

# Hà Nội and its surroundings

*Between modernity and tradition*



**Ha Noi**, the Vietnamese capital is located at the heart of the North Viet Nam. **The 64 lakes of the city, as well as its numerous parks and trees shading over the avenues and streets make it a very pleasant city.** Admittedly, Ha Noi is a big and well spread city and the traffic and the intense life-beat can be somewhat "aggressive" but we soon realize that Ha Noi is divided in numerous little nice corners, giving the city a more human feel. In this way, the city is often called **Ha Noi the Peaceful City, Ha Noi the Traditional City** in opposition to Sai Gon with its appearance of a big and modern city...

I think that you understood how much I like the city of Ha Noi ! Apart from the historical and cultural dimensions, **I like the atmosphere of the city, its little cafés, its lakes and parks, its population...** I won't talk more about it at the risk of sounding chauvinistic and also out of respect for my friends of Sai Gon...

There are many crafts villages around the city where you can discover the local craftsmanship techniques. However my favorite is the village of **Duong Lam** which is not a craft village but a traditional village with centenary trees, 300 year-old traditional houses and a beautiful pagoda. **A simply stunning place...**

I am trying my best to find less touristic and **more authentic alternatives** to these visits I think are essential in order to understand **the richness of Vietnamese craftsmanship.** In my opinion, the ideal would be to associate visits to craft villages and visits to nice pagodas around Ha Noi...





## HA NOI CITY, PROGRAM 1 : 1 day

### TEMPLE OF LITERATURE, WEST LAKE AND OLD QUARTER

At 9am, an English speaking guide comes and picks you up at your hotel with a private car.

The first visit is the Temple of Literature.

You will then carry on by foot towards the esplanade of Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum where you will visit the single pillar pagoda.

After that, you will walk pass by the Presidential Palace, the National Assembly, the Quan Thanh Temple and you will arrive to the West Lake where you will be having lunch by the lake.

You will visit the Tran Quoc pagoda, and then the car will drive you to the Old Quarter.

You will visit the outdoor of the Great Opera and walk along Trang Tien street with its libraries and galleries.

Walk around the Hoan Kiem Lake by foot until the Cathedral of Ha Noi and the pagoda next to it.

You will end your program with the visit of a Vietnamese traditional house that just got renovated recently, in Ma May Street.

At \_\_\_ pm you will attend the water puppet show of Ha Noi.

Diner at liberty.

Accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

*Private car,  
Lunch,  
English speaking Guide,  
Entrance fees,  
Theater (free).*



## HA NOI CITY, PROGRAM 2 : 1 day

### MUSEUM OF ETHNOLOGY, TEMPLE OF LITERATURE AND OLD QUARTER

**Note: Tour impossible on Mondays (museums are closed) !**

At 9am an English speaking guide comes and picks you up at your hotel with a private car.

You will go to the Museum of Ethnology of Viet Nam.

There, you can discover all the 54 ethnic minorities of Viet Nam and their traditions. Visit the garden of the Museum to explore different ethnic houses.

The car will bring you to a restaurant for lunch where you can savor Vietnamese traditional dishes.

You will then visit the Temple of Literature.

Then the car will drive you to the Old Quarter.

From there, you will get in a rickshaw to visit the 36 professions area.

You will end your program by visiting a Vietnamese traditional house that just got renovated recently in Ma May Street.

At 17h30 you will attend the water puppet show of Ha Noi.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

*Private car,  
Lunch,  
English speaking Guide,  
Entrance fees,  
Theater (free).*





## **SURROUNDINGS OF HA NOI, PROGRAM 1 : 1 day** **THE VILLAGE OF TRANH DONG HO AND THE BUT THAP PAGODA**

At 9am an English speaking guide comes and picks you up at your hotel with a private car.

After an hour long of driving, you will visit the traditional crafts village of Tranh Dong Ho. It is in this village that Vietnamese traditional paintings on rice Paper are created. You can discover there this very ancient painting technique.

Lunch in a local restaurant.

Then, the car will drive you to the But Thap pagoda called the "Brush Tower" pagoda. Its name comes from the principal stupa that can represent, for some, a brush in its inkpot. This pagoda dating from 1647 and made of 3 buildings has a very peculiar architecture for North Vietnam.

On the way back, a stop is programed at the traditional village of Bat Trang where you can discover the crafts techniques of this very local fabrication.

The car brings you back to your hotel in the end of the afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

*Private car,  
Lunch,  
English speaking Guide,  
Entrance fees.*



## **SURROUNDINGS OF HA NOI, PROGRAM 2 : 1 day** **THE PERFUME PAGODA « CHUA HUONG »**

At 7am the car comes and picks you up at you hotel to bring you to the Perfume pagoda in the province of Ha Tay.

Once onsite, you will go up the very picturesque and romantic "Yen" river on a flat-bottomed sampan.

Following a steep path by foot, you will get to the temples and sanctuaries of the Perfume Pagoda, nested in limestone rocks. However, a cable-car has been recently installed so that the least courageous may also climb it, fatigue-free!

The site of the Perfume Pagoda is nationally famous for its pagodas and its temples built on limestone mountains: the Trinh temple, Thien Tru pagoda. You will discover there a very original architecture.

Lunch in a local restaurant.

The tour ends with the visit of the Huong Tich cave, by punt.

The car brings you back to your hotel in the end of the afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

*Private car,  
Lunch,  
English speaking Guide,  
Boat,  
Entrance fees,*





## SURROUNDINGS OF HA NOI, PROGRAM 3 : 1 day THE TRADITIONAL VILLAGE OF DUONG LAM

At 9am an English speaking guide comes and picks you up at your hotel with a private car.

After an hour long of driving, you will visit the Thay pagoda, called the Master pagoda. This pagoda is dedicated to the Thich Ca Buddha. It holds in particular a very famous statue of the monk Tu Dao Hanh from the 12th Century.

After the visit, the car will bring you to the traditional village of Duong Lam where you will be having lunch with a local family in the village.

You will then carry on visiting the traditional village of Duong Lam on bicycle. This unique place of North Viet Nam has centenary trees, a very ancient temple, and especially, old traditional houses, 50 of which are over 200-300 years old.

On the way back, a stop is programed at the traditional silk village of Van Phuc. You can do some shopping and visit houses where people weave.

The car brings you back to your hotel in the end of the afternoon.

Diner and accommodation at liberty in Ha Noi.

*Private car,  
Lunch,  
English speaking Guide,  
Entrance fees.*



## PROGRAM 3 : Exention 1 day - 1 night

The night before, instead of returning to Hanoi, you go to my place, for dinner and sleep in Ba Vi, in a modern home.

After breakfast, the driver takes you to Dam Long (45 minutes).

Arrived at Long Dam, you can visit ecotourism Dam Long Park ... Then you make a bike ride in the forest ensuring a beautiful flora and fauna. There are many monkeys, deers and ducks .... in this place.

Lunch is taken at a local restaurant.

In the afternoon, you return to Ha Noi. On the way back there is a stop at the traditional village of Van Phuc silk. You can go shopping and visit the houses where one manufactures clothing.

Dinner and free accommodation in Hanoi.

### OPTION 1 : BA VI

*Dinner and night ant my  
place in Ba Vi,  
Beakfast,  
Entrance Fees,  
Private car,  
English speaking Guide,  
bicycles,  
Lunch.*

### OPTION 2 : LA FERME DU COLVERT

The night before, instead of going back to Ha Noi, you go to the "La Ferme du Colvert" for dinner and one Muong dance show.

Night in the farm of Mallard happens in a traditional house on stilts.

After breakfast, the guide takes you on a bicycle to visit the Muong ethnic minorites villages and walking at Luong Son area.

You return the "La Ferme du Colvert" to learn Vietnamese cuisine before lunch

After lunch you take the time to rest before returning to Hanoi.

Arrive in Hanoi in the late afternoon - noon.

Dinner and free accommodation in Hanoi.

*Muong Dance Show,  
Dinner and night at "La  
ferme de Colvert",  
Beakfast,  
Entrance Fees,  
Private car,  
English speaking Guide,  
bicycles,  
Lunch.*



## HA NOI BY BIKE, PROGRAM 1 day

### ALONG RED AND DUONG RIVERS

At 9 o'clock, a English-spoken guide will pick you up at your hotel by bike to visit you around the city of Ha Noi.

You cross the old neighborhoods and discover the old town before arriving on the Long Bien bridge.

This bridge was designed by Gustave Eiffel and measures 2 km to cross it.

On the other side of the river, you stop at a typical market in North Vietnam, the Ngoc Lam market.

Then you continue the walk to Luan's house, along the Duong River.

Lunch is taken at Luan, by the river.

After lunch, you leave on the Bac Cau peninsula, between the Red River and the Duong River.

You visit the temples Doi Co, Rung and Mau Thoai. These are temples known for the "Co" Art of Viet Nam.

You will then return to the hotel in the afternoon.

Dinner and Free Accommodation in Ha Noi.

*English speaking Guide,  
Bikes,  
Lunch.*



Number of Persons	1 Pers	2 Pers	3 Pers	4 Pers	5 Pers
Program 1 day	120 €	152 €	175 €	216 €	237 €

Number of Persons	6 Pers	7 Pers	8 Pers	9 Pers	10 Pers
Program 1 day	271 €	293 €	317 €	348 €	375 €



