

**Highlight**

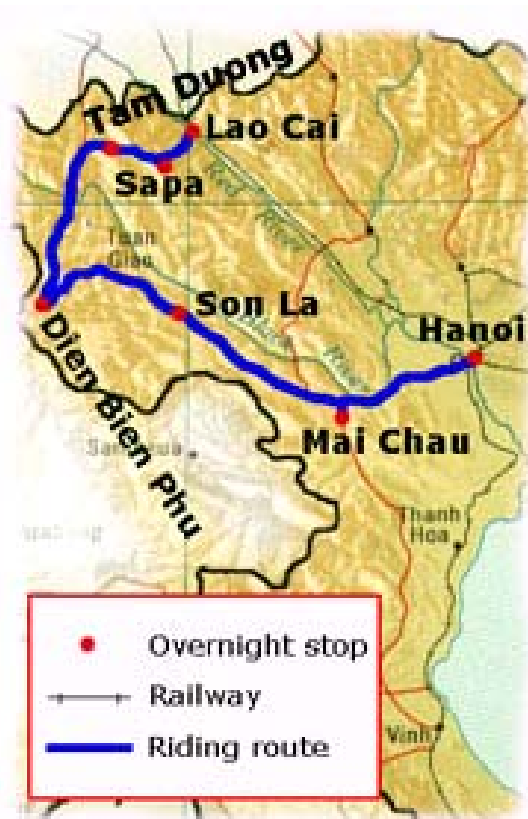
- Stunning scenery
- Challenging roads
- Stunning Pha Din Pass and Tram Ton Pass
- Terraced valley of Sapa
- Colorful ethnic minorities

**Itinerary at a glance**

- Day 1:** Hanoi – Mai Chau
- Day 2:** Mai Chau – Son La
- Day 3:** Son La – Dien Bien Phu
- Day 4:** Dien Bien Phu – Tam Duong
- Day 5:** Tam Duong – Sapa
- Day 6:** Night train to Hanoi
- Day 7:** Arrive in Hanoi. Tour completes.

**Trip note**

<b>Duration:</b>	7 days, 6 nights
<b>Depart from:</b>	Hanoi
<b>End at:</b>	Hanoi
<b>Transportation:</b>	Motorbike (Minsk), Jeep, Train
<b>Guide:</b>	English or French speaking guide
<b>Support crew:</b>	Support vehicle, Mechanic
<b>Accommodation:</b>	Hotels, Home-stay, Night train
<b>Meals:</b>	Day 1: Breakfast Day 2-5: breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Day 6: Breakfast, Lunch



**Tour cost**

Please contact our **Customer Services** at [info@activetravelvietnam.com](mailto:info@activetravelvietnam.com) or call +84-9798-00588 (24/7 LiveHelp)

**Inclusion:**

- Support vehicle
- One-way train ticket Lao cai-Hanoi(AC, soft sleeper)
- Minsk motorbike 125CC
- Gasoline for the ride
- Helmet
- English or French speaking guide
- Mechanic
- Hotels based on twin shared
- Home-stay permission
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- First-aid kit
- Water & Snacks
- Entrance fees & Sightseeing fees

**Exclusion:**

- Travel insurance
- Visa
- Air ticket
- Tips



**Note on client safety**

We reserve the right to deviate from this itinerary for any reasons, including road and weather conditions or for any other factor which may influence client safety.

## Food

All meals, which are indicated in the itinerary, are included in the price of this trip. While in big towns we will enjoy Vietnamese cuisine in fine restaurants. Once we travel away from big towns, the emphasis will be on healthy and nutritious fresh local produce.



## The bike

On our trip we use the Belarussian 125cc Minsk which is perfectly suitable for the roads of Vietnam. For more information about the Minsk, please view our Motorcycling Tips.

## Hotel & Home-stay

In big towns we use the finest 3-star hotels with centre location. Please contact us if you prefer higher hotel categories.

In remote areas we use the best hotels or guesthouses available. Home-stay in Mai Chau is simple in term of bedding condition and toilet. We will stay overnight in the traditional house-on-stilt of the Thai people and, as the local do, we will sleep on bamboo floor with mattress, clean sheet, pillows and mosquito nets. Toilet is usually flush-style and some step away from the house.

## The motorcycling day

A typical motorcycling day starts at about 8.30 am after breakfast. Lunch times can vary depending on the distance. We aim to reach the next overnight stop by 4.30 or 5. During the day we will have short breaks for rest, snack and photographing.

## ATV tour guide

The tour will be led by one of our tour guides who are experienced in guiding motorcycling tours in Vietnam. He has been carefully selected and trained in this field and is fully licensed in tour guiding by the government. In addition, he has been trained in first-aid by SOS International and he knows how to deal with difficult situations. You will have a great time traveling with him.

## What to bring

Sun block, hat, anti-insect repellent, sunglasses, rain coat, toiletries, original passport.

## Detailed Itinerary

### Day 1: Ride to Mai Chau

Leave Hanoi around 8.30am, we ride our motorcycles west to Mai Chau, an area of beautiful landscape and home to the Thai ethnic minority. We will ride on road No6 passing expansive rice paddies and scenic villages. We will have a stop for refreshment before tackling 70km of undulating road with great view of mountains and valley. We will reach Mai Chau at noontime. We ride straight to Pom Coong, a peaceful village of White Thai ethnic minority where we have lunch, dinner and spend our night in a traditional stilt-house of a Thai family. After lunch we will have a short rest and then take a leisure ride toward Ma River. We will take a short boat ride upstream Ma Rive to reach a remote Thai Village. Relax and have interesting conversations with the villagers before we walk back to the dock. Return to Pom Coong Village for dinner and overnight.

### Summary

Riding:	170km
Meals:	Lunch, Dinner
Accommodation:	Home-stay



## Day 2: Ride up to Son La

Breakfast at the home-stay before we embark on a beautiful ride up north to Son La. The road is in good condition and the scenery is stunning. We may take frequent stops to visit minority villages of H'mong, Black Thai,... or to take photos. Lunch will be in local restaurant en route. The highlight of our ride today could be the tea plantations in Moc Chau Plateau, where you find the best green tea in Vietnam grown along the roads on hillsides. We reach Son La in the afternoon. Dinner and overnight in Son La.

### Summary

Riding: 187km  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner  
Accommodation: Hotel

## Day 3: Descend valley of Dien Bien Phu

It is true to say "the further you go up north the faster your heart rate". Today the ride is greater with more winding road, longer passes, more colorful minority groups and more stunning scenery. Like yesterday, we may have interesting stops to visit villages and take photos. Lunch en route in local restaurant. The highlight of today's ride could be the impressive pass of Pha Din.

Pha Din means Heaven-Earth, and according to local legend, it was the frontier between Heaven and Earth. Pha Din is some 1,000m above sea-level. Climbing and descending the slopes with their many bends and deep gorges is a really an unforgettable experience. We reach Dien Bien Phu in the afternoon around 4pm. Upon arrival we could ride around to explore the town. Dinner and overnight in Dien Bien Phu.

### Summary

Riding: 170km  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner  
Accommodation: Hotel

## Day 4: Riding along Nam Na River to Tam Duong.

After breakfast we will start our 225 km ride along stunning gorges and Nam Na River. On the way we will have interesting stops to visit H'mong and Dzao villages. Lunch in Lai Chau. We would reach Tam Duong around 4.30 pm. Dinner and overnight in hotel in Tam Duong Town.

### Summary

Riding: 225km  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner  
Accommodation: Hotel

## Day 5: Ascend Sapa

The ride today is the highlight of the whole trip.

Climbing the highest pass in Vietnam, the Tram Ton Pass. Lunch in local restaurant en route. We will reach Sapa in the noon time. Sapa is the former hill station for the French colonists hundred years ago. Today Sapa is the paradise for trekking lovers thanks to its beautiful trekking routes, stunning terraces, colorful minority groups and the highest mountain in Indochina, the Mt. Fansipan. Dinner and overnight in Sapa.

**Note:** The weekend market (Sunday market) in Tam Duong is very interesting with lots of colorful ethnic minorities. If this day is Sunday the market will be included in the program and we would reach Sapa around 3 pm.

### Summary

Riding: 280km  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch  
Accommodation: Hotel

## Day 6: Trekking in Sapa – Night train to Hanoi

Breakfast in the hotel. We will take a jeep ride downhill to Muong Hoa valley. Today we enjoy the most beautiful trek route in Vietnam. We will trek on dirt path through pine forest, terraces and H'mong villages. En route we stop to visit minority villages, schools and have picnic lunch by river. In the afternoon we walk to the pick-up point to take a jeep transfer back to Sapa. Ride to Lao Cai for the night train back to Hanoi.

### Summary

Trekking: 4hrs, downhill  
Riding to Lao Cai: 37km  
Meals: Breakfast, Lunch  
Accommodation: Night train (AC, soft sleeper cabin)

## Day 7: Arrive in Hanoi. Tour finishes

Arrival in Hanoi early in the morning (5 am).



## Holiday Extensions

### **Kayaking in Halong Bay:** *3-day tour with 2-day kayaking and overnight on Chinese junk*

The most famous place for kayaking in Vietnam. Kayak is also the best way to explore how beautiful Halong Bay is, to paddle through islets, to visit hidden caves, lagoons, unspoiled beaches, floating fishing village, to talk with local fish man. Thanks to thousands of islands on the bay, the water is calm, the current is fine, and the wind is not too strong are ideal condition for sea kayaking.

### **Angkor Wat Classic:** *3 day tour of Angkor Wat by bicycle, tuk tuk or car*

"The temples of Angkor were spiritual, political, cosmological, and astronomical or geophysical centers. They embodied and encapsulated the world spheres through which the Khmer culture and power structures moved, lived, breathed. In their scope and conception alone, they are among the most spectacular of human achievements."

- Eleanor Manniker



ACTIVELY EXPLORING HIDDEN LANDS