcony Cabin

Please note: You will need to pack a smaller overnight bag for your trip to Halong Bay. Main luggage will be left in safe storage at the hotel in Hanoi and picked up on your return.

Please note: Weather conditions such as mist, fog, wind, rain and storms may delay the departure time of your cruise, or in some cases your cruise may be cancelled. Notifications of any delays or cancellations may not be known until your group's arrival in Halong Bay.

Destination Information

Halong Bay - Compared to the landscape of the limestone islets of Guilin in China and Krabi in southern Thailand, Halong Bay shares a common border with China in the north and harbours some of the most stunning scenery in Vietnam. Unique rock sculptures jut out dramatically from the clear emerald waters of the Gulf of Tonkin and numerous grottoes have created an enchanting, timeless world, looking out onto the horizon with the sails of the junks and sampans completing the picture.

Day 3: Return to Hanoi

Meals: B

Spend the morning sailing through Halong Bay.

After an early lunch (or brunch meal) you will disembark your cruise and be driven by private car to your Hanoi hotel. You will have the rest of your day at leisure to enjoy everything Hanoi has to offer.



Day 4: Discover Hanoi

Meals: B, L

Today you will embark on a city tour of Hanoi.

Begin the day passing the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, and visit the One Pillar Pagoda, Presidential Palace and Temple of Literature. In the afternoon, visit the Museum of Ethnology before boarding a cyclo to venture through the Old Quarter's 36 vibrant streets.



In the evening, attend the Quintessence of Tonkin show – a spectacular open-air performance showcasing Vietnam's rich history.

Please note: The Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum is closed on Mondays and Fridays. During closure, the Ho Chi Minh Residence and other places in the complex can be visited as normal. A long waiting time in line is required to visit Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum especially in high season (March and April) and on rainy days. You can't visit other places in the complex without visiting the Mausoleum. The Museum of Ethnology is closed on Monday & Vietnamese New Year.

Destination Information

Ho Chi Minh Quarter - Dedicated to the father of modern Vietnam and where Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum stands in Ba Dinh Square. Ho Chi Minh first declared independence from French rule in 1945.

One Pillar Pagoda - Rebuilt in 1955 after damage during the French evacuation, the pagoda is made of wood and sits on a single pillar. Designed to reflect the shape of a lotus flower emerging from the water, it has become a popular spot for locals to enjoy the tranquil surroundings.

Temple of Literature - Hanoi's first university, dating back to 1070; now dedicated to Confucian worship.

Hanoi Old Quarter - A maze of streets weaving through Hanoi and dating back to the 13th century. Each street specialises in merchants and artisans selling their wares of silk, silver, wood and more.

Day 5: Depart Hanoi

Meals: B

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before checking out of the hotel. The rest of the day is free to spend as you wish before being transferred to the airport by private car.



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