

# **Impressions Of The North East**

### 6 days/ 5 nights

## **Spirit Of The Tour**

This is a circuit to explore daring mountain passes and to cross steep mountains. Discover the spectacular natural landscapes and the diverse culture of the northern ethnic groups. Visit the Ban Gioc waterfall, one of the ten most beautiful waterfalls in the world and the Ba Be Lake, the pearl in the middle of the north eastern mountains.

**Programme Overview** 

Day 1 : Hanoi – Ha Giang

Day 2 : Ha Giang – Quan Ba – Lung Cu – Dong Van

Day 3 : Dong Van – Meo Vac – Tinh Tuc – Cao Bang

Day 4 : Cao Bang – Ban Gioc waterfall – Nguom Ngao cave

Day 5 : Cao Bang – Ba Be

Day 6 : Ba Be – Hanoi

## **Detailed Itinerary**

#### Day 1 : Hanoi – Ha Giang

Departure to **Ha Giang** via **Tuyen Quang**, where vast hills of tea are located. Stop at **Tha Thon**, a village of the **Tay ethnicity**, one of the ethnic minorities of the mountainous areas in northern Vietnam. The roofs of the traditional houses of this ethnic group are made by palm leaves. Get a taste of **Ha Giang** specialties like grilled pork, black pork hock, bacon and Thanh Van corn alcohol. Overnight at the house of Tay inhabitants in **Ha Giang**.



#### Day 2 : Ha Giang - Quan Ba - Lung Cu - Dong Van

We take the Route of Happiness, a legendary route starting in Ha Giang, and

pass the peak of the **Pac Sum mountain** as the **Mien river** unfolds before our eyes. A stop along the way is obligatory to savor the special tea of **Ha Giang**, the **Shan Tuyet** with **Bac Ha honey**. Lunch in **Yen Minh**. Walk to the village of **Cam Lung**, **Sung La**. The road continues to the **door of heaven of Sa Phin** to visit the **palace of the H'Mong king**, **Vuong Chinh Duc**, a very original and typical site in the mountainous province of **Ha Giang**. We arrive in the late afternoon in the village of **Lo Lo**, located in the **mountains of the Dragon**. Check In at the hotel in **Dong Van**.



#### Day 3 : Dong Van - Meo Vac - Tinh Tuc - Cao Bang

We explore the old town of **Dong Van**, located in a valley in the heart of the **Dong** 

Van Plateau. You will participate in the market of Dong Van, a typical market of the H'Mong, Ha Nhi, Pa Then and Lo Lo (if your arrival date is a Sunday). Conquer the top of the Route of Happiness to discover the impressive geographic park Dong Van, one of two geographic parks in South East Asia. Passing the peak of Ma Pi Leng, one of the four most beautiful mountain passes in



Vietnam, you will have a great view over the valleys and roofs of H'Mong houses.

Lunch in **Bao Lac**. Departure in the afternoon to **Cao Bang**. Overnight in **Cao Bang**.

#### Day 4 : Cao Bang - Ban Gioc waterfall - Nguom Ngao cave

Departure to **Trung Khanh**. Passing the **Ma Phuc pass**, you can admire the magnificent natural landscape of **Cao Bang**. Visit the **Ban Gioc waterfall**, one of the ten most beautiful waterfalls in the world, which is located right at the border of Vietnam and China. This waterfall offers a wonderful landscape where the greenish color of the water contrasts with the surrounding mountains. The afternoon is dedicated to the exploration of the **Nguom Ngao cave**, it is situated in a limestone mountain, some parts of it are underground and some under water. Return to **Cao Bang**. Overnight at the hotel.



#### Day 5 : Cao Bang - Ba Be

Departure to **Ba Be** (three lakes), nicknamed "The Halong Bay of the mountains." We board a boat at the port of **Lom Buoc** to visit the **Pe Lam lake, Pe Lu, Pe Leng, the Puong cave, the island of Ba Goa** ... Trekking in the afternoon to the **Pac Ngoi village**, a typical village of the Tay ethnicity. Homestay overnight.



#### Day 6: Ba Be – Hanoi

Departure to **Hanoi**. Lunch en route. Check In at the hotel in **Hanoi**. Relax with a massage and medicinal herbs for 2 hours. The evening is dedicated to a water puppet show. Overnight at the hotel. End of tour.

## The price of the tour includes:

- transfers with private air-conditioned vehicle
- accommodation at the hotel and guesthouse, breakfast included
- visits and services mentioned in the programme
- meals mentioned in the programme
- the assistance of a local guide (English speaking)
- travel insurance (1300 USD / person / tour)

## The price of the tour excludes:

- international flights
  transportation apart from the programme
  personal expenses
  tips for the guide and the driver (3 USD / person / day)