

Indulgence – Food – Culture – Small Group Tours

VIETNAM

7 nights/8 days



Authentic



Flavour Filled



Culinary Adventure

FULLY ESCORTED – HO CHI MINH CITY
TO HANOI

by Tania Sibrey from Food I Am
and a National Tour Escort



foodiam

www.foodiam.com.au



Ho Chi Minh City

Day 1

In the city formerly known as Saigon, Art Deco treasures, magnificent French colonial buildings and traditional Chinese temples abound.

Upon independent arrival to HCMC check into your luxury hotel. Meet Tania (Food I Am) 6.30pm at the hotel rooftop bar and watch over the city lights of Ho Chi Minh City. Your culinary journey through Vietnam begins!

Dinner tonight will be at a destination for gourmet food lovers. It won't take you long to discover the diversity of Vietnamese cuisine!

The subtle flavours of the food highlight the three regions of Vietnam. From the gentle flavour of the steamed rice rolls stuffed with pork and mushroom, hot rice flour cake with ground pork or the profound flavour of fresh water crab noodle soup to the noodle soup with steamed snail!!

All leave a strong impression for the gourmet food lover.

Meals: Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury Boutique Accommodation





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Ho Chi Minh City to Mekong Delta

HCMC to Hoi An

Day 2

After breakfast at the hotel we will depart bustling Ho Chi Minh City for the Mekong.

Today we explore the Mekong and the less-travelled back roads and quaint waterways of Ben Tre Province, the "land of the coconuts". Discover the unique lifestyle of the Delta region residents, exploring orchards, fruit farms and fisheries; visiting intimate authentic cottage industries such as rice paper, brick making, and coconut processing; and travel like a local on the back of a xe loi, ride a bicycle and by sampan.

Spending time with locals whose family's livelihoods have been made in the Delta for generations will be a highlight. Lunch will be an authentic homestyle meal in a local residence featuring dishes from this Southern region

A charmed day of adventure on the Mekong!

Late afternoon we head back to HCMC. Tonight we enjoy a relaxed dinner at one of my favourite HCMC restaurant's.

Meals: Breakfast, Tastings, Lunch, Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury Hotel

Day 3

After breakfast we say goodbye to HCMC and make our way to the airport for our flight to Danang.

Upon arrival in Danang we will be greeted by our local guide and enroute to Hoi An visit an historical sight and the Central Vietnamese coastline.

Hoi An is magical! We will check into our luxury boutique hotel, located in the colourful colonial capital and UNESCO listed riverfront town of Hoi An. The ancient port town of Hoi An is a must see stop in Vietnam. A winning combination of white sand beaches, gorgeous ancient architecture and a fascinating set of influences stemming from its heyday as an international trading port. Hoi An punches well above its weight for things to see and do... prepare to be enchanted.

Enjoy some free time in the afternoon, the options are plenty in Hoi An – relax, massage, get your tailor made clothes started, meander through the old quarter or jump on a bicycle and ride along the river.

Tonight we dine at one of my favourite Hoi An restaurants and indulge in the flavours of Central Vietnam.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury resort

Flight: HCMC to Danang (transfer to Hoi An)

Food I Am Luxury Food Tour – Vietnam

For bookings or further information, phone Tania on 0427 250 498

or email tania@foodiam.com.au





Hoi An to Tra Que

Day 4

In Hoi An you will discover a unique set of culinary traditions, developed and refined by a community that takes all things culinary very, very seriously.

This morning enjoy breakfast at the hotel. At 8am we will transfer to a local organic vegetable and herb farm in Tra Que Village and learn more about the still current, ancient farming activities, you will then be shown how to prepare local delicacy tam huu.

We then head back to Hoi An and begin our street food tour. This morning we will enjoy the most famous of all Hoi An's dishes, Cao Lau (Hoi An's most famous noodle dish) a tangle of chewy smoked noodles, pork and herbs, a symphony of texture and flavours, this seemingly simple dish adds up to so much more than the sum of its parts. Enliven with a dollop of Hoi An's equally famous chilli sauce and let your taste buds delight!

A walking tour of the old town will immerse us in the incredible ancient architecture, temples and pagodas that form such an integral part of Hoi An and, of course, we'll find plenty of snacks along the way! With delicious dishes such as grilled pork rice rolls, soft tofu with ginger syrup (my all-time favourite), Hoi An chicken rice and traditional Vietnamese sweets called su se (dough made from sticky rice flour wrapped around coconut and palm sugar, wrapped in banana leaf and steamed!) on almost every corner we will ensure that we don't go home hungry!

Our street food tour will conclude around 2.00pm so you can enjoy the free afternoon to explore the many things to do in Hoi An. In the evening we meet back up for dinner and enjoy the many speciality dishes of the Hoi An region.

Meals: Breakfast, Tastings, Lunch & Dinner

Accommodation: Luxury Boutique Hotel



Hoi An

Hoi An to Hanoi

Day 5

Enjoy breakfast at the hotel before heading off to our Vietnamese cooking class. Travel by boat to Hoi An's colourful central food market to purchase the freshest produce available for our class.

Designed for all skill levels, we will be preparing a 4 course traditional Vietnamese family style lunch; starter, main dish, side and dessert. We will be prepping, chopping, slicing, shredding and cooking together in an intimate fun hands-on class.

After lunch the rest of the afternoon and evening is yours free to explore Hoi An. The best way to see Hoi An is by bicycle or on foot. The old town is closed to motorised traffic for most of the day so travelling this way lets you go where you want, when you want. Time to have a new wardrobe tailor made, massage, lay by the pool, visit Cue Dai beach, just immerse yourself in the famous old quarter of Hoi An and be enchanted.

Meals: Breakfast, Tastings & Lunch

Accommodation: Luxury Boutique Hotel

Day 6

After breakfast at the hotel we will then depart our resort and travel to Danang for our flight to Hanoi. Upon arrival in Hanoi we will visit the Temple of Literature and then hop in our transfer vehicle to enjoy the city sights of Hanoi passing the house and mausoleum of former historical president and father of modern Vietnam, Ho Chi Minh.

Take in the wide tree-lined boulevards, ancient oriental pagodas, twentieth century architecture, French colonialism and Vietnamese Buddhism. Hanoi's French quarter romances and enchants!

Next a tour by cyclo through Hanoi's charming Old Quarter, also known as "36 streets". This bustling area of narrow streets and alleys is home to literally thousands of small businesses and shopkeepers. It's a great place to explore, especially by cyclo, with plenty of photo opportunities all around.

Our hotel is located in the heart of Hanoi city, close to beautiful Hoan Kiem lake and the tree-lined boulevards of the Old Quarter. Tonight we dine in a beautiful French colonial villa and enjoy elegant versions of traditional Hanoian home cuisine.

Meals: Breakfast and Dinner are included.

Accommodation: Luxury Boutique Hotel

Flight: Hoi An to Hanoi

Food I Am Luxury Food Tour - Vietnam

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WE would have no hesitation in recommending Food I Am tours because every aspect of the tour – accommodation, careful selection of restaurant & eating venues, fantastic cultural experiences, expert local guides in a variety of fields, organisation & shopping advice was top class. Thank you Tania, you make a wonderful tour guide, a tour leader with a very engaging personality who managed to cater to every individuals needs and make everyone feel welcome & special. Carol & Pat Ingram

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Hanoi

Day 7

This morning at 9am we meet our very knowledgeable chef/guide and start our Hanoi street food tour. An introduction to the local food scene will commence with a hearty bowl of pho; noodle soup, the quintessential Hanoi street food. Then it is off to a bustling local market where our chef will demystify the local produce, and encourage you to taste some of its most exotic ingredients. We continue onto many other venues & vendors with tastings along the way, finishing with a typical Vietnamese ca phe, or che (Vietnamese tea) and local sweets. Learn about other favourite eating and shopping secrets in Ha Noi to explore further in your free time.

The afternoon is at your leisure to return to the shops, schedule a massage in the beautiful hotel spa or relax by the hotel pool!

Hanoi is an eclectic mix that offers something for everyone. Our farewell dinner will be a superb example of modern Vietnamese cuisine.

Meals: Breakfast, Tastings/Lunch and Dinner are included.

Accommodation: Luxury Boutique Hotel

Hanoi

Day 8

After breakfast at the hotel, sadly it's time to say goodbye and start your journey home or extend your holiday and stay on in Asia.

Take a journey into the heart of Vietnam and experience the authentic essence of Vietnamese cuisine and culture. Just released... tours fill quickly

As always we have done the hard work for you!! Our tours are small group which ensure a more intimate & unique experience of Vietnam...our motto is – if you need a name badge you're on the wrong tour! I am extremely excited about this itinerary, this is the perfect introduction to Vietnam. Our tour offers an insight into the culinary secrets of Vietnam. We explore the many differences and specialities between the three distinct regions of Vietnam i.e. – North, Central and Mekong Delta (South).

Experience the real Vietnam..... Our activities are handpicked (tours are land content only), and include a little bit of everything i.e. - history, pampering, food, culture, retail therapy with local insight to all activities. We stay in luxurious accommodation and our meals include the best of Vietnamese street food and fine dining experiences. Our guides are expert and will help you discover the treasures of Vietnam that only come with local knowledge.

If you are interested in exploring Vietnam with me, a country I truly love and know so well, please email or call me for full details.

Warm Regards, Tania



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'The tour was amazing. Extremely well organised and it showed off the culinary diversity of the entire country. The thing I liked about it the most was being guided down alleyways and into buildings that I would have never have entered myself and then discovering wonderful people serving even more wonderful food. I would highly recommend this experience to anyone.'

- Tim & Camille Rose - Vietnam 2018

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If you are single, couple or a group looking for a holiday idea fuelled with delicious food, culture, fun and adventure then a Food I Am culinary tour is for you.

Perfectly organised with attention to detail, Tania has perfected her itinerary to cater for a wide genre.

After heading on the Northern Italy Tour in 2017 I knew it wouldn't be my last.

I've just returned from the Food I Am Vietnam Tour and I know that won't be my last either!

It really is a great opportunity to be able to immerse yourself into the culture of a Country.

- Jodie Hamilton - Nth Italy 2017 & Vietnam 2018

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Dear Tania, I've cooked a version of pho each night since getting home as can't possibly face chops yet after all those Vietnamese delicacies. I'm also missing that delicious strong brew of black coffee each morning.

Please accept that as a compliment and thank you for organising such a wonderful taste of Vietnam. We loved every minute and feel we had such a rich and diverse experience with a lot of learning and a lot of fun. We both thought your tour was perfectly orchestrated and my senses were certainly saturated each day. I'm left totally inspired by the positive and friendly people considering their extended history of occupation and war and the current rate of development, despite the seeming chaos, is testament to their tenacity. I only hope the reverence they seem to retain for family and tradition doesn't diminish in the process.

Tuan, Sarah and Tracy provided great insight into local life and we really appreciated meeting and having time with them along the way. Can you believe we bumped into Tuan whilst walking in Hanoi one afternoon! The only person we knew in town and there he was! I hope you've now had a few days of well earned rest and can reflect very happily on such a successful few weeks of hosting.

Thank you again from us both. We loved it.
With kind regards, Annette & David Lamont

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Xin Chau to you to Tania and welcome home. Firstly, let me say congratulations on such a beautifully run tour. We were just reflecting on it again last night and saying that it was perfect in every way. Accommodation, organisation, food of course, and your easy going way of dealing with everything and everyone made all of it memorable and pleasurable.

Thank you so much for making available your tour and all the wonderful things of Vietnam it showed us. We are telling everyone who asks that this is a truly impressive tour. Take care, Anne and Philip Goldsmith

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“ Our trip to Vietnam was amazing! Meticulously organised, beautifully executed, with a perfect balance of busy and free time. The whole trip was a delight for the senses – the sights, sounds and oh! The food! Incredible! What better way to relax than to let someone else do all of the organising for you, where your biggest decision is a glass of wine or a cocktail? This was the best holiday I have ever had, I would travel with you guys anywhere, anytime. Lisa Harvey ”

“ This trip has set the bar so high for holidays from here on – travelling with a small group with a well thought out itinerary that provided an excellent mix of unique experiences, structured activities and free time was so relaxing. The accommodation & meals were outstanding & it was so well organised that I never had to think about what to do next. It felt more like travelling with a group of friends than a structured tour & without any of us having to do the hard work. ”

Thank you – for sharing your passion for food & Vietnam in creating such a wonderful holiday for all of us, and to do it so seamlessly & calmly.....amazing! Lee ”

“ Thank you for an amazing trip. I will remember it forever and will definitely return to the beautiful country and people of Vietnam. It was a real holiday – not having to think & plan everything, especially “where & what to eat”, luxury accommodation & service....such a treat! Debbie Webb ”

“ Thank you so much for organising such a wonderful holiday. It was very relaxing as everything was organised & taken care of. I just sat back & enjoyed the ride! The group was also a perfect size – intimate yet social, lifelong friendships & amazing experiences were made. Attention to detail was excellent with a vast range of activities to enjoy. Jo Stroud ”



PRICE INCLUDES

- Seven (7) breakfasts, Five (5) tastings, four (4) lunches and six (6) dinners
- 2 domestic flights – HCMC to Danang, Danang to Hanoi
- Seven (7) nights luxury boutique accommodation
- Excursions – Mekong Delta – Ben Tre Province rural experience, Sampan cruise, Hoi An street food tour, Tra Que Village farm tour, Hoi An cooking class, Hanoi city tour, Hanoi Old Quarter cyclo tour and Hanoi street food tour
- Fully escorted by Tania Sibrey, Food I Am and a national tour escort in Vietnam

COST PER PERSON: \$3690.00 (based on twin share accommodation, land only arrangement)

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: \$1050.00 per person (paid in addition to the above package price, land only arrangement)

PLEASE NOTE: Hotels listed are subject to change. All menus and meals listed are subject to change without prior notice.

TOUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE: INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS, VIETNAM VISA (AUSTRALIAN PASSPORT HOLDERS), TRAVEL INSURANCE, BEVERAGES (OTHER THAN SPECIFIED), PASSPORT, ITEMS OF A PERSONAL NATURE (LAUNDRY ETC.) AND PHONE EXPENSES



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