

2024 Tour Program

Day 1 (Arrive Ho Chi Minh City):

Arrive at **Ho Chi Minh City's Tan Son Nhat International Airport**, where you will meet your driver who will take you to your central city hotel. Check-in and the rest of the day is free.

Hotel: Eden Star Hotel (4 Star) (or similar)

Day 2 (Ho Chi Minh City):

Full Day: City Tour (Private tour)

Depart hotel: 9:00am

Finish: 4:00pm approx.

Visit the **Ben Thanh Markets** before the sobering **War Remnants Museum**, a mixed display (sometimes confronting) that shows the Vietnam (American) War from the Vietnamese perspective. A short distance away is the **Independence Palace**. In 1975, when South Vietnam fell to the North, this was the Presidential Palace. It has been restored as it was in 1975 and provides an interesting snapshot of that time.

After lunch, drive-by the **Rex Hotel**, a meeting place for American military officials and foreign correspondents, during the Vietnam War and stop at **22 Gai Street**, an apartment building that became famous as the last CIA evacuation point in the final days of the Vietnam War.

Visit the **Pink Pagoda**, a Chinese Buddhist pagoda which is an oasis amid the chaos of Ho Chi Minh City and of course, painted pink. Then, before returning to your hotel, visit the **Notre Dame Cathedral** and **Saigon Post Office**, located in the heart of the city, both built in the nineteenth century and noted for their architecture.

Evening: Street Food Tour (Private tour):

Depart hotel: 6:00pm

Finish: 8:30pm approx.

Tonight, you are in for a treat. Your guide will meet you and take you on a **Street Food Tour**. Walk between different food outlets noted for their own speciality, sampling a range of delicious Vietnamese food cooked in front of you.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Hotel: Eden Star Hotel (4 Star) (or similar)

Price (Per Person):

2 Persons (1 Room): **\$2,040**

3 Persons (2 Rooms): **\$1,820**

4 Persons (2 Rooms): **\$1,610**

Prices valid to: 31st Dec. 2024

To/From: Ho Chi Minh City

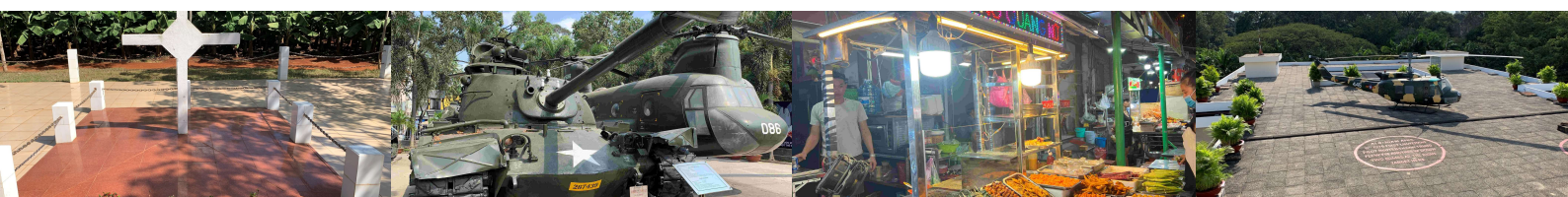
Duration: 6 Days

Departs: On request

Departure: Guaranteed

Inclusions:

- Airport transfers
- Hotel pick-ups/Drop-offs for tours
- Hotel (4 Star) – 5 Nights
- Meals as indicated
- Experienced, English-speaking guide
- Comfortable, air-conditioned vehicle with driver
- All touring as per program
- Entrance fees as per program



Day 3 (Ho Chi Minh City):

Morning: Cu Chi Tunnels by Speedboat Tour ('Join-in' tour)

Depart hotel: 7:00am

Finish: 1:30pm approx.

This will be an enjoyable, exciting and interesting morning.

You will be picked up from your hotel and will board a 10-12 passenger speedboat for an exciting trip to the **Cu Chi Tunnels**. Along the way, your guide will point out life along the banks of the Saigon River with plenty of photo opportunities.

At the Cu Chi Tunnels, take an informative tour of this 'underground' village complex built by resourceful Vietnamese guerrilla fighters, during the Vietnam War. Different aspects of life in the tunnels such as meeting areas, workshops to make weapons and clothing, as well as kitchens and sleeping areas, have been recreated on the surface.

You will have the opportunity to go through a short section of tunnel and envisage what it was like back then.

Enjoy a traditional Vietnamese lunch before returning to Ho Chi Minh City.

Your afternoon is free.

Evening: Saigon River Dinner Cruise ('Join-in' tour):

Depart hotel: 6:00pm

Finish: 9:30pm approx.

Tonight, you are in for another treat. Your driver will meet you and take you to the wharf area on the Saigon River to board your ship for a dinner cruise. Enjoy a range of food from a set menu dinner while you watch the lights of Ho Chi Minh City go by.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Hotel: Eden Star Hotel (4 Star) (or similar)

Day 4 (Ho Chi Minh City to Vung Tau):

Full day: Day 1 of a 2 Day Nui Dat, Long Tan and Vung Tau Tour (Private tour):

Depart hotel: 9:00am

Arrive: 5:00pm approx.

Travel out of Ho Chi Minh City to the east and what was **Phuoc Tuy Province**. Visit locations such as **Binh Ba** and **Horseshoe**. At the **site of the Australian Task Force Base at Nui Dat**, visit the **site of the Australian, NZ and US artillery positions** which played a vital role in the Battle of Long Tan. Nearby, is the **base HQ**. Here, the air raid shelter and the remnants of the command centre can be seen.

Exclusions:

- All travel to/from Ho Chi Minh City
- Passport & Visa expenses
- Meals and services not mentioned
- Comprehensive travel insurance
- Personal expenses (e.g. telephone, internet, laundry, drinks, souvenirs etc.)
- Tips to Guides and Drivers



Day 4 (Cont'd):

A short distance away is **Kanga Pad** (the helicopter pad) and **SAS Hill**, now a quarry. Also see **Luscombe Airfield**, now a roadway and drive down **Canberra Avenue** to the site of the 6RAR's camp and the **Nui Dat Memorial**. Pause at the memorial for some time of personal reflection.

Visit the **Long Tan Memorial** which marks the site of the Battle of Long Tan in which Australian soldiers, heavily outnumbered, engaged the North Vietnamese Army (NVA). Sadly, 18 Australians and about 245 NVA soldiers died. Here, take part in a **private ceremony** to remember all those who died, both military and civilian, during the Vietnam War.

After leaving Long Tan, visit the **Long Phuoc Tunnels**. A tunnel complex used by the Viet Cong to move around within the Australian controlled area. Enjoy a walk through a small section of the tunnels.

Arrive at **Vung Tau** where your evening will be free.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Hotel: Palace Hotel (4 Star) (or similar)

Day 5 (Vung Tau to Ho Chi Minh City):

Full day: Day 2 of a 2 Day Nui Dat, Long Tan and Vung Tau Tour (Private tour):

Depart hotel: 9:00am

Arrive: 5:00pm approx.

Spend the morning in Vung Tau and stop at the **site of the Peter Badcoe Club** (R&R Centre) and the VC Memorial, the **site of the 1st Australian Logistics Support Group**. Drive by the **Front and Back Beaches** and visit the **Worldwide Arms Museum** featuring a significant display of Australian military memorabilia.

Have lunch at the **Grand Hotel**, popular with Australian soldiers before starting your return journey to Ho Chi Minh City visiting the **Long Hai Hills** and **Dat Do** on the way.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch

Hotel: Rex Hotel (4 Star) (or similar)

Day 6 (Depart Ho Chi Minh City):

Your day is free as you wish until your driver picks you up from your hotel to take you to the airport in time for your outbound flight from Ho Chi Minh City.

Meals: Breakfast

