

# Mu Cang Chai – Sapa – Halong 9 Days



## Brief itinerary

Day	Itinerary Description	Overnight
Day 1	Hanoi Arrival	Hanoi
Day 2	Hanoi - Halong Bay Cruise	Halong Bay
Day 3	Halong Bay Cruise - Hanoi	Hanoi
Day 4	Hanoi - Nghia Lo	Mu Cang Chai
Day 5	Nghia Lo - Mu Cang Chai	Mu Cang Chai
Day 6	Mu Cang Chai Trekking Tours	Mu Cang Chai
Day 7	Mu Cang Chai – Sapa - Lao Chai - Ta Van villages	Sapa
Day 8	Ta Van - Sapa - Ma Tra - Ta Phin villages - Hanoi	Hanoi
Day 9	Hanoi Departure	Hanoi

# Detailed Itinerary



## Day 1: Hanoi Arrival



Arriving at Noi Bai, the International Airport of Hanoi, you will be welcomed by **the private driver of AsiaTourAdvisor** and first carried to **Hanoi City**, the capital of **Vietnam**. The trip normally takes about an hour and offers some poignant glimpses of modern Vietnamese life: farmers tending their fields, great rivers, modern highways...

Located on the banks of the rich-historical Red River and nestled along wooded boulevards among the city's two dozen lakes, Hanoi is widely recognized as one of the most beautiful ancient capitals in the world, where you can witness well-preserved colonial buildings, antique pagodas, unique museums... that left by and made up a multi-cultural of Chinese, French and Russian influences.

Most tourists would be surprised by the tale of Restored Sword Lake, and amazed while experiencing the hustling and bustling streets of the Old Quarter, of which each street named after the trade that people used to make for their living on the old time. Overnight at a hotel in Hanoi City then.

**Meals:** None, Lunch at local favorite restaurant

**Accommodation:** Hanoi hotels



## Day 2: Hanoi - Halong Bay Cruise



*A UNESCO World Heritage Site, Halong Bay is scattered with more than 2000 floating islands of karstic rock. Legend has it that these floating islands were created by a family of dragons who were invoked by the Emperor to protect Vietnam against Chinese invaders. The dragons flew across the bay, spitting out jewels and jade, which magically turned into scattered islands. Together, these islands linked to create a protective barrier, which can still be admired to this day.*

This morning you find yourself on the banks of the world-renowned Ha Long Bay. The early mist is subtle and cool. It soon dissipates and is replaced by the rising sun. You can see the water glowing a faded emerald in the early light. Climb aboard your cruise and venture out onto the bay. You can't miss the incredible karsts that protrude from the water. Some of the limestone is covered with lush greenery; other times you can see the dark gray boulders peeking into the sky. The collection of karsts that rise out of the water look like dragon's teeth and gave way to the legend of the bay. Anchoring in the Cong Do area, a Vietnamese cooking demonstration will take place on the sundeck, followed by a sumptuous seafood dinner on board before you retire to your cabin for the evening.

**Meals:** Breakfast at the dining lounge, Lunch/Dinner at local favorite restaurant

**Accommodation:** Halong Bay hotels



### **Day 3: Halong Bay Cruise - Hanoi**



The morning stretches over the bay and makes the karsts glint in the light. In the early daylight hours, you can enjoy the view of the bay from the ship's deck while partaking in a Tai Chi demonstration. Each movement is slow and controlled to help soothe the body and the mind. Then the cruise will tour around the bay until you disembark at the end of the morning. After that, you will then return to Hanoi on a road lined with typical rice fields of the Red River Delta.

**Meals:** Breakfast at the dining lounge, Lunch at local favorite restaurant

**Accommodation:** Hanoi hotels



**Day 4: Hanoi - Nghia Lo**



Our driver and tour guide will be waiting for you at the lobby from **8AM**. After getting out of a busy Hanoi, you will enjoy the **countryside view** through the windows while driving northwestward to **Yen Bai province**, which was **historically known for its French colonization since 30s of the previous century**. Arriving at **Nghia Lo town** early in the afternoon, checking in our homestay at a peaceful village, then having lunch and rest on a traditional stilt house for a while. **In the afternoon**, we embark on a bicycling tour to discover the daily life of the ethnic community in the area and enjoy the **beautiful scenery of villages, mountains, and rice fields**. As named the **second largest in Northern Vietnam**, the rice paddies start changing into a yellow-gold colour in autumn and fall, and the harvest runs from September until the end of October. These fields are recognised as a national scenic site as well as the unique cultural identity of the **Hmong ethnic group**.

With '**Homestay**' experience, your dining and overnight accommodation is provided by a local family in their traditional house-on-silts. There would be no private room and you will find yourself comfortable sleeping on the floor in a large communal area. The sleeping corner is set up with a single mattress (thin, but adequate), blankets (ditto), pillow and mosquito net. The restroom is at international standard and a few steps from the main house.

**Meals:** Breakfast at the dining lounge, Lunch/Dinner at local favorite restaurant

**Accommodation:** Mu Cang Chai hotels



**Day 5: Nghia Lo - Mu Cang Chai**



After breakfast, we bid farewell to the host family and head for **Tu Le**, a little town located at beautiful valley at the foot of **Khau Pha Pass**, in the middle of the way to **Mu Cang Chai**. Upon arrival, we get ready for a soft trek to the rice valley and visit some villages. After taking photographs and meeting nice people, you will be back to the town and having lunch at a local restaurant. **In the afternoon**, we start our drive up the famous **Khau Pha Pass**, where the clouds are almost reachable and there are fantastic views of valleys at the bottom. We will have some stops for a break and photo opportunities on the way to **Mu Cang Chai** until late afternoon. After checking in another homestay by the town, the day will end with a gentle walk to visit a village of the **Thai ethnic minority** at the foot of a mountain nearby. Dinner and overnight at the homestay.

**Meals:** Breakfast at the dining lounge, Lunch/Dinner at local favorite restaurant

**Accommodation:** Mu Cang Chai hotels



## Day 6: Mu Cang Chai Trekking Tours



In the morning, we will get a transfer to a gather point for the whole day trekking to enjoy Vietnam's national rice terrace heritage which creates amazing landscapes stretching down the mountain sides. Our trek will start from **Che Cu Nha** commune to **La Pan Tan Commune** in the distance of around 13 km. This trek will definitely offer us a good opportunity to see the main spots and admire the beauty of amazing rice terraces of **Mu Cang Chai**, the place also is wonderful for taking **magic photos** of with wooden houses and guard boxes spotted on the terrace fields. We will also be able to visit a few villages of the H'mong hill tribe scattered in the area and experience interesting livings of ethnic minority groups. Afterwards, you will get picked up by your private vehicle around 4.00 PM, then transfer back to the accommodation and stay for the second night in **Mu Cang Chai**.

**Meals:** Breakfast at the dining lounge, Lunch/Dinner at local favorite restaurant

**Accommodation:** Mu Cang Chai hotels



**Day 7: Mu Cang Chai – Sapa - Lao Chai - Ta Van villages**



After the breakfast, we will bid farewell to the host family and make our way to **Sapa**, one of the most breathtaking hill stations in Vietnam which reflects the signature of French architecture and colorful hill tribal cultures. This is home to stunning mountain landscapes, verdant rice terraces, unique stilt villages... and travelers are invited to enjoy the best of Sapa all the year-round with different taste of seasons and exciting outdoors, as well as to explore the well-preserved traditional customs of ethnic people.

Along the route, we will have some stops for casual visits and amazing photos taking at surprisingly **Than Thuoc Tea Plantation, O Quy Ho Pass, Silver Waterfall**... After having lunch with local specialties at a restaurant upon arrival in **Sapa**, we walk through the town for about 20 minutes before turning into a dirt road to **Ma Tra Village** in the afternoon, whereon inhabited by friendly Black H'mong ethnic. Continue trekking up the village and getting through paddies fields will lead you to an ancient Catholic abbey, built by French colonists almost a century ago. Traveling across 2 km further to reach **Ta Phin Village** for exploring the daily life of Red Dzao, where you have a good chance to buy woven and textile brocade made by ethnic people as the exclusive souvenirs. Having picnic lunch before exploring the entire village, including **Ta Phin Cave** and small hamlet of Black H'mong people. Dining and overnight staying are settled at **homestay in the Ta Phin village**.

**Meals:** Breakfast at the dining lounge, Lunch/Dinner at local favorite restaurant

**Accommodation:** Sapa hotels



**Day 8: Ta Van - Sapa - Ma Tra - Ta Phin villages - Hanoi**



**Following a breakfast with local people**, please enjoy the breathtaking scenery in early morning before continue to visit **Red Dao people at Giang Ta Chai**, where we also have a short break near by a hanging bridge made from cane and witness a beautiful waterfall on the occasion.

Red Dao, the second biggest group of hill minority people in Sapa, is recognized as those who wear plain black trousers and a long black tunic with embroidered cuffs and lapels; especially the women have very colorful red embroidery and coins on their clothing. On their head, there is a red scarf to be worn. Some of the women even have shaved off their eyebrows following a respectful **Red Zao Legend**. After an amazing trip, you will have lunch at a local restaurant before return to Hanoi. Be charmed with marvelous sightseeing and enjoy beautiful views driving along the Hoang Lien Son mountain range. You will arrive at Hanoi in late afternoon and overnight at your hotel in Hanoi.

**Meals:** Breakfast at the dining lounge, Lunch/Dinner at local favorite restaurant

**Accommodation:** Hanoi hotels



## **Day 9: Hanoi Departure**



The time will be your own until your private car arrives to take you to the airport for your flight to next destination. Finish unforgettable Tour Halong bay & Mu Cang Chai with Asia Tour Advisor. Good bye & see you in the next time! AsiaTourAdvisor capable of tailoring customized trips if you wish otherwise.

**Meals:** Breakfast at the dining lounge, Lunch at local favorite restaurant

**Accommodation:** Hanoi hotels

# Booking Policy

## What's Included

- Private car for airport pick up
- Welcome drink
- Luxury en-suited cabin with A/C, hot water
- Transfer by van with group in Hanoi city tour
- Tea & coffee free on breakfast
- English speaking guide on board
- Kayaking
- Cooking Class
- Tai Chi
- Transfer by van Hanoi- Halong and return
- Accommodation at hotels and homestay
- Meals as mentioned (B = Breakfast, L = Lunch, D = Dinner)
- Water puppet tickets
- Private local English speaking guide
- Private car transfer
- Entrance fee
- Purified water and wet towel

## What's Excluded

- Meals and drinks not mentioned in the itinerary
- Visa fee upon arrival in Vietnam
- Tips and personal expenses including personal insurance
- Any service not clearly mentioned in the itinerary
- Hotel early check in & Late check out
- Peak season surcharge & compulsory dinner at the hotel
- Supplement for French, Spanish, Italian and German speaking guide

## Cancellation by Customer

- Cancellation received before 60 days: FREE of charge
- Cancellation received from 30 days to 59 days prior arrival date: 10% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 15 days to 29 days prior arrival date: 30% of total rate
- Cancellation received from 7 days to 14 days prior arrival date: 50% of total rate

- Cancellation received less than 7 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 infant
- 04 - 11 years old without bed: 50% adult rate
- 04 - 11 years old with extra bed: 75% adult rate
- 04 - 11 years old in twin share: 90% adult rate

## Why us

100% Local Expert	24/07 Support
Best Customer Values	Price Beat Guarantee
100% Customer Satisfaction	100% Money Back Guarantee
Save up to 50%	Unique Tailor-made Tours