

Vietnam, beyond the familiar

15 days | 14 nights | Reference programme



An itinerary from CaoRoads Travel, supplied by Patrik as a reference for an organised trip in 2026. It is inspiration for a new tailor-made enquiry, not a current fixed departure.

Programme inspiration

Pricing, legacy commercial terms and private booking information are excluded where present.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Destinations	Accommodations	Room types – King Size Bed	Class	Nights
Ha Noi	Imperial Hotel	Double/ Twin	4-star	3
Sapa	Bamboo Sapa	Double/ Twin	4-star	2
Ha Giang	Hoa Cuong Hotel	Double/ Twin	3-star	1
Ban Gioc	Saigon Ban Gioc	Double/ Twin	4-star	1
Ha Long Bay	Indochina Sails	Double/ Twin	4-star	1
Hue	Eldora Hue Hotel	Double/ Twin	4-star	2
Hoi An	Hoi An Beach Resort	Double/ Twin	4-star	4

FLIGHTS

Airlines	Dates	Destinations	Direct Flights	Schedule	Class
Vietnam Airlines	09/10/2026	Hanoi - Hue	VN1545	16:35-17:55	Economy
Vietnam Airlines	15/10/2026	Da Nang - Hanoi	VN170 VN168	13:50-15:15 12:55-14:20	Economy



2026 VIETNAM ABRIDGED ITINERARY MOUNTAIN TRIP 14PAX



DAY 01

AM Flight to Hanoi
PM Arrive in Hanoi
ACCOMMODATION
Imperial Hotel

AM Arrive at Ninh Binh
PM Hanoi
ACCOMMODATION
Imperial Hotel

DAY 02



AM Drive to Sapa
PM Sapa
ACCOMMODATION
Bamboo Sapa



DAY 03

AM Sapa
PM Sapa
ACCOMMODATION
Bamboo Sapa

DAY 04



AM Drive to Ha Giang
PM Ha Giang
ACCOMMODATION
Hoa Cuong Hotel



DAY 05

AM check-out from Ha Giang
PM Ban Gioc Waterfall
ACCOMMODATION
Saigon Ban Gioc

DAY 06



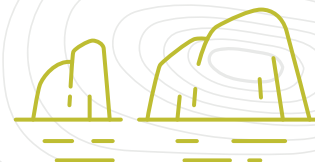
AM Ban Gioc Waterfall
PM Imperial Hotel
ACCOMMODATION
Saigon Ban Gioc



DAY 07

AM Drive to Ha Long Bay
PM Ha Long Bay
ACCOMMODATION
Indochina Sails

DAY 08



AM Flight to Hue
PM Hue
ACCOMMODATION
Eldora Hue Hotel



DAY 09

AM Vespa Ride
PM City tour
ACCOMMODATION
Eldora Hue Hotel

DAY 10





DAY 11

AM Drive to Hoi An
PM Da Nang city tour
ACCOMMODATION
Hoi An Beach Resort

AM Ba Na Hill
PM Ba Na Hill
ACCOMMODATION
Hoi An Beach Resort

DAY 12



DAY 13

AM My Son Sanctuary
PM Walking Hoi An Town
ACCOMMODATION
Hoi An Beach Resort

AM Free day
PM Free day
ACCOMMODATION
Hoi An Beach Resort

DAY 14



DAY 15

Departure Da Nang – Hanoi
Connecting Overseas Flights





ACTIVITIES DURATIONS



DAY 01

You will be met at the Noi Bai airport in Ha Noi by a guide and driver with your name on the CAORoads welcome board. Drive about 40 mins to the hotel for the check-in process. Spend your own time at leisure. Stay overnight in Ha Noi

HANOI ARRIVAL
(40 mins driving)
01/10/2026

- **Meals:** Welcome Dinner
- **Accommodation:** Imperial Hotel



DAY 02

The Ha Long inland

Good morning and welcome aboard! Today, we're setting off from the vibrant capital of Hanoi and heading south for an unforgettable day exploring the natural wonders and cultural treasures of Ninh Binh Province — often called “Halong Bay on land.” So sit back, relax, and let the countryside unfold before you.

08:00 – Departure from Hanoi

We depart Hanoi early in the morning to escape the city buzz and catch the golden hues of the northern countryside. As we journey along National Highway 1A, keep an eye out for small villages, rice paddies, and water buffaloes dotting the landscape — this is rural Vietnam at its most serene.

10:00 – Arrive at Tam Coc for a Sampan Boat Ride

Welcome to Tam Coc! Here, we'll board a traditional sampan boat, rowed by skilled local women — often using their feet instead of hands! For about 1 hour and 30 minutes, you'll glide gently down the Ngo Dong River.

Marvel at the karst limestone mountains towering above the water, lush rice fields stretching on both sides, and tranquil caves

NINH BINH DAY TRIP 02/10/2026

- **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **Accommodation:** Imperial Hotel

you'll float through — Hang Ca, Hang Hai, and Hang Ba. It's a slow, dreamy journey into Vietnam's natural heart.

12:00 – Hike up to Hang Mua Cave (Mua Cave Viewpoint)

Next up, get ready for a bit of a challenge — but with a breathtaking reward! We'll climb about 500 stone steps to reach the summit of Hang Mua. From the top, you'll be treated to a panoramic view over Tam Coc's winding river and emerald rice paddies — one of the most iconic viewpoints in the region.

13:30 – Lunch at a Local Restaurant

Time to refuel with a delicious Vietnamese lunch at a local countryside restaurant. Enjoy a variety of regional dishes — perhaps some goat meat specialties, crispy spring rolls, and seasonal vegetables, all cooked home-style.

16:15 – Return Drive to Hanoi

After a fulfilling day of nature, culture, and unforgettable views, we begin our comfortable drive back to Hanoi. Take this time to rest, scroll through your photos, or simply soak in the peaceful rhythm of the Vietnamese countryside.

18:00 – Arrive back at your hotel in Hanoi





DAY 03

HANOI – SAPA
(5-hour driving)
03/10/2026

- **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch
- **Accommodation:**
Bamboo Sapa

Scenic Road Journey from Hanoi to Sapa

Depart from the hustle and bustle of Hanoi and embark on a breathtaking road trip to the misty mountains of Sapa. This scenic drive, approximately 5 to 6 hours, takes you through the heart of northern Vietnam's countryside, offering a changing landscape that's nothing short of cinematic.

As you leave the city behind, you'll cruise along the new highway winding through the Red River Delta, where you'll catch glimpses of peaceful rural villages, lush rice paddies, and farmers in conical hats tending to their fields — a timeless image of Vietnam.

Gradually, the terrain transforms as we ascend into the mountains. The temperature cools, and the air becomes fresher. The final stretch towards Sapa is the most spectacular —

winding mountain roads, terraced hillsides cascading with green, and occasional waterfalls tumbling down the cliffs. Don't forget to look out the window — you may spot water buffalo grazing or ethnic minority villagers in traditional dress walking along the roadside

Short photo stops can be arranged along the way to stretch your legs and take in the panoramic views. Your driver is experienced and will ensure a smooth, comfortable journey all the way to your mountain retreat in Sapa — arriving by late afternoon, just in time to witness the fog gently roll into the valley.

Let the adventure begin!





DAY 04

Trekking Adventure through Sapa's Ethnic Villages and Rice Terraces

Begin your day with a breath of fresh mountain air as you set off from Sapa Town on a guided trek into the heart of Vietnam's northern highlands. This immersive journey takes you through a tapestry of **breathtaking landscapes** and **authentic cultural encounters**.

Following a well-marked trail downhill, you'll pass through verdant rice terraces, bamboo groves, and rolling hills that seem to stretch endlessly into the mist. Along the way, your local guide will share insights about the customs, daily life, and traditions of the ethnic minority groups who call this region home.

As the trek continues, you'll wind through villages inhabited by the Black H'mong, Red Dao, or Giay people — each with their own distinct dress and language. You'll have the chance to meet local families, observe

SAPA
04/10/2026

- **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch
- **Accommodation:**
Bamboo Sapa

traditional weaving and farming techniques, and maybe even be invited in for a cup of herbal tea.

A picnic lunch or meal at a local home or village stop provides a welcome break before continuing your walk through more valleys and across gentle streams.

This full-day trek typically covers 8 to 12 kilometers, depending on the chosen route and pace. The terrain varies from easy to moderate, with some uneven paths and gentle slopes. But every step is rewarded with sweeping views and unforgettable moments.

In the late afternoon, return to Sapa by car or on foot (depending on your final village stop), with your heart full of stories and your camera full of memories.

DAY 05

SAPA – HA GIANG (more less than 6 hours drive)
05/10/2026

- **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch
- **Accommodation:**
Hoa Cuong Hotel

Mountain Road Journey from Sapa to Ha Giang
After breakfast, bid farewell to the charming town of Sapa as we begin an epic full-day drive to the majestic province of **Ha Giang** — a journey that promises some of the most **awe-inspiring scenery in northern Vietnam**.

The road trip begins with a winding descent from Sapa's cool highlands into the valleys below, where you'll pass remote villages and rolling green hills dotted with bamboo groves and cornfields. As the road hugs the mountainside, panoramic views open up at every turn — a dramatic interplay of misty peaks, deep river gorges, and tiered rice terraces that change color with the season.

This is not just a transfer — it's a **moving postcard**. Along the way, we'll make photo stops at scenic passes and viewpoints, where you can breathe in the crisp mountain air and capture the untouched beauty of Vietnam's far north.

The drive typically takes **6 to 7 hours**, depending on road conditions and chosen

stops. En route, enjoy a local lunch in a small town or roadside eatery — a chance to stretch your legs and taste regional dishes in a setting few tourists ever reach.

As we approach Ha Giang, the scenery becomes even more dramatic, signaling the gateway to Vietnam's final frontier — a land of rugged karst mountains, ethnic diversity, and winding passes carved into sheer rock cliffs. Arrive in Ha Giang City by late afternoon, just in time to relax and prepare for the unforgettable adventure that lies ahead.



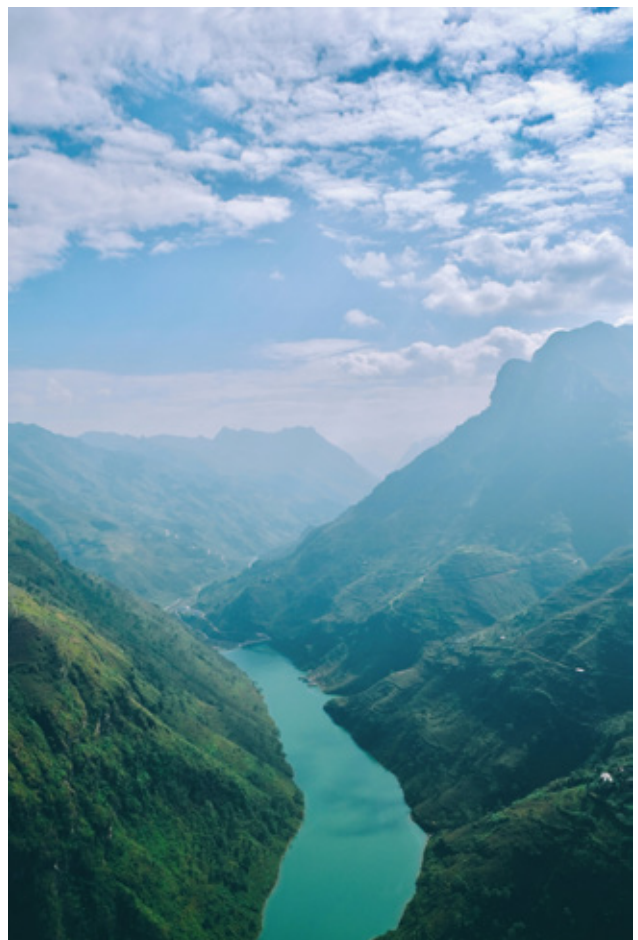


DAY 06

HA GIANG – BAN GIOC WATERFALL 06/10/2026

- 07:30** - Breakfast and early check-out from Ha Giang
 - 09:00** - Visit Dinh Thự Vua Mèo (Hmong King's Palace) in Sa Phin
 - Short, level walking path and historical storytelling
 - 10:30** - Scenic drive through Dong Van Karst Plateau Geopark
 - Optional photo stops at Ma Pi Leng Pass and local viewpoints
 - 12:30** - Lunch in Bao Lac town
 - 13:30** - Continue journey through quiet mountain roads of Cao Bang
 - 16:30** - Visit (optional): Nguom Ngao Cave – short walk on flat path
 - 17:30** - Arrive at Ban Gioc Waterfall
 - Time for riverside walk and golden hour photos
 - 18:30** - Check-in to lodge or hotel near Ban Gioc
 - 19:00** - Dinner at the lodge/restaurant with local dishes
- Drive Duration: ~8 hours with breaks and cultural stops

- **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **Accommodation:**
- Saigon Ban Gioc





Waterfall Wonders and Return to the Capital

07:00 - Breakfast and relaxed morning stroll to the waterfall

08:00 - Optional bamboo raft ride at Ban Gioc (calm, short ride)

09:00 - Depart from Ban Gioc for Hanoi

12:30 - Stop for lunch in Cao Bang City

15:00 - Scheduled rest stop for refreshments and bathroom break



BAN GIOC WATERFALL – HA NOI (6 hours) 07/10/2026

- **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **Accommodation:** Imperial Hotel

17:30 - Light snack/tea break near Thai Nguyen (optional)

19:00–19:30 - Arrive in Hanoi – drop off at hotel

Drive Duration:

~9.5–10 hours with comfort stops





DAY 08

HANOI – HA LONG BAY
08/10/2026

- **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **Accommodation:**
Indochina Sails - Deluxe Cabin with private balcony

Magnificent Limestone Karsts, Gourmet Cuisine, and Sunset Serenity

08:00 – 08:30 | Depart from your hotel in Hanoi by private vehicle or luxury shuttle

- Enjoy a scenic countryside drive through the Red River Delta (approx. 2.5 hours)
- Short rest stop en route for refreshments and leg stretching

11:30 – 12:00 | Arrive at Indochina Sails Lounge, Tuan Chau Marina, Ha Long City

- Warm welcome by cruise staff, check-in, and embarkation procedures

12:15 – 12:30 | Board the Indochine Cruise – Welcome drink & cruise briefing

- Settle into your elegant cabin with panoramic views

13:00 | Buffet lunch served in the restaurant as the cruise glides through the bay

- Begin your voyage through the UNESCO World Heritage seascape
- Pass iconic islets like Incense Burner, Fighting Cock, and Stone Dog

15:00 – 16:30 | Shore excursion to Sung Sot Cave (Surprise Cave)

- Gentle walk with steps into the illuminated

- chambers of one of Ha Long's largest caves
- Alternative for seniors: enjoy leisure time on deck with tea or spa treatments

17:00 | Optional sunset kayaking or bamboo boat ride around Luon Cave

- Or relax with a cocktail during Happy Hour on the sundeck

18:00 | Return to the cruise – enjoy the golden-hour views

- Join a Vietnamese cooking demonstration (spring rolls, dipping sauces)

19:30 | Dinner à la carte in the onboard restaurant

- Sophisticated menu of Vietnamese and international cuisine
- Soft music, wine pairings, and warm service in an elegant ambience

Evening | Free time for:

- Stargazing on deck
- Squid fishing with crew assistance
- Enjoying your balcony view in quiet comfort

Overnight on **the Indochine Cruise**, deluxe cabin with private balcony



Morning: Enjoy the activities in Ha Long Bay. Brunch is served on board before checking out. 10:45 Disembark to the dock and start two hours and thirty minus drive from Ha Long Bay to Noi Bai Airport to reach the short flight to Hue city. Upon arrival, check in at Eldora Hue Hotel, stay overnight in Hue. Suggested restaurant is DMZ Bar & Restaurant or Little Italy (payment on clients 'account) , It's about 600 meters away from Eldora Hotel)

**HA LONG BAY – NOI BAI
AIRPORT – HUE
VN 1545 @16:35-17:55
09/10/2026**

- **Meals:** Breakfast, Brunch
- **Accommodation:**
Eldora Hue Hotel





DAY 10

HUE DISCOVERY BY VESPA 10/10/2026

- **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch
- **Accommodation:**
Eldora Hue Hotel

Breakfast at the hotel.

Morning – Vespa ride 08:00-12:00

This tour is perfect if you like: History, heritage, countryside, people, and local life.

'To the Citadel ... and beyond!'

Discover Hue's fascinating ancient imperial history from the back of a vintage Vespa as we explore the past lives of Vietnam's emperors, kings & dynasties. Let our guides show you the highlights, the hidden historic spots and into the countryside to meet the locals.

Description: Starting at Hue's majestic **Royal Palace**, we take in the history of Vietnam's ancient dynasties imagine the daily life of the old Kings and understand Hue's interesting and turbulent past. It's back on the Vespas to visit a

traditional bronze casting village before reaching the incredible and **ancient Tiger Arena and Elephant Temple** on the outskirts of the city. We combine this incredible history with a beautiful countryside ride to visit a local craftsman in his home, zoom over a floating bridge and then through the rolling hills & pine forests where we can take in the magnificent river views from up high. This captivating adventure continues with a ride to a stunning ancient regal tomb in a secluded and peaceful setting. Enjoy a few local snacks overlooking an enormous lotus-filled pond before heading back into the city.

Afternoon – City tour by bus 14:00-17:00

Visit **Khai Dinh Tomb, Thien Mu Pagoda, Dong Ba Market.**

Free evening and overnight in Hue city.



DAY 11

SCENIC DRIVE HUE – HOI AN 11/10/2026

09:00 Check out of the hotel and enjoy a scenic three-hour drive through the beautiful hilly landscape from Hue to Da Nang. Stop for lunch in Da Nang, then take photos at the Dragon Bridge before continuing with a 30-minute drive to climb Marble Mountain.

Afternoon – Check in at the hotel around 16:45–17:00. Enjoy free time at your leisure.

Overnight in Hoi An

- **Meals:** Breakfast, lunch
- **Accommodation:**
Hoi An Beach Resort





DAY 12

BA NA HILL 12/10/2026

- **Meals:** Breakfast
- **Accommodation:**
Hoi An Beach Resort

07:30 – 08:00 | Depart from Cửa Đại Beach Resort
Your private guide and driver will pick you up at your resort after breakfast. Sit back and enjoy a comfortable drive through the countryside and coastal roads as you head toward the Truong Son mountain range where Bà Nà Hills awaits.

Drive time: ~1 hour 30 minutes

09:30 | Arrive at Bà Nà Hills Cable Car Station
Upon arrival at the base station, take one of the world's longest and highest cable car rides — a smooth and spectacular 25-minute journey over lush jungle and waterfalls, ascending nearly 1,500 meters above sea level. Senior-friendly access with staff assistance and seating available

Cool mountain air offers a refreshing break from the lowland heat

10:00 – 12:00 | Explore the Highlights of Bà Nà Hills
Accompanied by your guide, visit the most iconic sites:

- Golden Bridge (Cầu Vàng) – Walk along the famous hand-held bridge above the clouds
- French Village – Admire French-style architecture, flower gardens, and cobblestone streets
- Linh Ung Pagoda – Gentle walk to view the large Buddha statue and mountain views

All walking paths are paved and benches are available throughout

12:00 – 13:30 | Buffet Lunch at Bà Nà Hills Restaurant (Your own account/expenses)

Enjoy a relaxed lunch at one of the hilltop restaurants offering a variety of Vietnamese and international cuisine, with options for soft diets and vegetarian preferences.

Lunch can be customized to suit guests' dietary needs

13:30 – 15:00 | Free Time & Leisure Exploration

- Take your time to revisit your favorite spot or enjoy live music or folk performances in the village
- Optional visit to the Fantasy Park (indoor amusement complex — fun to see, minimal walking)
- Or simply sip a coffee at a scenic viewpoint and enjoy the cool air and alpine charm

15:15 | Descend by Cable Car

Begin your descent via the cable car, offering a final breathtaking view of the forested hills and coastal plains.

16:45 | Arrive Back at Your Beach Resort in Hội An
Return to your resort by late afternoon with time to relax, freshen up, and enjoy the evening at your leisure.



DAY 13

DAY TRIP TO MY SON SANCTUARY 08/10/2026

- **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch
- **Accommodation:**
Hoi An Beach Resort

Ancient Ruins, Lush Valley Views & Cultural Heritage

08:00 | Depart from Cửa Đại Beach Resort

After breakfast, your private driver and English-speaking guide will meet you at your resort for a scenic drive inland to the sacred valley of Mỹ Sơn — once the spiritual capital of the Champa Kingdom.

Drive time: ~1 hour 15 minutes through peaceful countryside and small villages.

09:15 | Arrive at Mỹ Sơn Sanctuary Visitor Center
Upon arrival, you'll be welcomed with a short introduction at the visitor center, followed by an electric shuttle transfer to the main temple site — saving time and minimizing walking.

09:30 – 11:00 | Guided Visit to Mỹ Sơn Sanctuary
Explore the enchanting remains of Hindu temple towers built between the 4th and 13th centuries. Your guide will lead you through:

- Group B, C, D Temple Complexes – The best-preserved and most photogenic clusters
- Cham Culture & Shiva Worship – Discover the ancient stories carved into the sandstone
- Surrounding Nature – The peaceful setting in a green valley surrounded by hills

The walking path is mostly flat and shaded;

plenty of rest stops and benches are available
Golf cart transport available for mobility assistance (upon request)

11:00 – 11:30 | Traditional Cham Dance Performance (Optional)

If timing allows, enjoy a short cultural show featuring Cham traditional music and dance performed by local artists in colorful traditional costumes.

11:45 – 13:00 | Lunch at a Riverside Restaurant
Drive back toward Hội An and stop at a charming countryside restaurant or garden café for a leisurely lunch, serving local Vietnamese dishes with light and healthy options.

Example: Fresh spring rolls, grilled fish, cao lầu noodles, tropical fruit

13:00 – 14:00 | Optional Scenic Stop or Return to Resort

- Option 1: Visit a local village market or craft stop (e.g., Thanh Hà pottery village)
- Option 2: Return directly to your beach resort for a restful afternoon

14:00 – 14:30 | Arrive Back at Cửa Đại Beach Resort
Back at the resort, enjoy a relaxing swim or nap, or sip something cool by the sea after a meaningful cultural morning.



DAY 14

FREE DAY
08/10/2026

- **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
- **Accommodation:**
Hoi An Beach Resort





DAY 15

DEPARTURE
15/10/2026

1. **10 pax** flight Da Nang – Hanoi
VN170 @13:50-15:15
To connect the international flight:
Hanoi – Abu Dhabi @19:40
2. **04 pax** flight Da Nang – Hanoi
VN168 @12:55-14:20
To connect international flight:
Hanoi – Singapore @18:30



