

DEEP IN THE NORTH



11 days - 10 nights from 604\$



Hanoi | Ninh Binh | Lao Cai | Bac Ha | Sapa | Villages | Halong | Hanoi

OVERVIEW

Tour code	VNH07
Duration	11 days / 10 nights
Features	Northern Vietnam is so different from its southward sister that some may comment that they seem belong to two countries. Yet, those who prefer more cultural discovery and "cooler" life can find it worthy spending the whole journey in the North and go deep into the original traditions of Viet people. Above all, the landscape featured by magnificent karst system is truly rewarded to any nature lovers.
Extension	Easy to connect with Southern Vietnam, Luang Prabang, and Northern Thailand.

ITINERARY IN BRIEF

Day 1	: Arrival in Hanoi
Day 2	: Hanoi – Ninh Binh – Hanoi
Day 3	: Hanoi – City Tour – Lao Cai Train
Day 4	: Lao Cai – Bac Ha Market
Day 5	: Bac Ha – Sapa
Day 6	: Sapa - Ban Ho
Day 7	: Sapa - Lao Cai – Hanoi
Day 8	: Hanoi - Halong Bay
Day 9	: Halong Bay
Day 10	: Halong Bay – Hanoi
Day 11	: Hanoi Departure

ITINERARY IN DETAIL

DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN HANOI

Upon your arrival at the Hanoi airport, you will be welcomed by the Tour guide of THREELAND TRAVEL and transfer to your hotel in Hanoi to check-in. At your leisure in the rest of the day. Overnight in Hanoi.

DAY 2: HANOI – NINH BINH – HANOI (B/L/-)

Morning drive overland to Ninh Binh, 100km south of Hanoi to visit wonderful scenery at one of the oldest capitals of Vietnam. We can take a rowing boat trip in Tam Coc to visit "Halong-Bay-in-land" landscape with many grottoes on the Ngo Dong river, then go on to Hoa Lu to visit the temples dedicated to King Dinh and King Le, who reigned Vietnam during the 10th centuries and climb up the mountain near King Dinh Temple to enjoy the panorama view of villages and rice -fields of



Hoa Lu. Back to Hanoi late afternoon. Enjoy a Show of Water Puppetry at Thanglong Water Puppetry Theatre or Central Water Puppetry Theatre. Overnight in Hanoi.

DAY 3: HANOI – CITY TOUR – LAOCAI TRAIN (B/L/-)

It is your day to visit the Capital of Vietnam today. Let's start from the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, his simple house-on-stilts and the One-Pillar pagoda near Ba Dinh Square, where the most solemn ceremonies of Hanoi take place. Go on to the Temple of Literature, the very first high school of Vietnam Scholars and the Fine Arts Museum. Afternoon we will visit Hoan Kiem Lake to visit Ngoc Son temple, Ly Thai To statue, and stroll around the Old Quarter of Hanoi by cycloes before learning about the various cultures of 54 ethnic groups in Vietnam at the Ethnology Museum. Have a short rest before transferring to the Hanoi Railway Station to take the night Train to Lao Cai. Overnight on the train.

DAY 4: LAOCAI – BAC HA MARKET (B/L/-)

Upon your arrival in Lao Cai Station, picked-up by our van or bus at Lao Cai and transferred to a market of the Hmong ethnic people in Bac Ha



region. Every week, the Hmong people and many other ethnic groups gather for purchasing and for meeting each other like a cultural tradition of Bac Ha. Stroll around the market place before heading to Sapa. Afternoon climb up with our tourguide in Sapa to the Dragon Peak to enjoy a panoramic view of the town. Overnight in Sapa.

Please note! Depending on the day, optional markets to choose are inclusive of Bac Ha, Can Cau and Coc Ly.

DAY 5: SAPA (B/L/-)

The 100-year-old hill station with magnificent landscape of mountains, pinewoods and mysterious mist, Sapa, always inspires every artist and photographer who used to stopover or hear about this unique place. Along with our guide, we will stroll around the marketplace of Sapa and Sapa church before climbing up the Dragon Peak to enjoy a panorama of the town and its neighborhood. Go downhill for about 4km to visit "Cat Cat" - H'mong village (on foot or by car depending on your interests) before back to the hotel in the afternoon. At your leisure in the evening. Overnight in Sapa.

DAY 6: SAPA - BAN HO (B/L/-)

After breakfast, our van (or bus) will transfer you to Ta Van and start our trek from here to Ban Ho. On the way from Ta Van to Ban Ho, we will have opportunities not just to admire the surrounding view of mountains,

bamboo forest and paddy fields but intermingle with the montagnards from different ethnic groups like Zay, Red Dzao, Hmong and Tay. Overnight homestay in Ban Ho.

DAY 7: SAPA - LAO CAI - HANOI (B/L/-)

After breakfast, have a short trek before catching our vehicles again to be back to Sapa. At your leisure in the rest of the day to discover Sapa by your own. Pick-up at your hotel again late afternoon to be back to Lao Cai Station to take our night train to Hanoi. Overnight on the train.

Please note! Usual checkout time is 12.00 noon.

DAY 8: HANOI - HALONG BAY (B/L/D)

Upon arrival in Hanoi, we will be picked-up at the Station and arrive in a good hotel or restaurant for our Breakfast and a short relax before carrying on to Halong Bay, the pride of the Tonkin Gulf with nearly 3,000 limestone islands and islets. The drive to Halong takes about 3h30m and we can stopover to enjoy the landscape on the rice fiels, visit a ceramic town or refresh at a green-bean cake shop. Have your time in Halong for lunch before boarding our Junk to cruise the Bay and learnt why it is presently one of the leading candidates for 7 World Natural Wonders. Go swimming and kayaking and visit the caves on the Bay will create a wonderful feeling and get us out of our hard trek. Overnight on the Junk in the Bay.

DAY 9: HALONG BAY (B/L/D)

Have breakfast on the boat and continue our trip with stops to go kayaking in Lan Ha Bay and go swimming at nice beaches. Overnight on the bay.

DAY 10: HALONG BAY – HANOI (B/L/-)

Have some tai-chi quan exercises with the crew before breakfast and cruise back to Halong city, where our van is waiting for our return to Hanoi. Lunch en route at Hong Ngoc Charity centre. Check-in hotel in Hanoi and at your leisure in the rest of the day. Overnight in Hanoi.

DAY 11: HANOI DEPARTURE (B/-/-)

At your leisure in the rest of the day until our tour guide and car come to transfer us to the airport for departure flight. End of the trip.

SERVICES INCLUDED

- English-speaking tour guide
- Twin-shared accommodation with daily breakfast
- Meals as per program
- Transfer as per program in air-con vehicles
- Returned train Hanoi - Lao Cai in air-con compartment
- Deluxe Junk for the Boat trip on Halong Bay and Kayak
- Admission as per program.
- Permit for homestay, if necessary.

SERVICES not INCLUDED

- Visa to Vietnam (quoted upon request)
- Airfare and airport tax
- Other meals and all drinks
- Porter service during the trekking
- Early check-in, late check-out surcharge (usually beyond 12.00 noon)
- Personal expenses (laundry, telephone, tips, etc.)
- Any services not mentioned in the Itinerary.