

Vietnam Grand Discovery Classic 18 days

Trip overview

The unique **Vietnam Grand Discovery** for small groups promises to fulfill all tourists' desires as it captures all of the most vital essences of Vietnam's natural splendor.

From diverse landscapes to vibrant culture, this 18-day tour brings about exploration and relaxation in tourist experiences. Join us with this in-depth discovery right now!

- **Durations:** 18 days
- **Destinations:** Hanoi - Sapa - Ninh Binh - Halong Bay - Hoi An - Hue - Ho Chi Minh City - Mekong Delta - Phu Quoc
- **Price from:** US \$1389/person
- **Tour inquiry:** <https://besttratetours.com/vietnam-tours/vietnam-grand-discovery-classic-18-days.html>

Trip outline

Day	Activities	Accommodations	Meals
Day 1	Hanoi Arrival - Welcome Dinner at Fine Dining Restaurant	Hotel in Hanoi	Dinner
Day 2	Half-day Around Hanoi - Bus from Hanoi to Sapa	Hotel in Sapa	Breakfast, Lunch
Day 3	Sapa - Trekking Through Sapa's Hill Tribe Villages and Terraced Fields	Hotel in Sapa	Breakfast, Picnic Lunch
Day 4	Cat Cat - Sin Chai Village - Hanoi - Road transfer	Hotel in Ha Noi	Breakfast, Picnic Lunch
Day 5	Full-day Discover Ancient Hoa Lu and Scenic Tam Coc (Join-in)	Hotel in Hanoi	Breakfast, Lunch
Day 6	Hanoi - Halong Bay - Overnight On Cruise	Overnight on Cruise	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Day 7	Halong Bay - Hanoi Fly To Da Nang	Hotel in Hoi An	Breakfast, Brunch
Day 8	Half-day Wander Through the Ancient Alleys of Hoi An	Hotel in Hoi An	Breakfast
Day 9	Leisure Day in Hoi An - Enjoy the Town's Peaceful Spirit	Hotel in Hoi An	Breakfast
Day 10	Hoi An to Hue: Road Transfer - Indulge in a Luxury Dinner Cruise on Perfume River	Hotel in Hue	Breakfast
Day 11	Half-day Journey Through Hue's Imperial Heritage (SIC)	Hotel in Hue	Breakfast

Day 12	Hue - Fly To Ho Chi Minh	Hotel in Ho Chi Minh	Breakfast
Day 13	Mekong Delta - Can Tho (Join-in)	Hotel in Can Tho	Breakfast, Lunch
Day 14	Cai Rang Floating Market - Ho Chi Minh	Hotel in Ho Chi Minh	Breakfast, Lunch
Day 15	Ho Chi Minh City - Take a Flight to Phu Quoc	Hotel in Phu Quoc	Breakfast
Day 16-17	Blissful Free Days to Relax and Explore Phu Quoc's Nature	Hotel in Phu Quoc	Breakfast
Day 18	Departure from Phu Quoc - Farewell to Vietnam	NA	Breakfast

Itinerary

Day 1: Hanoi Arrival - Welcome Dinner at Fine Dining Restaurant

Upon arrival at Noi Bai International Airport in Hanoi, you will be warmly welcomed by your local guide and transferred to your hotel in the city center. Take some time to rest and refresh after your flight.

The hotel's check-in time is **14:00**. There will be an extra charge if you would like an early check-in time.

In the evening, you will head to one of Hanoi's top fine dining restaurants. Here, you'll enjoy a special welcome dinner featuring a fusion of traditional Vietnamese flavors and modern culinary presentation in an elegant setting.

After dinner, you'll be transferred back to your hotel to relax and prepare for the exciting journey ahead.

Meals: Dinner

Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

Day 2: Half-day Around Hanoi - Bus from Hanoi to Sapa

Morning

Following breakfast, head to the hotel lobby to meet our tour guide, who will be waiting to take you to some of the most popular religious sites in Hanoi:

The [Temple of Literature](#) is our first destination. Founded in the Ly Dynasty, Temple of Literature is Vietnam's first national university dedicated to the study of Confucius, the philosopher from China.



Next, we go to the famous temple **One Pillar Pagoda**, which is situated in the same neighborhood as The Temples of Literature - Ba Dinh. With the shape representing the national flower - lotus, the temple implied a significant expansion in Buddhism inside Vietnam.

The President **Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum** which is located in Ba Dinh Square - the most political area in Hanoi (the site is viewed from outside - closed on Monday and Friday, and from June to August).



We continued our sightseeing trip closer to **West Lake** to admire the historic Buddhist architecture of the oldest temple in Hanoi, the [Tran Quoc Pagoda](#) which lay just beside the southeast shore.

Afternoon

Depart from Hanoi and embark on a comfortable bus ride to Sapa, a picturesque mountain town in northern Vietnam. The journey takes approximately 6 hours, following a scenic route through rolling hills, lush valleys, and remote ethnic villages.

Upon arrival in Sapa, you will be taken to your hotel for check-in. After settling into your room, take some time to relax and soak in the fresh mountain air. If you wish, you can stroll around the town to explore its charming streets and local markets.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Sapa

Day 3: Sapa - Trekking Through Sapa's Hill Tribe Villages and Terraced Fields

Morning

At **09:30**, start your walk via isolated North Vietnamese villages, begin from the stunning and untamed **Y Linh Ho village**, a secluded commune nestled in the Muong Hoa Valley. Along the journey, you'll pass by large cornfields and lovely, verdant terraced fields.

Visit [Lao Chai village](#), where minor communities like Giay and Black H'Mong live. Because of its charming natural surroundings and welcoming locals, Lao Chai village is definitely the location that calms the minds of retreat seekers.



Afternoon

Discover [Ta Van Village](#) - village in a valley surrounded by rice paddies and crossed by a river in Sapa. Its peaceful streams and lovely bird singing create a both serene and enigmatic atmosphere for this landscape which has been the favor of those social butterflies on social media.

After the trekking tour is over, head back to the hotel. The rest of the day is free for travelers to unwind.

Meals: Breakfast, Picnic Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Sapa

Day 4: Cat Cat - Sin Chai Village - Hanoi - Road transfer

Morning

Following breakfast, you will check out of the hotel.

About **08:00**, we will kick off the journey to **Cat Cat Village**, one of Sapa's most picturesque and lyrically isolated communities where the Mong ethnic group has recently resided and worked.



Before the afternoon excursion, have a picnic lunch next to the river and relax for a little while.

Afternoon

Continue your journey on foot to **Sin Chai Village**, a Red Dao community located at the base of the Hoang Lien Son mountain range. We learn more about the culture of the North by observing the individuals wearing silver jewelry and embroidered clothing.

Our group will rejoin the main road to take a jeep to Sapa town, which is about 3 km away.

Once you get back to your hotel, the driver will pick you up at **15:00 - 15:30** to go back to the hotel in Hanoi.

At about **21:30 - 22:00**, you will arrive in Hanoi. We don't have any more plans for the day so you can spend the rest time relaxing.

Meals: Breakfast, Picnic Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Ha Noi

Day 5: Full-day Discover Ancient Hoa Lu and Scenic Tam Coc (Join-in)

Morning

We will start the road trip to Ninh Binh between **07:15** and **07:45** after enjoying a delightful breakfast at the hotel. En route, enjoy the picturesque landscapes when the city gradually turns into countryside.

Take a leisurely boat excursion in Ninh Binh and enjoy the fresh air amidst vast rice fields. For two hours, you will travel along [Tam Coc](#)'s Ngo Dong River in a tiny boat rowed by locals while taking in the breathtaking scenery.



Afternoon

Following a break after lunchtime, around **13:30**, you can engage in extra activities like going fishing, visiting locals, riding a bicycle around the town, etc. after eating lunch at a local restaurant. (These activities are subject to change)



Explore **King Dinh** and **King Le Temples** at [Hoa Lu Ancient Capital](#) to learn new things about Vietnamese history.

After the tour, we make our way back to Hanoi. When you get to your hotel, you can unwind and have a nap.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

Day 6: Hanoi - Halong Bay - Overnight On Cruise

Morning

Following breakfast, from **08:00 - 08:30**, there will be a vehicle coming to pick you up at your accommodation and drive you to Halong, which is 2.5 hours away.

You have to finish a few check-in formalities when you get to the cruise port before you can begin your journey. Get a glass of something cool to drink and a friendly greeting from the boat staff.



Following that, you might enjoy a delectable dinner of freshly caught seafood served onboard while seeing the magnificent Halong Bay panorama as the boat passes by a range of limestones.

Afternoon

After taking a brief break, guests can engage in a variety of exciting activities at a particular Halong Bay site, including swimming, kayaking, exploring caves, and more.



Return to the cruise for dinner. After that, you can unwind on the boat for the night or take advantage of the nightlife, which offers a variety of activities including karaoke, card games, squid fishing, herbal foot baths, and more.

NOTE: Depending on the cruise liner you choose, the itinerary might be different.

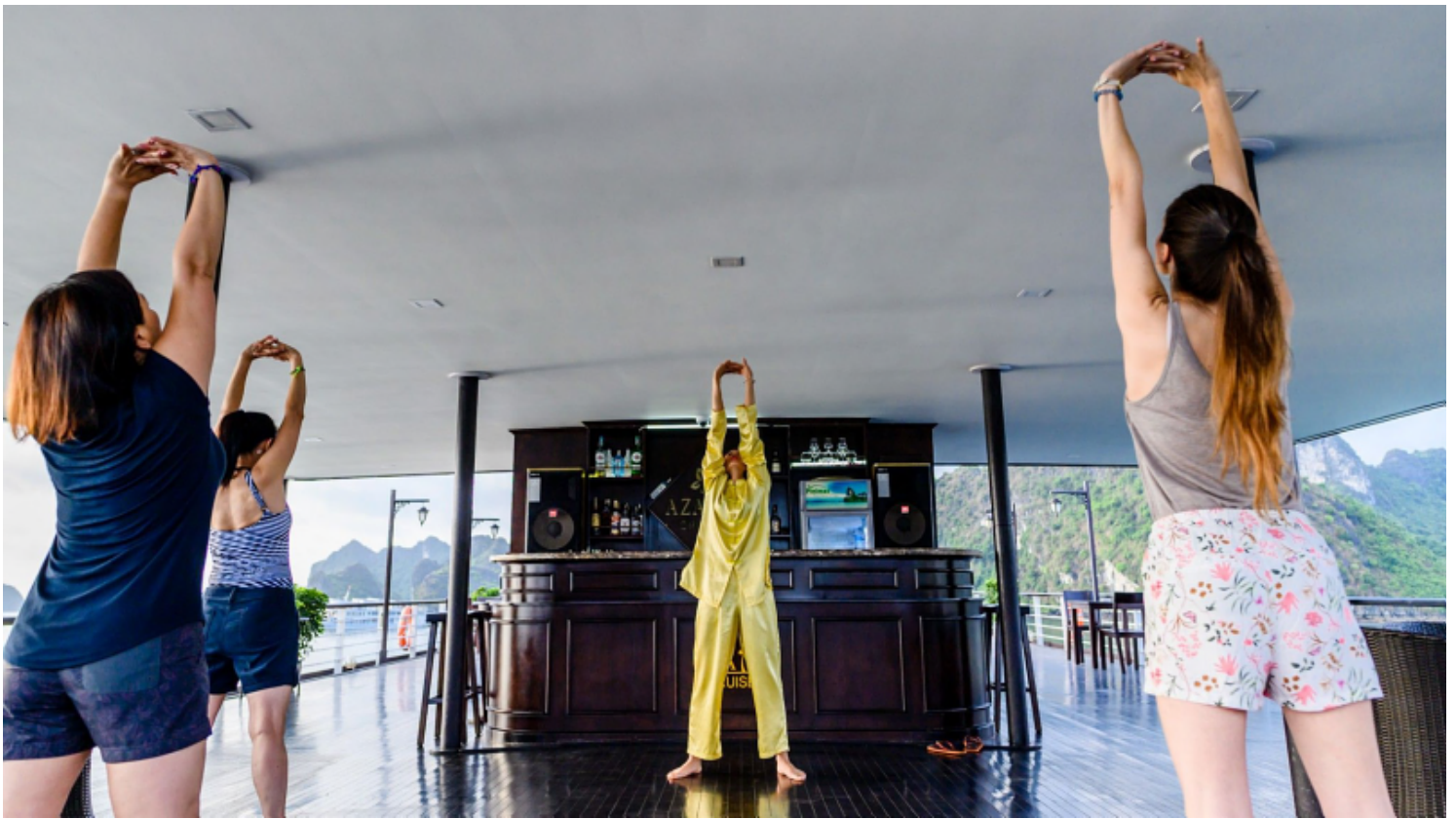
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Overnight on Cruise

Day 7: Halong Bay - Hanoi Fly To Da Nang

Morning

Wake up early to practice Tai Chi in the sparkling dawn background of Halong Bay. There are more exercise activities such as Yoga or Vovinam for passengers to improve health. For more information, you could ask our consultants as some ships may provide unique activities.



Depending on the cruise's timetable, we might have a final excursion to a well-known Halong attraction after breakfast.

Then, return to the cruise and get your stuff ready for check-out. When the cruise sails back to the main dock, there is a delectable brunch prepared for guests.

Afternoon

From the cruise port, our drivers will take you to the airport for your flight to Da Nang.

Once you arrive at Da Nang Airport, you will be picked up and driven to the hotel you reserved in Hoi An Town.

Finishing registration at the lodging establishment, the rest of the day will be up to you to spend.

Meals: Breakfast, Brunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoi An

Day 8: Half-day Wander Through the Ancient Alleys of Hoi An

Morning / Afternoon

Depending on your preference, a trip can start at **08:00** in the morning or **13:30** in the afternoon.

By participating in the excursion, you can stroll along historic streets and discover the way of life of the locals in this historical town, as well as its historic beauty.

First off, visit the architectural wonder of Hoi An, the [Japanese Covered Bridge](#), which is renowned for its multinational constructions and represents the former trading relationships with Japan.



Another well-known attraction of Hoi An is the [Fujian Assembly Hall](#) with its mix of Vietnamese and Chinese influence. Since this is a sacred location, visitors both Vietnamese and foreigners can send incense offerings in order to ask for blessings.

There is a traditional herbal beverage called "Nuoc Mot" that is only available in Hoi An (surcharge USD 3/pax). Tourists to Hoi An should find and try it.



Along two sides of Hoi An Old Quarter are filled with souvenir shops and tailor stores, guests can select some mementos to take home.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoi An

Day 9: Leisure Day in Hoi An - Enjoy the Town's Peaceful Spirit

Morning /Afternoon

Today is your free day. You can explore Hoi An Ancient Town by yourself. Or in case you want a deeper understanding of this charming town, consider choosing among these optional Hoi An tours of BestRate:

Hoi An Vespa Tour Half Day	FROM US \$110 /pax
My Son Sanctuary Half-Day Tour from Hoi An	FROM US \$48 /pax
Life as A Farmer in Cam Thanh Village	FROM US \$79 /pax
Hoi An Memories Show	FROM US \$24 /pax



Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoi An

Day 10: Hoi An to Hue: Road Transfer - Indulge in a Luxury Dinner Cruise on Perfume River

Morning /Afternoon

You will be transferred to Hue via [Hai Van Pass](#).

During the transfer, the shuttle bus will make several stops to allow passengers to take pictures and enjoy the scenery (entry price not included).

Now is the time for you to rest and check in at your hotel when you get to Hue City.

Evening

As the sun gently sets over the Perfume River, step aboard a traditional Ngu Thuyen (royal boat) for a captivating journey through Hue's rich cultural tapestry.

Your evening begins with a serene **Royal Tea Ceremony** as the boat glides upstream. Sip delicate teas once reserved for royalty while soaking in the tranquil ambiance and scenic beauty of the riverbanks.

As you cruise, you'll pass by storied landmarks deeply rooted in Hue's imperial past:

- Kim Long Village – the former residence of royal mandarins, echoing with noble heritage
- Thuy Bieu Village – a peaceful haven of pomelo orchards and traditional homes
- Ho Quyen Arena – the historic site of dramatic tiger-elephant battles once held for the royal court
- Thien Mu Pagoda – the timeless symbol of Hue, perched gracefully by the river
- Van Thanh Temple – a place of reverence dedicated to Confucian scholars and education

Throughout the journey, you'll be immersed in tales of Hue's Imperial Complex and the historical significance of the Ngu Thuyen, once reserved for the emperor and his court.

As night falls, enjoy a **fine-dining experience** onboard, featuring elegant Vietnamese cuisine inspired by royal traditions.

The evening concludes with a mesmerizing **Ca Hue performance**, a traditional musical art form unique to the region. Let the poetic melodies and gentle river breeze carry you into the heart of Hue's timeless charm.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hue

Day 11: Half-day Journey Through Hue's Imperial Heritage (SIC)

Morning

Our first attraction in Hue is [Thien Mu Pagoda](#), also known as the Pagoda of the Celestial Lady. This stunning royal architecture dates back to one of the oldest pagodas in Hue.



Discover the [Imperial Citadel](#), where the Nguyen Dynasty ruled for more than a century, and its exquisite architecture made by talented Vietnamese artisans.



Lastly, we visit **Dong Ba Market** for the sake of people who want to go shopping to browse for mementos, sample regional cuisine, and also get a glimpse of local life.

After that, return to your hotel and unwind there for the remainder of the day.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hue

Day 12: Hue - Fly To Ho Chi Minh

Following a hearty breakfast at your hotel in Hue, you will be driven to Phu Bai Airport to board your flight to vibrant Ho Chi Minh City.

Upon landing at Tan Son Nhat International Airport, you'll be welcomed by your driver and transferred to your hotel in the city center. After completing the check-in process, take some time to unwind, refresh yourself, or enjoy a short rest before continuing your journey.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh

Day 13: Mekong Delta - Can Tho (Join-in)

Morning

Today, you'll depart from Ho Chi Minh City at **08:00** to be ready for your trip across the Mekong Delta.



You will disembark from the boat and enter a craft workshop where you can sample local products such as rice paper, popcorn, coconut candy, and traditional wine. You can purchase mementos outside the factory to give as presents to your loved ones.

After that, you board the boat at Cai Be and travel for roughly 20 minutes to reach Sampan, arriving at [Tan Phong Island](#). Guests are free to remain on the boat if they would prefer not to visit Sampan.

Our exciting trip will pay a stop at a local house to listen to "Don Ca Tai Tu" - a traditional performance of the Mekong delta. Meanwhile, you should enjoy tropical fruit and tea served.



Afternoon

At **13:00**, our group disembark and stroll for around ten minutes to a nearby restaurant for lunch before boarding the boat.

Following that, you will have a two-hour vehicle ride back to Can Tho City. From there, tourists will have freetime.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Can Tho

Day 14: Cai Rang Floating Market - Ho Chi Minh

Morning

To go to the [Cai Rang Floating Market](#), a unique location you should see once, the guide will pick you up at **07:30**. (The timing to go to Cai Rang will depend on the time of the market)



Visit a house in Nha Be to see how the natives prepare glass noodles, and then board a local boat to savor some tropical fruits.



We will head back to Saigon at **10:30** and check out of the hotel.

NOTE: Our guide will be updating details, so you can get the most recent information by contacting our sales consultant.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Ho Chi Minh

Day 15: Ho Chi Minh City - Take a Flight to Phu Quoc

Morning

For today, you'll have free time and wait to be taken to the airport after having breakfast. The group will be greeted by a driver as soon as you land at the Phu Quoc airport then move to the hotel you have booked.

Spend the remainder of the day relaxing after checking in the hotel in Phu Quoc.



Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Phu Quoc

Day 16-17: Blissful Free Days to Relax and Explore Phu Quoc's Nature

Morning

We don't have any activity in Phu Quoc. Just spend time for yourself, relax in the quiet ambiance and explore the stunning scenery. Treat this time as an escape from a hectic city.



However, if anyone wants an exploring tour here, we recommend these optional tours of BestRate Tours below:

Sightseeing in The South – Hon Thom Island full day	FROM US \$78 /pax
Phu Quoc 3 Islands Snorkeling Full Day	FROM US \$44 /pax
Phu Quoc Island Night Fishing Trip	FROM US \$176 /pax
Phu Quoc Cable Car Ticket	FROM US \$25 /pax

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Phu Quoc

Day 18: Departure from Phu Quoc - Farewell to Vietnam

Morning

On the last day, you will be taken to the airport for your department flight after having breakfast at the hotel.

So, that would mark the end of your journey. We all hope that you enjoy our trip and keep memorable moments with you about our lovely Vietnam!

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: NA

Booking Policy

Inclusion

- Accommodation in TWN/ DBL sharing accommodation at hotel
- All transport and transfer by air conditioned vehicle (including airport pick up and see off), as per itinerary
- All in-tour stationed local English speaking guide.
- Domestic flight Hanoi – Da Nang, Hue - Ho Chi Minh, Ho Chi Minh - Phu Quoc
- Sharing luxury limousine Hanoi - Sapa - Hanoi
- Shuttle bus Hanoi - Ha Long Bay - Hanoi
- Entrance fees for Vietnam attractions, as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the program

Exclusion

- Hotel EARLY check in & LATE check out
- Peak season surcharge & compulsory dinner at the hotel (if any)
- International flight to or from Vietnam with taxes
- Vietnam Visa (above 6 months passport Valid & 3 clear-page require)
- Passport Fees
- Travel Insurance
- Tips, laundry and gratuities
- Meals not marked on itinerary, and water during meals
- Tips for guide /driver (recommended US \$3-5 /pax /day)
- Tipping is completely up to you and should be based on your perception of the service quality

Cancellation Policy

- Cancellation received before 60 days: FREE of charge
- Cancellation received from 30 days to 59 days prior arrival date: 10% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 15 days to 29 days prior arrival date: 30% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 7 days to 14 days prior arrival date: 50% of total rate
- Cancellation received less than 7 days prior arrival date or No show: 100% of total rate

Children Policy

- The rate for children applicable for one child sharing a twin or double cabin with two adults

- For infant (<04 years old): FOC *except domestic ticket cost*
- 04 - 11 years old without bed: 50% adult rate
- 04 - 11 years old with extra bed: 75% adult rate
- 04 - 11 years old in twin share: 90% adult rate

WHY BOOK WITH US?

Best Rate Guaranteed

Offering the BEST RATE package which is worthy of your payment.

Money Back Guaranteed

In case the service we provide is not qualified enough, except for out-of-control situations such as weather conditions. We will investigate your case and will offer the reimbursement once your complaint is rational.

Customizable by local experts

Local consultants with rich of knowledge will give you the most suitable itineraries for you.

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