

# NINH BINH

## Explorer Package

**Exploring Tam Coc Nature Reserve by boat is mesmerizing**

Discover Ninh Binh, a province of ancient mountain pagodas, deep river caves and classic rural Vietnamese scenes. Our trip includes a two-hour boat journey at Tam Coc Nature Reserve, or 'Ha Long Bay on land', a photographic exploration of the ruins at Vietnam's ancient capital of Hoa Lu, and a sunset wander through the stunning paddies and river valleys of this beautiful region. Photographers will work on their approach to landscapes and portraiture, with other activities including a cycling trip through the paddies. In Hanoi, we'll have a chance to explore the city at both dawn and nightfall, with two of our most iconic tours.

## ITINERARY

### Day 1 – Hanoi Arrival

Complimentary airport pick-up. We have a welcome dinner with the ViF team at a gourmet Vietnamese restaurant, before heading out for a Hanoi by Night tour. We explore the area around Hoan Kiem Lake and the streets of the Old Quarter. The evening culminates with the lowering of the flag at Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum.

### Day 2 – Tom Coc Nature Reserve

We head out the next day for Ninh Binh at 7am, stopping at a village specializing in the creation of traditional drums. It's then time to board our longboat for a 2 hour journey among river caves and mountain pagodas at Tam Coc Nature Reserve. After lunch, we visit Vietnam's ancient capital of Hoa Lu and Bai Dinh Pagoda. We check into our hotel before enjoying a sunset cycling trip among the rice paddies.

### Day 3 – Cuc Phuong

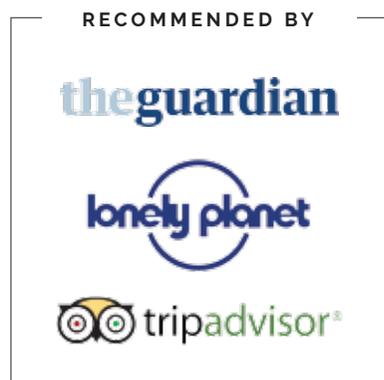
We'll have an early start to climb up to Hang Mua peak, with dramatic views over Ninh Binh province. We then travel to Van Long Nature Reserve for a sampan trip among quiet lagoons and caves. The Reserve is home to many rare species of monkey and migratory birds. After lunch, we visit Cuc Phuong, Vietnam's oldest and largest National Park. We'll have a short trek in the ancient rainforest and a sunset shoot from a stunning vantage point overlooking the surrounding area. We arrive back in the capital at 7pm.

### Day 4 – Hanoi's Old Quarter

On our final morning in Hanoi, we'll have a sunrise Hanoi Explorer tour, taking in Long Bien market, the railway tracks and classic Old Quarter streets. Onward travel departs at various times of day.

### Tour Highlights

- Hanoi Explorer Tour
- Ninh Binh
- Tam Coc
- Bai Dinh Pagoda
- Hoa Lu
- Hang Mua Peak
- Van Long Nature Reserve
- Village cycling
- Cuc Phuong National Park
- Hanoi by Night Tour



#### Included

- All transportation
- All accommodation during the tour
- All meals
- All non-alcoholic drinks
- All tickets and permits for sightseeing

#### Excluded

- International flights
- Participants' travel insurance
- Participants visas

