

PeaceTrees Vietnam Citizen Diplomacy Trip Itinerary

Please note that the itinerary for each trip varies based on a multitude of factors.

PeaceTrees and Vietnam War related activities are highlighted in **yellow**.

Day 1 (Travel Day)

Day 2 (Hà Nội 1 of 3)

- Morning walk around Hoàn Kiếm and French Quarter
- Visit a café to try egg coffee
- Temple of Literature
- Museum of Ethnology
- Welcome dinner

Day 3 (Hà Nội 2 of 3)

- Day trip to Trang An Hoa Lu (seat of the first independent dynasty in the 10th century) and boat ride in Tam Coc, both in Ninh Bình Province, south of Hà Nội
- Optional trip to Binh Minh Jazz Club

Day 4 (Hà Nội 3 of 3)

- Visit the US Embassy to learn about U.S.-Vietnam diplomatic relations
- Free time suggestions: **Hỏa Lò Prison** (15 min walk from hotel). Vietnamese Women's Museum (13 min walk from hotel). Hà Nội Train Street (11 min walk from hotel)

Ideas of regional foods to try while in the northern region:

- Cà phê trứng – egg coffee
- Bún Chả – *rice vermicelli with grilled meat*
- Chả Cá – fish with turmeric and dill
- Xôi xéo – *sticky rice*
- Bún riêu – crab and tomato noodle soup
- Bánh cuốn – rice rolls (originally a northern dish but also very popular in Sài Gòn and would be a fun option to eat it there, too)

Day 5 (Đồng Hới 1 of 1)

- Fly from Hà Nội to Đồng Hới
- Visit PTVN Quảng Bình office

- Visit the field team from the Quảng Bình project office

Day 6 (Đông Hà 1 of 4)

- Hiền Lương Bridge, Bến Hải River, and the DMZ
- Briefing at Danaan Parry Landmines Education Ctr. w/ Country Director Ha Pham
- Group reflection time

Day 7 (Đông Hà 2 of 4)

- Khe Sanh airfield and museum
- Local market in Khe Sanh
- Explosive Ordnance Risk Education (EORE) visit
- English exchange with local students

Day 8 (Đông Hà 3 of 4)

- Make traditional food with PeaceTrees' partner: the Women's Union
- Lunch with the Women's Union
- Tree or flower planting activity

Day 9 (Đông Hà 4 of 4)

- Trường Sơn Cemetery
- Vịnh Mốc Tunnels
- Farewell dinner w/ PTVN staff

Day 10 (Huế 1 of 1)

- Huế Citadel
- Huế market
- Fly to Sài Gòn

Ideas of regional foods to try while in the central region:

- Bánh bèo – savory rice cakes
- Bún bò Huế - spicy beef noodle soup
- Bánh bột lọc – tapioca dumplings
- Mì Quảng – noodles
- Gỏi cá mai - white sardine fish salad (originally a central dish, but can also eat while in Nha Trang, where it is also very popular)

Day 11 (Sài Gòn 1 of 5)

- Independent Palace (historical to the Fall of Sài Gòn) + Central Post Office + Book Street + Notre Dame Cathedral
- Bến Thành Market
- Bamboo Show – A O Lune Production

Day 12 (Sài Gòn 2 of 5)

- Cooking class (includes eating lunch and pick up by cyclo)
- War Remnants Museum (includes PeaceTrees exhibit)
- Optional visit to Bitexco Financial Tower Skydeck: tallest building in the city with views, modern architectural design reflects country's national flower: shape of a lotus bud

Day 13 (Sài Gòn 3 of 5)

- Visit Andrew Nguyen's studio (artist who transforms bombs from the war into art)
- Vietnamese Coffee Workshop (learn to make 3 different coffees and learn about the country's coffee heritage and traditions)
- Time to explore one of the great cultural parts of the local culinary landscape: street food!
Evening Walking Street Food Tour

Day 14 (Sài Gòn 4 of 5)

- Maison Marou (the country's first bean-to-bar chocolate maker) to explore Vietnamese chocolate deriving from the cacao beans of southern provinces
- Free time. Consider: The Vietnamese History Museum, Fine Arts Museum, FITO Museum (traditional medicine), Emperor Jade Pagoda, Bến Nghé Street Food Market
- Farewell dinner and final group reflection

Ideas of local foods to try in Sài Gòn:

Bánh xèo – crepe

Bánh khọt – mini crepe

Bánh tráng trộn – rice paper salad

Cơm tấm sườn nướng – broken rice with porkchop and sides

Bò Lá Lốt – beef wrapped in betel leaves

Gỏi cuốn – spring rolls

Chả giò – egg rolls

Bánh cuốn – rice rolls, (originally a Northern dish, but very popular in Saigon)

Cá kho – braised fish

Day 15 (Sài Gòn 5 of 5)

- Return home.

----- *Trip ends* -----