

VIETNAM – CYCLING HOLIDAY FROM NORTH TO SOUTH

15-Day / 14-Night Discover Ha Long Bay, Hội An, Hanoi, Saigon and the Mekong Delta



Vietnam is a vibrant and unique country full of splendid natural beauty and of ancient and modern history. It is a country of contrasts with bustling cities, fascinating towns and villages, places where time seems to have stood still. It is also growing in popularity as an interesting and exciting cycling destination.

On this tour we cycle between lush green rice paddies, past water buffalo, temples and pagodas. We explore the fascinating scenery of Ha Long Bay sailing aboard a traditional yet comfortable sailing junk. We explore by bike a place where the emerald-green waters of the South China Sea and the incredible cave formations are beautiful and overwhelming. In Central Vietnam we discover impressive monuments of Vietnamese emperors, the historic World Heritage listed town of Hội An and in South Vietnam the labyrinth that is the Mekong Delta.

Departures: Sunday 7 March 2027; Sunday 21 March 2027

Cost from: \$7050 per person, twin-share

Single room supplement **\$3510**

Upgrade to E-Bike **\$395** *Not available in Central Vietnam*

Includes: 14 nights' accommodation with 2 nights on comfortable junk in spacious, air-conditioned double/twin cabins and 12 nights in selected 3 or 4-star hotels, domestic flights (as mentioned), meals as specified in the itinerary (B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner), guided bicycle tours and walks with English speaking guides, all city tours and entrance charges to National Parks, museums as shown in the itinerary, bike hire (bike styles may vary depending on destination), airport transfers on the official arrival and departure days.

Not included: Travel to Hanoi and from Hồ Chí Minh City; Vietnamese visa; meals not listed in the itinerary, drinks on board and in hotels, gratuities, and personal expenses.



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We cruise through the rocky landscape of Lan Ha Bay aboard a traditional Vietnamese junk, travelling between its islands, cliffs and rocky outcrops. The boat is furnished in a traditional Far Eastern style, creating a comfortable setting for the journey.

Our junk offers 12 elegantly furnished cabins from 18 m², featuring a double or twin beds, private bathroom, individually controlled air-conditioning, mini-bar, safe and large windows with uninterrupted views.

Relax on the spacious sundeck with padded loungers, enjoy the top-deck bar and spa/massage service, while complimentary daily bottled water and freshly prepared meals add comfort throughout your Lan Ha Bay cruise.



Suggested itinerary – subject to change:

Day 1, Sunday: Arrival in Hanoi

Arrive at Hanoi airport and transfer to your hotel in the heart of the old city center. Hanoi appears provincial and traditional and the historical Old Town quarter is considered one of the best preserved in all of Southeast Asia. That night visit the famous water puppet theatre and enjoy dinner together. Overnight at the hotel. (D = Dinner)

Day 2, Monday: Hanoi – Hoa Lu – Tam Coc

Cycling @ 25km

After breakfast a bus takes us to the rural province of Ninh Binh, where we begin our first cycling tour alongside vast tiers of vibrant green rice paddies. We cycle to Hoa Lu, the former capital of Vietnam. We have time to explore this fascinating historical site with its well-preserved relics of past dynasties, then continue through spectacular landscapes dotted with traditional pagodas. We complete the day with a traditional rowboat trip on the Tam Coc River and a visit to a bird sanctuary. (BLD = Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner)

Day 3, Tuesday: Tam Coc – Ha Phong – Cát Bà Island

Cycling @ 25km

After breakfast a bus takes us to Hai Phong. From there we take a ferry across Cat Hai Island to Cát Bà Island, the largest island in the archipelago of the same name. Upon arrival, we cycle along the picturesque coastal road to the main town of Cát Bà. If we still have the energy and time, we can extend the tour to include the impressive Cát Bà National Park, known for its lush forests, rugged limestone landscapes and rich biodiversity. We then have an opportunity for a refreshing swim at the beach before dinner together. (BLD)

Day 4, Wednesday: Cát Bà & Lan Ha Bay

Sea kayaking

After breakfast we transfer to Ben Beo, at the southern tip of Cát Bà Island. From here, we board an excursion boat and cruise into Lan Ha Bay, where we enjoy a guided kayaking tour through the lagoon-like island landscape. Our destination is a secluded beach, where we stop for a picnic lunch and have plenty of opportunity for swimming. We then continue through the spectacular scenery of Lan Ha Bay before boarding our junk, a traditional-style boat, where we spend the next two nights. (BLD)

Day 5, Thursday: Lan Ha Bay – Viet Hai Village

Cycling @ 10km + Sea kayaking

In the morning, we take an excursion boat to Cát Bà Island National Park. A short cycle brings us to the remote village of Việt Hải, where we visit a traditional house and learn about the daily life and culture of the local community. We then return to the boat and continue through Lan Ha Bay, passing limestone cliffs and island formations along the way. In the afternoon, we explore the waters around Cát Bà by kayak, paddling towards small beaches and sheltered inlets. The day concludes on the sun deck. (BLD)

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Day 6, Friday: Halong Bay – Hanoi – Hội An

We start the day with sunrise over Halong Bay before exploring one of the bay's fascinating caves by traditional rowboat. After lunch on board, we disembark the Junk at Tuan Chau Marina and transfer to Hanoi Airport. In the late afternoon we fly to Đà Nẵng before continuing to our resort in Hội An. Once we arrive, we can unwind in the hotel's palm garden or take a stroll through Hội An's old town, famous for its preserved wooden houses and lantern-lined streets. (BLD)

Day 7, Saturday: Hội An**Cycling @ 20km**

Today we get a closer look into the lives of local farmers by cycling to Tra Que 'vegetable village' – a small village near Hội An, where our hosts will prepare a meal using traditional ingredients including the unique sweet and spicy vegetables grown in the area. The afternoon is free to relax or to explore the white beach of Cửa Đại. Dinner is at your own arrangements. (BL)

Day 8, Sunday: Hội An

We have the full day to explore the sights and sounds of Hội An on foot. Its narrow streets, lantern-lit storefronts and fusion of various styles of traditional Asian architecture give it a charming feel. Hội An is well-known for textiles and tailoring; perhaps have a local tailor whip up a new outfit. You may also like to visit the Japanese Bridge and Quan Cong Temple. In the afternoon enjoy the palm-fringed pool at our resort hotel. Dinner at own arrangements this evening. (BL)

Day 9, Monday: Hội An – Huế**Cycling @ 40km**

We leave Hội An this morning and head towards Huế. We start off on our bikes, then a transfer bus picks us up enroute to take us over Cloud Pass, the weather line between North and South Vietnam. We stop for lunch and perhaps a swim at Lăng Cô Beach before we continue to Thuan An beach by bicycle or bus, your choice. The afternoon is yours at leisure before dinner in Huế. (BLD)

Day 10, Tuesday: Huế**Cycling @ 20km**

The entire day is devoted to exploring the old imperial city of Huế located between hills and rice fields at a bend of the Perfume River. The spiritual heart of Vietnam beats here in more than 300 temples and pagodas. We cycle past rice paddies, bamboo groves and temples to Thanh Thuy village, notable for its unique architecture including its tile-roofed bridge. We return by bike to Huế for lunch in a typical restaurant then tour the Imperial Citadel with the "Forbidden Purple City" (once exclusively reserved for the Nguyen royalty). The evening is free, with dinner at your own arrangements. (BL)

Day 11, Wednesday: Huế – Hồ Chí Minh City – Mỹ Tho – Cái Bè**Cycling @ 25km**

After breakfast we take a morning flight to Hồ Chí Minh City, formerly Saigon, followed by a transfer to Mỹ Tho, the gateway to the Mekong Delta. After lunch, we begin our cycling tour towards Vĩnh Long, the provincial capital, known for its bustling markets and traditional way of life. As we cycle towards Cái Bè, we take in the lush vegetation and rice fields that characterise the delta. On arrival in Cái Bè, we take a small boat across to a little island, where we stay overnight at our resort. (BLD)

Day 12, Thursday: Mekong Delta: Islands of Vĩnh Long and Cần Thơ**Cycling @ 20km**

This morning, we cycle around the island along palm-tree-shaded paths, discovering the landscapes, waterways and fruit orchards of the Mekong Delta. We return to the resort for lunch before continuing by boat to Vĩnh Long, with its traditional villages, floating markets and riverside life, where there is an opportunity for an optional short ride. Later this afternoon, we transfer to Cần Thơ, the Mekong Delta's largest city and a lively riverside hub. (BLD)

Day 13, Friday: Cần Thơ - Hồ Chí Minh City

Today, we take a small private boat to Cai Rang, the most famous floating market in Vietnam, where local vendors sell fresh produce directly from their boats. We then visit the region's largest farmers' market, where stalls are filled with colourful fresh fruits. After lunch on board, we transfer back to Hồ Chí Minh City for an overnight stay at our hotel. (BL)

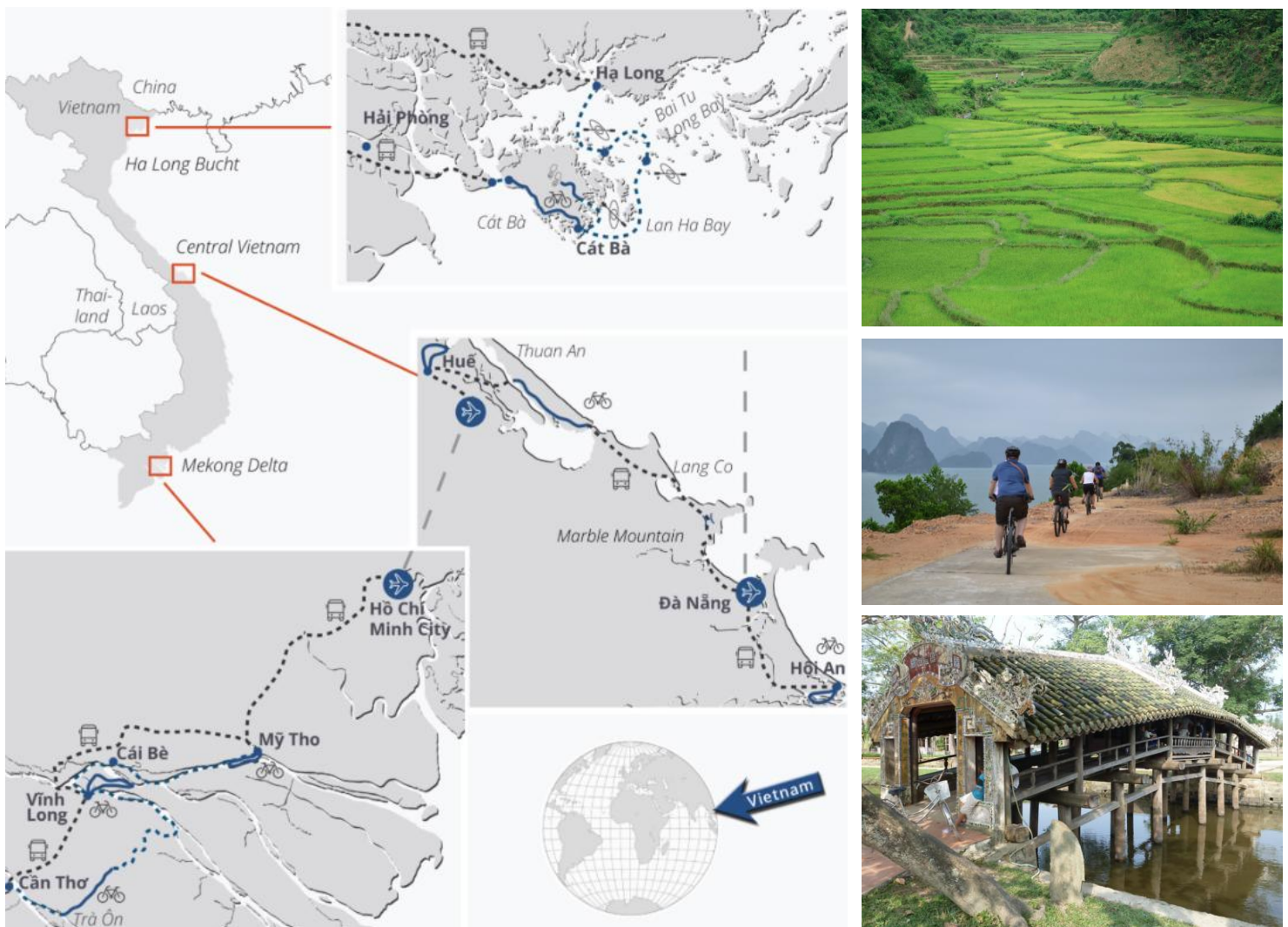
Day 14, Saturday: Hồ Chí Minh City

Hồ Chí Minh City is the modern centre of Vietnam. We take a guided tour of the megacity, exploring the town hall, the Notre Dame cathedral and other historical sites. The afternoon offers a chance to join the madding crowd of the Bến Thành Market. Enjoy a farewell dinner and your last night stay. (BLD)

Day 15, Sunday: Departure - Hồ Chí Minh City

After breakfast, transfer to Hồ Chí Minh City airport for your departure flight. Or ask about additional nights in Hồ Chí Minh City, or about the post-tour extension, cycling in Siem Reap and Angkor Wat in Cambodia. (B)

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Post-Tour Extension: Add a four-day journey through Siem Reap and Angkor Wat to your Vietnam Holiday, including guided cycling, temple visits, hikes and three nights in Cambodia. Available at extra cost; please ask for details when booking.



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