

AMAZING NORTH WEST LOOPS OF VIETNAM 6 DAYS



Code: NW06

Routes: Hanoi – Moc Chau – Nghia Lo – Mu Cang Chai - Sa Pa – Hanoi

Duration: 6 Days / 5 Nights

Features: This exciting ride through the heart of the Northwest regions of Vietnam offers a captivating blend of dramatic landscapes with which you will be friendly welcomed by the warm smiles of the local tribes you meet along the route. Simply an experience not to be missed for those look for something new and off the mainstream of tourism.

Day 1: Ha Noi - Mai Chau – Moc Chau



Leaving your hotel by 8:30 AM we hit the road venturing through the Vietnam countryside towards Hoa Binh province. You pass through a region of spectacular limestone mountains the wind our way to Mai Chau for lunch. Shortly after you reach Moc Chau then onto an ethnic Thai village to experience their culture and hospitality.

Dinner and sleep in their traditional house on stilts.

Driving Distance: 190 km

Inclusion: Transfer, guide, homestay, lunch, dinner.

Day 2: Moc Chau – Nghia Lo



Breakfast at the homestay and on the road by 7:30 AM. We have a long drive ahead of us today with our goal being Nghia Lo. On the way you pass the Moc Chau plateau and possibly make a stop at a local tea plantation. Onward, we travel through the tribal lands of the Thai, Hmong and Dao.

We arrive at Nghia Lo town before dark, dinner at a local restaurant and sleep at a local guesthouse.

Driving Distance: 240 km

Inclusion: Transfer, guide, basic guesthouse, permit, all meals.

Important note: these first two-day routes can be changed to a different route during May to August, our travel consultants will assist you with changes.

Day 3: Nghia Lo - Mu Cang Chai



Have breakfast then an 8:00 AM departure. Today we drive into one of the most beautiful parts of Northwest Vietnam. Amongst the terraced landscape you stop for a short hike of about 1.5 hours to a Hmong village and have lunch there.

Later we continue through beautiful scenery, then another short afternoon walk to visit a Thai village. Hit the road one last time until we reach Mu Cang Chai. Overnight here.

Driving Distance: 100 km

Inclusion: Transfer, guide, basic guesthouse, permits, all meals.

Day 4: Mu Cang Chai – Than Uyen – Sapa



You departure at 8:30 AM today. Our goal is Sapa and the we drive there through Paddy fields, ethnic villages and the Tram Ton pass. We make a short stop for some welcomed trekking for about 2 hours to visit a local village. Arrive in Sapa around 5:00 PM and check into your hotel.

Dinner on your own with free time to explore the town.

Driving Distance: 170 km

Inclusion: Transfer, guide, breakfast, lunch, permits, hotel.

Day 5: Sapa, trek and homestay



Have the morning to walk around Sapa on your own after breakfast at your hotel. Your guide will meet you at 10:30 AM to transfer to the start of our beautiful trek. Chances to meet and talk with locals working in the fields are plentiful. Picnic lunch en route then continue trekking to Ta Phin village – home of the Red Dao people. Your Dao host family warmly welcome you to their traditional home where we share in an ethnic style dinner and stay the night.

Trekking Distance: 14 km (4-5 hours)

Trail Difficulty: 4/5

Inclusion: Transfer, guide, homestay, entrances fees, all meals.

Day 6: Trek back to Sapa, then night train back to Hanoi



At the first gleam of daylight, you see and hear the sounds of morning village life. You can join your host family in some of their morning activities like feeding the animals, cleaning the houses, gardening or preparing breakfast. After breakfast, we take a short wander around the village or spend more time enjoying the view and company at the homestay. Then, you are supported by our car / van back to Sapa (30 minutes).

Back in Sapa, you will have the afternoon to shower, relax and explore the town.

At 5:30 PM transfer to the Lao Cai train station. Departure is at 8:15 PM on an AC soft sleeper class cabin to Hanoi. Safely back in Hanoi at 5:00 AM please find your own way back to your hotel – a taxi usually costs around 80,000VND. Your adventure ends here with a lifetime's worth of memories.

Inclusion: Transfer, guide, train ticket, breakfast, lunch.



Inclusion: See inclusive items listed after each day

Exclusion: Visa, insurance, drinks, personal expenses, others not mentioned in details, tips are welcome!

LEGAL ASPECTS

Booking Terms & Conditions: Tour itinerary and tour prices are subject to change without prior notice. Please [click here](#) for more information.

ORGANISATION

Transportation schedule: Please be aware that trains are subject to availability. When trains are cancelled or delayed, Footprint will endeavour to secure alternative arrangements of similar value. Train details will be updated once the booking is confirmed (your confirmation e-mail).

Tour guide: English speaking guide

ACCOMMODATION

Homestay condition: The homestay condition is very basic; please visit our website for FAQs on www.Footprint.vn for further information on the homestay conditions. The homestay will give you the opportunity to connect with the local culture, as you will stay with a family of an ethnic minority and receive your dinner from them.

Hotel: We use standard guest-house in Nghia Lo, Mu Cang Chai; 3 star hotel in Sapa. Twin shared room(s). Check in: 2:00 PM; check out: 12:00 noon. Early check in is subject to availability.

TRANSPORT

Car / Van Quality: New air-conditioned cars or vans depending on the group size

Train: The night trains are soft sleeper, air conditioned trains. Please [click here](#) for more information.

FOOD



Meals: Vietnamese food / local food stalls en route.

If you have any allergies, special requests or if you are on a special diet please let us know. We will arrange it for you in advance.

SUSTAINABILITY

Please Travel Responsibly: The small things you do will make a [big difference!](#)

PREPARATION OF THE CUSTOMER

Seasonal preparation: Best time to travel is from September to April. There is one period of rice cultivation (August to September). Heat and humidity in the rainy season (Summer months) can make this trek very difficult. Please check with our travel consultant for more details before booking.

What to bring: Passport, change of clothes, sunglasses & hat, toiletries, sun-block, insect repellent, flashlights, proper hiking boots/shoes, personal first aid kit & medicine, small VND notes for buying drinks. If you feel the need, you can bring along a luggage lock for your belongings.

Before your departure, please make sure you read our *what to bring & tips*, and other important notes for trekking and cycling trips, as well as summer travel in Vietnam.

TREKKING INFORMATION

Age: The minimum age we accept is 10 years with no exception. The program is not recommended for seniors (above 65 years) who do not have a good physical fitness.

Experience: The trek demands some experience in co-ordination, fitness and stamina. The great effort will be rewarded with fantastic views. Clients should have previous trekking experience. Nevertheless, our guide will be flexible to suggest you the most proper trekking route adapted to your physical fitness.

Trekking time: The trekking time is approximate and depends on the weather and the walking speed.



Route: The trekking route can be changed due to external circumstances such as weather (the rain season between June and early September can cause muddy paths which can become dangerous). Many of the roads in this region are unpaved. There are also many dangerous steep cliffs that are regularly wiped out by landslides in the wet season blocking the route. Your Footprint travel consultant will assist you with any changes.