



H Y N A T R A V E L



DETAILED ITINERARY

10-Day Northern Vietnam Expedition

Hanoi – Ha Giang – Cao Bang – Ba Be



YOUR JOURNEY

Trip at a Glance

DURATION

10 days / 9 nights

ROUTE

Hanoi – Ha Giang – Bao Lac – Cao Bang – Ba Be Lake

TOUR STYLE

Private tour · English-speaking guide on sightseeing days

GETTING AROUND

Private car & driver · motorbike with easy rider or jeep on the Ha Giang Loop and in Cao Bang · overnight sleeper bus to Ha Giang

MEALS INCLUDED

8 breakfasts · 7 lunches

PERFECT FOR

Adventurers who want the far north by motorbike, waterfalls and lakes

Tour highlights

- ✓ **Ha Giang Loop** – three days by motorbike through the mountains.
- ✓ **Cao Bang** – a day exploring the countryside by motorbike.
- ✓ **Ban Gioc Waterfall** – one of Asia's widest waterfalls, plus Nguom Ngao Cave.
- ✓ **Ba Be Lake** – two days in the national park.



YOUR ROUTE

Route Map





DAY BY DAY

Itinerary at a Glance

Day	Itinerary	Guide	Overnight	Meals
Day 1	Hanoi Arrival & Overnight Sleeper Bus to Ha Giang	Guide pickup	Overnight sleeper bus	—
Day 2	Ha Giang Loop Day 1: Quan Ba Heaven Gate to Dong Van	Full day guide	Local homestay Ha Giang	L
Day 3	Ha Giang Loop Day 2: Ma Pi Leng Pass & Nho Que River	Full day guide	Local homestay Ha Giang	B, L
Day 4	Ha Giang Loop Day 3 & the Mountain Road to Bao Lac	Full day guide	Local stilt-house homestay Bao Lac	B, L
Day 5	Cao Bang by Motorbike: Ma Phuc Pass & Craft Villages	Full day guide	Saigon Ban Gioc Resort Cao Bang	B, L
Day 6	Ban Gioc Waterfall & Nguom Ngao Cave	Full day guide	Saigon Ban Gioc Resort Cao Bang	B, L
Day 7	Cao Bang to Ba Be Lake	Full day guide	Local homestay Ba Be Lake	B, L
Day 8	Ba Be Lake & National Park Exploration	Full day guide	Local homestay Ba Be Lake	B, L
Day 9	Return to Hanoi – Free & Easy	Half day guide	Tirant Hotel Hanoi	B
Day 10	Hanoi Departure	Guide dropoff	—	B

B = Breakfast L = Lunch D = Dinner

**DAY 1 HANOI****Hanoi Arrival & Overnight Sleeper Bus to Ha Giang****Overnight:** Overnight sleeper bus| **Meals:** Lunch and dinner on your own| **Guide:** Guide pickup**On arrival**

Welcome to Vietnam. Your HYNA guide and driver wait in the arrival hall at Noi Bai International Airport with a name sign and drive you into Hanoi. The rest of the day is free: circle **Hoan Kiem Lake** beneath its old trees, or try your first street food on a low stool in the **Old Quarter**.

Overnight

In the evening, your guide sees you off on the overnight sleeper bus to Ha Giang, the gateway to Vietnam's far north, which departs around 9:00 PM. The road winds north for about six to seven hours while you sleep.



DAY 2 HA GIANG

Ha Giang Loop Day 1: Quan Ba Heaven Gate to Dong Van

Overnight: Local homestay, Ha Giang
guide

Meals: Lunch · **Breakfast and dinner on your own**

Guide: Full day



- Early morning** The bus rolls into Ha Giang in the early morning, with the mountains already close around the town. Take time to freshen up and have breakfast before meeting your team.
- Morning** Your guide and your experienced easy rider meet you around 8:30 AM. Today you ride as a passenger on the back of a motorbike, wind in your face, or travel by jeep or car if you prefer. The road climbs the **Bac Sum Pass** to **Quan Ba Heaven Gate**, where the valley drops away beneath you and the twin **Fairy Mountains** rise from the rice fields, two perfectly rounded hills with a local legend of their own.
- Midday** Lunch around 12:30 PM is at a local restaurant in **Yen Minh**.
- Afternoon** In the afternoon, ride through the pine forests of Yen Minh, then up the tight hairpin bends of **Tham Ma Pass** onto the **Dong Van Karst Plateau**, a UNESCO Global Geopark of grey stone. H'Mong villages cling to the slopes here, and maize grows in terraced pockets of soil between the rocks, a sign of how hard-won every harvest is.
- Overnight** You reach your local homestay near Dong Van by about 5:30 PM, as the air turns cool and the plateau goes quiet.

**DAY 3** HA GIANG**Ha Giang Loop Day 2: Ma Pi Leng Pass & Nho Que River****Overnight:** Local homestay, Ha Giang**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch · **Dinner on your own****Guide:** Full day guide**Morning**

After breakfast at the homestay, you set off with your easy rider around 8:00 AM onto **Ma Pi Leng Pass**, a road cut into the cliffside high above the **Nho Que** canyon. Stop as often as you like for photos; far below, the river shows as a thin emerald ribbon.

Then head down to the water and board a boat through the **Tu San** canyon, where the green river slides between sheer limestone walls that rise straight up on either side.

Midday

Lunch around 12:30 PM is at a local restaurant in **Meo Vac**.

Afternoon

The afternoon road winds through **Mau Due**, then drops gently into the green valley of **Du Gia**. After the bare rock of the plateau, this quiet Tay village surrounded by rice fields feels soft and lush, and the pace of life slows right down.

Overnight

You check in at your local homestay in Du Gia by about 5:00 PM.

**DAY 4** HA GIANG – CAO BANG**Ha Giang Loop Day 3 & the Mountain Road to Bao Lac****Overnight:** Local stilt-house homestay, Bao Lac
day guide**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch · **Dinner on your own****Guide:** Full**Morning**

After breakfast at the homestay, you set off around 8:00 AM with a short walk to **Du Gia** Waterfall, where a morning swim in the cool water wakes you up if the weather allows. Then ride the last stretch of the loop through Lung Ho and Duong Thuong, a road of rice terraces stepping down the hills, small villages and wide mountain views.

Midday

You roll back into Ha Giang town around midday, have lunch at a local restaurant and say goodbye to your easy rider after three days on the road together.

Afternoon

Around 1:30 PM your guide and driver set off east by car along the Gam River, through Bac Me and Bao Lam, a quiet road of about four hours where the valleys widen and stilt houses stand at the edge of the rice fields. This road carries you out of Ha Giang and into Cao Bang province.

Overnight

You reach Bao Lac by about 5:30 PM and settle into a Tay stilt-house homestay, with dinner at your own choice and the sound of the river below.

**DAY 5 CAO BANG****Cao Bang by Motorbike: Ma Phuc Pass & Craft Villages****Overnight:** Saigon Ban Gioc Resort, Cao Bang |**Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch · **Dinner on your own** |**Guide:** Full day guide**Morning**

After breakfast, your guide and driver meet you around 7:30 AM for the drive of about three and a half hours east across the mountains to Cao Bang city, the road dropping from high passes into wide green valleys.

Midday

Lunch around 11:30 AM is at a local restaurant in Cao Bang city, where your easy rider joins you.

Afternoon

Around 12:30 PM you climb on the back of the motorbike and ride east over the **Ma Phuc Pass**, where limestone peaks stand like a row of green teeth and Tay and Nung villages dot the valleys below.

At **Phia Thap**, the sweet scent of incense hangs over the village, where Nung families still make it by hand and bundles dry in the sun; try rolling a stick yourself.

Nearby **Phuc Sen** rings with the sound of hammers on hot metal, a blacksmith village known for its hand-forged knives. Then ride on towards the Chinese border.

Overnight

You check in at your resort near **Ban Gioc Waterfall** by about 5:30 PM.

**DAY 6 CAO BANG****Ban Gioc Waterfall & Nguom Ngao Cave**

Overnight: Saigon Ban Gioc Resort, Cao Bang | **Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch • **Dinner on your own** | **Guide:** Full day guide

**Morning**

Your guide and driver meet you at your resort around 8:00 AM, only a few minutes from the falls. You hear Ban Gioc before you see it: one of the largest waterfalls in Southeast Asia, where the **Quay Son River** tumbles over wide limestone terraces on the border with China. A bamboo raft carries you close enough to feel the spray on your face, and the riverside paths open up new angles on the falls.

A short drive away, walk through the lit chambers of **Nguom Ngao Cave**, where stalactites and rock formations have taken shape over millions of years.

Midday

Lunch around midday is at a local restaurant near the waterfall, and you are back at your resort by about 2:00 PM.

Afternoon

The afternoon is free. Relax at the resort, or wander out into the rice fields around the falls, where the only sounds are the water and the wind.



DAY 7 CAO BANG – BA BE

Cao Bang to Ba Be Lake

Overnight: Local homestay, Ba Be Lake

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch · **Dinner on your own**

Guide: Full day guide

**Morning**

After breakfast, your guide and driver meet you around 8:00 AM for the long, scenic drive west through Cao Bang province towards **Ba Be National Park**, about six hours with stops.

Midday

Lunch around midday is at a local restaurant in Cao Bang city.

Afternoon

In the afternoon, the road climbs over forested passes and past Tay villages before dropping down to Ba Be, the largest natural freshwater lake in Vietnam. You arrive around 4:30 PM, in time for a stroll through **Pac Ngoi**, a Tay village of wooden stilt houses on the lakeshore, as the evening light settles on the water.

Overnight

Overnight at a local homestay by **Ba Be Lake**, where the evening belongs to the stillness of the water.



DAY 8 BA BE

Ba Be Lake & National Park Exploration

Overnight: Local homestay, Ba Be Lake | Meals: Breakfast, Lunch · Dinner on your own | Guide: Full day guide



Morning

After breakfast, walk down to the pier around 8:00 AM and board a local boat for a day on the water. The boat cruises the three connected lakes of Ba Be, ringed by forested limestone mountains that mirror themselves in the still surface. Pass **Widow Island** and stop at **An Ma Temple**, then follow the **Nang River** to **Puong Cave**, a vast tunnel the river has carved right through the mountain.

Midday

Lunch around midday is at a local restaurant in the national park.

Afternoon

In the afternoon, the boat takes you to **Dau Dang**, a series of rapids where the Nang River rushes white over the rocks, before you head back across the lake. You are back at your homestay by about 4:00 PM, with the rest of the day to enjoy the calm of the lakeside village.

**DAY 9** BA BE – HANOI**Return to Hanoi – Free & Easy****Overnight:** Tirant Hotel, Hanoi | **Meals:** Breakfast · Lunch and dinner on your own | **Guide:** Half day guide**Morning**

After breakfast at the homestay, your guide and driver meet you around 8:00 AM for the drive back to Hanoi, about five to six hours with a rest stop. The mountains of Bac Kan slowly give way to the tea hills and rice plains of the midlands.

Afternoon

You check in at your hotel in Hanoi around 2:00 PM; lunch is at your own choice on arrival. The afternoon and evening are free for a walk around **Hoan Kiem Lake**, a browse through the **Old Quarter** or one last Hanoi dinner.



DAY 10 DEPARTURE

Hanoi Departure

Overnight: — | Meals: Breakfast · Lunch and dinner on your own | Guide: Guide dropoff



Morning

Enjoy a last breakfast at your hotel in Hanoi and a final coffee as the city wakes up.

Departure

Depending on your flight time, your guide accompanies you on the private transfer to Noi Bai International Airport for your flight home. Thank you for travelling with HYNA. We hope the mountain roads of the far north stay with you long after you leave.



YOUR TOUR

What's Included

PRICE ON REQUEST

The price of this itinerary depends on your travel dates, group size and hotel class.

See the last page to request your personal quote.

Included	Not included
✓ Private English-speaking guide on sightseeing days (see the Guide column) ✓ Airport pick-up and drop-off with your English-speaking guide ✓ Transportation as described in the itinerary ✓ Accommodation as described in the itinerary (hotel class of your choice) ✓ Daily breakfast at the hotel ✓ Meals as listed in the itinerary (B, L, D) ✓ Drinking water on tour days ✓ Entrance fees for the attractions listed ✓ Activities listed in the itinerary (boat trips, cable cars, workshops, performances) ✓ Travel insurance ✓ VAT and service charges	✗ International flights ✗ Domestic flights (unless otherwise stated) ✗ Vietnam visa fee (if applicable) ✗ Personal expenses – laundry, minibar, phone calls, etc. ✗ Tips for guide and driver: USD 3 per person per day ✗ Optional tours and activities not in the itinerary ✗ Meals and drinks not listed in the itinerary ✗ Early check-in and late check-out ✗ Public holiday, peak season and special event surcharges (if applicable) ✗ Any service not listed under “Included”

Accommodation

Destination	Nights	Hotel / Cruise
Ha Giang	2	Local homestay
Bao Lac	1	Local stilt-house homestay
Cao Bang	2	Saigon Ban Gioc Resort or similar
Ba Be Lake	2	Local homestay
Hanoi	1	Tirant Hotel or similar

Check-in from 2:00 PM, check-out by 12:00 PM.



Children policy

Age	Policy
Under 5 years	• Free of charge for land services (transport, meals, accommodation, entrance fees) • Shares bed with parents; no extra bed • Maximum 1 free child per 2 paying adults (unless otherwise specified) • Additional young children may be charged according to supplier policy • Airfare, visa, travel insurance and personal expenses are charged separately
5 – 9 years	• With extra bed: 75% of the adult price • Without extra bed: 65% of the adult price • Child airfare varies by airline and will be advised separately
10 years and over	• 100% of the adult price

A child's age is based on the tour start date, not the booking date.



BOOKING

How to Book

1

Confirm your trip

We confirm the services and itinerary by email, then both parties sign the travel contract.

2

Pay the deposit

A 50% deposit secures all services for your trip.

3

Pay the balance

The remaining 50% is due at least 7 days before departure.

4

Get ready to travel

Once payment is received, we email your booking confirmation and open a WhatsApp group with our operations team. There you will receive travel updates, send us the documents we need, and reach us any time before and during your trip.

Payment terms

Deposit	50% upon confirmation
Balance	50% no later than 7 days before arrival
Payment methods	Wise, OnePay payment link, Western Union, bank transfer
Bank details	Provided on your invoice
Card fees	Visa / Mastercard 3.8%; American Express 3.85%
Invoices	Sent to your email within 48 hours of booking confirmation

Cancellation policy

Cancellation notice	Charge
31 days or more before departure	30% of the tour price
8 – 30 days before departure	50% of the tour price
7 days or less before departure	100% of the tour price
Any time	Airfares booked by HYNA are non-refundable. Refunds exclude international transaction fees.

Different cancellation terms may apply during peak season (Christmas and New Year) and public holidays; we will advise these case by case.



BEFORE YOU GO

Good to Know

Vietnam public holidays

Holiday	Date
New Year's Day	1 January
Lunar New Year (Tet)	1st day of the 1st lunar month – 17 February 2026; 6 February 2027. The official multi-day holiday is announced by the government each year.
Hung Kings Commemoration	10th day of the 3rd lunar month (usually April)
Reunification Day	30 April
International Labour Day	1 May
National Day	2 September (plus one adjacent day)

Surcharges may apply on public holidays and during the Christmas – New Year peak season.

Practical notes

- **Itinerary changes:** the schedule may be adjusted for weather, road conditions or flight times.
- **Closed attractions:** if a site is closed for maintenance or a holiday, we will arrange a similar alternative.
- **Meals:** Vietnamese cuisine is served; vegetarian options are available. Please tell us about allergies or dietary needs in advance.
- **Dress code:** shoulders and knees must be covered at pagodas, temples and mausoleums. Visitors in shorts or tank tops may be refused entry.
- **Flights:** full passport names are required for bookings. Airfares can change without notice until tickets are issued.
- **Tipping:** a gratuity of USD 3 per person per day for your guide and driver is required and collected at the end of the tour, in USD or VND.



LIKE THIS ITINERARY?

Get a Price for This Tour

Tell us your travel dates, the number of travellers and the hotel class you prefer, and mention the itinerary name below. We will send you a quote for this tour.

Itinerary: **10-Day Northern Vietnam Expedition: Ha Giang Loop, Cao Bang & Ba Be Lake**

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Thank you for travelling with HYNA