Itinerary

Vietnam Luxury Train Journey: Hanoi to Ho Chi Minh City

***IMPORTANT NOTE: Any extra nights, optional tours or other amendments, will not be visible on this itinerary.**

Day 1: Hanoi Capital ~ Welcome on Board

As the afternoon softens in Hanoi, a sense of anticipation fills the air. Your luxurious rail adventure begins with a seamless pick-up from your hotel by our driver at around 04:00 p.m. Upon your arrival at Gia Lam Station, you will be warmly welcomed and escorted to the VIP lounge. Feel any pre-travel jitters melt away as they effortlessly assist you with check-in, ensuring your smooth transition into the world of luxury rail travel. Take a moment to settle into your surroundings, admiring the exquisite details and allow yourself to unwind, preparing for an unforgettable welcome celebration.

An Evening of Anticipation and Elegance

As dusk approaches, at around 06:00 P.M, don your finest attire and join fellow travellers in the opulent restaurant. Engage in lively conversation over refreshments, and the gentle sound of clinking glasses provides a delightful soundtrack. As the evening progresses, indulge in a sumptuous dinner crafted to tantalize your taste buds. Each course reveals culinary artistry, seamlessly paired with fine wines or expertly mixed cocktails. With spirits high and anticipation mounting, the train begins its gentle departure from Hanoi. Shortly after leaving the station, it crosses the iconic Long Bien Bridge, a living symbol of Hanoi’s history, offering a fleeting yet magical view of the Red River at twilight. Gaze out your window as the vibrant city lights slowly fade, replaced by the tranquility of the Vietnamese countryside. The rhythmic motion of the train lulls you into a sense of peaceful relaxation. Allow the anticipation of the adventures that await in Ninh Binh to carry you into a restorative night's sleep aboard your luxurious train.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
OVERNIGHT: Twin/Double Cabin on Train

Day 2: Ninh Binh ~ Explore The First Kingdom Of Vietnam

Awaken to the splendor of Ninh Binh as dawn unfurls, with a sumptuous breakfast served in the lavish confines of your luxury train. Each dish, a testament to refined culinary craft, sets a distinguished tone for the day’s journey. The journey transitions seamlessly from the comfort of the train to the serene embrace of Trang An's emerald waters. Here, aboard a sampan, you are invited to navigate through a beautiful landscape. Amidst the grandeur of towering limestone cliffs and lush greenery, this journey offers an intimate glimpse into the heart of nature's splendor. The narrative of the day continues as you arrive at Hoa Lu, Vietnam's ancient capital. Step back in time amidst the dramatic limestone peaks, where the legacy of the Dinh and Le dynasties lives on through temples and historical sites. Amongst temples and ruins, this visit enriches the soul, intertwining the luxury of travel with the depth of cultural heritage. Returning to the train, you enjoy lunch followed by an afternoon tea in the onboard restaurant. In the warm and inviting atmosphere, you can relax and admire the mountain landscapes as the train gently

makes its way toward Vinh. Dinner is once again served on board, where flavors and stories of the journey continue to intertwine.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
OVERNIGHT: Twin/Double Cabin on Train

Day 3: Quang Binh ~ A Soft Adventure in Jungle & Caves

Wake gently to the rhythmic sway of the train, the landscapes of central Vietnam rolling past your window. Savor a leisurely breakfast on board, savoring both the anticipation of the day ahead and the quiet beauty of your surroundings. Disembark in the heart of Quang Binh, a region renowned for its dramatic natural beauty. Embark on a journey to Phong Nha-Ke Bang National Park, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where primeval landscapes unfold. Lush mountains frame the serene Son River, their reflections dancing on the water's surface.Step aboard a boat for a tranquil voyage along the Son River. As you glide gently through the water, immerse yourself in the breathtaking scenery. The mountains rise majestically from the riverbanks, their rugged beauty mirrored in the still waters. Drift along the Phong Nha Cave's subterranean river, marveling at the intricate formations of stalactites and stalagmites sculpted by time. Afternoon: Back to the train for relaxing and joining some special activities on the train. Late Afternoon & Evening: Flavors of the Countryside and Onward Journey As the sun sets over the landscapes of Quang Binh, take time to refresh and unwind. The evening continues with an outdoor BBQ dinner at a small rural train station, surrounded by the peaceful and rustic scenery of the Vietnamese countryside. If you wish, join in a demonstration Vietnamese cooking class to discover the vibrant flavors and fresh, locally sourced ingredients that define the region's cuisine. Learn traditional cooking techniques and create dishes bursting with flavor. Enjoy your culinary creations in this idyllic setting. As the stars begin to emerge, the gentle sounds of nature orchestrate a symphony of peace, a perfect farewell to Quang Binh. Late in the evening, your journey continues as the train departs for Hue carrying you towards your next captivating chapter.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
OVERNIGHT: Twin/Double Cabin on Train

Day 4: Hue ~ Discover the Magnificent of The Last Empire in Vietnam

The day begins with a nostalgic rickshaw ride through Hue’s peaceful streets. You can relax while taking in the beautiful scenery as the train winds through the tranquil countryside. At the Imperial Citadel, once the heart of the Nguyen Dynasty, towering ramparts, palaces, and sacred shrines recall the grandeur and solemnity of Vietnam’s imperial past. Wandering through delicate gardens and viewing artifacts like the emperor’s throne and royal robes, you feel history unfolding quietly in the soft morning light. Midday: Tranquility Among Tombs and Traditions Leaving the citadel, you continue by private van to Tu Duc Mausoleum, a poetic retreat nestled among pine-covered hills — a reflection of an emperor’s yearning for peace and timeless beauty. The journey leads next to Hue’s Incense Village, where artisans shape cinnamon, agarwood, and lotus-infused incense with skillful, graceful hands. Here, tradition comes alive, inviting you to try crafting incense or weaving a conical hat from lotus leaves — a quiet, intimate connection to Hue’s enduring spirit. A refined lunch follows at a local restaurant, where Hue’s cuisine — blending royal elegance and rustic authenticity — offers a feast for both the senses and the soul. Afternoon: Farewell to the Ancient Capital As afternoon light softens over Hue, it’s time to return to the train. A final glimpse of riverside gardens and distant temple spires bids farewell to this poetic city. From your seat aboard the luxurious carriage, the scenery shifts: the Perfume River, mossy pagodas, and

solemn mountains slowly fade. The journey southward reveals the shimmering beauty of Lang Co Lagoon, where calm waters meet golden sands beneath emerald hills — a serene postcard from Central Vietnam. The train hums gently onward, carrying with it the lasting impressions of Hue: a city of timeless grace, quiet resilience, and enduring beauty.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
OVERNIGHT: Twin/Double Cabin on Train

Day 5: Hoi An ~ Ancient Merchant Hub of Southeast Asia

Upon arrival in Hoi An, unwind in a tranquil setting surrounded by emerald green rice fields. Indulge in a freshly brewed, aromatic Vietnamese coffee as you take in the serenity of this rural haven. Set off on an exhilarating jeep ride to Au Lac Wood Art, where you can immerse yourself in the traditional craft of woodblock painting. Guided by skilled artisans, you'll learn the intricate process of making your own design onto wood. This hands-on experience provides a deeper appreciation of the artistry and cultural significance of this local craft. The tour continues to the Thanh Ha Pottery Village, where you can witness the craftsmanship of local potters and even try your hand at shaping your own ceramic creation. This combination of activities offers a rich insight into the heritage and creativity of Hoi An's artisan communities. Savor the true flavors of the region with a home-hosted delicious lunch prepared at a local house. Relish dishes crafted from the freshest locally-sourced ingredients, a testament to the bounty of this fertile land. Afternoon: The Heart of Ancient Hoi An Unveiled Lose yourself in Hoi An Ancient Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site where centuries of history unfold with every step. Your exploration begins at the heart of Hoi An's mercantile past – the bustling Hoi An Market. A whirlwind of sights, sounds, and intoxicating aromas, this market offers a captivating immersion into local life. Browse stalls overflowing with shimmering silks, intricately carved handicrafts, and a dazzling array of exotic spices. Continue your stroll through the enchanting Old Town, where time seems to stand still. Arrive at the Phuc Kien Chinese Assembly Hall, a magnificent architectural gem adorned with vibrant gates, mythical dragon statues, and ornate rooftops. Discover the enduring practice of ancestor worship as you observe local devotees making offerings at the family altar. Venture deeper into history with a visit to the remarkably preserved Phung Hung Ancient House or its counterpart, the Tan Ky Ancient House. These timeworn structures have withstood centuries of change, offering a glimpse into the lives of prosperous merchants who once conducted trade with merchants from faraway lands. Your journey culminates at the iconic Japanese Covered Bridge, a symbol of Hoi An's diverse heritage. Built over 400 years ago, this graceful bridge once connected the town's Japanese and Chinese communities. Admire the intricate carvings and paintings within, as your guide deciphers their symbolism and cultural significance. Conclude your afternoon with a leisurely exploration of Hoi An's renowned handicraft shops and art galleries. Venture off the beaten path, discovering hidden laneways and charming local neighborhoods, where the true essence of Hoi An reveals itself. Evening: Onward Journey with Culinary Delights As the sun begins to set, return to the comfort of your luxurious train. Freshen up in the privacy of your cabin as the landscape transforms outside your window. Indulge in an exquisite onboard dinner featuring both Vietnamese and international culinary creations, a delightful prelude to your arrival in Phu Yen.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
OVERNIGHT: Twin/Double Cabin on Train

Day 6: Phu Yen ~ A Voyage into Coastal Serenity

After a peaceful breakfast aboard the train, the day’s exploration begins in the quiet heart of Phu Yen — a province where simplicity, tradition, and natural beauty converge. Your first stop is Mang Lang Church, a stunning relic of Gothic architecture that has stood gracefully for over a century. Beneath its soaring spires and weathered stone facade, the church whispers stories of faith, endurance, and the meeting of East and West. Here, in the stillness of the morning, you feel the gentle weight of history lingering in the breeze. From there, continue the journey to Phu Tan Mat Weaving Village, where generations of artisans have perfected the age-old craft of weaving mats from rush grass. As you wander through the village, observe the skilled hands at work, weaving colorful threads into practical yet beautiful creations. The scent of sun-dried grass fills the air, and the steady, rhythmic sound of the looms becomes an unexpected melody of rural life. It’s not just a visit; it’s a step into a living tradition — an invitation to slow down, to witness the artistry of hands guided by time and heart. Midday: Celebrating the Sea’s Bounty As midday approaches, return to the coast and prepare to indulge in one of Phu Yen’s most beloved culinary specialties. Crafted with the freshest local ingredients and a deep respect for tradition, the meal promises a true taste of the sea and the spirit of this serene region. In the shaded calm of a local restaurant, savor a lunch that is both humble and elegant — where every bite speaks of the sea, the salt air, and the quiet pride of the fishermen who bring this gift to shore. Afternoon: Gentle Return to the Rails After a fulfilling meal, the afternoon invites you back to the train for a time of rest and reflection. Settle into your cabin, perhaps with a book in hand, or simply gaze through the wide windows as Phu Yen’s countryside gently recedes — rolling fields, distant mountains, and narrow village roads weaving together a final tapestry of the land you leave behind. At 4:00 PM, the train departs Phu Yen, setting its course southward toward Binh Thuan. The soft hum of the rails and the shifting light of late afternoon create a cocoon of calm, a perfect backdrop for quiet contemplation. Evening: Dining Under a Canopy of Stars As twilight deepens into night, the dining car beckons. Here, amidst the glow of soft lighting and the clinking of glasses, a beautifully curated dinner awaits. Each course is crafted to complement the day’s experiences — elegant yet unpretentious, much like Phu Yen itself. Outside, the world passes by in a quiet blur; inside, the evening unfolds with the warmth of new friendships and the lingering sweetness of a day spent close to the heart of Vietnam. p> MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

OVERNIGHT: Twin/Double Cabin on Train

Day 7: Phan Thiet ~ Explore The Ancient Chams Culture

The morning begins with a journey to tranquil Ta Cu Mountain, a revered spiritual site in Binh Thuan. In the 18th century, under the reign of King Tu Duc, the mountain became a prominent pilgrimage site for Vietnamese Buddhists. Reach the summit, you will discover the architectural marvel of Linh Son Truong Tho Pagoda, which offers breathtaking panoramic views of the city. Continue your exploration of Phan Thiet with a unique immersion into the heart of its culinary traditions. At 10:00 AM, step into the fascinating Fish Sauce Museum, where this essential Vietnamese fills the air with its pungent yet captivating aroma. Unravel the centuries-old production methods and the profound cultural significance of fish sauce. Learn about its role in shaping Vietnamese cuisine and understand why it's considered the soul of countless dishes. At around noon, savor the flavors you've just discovered during a leisurely lunch at an oceanfront restaurant. Delight in a selection of local specialties where the distinct taste of the sea shines through, expertly paired with fresh ingredients and regional culinary flair. Afternoon: Return to the train to unwind and enjoy its comfort, allowing yourself some peaceful time to relax and prepare for a wonderful night. Evening: A Warmly Farewell Dinner Returning to the train, you are invited to enjoy a farewell dinner outside in a special place in Phan Thiet and enjoy a meal featuring the freshest seafood, local delicacies, and dishes reflecting the diverse culinary influences of Phan Thiet. Nighttime: Onward Journey Freshen up in your private cabin, reminiscing about the day's discoveries as the train begins its journey back to the vibrant Ho Chi Minh City.

MEALS: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
OVERNIGHT: Twin/Double Cabin on Train

Day 8: Ho Chi Minh City: Comeback to Modern Life ~ Farewell

The train is scheduled to reach Sai Gon station. Guests will savor breakfast until 9:30 am. At 10:00 am, check-out procedures commence. Our driver will pick you up and take you to your hotel/airport.
MEALS: Breakfast