

VIETNAM CLASSIC TOUR: FIXED DEPARTURES EVERY FRIDAY FROM HANOI

US\$ 738 PER PERSON FOR MINIMUM 2 PAX BOOKING
CONFIRM DEPARTURES
MINIMUM 10% COMMISSION TO TRAVEL AGENTS

3 STAR HOTEL IN DOWNTOWN OF EACH CITY (we may use alternative hotel)
HANOI : **HALONG HOTEL** / HALONG : **HALONG BAY HOTEL** / HUE : **HOAHONG HOTEL** / HOIAN : **LOTUS HOTEL** / SAIGON :
QUEHUONG 3 HOTEL

DEPARTURE DATE 2010 (FROM HANOI)			
Friday, January 01, 2010	Friday, February 05, 2010	Friday, March 05, 2010	Friday, April 02, 2010
Friday, January 08, 2010		Friday, March 12, 2010	Friday, April 09, 2010
Friday, January 15, 2010	Friday, February 19, 2010	Friday, March 19, 2010	Friday, April 16, 2010
Friday, January 22, 2010	Friday, February 26, 2010	Friday, March 26, 2010	Friday, April 23, 2010
Friday, January 29, 2010			Friday, April 30, 2010

- * Kid under 12 years of age: 75% of Adult Tour Fare
- * Kid under 2 years of age: free for land tour
- * Group Size: maximum 15 persons per group
- * Guaranteed departure for group of 2 persons

Price included

- Shared accommodation in twin/double room with daily breakfast (see hotel category list below)
- All transfers and transportation with air-con vehicles
- Local English speaking guides in each province
- All entrance fees as program
- Domestic airfares as mentioned

Excluded:

- Airfares (international)
- No Meals (lunches, dinners)
- Visa to Cambodia/ Vietnam/ Laos
- International airport tax
- Drinks and personal expenses
- Tips
- Hotel surcharge for peak season (Xmas or New Year)



1. CODE: VCL-RT1B
CLASSIC Vietnam Round trip (8days 7 nights) << VIETNAM AT A GLANCE>>
MEAL PLAN: Breakfast + 1 lunch (B: Breakfast / L: Lunch)

- Day 1 Hanoi.
Arrive in Hanoi. Transfer to hotel - Overnight in Hanoi.
- Day 2 Hanoi (B)
- Sightseeing in Hanoi: morning visit Ho Chi Minh president's Mausoleum (closed on Monday), his house, One Pillar pagoda, West Lake, Tran Quoc Temple, War Museum. In the afternoon, walking tour around the Old Quarter, Ngoc Son temple. Water puppet show in the evening. Overnight in Hanoi.
- Day 3 Halong (BL)
- Departure to Halong. Have 4 hour boat trip on the bay, viewing Limestone Mountains, caves, islands, islets with sea food lunch on boat. Overnight in Halong.
- Day 4 Halong-Hanoi airport-Hue (by air) (B)
- Morning departure from Halong to Hanoi airport for flight to Hue. Arrive in Hue, pick up and transfer to hotel. Visit Imperial Citadel and local market in the afternoon. Overnight in Hue.
- Day 5 Hue-Hoi An (B)
- Morning boat trip to Thienmu pagoda and Tuduc Tomb. Continue drive to Hoian, stop at Langco fishing village, top of Haivan pass for sight seeing and taking pictures. Visit Cham Museum, marble mountains and the stone curving village en route before heading to Hoian. Overnight in Hoi An
- Day 6 Hoi An (B)
- Free at leisure. Overnight in Hoi An.
- Day 7 Hoi An-Danang-Hochiminh city (by air) (B)
- Flight from Danang to Saigon by morning flight. Continue with tour to Mekong Delta (Mitho), boat trip on the Mekong river, visit fruit garden, snake farm, coco candy manufacturer. Back to Hochiminh with short city tour: China town, Thienhau pagoda, outside of Reufinication hall, Dongkhoi street, Ben Thanh market.
- Day 8 Hochiminh city departure (B)
- Transfer to the airport for home flight. End of the tour.



Full itinerary:

Day 1 Hanoi arrival

Arrive in Hanoi. Our driver and guide will pick you up at Noi Bai Airport and transfer to hotel. Check in. Free at leisure after a long haul flight. Overnight in Hanoi.

Day 2 Hanoi (B)

After breakfast at hotel, you will start a new interesting day by visiting Temple of Literature-The first University of Vietnam and also an ancient Confucian sanctuary, which was built in the 11 century. Proceed to visit Ho Chi Minh president's complex including mausoleum, his house on stilts, then One Pillar Pagoda, which rises on a one pillar from the middle of a square lotus pond. After visiting Presidential palace with its colonial architecture, we move to West Lake nearby to view the biggest fresh water lake with a shore length of about 10 miles, visit Tran Quoc Pagoda located on an islet of the Lake, it is one of the oldest pagodas in Vietnam and a cultural symbol of Vietnamese Buddhism.

In the afternoon, visit Hoa Lo prison, later known to American prisoners of war as the "Hanoi Hilton", was a prison used by the French colonists in Vietnam for political prisoners and later by North Vietnam for prisoners of war during the Vietnam War, only part of the prison exists today as a museum. Continue with walking tour around the old quarter-the oldest continuously developed area of Vietnam. Hanoi's old quarter has a history that spans 1000 years and represent the eternal soul of the city. Each street then had merchants and households specialized in a particular trade, such as silk traders, jewelers, etc. The street names nowadays still reflect these specializations, although few of them remain exclusively in their original commerce. Have a short rest at local coffee shop. Leaving the old quarter with 36 streets, we proceed to Ngoc Son Temple, built in the 19th century on an island on Hoan Kiem (Restored sword) Lake; it was already considered the most beautiful lake in Hanoi. Initially, the temple was called Ngoc Son Pagoda and was later renamed Ngoc Son Temple, since temples are dedicated to saints. In the evening, you will enjoy water puppet show-the unique art which has its origin in the delta of the Red river in the 10th century. Water puppetry is performed in a pool of water with the water surface being the stage. The puppeteers stand behind a curtain and control the puppets using long bamboo rods and string mechanism hidden beneath the water surface. Singers of Cheo (a form of opera) with origin in Northern Vietnam sing songs which tell the story being acted out by the puppets. Overnight in Hanoi

Day 3 Hanoi-Halong (BL)

After breakfast at hotel, you will depart to Halong-the World Heritage and one of the natural wonders. It covers an area of 1500 square km with more than 3000 limestone peaks soaring from its crystalline emerald water. You will have 4 hour boat trip on the bay with sea food lunch on boat, cruising through the emerald waters, between the limestone islands and islets, stopping to visit either the **Thien Cung** or **Sungso Cave**. Overnight in Halong.

Day 4 Halong-Hanoi airport-Hue (by air) (B)

After breakfast at hotel, you will depart from Ha Long to Hanoi airport for 01 hour flight to Hue-the ancient citadel of Vietnam. Arrive in Hue, met and transferred to hotel. Check in. In the afternoon, visit **Imperial Citadel**, built over thirty years in the early part of the 19th century, the Citadel encompasses three 'courts' covering a total of 6 km. The outer court within the massive brick walls, ten meters thick in places, is mainly open space and gardens. The Imperial City, built along the same lines as the Forbidden Palace in Beijing, was the country's administrative centre. Senior mandarins, court officers and civil servants would have entered by the 'Ngo Mon' (noon gate). Directly behind were the Dai Trieu Nghi (great rites courtyard) and the Thai Hoa Palace (throne hall) where the Emperor would meet foreign rulers and emissaries, high-ranking ministers and other dignitaries. At the heart of the Imperial City was the 'Tu Cam Thanh' (**Forbidden Purple City**). Only members of the royal family, the Emperor's concubines, and trusted senior mandarins and officers such as the royal doctor were allowed through the sole entry gate. Inside were various palaces and the Emperor's private apartments. The next stop of the day is **Dong Ba market**- the biggest and most significant market in both Hue and Central Vietnam. Today, people visit Dong Ba Market not only because they can buy myriad goods and local specialties, but because in their hearts it is a symbol of Hue's culture, the most delicate material cultural traits of the city can be found here in the local traditional products, like Phu Cam conical hat, Hien Luong scissors, etc., and the mentioned delicious specialties. Overnight in Hue.

Day 5 Hue-Danang-Hoi An (BL)

After breakfast at hotel, you will have a morning boat trip on Perfume River to **Thien mu pagoda** (Heavenly Lady Pagoda)-one of the oldest, built in 1601, and prettiest religious buildings in the country and **Tuduc Tomb**-One of the most beautiful works of Royal architecture of the Nguyen Dynasty. The tomb lies on a boundless pine forest with mounts and lakes. Come by a **local house** and join a lunch with local dishes, then visit **villages of producing bronze and coco hats** nearby. In the afternoon you drive to Hoi An via **Hai Van Pass** with visit of **Langco fishing village**.

Hai Van pass is the highest pass of the country, stop on the top for sightseeing and taking pictures. Continue driving to Hoi An, visit **Cham Museum**-built in 1915, it displays an intensive and diverse collection of Champa sculpture dating from the 7th to 15th centuries. You will have the opportunity to appreciate the eight centuries of evolution of Champa sculpture from its golden age to its decline. Leaving the museum, you will visit another place in Danang city, it is **marble mountains**-the subtle, lyric and poetical ambience of pagodas, grottoes, trees, bushes, sounds the mixed of pagoda bells and murmuring waves and the mysterious legends of sea are all that are not far from the city center, making the mountains a fairy land for tourists for ages, and the **stone curving village** before heading to Hoian. Overnight in Hoi An

Day 6 Hoi An (B)

Free at leisure or yourself exploration of the ancient port town with merchant houses, Japanese Covered Bridge, Chinese meeting hall, lantern shops, tailoring....Overnight in Hoi An.

Day 7 Hoi An-Danang-Hochiminh city (Saigon) (by air) (B)

After breakfast at hotel, transfer to Danang airport for flight to Saigon. Pick up and continue with tour to Mekong Delta (My tho). On arrival, cruising along small creek to Mekong River to **Con Phung** (Phoenix Island), visit **fishing harbor**. Visit **orchards, snake farm, bee - keeping farm**, taste natural honey and honey wine, enjoy **tropical fruit, traditional music in Quy island**, see round a distillery, explore the **local coconut candy production process**, taste candy & coconut pulp-specialty of Ben Tre. On the way back to Ho Chi Minh with stop at bonsai garden in My Tho. Return to Saigon in the late afternoon, with short city tour of Dong Khoi Street, Notre Dame Church, Central Post office. Overnight in Saigon.

Day 8 Hochiminh city departure (B)

Breakfast at hotel. Free at leisure until transfer to the airport for your home flight. The end of the trip.

