



TRAVEL VUDA  
very unique designer adventures

Creating Unique Travel Opportunities for Women

# *Vietnam Delights*



A division of  
Travel Managers  
Group Ltd



# Vietnam Delights

WOMEN ONLY SMALL GROUP ESCORTED HOLIDAY EXPERIENCE

**Saturday 18th June – Sunday 3rd July 2016**

In true VUDA style;

A bit of an Adventure, a Splash of Luxury,  
a Heap of Culture, a Taste of Exotic Cuisine  
= One Amazing Experience.

Join Travel VUDA on this exciting small group LADIES ONLY escorted tour, visiting all the wonderful highlights of Vietnam. Vietnam offers a wonderful travelling experience as the country is rich in history, culture & traditions. The scenery is amazing – along with the delicious cuisine! And most of all the Vietnamese are beautiful friendly people.

Travel VUDA has carefully created this itinerary so you can enjoy the very best Vietnam has to offer. There really is something for everyone in Vietnam from the French influenced Hanoi in the north, the charming sweet village of Hoi An, the river villages on the Mekong Delta, the rice paddies to the beach resorts. This will not only be a holiday but a real experience.





## VIETNAM DELIGHTS

### Women Only Small Group Escorted Holiday Experience

Saturday 18th June — Sunday 3rd July 2016

#### **In summary:**

**Singapore** 1 night, **Hanoi** 3 nights, **Halong Bay** 1 night, **Hoi An** 4 nights, **Hue** 2 nights, and **Ho Chi Minh City** (Saigon) 3 nights.

#### **Includes:**

Return economy class airfare from Auckland to Vietnam with Singapore Airlines / Air New Zealand, 13 nights hotel accommodation (ranging from 3—4 ½ star), 1 night overnight Junk boat trip in ensuite cabins, all transport throughout Vietnam, breakfast daily, 3 lunches & 6 dinners as per itinerary, sightseeing & entry fees as per the itinerary, all airline surcharges, departure taxes, tipping kitty, local Vietnamese guide during our stay in Vietnam, escorted from New Zealand by Rosann Connolly on behalf of Travel VUDA.

#### **Excludes:**

Travel Insurance (it is mandatory that you have some form of cover, approx. \$90), travel visa for Vietnam (\$100), spending money/shopping and extra for additional sightseeing/meals not included (recommend a minimum of USD\$800 for this - more for shopaholics!!).

#### **Cost:**

\$5699.00 per person share twin

Prices are based on twin share accommodation (two people per room). However if you are travelling solo Travel VUDA will do our best to team you up with a roommate. If you would like your own room the single room surcharge is \$1350.00. Note prices are subject to change due to exchange rate fluctuations.

#### **Payment:**

A deposit of \$250 per person is required within 7 days of making your reservation. A further deposit of \$2000 per person is required on or before 10th March 2016. All deposits are non-refundable. A completed booking form is required at the time your deposit is paid. The balance is then required on or before 18th April 2016. Direct deposit or chq payment preferred. Credit card payments incur a 2% surcharge.

#### **Note:**

- This tour has been carefully created to allow for a good mix of sightseeing and free time—so the experience is your own. For example in your free time you might like to enjoy a push bike ride in Hoi An past the rice paddy fields to the beach or SHOPPING markets in Saigon! Your 'Tour Hostess' Rosann is there at all stages of the trip to help with suggestions, show you around, recommend cafes and generally help make your holiday run as smoothly as possible. We are also joined by a local Vietnamese guide from Hanoi to Saigon.
- Where meals are shown on the itinerary, B = Breakfast, L = Lunch and D = Dinner
- The tour will operate with a minimum group size of 8 and maximum of 12, plus tour escort and local guide.
- Standard booking conditions apply, these are included on the booking form which is required at the time your deposit payment is made.
- Every care and attention is taken in providing the services stated in this itinerary, however alterations can occur due to local factors beyond our control. The information provided in this itinerary is prepared for the purpose of giving you accurate information available at the time of printing. However, unforeseen circumstances may result in changes to the material advised.
- Extend your stay ....? Need domestic NZ flights?? Ask Travel VUDA for details.



## In detail:

### Day 1 AUCKLAND – SINGAPORE

12:10 pm, Depart Auckland on flight NZ3286/SQ286 to Singapore.  
7:00 pm, Arrive in Singapore.

Overnight accommodation in Singapore, airport hotel.

### Day 2 SINGAPORE – HANOI (B/D)

Connect to your onward flight to Hanoi.

9:20 am, Depart Singapore on flight NZ3286/SQ176 to Hanoi.  
11:40 am, Arrive in Hanoi.

We will be met on arrival into Hanoi and transferred to the hotel.

Accommodation for 3 nights at **Hong Ngoc Dynastie Hotel** in Superior Rooms including breakfast daily. Our hotel is in a excellent location in the Old Quarter.

This afternoon, you will be taken for a Cyclo ride through the Old Quarter of "36 streets and 36 wares" where artisans still ply their century-old trades. This will be followed by a walking tour of the Old Quarter, ending at our restaurant for this evening. Welcome dinner is included this evening.



### Day 3 HANOI (B)

This morning we will visit One Pillar Pagoda, Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum & the beautiful Temple of Literature.

We will then enjoy lunch (own cost) at a nearby cafe.

Visit the Museum of Ethnology, with the rest of the afternoon at leisure or for independent activities.

### Day 4 HANOI (B)

Morning at leisure or for independent activities.

This afternoon enjoy the famous water puppet show, a great performance of short stories and legends played out to traditional music.

### Day 5 HANOI - HALONG (B/L/D)

We will be collected from our hotel in the morning and transferred to Halong Bay for our overnight Junk experience.

Arriving Halong Bay, board our sailing Junk to discover this World Heritage site, known as the 'land of 3000 islands'. Rising from the sea the islands offer a wealth of opportunity for the local people. Our



visit includes exploring the beauty of this area close up. We will enjoy a seafood lunch and a swim (weather permitting). In the afternoon, visit a grotto before dropping anchor for the night in Halong Bay.

Our lunch and dinner will be on board the Junk and these are included. Alternatives available if you don't eat seafood.

\*Depending on the group size the junk may be non-exclusive.  
\*Sailing route is subject to change.

### Day 6 HALONG – HANOI – HOI AN (B/L)

Enjoy the sunrise in Halong Bay. Early morning breakfast is served on board the Junk before we visit Luon Cave by rowing boat. Return to the Junk and continue the cruise to see Man's Head Island and Tortoise Island.

Lunch is served on board as the Junk sails back to the pier.

On disembarkation, you will be met and transferred back to Hanoi, straight to Hanoi Airport to connect a flight to Danang

TBA, Depart from Hanoi for Danang by flight  
TBA, Arrive in Danang

On arrival at Danang Airport, you will be met and transferred to the hotel.

Accommodation for 4 nights at the **Anantara Hoi An Resort** in Superior Garden View Rooms including breakfast daily.

### Day 7 HOI AN (B/D)

This morning, proceed for an orientation walking tour of the charming town of Hoi An, viewing the 400-year-old Japanese Covered Bridge, ancient merchants' houses, Phuc Kien Pagoda and the colourful local market.

Tonight we will enjoy dinner at one of the many restaurants along the riverfront (included).

### Day 8 HOI AN (B/D)

Day at leisure or to explore town on own.

Hoi An is renown for tailor made clothes. Have a whole new wardrobe made to measure!

This evening we will learn to cook local Vietnamese food at a deliciously tasty cooking class held at Morning Glory Restaurant.





## Day 9 HOI AN (B)

Day at leisure or to explore town on own.

Optional: Morning tour of the extraordinary ruins of My Son in a remote jungle valley. My Son was formerly the centre of the Cham Kingdom and was designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

## Day 10 HOI AN – DANANG – HUE (B/D)

This morning, drive towards Hue along the coast through emerald-green paddy fields and over the spectacular Hai Van Mountain Pass and stop at Lang Co beach for a visit to the fishing village.

Arrive in Hue and proceed to your Hotel to check-in

Accommodation for 2 night at the **Hotel Pilgrimage Village** in Villa Deluxe Rooms including breakfast daily.

The afternoon is at leisure to enjoy the hotels facilities. Perhaps participate in a Yoga or Tai Chi class or treat yourself to a treatment at Vedana Spa.....

Tonight we will enjoy dinner at a local restaurant (included).

## Day 11 HUE (B)

Today visit the elaborate tomb of Emperor Tu Duc, the Imperial Citadel and later proceed to the elegant Thien Mu Pagoda to witness a daily Buddhist prayer recital by the monks.

Evening at leisure to explore this historical town on your own or relax at the resort.

## Day 12 HUE – HO CHI MINH CITY (B)

We will be met at our hotel this morning and transferred to Hue airport in time for our onward flight to Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon).

TBA, Depart from Hue by flight.  
TBA, Arrive in Ho Chi Minh City.

On arrival at Saigon airport we will be taken for an orientation tour of Saigon visiting the War Remnants Museum, Reunification Palace, Notre Dame Cathedral and Saigon Post Office. After the tour, proceed to the hotel for check-in.

Accommodation for 3 nights at the **Majestic Hotel** in Colonial City Deluxe Rooms (Old Wing) including breakfast daily.

Rest of the day at leisure or for independent activities.

## Day 13 MEKONG DELTA DAY TRIP (B/L)

This morning, after breakfast, depart for the Mekong Delta. Upon arrival in My Tho, enjoy a boat cruise along the river and take a short walk to a handicraft workshop where products are made from coconut trees. Experience an exciting horse-drawn cart ride to visit a local house where you will enjoy tea and taste home grown fruits and enjoy local traditional music performance. Board a sampan and drift along the narrow, tree-lined canals for further exploration of the Mekong Delta.

After lunch, visit a family-run business making coconut candy before returning to My Tho.

Return to Ho Chi Minh City by the late afternoon.



## Day 14 HO CHI MINH CITY (B/D)

Day at leisure or to explore this city on your own.

**Optional:** Explore Cu Chi area, an amazing complex of underground bunkers and tunnel systems. During the US War they served as shelter, storage facilities and secret means of communication for the guerrilla army.

This evening we will enjoy our Farewell Dinner and a fun night out.

## Day 15 HO CHI MINH CITY-SINGAPORE-AUCKLAND (B)

Free morning for last minute shopping and day spa action. The group will have Late Check Out arranged at the hotel, so you will have access to your room until late afternoon.

This evening we will be collected from our hotel and transferred to the airport in time for our Air New Zealand flight to Auckland.

9:45 pm, Depart Ho Chi Minh City on flight NZ268.

## Day 16 AUCKLAND

1:35 pm, Arrive Auckland. Tour Ends.

- Extend your stay. Cambodia perhaps?...
  - Domestic add-on's.
  - Premium Economy or Business Class upgrades.
- Talk to Travel VUDA.

## VIETNAM DELIGHTS

### Women Only Small Group Holiday Adventure

**2016 will be the 8th year Travel VUDA goes to Vietnam.  
Here's what some of our past guests are saying.....**



So much great feedback I can't fit it all on one page!! Read what the 2011 ladies had to say - [click here](#) for a summary of their experience. Then [click here](#) to hear from the 2012 group.

Kylee - Your planning and the way you presented Vietnam Delights was all that I dreamed of and much more. Experiencing Old Hanoi through to modern Saigon with so much in between, the buildings, the traffic, even the mothers breast feeding their babies on the back of the scooters as they travelled, the beautiful graves dotted in the paddy fields, and the people - so hard working and always smiling. This tour capture what Vietnam has been through in the past and now working towards for their future. Well done - I would recommend this tour to any lady who wants to be adventurous and also safe.

Pam 2013

Vietnam was a wonderful experience and the tour has left me with memories for life. Kylee is a thoughtful, helpful and all round delightful tour organiser. Can't wait for the next adventure.

Pat 2011

I am now a Vietnam fan and can't think how I could have enjoyed it more than going with great bunch of women. No fuss, no hassle, everything was so easy! Can't wait for the next trip.

Yvonne 2011

My trip to Vietnam exceeded all my expectations. The itinerary provided for a diverse range of unique and interesting experiences, from life in the Old Quarter of Hanoi and Hoi An; bringing history to life cruising in Halong Bay and along the Mekong Delta. The balance between organised sightseeing and free time, to make your own discoveries, was perfect, as was the accommodation and amazing range of culinary experiences. I loved visiting Vietnam and all it had to offer. Kylee made it special through her thorough and thoughtful organisation of every detail. I would go again should the chance arise. It was a travel adventure I will treasure.

Jane 2010

Just an email to say a BIG thank you for providing such an awesome holiday, I had a really really good time and you showed us such a good overview of the country. I really enjoyed Vietnam and will definitely be planning some time back there soon.

Carla 2010

Thank you for the awesome trip. It was something I thought was out of my comfort zone— "to travel to such a foreign country—with different cultures". But I loved it and thought you were wonderful and hopefully I will be able to travel with you again sometime in the future.

Raewyn 2009

You have found your niche Kylee. Can't wait for the next trip.

Jo 2008

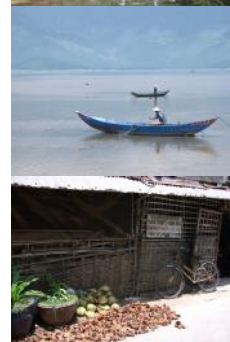
I thoroughly enjoy the whole thing and wouldn't have missed it. You did a GREAT !! Job. Well done!!

Lorraine 2008

Have a read of Kylee's and Rosanns travel blogs to get a feel for what you'll get to experience. Click on the following links:

[Falling in LOVE with Vietnam](#) [Back from Nam—May 2010](#) [Kylee's travel notes from Vietnam May 2011](#)

[Fabulous tailors of Hoi An—Rosann hits the shops!](#) [Ha Long Bay—VUDA Style](#)







# TRAVEL VUDA

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## Your Tour Hostess:

**Rosann Connolly - George**  
Personal Travel Manager

Hi, I'm Rosann, and I am really excited to be your Tour Hostess on this amazing journey through one of the most beautiful and enchanting countries in the world – Vietnam.

With a passion for people and tourism I couldn't imagine a better way to combine the two than bringing the best in service, advice and experience to your travelling experience. I have an extensive background in client management, event coordination, hotel management & guiding numerous overseas group excursions.

One of my personal favourite places on the globe, Vietnam, has a richness that stays with you long after you return home. A blend of extensive history, expressive tradition and culture. I find the experiences of North and South of Vietnam are distinctly different.

The exceptional beauty of the limestone islands rising out of the ocean in the North in Halong Bay are breath taking, the caves hold wondrous exploration amongst the lush vegetation. Traditional abacus use is a fun and unique experience in the city of Hanoi, when you venture out to the traditional restaurants, the markets so incredibly colourful and the cuisine divine.

Moving further South the Western feel becomes apparent, still amongst the beauty of traditional Vietnam but far stronger through the shopping (the silk garments are a must to indulge in), the restaurants, and architecture lining the bustling streets. There are mopeds everywhere! In fact it is said there is a hierarchy rule in crossing the road: bikes give way to mopeds, who give way to cars, who give way to trucks, who give way to mopeds with families – yes families! And pedestrians, well we just keep walking and the traffic quite clearly makes its way around us, it is an experience in itself.

Linking the two extremes is the gorgeous rural scenery in Central Vietnam highlighting the toiling in the paddy fields, ploughs drawn by oxen, old style villages and temples in the forefront to a background of jungle.

One thing is consistent throughout Vietnam and that is the gentle, friendly people who are so warm and welcoming. Whether they are city dwellers or have made their lives along the banks of the Mekong this is an experience like no other.

I look forward to sharing this fabulous country and all it has to offer with you.



*Rosann started escorting the 'Vietnam Delights' tour for Travel VUDA in 2012 (and everyone LOVED her) while Kylee was on maternity leave. We were lucky enough to have Rosann back for May and August tours in 2013, May/June 2014 and now this June/July 2016 tour. Rosann has also been escorting our 'Croatian Dreams' tour over the last few years.*

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