



**VIETNAM**  
**SLOW BROCHURE**

## Rediscovering The Art of Slow Travel

It doesn't seem right to rush. Take your time and explore the natural beauty, culinary delights and cultural experiences that Vietnam offers. Our team at Khiri wants that first trip after a long break to be a special one.

Start in the north and explore your way south to Hoi An in a relaxed, leisurely manner. This itinerary allows you to slow down and take in this magnificent country.

No Flights. We believe that half of the joy in travel is the journey itself. Not only is travel by train and shared road transport much more carbon footprint sensitive, but it allows you to experience more of the country sustainably.

Travel from the cultural capital of Hanoi to the mountains of Sapa, with stunning vistas and

local ethnic communities. Experience the incredible Lan Ha Bay, visit the Endangered Primate Rescue Centre in Cuc Phuong National Park and make your way to Hue and end in Hoi An, where you can take a couple of days to explore the old town or laze on the beach.

We want to share our passion for discovery. Join us and see for yourself how unbelievable Vietnam is, significantly when you slow down a touch.



## Day 1 Hanoi Arrival

Welcome to Vietnam!

## Day 2 - 3

### Hanoi – Explore Hanoi like a local with local cooking class

Enjoy the morning exercise with a group of local people practicing Tai Chi and aerobics in Hoan Kiem Lake, which is right in the heart of Hanoi. Afterwards you will be heading to Hanoi's Old Quarter where you will see some of the traditions of Vietnam and their rich culture including French colonial architecture including St. Joseph's Cathedral which dates back in 1886 and Temple of Literature that was built in 1076, where Vietnam's first university was established.

The next experience goes grass roots in several ways as the cooking class takes place in the house of local people in Hanoi's Old Quarter. Besides this culinary experience it also provides you with a glimpse of traditional family life. Together with a family member you first spend about half an hour visiting Hang Da Market where you will get to learn about – and taste – some of the ingredients used in the local dishes on today's menu.





**Day 4**   
**Hanoi – Cuc Phuong  
National park**

Heading towards a protected Cuc Phuong national park. The oldest national park in Vietnam and home to many different species of amphibians, insects, and reptiles, many of them endemic to Cuc Phuong and Vietnam. Also, you will be visiting the Endangered Primate Rescue Centre contributing to the conservation of the park and center.

**Day 5 - 6**  
**Ninh Binh –  
Van Long & Pu Luong nature  
reserve**

Travel Northeastern to two of the most beautiful places in Ninh Binh province Van Long & Pu Luong nature reserve. Meeting and interacting with a local family, walking around working farmland, rice fields, and having a chance to experience their daily life and culture such as fishing and rice harvesting. Enjoy free time to explore the magnificent retreat, with its captivating panoramic views and tranquil setting.

## Day 7 - 8

### Pu Luong Nature Reserve - Uoi – Lan – Hieu villages

Start the day off with a walk around the most beautiful valley of tumbling rice terraces, through the small paths you will slowly reveal a picturesque Uoi village and next to that is Lan village where you could experience traditional brocade weaving. Experience village to village, bridge to bridge to explore more of the scenic landscapes surrounding. End up at Hieu village where you will have a chance to enjoy the spectacular Hieu waterfall.

Start your day fresh with a short ride to Dong Dieng village, going down into the most beautiful valley in Pu Luong with nature surrounded by rice terrace fields and gorgeous mountains. Check-out local families to learn more about life styles and culture.

Sit back, relax and enjoy the night train from Hanoi railway station to Lao Cai.

## Day 9



### Lao Cai – Sapa – Topas Riverside

You will meet and learn about the local indigenous tribes, their lifestyle and support their traditional art and soon realize that you are “off the beaten track”, as the local people are looking interested and happy. All along the trail you will have a beautiful view towards Hoang Liem mountain range and some of the biggest rice fields in the Sapa area.





## Day 10

### Topas

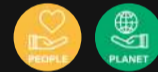
You will commence with car driving to numerous villages, Nam Toong, Ban Ho and My Son village, inhabited by Xa Pho ethnic. The Xa Pho people belong to one of the smallest ethnic groups living in the mountains north of Vietnam. They live in a simple live and small bamboo house. At the village you might find some old women sitting together making embroidery, while men are going to the mountain to hunt or collect firewood.

You can take a break to enjoy the magnificent view of mountains and rice terraces along the way or take a swim at the beautiful Lavie waterfall near the village.

## Day 11 - 12

### Topas Ecolodge – Hanoi

#### A relaxing ride to the neighbor village



Get on a quality mountain bike and explore the neighboring Lech village of the Red Dao ethnic minority village. Enjoy the beautiful scenery, local hospitality and learn more of the culture of the hill tribe and about the women and their embroidery.

Topas Mountain Express back to Hanoi.

## Day 13 - 14

### Hanoi – Halong Bay – Lan Ha Bay

After a relaxing day in Hanoi day 14 begins in the morning with a transfer to Halong Bay. Enjoy the landscape of the Red River Delta on your journey to the boat. After boarding lunch is served as you begin your cruise in Halong Bay and Lan Ha Bay. Afterwards you will have a chance to visit one of the scenic caves of Halong bay by bamboo boat or kayak and to explore this secret hideaway with its pristine beaches, caves and coves, plus the natural

beauty of about 400 limestone islands. Enjoy some swimming or grab a cocktail and relax while the sun sets over the Gulf of Tonkin.

Enjoy the night on the cruise



## Day 15

### Lan Ha Bay – Cat ba Island

If you wake up early, feel free to join the team practicing Tai Chi on the sundeck at sunrise, followed by coffee, tea and pastries. After breakfast, board a day boat for today's excursion to Cat Ba Island. Once on Cat Ba Island, get ready to visit Viet Hai Village. Take a bicycle ride or electric car through a rainforest tunnel that leads to a rice-field vista. Visit a traditional house in a village deep in a national park and experience the lifestyle of the local

people. After returning to the boat for lunch, enjoy this beautiful area for scenic kayaking or relaxing on a sandy beach. This evening enjoy dinner prepared by our onboard chef. For those who crave for more activity, you can try squid fishing after dark.

## Day 16

### Halong Bay – Hanoi – Train to Hue

Head off and enjoy some kayaking before brunch is served while heading back to the harbor. Take a break and enjoy some fresh air before taking a night train from Hanoi to Hue.

## Day 17 - 18

### Hue Arrival

Explore Hue's street food with this evening tour by cyclo. First you will be learning some useful Vietnamese phrases before moving to a vegetarian restaurant, where you can see Buddhist traditions imprinted in Hue's food art. Traveling down side streets and alleyways, you will be well off the tourist trail in places little seen by foreigners. Among the delicious street foods you will get to sample will be crispy Hue-style pancakes, noodle soups, deserts and many more. The variety of new flavors, textures, and methods of preparation you encounter, will make this a night to remember.





Day 19  

## Hue - Wet Rice Culture & Rural Life Immersion

Today you start the day by cycling to Thanh Toan village. Located only 7 km from downtown Hue, Thanh Toan is a peaceful rural locale where the scenes of an ancient village founded in the 17th century are still visible in the landscape. You will learn about the village's administration system, its culture and institutions, and experience some fun farming activities, including fishing, preparing a home-cooked meal and making local handicrafts. You can then hang out with the locals at the village's intriguing tile-roofed bridge and listen to them chatting or chanting. This tour is an excellent opportunity to get some off-the-beaten-track insight into Hue's rural way of life and support a number of local families and their business.

Day 20 

## Hue – Hoi An via Lang Co Lagoon

After leaving Hue, you travel south towards Hoi An via the infamous Hai Van Pass. Breaking up this journey, you stop at Lang co, an inland lagoon for a wonderful local experience. Meet a family on the banks of the lagoon and learn, first-hand, about their lives as fishermen and the connection they have with the water. Get a close up look at their traditional fishing technology and oyster farm before settling in to a home-cooked lunch on the families stilited house on the lagoon. A perfect lunch break before heading over the stunning mountain pass and on to your hotel in Hoi An.





## Day 21 Hoi An - A Path Less Travelled

This tour is purely walking and supports a number of local families and their business. Start a tour in Hoi An Central Market. As you explore the seemingly endless myriad of alleyways, you will visit a number of local workshops, important cultural sites, and see how the locals spend their days. Be prepared to greet a lot of people, as locals love to engage with outsiders. Continue to a local family who will show you the skills required to make your own handmade lantern.

Then, we will take the boat to An Nhien farm which is a sustainable gardening, low-impact communal living and youth education, located in a small river-side peaceful village, easy to access from Hoi An Ancient town.

## Day 22 Hoi An – Hoi An Farming and Fishing Life (by biking)

Today is about a cycling tour, directing from Hoi An's Old Town into the countryside to visit local vegetable farms to experience and absorb their daily routines in this little community such as gardening and fishing activities. Enjoy a hands-on experience learning the practice of bet fishing. Take a chance to learn the traditional way of cooking rice, and join a short rice-pancake cooking class.



## Day 23 - 25

### Hoi An – Danang - Departure

Spending some free time relaxing and enjoying time in Hoi An, before taking a night train back to Hanoi. Another free day at your leisure before departure.



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