



VIETNAM ESCAPE: VOL. 3

SCHEDULE



30 April - 15 May





OVERVIEW

<i>April 30</i>	Departure Bucharest
<i>May 1</i>	Arrival Hanoi / Check-in
<i>May 2</i>	Hanoi
<i>May 3</i>	Hanoi - Ninh Binh (bus)
<i>May 4</i>	Ninh Binh
<i>May 5</i>	Ninh Binh
<i>May 6</i>	Ninh Binh - Ha Long (bus)
<i>May 7</i>	Ha Long - Phu Quoc Island (bus + plane)
<i>May 8</i>	Phu Quoc Island
<i>May 9</i>	Phu Quoc Island
<i>May 10</i>	Phu Quoc Island
<i>May 11</i>	Phu Quoc Island - HCMC (plane)
<i>May 12</i>	Ho Chi Minh City
<i>May 13</i>	Ho Chi Minh City
<i>May 14</i>	Departure Ho Chi Minh City
<i>May 15</i>	Arrival Bucharest



DAY 0 - 30 APRIL

Departure from Bucharest

- Our trip kicks off with our flight from Henri Coanda International Airport at **17:30**. To ensure a smooth start, please plan to arrive at the airport by **15:00**.



DAY 1 - MAY 1

Arrival in Hanoi

- **14:00:** Arrival in Hanoi. A bus will transport us from the airport to our hotel in the **Old Quarter**, a charming neighborhood that encapsulates the essence of Vietnamese culture. Our hotel is close to all the main sights, with plenty of restaurants and coffee shops nearby.
- At first, Hanoi might feel a bit overwhelming, but don't worry. After a refreshing shower and some rest, we'll be fully recharged and ready to dive into our adventure.
- Late Afternoon: Visit the nearest store to buy **SIM cards** and **exchange local currency**, followed by a group dinner at a local restaurant.
- Evening: Walk around **St. Joseph's Cathedral** and **Hoàn Kiếm Lake**, and optionally we can have some drinks at a bar nearby.



DAY 2 - MAY 2

Exploring Hanoi

- Morning: Breakfast at Puku restaurant.
- 9:30: We visit the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, which is the final resting place of Vietnam's revered leader Ho Chi Minh and an iconic symbol of the country's history.
- After Prison Visit: the infamous **Hoa Lo Prison**, which offers insights into Vietnam's tumultuous history.
- Afternoon: Lunch and of course, **egg coffee** at one of our favorite coffee shops.
- 18:00: We gather to watch the **Hanoi train** pass. While it's a popular tourist attraction, it remains a distinct local experience.
- Dinner: Traditional Vietnamese group dinner.



DAY 3 - MAY 3

Transition to Ninh Binh

- Morning: The morning schedule is flexible, allowing you to enjoy breakfast at Puku at your convenience, visit your favorite **coffee shop**, or look for **souvenirs**. Check out the Mapstr profile for the best coffee shops in town.
- Afternoon: Lunch and then bus trip to Ninh Binh, a place that is renowned for its warm hospitality.
- Sunset: Upon arrival, we'll head straight to **Mua Cave** viewpoint to catch the breathtaking sunset.
- **Bicycles** will be our primary mode of transport here, offering an easy and safe way to explore. For those who cannot ride a bicycle, don't worry! We can offer free lessons :D Alternatively, you can jump on our motorbike, which we always carry around for safety and convenience.



DAY 4 - MAY 4

Let's discover Ninh Binh: Trang An Day Trip

- Morning: Breakfast, followed by a 15km bicycle journey to **Trang An** for an exciting boat trip. It might seem long, but we take our time. It's also the best way to explore the beautiful country roads of Ninh Binh. We're heading for a stunning place where we can experience an amazing **3-hour boat trip** between the mountains of Trang An, and through caves that are up to 1km long. Don't forget sunscreen and your nón lá to protect you from the sun.
- We'll have lunch together, and once everyone is safely accounted for, you'll have some time to explore the surroundings on your own. However, our trip to Trang An will take most of the day, leaving you just enough time to rest or relax by the swimming pool before dinner.



DAY 5 - MAY 5

Bird Valley

- We'll have breakfast at the accommodation before heading out on our bicycles to visit the scenic **Bird Valley in Tam Coc**, known for its lush landscapes and vibrant birdlife.
- After lunch, we'll return home and enjoy free time for the rest of the day.



DAY 6 - MAY 6

Ha Long Bay: Vietnam's Iconic Natural Wonder

- In the early morning, we'll depart for **Ha Long Bay**, Vietnam's most iconic destination - an experience you won't want to miss. The best way to truly immerse yourself in its beauty is by booking a night cruise, allowing you to sleep on the sea and feel the energy of this magnificent place firsthand.
- Please note: The cruise is **optional** and not included in the project. Based on the positive feedback from previous participants who experienced it, we've decided to continue offering this option.



DAY 7 - MAY 7

Heading South: Phu Quoc Island

- After taking in the beauty of Ha Long Bay, we'll head south to **Phu Quoc Island** to embrace Vietnam's tropical vibes.
- The journey spans 2,000 kilometers and involves both bus and plane travel, making it a bit lengthy - but the destination makes it all worthwhile. Phu Quoc is a stunning island paradise, ideal for relaxing and soaking up the sun - especially after a busy week exploring northern Vietnam.



DAY 8 - MAY 8

Phu Quoc boat trip

- On this day, we have an exciting **boat trip** planned that will take up a significant portion of the day.
- During the trip, we'll enjoy activities like **fishing**, **swimming**, and **snorkeling**.
- Lunch will be served onboard, and it will include fresh **seafood**, some of which we may catch ourselves.
- The evening is free for you to explore or relax.



DAY 9 - MAY 9

For the Adventurous: Hiking Day

- Experience the natural beauty of Phu Quoc Island with a refreshing **3-hour hike** of average difficulty, scheduled for the first half of the day. Make sure you wear appropriate footwear, as good shoes are essential for this trip.
- If you're not a hiking enthusiast, feel free to take advantage of the opportunity to explore the island at your own pace. Whether you wish to discover other local attractions or prefer a more relaxed day on the beach right at our hotel, the choice is yours.
- Afternoon: we'll move to another beach where various activities, including beach volleyball, await us.
- The day ends with dinner and a **beach party** at the same spot.



DAY 10 - MAY 10

Phu Quoc - Free Time

- The last full day in Phu Quoc is dedicated to **relaxation**, serving as a well-deserved reward after an intense period of exploration.
- Enjoy a leisurely buffet breakfast and relax under the sun on the beach right outside our hotel. You can also indulge in a very affordable and excellent beachside massage.
- Phu Quoc offers more than just beaches - it is also known for its **Water Park** and **Amusement Park**. Many of our past participants especially enjoyed the **Safari/Zoo**, just a 30-minute drive from the center.



DAY II - MAY II

To Ho Chi Minh City

- Travel Day: From Phu Quoc to Ho Chi Minh City.
- As our time on Phu Quoc Island is coming to an end, we prepare ourselves for the vibrant atmosphere of Ho Chi Minh City, still referred to as **Saigon** by locals.



DAY 12 - MAY 12

Ho Chi Minh City Exploration

- Morning: We'll start the day with a much-appreciated breakfast inspired by French cuisine, featuring **fried eggs**, **beef**, and **pâté** served with **fresh bread**. Afterward, we'll dive into a workshop dedicated to Vietnamese coffee, learning about its rich history and significance as Vietnam holds its place as the world's second-largest producer.
- For lunch, we'll visit a local restaurant known for serving one of the best southern dishes - a culinary experience you won't want to miss.
- In the afternoon, we'll visit the **War Museum**, offering an evocative glimpse into Vietnam's wartime history and its lasting impact on the nation and its people.



DAY 13 - MAY 13

Ho Chi Minh City Exploration

- Morning: Start your day with breakfast, already included in the cost of the project.
- Daytime: This is your chance to explore Ho Chi Minh City on your own, discovering its vibrant attractions and culinary delights. Our team will recommend must-visit spots tailored to your preferences. Some highlights to consider:
 - **Independence Palace**: A historic site that offers a glimpse into Vietnam's past.
 - **Landmark 81**: The tallest building in Vietnam, featuring stunning views, shops, and dining options.
 - **Nguyen Hue Walking Street**: A lively spot for people-watching and street performances.
- For coffee lovers, Saigon offers an unlimited supply of cafés, from **cozy hidden gems** in old buildings in District 1 to trendy **specialty coffee** shops serving both local brews and imported beans.



DAY 14 - MAY 14

Last day in Vietnam

- Until 12:00: **Check-out.**
- Our flight is scheduled in the evening, so even though we need to check out by noon, there's still some time to explore the city center and shop for **souvenirs**. We'll be happy to recommend countless **coffee shops** and **eateries**, ensuring you make the most of your Vietnamese experience.
- 16:30: **Ready for departure.**



DAY 15 - MAY 15

Arrival in Bucharest

- As we arrive in Bucharest, our hearts are filled with experiences and beautiful memories, already dreaming of returning to uncover more destinations not yet explored in our Vietnam Escape adventure.

Acest proiect este organizat de **Asociația NONLA CULTURAL ESCAPE**, o organizație non-guvernamentală dedicată promovării sustenabilității și schimbului cultural.

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Toate activitățile sunt desfășurate conform statutului și regulamentelor asociației. Pentru detalii suplimentare, ne puteți contacta la contact@nonlaescape.com

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