

Vietnam Insight I Getting To Know Vietnam

Gain an insight into Vietnam's great culture and historical sights with highlights such as the vibrant cities of Hanoi, Saigon, and Hue. While the overnight cruise through Halong Bay is pure relaxation.

Day - 5 Hue

HUE CITY TOUR (B/L)

This morning after breakfast depart from the hotel for a city tour to explore the UNESCO World Heritage listed "Complex of Hue Monuments". The structures of the complex are carefully placed within the natural setting of the site and aligned cosmologically with the Five Cardinal Points (centre, west, east, north, south), the Five Elements (earth, metal, wood, water, fire), and the Five Colours (yellow, white, blue, black, red). The Imperial Citadel is where the Nguyen Dynasty ruled between 1802 and 1945. This ancient citadel reflects the pomp of the dynastic rulers as well as the scars of many years of turmoil at the same time. The Royal Citadel was badly damaged in the last stages of the Vietnam War, but retains a sense of grace and majesty even today and is an outstanding example of an eastern feudal capital building. From here take a cycle, the typical three-wheeled bicycle taxi, through dai noi 'Old City' to Tinh Tam Lake where the Emperors used to come to relax. Full of lotus flowers in the summer with many little coffee shops all around the lake, it is a popular place for students to spend their time and study. Continue to Thien Mu (Celestial Lady) Pagoda overlooking the Perfume River. Constructed in 1601, the 21-meter tall tower is the centerpiece of the pagoda and represents the seven reincarnations of Buddha. In the grounds of the pagoda is also the Austin car made famous by a resident monk in 1963 whose self-immolation was captured in a photograph what then became one of the most well-known images of the war. In the afternoon see the tomb of the former emperor Minh Mang which is located in a tranquil setting of gardens and ponds. If time permits visit Khai Dinh's Tomb, unique in Hue area due to its architecture with European influences. On the way back to Hue, stop at Ho Quyen (tiger arena). Built-in 1830 during the reign of Minh Mang emperor, the arena was used for annual fights between elephants and tigers. It is a rarity of Asian architecture and still intact. Before heading back to the hotel take time to stroll around Dong Ba Market with the guide. The market is another "must-see" in Hue. Its colorful stalls perfectly reflect the every-day-life on the market.

Overnight in Hue.

Inclusions

- 11 nights in your chosen accommodation
- 2 overnight on a cruise ship
- 4x Domestic flights:
 - Hanoi - Hue
 - Danang - Saigon
 - Can Tho - Phu Quoc
 - Phu Quoc - Saigon
- Meal as specified in itinerary
- (B = Breakfast, BR = Brunch, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Activities and excursions according to itinerary

FOR EXAMPLE:

Visit the Temple of Literature
Visit the One Pillar Pagoda
Visit Tran Quoc Buddhist Pagoda
Visit a fishing village
Halong Bay Overnight cruise
Cooking demonstration
Tai Chi Lessons
Full day City Tour through Hue
Bicycle tour through ricefields
Afternoon city tour in Saigon
Visit the Cu Chi Tunnels
River cruise from Saigon to Can Tho
Visit the floating market in Can Tho

- Tours and excursions in minibuses/buses
or with public transportation according to the itinerary
- English speaking tour guide
- Admission fees according to the itinerary

Exclusions

- International flights
- Meals other than mentioned in the itinerary
- Tours and Excursions other than mentioned in the itinerary
- Early check-in and late check-out at hotels
- Personal travel insurance
- Personal expenses and tips for driver/guides
- Visa fees