



# MEJDI TOURS

## Vietnam: A Journey of Sites, Sound and Spirit

(Scheduled Group Departure)

### Dates & Pricing:

February 10 - 19, 2027 (\$4,950 per person, + \$1,180 single room supplement)  
Extension Tours: Pre-Tour Feb 8-10, 2027 (\$1,045 per person, +\$585 single sup.)  
Post-Tour Feb 19-21, 2027 (\$1,300 per person, +\$355 single sup.)

**Included:** 9 nights' accommodation at premium hotels per itinerary<sup>1</sup>  
1 Local MEJDI guide/tour coordinator for 9 days  
Local guides as necessary per itinerary  
Private transportation and transfers for 9 days per itinerary  
1 One-way flight Hanoi-Da Nang<sup>1</sup>  
Meals listed on itinerary: 9 breakfasts, 7 lunches, 4 dinners  
Entrances, sites, activities and speaker/host honoraria  
Bottled water available daily (1 per person per day)  
Dedicated pre-trip traveler services and 24/7 on-ground support

**Not included:** International Airfare  
Travel and Medical insurance - **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**  
Single Supplement Costs  
Customary tips for drivers, guides, and hotel staff  
Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

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<sup>1</sup> Economy fare including one carry-on and one checked bag: Hanoi to Da Nang; Da Nang to Ho Chi Minh City



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## Itinerary

### **Day 1: Arrival [Guide, Transfer only]**

Arrive in Hanoi and transfer to your accommodation to recover after a long flight. In the evening, join your group for introductions, dinner and discussion with a **local historian or journalist** on **Vietnamese history** and current affairs.

*Overnight: La Siesta Hotel Classic, Hanoi [dinner included]*

### **Day 2: Hanoi Introductions [Guide, Transportation]**

Appreciate the artistic and culinary wonders of Hanoi while navigating the colors and bustle that characterize a modern Vietnamese city. Begin at a history museum to learn about Ho Chi Minh's legacy then visit the Temple of Literature (Temple of Confucius), the oldest university in Vietnam dating to the 11th century. Enjoy lunch at a "hidden" restaurant tucked away on the backstreets of Hanoi, for an introduction to local cuisine. Rest at your hotel before concluding the day in the eclectic Old Quarters of the Hoan Kiem District, sampling a variety of food wonders that have earned Hanoi the title: "street food capital of the world!"

*Overnight: La Siesta Hotel Classic, Hanoi [breakfast, lunch, and dinner included - food tour]*

### **Day 3: US & Vietnam Relations, a Retrospective [Guide, Transportation]**

Begin the day at the "small turtle tower" on the Sword Lake, then continue your exploration of Hanoi by foot before visiting the famous Hoa Lo Prison (also known as Hanoi Hilton). Meet with a Vietnamese veteran for personal reflections on the period of US-Vietnamese conflict and legacy of the war. Discuss spirituality with a Buddhist nun at their monastery before an afternoon and evening on your own, taking time to explore the bustling city at your own pace.

*Overnight: La Siesta Hotel Classic, Hanoi [breakfast included]*

### **Day 4: Ninh Binh [Guide, Transportation]**

Set out early for Ninh Binh, famous for the Karst scenery around the village of Tama Coc, and sometimes called the "Halong Bay on land." Visit local temples before boarding private boats take you through the winding rivers of Red and Ma through massive rock formations and caves. Have lunch at a local restaurant before an easy bicycle ride or casual stroll



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through scattered rice fields to gorgeous mountain views. Return to Hanoi in the evening for dinner on your own.

*Overnight: La Siesta Hotel Classic, Hanoi [breakfast and lunch included]*

## **Day 5: My Son Sanctuary [Guide, Transportation]**

Take a morning flight to Da Nang, continuing upon arrival to My Son Sanctuary. The UNESCO World Heritage site dates from the 4th to 13th centuries and is located in the heart of a beautiful valley, surrounded by high mountains that feed the Thu Bon River. Marvel at sandstone bas-reliefs depicting scenes from Hindu mythology, learn about the My Son civilization's devotion to Hindu deities like Krishna, Vishnu and Shiva. Head to Hoi An, check-in to your hotel, and have dinner as a group.

*Overnight: Bel Marina, Hoi An<sup>2</sup> [breakfast, lunch, and dinner included]*

## **Day 6: Traditions of Hoi An - Monday, January 12 [Guide, Transportation]**

Explore Hoi An, an ancient city noted for its well preserved architectural mix of Chinese, French, Japanese and Vietnamese styles. Attend a "tea appreciation" ceremony with a local master before reaching the Old Town to discover a blend of traditional treasures and cultural influences from historical traders. Learn about the city's history while wandering through pagoda-lined streets, passing a Chinese assembly hall, and crossing the Japanese Covered Bridge. In the afternoon, meet a master crafter who demonstrates how to fashion a traditional lantern, an aesthetic mainstay of Hoi An. Attend an evening bamboo circus followed by dinner at leisure.

*Overnight: Bel Marina, Hoi An [breakfast and lunch included]*

## **Day 7: Hoi An Sites & Surroundings [Guide, Transportation]**

After a morning "tea appreciation" with a local master, continue exploring Hoi An's Old Town. Begin the day with an engaging workshop on traditional fishing methods such as casting nets, followed by a culinary experience making bánh xèo, or Vietnamese "happy pancakes." After lunch, take time at leisure or join an optional cycling trip (*cost not included*) to one of the neighboring villages to learn about rural life from local residents. Dinner is on your own this evening.

*Overnight: Bel Marina, Hoi An [breakfast and lunch included]*

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<sup>2</sup> Standard Rooms



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## **Day 8: Ho Chi Minh Welcome [Guide, Transportation]**

Fly to Ho Chi Minh (Saigon) and head into the city for a guided tour exploring the city's key sites. After lunch, visit the photo journalism exhibit at the War Remnants Museum to better understand how conflict was covered by the press. Check in to your hotel in the late afternoon, followed by a free evening.

*Overnight: La Siesta Premium Saigon, Ho Chi Minh City [breakfast and lunch included]*

## **Day 9: Chu Chi Tunnels [Guide, Transportation]**

Spend the morning in meaningful reflection on the legacy of armed struggle. Walk through, and meet a veteran in the infamous network of Cu Chi tunnels, used by the Viet Cong as their main base of operations for the Tet offensive in 1968. The over 200km of underground tunnels offer perspective on what the Vietnamese would have experienced on the frontline. Meet with former guerrilla fighters in southern Vietnam for an intimate perspective on a stark reality. Explore the city beyond conflict in the afternoon, passing through bustling markets and thoroughfares. Gather in the evening for a festive farewell dinner.

*Overnight: La Siesta Premium Saigon, Ho Chi Minh City [breakfast, lunch, and dinner included]*

## **Day 10: Departure or Extension**

Self-transfer to the airport for your departing flight from Ho Chi Minh.

*Overnight: N/A [breakfast included]*



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## **CAMBODIA EXTENSION (Post-Tour)**

**Included:** 2 nights' accommodation at premium hotels per itinerary  
**Post-Tour** 1 MEJDI guide in Cambodia for 2 days  
Private transportation and transfers for 2 days per itinerary  
Flight per itinerary<sup>3</sup>  
Meals listed on itinerary: 2 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 1 dinner  
Entrances, sites, activities and speaker/host honoraria per itinerary  
Water on bus included one bottle per person per day  
Dedicated pre-trip traveler services and 24/7 on-ground support

**Not included:** International Airfare  
Travel and Medical insurance - **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**  
Single Supplement  
Customary tips for drivers, guides, and hotel staff  
Individual airport transfers  
Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

### **Itinerary**

#### **Day 10: Siem Reap [Guide, Transportation]**

Take a midday (~12pm) flight to Siem Reap, arriving in time for lunch at your hotel and check-in. Depart for the Angkor Jungle Temple, then hike up Bakeng Mountain for sunset to absorb the stunning scenery of the surrounding complex.

*Overnight: Velitta Hotel, Siem Reap [lunch included] - breakfast included with main tour hotel*

#### **Day 11: Angkor Wat [Guide, Transportation]**

*Optional morning (4-5am) sunrise visit to Angkor Wat.*

Depart for a guided visit to Angkor Wat through the morning, before returning to town for lunch on your own in the city markets. After a break, visit a killing field location to learn about Pol Pot's regime of terror and the aftermath of the Cambodian genocide with a local expert. Have dinner together in a traditional home in the countryside.

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<sup>3</sup> Economy fare including one carry-on and one checked bag: Ho Chi Minh City to Siem Reap



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*Overnight: Velitta Hotel, Siem Reap [breakfast and dinner included]*

**Day 12: Departure [No services]**

Self-transfer to the airport for your departing flight from Siem Reap.

*Overnight: N/A [breakfast included]*



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## **HALONG BAY EXTENSION (Pre-Tour)**

**Included:** 2 nights' accommodation at premium hotels per itinerary<sup>4</sup>  
**Pre-Tour** Private transportation and transfers for 3 days per itinerary  
HaLong Bay cruise experience and activities for one night  
Meals listed on itinerary: 2 breakfasts, 2 lunch, 2 dinners  
Entrances, sites, activities and speaker/host honoraria per itinerary  
Water on bus included one bottle per person per day  
Dedicated pre-trip traveler services and 24/7 on-ground support

**Not included:** International Airfare  
Travel and Medical insurance - **HIGHLY RECOMMENDED**  
Single Supplement  
Customary tips for drivers, guides, and hotel staff  
Individual airport transfers  
Anything not explicitly mentioned in the included section

### **Itinerary**

#### **Day 1.1: Arrival for pre-tour extension [*Transfer only*]**

*Depending on arrival time, an optional (cost not included) cultural experience i.e. coffee tour or workshop, or silversmith workshop may be offered in the early afternoon. For afternoon/evening arrivals, it is recommended to prioritize rest.*

Self-transfer to your hotel and check-in. Speak with a MEJDI representative upon arrival for a warm welcome and instructions on the Halong Bay experience to come.

*Overnight: La Siesta Hotel, Hanoi [dinner included]*

#### **Day 1.2: Halong Bay Day Trip [*Cruise, Transfer only*]**

Head for Halong Bay early in the morning, arriving aboard your day cruise to stunning views of limestone karsts and emerald waters. Enjoy lunch on deck, followed by activities such as kayaking, site visits around the bay, and relaxing on the main deck. After sunset, have dinner on board followed by a movie or spa session.

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<sup>4</sup>Or similar; double occupancy, breakfast included; includes portorage, where available



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*Overnight: Halong Bay Cruise [breakfast, lunch, and dinner included]*

**Day 1.3: Return to Hanoi [Cruise, Transfer only]**

Spend the morning relaxing on board or exploring the bay by kayak. After an early lunch, arrive back to the docks and begin your journey back to Hanoi. Join the rest of your group for dinner and the beginning of the main tour.

*Overnight: La Siesta Hotel, Hanoi [breakfast and lunch included] - dinner and overnight included with the main tour*