

**DA NANG & HOI AN
WEEKEND TRIP**

WEEKEND OVERVIEW

With its beautiful coastline, stunning mountains and surrounding UNESCO world heritage sites, Da Nang is a must see on any trip to Vietnam!

While the city itself is a bustling coastal metropolis, the real treasures lie in the neighbouring areas. Embark on an exciting group tour to explore its enchanting surroundings, where sandy beaches meet majestic mountains and historical world heritage sites meet modern architecture.

There is something for everyone on this varied weekend trip where you can discover ancient temples, visit renowned tourist attractions and savour some of the most amazing views in Vietnam from the mountains.

As well as this, the weekend trip is a great way to experience authentic Vietnamese culture as you enjoy a cooking lesson, discover Buddhist shrines at Marble Mountain and experience the magic of Hoi An Ancient Town at night.

This action-packed weekend trip will provide something new and exciting every day.

As a group, we will explore everything this incredible region has to offer, including:

- Visiting the caves and temples at the world-famous Marble Mountains
- Experience the UNESCO World Heritage site of Hoi An ancient town at night
- Learn to cook authentic Vietnamese food in a local cooking class
- Explore the countryside on the famous round basket boats
- Walk across the impressive Golden Bridge, held up by huge stone hands
- Visit plenty of temples and historic sites by guided tour
- Take the cable car and admire the views from above in Ba Na Hills
- Have fun at the Fantasy Amusement park

The structured weekend trip will ensure you see as much of Vietnam as possible. You will be transported by private minibus to maximise comfort and to keep transit times to a minimum.

Each weekend trip leaves on a Friday morning and returns on the Sunday evening, costing just **£175 / \$249 per person.**

The following are included within this fee:

- Accommodation
- Meals as stated in Itinerary
- All entrance fees
- Guided tours
- Airport transfers in Da Nang and Ho Chi Minh City

START DATES

We will be running the De Nang and Hoi An weekend trip on the following dates:

26th January 2024 – 28th January 2024
23rd February 2024 – 25th February 2024
22nd March 2024 – 24th March 2024
26th April 2024 – 28th April 2024
24th May 2024 – 26th May 2024
21st June 2024 – 23rd June 2024
26th July 2024 – 28th July 2024
23rd August 2024 – 25th August 2024
27th September 2024 – 29th September 2024
25th October 2024 – 27th October 2024
22nd November 2024 – 24th November 2024
27th December 2024 – 29th December 2024

24th January 2025 – 26th January 2025
21st February 2025 – 23rd February 2025
21st March 2025 – 23rd March 2025
25th April 2025 – 27th April 2025
23rd May 2025 – 25th May 2025
27th June 2025 – 29th June 2025
25th July 2025 – 27th July 2025
22nd August 2025 – 24th August 2025
26th September 2025 – 28th September 2025
24th October 2025 – 26th October 2025



21st November 2025 – 23rd November 2025
26th December 2025 – 28th December 2025

We can add additional weekend trips if there is enough interest from volunteers. There is a minimum of 2 participants.

BOOKING YOUR PLACE

You can simply add this weekend trip when applying for any of our programmes in Vietnam under 'Optional Extras'.

If you have already signed up for one of our volunteer programmes in Vietnam and would like to add this weekend trip, you can simply request this within your My Trip account.

Places on our weekend trips are non-refundable and non-transferable between volunteers.

ITINERARY

DAY 1 – ARRIVAL, MARBLE MOUNTAINS AND HOI AN AT NIGHT

After a short plane ride from Ho Chi Minh City (not included in the programme fee), you will be met by our local team in Da Nang.

We recommend you arrive before 2pm to ensure you are there in time for the afternoon activities.

You will have some time to relax and drop your bags at the hotel before the local team arrive at 3pm to collect you.

Your first stop will be to explore the famous Marble Mountains. About 9km from the city, the Marble Mountains are home to Buddhist pagodas and shrines as well as numerous caves and tunnels etched into the limestone hills.

Before you head up you will get the chance to

explore the elaborate statues at the Non Nuoc carvings-stone village, situated at the foot of mountains.

After this you will head up to explore the stunning views, ancient temples and many caves the Marble Mountains has to offer.

After an hour or so exploring you will hop back in the bus to take the take a short drive to the picturesque city of Hoi An.

You will enjoy dinner together as a group before heading off to explore the magical Hoi An Ancient town at night. There will be plenty of time to shop for souvenirs, take a walk along the canals and experience this UNESCO World Heritage site as it becomes lit up with the many colourful lanterns – an experience you will not forget!

You will be dropped back to your hotel around 9pm.

DAY 2 – COOKING CLASS, BASKET BOAT TRIP & EXPLORING DA NANG

After breakfast the local team will meet you at 9am to begin today's activities.

Your day will start at a bustling local market where you will get to experience sights and smells of traditional Vietnamese produce – as well as pick up a few ingredients for the cooking lesson.

Your next stop will be Cam Thanh village, where you can take in the beautiful views of the Vietnamese countryside and enjoy a tour of the water coconut trees on the famous round basket boats!

You will then head to the restaurant to enjoy a welcome drink before beginning your group cooking lesson. Guided by a local chef, you will



prepare cook and serve a traditional Vietnamese dish – something you can impress your friends and family with when you're home!

After the lesson you will get to enjoy your meal and relax in the beautiful surroundings.

At around 3pm you will arrive back to the hotel and the rest of the day is for you to do as you please.

This is great chance to explore the rest of the city, visit the beach or just relax and take in the sights at the rooftop pool.

You may want to visit the impressive Dragon Bridge which attracts visitors from around the city in the evenings when it spits water from its mouth.

Da Nang is an exciting city with plenty of restaurant and bars to visit in the evening as well as a delicious street food scene. Feel free to ask the local team for dinner recommendations!

DAY 3 – BA NA HILL, CABLE CARS & SIGHT-SEEING

You will be collected around 7- 8am this morning to make the journey to the picturesque Ba Na Hills, which is around an hour away.

Often considered the 'green lung' of Vietnam the tourist resort is located 1,487m above sea level, offering some of the best views of Vietnam.

Take in the panoramic views as you travel up the award-winning cable car at Suoi Mo. You will then have free time to explore the area which really is a wonderland in nature, nestled in the clouds!

There are many sights and activities to do including taking in the views of the jungle as you walk across one of Vietnam's top tourist attractions, the famous Golden bridge which is held up by

huge hands. Other sights include the Le Jardin, Debay Wine Cellar of French, the Linh Ung pagoda where you can admire the 27m high Buddha statue, the Loc Uyen Garden and Quan Am Cac.

We will then take a second cable car to take in more breath-taking views from the top of Ba Na.

You will also get to have some fun at the Fantasy amusement park where you can challenge your friends on the racing track, battle it out on the bumper cars or get a cool picture on the Love Swing.

At around midday we will enjoy a lunch buffet as a group. After this you will have a couple more hours to see the sights. If you're feeling active you may want to conquer the peak of the 1487m high Chua mountain. You can also explore the Ba Chua Thuong Ngan Temple or simply relax and soak up the surroundings and views.

At around 2.30pm we will return to the cable car station to head back to De Nang airport.

ACCOMMODATION

Over the course of the weekend you will be staying in a 3 or 4 star hotel in the centre of De Nang.

Rooms will be on a shared basis, with up to 2 volunteers staying in one room. Please note, from time to time some volunteers may be required to share a double bed depending on availability – although we will try our best to avoid this.

You will have all of the amenities you need, such as western toilets, hot water and Wi-Fi – although this may be intermittent.



MEALS

You will be provided with the following meals throughout your time with us on the weekend -

Friday – Dinner

Saturday – Breakfast & Lunch

Sunday – Breakfast & Lunch

Generally be local Vietnamese cuisine and served at either the hotel, a local restaurant or as part of the activities.

There are plenty of restaurants and street food vendors to choose from for the meals that are not included as part of the programme fee.

Drinks are not provided and will need to be purchased at your own expense. A big bottle of water typically costs under 50p.

TRANSPORT

Flights to and from De Nang (Da Nang International Airport) must be arranged independently and at your own expense. You should expect to budget between £50 and £100 and there are generally two airline options; Vietnam Airlines and Vietjet Air.

We strongly recommend that your flight arrive into De Nang before 2pm on Friday and your flight back to Ho Chi Minh on Sunday is for the late evening to allow you to maximise your time on the trip and enjoy the guided tours in full.

Please book your flights in advance and upload the flight details within your My Trip account. Your return flight back into Ho Chi Minh City must ensure you are back at the accommodation before the 10pm curfew so you are fully prepared to volunteer the following day. The local team will be strictly enforcing this. The Mighty Roar cannot be held accountable for any activities missed as a result of late arrivals or flight delays.

Once you are in De Nang you will travel around by private minibus.

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If you want to take part on this amazing trip and the dates fall on your last weekend in Vietnam then you can still take part! Please arrange your return flight from Vietnam for Monday to ensure you have sufficient time to get to the airport. The accommodation on your last night is not included but we can recommend several hotels either close to our accommodation or to the airport.

