

5 DAYS: PLAN A

# Glimpse of Northern Vietnam



Travel to Blank Out

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B = Breakfast / L = Lunch / D = Dinner



This document is especially made for you to take it on your trip. Save it on your phone to have it always available offline.

# Plan A



# Day 1

## Hanoi – City tour (L)

After having breakfast the tour guide and shuttle bus will arrive to pick up you to join **Hanoi city tour** at 8.30am. You will start the tour by visiting **Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum** and **Ho Chi Minh Museum**. Enjoy the architectural and historical aspects of Uncle Ho's final resting-palace. Just next door is Ho Chi Minh's house on stilts where he used to live in the past. Lying to one side of the Mausoleum is the **One Pillar Pagoda**, built by King Ly Thai To in 1049 the structure has become an important symbol for the people of Hanoi. Continue to visit the **Temple of Literature**

(Quoc Tu Giam) – Vietnam’s first University constructed in 1070. Its gardens and well-preserved architecture offer a relaxing glimpse into Vietnam’s past.

Have lunch at local restaurants. Proceed to visit the **Ethnology Museum**. After that we will take you to Hoan Kiem Lake, see the peaceful water, and visit **Ngoc Son Temple**. Take an hour cyclo tour around the bustling old quarter to see ordinary life in Hanoi.

At 18.00, back to your hotel.

Stay overnight at hotel in Hanoi.

# Day 2

## Hanoi – Mai Chau (B,L,D)

“**Mai Chau** is a mountainous area of outstanding natural beauty, inhabited by a Thai and H’mong ethnic minority groups. This trip offers an easy trekking combined with homestay in villages of Thai , where you have experienced with the local lifestyle of these minority people”

Pick up from your hotel at 8.00 and head west towards Hoa Binh. Refreshment in Hoa Binh. Leave Hoa Binh for Mai Chau Valley, about 2hrs away, stop for snapping pictures. Around 12.00, arrive in Mai Chau and have

lunch in a family house in the local village. After lunch, biking around the surrounding villages of White Thai Ethnic people. Learn more about their lives and cultures as your guide can help answer any questions.

Dinner with the family, get a closer look into their real life. Drink “ruou can” (traditional alcohol) with your new family.

Sleep in the village, in the stilt house, the most interesting part of the trip. Stilt houses are unique to Mai Chau and you cannot find this experience in other tour.

Overnight in the large communal room or Bungalow.

# Day 3

## Mai Chau – Hanoi

### (B,L)

The early morning is the most peaceful time to walk around the villages. Feeling the fresh air and seeing women prepare foods on the wooden fire while the sun is rising over the beautiful mountains which you can not feel in the crowded cities.

Breakfast in the village then walk to Mai Chau market. After that, you will climb to 1000 step Cave which is breathtaking and is the view of the area from the entrance of the cave.

Have lunch in the village before getting on the bus back to Hanoi at 17.00.

Overnight at hotel in Hanoi.

# Day 4

## Hanoi – Halong Bay ( B,L,D)

Around 8.00am, our guide picks you up at your hotel and go to Halong bay on a shuttle bus. Take a rest at Humanity center and enjoy local specialties after 2h. Arrival in Halong at 11.45. The captain and crew welcome you aboard. Savor the delicious lunch as boat pass through thousands of Islands and Islets with different shapes.

After the lunch, explore the biggest and the most amazing cave in Halong Bay – Surprise Cave. Then Kayaking for an hour around the fishing village and discover the life of

community there. Then back to boat for Sunset Party, get to calm, clean water place for swimming. Enjoy delicious and romantic dinner with some barbecue courses.

In the evening, free time for entertainment with the funny plays such as squid fishing, karaoke program, stars watching on sundeck... Spend romantic night on board.

Overnight on board in Halong bay

# Day 5

## Halong bay – Hanoi (B,L)

**Early morning**, start your new day on Halong bay with doing morning exercises, Taichi or hunting photos. Breakfast with coffee or tea. After breakfast, our bus takes you to Cai Beo harbor, get on “Day Boat”, back boat. Then visit Ba Hang Fishing Village by tender to experience the lifestyle of local people. Back to boat restaurant to join cooking class and enjoy lunch.

**12.00**, Disembark and transfer back to Hanoi. Arrive in Hanoi at 16.30.