

# Premier Vietnam

## TRIP NOTES

### Overview

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*Vietnam is a nation best explained through its stories. When you're surrounded by the limestone karsts of Halong Bay, the splendour of Hanoi Opera House or the reflections of a Buddhist monk in Hue, it's easy to understand why. The landmarks, history and people of this country are utterly unique. Liberating themselves from the Chinese in the first millennium and from the French, Japanese and Americans in the second, the Vietnamese have a prevailing sense of self. Timeless food, religion and courtesy are the order of the day, yet the symbols of colonial culture remain.*



### Exceptional experiences

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- Enjoy a café sua da with the locals at the birds' club at Tao Dan Park
- Learn to make Pho at the famous Red Bridge Cooking School
- Enjoy an introduction to Vietnamese calligraphy
- Enjoy a spiritual discussion with Buddhist monks in Hue
- See the wonderful Halong Bay in a five-star luxury junk

## Day to Day Itinerary

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### Days 1 Ho Chi Minh City

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On arrival you will be met and transferred to the Villa Song, your riverfront home for the next two nights. Meet your leader and travelling companions over dinner at Cuc Gach Quan.

*Accommodation:* Villa Song

### Day 2 Ho Chi Minh City

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Take a tour of several icons including the Post Office, Cathedral of Notre Dame, the Reunification Palace and the former CIA offices. No visit to Ho Chi Minh City would be complete without a bowl of pho and a trip to Fanny's, the famous French ice cream parlour.

*Accommodation:* Villa Song

### Day 3 Ho Chi Minh City ~ Hoi An

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Watch the city come to life in peaceful Tao Dan Park as you sip a ca phe sua da (coffee). Freshen up before the flight to Hoi An, where you'll settle into the hotel and take a walking tour before an evening of leisure.

*Accommodation:* Anantara Hoi An Resort

### Day 4 Hoi An

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Feel the wind in your hair on a cycling tour through the countryside. Ride at a leisurely pace through palm forests and fields of water buffalo. Stop for lunch then ride or take your private vehicle back to town.

*Accommodation:* Anantara Hoi An Resort

## Day 5 Hoi An

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Enjoy a free morning to make your own discoveries. Your tour leader will be on hand to offer suggestions. Discover the secrets of Vietnamese cuisine at the renowned Red Bridge Cooking School then dine on the fruits of your labour.

*Accommodation:* Anantara Hoi An Resort

## Day 6 Hue

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Travel to the ancient capital by road, dissected by the gentle Perfume River. Cycle through the streets and discover why the Citadel and Forbidden Purple City have been World Heritage listed by UNESCO. Dine at Y Thao Garden tonight.

*Accommodation:* La Résidence Hotel & Spa

## Day 7 Hue

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Travel along the Perfume River to Emperor Tu Doc's tomb. Highlights of today will include learning the art of Vietnamese calligraphy and holding a discourse with a local monk about Buddhism.

*Accommodation:* La Résidence Hotel & Spa

## Day 8 Hanoi

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Fly north to the capital of Hanoi and visit the Temple of Literature, One Pillar Pagoda, Tran Quoc Buddhist Pagoda and Hanoi's Old Quarter. The evening is at leisure to make your own discoveries.

*Accommodation:* Sofitel Legend Metropole

## Day 9 Halong Bay

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Arrive at Halong Bay and board the luxurious Violet Jasmine, styled after 1930s Indochine. Drop anchor near a secluded beach and make the short trek to a nearby summit for panoramic views. Swim, recline on sun lounges and visit a local fishing village. Watch sunset from a kayak or row boat.

*Accommodation:* Violet Jasmine

## Day 10 Halong Bay

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Board a private boat to cruise the bay's most untouched areas. Swim, relax on the beach or explore mysterious tunnels and caves. Back on board, lunch is prepared by your private chef.

*Accommodation:* Violet Jasmine

## Days 11 & 12 Hanoi

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Return to Hanoi where you have free time to explore or relax at the hotel. Your leader can provide suggestions. In the evening, sit in the audience for a performance of the famous water puppets followed by a final group dinner at Madame Hien's. The next morning you are transferred to the airport for your departure.

*Accommodation:* Sofitel Legend Metropole

## Other Information

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### What's included

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- Domestic economy class flights, with airport assistance, as indicated in the itinerary.
- Breakfast daily, 7 lunches and 6 dinners.
- Private sightseeing (including all entrance fees) as outlined in the itinerary.
- Comfortable private transportation with driver. Other modes of transportation include luxury junk boat & bicycle.
- Snacks and refreshments along the way.
- Tipping & portage taken care of by tour leader along the way.
- Airport meet and greet service.
- Departure transfer.

### What's not included

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- International flights
- Visas
- Airport taxes
- Laundry
- Gratuities

### Maximum passengers

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12 people

Peregrine

Reserve

Exceptional Journeys

## Extend your journey

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If you'd like to extend your stay, you can consult our sales team for advice on pre and post tour accommodation, activities and other Peregrine Reserve journeys in the area.

## Reserve by Peregrine

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### The Reserve Difference

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Peregrine has been travelling the world for over 35 years and we've used this knowledge to create unique, wellcrafted and comprehensive itineraries. In 2012 we built on this foundation to launch the Reserve range of comfortable, luxurious and exceptional journeys. Reserve takes you beyond the highlights and into the heart of a destination

- Boutique accommodation that offers an authentic and intimate experience
- Well-crafted itineraries that take you to the highlights and beyond
- Dining experiences that allow you to taste the soul of a destination
- Comfortable, private and air-conditioned transport
- Exceptional local leaders who unlock the secrets of a place
- Intimate travelling parties of no more than 12 people (or less)
- A manner of travel that embraces the passage of time, which allows you to set your own pace

### Private Journeys

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- All Reserve itineraries can be taken as a private departure, which means you can specify the dates and your travel companions
- Our Reserve Specialists can amend an existing itinerary or create something completely unique to suit your interests
- Celebrate special occasions such as birthdays, anniversaries or your honeymoon in style
- Ideal for families

## Your next steps

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## Ready to book?

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Call us on 1300 369 220 or email [enquiries@peregrinereserve.com](mailto:enquiries@peregrinereserve.com)

We can also help with booking your international flights; pre and post tour accommodation; organising visas, transfers and travel insurance. Simply let us know when you are calling to book your Reserve journey.

## Stay in touch

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The Reserve e-news and Facebook page can open up a world of inspiration. We bring you the most up-to-date news, superb images, fun competitions and the chance to interact with fellow lovers of luxury travel. Subscribe to the [e-news](#) and [Like us on Facebook](#) to begin your exceptional experience.

## About this Information

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The information provided here is provided in good faith and has been compiled with all reasonable care. However, individual elements of trips are liable to change and some of the information may become out of date. This document was correct at time of printing, but you can check online for the most up to date version. Please keep this in mind and don't hesitate to call the Peregrine Reserve team should you have any queries or concerns.