# KAY AT LEISURE WORLD TRAVEL LADIES TOUR VIETNAM



## DEPARTING 9 SEPTEMBER 2010

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# It is with pleasure that I present to you in conjunction With Lotus Holidays our Ladies tour to Vietnam!

#### A GLANCE AT VIETNAM

Vietnam is an all year round destination!

Most visitors to Vietnam are amazed at the beauty of the country's natural setting; The Red River Delta in the north, the Mekong Delta in the south, with almost the entire coastal strip a patchwork of brilliant green rice paddies, tendered by women in conical hats.

Vietnam shares borders with Cambodia and Laos to the West, China to the North and features 3,200 klms of coastline bordering the South China Sea. The landscape varies from coastal plains to breath taking mountain ranges.

This exotic destination offers such wonders as magical islands set in pristine waters together with historical and cultural sites such as temples, pagodas and churches. Rich culture, strong tradition, and patriotic people characterize this fascinating country.

Our tour begins in the exciting, elegant city of Saigon with fantastic day tours and wonderful accommodation. We then move to the beach side resort of Hoi An for 4 nights. A night will be spent in Hue before we visit Hanoi "The Paris of the East". Then further on to the World Heritage Site of Halong Bay. The excitement starts now as we prepare for our train journey to the spectacular mountain town of Sapa. The variety in this holiday with sightseeing, pampering, cooking schools and shopping is not to be missed!

I have been a travel agent for over 25 years now and have travelled to many exotic and wonderful destinations. I plan my tours for women only as I know from experience that there are a lot of you out there who, for whatever reason has not got a like minded travelling companion. I will be escorting this trip from Sydney and we will meet our local guides on arrival in Vietnam.

This will be a fantastic holiday – Why don't you join me?

Kay.



A colorful scene at Market Day Sapa.

#### KAY AT LEISURE WORLD TRAVEL LADIES GROUP TO VIETNAM – SEPTEMBER 2010

#### Thursday, 09 September 2010 SYDNEY - SAIGON

We will meet at Sydney International Airport for our flight with Thai Airways to Saigon.

DEPART: SYDNEY TG 472 2110

Friday, 10 S	September 2010	SAIGON		( <b>D</b> )
4 DDW/II	DANGWOW		0.620	
A RRIVE:	BANGKOK		0620	
DEPART:	BANGKOK	TG 550	0905	
ARRIVE:	SAIGON		1035	

On arrival, we will be transported to our hotel for the next three nights.

#### **Accommodation:** CONTINENTAL HOTEL

This charming busy city combines old with new: French influenced pagodas sit beside new hotels, skyscrapers, fashionable boutiques, traditional markets, ancient cathedrals and trendy bars. In the afternoon you will enjoy a tour of the dynamic Ho Chin Minh City. You will visit the Presidential Palace, Notre Dame Cathedral, the Old Post Office, Ngoc Hoang pagoda and perhaps try some bartering in the local Bin Thanh Market. This evening we will enjoy a welcome dinner on board a cruise boat.

#### Saturday, 11 September 2010 SAIGON (B, L, D)

Today we will drive to the extraordinary Cu Chi tunnels, just outside the city. During the Vietnamese War of Independence, Viet Cong guerillas built the labyrinth of narrow tunnels virtually underneath US Military bases, using them to hide during bombings and to stage surprise attacks. Following the tour you will enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. We have the afternoon free at leisure with a chance to return to the Bin Thanh Markets. Dinner this evening will be included.

Sunday, 12 September 2010	SAIGON	( <b>B</b> , <b>L</b> )

This morning you will enjoy a full day tour to the Mekong Delta. You will travel to Cai Be where you will board a sampan boat and visit the bustling floating markets. Experience the local's way of exchanging their goods, fruit and many other commodities. Visit a popcorn and rice paper workshop, bonsai garden and enjoy lunch on an island. This afternoon you will continue cruising to Vinh Long where you will join your coach to visit some cottage industries on your way back to your hotel in Saigon.

Monday, 13 September 2010	SAIGON – HOI AN	$(\mathbf{B}, \mathbf{L}, \mathbf{D})$
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This morning you will transfer to the airport for your flight to Danang.

DEPART:	SAIGON	VIETNAM AIRLINES	VN324	11.20am
ARRIVE:	DANANG			12.30pm

On arrival you will be met and transferred to Hoi An stopping at Marble Mountain and China Beach en route. On arrival in Hoi An you will transfer to your hotel where you will spend the following 4 nights. The remainder of the day is at leisure. It is here in Hoi An that it is renowned for cheap tailoring. We can organize to take our favorite pieces with us and have cheap (excellent) copies made from them. Dinner is included at a local restaurant tonight.

**Accommodation:** LIFE HOI AN RESORT

#### Tuesday, 14 September 2010 HOI AN (B, L)

Today you will enjoy a full day tour of Hoi An. You will visit the Phuc Kien Assembly Hall, the Japanese Bridge, the colourful local market and the old houses of the Ancient Quarter. You will also stop at a workshop to learn how the local craftsmen work on their silk and wooden products in the traditional ways. Following the tour you will enjoy lunch at a local restaurant. This afternoon you will visit a family-run business where you will also learn the traditional art of lantern making with the opportunity to make one yourself to take as a souvenir. You will then transfer back to your hotel with the evening at leisure.

#### Wednesday, 15 September 2010 HOI AN (B, L)

This morning you will be taken on a tour to the extra-ordinary ruins of My Son in a remote jungle valley. My Son was formerly the centre of the Cham Kingdom and has been designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Over 20 well-preserved monuments remain. On arrival at the ruins you will be taken on a guided tour of the area. Following the tour you will stop for lunch at a local restaurant, with the afternoon at leisure, perhaps we will organize a bit of pampering for this afternoon we can do all of this at our resort.

### Thursday, 16 September 2010 HOI AN (B, L)

Today you will travel a short way out of town to enjoy a cooking class at the much-acclaimed Red Bridge restaurant before enjoying lunch there, the remainder of the day is at leisure. I would imagine for many the afternoon will be a situation of shop till you drop.

## Friday, 17 September 2010 HOI AN – HUE (B, L, D)

Today you will travel to Hue via the Hai Van Pass. On arrival you will transfer to your hotel where you will spend the evening. Following lunch at a local restaurant you will visit the Imperial Citadel and Dong Ba Markets before returning to your hotel. Tonight is a fun filled evening with a magnificent dinner included.

**Accommodation:** SAIGON MORIN HOTEL

## Saturday, 18 September 2010 HUE – HANOI (B, L)

This morning you will enjoy a Dragon boat ride on the romantic Perfume River visiting Thien Mu Pagoda before returning to town for lunch at a local restaurant. You will then transfer to the airport for your flight to Hanoi.

DEPART: HUE VIETNAM AIRLINES VN244 02.40pm ARRIVE: HANOI 03.50pm On arrival in Hanoi you will be met and transferred to your hotel where you will spend the following 2 nights. Hanoi –"The Paris of the East"- with shaded boulevards, lakes, old buildings and French influence, Vietnam's capital has a charm unlike any other Asian city.

**Accommodation:** HANOI MELIA HOTEL

#### Sunday, 19 September 2010 HANOI (B, L, D)

This morning you will be taken on a half day tour of the city visiting the One Pillar Pagoda and Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, followed by a walking tour of the Old Quarter with Dong Xuan Markets. You will then stop for lunch at a local restaurant before returning to your hotel. The afternoon will be spent at leisure. This evening you will enjoy a traditional water puppet show, followed by dinner in one of Hanoi's most famous restaurants.

#### Monday, 20 September 2010 HANOI – HALONG BAY (B, L,D)

This morning depart from Hanoi and travel by air – conditioned bus through the Red river Delta to beautiful Ha Long Bay. The scenic drive will pass through some of the rural landscape before arriving in the afternoon to the World Heritage site of Ha Long Bay. On arrival we board our deluxe junk for our overnight cruise. A delicious lunch of fresh seafood is served as we start to cruise this beautiful area with spectacular scenery.

#### Tuesday, 21 September 2010 HALONG BAY – SAPA (B, L, D)

Sitting on the upper deck, we can enjoy breakfast as we view the breath- taking beauty of the rocky islands rising from the crystal clear water of the bay. We will take a small boat to visit Hang Luon and we can have a swim before we leave to go back to the harbour. This afternoon you will return to Hanoi stopping en route at the Dong Trieu ceramic factory. You will enjoy dinner at a local restaurant before transferring to the train station for your overnight train journey to Lao Cai.

**Accommodation:** ON BOARD TRAIN (Sup 4 berth Cabins)

#### Wednesday, 22 September 2010 ARRIVE SAPA (B, L, D)

#### ARRIVE: LAO CAI

On arrival this morning you will be picked up and transferred to the Victoria Hotel where you will spend the next two nights. A chance to freshen up and enjoy breakfast at the hotel and from there take a short walking tour to the villages of Cat Cat and Sansaho, home to the H'mong hill tribes minority peoples. Here we have the opportunity to share cultural experiences with the families that live in this area. Dinner tonight will be at a local restaurant.

**Accommodation:** VICTORIA HOTEL

## Thursday, 23 September 2010 SAPA (B, L, D)

This morning we will drive to Ta Phin, a famous village of Sapa, located only 10 km from town. It is the home to the colorful red Dzao people – the people of interesting legend. We will visit a family here where you will learn more about the daily life and culture of this interesting mountain

tribe. We will return to Sapa for lunch and the rest of the day at leisure to explore this beautiful hill top village. Dinner tonight will be at your hotel.

#### Friday, 24 September 2010 DEPART SAPA (B)

Today will be spent at leisure in Sapa. This evening you will be met and transferred to Lao Cai train station for your overnight train to Hanoi.

DEPART: LAO CAI FOR VICTORIA TRAIN 09.15PM

**Accommodation:** ON BOARD TRAIN (Sup 4 berth Cabins)

Saturday, 25 September 2010	HANOI	$(\mathbf{B},\mathbf{D})$

ARRIVE: HANOI 05.30AM

Upon arrival in Hanoi you will be met and transferred to our hotel where we will enjoy breakfast. The afternoon will be at leisure before enjoying a farewell dinner at a local restaurant

**Accommodation:** HANOI MELIA HOTEL

#### Sunday, 26 September 2010 DEPART HANOI (B)

This morning we will have time to do our final packing before our pick up and to transfer to the airport for our flight home.

DEPART:	HANOI	TG 561	1035
ARRIVE:	BANGKOK		1225
DEPART:	BANGKOK	TG 475	1915

Monday, 27 September 2010	ARRIVE SYDNEY	0715
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#### **TOUR COSTS & INCLUSIONS**

## TOUR COST per person based on twin share

\$5295.00

Single supplement is limited and available on application.

Tour cost is based on the exchange rate at 22/03/10 and is subject to change.

Economy class airfare Sydney - Bangkok - Saigon / Hanoi - Bangkok - Sydney flying Thai International.

Economy class internal flights in Vietnam are with Vietnam Airlines

Internal airline taxes in Vietnam are included.

16 nights hotel accommodation as indicated in First and Superior class hotels

Early morning checkin at Sapa on day12 & Hanoi on day15

Meals as indicated in the itinerary (**B**) Breakfast (**L**) Lunch (**D**) Dinner.

Transfers and tours in exclusive coach as indicated in the itinerary.

Local English speaking guides and porterage throughout.

Comprehensive pre – departure information pack.

## **NOT INCLUDED**

Holiday Insurance Approx \$180.00
Applicable airport departure taxes (as at 22/03/10 ) Approx \$415.00
Entry Visa to Vietnam Approx \$70.00
Meals not indicated
Beverages
Tips and gratuities

A non-refundable deposit of \$1000 is required within seven days of booking to secure your place on this tour. Final payment will be due 70 days prior to departure.

If paying by credit card, a levy of 3% will apply.

Items of a personal nature. Eg telephone, room service and laundry.



The beautiful green waters of World Heritage Site, Ha Long Bay.

#### TERMS AND CONDITIONS

<u>Leisure World Travel</u> and their associated companies, give notice that all tickets and vouchers are by them and all arrangements for transport, conveyance and Hotel accommodation are made as an Agent upon the express condition that they are not liable for any injury, damage, loss, accident,, delay or irregularity which may be occasioned either by reason of any defect in any vehicle, or through the acts of defaults of any company or person engaged in conveying the passenger or in carrying out the arrangements of the tour(s)or otherwise in connection therewith or of any hotel proprietor or servant. Such conveying etc, is subject to the laws of the country where the conveyance is provided.

■ **Deposit:** A non refundable deposit of AUD \$1000 per person is required to reserve

your place on this tour.

• **Final Payment:** Required to your travel agent no later than 70 days prior to departure

• Price: The advertised price is in Australian dollars and includes air, security & local

taxes as per the itinerary. The price based on minimum passenger numbers

and should these numbers not be reached the price may increase

Cancellations: More than 70 days prior to departure—deposit forfeited.
 Less than 70 days prior to departure - 100% of tour cost.

(A proportion of land content and airfare may be claimed as per

agreements with contractors used.)

• Amendments: A fee of \$100 may apply to any change made to your booking once confirmed

• **Refunds:** No refund is available if cancellations occur after the tour has commenced or in respect of any tours, accommodation, meals or any other services not utilised.

- Itinerary Changes & Tour Cancellation: Lotus Holidays reserves the right to vary itineraries should circumstances dictate, as well as cancel or reschedule any tour departure in accordance with operating requirements, or circumstances beyond its control. The advertised tours require minimum numbers to depart. Should these not be met Lotus Holidays reserves the right to alter of reschedule arrangements
- **Rooming Arrangements:** Please note that single accommodation is usually limited at most hotels and cannot be guaranteed. Occupying a single room either by choice or circumstance is subject to the applicable supplement.
- **Tour Membership** The Tour Director may, at his or her discretion, require any person to withdraw from any tour if he or she deems the person's acts or conduct offensive or a nuisance to other passengers, and we shall have no further liability.
- Baggage Allowance & Porterage: Porterage of one suitcase per person is included in the tour price for arrival & departure from hotels in Europe. Due to limited coach capacity the sum of the length, width & depth of the case should not exceed 160cm (63 inches), and weight should not exceed 20kg (44 Lbs). Charges may be levied in the event these limits are exceeded & the promise to transport you may be invalidated.
- What's Not Included: Passports and applicable visa fees, laundry, phone calls, items of a personal nature, beverages, meals and sightseeing not detailed on the itinerary, tips and gratuities to the Tour Director, coaches drivers and local city guides, excess baggage, optional excursions and travel insurance. Please note that travel insurance is highly recommended. Please see your Travel Agent for further details.
- **Documentation:** Approximately 2 weeks prior to departure from Australia, documentation will be received by your travel agent including International air tickets (if applicable), a tour itinerary, a full Hotel list, an Optional Excursion list(if applicable), and a ticket wallet.
- Booking Terms and Conditions: These conditions incorporate the basis upon which bookings are accepted by your Travel Agent and Lotus Holidays. By making a booking you are agreeing to these terms & conditions. These conditions must be carefully studied prior to making the commitment of paying the deposit as they must be referred to. Additional terms and conditions may be applicable to group bookings and will be advised as they become known.