# AAA North Penn presents...

# Journey through Northern Vietnam

with Optional 5-Night Southern Vietnam Post Tour Extension **April 8 – 19, 2027** 



For more information contact Contact your local AAA North Penn location Vacations





**Small Group Travel** rewards travelers with new perspectives. With just 12-24 passengers, these are the personal adventures that today's cultural explorers dream of.

12 Days • 23 Meals: 10 Breakfasts, 5 Lunches, 8 Dinners

**HIGHLIGHTS...** Water Puppetry Artist Demonstration, Vespaled Hanoi Food Tour, Meet a Vietnam War Veteran, Lac Village Home-Hosted Dinner, Market Visit & Hands-On Cooking Experience, Hoa Lu Ancient Capital, Trang An Grottoes, Ha Long Bay, Cua Van Floating Village

#### **ITINERARY AT A GLANCE**

Day 1 Overnight Flight

Days 2 – 4 HOTEL du PARC HANOI, Hanoi Days 5, 6 Mai Chau Ecolodge, Mai Chau

Days 7, 8 Emeralda Ninh Bình Resort and Spa, Ninh Binh

Days 9, 10 The Au Co Ship, Ha Long Bay
Day 11 HOTEL du PARC HANOI, Hanoi

On some dates alternate hotels may be used.

Day 1: Thursday, April 8, 2027 Overnight Flight Your journey begins with an overnight flight to Northern Vietnam. From the peaceful rice paddies of Mai Chau to the towering limestone peaks rising from the waters of Ha Long Bay, and from the warmhearted locals of Ninh Binh to the vibrant pulse of Hanoi, prepare for a cultural adventure.

Day 2: Friday, April 9, 2027 Hanoi, Vietnam Arrive in Hanoi, Vietnam's capital. With its tree-lined boulevards, French colonial facades, and a street food culture that hums with energy, Hanoi offers a rich and layered introduction to the country. Since arrival times vary, today is yours to explore at your leisure. You might stroll through a local market, unwind at a lakeside café, or simply take in the rhythm of the city. Tonight, dinner is on your own — perhaps sample a steaming bowl of pho or crispy bánh xèo from a nearby eatery.

**Day 3: Saturday, April 10, 2027 Hanoi** Step into the heart of Vietnamese tradition with a visit to the home of a master water puppet artist, where you'll experience this centuries-old art form. Then, hop aboard a cyclo — a three-wheeled bicycle taxi — for a guided ride through the streets of Hanoi's Old Quarter. This evening, stroll down lively Beer Street to sample local brews, and cap off the day with a welcome dinner. (*B, D*)

Day 4: Sunday, April 11, 2027 Hanoi This morning, it's your choice! Head into Hanoi's narrow backstreets to visit the famed Train Street, where homes and cafés sit inches from the railway line -OR- sit down to a bowl of bún cha at Huong Lien Restaurant, the very spot where President Obama and Anthony Bourdain once shared this staple dish. After, visit the Ho Chi Minh Complex and Vietnam's first university, the Temple of Literature. Enjoy lunch at a social enterprise restaurant that empowers disadvantaged youth through culinary training. This evening, hop on the back of a Vespa for a guided food tour through the Old Quarter, sampling local favorites like pho and egg coffee while weaving through the city's lively night scene. (B, L, D)

**Day 5: Monday, April 12, 2027 Hanoi - Mai Chau** Leave the buzz of Hanoi behind as you make your way into the lush hills of Mai Chau, a peaceful valley framed by misty mountains and dotted with stilt houses. Upon arrival, take a walk through the surrounding rice paddies, catching glimpses of daily life in the local villages. Tonight, unwind at your eco-lodge, surrounded by soaring mountains and unbridled forests. (*B, L, D*)

Day 6: Tuesday, April 13, 2027 Mai Chau: Hich Village & Lac Village This morning, connect with the living history of Mai Chau during a visit to Hich Village. Meet a Vietnam War veteran and their family, hearing firsthand stories that offer a personal lens into the region's past. Experience an **Impact Moment** in Lac Village with a visit to Hoa Ban, a social enterprise that uplifts women from the White Thai minority through vocational training. Later, be welcomed into a local home for a traditional dinner. Share a meal of regional dishes and enjoy warm hospitality as you learn more about the customs of the White Thai ethnic group. (B, D)

Day 7: Wednesday, April 14, 2027 Mai Chau - Ninh Binh Leave the hills on Mai Chau for the dramatic landscapes of Ninh Binh, often called "Ha Long Bay on land" for its towering limestone formations and winding rivers. Your first stop is Hoa Lu (UNESCO), Vietnam's ancient capital dating back to the 10th century. Marvel at the temple and fortress ruins as you explore this historical site. This afternoon, it's your choice! Hike to Hang Mua viewpoint, climbing over 500 steps to be rewarded with spectacular views - OR- indulge in a relaxing massage back at the hotel spa. (B, L)







## **Book Now & Save \$200 Per Person:**

Double \$5,369; **Double \$5,169\*** Single \$6,269 **Single \$6,069** 

For bookings made after Aug 09, 2026 call for rates.

Included in Price: Round Trip Air from Newark Intl Airport, Air Taxes and Fees/Surcharges, Hotel Transfers Not included in price: Cancellation Waiver and Insurance of \$549 per person

\* All Rates are Per Person and are subject to change, based on air inclusive package from EWR

**IMPORTANT CONDITIONS**: Your price is guaranteed once deposit is received and booking confirmed by AAA Vacations®. Your price is not subject to increase after the deposit is received and booking confirmed, except for charges resulting from increases in government-imposed taxes or fees. (See registration form for consent.)

## Day 8: Thursday, April 15, 2027 Ninh Binh: Trang An Grottoes

This morning, step into a rowboat and glide through the serene waterways of Trang An, a UNESCO World Heritage Site known for its labyrinth of limestone caves and jungle-covered peaks. As you paddle through Bright Cave, Dark Cave, Ba Giot, and Nau Ruou, the quiet beauty of this hidden world unfolds around you. This evening, connect with locals over a home-hosted dinner that begins with a visit to the market for fresh ingredients and continues with a hands-on cooking class before sharing the meal together. (B, D)

Day 9: Friday, April 16, 2027 Ninh Binh - Ha Long Bay Travel to Ha Long Bay and board a cruise boat for two spectacular nights. Pass through Trong Mai Islet, Ngon Tay Islet, and Con Coc Islet before arriving at a coastal village. Choose to explore by bicycle or electric cart, winding through the village and learning about daily life in this peaceful corner of Northern Vietnam. Later, take part in an Impact Moment at the Bhaya Community Farm, where you'll learn about sustainable farming as well as the Save the Langurs conservation project. From Bhaya's café, enjoy views of verdant fields dotted with wandering buffalo, and try your hand at crafting

some local delicacies. Back aboard the ship, unwind as the sun sets over the bay. (B, L, D)

Day 10: Saturday, April 17, 2027 Ha Long Bay Greet the day with a Tai Chi session on the deck as the sun rises over Ha Long Bay. Then, take the chance to further explore the Trinh Nu area by kayak, paddling through quiet coves and beneath towering limestone cliffs. After lunch onboard, visit Cua Van Floating Village, considered one of the most beautiful destinations in the world, drifting past colorful homes and fishing boats by kayak or traditional rowing boat. Finish the day with another spectacular sunset over the bay. (B, L, D)

Day 11: Sunday, April 18, 2027 Ha Long Bay - Hanoi This morning, it's your choice! Explore Sung Sot Cave, the largest in Ha Long Bay, following the 500-meter paved passageway that threads through it -OR- visit Titov Island for a swim in the calm waters, sunbathing on the pristine beach, or if you're up for a trek, a hike up the mountain for a panoramic view of Ha Long Bay. Then, bid the bay farewell as you travel back to Hanoi. Enjoy one last free afternoon to revisit your favorite spots or simply relax before gathering with your fellow travelers for a farewell dinner. (B, D)

### **Experience It! Mai Chau**

Nestled in a serene valley surrounded by towering cliffs, Mai Chau is a tranquil haven in Vietnam. Its lush rice paddies stretch as far as the eye can see, interspersed with stilt houses and small hamlets. The valley is home to the White Thai people, whose vibrant textiles and traditional dances add a rich cultural tapestry to the landscape. Meet a Vietnam war veteran and connect further with history, wander through the verdant fields, savor farm-fresh dishes like com lam and ga doi in a local's home, and sleep in a eco lodge. Mai Chau's peaceful ambiance and natural beauty make it a perfect escape from the hustle and bustle of city life.

## **EXTEND YOUR VACATION WITH**

Optional 6 Days 5-Night Southern Vietnam Post Tour Extension

Per Person Rates: \$1,799.00 USD double, \$2,599.00 USD single, land & air inclusive

For more information on extensions and options for this tour visit gateway.memberchoicevacations.com/link/1381172

Day 12: Monday, April 19, 2027 Hanoi - Tour Ends Your adventure through Northern Vietnam comes to a close today. (B)

## **Important Tour Information:**

Book Now rates valid until Aug 09, 2026, valid on air inclusive packages only.

The overall activity level of this tour is a level 3. This means you're an onthe-go traveler. You don't want to miss a thing, so walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal. A moderately paced two-and-a-half-hour walking tour, covering several miles, hills, and uneven surfaces, is no problem for you. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable, as is climbing into and out of various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.). You can climb three flights of stairs easily and handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. Expect some longer days with early mornings or late nights balanced with free time to recharge or set out on your own adventure. This level is not a fit for travelers who require mobility assistance devices.

#### Travel with an average of 16 people (maximum of 24).

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

The days and order of sightseeing may change to best utilize your time on tour

Museum visits and shopping may be affected by the observance of religious or local holidays.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

Triple and child accommodations are not available.

Smaller buses, which may not be lavatory equipped, may be used on this tour. In this case, frequent stops are made during travel periods.

To complete your tour, we <u>include</u> round-trip airport-to-hotel transfers when purchasing our airfare with your tour. If you have arranged for your <u>own air</u>, we are pleased to provide you the option of *purchasing* these transfers. Please note that all transfers will leave at pre-scheduled times.

Due to flight schedules, a pre and/or post night stay may be required in some gateway cities (at an additional cost). Please inquire at time of reservation.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Please be advised, many airlines do not provide advance seat assignments until check-in at the airport. Advance seating will be subject to the airline's terms and conditions.

Internal flights are required in order to participate on this tour and are included in the final price, quoted at time of booking.

Economy air rate and schedule are applicable for groups of 10 or more traveling on the same flights and dates.

## **Travel Requirements:**

Passports and visas are required for this tour at your expense. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from date of return home. You are strongly urged to contact the appropriate consulate for details. Visit www.travel.state.gov for the U.S. State Department for the latest details about passports and visa requirements.

IMPORTANT: We recommend that our travelers take a photocopy of their passport and applicable visas. It should be packed separately from your



actual passport and visa. We also recommend leaving a copy at home with your emergency contact.

VISAS ARE REQUIRED for this tour at your expense. The approximate cost for a one-month SINGLE ENTRY VIETNAM VISA is \$40 US Dollars and MUST BE OBTAINED PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. To enter Vietnam, you will need 1 blank page in your passport. Certain countries require a minimum of 6 months passport validity from the date of return home. Rates are approximate and can be changed at any time based on governing authority.

Each traveler is responsible for proper documentation and inoculations that may be required and/or recommended to participate on this tour. Please contact your local travel clinic or personal physician for specific details on the destinations you are traveling to and from.

Please be aware that if your flight schedule is via Dubai or if you are stopping over in Dubai and are carrying narcotic drugs, controlled or semi-controlled drugs, then you will be required to complete an electronic form prior to entering the country, to obtain approval to carry medication. Please use the link <a href="https://mohap.gov.ae/en/services/issue-of-permit-to-import-medicines-for-personal-use">https://mohap.gov.ae/en/services/issue-of-permit-to-import-medicines-for-personal-use</a> to view the guidelines. A user's guide is available to explain the application and the supporting documents required.

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of August 02, 2026 are based upon availability. Final payment due by December 21, 2026. Deposits are refundable up until August 09, 2026.

CST#2006766-20 UBN#601220855 Nevada Sellers of Travel Registration No. 2003-0279



TRAVEL DATE: 4/08/2027 TERRITORY: E1 RES#: 1381172

# Journey through Northern Vietnam A Cultural Exploration from Hanoi to Ha Long Bay

This form is intended for use by the Group Leaders only. Please note that AAA Vacations® is unable to process this form

A deposit of \$698 per person is due upon reservation. Reservations are made on a first come, first served basis. Reservations made after the seat reduction date of August 02, 2026 are based upon availability. Final payment due by December 21, 2026. Deposits are refundable up until August 09, 2026. YOUR INFORMATION:

Clearly print your full name (first/middle/last) as it appears on your government issued travel documentation.

**IMPORTANT**: In order to avoid any unnecessary change fees, it is imperative that all guest names are entered correctly from the start. The information below must be the <u>legal</u> name and be 100% identical to the ID being used to travel passport/driver's license> including middle names or suffixes <Jr, Sr>.

Middle:		_ Last:		Suffix:
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**EXTENSION**: I wish to purchase "5-Night Southern Vietnam" ( ) Yes ( ) No **PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:** AAA North Penn - Williamsport

## **Extend your vacation with**

## **Optional 6 Days 5-Night Southern Vietnam Post Tour Extension**

Per Person Rates: \$1,799.00 USD double, \$2,599.00 USD single, land & air inclusive 9 Meals: 5 Breakfasts, 2 Lunches, 2 Dinners

## Day 12: Hanoi - Ho Chi Minh City

Fly south to Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam's economic center and main hub of the southern region. Upon arrival, set out on a guided city tour introducing you to the city's blend of French colonial charm and modern energy, followed by lunch at a local restaurant. The rest of the day is yours to explore at your own pace — perhaps stroll through Ben Thanh Market or relax at a café. *Today lunch will be included.* 

### Day 13: Ho Chi Minh City

Venture into the heart of the Mekong Delta, where life flows along the riverbanks. Cruise the Mekong River, passing stilt houses and floating markets. Visit a coconut candy workshop to see how this sweet treat is made — and maybe sample a few — and enjoy lunch before returning to the city. *Today breakfast and lunch will be included*.

## Day 14: Ho Chi Minh City

Step into history with a visit to the Cu Chi Tunnels, an underground network used during the Vietnam War. Learn about the resilience and ingenuity of those who lived and fought here. The rest of the day is yours to explore or relax before gathering for dinner. *Today breakfast and dinner will be included.* 

### Day 15: Ho Chi Minh City - Mui Né, Phan Thiet

Travel to the coastal city of Phan Thiet, known as the birthplace of Vietnamese fish sauce. Visit the Lang Chai Xua Fish Sauce Museum to discover the 300-year-old craft that defines this region's culinary identity. Later, head to the Red Sand Dunes to witness a breathtaking sunset over the rolling landscape. This evening, settle in at your Mui Né resort for an evening at leisure. *Today breakfast will be included.* 

## Day 16: Mui Né, Phan Thiet

Start your day at the Mui Né Fishing Village, taking the opportunity to immerse yourself in daily life among the local fishermen. You can join them in various activities, such as net weaving, repairing fishing equipment, or even going out to sea for a fishing expedition. The afternoon is yours to unwind on the beach or enjoy your resort's amenities. Tonight, gather for dinner to celebrate your adventure. Today breakfast and dinner will be included.

## Day 17: Mui Né, Phan Thiet - Ho Chi Minh City - Tour Ends

Return to Ho Chi Minh City for your onward flight home, carrying with you the incredible stories of Vietnam. *Today breakfast will be included.* 

#### **Important Tour Extension Information:**

The overall activity level of this extension is a level 3. This means walking and standing for longer periods of time (2-3 hours) isn't a big deal for you. You can navigate hills and uneven ground, climb into various modes of transportation (tuk-tuk, cable car, zodiac, etc.), and could possibly anticipate changes in elevation. Walking four miles over the course of a day is very doable as is climbing 3 flights of stairs. You can handle altitudes between 6,000 and 9,000 feet. You can expect some longer days balanced with free time. This level is not a fit for travelers that require mobility assistance devices.

Fully-guided extensions are a great way to explore a new destination. Enjoy sightseeing and local experiences led by a Tour Manager or local expert.

We reserve the right to cancel this extension if a minimum of 4 travelers is not met to operate.

Extensions are subject to availability and applicable charges at time of request.

If you require any special assistance while on tour, please make us aware at time of reservation so the necessary request form can be sent to your attention.

Single accommodations are limited and are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Single rate subject to change based on availability.

For air-inclusive reservations, the name provided at time of booking must match your government-issued ID that will be used during travel. Name changes are subject to penalties.

Due to tour scheduling, return flights should not be scheduled prior to 6:00 p.m.

An internal flight is required in order to participate on this extension and is included in the final price, quoted at time of booking.



## Special Needs Form

Please complete this form, sign and return it to us within 14 days of receipt.

Email <u>TravelOperations@memberchoicevacations.com</u>

Fax 401.727.4745

Mail Member Choice Vacations: Travel Operations

180 Middle Street Pawtucket, RI 02860

## TRAVELERS NEEDING SPECIAL ASSISTANCE

You must report any disability requiring special attention to AAA Member Choice Vacations at the time the reservation is made. \*AAA Member Choice Vacations will make reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants. Such participants, however, should be aware that the Americans with Disabilities Act is inapplicable outside of the United States and facilities outside the United States for disabled individuals are limited. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable of and totally responsible for providing the assistance. Neither AAA Member Choice Vacations nor its personnel, nor its suppliers, may physically lift or assist clients into transportation vehicles. If a traveler thinks he or she might need assistance during a trip, he or she should call AAA Member Choice Vacations to determine what assistance might reasonably be given. AAA Member Choice Vacations cannot provide special individual assistance to tour members with special needs for walking, dining or other routine activities. Internationally, a great deal of walking may be necessary to fully enjoy the destination. Travelers should be in good health and must be able to walk reasonable distances. In some areas, travelers may be required to walk on uneven ground, cobblestone streets or raised thresholds.

\*To request a wheelchair accessible room on a cruise, the traveler or person sharing the room must have a recognized disability that alters a major life function and requires the use of a mobility device and the use of the accessible features provided in the wheelchair accessible stateroom. The cruise company may take appropriate action against someone who has reserved or purchased such a stateroom fraudulently. Action may include but is not limited to removal from the stateroom to a non-accessible accommodation up to denial of boarding.

Reservation #	
Name:	Male or Female (circle one

Are y	you t	raveling	with a	wheel	chair?	Yes	No
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If you answer "YES"	If yo	วน	answer	"YES"
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- Does your wheelchair collapse? Yes No
- Can you stand and climb steps to board the coach without it? Yes No

This form cannot be process	ed withou	t the di	mension	ns of your wheelchair:
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Are you traveling with a	walker?	' Yes	No	
If you answer "YES"				
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	Voo	No		
<ul> <li>Raised toilet seat</li> </ul>	168	INO		

Most hotel rooms that can accommodate the request will be equipped with only 1 bed.

Do you understand and accept? Yes No

AAA Member Choice Vacations cannot guarantee the availability of such rooms as many hotels have a limited number of rooms that are equipped with the above accommodations.

## Are you traveling with an oxygen tank? Yes No

If you answer "YES"

I have read and understand the above:

- You must contact the airline directly to arrange transportation of the oxygen on the plane. Oxygen requests vary by airline and location and can take up to 2 weeks to request.
- You are responsible for supplying your own electrical cords, and converters as needed.

This form must be remitted within 14 days of receipt for any special needs accommodation request.

The Americans with Disabilities Act only applies in the United States. Many international destinations cannot accommodate passengers' requests. AAA member Choice Vacations will make all reasonable efforts to accommodate the special needs of tour participants but we cannot guarantee that all requests will be honored on international destinations. AAA Member Choice Vacations also regrets that it cannot provide individual assistance to a tour member with special needs for walking, dining or other special personal needs. It is strongly recommended that persons requiring assistance be accompanied by a companion who is capable and totally responsible for the assistance.