Discovering *Vietnam*

The mystical heart of Southeast Asia, Vietnam will captivate you with its unique blend of ancient capitals, lush waterways, UNESCO World Heritage-listed sites and a stunning array of natural and man-made wonders.

In this remarkable country, you'll encounter a land of contrasts—from the vibrant, bustling streets of Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City, with their rich history and dynamic energy, to the tranquil landscapes of Ha Long Bay, where towering limestone karsts rise majestically from emerald-green waters.

Beyond the cities, Vietnam offers a diverse range of experiences, from the terraced rice fields of Sapa to the charming ancient town of Hoi An. Each region reveals its own unique charm, blending cultural traditions with breathtaking natural beauty. Whether exploring the Mekong Delta or wandering through centuries-old pagodas, Vietnam invites travellers on a journey of discovery, where its deep-rooted heritage meets the vibrant pulse of modern life.

Activity Level
Moderate

The Cu Chi Tunnel Tour is not suitable for those with Claustrophobia. Temples can have steep steps and uneven ground so would not be suitbale for those with walking difficulties.

Visa Process

You must have a valid passport and a visa (or pre-approval for a visa on arrival) to enter Vietnam. Make sure to check the latest visa requirements before your trip.

Currency

Vietnamese Dong (VND). It's advisable to exchange currency at official exchange points for the best rates.

Credit Cards

Credit cards are accepted in major cities and tourist areas, but cash is preferred in smaller establishments and markets.

Plug Sockets

Vietnam: Vietnam typically uses Type A, Type C, and Type F plug sockets.

Consider bringing a universal adapter to charge your devices.





The climate in Vietnam varies depending on the location and time of travel.



Average Summer Around **30°C** Average Winter Around **17°C**



Average Summer Around **34°C** Average Winter Around **26°C**



Average Summer Around **30°C** Average Winter Around **27°C**



Gratuities

Tipping is not expected in Vietnam, but it is appreciated, especially in tourist areas. In restaurants, rounding up the bill is common.



Cultural Norms

Vietnam is generally a safe country for tourists, but it's important to be cautious of your belongings, especially in crowded areas and tourist spots. Be mindful of traffic when crossing the streets, as motorbikes are a common mode of transportation. Vietnamese people are friendly and polite. Greet with a smile, respect local customs, and dress modestly when visiting religious sites.



Emergency

Vietnam: In case of an emergency, dial 113 for police, 115 for medical emergencies, and 114 for the fire department.

It's advisable to have travel insurance for medical emergencies.

Check in Process

Have your passport or a valid form of identification ready for check-in.

Check-in is usually from 3pm local time.



Dining

Vietnamese cuisine is known for dishes like pho, banh mi, and spring rolls.

As hygeine levels differ to the rest of the world, it's important to be mindful when eating out. Always drink bottled water and avoid drinking tap water, this includes washed fruit and salad, ice cubes and brushing your teeth.

It is advised to pack medicines just in case you do get an upset stomach. Please exercise caution when buying food from street food vendors.





What to pack

Essentials:
Passport & Visa: Ensure you have your passport, visa, and any necessary travel documents.
Travel Insurance: Always a good idea for unexpected situations.
Money: Cash (especially small denominations) and credit/debit cards. ATMs are widely available.
Health Kit: Any prescription medications, over-the-counter medicines (Ensure that you travel with these in your hand luggage)

Clothing:
Pack lightweight clothing and comfortable shoes for walking. Consider cultural norms when selecting your attire.

Personal Items:
Toiletries: Basic items like toothpaste, shampoo, soap, and any specific personal items you use.
Sunscreen & Sunglasses: Protection from the strong sun is crucial.
Insect Repellent: Especially important in rural or tropical areas.

Electronics
Adapter/Converter: Phone & Charger: With a local SIM card, you can have better connectivity and avoid high roaming charges.
Camera: To capture your travels (with extra memory cards and batteries).

Other Useful Items:
Small Backpack/Daypack: For day trips and carrying essentials.
Hand Sanitiser: For cleanliness on the go.

