

Northern Echoes & Central Charms: Vietnam Immersion 9 days

Trip overview

Embark on a captivating 9-day adventure through Vietnam that weaves together ancient imperial capitals, hidden natural wonders, and lively heritage towns. From navigating the emerald waters of Halong Bay and Lan Ha Bay to pedaling through lotus fields in Ninh Binh, every moment invites you to discover Vietnam's authentic soul. Share the journey with fellow travelers as you taste local delicacies, meet friendly locals, and explore centuries-old temples and bustling markets steeped in tradition.

- **Durations:** 9 days
- **Trip outline:** Hanoi - Halong Bay - Ninh Binh - Hue - Hoi An
- **Price from:** US \$1030/person
- **Tour inquiry:** <https://besttratetours.com/vietnam-tours/northern-echoes-central-charms-vietnam-immersion-9-days.html>

Trip outline

day	Activities	Accommodations	Meals
Day 1	Arrival in Hanoi - First Steps in the Capital	Hotel in Hanoi	NA
Day 2	Hanoi – Temples, Legends and Local Flavors	Hotel in Hanoi	Breakfast, Lunch
Day 3	Ha Long Bay – A Wonder Among Karst Islands	Halong Bay Cruise	Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Day 4	From Halong Bay to Ninh Binh	Hotel in Ninh Binh	Breakfast, Brunch
Day 5	Ninh Binh - Rice Fields and Ancient Temples	Hotel in Hue	Breakfast, Lunch
Day 6	Hue Imperial – History and Majesty in Vietnam's Last Imperial City	Hotel in Hoi An	Breakfast, Lunch
Day 7	Hoi An – Charm and Cultural Blend	Hotel in Hoi An	Breakfast, Lunch
Day 8	Hoi An – Free Day to Enjoy at Your Pace	Hotel in Hanoi	Breakfast
Day 9	Hanoi – Farewell to Vietnam	NA	Breakfast

Itinerary

Day 1: Arrival in Hanoi - First Steps in the Capital

Welcome to **Hanoi**, a city that captivates with its blend of ancient history and modern rhythm. Upon arrival, our driver will be waiting to comfortably transfer you to your hotel located in the heart of the **Old Quarter**.

If you feel like it, you can join an *optional tour* to discover the most authentic flavors of the city with a local guide, from the famous Pho to a Vietnamese coffee by the tranquil Hoan Kiem Lake.



Meals: NA

Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

Day 2: Hanoi – Temples, Legends and Local Flavors

After breakfast, you will begin the day exploring the cultural heart of Hanoi with a visit to the elegant [Temple of Literature](#), the country's first university, whose courtyards and rooftops reflect centuries of wisdom.



Next, you will visit the impressive **Ba Dinh Square** to admire the exterior of [Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum](#) and learn more about Vietnam's most emblematic leader. Nearby, you will discover the unique **One Pillar Pagoda**, shaped like a lotus blossom emerging from the water.

NOTE: We will not enter the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, where the embalmed body of the Vietnamese leader rests, as it is closed to the public for several months each year.



Then, you will dive into the vibrant **Old Quarter**, a maze of narrow streets where past and present blend among shops, temples, and colonial buildings. You'll stroll by the legendary **Hoan Kiem Lake** and hear the famous story of the sword returned to the sacred turtle.

After tasting **Pho** at a local restaurant, you'll explore one of the city's liveliest **markets**, enjoying the aromas and flavors that define Vietnamese cuisine.

At the end of the day, you'll return to your hotel to rest and reflect on this first immersion into the capital.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

Day 3: Ha Long Bay – A Wonder Among Karst Islands

Early in the morning, you'll head to the famous **Halong Bay**, a unique landscape formed by thousands of limestone islands rising from calm emerald waters. After about a three-hour drive, you'll board a cruise that will take you through these dreamlike sceneries.



During the cruise, you'll have the chance to go **kayaking** or **swim** in hidden coves, surrounded by an almost timeless setting. With a bit of luck, you might even spot langurs living in the area.



The day will end with dinner on board as the sun sets behind the islands, offering you an unforgettable view. You'll spend the night in a cabin with views so you can continue to enjoy the magic of the bay.

NOTE:

- There is only English-speaking guide on the cruise
- The itinerary may vary depending on whether your cruise follows the Halong Bay route or the Lan Ha Bay route.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Halong Bay Cruise

Day 4: From Halong Bay to Ninh Binh

After sailing through the bay in the morning, you'll reach the port where a transfer will be waiting to take you to **Ninh Binh**, famous for its karst landscapes and rice fields. The journey takes about three hours — time to rest and watch the scenery change.



Upon arrival, you'll have time to relax at your hotel or eco-lodge, surrounded by peaceful nature.

Meals: Breakfast, Brunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Ninh Binh

Day 5: Ninh Binh - Rice Fields and Ancient Temples

You'll start the day exploring Ninh Binh province, where history and nature blend in perfect harmony. You'll visit the ancient citadel of [Hoa Lu](#), the former imperial capital of Vietnam, and cycle among rice fields and lotus ponds until you reach **Bich Dong Pagoda**, a temple nestled among mountains.



Enjoy a taste of the region's finest local cuisine before boarding a traditional sampan for a boat ride through the [Van Long Nature Reserve](#) — one of the last natural habitats of the rare and endangered Delacour's langur.

At the end of the day, you'll fly from Hanoi to Hue, where a driver will be waiting to take you to your hotel.



Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Hue

Day 6: Hue Imperial – History and Majesty in Vietnam's Last Imperial City

After breakfast, your local guide will take you to the [Imperial Citadel of Hue](#), a monumental complex revealing the grandeur and history of the country's last ruling dynasty. You'll walk among **palaces, temples and gardens** while discovering legends and secrets held within these centuries-old walls.



Then, you'll savor the exquisite **cuisine of Hue** at a local restaurant, where regional flavors reflect centuries of culture and tradition.

In the afternoon, you'll visit the majestic **Minh Mang Tomb**, known for its harmonious architecture and serene lakes — a true jewel of imperial heritage.

If time permits, you'll continue the journey to Hoi An, crossing the famous **Hai Van Pass**, with panoramic views that will leave a lasting impression.

In the evening, you'll have free time to stroll through Hoi An's charming streets or visit its **night market**.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoi An

Day 7: Hoi An – Charm and Cultural Blend

Hoi An was once one of the most important trading ports in the world. Merchants from across Asia and Europe settled in this small town, now recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. This rich history is reflected in its architecture - from ornate **Chinese Assembly Halls** and the iconic [Japanese Covered Bridge](#) to traditional Vietnamese houses and elegant French colonial facades.

In the morning, we'll wander through the atmospheric old town, uncovering stories of cultural exchange and influence that shaped Hoi An's unique charm. Afterwards, return to your hotel to rest and refresh.



In the afternoon, you'll have free time to wander, explore artisan shops or relax at a riverside café. You can also opt for an *optional guided food tour* to savor the region's authentic cuisine with our guide.

You'll end the day resting at your hotel in the heart of this charming town.



Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Accommodation: Hotel in Hoi An

Day 8: Hoi An – Free Day to Enjoy at Your Pace

Today, you'll have the entire day to explore **Hoi An** your way. You can stroll leisurely through the old town, relax at a nearby beach, have clothes tailor-made at the famous local shops or simply enjoy a coffee overlooking the river.

Later, our driver will pick you up in Hoi An for your journey to the airport. Upon arrival in Hanoi, a driver will be ready to take you to your hotel.



Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hotel in Hanoi

Day 9: Hanoi – Farewell to Vietnam

Enjoy your last hours in **Hanoi** to stroll, do some last-minute shopping or savor your favorite dish once more.

At the scheduled time, a private transfer will take you to the airport for your return flight, bringing this unforgettable journey through Vietnam to a close.

Meals: Breakfast

Accommodation: NA

Booking Policy

Inclusion

- Shared transfers & tours (min. 4 pax)
- All tours mentioned in the program
- Official Spanish-speaking guides
- Domestic flights in the itinerary

- Baggage allowance: 20kg checked + 7kg carry-on
- Accommodation in listed or similar hotels
- Cruise accommodation as listed or similar
- Meals as per program
- Entrance fees to all visited attractions
- Spanish phone assistance

Exclusion

- International flights & visas
- Guide during airport transfers
- Drinks & meals not mentioned
- Travel & medical insurance
- Tips for guides & drivers
- Early check-in / late check-out
- Expenses due to force majeure, delays, cancellations
- Any services not mentioned

Cancellation Policy

- Cancellation received before 60 days: FREE of charge
- Cancellation received from 30 days to 59 days prior arrival date: 30% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 10 days to 29 days prior arrival date: 50% of total rate
- Cancellation received less than 10 days prior arrival date or No show: 100% of total rate

Children Policy

- The rate for children applicable for one child sharing a twin or double cabin with two adults.
- For infants (<04 years old): FOC except for domestic flight tickets.
- 04 - under 11 years old without bed: 50% adult rate.
- 04 - under 11 years old with extra bed: 75% adult rate.
- 04 - under 11 years old in twin share: 90% adult rate.
- From 11 years old: count as an adult.

WHY BOOK WITH US?

Best Rate Guaranteed

Local consultants with rich of knowledge will give you the most suitable itineraries for you.

Best Rate Guaranteed

Local consultants with rich of knowledge will give you the most suitable itineraries for you.

Best Rate Guaranteed

Local consultants with rich of knowledge will give you the most suitable itineraries for you.

BEST RATE TOURS., JSC

No 56, Hàng Đậu Street - Dong Xuan, Hoan Kiem District - Hanoi - Vietnam

Tel: +84 2439949194
+84 911646478

Email: sales@bestratetours.com **Website:** <https://bestratetours.com/>