



NAT HAB
CULTURAL JOURNEYS

Vibrant Traditions & Personal Connections



Vietnam: An Intimate Portrait

Follow the Flow of Tradition through Vietnam's Enduring Heritage



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Trip Details:

Days
11 Days / Mar–May,
Sep–Dec

Price
From \$12695

Vietnam: An Intimate Portrait

Follow the Flow of Tradition through Vietnam's Enduring Heritage

Find the enduring essence of Vietnam on a journey beyond the landmarks and into the lanes and livelihoods of daily life. Morning markets in the alleys of Hanoi come to life as vendors set out their wares and neighbors greet one another as they pick up fresh fruit and bread. The aroma of coffee drifts from cafes in the French colonial streets of Hue. In Hoi An, wander the lantern-lit Old Town after dark. Beyond the cities, the countryside is a lush mosaic of rivers, rice fields and serene villages where life unfolds much as it has for centuries. Limestone mountains, draped in emerald jungle, rise from fertile wetlands. Thousand-year-old temples and tiny shrines anchor community life in ritual and devotion. Through our local relationships, get an intimate view few are privileged to have: Visit private gardens, join hosts for tea in their homes, and learn artisan crafts practiced for centuries. Experience Vietnam in rare and personal settings, immersed in layered history and living culture.

Trip Highlights

Experience Traditional Village Life at a Relaxed Pace

In rural Vietnam, walk paths through rice paddies and stilt-house communities, visit traditional family homes, and share meals with our local hosts

Encounter Vietnam's Living Belief Systems

On visits to ancient temples, pagodas and village shrines, witness spiritual practice woven into everyday routines, via rare access through our local relationships

Go Behind the Scenes in Vietnam's Historic Cities

In Hanoi, Hue and Hoi An, go beyond the monuments to explore living neighborhoods, markets and private garden houses, with hands-on cultural interactions

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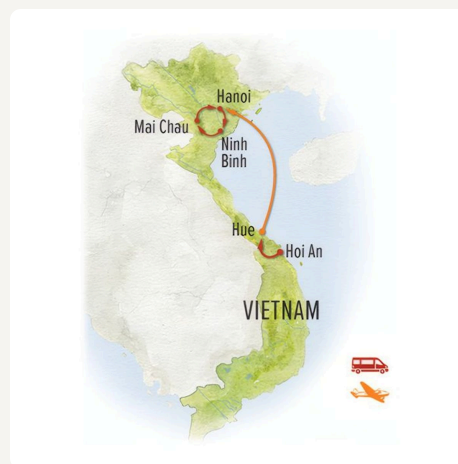


Vietnam: An Intimate Portrait Itinerary

Follow the Flow of Tradition through Vietnam's Enduring Heritage

Itinerary at a Glance

Day 1	Hoi An
Day 2	Hoi An
Day 3	My Son / Hoi An
Day 4	Hai Van Pass / An Bang / Hue
Day 5	Hue
Day 6	Hanoi / Bat Trang / Ninh Binh
Day 7	Ninh Binh
Day 8	Mai Chau Valley
Day 9	Mai Chau Valley
Day 10	Hanoi
Day 11	Hanoi



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Day
1

Hoi An

Arrive in Hoi An and stroll its Old Town

- Stroll the Old Town's tile-roofed merchant houses, pagodas and lantern-hung lanes
- Join your Expedition Leader and fellow travelers for a welcome dinner

Arrive in Hoi An and check into our riverside hotel. After a welcome briefing with our Expedition Leader, head out together on a short stroll to get acquainted with the city's Old Town, a jumble of tile-roofed merchant houses, weathered pagodas and hanging flower baskets, with bikes and cyclos weaving among the foot traffic while sampans come and go from the old ferry quay. This evening, we gather for a welcome dinner.

Day
2

Hoi An

Cook, wander and dine along the Thu Bon River

- Walk Hoi An's 15th-to-19th-century Ancient Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Pick market ingredients and cook regional dishes with a local chef
- Dine aboard drifting bamboo rafts as lanterns light the Thu Bon River

For early risers, an optional dawn visit to the local fish market offers a lively look at an important element of daily life for many Hoi An residents. Return to the our hotel for breakfast, then join a local guide on a walking tour of Hoi An Ancient Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. More than 800 well-preserved buildings from the 15th to 19th centuries sustain the historic ambience of this one-time trading port on the Thu Bon River, featuring a unique fusion of Vietnamese, Chinese, Japanese and European architectural influences.

Outside the city, narrow roads weave through green rice fields, and we follow them into the countryside to Thanh Dong Organic Farming Village, an innovative agritourism enterprise. This collaborative effort of local farmers showcases sustainable agricultural practices while immersing guests in a slice of rural life. As part of our experience, we visit a local market to select fresh ingredients, then join a local chef for a cooking class focused on regional specialties, followed by lunch featuring the dishes we have created. We'll also take a ride in a traditional round basket boat along the river's coconut palm-lined waterways. As dusk falls, Hoi An's narrow streets are illuminated with lanterns, their glow reflected in the Thu Bon River. Enjoy a special dinner on the river this evening as we dine aboard drifting bamboo rafts.

Day
3

My Son / Hoi An

Ancient Cham temples and a private chef's table

- Walk among 70-plus brick and sandstone Cham temples at UNESCO My Son
- Brew Vietnamese coffee with a phin filter and craft egg coffee
- Dine privately at the Hoi An home of renowned Chef Duc

In the forested hills outside Hoi An, explore the UNESCO World Heritage Site of My Son, a sacred Hindu temple complex built by the Cham civilization between the 4th and 13th centuries. With a local expert, walk among the ruins of more than 70 red brick and sandstone temples as we learn about the sophisticated design involved in their construction. Although the Champa Kingdom declined centuries ago, and the structures suffered substantial bombing damage during the Vietnam War, many of the temples were reconstructed after the French uncovered the site in 1899, and its spiritual and architectural legacy endures.

Back in Hoi An, we have a hands-on introduction to Vietnam's famous coffee traditions, introduced by the French in the 19th century; compare Arabica and Robusta beans; learn to brew with the phin metal drip filter that creates a bold, thick brew; and craft three signature drinks, each with its own Vietnamese twist, including a classic egg coffee and an iced coffee with condensed milk. And while coffee and cafes remain vital to social life at home, Vietnam is also the world's second-largest coffee exporter, behind Brazil.

This evening, savor more of Vietnam's food culture with a private dinner at the home of renowned Chef Duc, a former Vietnam War refugee who found his way around the world, cooking in multiple countries and sharing a commitment to generous hospitality—a gift modeled by his mother, a duck farmer who fed her family of 10, plus constant guests. Twenty years later, Duc returned to Vietnam and opened three restaurants in Hoi An, featuring the freshest of ingredients gathered each morning from field and sea.

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Day
4

Hai Van Pass / An Bang / Hue

Coastal drive to imperial Hue past ancestral tombs

- Climb the winding Hai Van Pass along mountains fronting the East Sea
- Explore An Bang's elaborate ancestral tombs in the City of Ghosts
- Try weaving palm and bamboo into Vietnam's conical hats in Hue

Set out for Hue this morning, ascending dramatic Hai Van Pass as we follow a winding coastal corridor along the spine of lush mountains fronting the South China Sea (or, as it's called in Vietnam, the East Sea). At Lang Co, stop for a walk in this scenic fishing village spanning a pristine white sand beach on the turquoise ocean. Continue to An Bang, a seaside village known for its elaborate tombs. Nicknamed the City of Ghosts, this fishing town was transformed in the 1990s in an exuberant display of wealth when residents who had emigrated to the U.S. and Europe after the reunification of Vietnam in 1975 sent money back to relatives to build lavish homes and monumental tombs. Honoring ancestors is an important part of Vietnamese culture, reflecting the worldview that the dead remain an active presence in family life. As we wander the village cemetery, crowded with mausoleums adorned with intricate spires and filigreed facades, learn about the Vietnamese belief that meticulously decorating and caring for tombs will bring good fortune to the family.

Eventually we reach Hue. Set along the Perfume River, Hue was Vietnam's former imperial capital under its last royal dynasty, the Nguyen kings. The Nguyen reign lasted from 1802 until 1945, weakened under French colonial influence in its latter decades before falling to the Viet Minh, led by Ho Chi Minh, in the August Revolution. Hue today is celebrated as the intellectual, spiritual and cultural heart of Vietnam. It retains its many layers of historic imprints, with Chinese-inspired pagodas, bridges built by Gustav Eiffel, and French colonial art deco mansions. This afternoon, visit a traditional workshop to observe how Vietnam's distinctive conical hats are made, and try your hand at the process of weaving together the palm fronds and bamboo. Historically used by farmers and laborers, these hats—a familiar emblem of Vietnam—provide excellent protection against both intense sun and tropical rain.

Day
5

Hue

Imperial citadel, Zen tea and a garden recital

- Tour the Nguyen Dynasty's Imperial Citadel, modeled on Beijing's Forbidden City
- Discuss Buddhist philosophy over tea with a monk trained by Thich Nhat Hanh
- Enjoy a private dinner and chamber recital at Ben Xuan Garden House

Our day begins at Dong Ba Market, the oldest and largest market in the city. Dating to 1887 in its current location, the market is a lively onslaught for the senses, with 2,600 registered vendors selling everything from exotic fruits and fermented anchovy paste to shiny lacquerware and silk pajamas. Next up is a guided tour of the Imperial Citadel, seat of the Nguyen Dynasty, now a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Emperor Gia Long unified Vietnam and established its feudal capital here in 1802, constructing a massive fortress modeled after Beijing's Forbidden City, which became the site of royal administration and a locus for Confucian study. Inside the fortified walls of this architectural masterpiece, trace a path through the sprawling complex of palaces, pavilions, shrines and courtyards that embody the city's royal past. After a private lunch in an ancient garden in Hue, spend time with a monk who studied under Zen Master Thich Nhat Hanh. Over tea, discuss Buddhist philosophy and contemporary spiritual life in Hue. The afternoon concludes with a visit Thien Mu Pagoda, a beautiful seven-story octagonal temple that is an icon of Hue.

This evening, enjoy a private dinner and cultural experience at Ben Xuan Garden House along the Perfume River. Built in Nguyen dynasty period style using ancient bricks, tiles, porcelain and wood, the romantic setting offers an evocative venue for this intimate artistic immersion, hosted by the home's owners. The performance features storytelling, live chamber music, folksongs performed by a traditional instrument ensemble, and an overview of the home's architecture on a tour of the residence.

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Day
6

Hanoi / Bat Trang / Ninh Binh

Ceramic craft in Bat Trang, karst country in Ninh Binh

- Shape clay with a Bat Trang artisan in a thousand-year ceramic village
- Lunch with family hosts in a restored villa in Bat Trang
- Reach Ninh Binh's limestone peaks rising from rice paddies and marshes

Fly to Hanoi, then continue into the Red River Delta, one of the most fertile regions in Vietnam, where rice cultivation dates back nearly 5,000 years. The river flows 700 miles from Yunnan in southwest China through northern Vietnam to the Gulf of Tonkin, and we cross it en route to Bat Trang, a bankside village famed for its thousand-year history of ceramic production. Based in family tradition and using the abundant white clay in the region, Bat Trang pottery was renowned early on, gifted to the Chinese Emperor in the 11th and 12th centuries. The village still holds about 80% of the 1,200 kilns that have fired ceramics since Bat Trang was established, and accomplished potters take pride in passing down their skills to new generations. Following lunch with family hosts in their beautifully restored villa, take a guided walk through Bat Trang village, wandering narrow lanes lined with ceramic walls and workshops. Stroll through the market and visit Van Chi Temple, an important cultural site honoring the ancestors and masters of the ceramic craft. Then meet join a local artisan for a hands-on pottery experience under expert guidance.

Continue to Ninh Binh, an entrancing tower-karst landscape where sheer limestone mountains rise from rice paddies and emerald marshes—sometimes called “inland Ha Long Bay.” The region, which was the capital of Vietnam in the 10th and 11th centuries, has been recognized as a dual-status UNESCO World Heritage Site, holding both outstanding cultural and natural value. By late afternoon, arrive at Jiva Hoa Lu Retreat in a tucked-away forested valley, where low-slung villas reflect traditional Vietnamese architecture and gardens are woven into the natural limestone landscape. With views across rice fields and karst cliffs, the retreat offers a serene setting for relaxing before dinner at the fine restaurant on site, set within a 125-year-old church that has been carefully preserved and repurposed.

Day
7

Ninh Binh

Search for rare langurs in the Van Long marshes

- Drift by sampan through Van Long Wetlands, watching for rare Delacour's langurs
- Learn Vietnam's alphabet history with church leaders at Hao Nho Parish
- Explore Bich Dong Pagoda's cave temples set into the hillside

A peaceful nature experience awaits on an early-morning visit to Van Long Wetland Nature Reserve, one of the last refuges of the critically endangered Delacour's langur and the only place the species is seen in the wild. Look for this rare monkey from a traditional sampan as we drift quietly through calm channels in one of the last intact lowland marshes in the Red River Delta. As the oars slip silently through the water, the imposing peaks, draped in dense green vegetation, are reflected in the still surface.

Continue to Hao Nho Parish, which traces its roots to 1627 when the French Jesuit missionary Alexandre de Rhodes brought the Catholic faith to Vietnam. Conversing with local church leaders, learn about Rhodes' role as a major contributor to development of the first Vietnamese alphabet, with previous experience in linguistics as an academic in France. Adopting a Vietnamese name, he learned the language, ultimately publishing a dictionary that used Latin script as well as diacritics, or accents, to denote tones and sounds. At Non Khe village, join a local guide for a walk through the community and a chance to learn about its basket weaving traditions, before lunch hosted in a private home.

Our next stop is Bich Dong Pagoda, originally built in 1428 and rediscovered in the early 18th century by two traveling Buddhist monks after it was lost to the jungle earlier. The pagoda, expanded to become a series of cave temples set into the hillside, is a picturesque symbol of the harmony between ancient Vietnamese architecture and the landscape of mountains, rivers, and water within the Trang An Landscape Complex—recognized by UNESCO as a dual World Heritage Site for both nature and culture. Here, and across Vietnam, landscapes like this where water, stone and cultivated land converge are regarded as naturally sacred, deeply connected to animism and folk religion, where the boundary between the natural and spiritual worlds is blurred.

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Day
8

Mai Chau Valley

Into the Mai Chau Valley and its hilltribe villages

- Walk past bamboo-stilt houses and rice paddies worked with water buffalo
- Share a home-hosted lunch at Cam Thu with traditional music and dance
- Arrive at Avana Retreat, secluded in the forested hills above the valley

Leave Ninh Binh this morning and drive west through a tranquil landscape of rivers, terraced farmland and tiny villages. Around midday, we arrive in the Mai Chau Valley, ringed by the steep mountains of Hoa Binh. Relative isolation has allowed ethnic hilltribe communities, including White Thai and Hmong, to retain their distinct identities, expressed through locally unique architecture, regional dress, traditional cuisines, and distinctive cultural arts including weaving and batik. In the afternoon, set out on an easy walk through nearby villages, passing bamboo-stilt houses, rice paddies worked with water buffalo, and everyday scenes of life in the valley. We stop for a home-hosted lunch at Cam Thu, accompanied by traditional music and dance shared by members of a local ethnic community. Late in the day, arrive at Avana Retreat, where individual suites are secluded in the forested hills above the Mai Chau Valley amid waterfalls and dense vegetation.

Day
9

Mai Chau Valley

White Thai families and a veteran's living memory

- Meet White Thai families in Xom Cum and learn their herb traditions
- Hear a Vietnam War veteran's personal account of the conflict
- Learn traditional Thai crafts practiced by the local community

Begin the day with a gentle walk through the Mai Chau countryside, following paths through rice fields and bamboo-shrouded hills. A short scenic transfer provides access to more remote areas, including the hill village of Xom Cum, where we meet local White Thai families and learn about their close-knit community, subsistence agricultural practices, and medicinal herb traditions. One of the oldest Indigenous ethnic groups in Vietnam, the Thais came to this region between the 7th and 13th centuries. They are known for their colorful woven textiles featuring intricate decorative patterns. We also visit with a Vietnamese veteran of the Vietnam War, who offers a personal perspective on the traumatic conflict and its lasting imprint on the region. Return to our hotel for lunch, followed by an opportunity to learn about traditional Thai crafts practiced by the local community. The remainder of the afternoon is at leisure before we gather again for dinner in our secluded sanctuary at Avana Retreat.

Day
10

Hanoi

Hanoi's Old Quarter and its living artisan trades

- Walk Hanoi's Old Quarter, its 36 lanes named for the trades sold there
- Visit Tan My Design, where four generations preserve silk hand embroidery
- Gather for a farewell dinner of Vietnam's celebrated cuisine

Drive back to Hanoi this morning to explore Vietnam's capital, a vital, modern city with a layered history shaped by centuries of Chinese and French influence. Off tree-lined boulevards abuzz with countless scooters, narrow lanes shelter hidden homes and traditional shops where commerce is conducted unchanged over generations. Outdoor markets, flower stalls and street food vendors do a brisk business among sophisticated hotels and trendy cafes. And Hanoi's sacred heritage is evident in the 600 temples and pagodas found throughout the city.

Join a guided walk this afternoon through the Old Quarter, the cultural and historic heart of Hanoi and its most beguiling neighborhood. Antique brick houses and skinny storefronts line the maze of alleyways, while stalls heaped with fresh fruits and vegetables add a rainbow of color to the jumbled street life collage. Thrumming with energy, the tight grid of twisting lanes reflects the names of the particular product historically sold on each of the 36 streets. The area's history of artisanship dates back more than a thousand years, when Emperor Ly Thai To moved his capital to Hanoi in 1010. Craftsmen followed the imperial entourage, setting up shop outside the new palace and forming guilds. Still today, silversmiths, potters and mat weavers ply their trades alongside more contemporary vendors hawking a host of practical wares. We make a stop at Tan My Design, a boutique craft shop that showcases a living legacy of Hanoi artistry. Here, four generations of women have preserved the art of silk hand embroidery, reimagining it for contemporary fashion and home goods. This evening, gather for a farewell dinner, a last chance to enjoy Vietnam's celebrated cuisine.



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Day
11

Hanoi

Farewell to Hanoi and homeward flights

- Transfer to Hanoi International Airport with your Expedition Leader's help
- Say farewell to Vietnam and connect with homeward flights

Enjoy a final breakfast as our Vietnam journey comes to a close. Check out of our hotel and transfer to Hanoi International Airport. Your Expedition Leader assists with departure formalities as you say farewell to Vietnam, carrying with you a deeper understanding of its complex history, living culture and vibrant communities.

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Vietnam: An Intimate Portrait Accommodations

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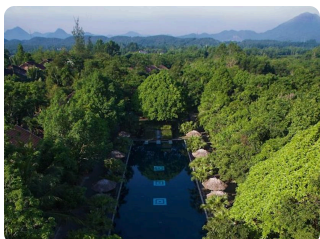
Moire Hoi An

Situated along the Hoai River near Hoi An's Old Town, Moire Hoi An offers contemporary comfort in a highly walkable location. Its riverside position provides easy access to lantern-lit streets, markets, and historic architecture, while offering a calm place to return at the end of the day.



Little Riverside Hoi An

A riverside boutique hotel inspired by Hoi An's historic trading port, with traditional design, a tranquil spa and easy access to the UNESCO-listed Ancient Town.



Pilgrimage Village

Located just outside Hue's historic center, Pilgrimage Village offers a peaceful retreat surrounded by gardens and countryside, while remaining within easy reach of the city's imperial sites, temples, and markets. Villas and bungalows reflect regional architectural traditions and a relaxed pace of life.

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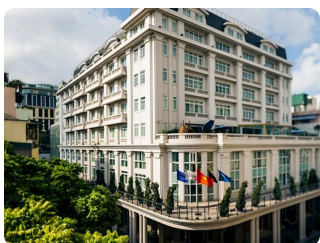
Jiva Hoa Lu Retreat

Set amid rice fields and limestone karsts in Vietnam's Ninh Binh province, Jiva Hoa Lu Retreat offers a serene base within one of the country's most dramatic cultural landscapes. Low-profile villas, gardens, and spa spaces provide a restorative setting well suited to exploration of nearby villages, pagodas, and waterways.



Avana Retreat

Overlooking the Mai Chau Valley from a forested hillside, Avana Retreat combines vernacular architecture with expansive views across rice terraces, waterfalls, and rural villages. Its secluded setting offers a comfortable base closely connected to the landscapes and communities of northern Vietnam.



Hotel de l'Opera Hanoi

Located on a historic thoroughfare in Hanoi's Hoan Kiem District, Hotel de l'Opera Hanoi occupies a graceful French colonial-era building that bridges past and present in Vietnam's capital. Rooms and public spaces reflect a refined blend of local design and cosmopolitan ease, offering guests a calm vantage from which to observe the rhythms of the city's Old Quarter and nearby Opera House.

For detailed descriptions, visit nathab.com/cultural-journeys/vietnam-cultural-adventure/accommodations.

What Makes Cultural Journeys Different?

Vietnam: An Intimate Portrait

What makes this Vietnam journey different from most? On this singular experience of the country, touch daily life as it unfolds in authentic, uncontrived settings, with access that only our personal connections, cultivated relationships and small group size make possible. From riverside villages and mountain valleys to historic cities and coastal towns, you are immersed in places where people live and gather, from private homes to farms, temples and sacred sites.

1 Access Rooted in Local Relationships

Unlike standard tours that tick off major monuments and tourist sites, many of our experiences take place in private homes, temples and cultural spaces where local people practice and sustain longstanding traditions—and our access is made possible through longstanding connections with them.

2 Fewer Stops, Deeper Engagement

Rather than hustling between highlights to cram in as much as possible, we've paced this trip for a slower immersion, with time to walk village paths, listen to local storytellers, and linger in quiet, secluded courtyards—you'll have time to reflect on rich experiences, rather than race between them.

3 Carefully Chosen Local Hosts

From village residents and spiritual practitioners to historians and cultural experts, our hosts share their knowledge and perspectives through conversations that evolve from their deep personal connections to place.

4 Small Groups for Intimate Access

With a maximum of just 12 guests, our small group can access spaces where larger groups are neither practical nor appropriate. At this scale, we can offer personalized encounters, meaningful conversation and hands-on participation in cultural activities with our hosts, while respecting customs and traditions in the communities we visit.

5 Locally Owned Accommodations Feature Luxury & Character

With Nat Hab Cultural Journeys, we believe where you stay should be as memorable as what you do. That's why we choose our boutique hotels, inns and private nature retreats for their distinctive features: intimate scale, local ambience and unique character, authentic hospitality, commitment to wellness and sustainability, and, in many settings, exquisite luxuries. You'll be warmly greeted and cared for, as if you were a personal guest.

6 Insightful & Sensitive Leadership Throughout

A Nat Hab Expedition Leader accompanies the group throughout the journey, providing cultural context, facilitating introductions, and connecting experiences across regions. Our guide's role is not to lecture but to interpret, translate and create space for observation, reflection and dialogue as our journey unfolds.



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Built on Nat Hab's Expertise

Nat Hab Cultural Journeys honors the same experiential travel philosophy, operational rigor and leadership standards that have defined Natural Habitat Adventures for decades. From small groups facilitating deep local engagement to guide selection, training, and on-the-ground execution, this journey embodies a proven approach to immersive travel across diverse destinations worldwide.

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Dates & Pricing Summary:

Price
From \$12695

Group Size
Limited to 12 Travelers

Vietnam: An Intimate Portrait Dates, Pricing & Info

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2027 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Mar 19 - Mar 29, 2027	\$13095 +internal air	
Apr 10 - Apr 20, 2027	\$13095 +internal air	
May 7 - May 17, 2027	\$12695 +internal air	
May 21 - May 31, 2027	\$13095 +internal air	Natural Habitat Explorers Pricing Available
Sep 17 - Sep 27, 2027	\$12695 +internal air	
Oct 8 - Oct 18, 2027	\$13095 +internal air	
Nov 12 - Nov 22, 2027	\$13095 +internal air	
Dec 3 - Dec 13, 2027	\$12695 +internal air	

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2028 Departures

Departure – Return	Pricing	Notes
Prices and dates not confirmed for 2028		
Mar 16 - Mar 26, 2028	From \$12695 +internal air	
Apr 7 - Apr 17, 2028	From \$12695 +internal air	
May 4 - May 14, 2028	From \$12695 +internal air	
May 18 - May 28, 2028	From \$12695 +internal air	
Sep 14 - Sep 24, 2028	From \$12695 +internal air	
Oct 5 - Oct 15, 2028	From \$12695 +internal air	
Nov 9 - Nov 19, 2028	From \$12695 +internal air	
Nov 30 - Dec 10, 2028	From \$12695 +internal air	

See <https://www.nathab.com/cultural-journeys/vietnam-cultural-adventure/dates-fees> for the latest pricing details.

Included

All accommodations, services of Nat Hab's professional Expedition Leader(s), local guides and staff, land transportation throughout, all meals from dinner on Day 1 through breakfast on final day, some alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, airport transfers on Day 1 and final day, all activities and entrance fees, all taxes, permits and service fees.

Not Included

Travel to and from the start and end point of your trip, some alcoholic beverages, some gratuities, passport and visa fees (if any), optional activities, items of a personal nature (phone calls, laundry, etc.), airline baggage fees, airport and departure taxes (if any), required medical evacuation insurance, optional travel protection insurance.

Internal air: All aircraft flights within the itinerary (this will be listed separately on our invoicing).

Important Information About This Trip

This itinerary includes several overland journeys, particularly in northern Vietnam, where traveling by road is the most effective way to access rural landscapes, village communities, and cultural sites not reachable by air. Routes between Hanoi, Ninh Binh, and the Mai Chau region involve multi-hour drives through countryside shaped by rivers, rice fields, and mountain valleys. These journeys are an integral part of the experience, offering insight into regional life beyond major cities and allowing for stops in villages and cultural settings that are rarely visited independently.

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While some travel days are longer, the itinerary is intentionally designed to balance driving distances with meaningful time on the ground in each location. Road travel enables a deeper understanding of how landscapes connect communities and traditions across regions, and provides opportunities for observation and context that would be missed when traveling exclusively by air. Transfers are paced thoughtfully, with accommodations selected to support rest and comfort between exploration days.

Mandatory Insurance

To protect your investment and to provide peace of mind while you travel, we also strongly recommend purchasing comprehensive travel insurance. Plans may cover everything from medical treatment to trip cancellations and delays and lost luggage. Please contact our office if you would like more information about the medical evacuation and comprehensive travel insurance policies we offer by calling 800-543-8917.

Getting There & Getting Home

This trip begins in Hanoi, Vietnam, and concludes in Hoi An, with departures from Da Nang International Airport. Guests should plan to arrive at Noi Bai International Airport in Hanoi no later than 2 PM on Day 1 in order to participate in introductory activities on arrival this afternoon (meet and greet, and a city stroll with our guide). Airport transfers to the hotel are included for arrivals on Day 1, and check-in will be available upon arrival. A welcome dinner is planned for this evening with your Expedition Leader and fellow guests.

Because many international flights to Hanoi arrive late in the evening or early morning, we strongly recommend arriving one day prior to Day 1 to allow time to rest and adjust to the time zone before the journey begins. Recommended pre-trip hotels and transfer information will be provided in your pre-departure materials.

The itinerary ends in Hoi An on Day 11, with transfers provided to Da Nang International Airport. Guests may depart at any time on the final day, though we recommend scheduling flights later in the morning or afternoon to allow for a relaxed departure. Your Expedition Leader will assist with logistics and departure coordination as needed.



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Vietnam: An Intimate Portrait Extensions

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Angkor Wat & Siem Reap Extension

Extend your Indochina encounter into Cambodia, with an immersive visit to the fabled temple ruins of Angkor Wat plus other sacred Khmer Empire sites and highlights of Siem Reap.

\$4295



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