

A ravishing coastline of more than 3,000km, mighty emerald-green chains of mountains, breathtaking national parks, dynamic cities, outstanding cultural and culinary interests, Vietnam has it all!

Coming to Vietnam to awake your senses, to begin your true journey and adventurechallenge yourselves in a dynamic and young city - Ho Chi Minh in its crisscrossed traffic and legendary land of Cu Chi - a so-called underground city in the American war, then bewitch yourself with canal and watery life on unique floating markets in the Mekong Delta or Nine- Dragon river as we name it. Test your bravery trekking overnight in the National Park Nam Cat Tien... Leave it all behind to reach one of the most beautiful beaches in the world- Nha Trang. Freely immerse yourselves in the vast turquoise sea water at Phu Quoc and Con Dao islands. Meditate in peace on the ancient and pensive town of Hoi An and Hue- with glistening lanterns and where time seems to pause. Astonish yourself in the breathtaking moments seeing thousands of limestones islands in Ha Long Bay. Slalom through the majestic inland karst mountains of Cao Bang. Hike mountain tracks and explore trial villages near Sapa and Bac Ha. Your journey would be incomplete missing Ha Noi- the capital of Viet Nam with more than one-thousand- year of cultural establishment. Coming to Vietnam to bewitch the hidden but sexy charm of ao dai and conical hats, to smell an unforgettable smell of nuoc mam and to feel secure and happy at naive smiles of Vietnamese.

# THE SOUTH

Ho Chi Minh City seems never to sleep. It is the most dynamic city of Vietnam, and the Pearl of the Far East. There are new sky rise buildings with modern architecture. There are also street markets, where bargains are struck and deals are done; the pavement cafes, where stereo speakers fill the surroundings streets with a melodious thumping beat; and the sleek new cafes and pubs, where tourists freely chat over beer, pretzels, coffee and croissants... Ho Chi Minh City seems to have it all. The best time to visit Ho Chi Minh City is during the dry season from December and April, although the coolest months are October through December and foreign tourists can <u>get Vietnam visa on arrival</u> at Tan Son Nhat airport easily.

# CU CHI TUNNELS - GREAT CAO DAI HOLY SEE (70 km from the Ho Chi Minh City)

Cu Chi, a 4-floor tunnels with a length of over 250 km, used to be called an underground city, where Viet Cong lived, hid and fought in the American war. This tunnel network and its history has made this land legendary. It would be incomplete for your adventure without squeezing yourself into the "door" down to the tunnel and crawling along it.

# THE MEKONG DELTA (from 70km from Ho Chi Minh City)

The Mekong Delta- the southernmost region of Vietnam- is pancake flat but lusciously green and beautiful. It was formed by sediment deposited by the Mekong River (or Nine-Dragons River as it is usually called in Vietnam). The land of the Mekong Delta is renowned for its richness and almost half of it is under cultivation. It is known as Vietnam's "rice basket", as this land produces enough rice to feed the entire country with a sizeable surplus. PHU QUOC ISLAND (500 km from HCMC- best travel by air - 1 hour) (120 km from Kien Giang- best travel by air - 25 minutes, by high speed canoe: 2.5hour)

Phu Quoc - a tear-shaped island in the Gulf of Thailand, with a length of 48 km and an area of 1,320 square km, is ringed with some of the most incredibly beautiful and pristine beaches. Fantastic views of marine life, tranquil and pure environment, transparent blue-green waters... are all to attract tourists and pull them back many other times. Leave all the worries and stress behind to immerse yourselves in this wonderful worldly paradise.

## PHAN THIET (197 km from Ho Chi Minh City)

This beach city, built along both banks of the Phan Thiet River and the Muong Man River, is not only very beautiful with long ribbons of glorious sand dunes, turquoise water and thick groves of coco palms, but also still very pristine with unspoilt beaches and islands for you to explore. On the contrary with those serene places, there are a wide range of modern restaurants and <u>resorts in Phan Thiet</u> offering you numerous kinds of accommodation and seafood at very affordable prices. Enjoying your life sipping home-made wines with fresh seafood and contemplating spectacular sunsets on those romantic beaches.

BUON MA THUOT (489 km from Ho Chi Minh City - best travel by air: 1.5hours) If beaches are not your cup of tea, then this city of mountains, waterfalls and lakes is completely appropriate for those who like the feelings of adventuring and conquering. Trekking on mountains, kayaking crossing waterfalls or riding elephants through cold and deep water of lakes should be always in your must-do list. More than that, you can feast your eyes on vast green coffee plantations, giving a hand in catching and taming giant elephants of M'nong ethnic people or chilling yourselves visiting sacred Cemetery of Ede tribe. Ancient wooden houses-on-stilt shouldn't be missing for those who love exploring particular architecture and style of particular ethnic minority people.

What Buon Ma Thuot lacks in eating options, it makes up for with coffee. It's the cash crop of the region, and the locals here are justifiably proud of its high quality. It's almost impossible to get a bad cup of coffee here, and no one would even think of serving you Nescafe or G7 unless you specifically asked for it. The coffee is incredibly rich and smooth, with subtle hints of chocolate.

# DA LAT (310 km from Ho Chi Minh City)

A city of thousands flowers, A paradise of Love, A Miniature Paris... are just some of the names to call this romantic highland city. Located 1475m above the sea level, Da Lat has a very favorable climate that seems make a day 4 seasons. Lakes, waterfalls, ever-green forests and gardens, together with park-like environment all year round make this city one of the most delightful cities in all of Vietnam. Favourable climate makes favorable crops of veggies, fruits as well as people. Mild and friendly pinky-cheeked girls and ladies with their smiling faces and skillfully knit products attract anyone who has sense of art and a romantic heart.

### NHA TRANG (447 km from Ho Chi Minh City)

Nha Trang is an indisputably beautiful city bordered by mountains, with the beach tracing an impressive long swoop along a bay dotted with islands. No wonder why

Nha Trang has just been recognized as one of the most beautiful bays in the world. Nha Trang has a split personality. One part takes the form of a smaller Da Nang– a bustling Vietnamese city humming with commerce but blessed with access to a beautiful beach, while the other one is a Western resort town encompassing several blocks of hotels, tourist shops, bars and international restaurants. Entering this sheltered enclave you could be anywhere in the world, if it weren't for the constant hassling from xe om drivers, many of whom seem to moonlight as pimps and dealers.

Nha Trang offers plenty to keep tourists occupied – from island-hopping boat trips and scuba diving, to mud baths and historic sites. But the main attraction for most visitors is lounging around on deck chairs at a beachfront bar and drinking cocktails in comfort, or taking a cyclo ride along the beach to breathe the fresh air from the sea, feasting on beautiful sceneries along the way or tasting excellent seafood in this seafood haven.

## HOI AN (931 km from Ho Chi Minh City)

Hoi An- also known as Faifo- used to be one of the South-East Asia's major international ports during the 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries, is now a picturesque riverside town and the most enchanting place on the coast and is one city worth lingering in. More than any other place in Vietnam, Hoi An retains a sense of history which grows on you the more you explore it.

Hoi An, which was recognized as the UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1997, has just been voted as the leading beautiful and peaceful city among over 970 nominated cities in the world by the UK Wanderlust Magazine. This is especially true on 'Hoi An Legendary Night'. Every month on the full moon, motorbikes are banned from the Old Town, which is transformed into a magical land of silk lanterns, traditional food, song and dance, and games in the streets. There are not sufficient words and better way to describe about this ancient city than exploring it on your own and feel it yourself.

#### HUE (135 km from Hoi An)

Hue- a quiet and ancient city located by the romantic Huong River, was designated a UNESCO World Heritage in 1993, and now still keeps that reputation. Traditionally, Hue has been one of Vietnam's main cultural, religious and educational centres. Today, its main attractions are the splendid tombs of the Nguyen Emperors, several notable pagodas..., and the remains of the Citadel. Hue women are no doubt renowned for their gentle beauty, charm and courtesy. Hue is a perfect location to explore the cultural heart and soul of the Vietnamese people while still having easy access to some beautiful beaches. Also, Hue cuisine can hardly beaten by anyone anywhere else.

#### HA NOI

Hanoi- the capital of Vietnam, is a city of lakes, shaded boulevards and verdant public parks. This is a city where the exotic chic of oldAsia blends with the dynamic face of newAsia, where the medieval and modern co-exist. A city with a blend of Parisian grace and Asian pace, an architectural museum piece evolving in harmony with its 4000-year history, rather than bulldozing through like many of the region's capitals. Hanoi is where imagination becomes reality.

HA LONG BAY (340 km from Ha Noi capital)

Ha Long has an interesting legend about the name itself. Ha Long means "descending dragons". The legend is that, "Once upon a time, soon after the Việt people established their country, invaders came. The Jade Emperor sent Mother Dragon and her Child Dragons down to earth to help the Việt people fight against their enemy. Right at the time invaders' boats were rushing to the shore, the dragons landed down on earth. The dragons immediately sent out from their mouths a lot of pearls, which then turned into thousands of stone islands emerging in the sea like great walls challenging the invaders' boats. The fast boats couldn't manage to stop and crashed into the islands and into each other and broke into pieces. After the victory, Mother Dragon and Child Dragons didn't return Heaven but stayed on earth at the place where the battle had occurred. The location Mother Dragon landed is nowadays Ha Long Bay and where Child Dragons descended is now Bái Tử Long. The dragons' tails waving the water created Long Vĩ (present Trà Cổ peninsula) and formed a fine sand beach over ten kilometers long". Legend is still a legend. The truth is Ha Long with its magnificent and wowed natural beauty, has been recognized one of the 7 natural wonders of the World.

#### SAPA (380 km from Ha Noi capital)

Sapa- the premier destination of north-west Vietnam- lies in a beautiful valley at the height of 1600m and very close to the border of China. The whole area is spectacular, full of colorful minority people and frequently shrouded in mist. This beautiful mountainous city is famous for both its fine, rugged scenery and also its rich cultural diversity. H'mong ang Dzao minority people- the largest and most colorful ethnic groups in the region are an interesting part of your visit that can't be missed to have a complete trip to this highland.

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