

# Vietnam Swim Mission



30 June – 14 July 2012

Travel to Vietnam and spend time teaching vulnerable children how to swim

Drowning is one of leading causes of mortality among children over the age of one in Vietnam. Reasons for the increasing number of child deaths from drowning include unsafe environments, limited awareness, inadequate adult supervision and a lack of swimming skills.

It is widely reported that the death toll from drowning is higher than the road toll.

In partnership with Austswim and Swim Vietnam this trip will provide vulnerable children with basic swimming and water safety skills.



There is also the opportunity to explore the beauty and vibrancy that is Vietnam with highlights including the bustling city of Hanoi, the breathtaking Halong Bay and UNESCO World Heritage sites of Hue and Hoi An. Swim Vietnam is a registered charity which has been operating in Central Vietnam for 4 years providing free swimming lessons to Vietnamese children and training adults as swimming teachers. Participants will be following the Swim Vietnam program and duties will be flexible depending on what is needed at this time.

To participate in swimming instruction you must have AUSTSWIM accreditation.



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# Vietnam Swim Mission 2012

## Proposed Schedule

### DAY 1: 30 JUNE 2012

#### Hoi An

Hoi An is often the highlight of any visit to Vietnam. This quaint fishing village has been occupied by the Chinese, Japanese, and Portuguese, which is reflected in its architecture. A walking tour around town is the best way to appreciate life in Hoi An. Hoi An has become very well known for its tailors, who make excellent clothes at very reasonable prices.

You are welcomed by our guide at the airport and then transferred to your hotel in the centre of city followed by free time.

### DAY 2: 1 JULY

#### Hoi An (B)

Free day with the option of going to church.

### DAY 3 - DAY 7: 2 JULY - 6 JULY

#### Hoi An /Swimming course/ Cooking School (B)

Half day swimming course then have free time.

### DAY 8: 7 JULY

#### Hue (B)

Vietnam's third largest city was once its capital. The Citadel is Hue's most famous attraction, which houses the Forbidden Purple City, once the Emperor's private residence. The motorbike tour of Hue will ensure you see the major sights!

You will leave Hoi An and head the North through coastal rice paddies to the fishing village of Lang Co, before taking the scenic mountainous route over the spectacular Hai Van Pass. After checking in the hotel, our guide will pick you up at hotel. He will give you a briefing on how to sit on the back of the bike for those who have never traveled by motor bike before. You will be given a helmet which is your responsibility for the day.

The tour will go for approximately 5 hours; you will be on and off the bike all day visiting king tomb, war ruins, pagodas, country side villages, local handicrafts, and lots more. For those that are keen on photography this is a great chance to get a variety of photos. Lunch will be at either a Buddhist monastery or a Buddhist pagoda, it will be a traditional Buddhist meal, very healthy and ultra delicious!

### DAY 9: 8 JULY

#### Ha Noi (B)

The Vietnamese capital has a distinct French feel to it, with its wide tree lined boulevards and ochre coloured buildings. Beautiful Hoan Kiem Lake dominates the centre of town. Most visitors love the "Old Quarter", with its maze of ancient narrow streets and markets. In the old days, there were 36 streets with 36 wares, representing the number of crafts that were originally traded in the area. Other

popular attractions include Ho Chi Minh's mausoleum, One Pillar Pagoda, Hanoi's first university The Temple of Literature and the Water Puppet show.

Transfer to the airport for a short flight to Ha Noi. Upon arrival, transfer to the hotel and followed by free time.

### DAY 10: 9 JULY

#### Ha Noi (B)

The guide and private minivan will pick you up at the hotel for a city tour of Ho Chi Minh mausoleum, Hoa Lo prison, followed by an hour cyclo tour around old town and end the day with a water puppet show.

### DAY 11: 10 JULY

#### Ha Long Bay (B,L,D)

With its crystal clear waters and limestone karsts searching for the sky, Halong Bay is a picture postcard destination and a must for any complete visit to Vietnam. A swim in the World Heritage bay is a must!

After breakfast you will drive to Ha Long Bay (approx. 3.5 hours) and board your private boat. You will enjoy lunch whilst cruising through some of the thousands of limestone karsts within this World Heritage site. There is an opportunity to swim in the bay's emerald waters, explore caves with incredible formations of stalactites and stalagmites and enjoy the tranquility of this bay of wonders. Spending the night on the boat allows you to sit back and enjoy the tranquility of Ha Long Bay whilst sipping away on your favorite beverage.

### DAY 12: 11 JULY

#### Ha Long bay - Ha Noi (B,L)

Disembark: travel back to Ha Noi

### DAY 13: 12 JULY

#### Ha Noi (B)

Today you will have a chance to visit a Cancer hospital. Many of the patients come from poor families and treatment is gruelling and expensive. Your visit will make them feel more happy and special. All gifts are welcome such as clothes, foot-wear or toys.

### DAY 14: 13 JULY

#### Ha Noi (B)

Free day at leisure to explore this amazing city. Farewell dinner (own expense).

### DAY 1: 14 JULY 12

#### Ha Noi (B)

Depart for home. Transfer to the airport for your flight home.

For application forms & FAQ's go to: [missiontravel.com.au/vietswim](http://missiontravel.com.au/vietswim)

## Cost

### TOUR PRICE

\$3199 per person.

(based on a min of 10 passengers. Pricing are subject to currency fluctuations.)

### What this includes:

**Airfares: Return economy class**

**Airfares with Singapore Airlines**

**Guide:**

English speaking local guides for tours and English speaking assistant for swimming courses

### Transfers:

All private transfers and airport pickup & drop off.

### Accommodation:

3 star, twin share

### Tours:

- Private Ha Noi city tour (1day) include guide, entrance fees and transportation, water puppets
- Private Ha long bay tour (2 days/1night): include guide, boat, entrance fees, transportation
- Cooking class in Hoi An (half day): include chef and foods
- Private Motorbike tour in Hue (1 day) include guide, motorbikes with drivers, entrance fees and transportation

### Meals:

As listed in the itinerary (B: Breakfast, L: Lunch, D: Dinner)

### Tickets:

Flight tickets: Hue - Ha Noi (economy class)

### What this excludes:

- AUUSTSWIM accreditation
- Donation
- Visa
- Spending money
- Tips & gratuities
- Activities not listed
- Meals not listed
- All drinks

## FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

### Contact:

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