



## Best of Vietnam 2012

Ha Noi – Ha Long – Hue – Da Nang – Hoi An – Qui Nhon  
Nha Trang – Dalat – Mui Ne – Saigon

Tour 01: 05 Jan 2012 to 16 Jan 2012  
Tour 02: 07 Feb 2012 to 18 Feb 2012  
Tour 03: 05 Mar 2012 to 16 Mar 2012  
Tour 04: 02 Apr 2012 to 13 Apr 2012  
Tour 05: 23 Apr 2012 to 04 May 2012  
Tour 06: 28 May 2012 to 08 Jun 2012  
Tour 07: 04 Jun 2012 to 15 Jun 2012  
Tour 08: 18 Jun 2012 to 29 Jun 2012  
Tour 09: 25 Jun 2012 to 06 Jul 2012

Tour 10: 05 Jul 2012 to 16 Jul 2012  
Tour 11: 16 Jul 2012 to 27 Jul 2012  
Tour 12: 30 Jul 2012 to 10 Aug 2012  
Tour 13: 06 Aug 2012 to 17 Aug 2012  
Tour 14: 17 Sep 2012 to 28 Sep 2012  
Tour 15: 08 Oct 2012 to 19 Oct 2012  
Tour 16: 05 Nov 2012 to 16 Nov 2012  
Tour 17: 19 Nov 2012 to 30 Nov 2012  
Tour 18: 26 Nov 2012 to 07 Dec 2012

**Land Tour: \$1400.00\*** (does not include International ticket & Visa)

*\*Tour costs change based on available flight prices. To know about the latest tour costs, please contact AV Travel. Note: Book early to get the lowest possible quotes.*



### Schedule

#### DAY01: ARRIVE HANOI

#### DAY02: HANOI – HALONG

City tour: Visit the Temple of Literature, a combination of the Confucius Temple worshipping Confucius built in 1070 and the first Royal National university in Vietnam built 6 years later. Considered as “an escape” from the bustling city, this temple and its beautiful garden provide an opportunity to learn more about education in Vietnam from a thousand years ago until recent history. Visit Hanoi Cathedral, also known as Saint Joseph's Cathedral, was inaugurated on Christmas Day 1886, two years after its construction. Its design is similar to the architecture of Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.

Visit Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum, his house on stilt, the Presidential Palace while learning about his life and revolutionary activities. Visit One Pillar pagoda which was constructed in 1049 by King Ly Thai Tong following his dream of Bodhisattva seating on a lotus flower and leading him to the pagoda. The pagoda was destroyed by the French before their withdrawal in 1954. The city restored the pagoda soon after. Today it remains since this restoration. Drive to Halong

#### DAY03: HALONG - HANOI

Halong Bay was recognized as the second World Heritage site in Vietnam by the UNESCO in 1994. Covering an area of 1,553 square km and approximately 2,000 islands, it was declared as one of the most beautiful bay of the world. Cruise around Ha Long Bay. This exciting trip will provide us a spectacular view of the bay. The limestone formations are littered with beaches, grottoes and beautiful caves. Along the way we will anchor for an enjoyable visit to one of the many hidden grottoes beneath towering cliffs. Back to Hanoi.



Visit Hoan Kiem Lake (Restored Sword lake) and Ngoc Son temple. Situated in the heart of Hanoi, the lake got its name according to a legend. In the 15<sup>th</sup> century, during the Ming Chinese invasion, General Le Loi was presented with a holy sword. With the help of this sword he expelled the Chinese from Thang Long, present-day of Hanoi, and proclaimed himself as king Le Thai To. One day, when the king was sailing on the lake, suddenly a golden turtle emerged from the water and claimed back the sword which has been believed given to him by God. Since then, the lake has been known as Ho Hoan Kiem or the lake of the Restored Sword. On an island at the northern part of the lake stands Ngoc Son or Jade Mountain temple, one of the most beautiful and religious sites in the capital. The temple was established by a mandarin named Nguyen Van Sieu and is dedicated to the spirits of the soil, medicine, literature, and also to Tran Hung Dao, the general who defeated the Mongols in the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Shopping at 36 old streets.

#### **DAY04: HANOI – HUE**

Boat cruise on Huong river to visit Thien Mu Pagoda on the left bank of the Perfume River. It was built in 1601 and renovated in 1665 by Lord Nguyen Phuc Tan, who in 1710, had a great bell cast (2.5 m high, weighing 3,285 kg) and a stele (2.58 m high) erected on the back of a marble tortoise in 1715. In the Nguyen Dynasty, Kings such as Gia Long, Minh Mang, Thieu Tri, Thanh Thai all had the pagoda restored. Visit Khai Dinh Tomb was built between 1920 and 1931. It is located in a vast expanse of wilderness, and looks like a magnificent palace perched on the slope of a limestone mountain. It is accessible by climbing 109 stone steps. Unlike the construction materials used for the other tomb, Khai Dinh mausoleum was built with modern materials such as steel and reinforced concrete. A peculiar feature of the tomb is the magnificent porcelain decorations on the walls, columns and ceilings.

#### **DAY05: HUE – DA NANG – HOI AN**

Drive to Danang to visit China Beach, Non Nuoc village & Cham Museum where you will see the open-air collection of Cham sculptures (many of the sandstone carvings are breathtaking). Continue to Hoi An. Visit Phuoc Kien Temple, Tan Ky old house, where many ceramic antiques reside. Examine the special architectural style of Bridge Pagoda. Discover and take pictures at Hoai river, and the daily life of people in central Vietnam. Make a short city-tour and visit the Japanese Covered bridge, one of the Chinese Community halls, the former Merchandise houses and the historical museum.

#### **DAY06: HOI AN – QUI NHON**

Drive along the beautiful coast to Qui Nhon. Visit some Cham towers

#### **DAY07: QUI NHON – NHATRANG**

Nha Trang is naturally endowed with quiet & warm waters all the year round, surrounded by archipelagoes, islands, mountains and white sand beaches - a wonderful and attractive tourist resort. View the stunning beauty and luxury of Nha Trang's charming landscape. Vinpearl Resort Nha Trang, an international 5 star hotel in the Vinpearl Nhatrang complex of hotel, resort, tourism and recreation, is called "a sparkling pearl glued on the crown of the Sea queen" by the tourists.

#### **DAY08: NHATRANG**

Take the boat cruise around the offshore islands of Nhatrang Bay to visit Tri Nguyen Aquarium, Hon Tam Islands & Lang Chai. Visit the Institute of Oceanography. Ponagar Tower, is a Champa temple founded before 781 A.D. and located in the medieval principality of Kauthara, the first temple buildings were made of wood, but destroyed by seagoing raiders from Java around 774 A.D. Shopping at the Dam market.

#### **DAY09: NHATRANG – DALAT**

Depart to Dalat, sometimes known as the "City of Eternal Spring". The drive is long but views are fantastic. Established at the beginning of 20th century, Dalat is reminiscent of an alpine town with its French chalets and pine forests. A sightseeing tour in Dalat takes in the Art Deco former Summer Palace of Emperor Bao Dai, the old Dalat Railway Station, Xuan Huong Lake, the Central Market and Lam Ty Ni Pagoda where a Buddhist monk, Vien Thuc, produces abstract paintings and poetry. Visit the primitive islands with colorful flowers and take the cable cabin to see Dalat town from the sky. The lake has been surrounded by many stories and legends with sorrowful endings in which the heroine drowns in the lake to keep her true love forever.

**DAY10: DALAT**

Visit Love Valley, Domain De Marie Church. Enjoy the beauty of Truc Lam Zen Institute.

**DAY11: DALAT – MUI NE**

The beach itself is yellow sand with a semi-fine grain. The other key attraction are its snow white sand dunes reflecting on the still water and colored Mui Ne sand dunes, a perfect place for photographers.

**DAY12: MUI NE – SAIGON**

Drive to Saigon

**Sightseeing includes:**

<b>Ha Noi:</b>	Literature Temple, One-Pillar Pagoda, Hoan Kiem Lake, 36 Old Streets
<b>Ha Long:</b>	A World natural heritage site, overnight on a private junk
<b>Hue:</b>	Emperor Citadel, Thien Mu Pagoda, Khai Dinh & Tu Duc Tombs
<b>Da Nang:</b>	Lang Co Beach, Hai Van Pass, Non Nuoc Village, Marble Mountain
<b>Hoi An:</b>	Old town, Phuc Kien Pagoda, ancient houses – an unforgettable place
<b>Qui Nhon:</b>	Cham Towers, Quang Trung museum, nice beaches
<b>Nha Trang:</b>	Panoga Tower, Hon Chong, Boat cruise to Hon Tam & Con Se Tre
<b>Dalat:</b>	Truc Lam Zen Institute, Xuan Huong lakes, Datala & Camly waterfalls
<b>Mui Ne:</b>	Romantic beaches, white and red sand dunes

**Tour includes:**

- 4 or 5 stars hotel rooms, based on double occupancy. For single room, add \$475.00.
- Deluxe coaches between cities.
- All meals include traditional dishes.
- International travel insurance for 21 days.
- Daily sightseeing tours with professional English-Vietnamese speaking local guides.
- Entrances fees as scheduled.
- **Overnight on a private cruise in Ha Long bay.**
- **Royal custom dinner in Hue with live Vietnamese music.**
- **Tour by cyclo around Hoi An town.**
- **Stay at Vin Pearl Resort & Spa for 2 nights.**

**Optional:**

- Choice of different airlines may cause a change in the tour quote.
- Contact with AV Travel for any special promotion.

*\*\* In this tour you will experience the best of Vietnam, with each destination offering a rich history, literature, arts, beautiful beaches and resorts. \*\**

***Please e-mail: [avtravelonline@yahoo.com](mailto:avtravelonline@yahoo.com) for any question about this tour.***