



## HOTEL

| Destination | Hotel  | Date | Status |
|-------------|--|------|--------|
| Hanoi       | Essence Hanoi Hotel & Spa – Deluxe window room<br><a href="http://essencehanoihotel.com/">http://essencehanoihotel.com/</a>            |      |        |
| Pu Luong    | Pu Luong Garden Resort & Spa (New resort, hotel link will be advised)  |      |        |
| Dong Ha     | Saigon Dong Ha Hotel<br><a href="https://saigondonghahotel.com/">https://saigondonghahotel.com/</a>                                    |      |        |
| Hue         | Moonlight Hotel – Deluxe room<br><a href="http://www.moonlighthue.com">www.moonlighthue.com</a>  |      |        |
| Hoi An      | Vinh Hung Riverside Resort & Spa - Deluxe River View)<br><a href="https://www.vinhhungresort.com/">https://www.vinhhungresort.com/</a> |      |        |

## TOUR GUIDES:

In Hanoi: Mr. Nien

In Hue and Hoi An: Mr. Nhan

### Key

B = Breakfast

L = Lunch

D = Dinner

G = Guide

## ITINERARY: V1

### Day 0: Hanoi arrival (Driver)

This will be our arrival day. Whenever you arrive there will be a welcoming committee at the airport!

We will final the time and where to have dinner when you have number of clients/students

- [Hanoi: Essence Hanoi Hotel & Spa – Deluxe window room](#)

### Day 1: Hanoi City (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner, G = Guide)

After breakfast, at 9AM you will have the whole day to explore Vietnam's capital city. Your guide will take you to the **Temple of Literature**, the first university in Vietnam dating back to the 11th century, and a popular attraction, as is **Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum** (*outside or both inside and outside*). Followed by a visit to **The Hoa Lo Prison** also known as the "Hilton

Hilton", which was used as an interment facility for the POW's during the Vietnam War. It was here the North Vietnamese Army housed, tortured and interrogated captured servicemen, mostly American pilots shot down during bombing raids. Senator John McCain was held here for a portion of his 5 1/2 years in captivity.

After lunch, you will drive to the excellent **Ethnology Museum** for an overview of Vietnam's 54 distinct ethnic groups. The bustling Old Quarter is a magnet for visitors, it's noisy and hectic, but definitely a 'must-see' attraction. The Old Quarter is a maze of shopping streets and restaurants with a hotchpotch of architecture - traditional tube houses, religious buildings, artisans' workshops and cottages, colonial houses and modern concrete edifices.

6:30PM or 7PM You will have the 'Welcome dinner' at the Ly Club Restaurant.

You will spend the night in Hanoi.

*We'll arrange your programme to avoid the busy times at popular destinations, but if there's anything you particularly want to see, let us know.*

*Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum opens in the morning only and closes on Mondays and Fridays. Other museums close on Mondays.*

*Night market is every Friday, Saturday and Sunday (until around 11PM or 12PM).*

You might like to consider the following alternatives for your day in Hanoi or if time is available:

- The History, Fine Arts and Vietnam Military History Museum [formerly Army Museum] – large, but many interesting exhibits
- The Women's Museum – small, but a fascinating narrative of the role of women in Vietnam, particularly during the war
- The Hanoi Citadel: This former residence of the royalty of Vietnam was used between 1010 and 1810. Most of the structure that makes up the citadel was destroyed by the French in the 19th century, but the gate, steps, Princess's Palace and Hanoi Flag Tower still exist. You can now visit a few of the buildings, which were kept guarded from visitors for centuries. It's newly recognised as World Heritage Site.
- The Dong Xuan, Hang Be or Hom markets – large, crowded, but very Vietnamese
- St. Joseph's Cathedral – European neo-Gothic (plenty of up-market shops and restaurants nearby)
- [Hanoi: Essence Hanoi Hotel & Spa – Deluxe window room](#)

## **Day 2: Hanoi – Tan Vien Fishing Tool knitting village, meeting 60 km (37 miles, 3-hour drive) (B, L, G)**

After breakfast, You will be picked up at 7:30AM and arrive to the first village at around 9:00AM. Today we explore the reality of the traditional rural lifestyle of northern Vietnam where very little has changed from feudal times. We will drive by bus (90 minutes) to explore **Tan Vien village** an interesting basket making and fishing village that uses unique tools to knit its products. We will watch and photograph the people making their lovely baskets then follow the farmer to photograph him fishing. Then we will drive to the nearby village of **Cao Thon musk incense village**. For 300 years, the craft of making of musk incense has been handed down from generation to generation. Cao Thon's musk incense has a unique fragrance that no other villages across Vietnam can reproduce or copy. It's said that the incense powder is a mixture of oriental herbs. We will travel from house to house to photograph the different way each family produces this highly sought after incense. After, we will have an opportunity

to visit Hoang Ba temple where we will see local monks.

You will have lunch before return to Hanoi for your relaxing time.

Dinner on own, suggestion at Mam Restaurant

- [Hanoi: Essence Hanoi Hotel & Spa – Deluxe window room](#)

### **Day 3: Chuong and Cu Da villages (B, L, G)**

5:00AM you will be picked up and spend an hour drive for early morning market in **Chuong Village** and senior women in the village making conical hats which they sales in the morning. You will have breakfast box on the bus. You will then drive to **Cu Da village**, vermicelli making village. Both villages are good for photography opportunities.

You will return to Hanoi for lunch.

Your time will be your own for your relaxing time to be ready for the next day for pretty long drive.

- [Hanoi: Essence Hanoi Hotel & Spa – Deluxe window room](#)

### **Day 4: Hanoi - Pu Luong (B, L, D, G)**

After breakfast you will drive to Pu Luong passing through mountainous landscape on the way. When you arrive, you will have lunch in a Thai ethnic minority group's stilt house then to Ban Don village. You will check in Pu Luong Boutique Garden in Don village.

In the afternoon, walking around the villages where you stay to do photograph the neighbourhood and local community. You will have dinner in Don village.

- [You will stay in Pu Luong Boutique Garden in Don village.](#)

### **Day 5: Pu Luong (B, L, D, G)**

After breakfast, you will stroll around Don village and then to **Deo Village**, a small Thai minority community where you can visit **local families in their stilt houses**, and drink green tea. In the afternoon, you will visit water wheels good opportunity for photography.

You will have dinner in Don village.

- [You will stay in Pu Luong Boutique Garden in Don village.](#)

### **Day 6: Pu Luong – Hanoi (B, L, G)**

After breakfast, you will be picked up and drive back to Hanoi. You will stop in Mai Chau for lunch in **Pom Coong village** and then to Flag Point for photo opportunities.

Check in your hotel in Hanoi and your time will be your own.

You will have dinner in Don village.

- [You will stay in Pu Luong Boutique Garden in Don village.](#)

### **Day 7: Hanoi – Hue – Dong Ha (B, L, G)**

**Tentative: VN1543 (08.40 – 09.50) or VN1547 (14:00 – 15:10)**

After breakfast, you will be picked up for your chosen flight to Hue. When you arrive, you will drive an hour and half to Dong Ha, you will stop on route to visit the interesting site of the landscape before check in your hotel.

Lunch in Saigon Dong Ha hotel if your flight is in the morning. It will be quick and light lunch in Hanoi if your flight in the afternoon.

Dinner on own at the hotel.

- Dong Ha: Saigon Dong Ha hotel (\*\*\*\* conveniently located in Dong Ha – Deluxe room)

### **Day 8: DMZ tour (B, L, G)**

6:30-7:30AM Breakfast

As this excursion covers a large area of the wartime 'De-militarised Zone', better known as the DMZ, our guide and driver will meet you at your hotel at seven o'clock to drive north to Quang Tri province. Our first visit will be the **Old Citadel of Quang Tri**. From there, we'll drive to the battle sites of **Khe Sanh Base** with en-route visit **Van Kieu, an ethnic minority village**. After lunch in a local restaurant, our route will take us to **Hien Luong Bridge** and Ben Hai River, as well as the **Vinh Moc Tunnels** (these are more authentic and easier to enter than those in Cu Chi. They have been preserved more or less in their original form).

- Dong Ha: Saigon Dong Ha hotel (\*\*\*\* conveniently located in Dong Ha – Deluxe room)

### **Day 9: Dong Ha - Hue (B, L, G)**

After breakfast, you will transfer back to Hue, you will stop on route to visit any interesting things you may wish to do photography, you are always feel free to ask tour guide to stop if he does not ask you, I will tell him to always ask you during the day which is flexible and no fix tour.

- Hue: Moonlight Hotel (\*\*\*\* conveniently located in Hue – Deluxe room)

### **Day 10: Hue – Hoi An (B, L, G)**

7:00-8:00AM Breakfast

At 8AM, Considered the most beautiful beach in Vietnam, we will be able to photograph the awesome beauty of the **Chuong village, Pha Tam Giang, Lang Co beach**. After which we will drive up the **Hai Van pass** which was a major strategic importance in the history of Vietnam. For a long time the pass represented a major barrier to any land army that attempted to move between the northern and central regions of the country. It is here you will see fortified look outs that have been strafed by bullets.

*Please note that: You will visit Chuong village about from 8:20-9:30AM. Pha Tam Giang is very big and long distance, it is the same as Lang Co beach and Hai Van pass. You will only stop on route to photograph. There are no need to mention how long time you need for them.*

You will have lunch at local restaurant in Lang Co

In the afternoon, when you arrive to Hoi An for your check in. Your time will be your own.

- Hoi An: Vinh Hung Riverside Resort & Spa (\*\*\*\* <https://www.vinhhungresort.com/> - Superior Garden View room)

### **Day 11: Hoi An Town (B, L, G)**

After breakfast, you will photograph **Hoi An Ancient Town**

*Hoi An Ancient town is a UNESCO Cultural World Heritage area. An ancient trading port, once the largest in Indochina, the town was a meeting point for many cultures that left their mark in the different architectural features of its wooden buildings. The original traditional street pattern still exists, as does the quay that once welcomed ships from all over East Asia and beyond. Many remained there for months at a time, waiting for favorable trade winds to carry them home.*

Dinner on own, suggestion Mango Mango Restaurant

- Hoi An: Vinh Hung Riverside Resort & Spa (\*\*\*\* <https://www.vinhhungresort.com/> - Superior Garden View room)

**Day 12: Follow the Thu Bon River to Hoi An's poorer communities (B, G)**

After breakfast, you will be picked up at 8AM, you will cruise upstream on the Thu Bon River to visit **Thanh Ha** – a poor village living mainly on making small-scale pottery objects and utensils. You will then head downstream to **Kim Bong** village to visit the house of a local carpenter. In the afternoon, your time will be your own. You'll spend the night in Hoi An.

Dinner on own, suggestion at Vy's Market Restaurant

- Hoi An: Vinh Hung Riverside Resort & Spa (\*\*\*\* <https://www.vinhhungresort.com/> - Superior Garden View room)

**Day 13: Hoi An – Danang - Hanoi farewell dinner  
60 km (37 miles), one hour and half-drive (B, D, G)**

7:00-8:30AM Breakfast and check out of hotel

You will be picked up in good time to the airport for your flight to Hanoi.

You will have leisure for shopping.

At 6:30 you will be picked up for the **Farewell dinner at the Home Restaurant** will need a private room with lighting that can be controlled. We will be having a slide show presentation that night.

*Hanoi: Essence Hanoi Hotel & Spa – Deluxe window room*

**Day 14: Hanoi departure**

7:00-8:30AM Breakfast, leisure and/or check out of hotel

Time to be advised: Vehicle drive Noi Bai airport for flight home.

**OUR PRICE INCLUDES:**

- Breakfast and accommodation **single room**.
- Domestic flight tickets: Hanoi – Danang and Danang - Hanoi, including domestic airport taxes.
- Boat cruises as specified in the programme.
- Travel in an appropriate private air-conditioned vehicle with an experienced safe driver.
- The services of experienced English-speaking guides as indicated in the itinerary
- Where necessary, entry fees for all visits as mentioned in the programme.
- Lunches and dinners (as specified in the itinerary) in the best local restaurants, or picnics where no suitable restaurant is available.
- Mineral water during meals
- Vietnam visa approval letter
- Tips for guides and drivers
- VAT and other taxes

**OUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDES:**

- International flight tickets and airport tax.
- Visas stamp fees
- Dinners, except as specified above.
- Drinks, gratuities and personal expenses.
- Camera fees (if any)

- Insurance

#### **HOTEL LIST:**

- Hanoi: Essence Hotel & Spa <http://essencehanoihotel.com/> (\*\*\*) conveniently location in Hanoi – Deluxe Window room)
- Pu Luong:
- Hue: Moonlight Hotel (\*\*\*\* conveniently located in Hue – Deluxe room)
- Hoi An: Vinh Hung Riverside Resort & Spa (\*\*\*\* <https://www.vinhhungresort.com/> - Deluxe room)

⚠ Please note that Vietnam hotels do not recognise provisional reservations, so specific hotels cannot be guaranteed until you have booked your chosen tour. As many of the better hotels are often full during the October to April peak season, early booking is advisable.

#### **VIETNAM VISA ON ARRIVAL**

I will apply for visas upon arrival for you. For this, I will send the approval document direct to you by fax or by a scanned attached file. Upon your arrival at the airport, the approval document will be sufficient proof of your visa status. Please ensure that you pick up the visa form near the custom check points and fill in the details before you queue for immigration. You will need a colour passport photo (and US\$25 per person) for the single entry visa stamp fee.

#### **SPECIAL NOTES**

##### **FEEDBACK & ASSISTANCE**

During your holiday if you experience any difficulties or if any service or product is not meeting your expectations, we ask that you contact us immediately.

##### **GUIDES**

Local guides will be assigned for each itinerary at the destination where the tour is booked.

##### **HOTEL CHECK-IN**

Check-in time at all hotels is 2.00pm and check out is 12.00pm. Early check-in and late check-out are subjected to availability and may require an additional fee.

##### **ITINERARY**

Flight times, hotels and other services are subject to availability and last minute change. SilkStar Holidays will endeavour to minimize your travel disruptions. However, it is largely out of our control.

#### **TERMS AND CONDITIONS:**

##### **RESERVATION, PAYMENT AND CANCELLATION POLICY:**

A non-refundable deposit of 30% of the full trip cost is due upon trip confirmation. However, if the participant needs to cancel and SilkStar Holidays or the participant can find a suitable replacement, we will refund your deposit minus a 15% administration fee. The deposit can be paid by wire transfer or credit card.

The balance in full is due two months prior to the start date of the tour.

You will receive a 50% refund if you need to cancel 46 days or more prior of the commencement of the trip. No refund will be made for cancellations made less than 45 days before the trip.

All cancellation requests must be made in writing and confirmed by SilkStar Holidays.

Once the trip has started, no refunds or exchanges can be made with respect to accommodation, meals, sightseeing tours, transport or any other services, which are included in the tour prices but not utilized by the client.

### **INSURANCE:**

We highly recommend that you purchase travel insurance before leaving your home country to cover at a minimum the following: medical evacuation, repatriation of remains, and medical insurance. We highly recommend the following travel insurance sites:

- <http://www.travelguard.com>
- <http://www.insuremytrip.com>

SilkStar Holidays is not responsible for any injury, loss, death, inconvenience, delay or damage to personal property in connection with the provision of any goods or services whether resulting from but not limited to acts of God or force majeure, illness, disease, acts of war, civil unrest, insurrection or revolt, animals, strikes or other labour activities, criminal or terrorist activities of any kind, overbooking or downgrading of services, food poisoning, mechanical or other failure of aircraft or other means of transportation or for failure of any transportation mechanism to arrive or depart on time. Additional expenses incurred due to delays, accidents, natural disaster, political actions, and unrest, must be covered by the clients.

**Thank you and looking forward to hearing you soon!**