DISCOVERING VIETNAM THROUGH THE LENS
03 – 13 September 2018
Destinations: Vietnam
Number of guests: 05 - 08 persons
Room type: Double/ Twin/ Single
Room reference: non-smoking, nice view, king size bed (where possible)
Travel style: Photography
Remarks:

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<td>Lantana Boutique Hotel Hoi An</td>
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<td>Phu Loc</td>
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<td>13 Sep 2018</td>
<td>Hanoi</td>
<td>Depart for home</td>
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DISCLAIMER:
• Tour quotation is based on the suggested hotel/room categories. Price is subject to change due to availability and fluctuation in airfares.
Day 1 – Monday 3 Sep 2018: Danang Arrival – Hoi An (Flight information to be advised/ Own tickets)

Arrive at **Danang airport** and transfer to your hotel in **Hoi An**.

**Hoi An** has been a world heritage site since 1999 and its charming old town has provided some of Vietnam’s most iconic images. If you would like to capture some of your own special photos, why not join a professional photographer and make the most out of your Hoi An visit?

With some years resident in Hoi An, **Mr. Etienne Bossot** has explored each narrow street and ancient shop-house to know the best locations available. He will escort you on a customized tour, delivering shot suggestions and instructions on how to improve your photography technique. This program can be tailored to be suitable for beginners or amateur photographers.

Check in your hotel and rest for a while.

Later, enjoy a welcome drink and introduction to the travel photography with **Mr. Etienne Bossot** who will go through your camera settings, learning about the basics of photography and assess the level of all participant and your expectation.

After reviewing some composition tips and techniques, get your camera ready to capture unforgettable moments of the daily life and the charming old town by a **walking tour of Hoi An** which include many atmospheric sights including: the **old merchant houses** with influences from Chinese, Japanese and Vietnamese architecture; the 400-year-old **Japanese Covered Bridge**, first built in the 1590s by the Japanese community to link them with the Chinese quarters across the stream; the **Assembly Hall of the Chaozhou Chinese Congregation** with its intricate woodcarvings.

At the end of the day, enjoy a **welcome dinner** at the local restaurant before return to your hotel or explore in Hoi An in your own.

**Meals: Dinner**
**Accommodation: Lantana Boutique Hotel Hoi An/ Deluxe room**

Day 2 – Tuesday 04 Sep 2018: Hoi An

Wake up early and follow Etienne walk’ to capture the sunrise in the old town today. Leaving the hotel at 5.30am. We will be starting off near Hoi An central market and also capture the local walking around – the best time to see Hoi An with not many tourist at this special time.
Return to your hotel for a breakfast then take part in the photo reviewing workshop by discussing about your technique, composition and tips for how to photograph in busy situations or people portrait. Lunch will be served at your hotel and free in the afternoon.

In the late afternoon, embark to the local boat for sailing to a farming village along the river. Surrounded by rice fields and the river, it offers many opportunities to capture the daily life of workers, highlighted by the setting sun. Buffalos are grazing in the background, as well as small boats where people are cast net fishing. This scene is particularly impressive during the rice planting or harvesting time. Within the village, you will be more than welcome to capture portraits of old people and children playing. Stop to share a cup of tea or a glass of cold beer with a local family.

Later, return to your boat and sail back to Hoi An coincides with the time when the sun offers its best colors, until twilight when you will return back to the old town and dinner will be followed at a local restaurant.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Lantana Boutique Hotel Hoi An/ Deluxe room

Day 3 – Wednesday 5 Sep 2018: Hoi An

Meet up with our guide at 4.45am at the hotel reception and transfer to a fishing village where a very dynamic environment has, the tour is focusing on people, documentary photography by using the best light of the day. The village itself offers excellent opportunities for photography which is not available in the middle of the day and is a perfect chance for practicing you skill in a busy environment.

After spending some time sailing along the local river to capture the fishermen bringing their catch, we step into the village with a quiet, relaxed atmosphere and work on portrait photography. We have built strong relationships with the local people over the years, making it easy to get to know them and capture them in their daily lives. Continue deeper into the village to work on low light photography before meeting and interaction with the locals there.

Return to your hotel for late breakfast and rest of the day at leisure or you can take part in the optional tour with surcharge in the afternoon and evening as following:

**FARMING LIFE ON HERB GARDEN TOUR**

Embark on an organic farming discovery tour with the local farmers in the rural outskirts of Hoi An’s Ancient Town. Start your morning with a leisurely 4km (2mi) bike ride through the countryside, heading to Tra Que Vegetable Village named after a sweet scented herb grown here and used to flavour Hoi An specialties like Cao Lau noodles. Upon arrival, stroll around the fishponds and through the neatly organised organic gardens and observe local farmers working the fields using traditional methods that date back hundreds of years. The rich soil from this village produces some of the most flavoursome vegetables and herbs in all of Hoi An. If you don't mind getting your hands dirty, change into some work clothes provided by the villagers and join the friendly farmers in watering the plants or fertilising the land. Take a break next to the water wheel or try your hand at some traditional music instruments. Learn how to prepare and hand-grind rice to make rice paper which is then grilled over a charcoal fire which is eaten as a crunchy snack. Transfer back to your hotel.

**NOTES:**
- Availability: Afternoon
- Suggested departure time: 14:00
- Tour duration: 04 hours.

**LIFESTART FOUNDATION WORKSHOP (JOIN -IN)**

Founded in 2000 by an Australian, Karen Leonard and a team of dedicated volunteers, the Foundation applies a holistic approach to helping those in need through proven working programs and initiatives which are designed to effect a generational change. Today, you will meet the Representative of Lifestart, then take part in the Traditional Painting Class. The teacher is a previous Lifestart Foundation recipient,
Sinh, who has his own art gallery now. Try drawing a greetings card under his guidance. Later, return to the Lifestart Foundation Workshop for a traditional Hoi An lantern-making Class.

NOTES:
- Availability: Afternoon
- Suggested Time: 13:45
- Duration: 3 hours
- Capacity: Min. 2 pax - Max. 25 pax
- Private class is available from 10 pax.

HOI AN WALKING NIGHT FOOD SAFARI
Hoi An by night is always busy with hundreds of food stalls and local restaurants. This evening, take a walk around the town at night and you discover many vendors offering Hoi An specialties. This tour takes you off the beaten path to get a unique glimpse into nightly life of this lovely ancient town and discover unforgettable street food. Meet your tour guide and start zigzagging through the alleys to explore a popular snack – “white rose”. It is a Find your way to a “banh mi” stand owned by an elderly woman and try a small piece of crispy baguette sa crispy Fried Wonton “Hoanh Thanh Chien”. Next stroll to a hidden family restaurant serving barbecued pork which you combine with fresh greens and herbs to create your own fresh spring roll. It is the best to enjoy the roll with cold beer! Walk further into the central of the village for a look at the ancient sweet soup “Che” before capping off the journey at the riverside to release floating lanterns for good luck.

NOTES:
- Approx. Duration: 4 hours
- Suggested time: 17:00
- Km riding: 5 km
- Capacity: Max. 12 pax.

Meals: Breakfast
Accommodation: Lantana Boutique Hotel Hoi An/ Deluxe room


This morning is free at leisure then check out and drive to Lang Co. Lunch will be served en-route before continue the journey to Tam Giang Lagoon. It’s about 1.5 hours from Lang Co beach and is the largest fresh water lagoon in South East Asia. With 22,000 hectares of water surface, Tam Giang Lagoon is the conclusion place of three big rivers, O Lau, Huong and Bo, before they run to the sea.

Upon arrival, embark the local boat to explore the lagoon by capture the daily life of local fishermen, including shrimp and fish farming or fishing using nets. Also enjoy a beautiful moment of sunset or watching birds or fauna and flora are existing.

Later, boat back to the main land and drive to your accommodation in Phu Loc. Dinner will be served at hotel and overnight in Phu Loc.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Lang Co Beach Resort/ Garden View room
Day 5 – Friday 7 Sep 2018: Tam Giang Lagoon - Hue

Around 4.30am, drive back to this picturesque lagoon great moments for photos and opportunities to visit some local families along the river banks. On the way back, capture nice photos along the way. Then take a short walk around local fish market to witness daily life of locals before go back to the city center followed by a late breakfast at your hotel.

Later, take a cyclo ride to the Imperial Citadel, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Enter through the towering main gate and appreciate the magnificent architecture and gardens while your guide explains the events and the intrigue surrounding the former royal court. Despite being bombed heavily during the Vietnam War, there are some incredibly well preserved sections intact and others which are being carefully restored.

Next, head to visit The Tu Duc Royal Tomb, the most impressive of all the royal mausoleums, built by Emperor Tu Duc between 1864 and 1867. Interestingly, Tu Duc had 104 wives and countless concubines but left no heirs to the throne. While the complex does include a tomb, together with pavilions and temples, no one knows exactly where Tu Duc was buried as all 200 servants who buried the king were beheaded to keep his final resting place a secret from grave robbers. After exploring the tomb, return to your hotel & lunch will be at your own expenses.

In the late afternoon, embark the local boat and time to practise your skill with sunset along the Perfume River which gets its name from the autumn flowers upriver from Hue that fall into the water, giving the river a perfume-like aroma. The placid river has been a source of inspiration for countless artists, poets, and composers.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner
Accommodation: Serene Palace Hotel/ Deluxe city view

Day 6 – Saturday 8 Sep 2018: Hue – Hanoi (VN1542 10:35 – 11:50) – Bac Ha

After breakfast, transfer to Hue airport for flight to Hanoi. Upon arrival, lunch will be served at airport restaurant then drive to Bac Ha town (5.5 hours’ drive).

Upon arrival, check in hotel and overnight in Bac Ha.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Sao Mai Hotel/ ROH

Day 7 – Sunday 9 Sep 2017: Bac Ha market – Sapa

Walk up early for the active workshop at Bac Ha market - the largest and most colorful market in the area. Every Sunday morning, many different ethnic groups like the Flower H’mong, Phu La, Black Dzao, Tay and Nung minorities gather to buy and sell local products including homemade wares ranging from embroidery, tobacco and rice wine to farmyard animals such as chickens, pigs, horses and buffaloes. This is also a place for the locals to catch up and meet friends over rice wine at the end of the week.
Breakfast at the local shops nearby then follow by the photo reviewing workshop and you were also instructed with some new guidelines and necessary techniques that required for shooting in Sapa & Mu Cang Chai in the coming days.

At 11hrs - drive to Sapa (about 2.5 hours) and late lunch will be served at the local restaurant in Sapa. Transfer to Ta Van Village to visit the Zay, an ethnic group known for their brightly colored clothing. Observe their way of life and the local traditions before continuing your trek featuring magnificent views of the terraced fields. Drive back to the town and overnight in Sapa.

NOTES: Transfer duration is subject to change depend on the weather and the stopover on the way.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Silk Path Hotel & Resort

Day 8 – Monday 10 Sep 2017: Sapa – Mu Cang Chai (6 hours’ drive)

Breakfast and check out hotel. Then depart from Sapa to Mu Cang Chai for 6 hours’ drive. There are some stopovers en-route that include O Quy Ho Pass or the tea plantation on the way.

Upon arrival, check in hotel and overnight in Mu Cang Chai.

NOTES: Transfer duration is subject to change depend on the weather and the stopover on the way.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Eco-lodge Mu Cang Chai/ Valley View Bungalow

Day 9 – Monday 11 Sep 2017: Mu Cang Chai

Leaving your hotel at 7am and enjoy the local breakfast in town before head toward La Pan Tan commune – one of the main spot’s famous by the stunning of the paddy fields where you can witness the local people are working on and capture the beautiful landscapes on the way.

Later, lunch will be served at local restaurant and time for the photo reviewing workshop then rest for a while in the afternoon before running to catch the sunset by end of the day.

NOTES: Shooting venue is subject to change depend on the weather and will be advised on spot.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Eco-lodge Mu Cang Chai/ Valley View Bungalow

Day 10 – Tuesday 12 Sep 2018: Mu Cang Chai – Hanoi

After breakfast, check out and drive back to Hanoi (approximately: 7 hours drive).

NOTES: Transfer duration is subject to change depend on the weather and the stopover on the way.

Upon arrival Hanoi, check in hotel and refresh before enjoy the farewell dinner at local restaurant.

Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation: Hanoi La Siesta Central hotel & Spa/ Executive room
Day 11 – Wednesday 13 Sep 2018: Hanoi Departure (Flight to be advised – own ticket)

Free at leisure until transfer to the airport for your departure flight.

_The regular check-out time is at 1200. Late check-out is NOT included and subject to availability_

**Meals:** Breakfast

END OF SERVICE!

**PRICING**

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<th>Tour Price</th>
<th>Based on group size 5 - 8 persons</th>
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<tr>
<td>Price per person on twin share</td>
<td>US$ 4,120.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Price per person in single room</td>
<td>US$ 4,581.00</td>
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**TOUR INCLUSIONS:**

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<td>• Overnight accommodation is inclusive of hotel tax, hotel service charges and includes daily breakfast</td>
<td>• Separate luggage truck</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Private transfers and transportation on tour</td>
<td>• Vietnam Visa</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Sightseeing with Local English speaking guides (one guide in each city)</td>
<td>• Other meals where not mentioned in the program</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Entrance fees and boat rides</td>
<td>• Drinks/water at included lunches and dinners</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Meals as specified (meals only, no drinks/water)</td>
<td>• Other flights &amp; airport taxes</td>
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<tr>
<td>• Airfares: DAD-HAN (Economy class with airport tax)</td>
<td>• Hotel early check in/ Late check-out</td>
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<td>• Cold towels and water on sightseeing days</td>
<td>• Overweight luggage</td>
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<td>• Welcome pack</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Tips &amp; gratuities</td>
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<td>• Other services not listed in inclusive column</td>
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**NOTES:**

• All flight times are local.
• Flight times and the daily order of sightseeing are subject to change.
• Vietnam Airlines allow for advance seat assignment on some domestic and regional flights (those departing Hanoi/Danang/ Saigon airports only) with advance seat assignment within 24 hours before departure by check-in online.
• Transfer times are approximate and subject to local conditions at the time of travel.
GENERAL BOOKING CONDITIONS

PAYMENT
- 20% of the total tour cost to be deposited upon commitment of the tour. This deposit is non-refundable.
- 80% of the total tour cost to be paid 46 days prior to arrival date.
- 100% of the total tour is required 45 days prior departure or within 24 hours of confirmation if travelling within 45 days from departure.

CANCELLATION: Any cancellations must be made in writing.
- 22 days or more prior to arrival date: 20% deposit
- 21 - 15 days prior to arrival date: 50% of the total tour cost
- 14 - 8 days prior to arrival date: 75% of the total tour cost
- 7 days or less prior to arrival date: 100% of the total tour cost

Special conditions: Depending on airlines, hotels, cruises’ cancellation policies, the above conditions may be modified.

TRAVEL INFORMATION

VISAS
Please ensure your passport is valid more than 6 months from the date of return for every country you are visiting. Please also ensure there is sufficient space in your passport to allow for all immigration procedures, taking note that some South East Asian countries take up a full page for the visa sticker and need yet more space on a separate page for entry & exist stamps.

Kindly note that visa service is not included in our proposal. Please contact Trails of Indochina for any visa service or guidance. Please note the following general information is subject to change concerning visas from our part of the world.

Vietnam: A one-month single entry visa is available on arrival with a pre-arranged visa invitation authorization letter. The visa invitation letter processing time is two weeks, rush service may be available at additional cost. The costs per person for the visa invitation authorization letter processing fee are $50 and an additional $25 per person must be paid in cash on arrival along with two passport photos at the Visa On Arrival Counter located in the International Airport. Selected nationalities can travel visa-free for 15 days if arriving by air or can apply e-visa (subject to change). Please refer for more details from Vietnam Predeparture Information.

TRIP & TRAVEL INSURANCE
The tour price does not include personal insurance. Travelers are highly recommended to purchase Trip Insurance & Travel Insurance upon commitment of the booking in case of force majeure. Trip Insurance covers the cost of your trip should you be forced to cancel your trip before you start the trip. Travel Insurance covers such costs as emergency and medical evacuation, hospital fees, property loss, etc which could possibly happen during the trip. If you would like Trails of Indochina to have a copy of your Trip Insurance & Travel Insurance information in case of emergency, please forward these details to your agent who will in turn forward to our office.