

**Itinerary specially prepared for**  
**USC EMBA Group**  
**Vietnam Post-program Extension**  
June 4<sup>th</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 2022

Number of client(s): From 2 to 10 people  
Type of trip: Culture, Local Life, Soft Adventure, Beach break  
Journey destination(s): Vietnam

*\* Please note that this proposed itinerary is subject to availability, and we will confirm the pertinent accommodation and services immediately on receipt of your confirmation or payment. We recommend confirmation as early as possible to avoid space unavailability.*

### ITINERARIES IN BRIEF

OPTION 1: WITH SAIGON	
Day 1 – 04 June, 2022	<b>Flight Bangkok/Saigon</b>
Day 2 – 05 June, 2022	Saigon
Day 3 – 06 June, 2022	Saigon
Day 4 – 07 June, 2022	<b>Saigon Departure</b>

OPTION 2: WITH HOI AN	
Day 1 – 04 June, 2022	<b>Flight Saigon/Danang – Hoi An</b>
Day 2 – 05 June, 2022	Hoi An
Day 3 – 06 June, 2022	Hoi An
Day 4 – 07 June, 2022	<b>Hoi An – Danang and Danang Departure</b>

OPTION 3: WITH HANOI & HA LONG	
Day 1 – 04 June, 2022	<b>Flight Saigon/Hanoi</b>
Day 2 – 05 June, 2022	Hanoi
Day 3 – 06 June, 2022	Hanoi
Day 4 – 07 June, 2022	Hanoi – Ha Long Bay, Overnight Cruise
Day 5 – 08 June, 2022	Ha Long – Hanoi and <b>Hanoi Departure</b>

## ITINERARIES IN DETAIL

### OPTION 1 WITH SAIGON

**Day 1– Sat, Jun 04: Flight Bangkok/Saigon at 07:35/09:05 via WE550 or similar (Economy Class)**

Your time will be your own until you'll be met and transferred to the airport for the flight to Saigon.

Upon arrival at Tan Son Nhat international airport, after completing immigration and customs formalities with **FastTrack Service & Your Own Vietnam E-visa**, meet with your guide and be transferred to hotel for check-in. Your guide will be holding a sign marked your name on it. *Lunch and dinner are on your own today.*

*Destination Info: Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) is Vietnam's commercial headquarters - brash and busy -- with a keen sense of its own importance as Vietnam emerges from years of austerity to claim a place in the "Asian Tiger" economic slugfest. Located on the Saigon River, Ho Chi Minh City is Vietnam's major port and largest city, with an estimated population of over eight million people, most of whom cruise the town's clogged arteries on an estimated three million motorbikes. True to its reputation, the central business district in Ho Chi Minh City is rapidly developing in steel-and-glass precision to rival any city on the globe. The old Saigon still survives in wide downtown avenues flanked by pristine colonials. Hustle and bustle, Ho Chi Minh City has an attitude all its own.*

**Meals:** None

**Accommodation:** [Park Hyatt Saigon / Park Room](#)

**Day 2– Sun, Jun 05: Full Day Saigon City Tour**

After breakfast, start with the chaos of the traffic in Saigon by setting out to visit some historic landmarks including the **Post Office** - with its notable decorated ceiling - where you can send some postcards of your trip back home and **Notre Dame Cathedral** circa 1880, a highlight tour of the former **Presidential Palace**, once headquarters for the Saigon Government during the Vietnam war. **Lunch will be at a local restaurant.**



In the afternoon, visit the **War Remnant Museum** for an overall picture of the most recent wars in country. Further the visit to the outside of the **Opera House, the City Hall and the Rex Rooftop Bar** (located at the top of the Rex Hotel). The Rooftop Bar was made famous and popular by American during the Vietnam War when its conference room hosted a daily press conference, by the MACV derisively named The Five O'clock Follies. The Rooftop Bar was a well-known hangout spot for military officials and war correspondents.

End the day with **shopping opportunities** at **Ben Thanh market** and **boutique shops** along Dong Khoi Street. If interested, you may want to have dinner in town, and then take a drive around downtown to experience Saigon by night. It will perfectly capture the feeling of being there with the noisy blurry mess, the vibrancy, the off kilter feeling of everything.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** [Park Hyatt Saigon / Park Room](#)

**Day 3- Mon, Jun 06: Saigon – Full Day Ben Tre Day Trip**

After breakfast, at around **08:00am**, take 2-hour scenic drive passing paddy fields and tributaries to **Ben Tre** in the Mekong Delta. On arrival, take a **Xeloi** (a kind of motorized rickshaw) riding through a local village and see the green fields and gardens. Continue with a short walk to Huu Phuoc Bridge and embark on a **boat** for a cruise to a Coconut processing family-owned business where you will learn what Ben Tre is known for and the hundreds of uses of each single coconut.



Afterwards, take your cruise to visit a **brick making factory** where the locals still use centuries-old traditional methods to make the bricks by hand. Then follow by a **leisure bike** to visit a local **rice noodle factory** which produces Hu Tieu (noodles), one of the most popular dishes in the region. Then, have a short walk to visit **a local family** where they live on fishing, shrimp, and fruit orchards. Enjoy fresh fruits and tea and then board a rowing sampan taking you through a lush narrow canal, displaying the tranquil nature of the region. Stop at a riverside restaurant for a delicious and filling lunch.

After lunch, it's time to relax and walk around the lush garden before ride a **bike** to My Long village and stop to visit a local family to learn about the making of rice paper. You will have a chance to interact with the locals, enjoy the crispy rice paper and see how it is made. Then, if interested, continue to visit a nearby house to know more how to make the sticky rice before taking the boat back to Ben Tre local pier where your car/van is waiting to transfer you back to Saigon in later afternoon, you will be arriving in Saigon at about 18:00.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** [Park Hyatt Saigon / Park Room](#)

**Day 4- Tue, Jun 07: Saigon Departure (Clients' own tickets)**

Your time will be your own until you'll be met to transfer to the airport for the international departure flight.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** None

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## OPTION 2 WITH HOI AN

### Day 1– Sat, Jun 04: **Flight Bangkok/Danang (Economy Class)** – Hoi An

Your time will be your own until you'll be met and transferred to the airport for the flight to Danang.

Upon arrival at Danang international airport, after completing immigration and customs formalities with **FastTrack Service & Your Own Vietnam E-visa**, meet with your guide and be transferred to hotel for check-in. Your guide will be holding a sign marked your name on it. *Lunch and dinner are on your own today.*

*Destination Info: Hoi An was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1999, and a visit to this old-world gem is a sure cultural highlight of any tour in Vietnam. From the 16th to the 18th century, the city was Vietnam's most important port and trading post, particularly of ceramics with nearby China. Today, it is a quaint old town of some 844 structures protected as historical landmarks, and the unique influence of Chinese and Japanese traders who passed through (or settled) can still be felt. It's a picturesque town, small enough to cover easily on foot, with lots of good nooks and crannies, shops, and gastronomic delights to discover.*

**Meals:** None

**Accommodation:** [Four Seasons Resort The Nam Hai / One-Bedroom Villa](#)

### Day 2– Sun, Jun 05: Full Day Hoi An - Street food & ancient town walking (with leisure biking if interested)

*For early risers: While the whole town sleeps, the fishermen are hard at work, catching delicious seafood that will be served freshly at the city's restaurants and markets. Enjoy a unique visit to the Hoi An fish market when the fishermen are bringing their night's catch to shore. To truly capture the spectacular energy of this fish market, you have to get here before the break of dawn to catch all the action. Back to the hotel for breakfast.*

After breakfast, take a short drive to Hoi An and enjoy a walking tour of the ancient town center. Visit the **former merchants' houses**, the 400-year-old **Japanese Covered Bridge** constructed in 1593; **Sa Huynh Museum** located near the Japanese covered Bridge, which contains exhibitions from the earliest period of Hoi An's history and the colorful market with its stalls brimming with tropical specialties. The market is a good place to buy silk to have made into fine garments if you are interested. Continue walking through the small alleys to soak up the atmosphere of a bygone age. **Lunch is at a local restaurant.**

This afternoon, drive to visit a **lantern-making village**, for a hands-on opportunity to make a lantern as a real craftsman in the village. Further your visit to the **Kim Bong carpentry village** to witness their painstaking but artistic process to create craft items. Then return to your hotel for relaxation.

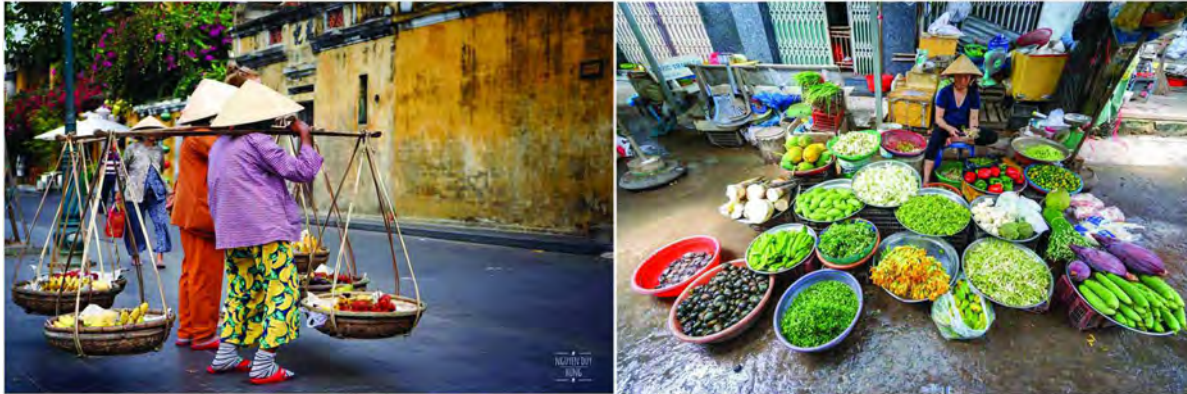


**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** [Four Seasons Resort The Nam Hai / One-Bedroom Villa](#)

### Day 3- Mon, Jun 06: Half Day Tour Hoi An

Today, experience a day living and working with the local people in the rural outskirts of Hoi An. You'll visit **Tra Que organic herb growing village** - located on the banks of a lagoon with fertile soil known for harvesting the country's best vegetables. Stroll around the vegetable gardens and join the farmers in preparing the land and fertilizing it with seaweed from the local lake. You'll learn how to cultivate the vegetable by raking, sowing, watering greens and picking greens and other fun gardening activities. Enjoy **home-hosted lunch** at a local family with many local delicacies including "Tam Huu" spring roll made from Tra Que vegetable.



After lunch, you'll return to the hotel for your beach relaxation or your own exploration, whatever takes your fancy.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** [Four Seasons Resort The Nam Hai / One-Bedroom Villa](#)

### Day 4- Tue, Jun 07: Hoi An - Danang Departure **(Clients' own tickets)**

Your time will be your own until you'll be met to transfer to the airport for the international departure flight.

**Meals:** Breakfast

**Accommodation:** None

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### **OPTION 3 WITH HANOI & HA LONG BAY**

#### **Day 1- Sat, Jun 04: Flight Bangkok/Hanoi (Economy Class)**

Your time will be your own until you'll be met and transferred to the airport for the flight to Hanoi.

Upon arrival at Noi Bai international airport, after completing immigration and customs formalities with **FastTrack Service & Your Own Vietnam E-visa**, meet with your guide and be transferred to hotel for check-in. Your guide will be holding a sign marked your name on it. *Lunch and dinner are on your own today.*

**Meals:** None

**Accommodation:** [Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi / Premium Room](#)

#### **Day 2- Sun, Jun 05: Full Day Hanoi City highlights**

*For early risers: This morning walk to Hoan Kiem Lake – one of the major spots in the city served as a focal point for its public life – for a chance to witness the early morning of Hanoi, participate in the Taichi groups and back to the hotel for breakfast.*

After breakfast at around 09:00am, enjoy a one-hour **cyclo tour** through the **Old Quarter** – a precious legacy of Hanoi's ancient past with 36 streets and 36 wares to experience more about the life of this city nowadays, cycle (by your cyclo driver) also through the French Quarter to explore this charming capital Hanoi with ochre-colored colonial style buildings, tree-lined avenues and many lakes. Visit the outside of **Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum**, imposing monument made of generous amount of marble and granite (*Inside visit can be done but it requires waiting in long line for possibly 1-2 hours!*). Continue visiting the lotus-shaped **One-Pillar Pagoda** (Chua Mot Cot).

This afternoon, further our visit to the **Temple of Literature** - the first university of Vietnam and the "**Hanoi Hilton**" formerly an infamous prison for American prisoners of war. Return to your hotel for some rest before starting the evening local food discovery.

At around 18:00, hop on a **motorbike** and with your expert local driver, you will be driven through residential streets, sometimes along a train track; French quarter and government areas, which are beautifully lit at night. You can stop at many fascinating eateries in the Old quarter to sample from fresh rice paper "Banh cuon" to freshly made craft beer "Bia hoi". This is the best way for you to see Hanoi. Our guide will bring the tour alive with lots of interaction with locals.

Please note:

- *The city tour program is flexible. Our guide would be more than happy to adjust the tour itinerary at your needs. You can skip one site or add another if you so wish.*
- *In case it interests you, the Sofitel Legend Metropole Hotel Hanoi offers guests a historical tour (usually held daily from about 17:00) which lasts an hour and includes seeing the historic bomb shelter.*

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** [Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi / Premium Room](#)



### Day 3- Mon, Jun 06: Hanoi – Half Day Tho Ha

In the morning, meet your guide in the hotel lobby for a 1-hour drive out of the city to Bac Ninh province, cross the ferry into Tho Ha noodle village. On arrival, **enjoy leisurely walking or hop on a bike and ride** through the rice paddies, stopping at the village temples, shrine houses, pagodas, etc. In a sunny day, you also can see how villagers here make rice paper, rice noodle; rice wine; votive paper and take many nice photos of their dry out. You will also be a 'tourist' attraction to all the curious villagers and have the opportunity to interact with them.

Afterwards, visit a local family's home and relax with some tea in their garden. Enjoy a **performance of Quan Ho** featuring a selection of songs passed down from generation to generation. Then, transfer back to Hanoi for late lunch at a local restaurant.

The rest of the day is free at leisure for your own shopping and walking around the Old Quarter with 36 streets and 36 wares.

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

**Accommodation:** [Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi / Premium Room](#)



### Day 4- Tue, Jun 07: Hanoi – Ha Long Bay

After breakfast, check out the hotel, meet with your guide and drive to **Ha Long Bay** (about 2.5hours). On arrival, you'll board the Emperor Cruise to take you through **Bai Tu Long Bay area**. Lunch is served on board while the boat cruises through the amazing islets with natural scenery.

This afternoon, explore the area of **Hon Co Island** and **Co Cave** (Grass Cave, also known as Thien Canh Son). You can revel in the breathtaking view of Bai Tu Long bay from up high, as well as the glorious long white-sand beach of Hon Co Island. Afterwards, relax on the beach, go swimming in the crystal clear water (if weather permits), **kayaking** and explore the cave.

Later, attend our chef's **cooking demonstration** and try your skills in the art of traditional Vietnamese cooking (making spring rolls) in a truly stunning setting. Have dinner on board and enjoy this evening at leisure with some suggested activities such as: watching Movie Night, playing Board Games or enjoying Massage and Spa services or even going squid fishing. Good night!

***Destination Info:** Situated in the North-East region of Vietnam, Ha Long Bay is made up of a dense cluster of 1,969 limestone islands of various sizes, 989 of which have been given names. Viewed from above, Ha Long Bay resembles a geographic work of art. While exploring the bay, you feel lost in a legendary world of stone islands. Ha Long has been proven by scientists that it was one of the first cradles of human existence in the area at such archeological sites as Dong Mang, Xich Tho, Soi Nhu, and Thoi Gieng. It is also a region of highly concentrated biological diversity with many ecosystems of salt water-flooded forests, coral reefs, and tropical forests featuring thousands of species of animal and plant life. Specially, the 18th meeting of the Committee of the World Heritages of UNESCO (in Thailand on December 17th, 1994), officially recognized Ha Long Bay as a natural heritage site of worldwide importance.*

**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

**Accommodation:** [Join-in Emperor Cruise \(8 Cabins\)/ Signature Suite Cabin or State Suite Cabin](#)

***Further Notes:***

- *From 31st Oct to 31st Mar is winter time in Vietnam. It is about 10-20degree Celsius. Guests should prepare the warm clothes for staying healthy. Some outside activities are not recommended for the elderly (above 70 years old), the handicapped and the kids.*
- *Cruise itinerary and schedule are subject to change due to weather, tide levels and operating conditions. Swimming or kayaking excursions may be cancelled due to poor weather. Unused services are not subject to a refund.*

***Cruise Info:** Inspired by the lavish lifestyle of Emperor Bao Dai, the last Emperor of Vietnam, the **Emperor Cruise** is a newly built, custom-designed traditional junk using the highest quality materials, and finished with exquisite gold-plated motifs, fine silk, velvet and other luxury accoutrements such as brass, crystal and gemstones. The cruise features three decks that house an open restaurant, two lounge bars and clubs, a small library, internet café, two Jacuzzis, saunas, two massage rooms, a kids' club and a gymnasium. All 8 cabins are en-suites with private balconies, panoramic ocean views and a personal butler service.*



**Day 5- Wed, Jun 08: Ha Long Bay - Hanoi and Hanoi Departure (Flight: Clients' own tickets)**

Wake up to the gentle lapping of the water against the boat and as the first rays of the sun announce a new day. Before breakfast, have cookies and tea and then try the **Vovinam on Sundeck** as the sun rises over Bai Tu Long Bay.

Then, visit **Vung Vieng fishing village** by bamboo rowing boat. In this famous pearl-growing village, you will see many small fish farms, house boats, etc. You also have time to observe the process of **feeding pearl** as well as learning a little about the life of people there. Then return to the boat for check-out before enjoying **brunch on board** while cruising back to the mainland.



Your cruise will come back to the port at about 11:00, where you will be picked up and drive straight to Noi Bai airport in Hanoi for your international departure flight.



**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch/Brunch  
**Accommodation:** None

### END OF SERVICES

Total Cost <b>Per Person</b>	Party of 2 people	Party of 3 - 5 people	Party of 6 - 10 people	Single Room Supplement
<b>Option 1: Saigon</b>	\$1,565.00	\$1,460.00	\$1,370.00	\$495.00
<b>Option 2: Hoi An</b>	\$2,220.00	\$2,095.00	\$1,940.00	\$1,035.00
<b>Option 3: Hanoi - Ha Long Bay</b>	\$2,030.00	\$1,885.00	\$1,695.00	\$630.00

*Price quoted are subject to change until booking is paid & confirmed and is based on 2 people sharing a room*

Location	Hotel / Room Category
<b>Option 1: Saigon</b>	Park Hyatt Saigon / Park Room
<b>Option 2: Hoi An</b>	Four Seasons Resort The Nam Hai / One-Bedroom Villa
<b>Option 3: Hanoi - Ha Long Bay</b>	Hanoi: Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi / Premium Room
	Ha Long: Join-in Emperor Cruise (8 Cabins) / Signature or State Suite Cabin

Inclusive of	Non-inclusive of
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Airport transfer service</li> <li>• Accommodation with daily breakfast</li> <li>• FastTrack services for international arrival in Vietnam</li> <li>• Private English-Speaking tour guides in each city of visit</li> <li>• All entrance fees</li> <li>• Meals as specified without drinks</li> <li>• Bottled water &amp; cold towels on sightseeing days</li> <li>• Economy Class Ticket:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Option 1: Bangkok/Saigon OR</li> <li>▪ Option 2: Bangkok/Danang OR</li> <li>▪ Option 3: Bangkok/Hanoi</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Special visits &amp; arrangements as indicated</li> <li>• All operation service charge and government tax</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All other flight tickets</li> <li>• PCR Tests</li> <li>• Vietnam E-Visa</li> <li>• Hotel early check in /Late check out</li> <li>• Overweight luggage</li> <li>• Personal expenses</li> <li>• Travel insurance</li> <li>• Tips &amp; gratuities</li> <li>• Other services not listed in inclusive column</li> </ul>

*Note: Regular check-in time at hotels is 14:00 and check-out time is 12:00.*