

SEA01 / 21 DAYS



VIETNAM

Vietnam Unfolded

Mountains. Empires. Waterways. Your Vietnam.

21 DAYS / 20 NIGHTS / PRIVATE

Travel in March–April • Tailored to your party

THE JOURNEY

Some places stay with you.



Vietnam deserves more than a string of famous names. This private journey follows the country through the hands of its farmers, the courtyards of its emperors, the kitchens of its trading towns and the waterways that still shape daily life. Walk the valleys of Pu Luong with a local guide, spend two nights on a boat chartered for your party, and linger over the architecture and food of Hue and Hoi An. The southern chapter moves from Saigon's history to the working Mekong Delta before a carefully chosen island finale. It is a generous, active programme with moderate walks, hands-on encounters and a different setting almost every day. Domestic flights and a protected night after the bay keep the route practical; private guiding makes room for the interests that make the journey yours.

SEVEN MOMENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO

- Thai community encounters and rice terraces in Pu Luong
- Trang An by rowboat and Cuc Phuong conservation visits
- Two nights on a privately chartered Bai Tu Long boat
- Hue's palaces, royal tombs and distinctive cuisine
- Tra Que farming, My Son and hands-on Hoi An craft
- A private Delta boat experience and early Cai Rang visit
- Phu Quoc island flavours and a private boat finale

DESIGNED TO CONNECT BEAUTIFULLY

The shape of your journey

Hanoi • Pu Luong • Ninh Binh • Bai Tu Long Bay • Hue • Hoi An • Ho Chi Minh City • Can Tho • Phu Quoc

YOUR NIGHTS, IN ORDER

DAYS 01–02	Hanoi
DAYS 03–04	Pu Luong
DAYS 05–06	Ninh Binh
DAYS 07–08	Private bay cruise
DAY 09	Hanoi
DAYS 10–11	Hue
DAYS 12–14	Hoi An
DAYS 15–16	Ho Chi Minh City
DAY 17	Can Tho
DAY 18	Ho Chi Minh City
DAYS 19–20	Phu Quoc
DAY 21	Departure

BEST TRAVEL MONTHS

March–April

March is our first choice for the broadest north-to-south balance. The north can still be misty; April becomes warmer in the south. Rice-field colours depend on the local crop cycle.

MADE FOR

Couples, friends, curious families & solo travelers

*Your own travel dates. Your own companions.
Private guides and vehicles, with walks, rooming
and dining adapted to you.*

CONNECTIONS THAT RESPECT YOUR TIME

- Arrive Hanoi; depart Phu Quoc with a suitable onward connection.
- Scheduled flights: Hanoi–Hue, Da Nang–Ho Chi Minh City and Ho Chi Minh City–Phu Quoc.
- The bay charter includes two nights. Hanoi provides a buffer after disembarkation.
- Private land arrangements and local boats; all accommodation and charter inventory are confirmed to order.



Tran Quoc Pagoda, Hanoi, Vietnam

DAY 01

Your private welcome to Hanoi

Arrive at Noi Bai International Airport, where your Midasia Routes representative meets you in the arrivals area after immigration and baggage collection. A private vehicle, chilled drinking water and assistance with your luggage make the transition to your hotel easy. Airport fast-track assistance can be requested where the airport permits it.

After settling in, meet your local guide for a personal introduction to Hanoi. Depending on your landing time and energy, enjoy a short neighbourhood walk, a riverside pause or a first taste of the city in a relaxed café. Your guide confirms food preferences, walking comfort and the experiences that matter most to you.

A thoughtfully chosen welcome dinner introduces regional flavours. The evening remains gentle after your international journey; a late arrival means dinner and orientation are adjusted to your flight. Your first night is a comfortable beginning, with the details of tomorrow already taken care of.

Overnight: Hanoi | Meals: Welcome dinner, arrival time permitting

DAY 02

Hanoi: a city revealed in layers

Begin beside Hoan Kiem Lake as the city wakes, then explore the Old Quarter with a guide who can explain the street trades, communal houses and everyday etiquette. Pause for Vietnamese coffee before entering the Temple of Literature, where courtyards, stone stelae and shaded gardens introduce the country's scholarly traditions.

After lunch, visit the Thang Long Imperial Citadel and follow the story of Vietnam's successive capitals. Continue through the French Quarter, stopping for architectural details and street scenes rather than a hurried checklist. Museum and monument visits are reordered around their weekly closures.

An early evening water-puppet performance brings rural legends to life. Finish with a guided tasting of carefully selected Hanoi dishes, with seated alternatives for travelers who prefer a restaurant to street-side dining. Your private vehicle is available between the walking sections.

Overnight: Hanoi | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

THE MOMENTS BETWEEN THE LANDMARKS

Life, at a gentler pace.

Terraced fields. Village paths. Time to listen.

DAY 03

Into the valleys of Pu Luong

Leave Hanoi after breakfast and travel into the mountain countryside by private vehicle. Break the journey for refreshments and viewpoints, watching the landscape change from the busy lowlands to folded hills and terraced valleys. Lunch introduces dishes associated with this agricultural region.

Check into a carefully chosen valley retreat, then walk with a local guide through a nearby Thai community. Learn about stilt-house architecture, household gardens and the rhythm of the rice season. Encounters are arranged with willing hosts, with payment for their time and permission requested before photographs.

Return before dusk for a freshen-up and a countryside dinner. Today's walk is deliberately gentle after the road journey. The longer valley experience follows tomorrow, when there is time for field paths, conversations and a hands-on look at rural life.

Overnight: Pu Luong | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

DAY 04

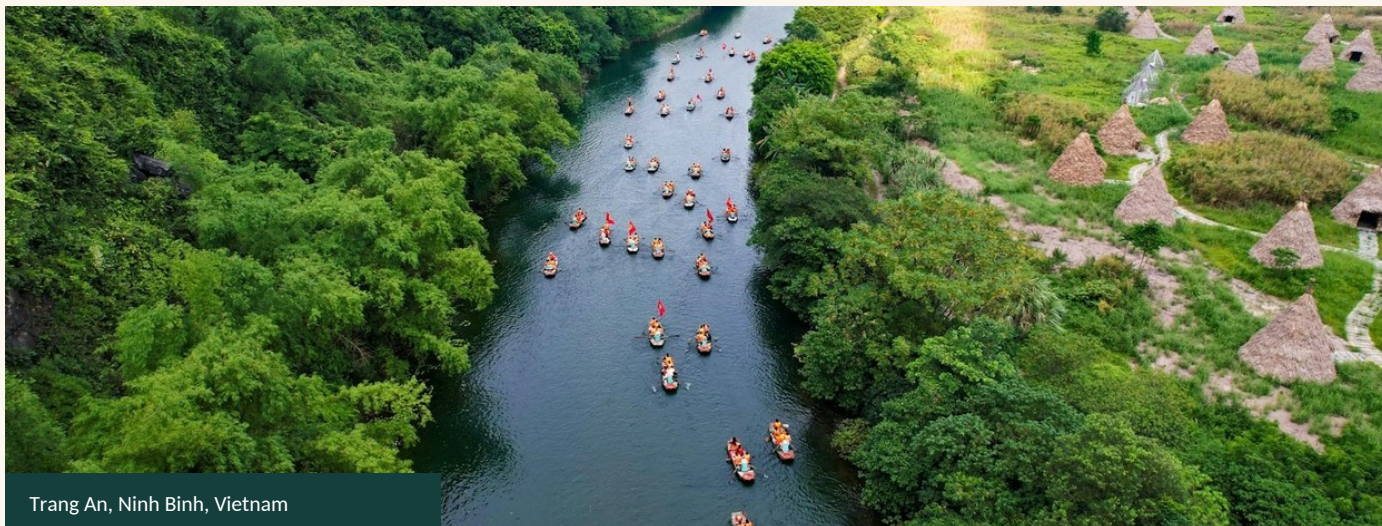
Rice terraces and a welcome in a Thai village

Set out in the cool of the morning for a guided walk through terraces, small hamlets and bamboo-fringed paths. Your local guide selects a moderate circuit with manageable gradients and explains irrigation, seasonal planting and the different crops grown around the houses. The terraces change colour through the year.

Share a meal prepared by a village host or at a well-run local venue. A farming encounter follows: depending on the season, help with planting, harvesting or garden tasks, or learn the same processes through a demonstration. Meet a weaver when a host is available and examine the work behind a finished textile.

Return to your retreat for time to refresh before dinner. A short photography walk can be added as the light softens. Participation is always invitational: neither farm work nor a household visit is presented as a performance, and walking can be shortened while retaining the local encounters.

Overnight: Pu Luong | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner



Trang An, Ninh Binh, Vietnam

DAY 05

From mountain villages to the waterways of Trang An

After breakfast, leave Pu Luong and descend towards Ninh Binh. Your private driver includes a comfortable refreshment break, while the guide explains how the landscape and village architecture change between the highlands and the Red River region. Lunch is arranged before the main afternoon visit.

Take a rowboat through Trang An, with its soaring limestone formations, cave passages and waterside shrines. Choose one of the authorised circuits that suits current water conditions. The pace is unhurried on the water, with time to appreciate reflections and the small details your boat rower points out.

Check into your countryside accommodation and enjoy a gentle walk nearby if daylight allows. Dinner features local produce. This is a full transfer-and-sightseeing day; Hoa Lu can be added by customisation if you prefer an extra heritage visit to a longer afternoon on the water.

Overnight: Ninh Binh | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

DAY 06

Cuc Phuong: a living forest and a conservation story

Drive to Cuc Phuong National Park for a prearranged conservation visit. At the Endangered Primate Rescue Center, a centre guide explains the care of rescued langurs and other primates and the pressures facing them in the wild. Viewing follows the centre's welfare rules; this is a rescue setting, not a promise of wild-animal sightings.

After lunch, explore a suitable forest trail with a nature guide. Look for butterflies, birdlife and the changing textures of the forest, keeping to a moderate route selected for the season and your fitness. A visit to the turtle conservation area can be added when staff and access are available.

Return to Ninh Binh for dinner. Families can shorten the forest section and spend more time on the interpretation activities. The guide carries the day's timings so there is room to ask questions, take photographs and enjoy the forest without racing from one stop to another.

Overnight: Ninh Binh | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner



Ha Long Bay region, Vietnam

DAY 07

Your private voyage into Bai Tu Long Bay

Depart Ninh Binh after breakfast for the coast, travelling by private vehicle with a comfort stop before boarding. Meet the crew of your exclusively chartered small boat and settle into your cabin. A safety briefing covers the tender, kayaking and the day's permitted anchorage before lunch is served.

Cruise into Bai Tu Long's limestone seascape. The planned charter follows an authorised three-day route, with an afternoon excursion around the Cong Do area or an equivalent approved location. Depending on conditions, take a guided kayak outing or use a tender to enjoy the scenery without paddling.

Return for a Vietnamese cooking demonstration and sunset on deck, then enjoy dinner prepared aboard. Your boat is private to your party, while the protected bay and visitor sites remain public. The captain may change the precise stop sequence for weather, permissions and harbour instructions.

Overnight: Private bay cruise | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

DAY 08

A full day among islands, caves and floating homes

Enjoy breakfast with the limestone islands close to your boat, then set out with the crew for a cave visit such as Thien Canh Son when included in the authorised sailing plan. Your guide explains the rock formations and the changing relationship between fishing communities, tourism and the protected bay.

Lunch is followed by a guided visit around Vung Vieng or the charter's approved floating-village area. A tender or local rowing boat brings you closer to the water. There is also time for a sheltered kayak excursion; less active travelers can remain aboard or join the scenic tender alternative.

As the boat reaches its overnight anchorage, enjoy the changing light from the deck. Dinner is served at a pace that suits your party. Two nights aboard allow a richer exploration than a single-night visit, without turning every hour into an organised activity. Swimming, if offered, depends on authorised locations and conditions.

Overnight: Private bay cruise | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner



DAY 09

Back to Hanoi, with time to look closer

Wake to the bay and enjoy breakfast as your boat returns towards its authorised harbour. A final short excursion may be offered by the captain before brunch and disembarkation. Your driver meets you for the private transfer to Hanoi; lunch timing is coordinated with the cruise service.

Check into your hotel and refresh before a gentle late-afternoon encounter with contemporary Vietnamese craft. Depending on opening hours, meet a lacquer specialist or a small independent gallery team, learning how traditional materials are used in modern work. This is also valuable breathing space between the water and tomorrow's flight.

Dinner is arranged in Hanoi, with time to discuss the next stage with your guide. The city overnight intentionally protects the onward connection: no international flight is booked immediately after a weather-dependent bay cruise.

Overnight: Hanoi | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

DAY 10

Fly to Hue: the river and the royal city

After breakfast, transfer privately to Hanoi's airport for a scheduled flight to Hue. Your local team meets you on arrival and takes you to your hotel. Domestic flights are chosen when the journey is confirmed, with sensible airport time and checked baggage included in the proposal.

Following lunch and time to refresh, explore the Perfume River setting by private boat and visit Thien Mu Pagoda. Its riverside grounds offer an accessible introduction to Hue's religious life. When the flight lands later, these visits move into tomorrow's programme rather than being rushed.

Enjoy a dinner introducing central Vietnamese flavours, from delicate savoury bites to a balanced selection of local dishes. Your guide explains the relationship between Hue's courtly cuisine and its everyday cooking. The evening is kept flexible after the flight, with a riverfront stroll available.

Overnight: Hue | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

**DAY 11**

Hue: emperors, gardens and a refined table

Enter the Imperial City early, exploring courtyards, ceremonial gateways and restored palace spaces with your private guide. The narrative connects royal ambition, court life and the events that damaged the complex, helping you read both the surviving architecture and the work of conservation.

After lunch, visit the royal tomb of Minh Mang and then Khai Dinh, chosen for their strikingly different designs. Walk through gardens and terraces at a measured pace, using the private vehicle between sites. A craft stop introduces the making of incense or traditional hats when the workshop is operating.

Dinner can be arranged in a garden-house setting or an elegant restaurant, according to your preferences and availability. The menus are tailored to your dietary needs. For families, the guide turns the palace visit into an engaging search for symbols, gateways and stories rather than a lecture.

Overnight: Hue | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

DAY 12

Over Hai Van Pass to lantern-lit Hoi An

Leave Hue after breakfast and travel along the coast towards Hoi An. Pause at Hai Van Pass when visibility allows, with time for the sea views and a guide's explanation of this historic divide. Your driver chooses the safest practical route in poor weather.

After lunch in the Da Nang area, visit the Museum of Cham Sculpture to place tomorrow's temple discoveries in context. Continue to Hoi An and check into your hotel. There is time to refresh before a first walk through the old trading streets.

As the town lights up, explore its riverfront lanes and enjoy dinner in a carefully chosen setting. Your guide introduces the town's Chinese, Japanese and Vietnamese influences, then leaves you time to enjoy the atmosphere. The full heritage-and-farming day follows tomorrow.

Overnight: Hoi An | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner



Hoi An, Vietnam

DAY 13

From the herb garden to your own Vietnamese table

Visit Tra Que with a local host, walking between aromatic herb beds and learning how the gardens supply Hoi An's kitchens. Join light seasonal tasks such as watering, preparing a bed or harvesting herbs; the experience is adapted for children and for travelers who prefer to observe.

Use the morning's ingredients in a private cooking session followed by lunch. In the afternoon, explore Hoi An's old town more deeply, with time for a merchant house, an assembly hall and artisan workshops that match your interests. Your guide introduces the trading history behind the familiar yellow facades.

As dusk approaches, make a lantern with a craft teacher or enjoy a short private river outing where local rules allow. Dinner is arranged after time to refresh. The day combines gardening, food, heritage and creativity, with a vehicle available whenever you want to shorten the walking.

Overnight: Hoi An | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

DAY 14

My Son, riverside craft and the art of making

Leave early for My Son, allowing time to explore the Cham sanctuary before the heat builds. Walk the main paths between the surviving brick towers with your private guide and learn how religious practice, architecture and modern conservation meet in this forested valley.

Return towards Hoi An for lunch, then visit Thanh Ha pottery village for a hands-on session with a willing artisan. If you would like more time on the water, include a gentle basket-boat outing in the Cam Thanh coconut-waterway area, choosing a calm experience rather than noisy spinning demonstrations.

After a pause at your hotel, enjoy dinner and a final lantern-lit walk. This is a full day with several different settings, so the pottery or boat section can be shortened for families. The cultural encounters are prearranged, while temple and village areas remain shared public places.

Overnight: Hoi An | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner



Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

DAY 15

Ho Chi Minh City: a new rhythm

Transfer privately to Da Nang airport for your scheduled flight to Ho Chi Minh City. Meet your southern Vietnamese guide on arrival and settle into your hotel. Lunch and the first afternoon stop are planned around the actual flight time, with no critical timed activity immediately after landing.

Explore the central city on a gentle orientation: the Central Post Office, the Opera House exterior and the broad streets around the historic civic buildings. Your guide explains the city's changing identities and its role in trade, migration and modern Vietnamese life.

After time to refresh, enjoy dinner at a well-chosen restaurant. For keen food travelers, the evening can become a private tasting circuit using a vehicle between neighbourhoods. Walking distances and the number of stops are adjusted to your group; the main history programme follows tomorrow.

Overnight: Ho Chi Minh City | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

DAY 16

Cu Chi and the stories of Saigon

Leave early for the Cu Chi tunnel area, where a specialist guide explains the ingenuity and hardship of wartime life. The surface displays provide a meaningful visit without requiring anyone to enter a tunnel. Tunnel sections are optional and unsuitable for some travelers with limited mobility or claustrophobia.

After lunch, return to the city for the Independence Palace, exploring the formal rooms and the events associated with the building. Add the Central Post Office if it was not visited earlier. A short café stop gives time to discuss what you have seen without moving straight into another intense museum.

Dinner offers a lighter conclusion to the day. Adults particularly interested in modern history can request the War Remnants Museum in place of a city stop; its graphic material is discussed in advance, and families are offered an age-appropriate alternative.

Overnight: Ho Chi Minh City | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner



Mekong Delta, Vietnam

DAY 17

From Saigon into the life of the Delta

Leave Ho Chi Minh City after breakfast and travel into the Mekong Delta. In the Cai Be area, take a private boat outing through river channels, with stops at a working food or craft workshop and an orchard according to local operating conditions. Do not expect the historic floating market here to match old photographs.

After a leisurely local lunch, continue by private vehicle to Can Tho. Check into your riverside accommodation, then walk with your guide along a quieter neighbourhood lane or the riverfront. The focus shifts from sightseeing landmarks to understanding how water shapes homes, commerce and food.

Dinner features southern Vietnamese cooking. Your guide explains tomorrow's early start and what is realistic to see at Cai Rang, where the amount of trading varies. A comfortable hotel night balances the busy delta day with the early morning experience ahead.

Overnight: Can Tho | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

DAY 18

Morning trade, garden produce and back to Saigon

Rise early for a private boat visit to Cai Rang, arriving while river trading is most likely to be active. Watch from a respectful position as boats exchange produce, with breakfast arranged on board or ashore. The market is a working place whose size and activity vary; it is not staged for visitors.

Continue to a garden, noodle-making household or small local workshop, then return to your hotel to refresh and check out. After lunch, travel privately to Ho Chi Minh City, with a comfort stop on the way. The day combines the river experience with an honest allowance for the road journey.

Enjoy dinner close to your city hotel. This overnight also protects the next flight from delays on the delta roads. If the market is quiet, your guide gives more time to the living waterways and household encounters rather than promising a scene that may not exist on the day.

Overnight: Ho Chi Minh City | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner



Phu Quoc, Vietnam

DAY 19

Phu Quoc: island flavours and a tropical finale

Transfer privately to the airport for your scheduled flight to Phu Quoc. Your island host meets you on arrival and takes you to your resort. Choose the room style and level of privacy that suit your party when the journey is customised, from generous family accommodation to a secluded villa.

After lunch and time to settle in, explore the island's food traditions with a pepper-garden visit and a reputable fish-sauce producer where visitors are welcome. A local market stop introduces the seafood and tropical produce of the south. These visits are adjusted to opening hours and your arrival time.

Enjoy sunset by the sea and a carefully chosen dinner. The evening balances the fuller sightseeing days with a change of pace, while tomorrow adds a private boat experience. Spa treatments, celebratory dining and a longer island stay can be arranged separately.

Overnight: Phu Quoc | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner

DAY 20

A private island day on the water

Head out by private boat with a local crew to explore suitable waters around Phu Quoc's southern islands. The captain selects the route for the day's sea conditions, with time for swimming or easy snorkelling at permitted locations. Life jackets and appropriately sized equipment are arranged in advance.

Enjoy lunch aboard or at a well-run island venue, then continue to another sheltered stop or return for a gentle coastal walk. Marine life is variable, and the experience is about enjoying the water responsibly rather than guaranteeing particular species. Non-swimmers can stay aboard and enjoy the scenery.

Return to your resort to refresh before a farewell dinner. If sea conditions cancel the boat outing, replace it with a land-based day of local food, gardens and suitable nature walks. The private format allows the plan to follow your comfort and the weather.

Overnight: Phu Quoc | Meals: Breakfast, lunch & dinner



Phu Quoc, Vietnam

DAY 21

An island farewell and onward flight

Enjoy breakfast and a final sea view before your private transfer to Phu Quoc airport. The day's schedule is built around your actual onward flights, with a protected through-connection via Ho Chi Minh City where available and suitable, or a direct international service when it serves your home route.

Your Midasia team coordinates the airport handover and confirms the baggage arrangements shown on your tickets. If the onward airline combination cannot offer a sensible connection, we adapt the final nights before booking so you do not rely on a tight self-transfer.

Leave the island with a complete picture of Vietnam: mountain communities, historic cities, limestone bays, working waterways and the tropical south. Extra resort nights are easy to discuss when we tailor the proposal. International flights remain separate unless expressly included.

Overnight: Departure | Meals: Breakfast, flight time permitting

PRIVATE TRAVEL, PERSONAL CARE

Make this journey yours.

Travel as a couple, with family or friends, or on your own with a private guide. We begin with the experiences you care about, then shape the room choices, dining, walking and daily pace around you. A birthday, a photography interest, a quieter village stay or a few extra beach nights can become part of your personal proposal.

Your welcome & support · Personal arrivals-area meet and greet; private airport transfers; luggage assistance; coordinated local handovers and a named planning contact. Fast-track services are requested only where permitted and available.

Your comfort & experiences · Well-chosen luxury or boutique accommodation, private vehicles and local guides, meals shown in the programme, site entries and the described private boat and activity arrangements are included in the bespoke quotation.

Your flights & thoughtful extras · The quotation itemises scheduled domestic and regional flights, baggage, rail travel and private charters. International flights to and from the journey, visas, insurance, personal purchases, gratuities and unlisted extras are separate unless expressly included.

Your confirmed proposal · Route planning was reviewed in September 2026. Your final dated proposal confirms the hotels, flights, boats, rail seats, host visits, activity suitability and any seasonal substitutions before you commit.

[Enquire about this journey](#)[Speak with our Asia expert](#)

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