

# 4 Days TANTALISING SAIGON (Ho Chi Minh City)

Raffles Vacations  
Uncompromised Holidays? Go Private!

RV-SGN-04



VIETNAM - HO CHI MINH CITY

## Day 1: Arrive HO CHI MINH CITY (HCMC)

Dinner

Upon arrival at *Tan Son Nhat International Airport*, you will be greeted by our tour coordinator and escorted to your hotel in Ho Chi Minh City for your check-in.

Welcome to **Ho Chi Minh City** – the largest city in Vietnam and formerly named Saigon during the French colony until 1975 (although the name Saigon is still commonly used). It was once known as Prey Nokor, an important Khmer sea port prior to annexation by the Vietnamese in the 17<sup>th</sup> century.

Today will be your free day at leisure to explore the city on your own. Tonight, your private chauffeur will pick you up for your dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight in HCMC.

War Remnants Museum



Reunification Palace



General Post Office



Ben Thanh Market



## Day 2: Cu Chi Tunnels / War Remnants Museum / Reunification Palace / Notre Dame Cathedral / General Post Office / Ben Thanh Market

Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

After breakfast, you will visit **Cu Chi Tunnels**. Here you will have the opportunity to witness how rice paper is made and to explore the amazing labyrinth of tunnels used by the guerrillas during the war. Thereafter, return back to Ho Chi Minh City and have your lunch at local restaurant before proceeding for your city tour of the dynamic Ho Chi Minh City.

Visit the **War Remnants Museum**, which primarily contains exhibits relating to the American phase of the Vietnam War and is a major tourist attraction. Next, proceed to the **Reunification Palace** – the workplace of the President of South Vietnam and was then known as the Independence Palace. **Notre Dame Cathedral** – the spiritual and cultural crucible of the French presence in the orient and the **General Post Office** – the French colonial architecture that is still functioning as a post office.

Your final stop is the **Ben Thanh Market**, which is always loaded with great variety of goods, such as clothing, handicrafts, souvenirs, cakes, candies, foodstuff and particularly high-quality fruit and vegetables. Thereafter, proceed for your dinner at a local restaurant before returning back to your hotel. Overnight in HCMC.

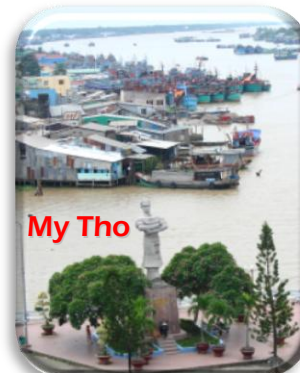
## Day 3: My Tho / Ben Tre / Vinh Trang Temple

Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

After breakfast, you will commence your private guided tour to the a full day trip to the watery world of the **Mekong Delta**, just more than an hour by road from Ho Chi Minh City. **My Tho** is a prosperous town of 175,000 inhabitants in the Mekong Delta. It is famous for its extensive orchards and immense rice fields. Take a cruise along the Mekong River. Here, you will visit the coconut candy workshop and get to taste freshly-made candy specialty. Enjoy tropical fruits, honey tea and listen to traditional Southern music. Transfer to a small rowing boat to discover a natural canal of **Ben Tre** province. Take a short walk in the coconut plantation to visit a typical house in the Mekong Delta. Transfer back to the big boat and proceed for your lunch at local restaurant.

Next, visit **Vinh Trang Temple** – a Buddhist temple near My Tho in the Mekong River Delta region. It is one of the best-known temples in the region. Thereafter, return back to HCMC. In the evening, enjoy dinner at a local restaurant before you retire for the day. Overnight in HCMC.

My Tho



Vinh Trang Temple



## Day 4: Depart HO CHI MINH CITY (HCMC)

Breakfast

After breakfast, you will have the rest of the day free at leisure until your departure transfer to **Tan Son Nhat International Airport**. And we wish you an enjoyable trip, bringing home fond memories of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam – The Hidden Charm.

**NOTE:** Your private chauffeur will pick you from your hotel approx. 2 to 2.5 hours before your scheduled flight departure (depending on your hotel's location). Kindly check-out 30 minutes before your pick-up time to avoid any delay.



**Day 1: Arrive HANOI**

**Dinner**

Upon arrival at *Noi Bai International Airport*, you will be greeted by our tour coordinator and escorted to your hotel in Hanoi for your check-in. Welcome to **Hanoi** – the capital of Vietnam. Today will be your free day at leisure to explore the city on your own. Tonight, your private chauffeur will pick you up for your dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight in Hanoi.



**Ha Long Bay**

**Day 2: HA LONG BAY (Overnight Cruise): Bai Tu Long Bay / Coc Islet / Cap De Islet / Vong Vieng Floating Fishing Village**

**Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner**

Today, you will have an early breakfast and depart 8.00am for a 3.5 hours journey to *Ha Long Bay*, one of Vietnam’s greatest natural wonders which is a World’s Natural Heritage recognized by UNESCO in 2000.

Upon arrival at Ha Long Tourist Wharf, you will board the Emotion Junk and check into your private cabin while cruising along *Bai Tu Long Bay*. A Vietnamese lunch will be served while you enjoy the stunning backdrop of limestone formations, beautiful islands like the *Coc Islet*, *Cap De Islet* and *Bo Cau Island*. At approx. 4.00pm, you will visit the *Vong Vieng Floating Fishing Village*.

In the evening, the vessel will anchor at either the Trong Cave or Ho Dong Tien Cave areayou’re your overnight stay. Tonight, fresh seafood supplied by the Vong Vieng fishing villagers will be served for your dinner. Thereafter, free at leisure to enjoy the night beauty of Ha Long Bay.



**Floating Fishing Village**



**Dinh Huong Islet**

**Day 3: HA LONG BAY : Dinh Huong Islet / Fighting Cock Islet / Dog Islet / Ba Hang Floating Fishing Village**

**HANOI : Ngoc Son Temple / Restored Sword Lake / Hanoi Old Quarter / Dong Xuan Market / Water Puppet Performance**

**Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner**

After a good night’s rest, wake up early this morning to enjoy a refreshing session of Tai Ji Quan on the sundeck. After a light breakfast, continue your cruise on the bay, passing *Dinh Huong Islet*, *Fighting Cock Islet* & *Dog Islet*. Upon arrival at the *Ba Hang Floating Fishing Village*, visit the local houses, fish farms, schools and mingle with the friendly local fishermen and villagers.

At approx. 9.45am, you will check out of your cabin and have an early lunch (brunch) at 10.00am. By 11.30am, you will arrive back at the tourist wharf and depart for Hanoi at 12.00 noon.

Arriving Hanoi in late afternoon, you will check into your hotel. Thereafter, proceed for your tour to *Ngoc Son Temple* and *Restored Sword Lake* (Hoan Kiem Lake). Walk through the *Hanoi Old Quarter* and head for *Dong Xuan Market* where you can do some shopping.

After your dinner at a local restaurant, enjoy the unique and famous traditional Vietnamese *Water Puppet* performance. Overnight in Hanoi.



**Fighting Cocks Islet**



**Dong Xuan Market**

**Day 4: Depart HANOI**

**Breakfast**

After breakfast, you will have the rest of the day free at leisure for some last-minute shopping, until your departure transfer to *Noi Bai International Airport*. And we wish you an enjoyable trip, bringing home fond memories of Hanoi & Ha Long Bay, Vietnam – The Hidden Charm.



**Water Puppet**

**NOTE:** Your private chauffeur will pick you from your hotel approx. 2.5 to 3 hours before your scheduled flight departure (depending on your hotel’s location). Kindly check-out 30 minutes before your pick-up time to avoid any delay.

# 5 Days FASCINATING HANOI & HA LONG BAY

Raffles Vacations  
Uncompromised Holidays? Go Private!

RV-HAN-05



## Day 1: Arrive HANOI

**Dinner**

Upon arrival at *Noi Bai International Airport*, you will be greeted by our tour coordinator and escorted to your hotel in Hanoi for your check-in.

Welcome to **Hanoi** – the capital of Vietnam. Today will be your free day at leisure to explore the city on your own. Tonight, your private chauffeur will pick you up for your dinner at a local restaurant. Overnight in Hanoi.



**Bat Trang Porcelain & Ceramic Village**

## Day 2: Bat Trang Porcelain & Ceramic Village / Military History Museum / Hanoi Old Quarter / Water Puppet Performance

**Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner**

After breakfast, you will visit the *Bat Trang Porcelain & Ceramic Village*, the centre of traditional "An Nam" ceramic. Witness the production of ceramics and walking around for some light but fine and sophisticated porcelain. You will find workers mixing clay or dipping burnt vases into glaze to highlight their crackled lines; the painting masters, usually young girls drawing on raw terracotta before they are heated at 900°C to 1,700°C ovens; taking inspiring pictures of coal-dust bakes pasted on the village's walls; daily life of the village with a small exciting market and the wharf at the Red River where the products are shipped out.

After lunch at a local restaurant, visit *Military History Museum* – the concentrated embodiment of the spirit of Vietnamese people – "Nothing is more precious than independence and freedom". Walk through *Hanoi Old Quarter* where you will have time for shopping. After dinner at a local restaurant, enjoy the unique and famous traditional Vietnamese *Water Puppet* performance. Overnight in Hanoi.



**Military History Museum**

## Day 3: Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, Museum & Stilt House / One Pillar Pagoda / Ngoc Son Temple / Restored Sword Lake / Temple of Literature / Ha Long Bay

**Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner**

After breakfast, you will commence your private guided city tour, visiting some of the city's attractions including the fascinating *Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum* (except Mondays, Fridays & whole of Oct & Nov; will be replaced with Quan Thanh Pagoda instead), *Ho Chi Minh Museum* (except Mondays), *Ho Chi Minh's Stilt House & One Pillar Pagoda*. Next, visit *Ngoc Son Temple & Restored Sword Lake* (Hoan Kiem Lake) in the centre of modern Hanoi.

After lunch, visit the *Temple of Literature*, which is regarded as the first university in Vietnam. Thereafter, proceed for your 3.5 hours journey to *Ha Long Bay*, one of Vietnam's greatest natural wonders which is a World's Natural Heritage recognized by UNESCO in 2000. This evening, you will have a seafood dinner at a local restaurant before you retire for the day. Overnight in Ha Long Bay.



**Hanoi Old Quarter**



**HCM Mausoleum**

## Day 4: Ha Long Bay – Day Cruise

**Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner**

After breakfast, you will take a cruise on the emerald green waters of *Ha Long Bay* among the 3,000 spectacular limestone islands, visiting grottoes and floating village. The cruise ends with a fresh seafood lunch on board. Thereafter, proceed for your journey back to Hanoi. Upon arrival in Hanoi, proceed for your dinner at a local restaurant before you retire for the day. Overnight in Hanoi.



**HCM Museum**

## Day 5: Depart HANOI

**Breakfast**

After breakfast, you will have the rest of the day free at leisure for some last-minute shopping, until your departure transfer to *Noi Bai International Airport*. And we wish you an enjoyable trip, bringing home fond memories of Hanoi & Ha Long Bay, Vietnam – The Hidden Charm.

**NOTE:** Your private chauffeur will pick you from your hotel approx. 2.5 to 3 hours before your scheduled flight departure (depending on your hotel's location). Kindly check-out 30 minutes before your pick-up time to avoid any delay.



**Ha Long Bay**