

# SPICE ROADS

## CYCLING



### VIETNAM HERITAGE BY BICYCLE

Tour Code  
**VNM-VHB**

**7** DAYS  
**6** NIGHTS

	Destinations	Vietnam
	Tour Meets	Hue
	Tour Ends	Hoi An
	Fly in to	Phu Bai International Airport (HUI)
	Fly out of	Da Nang International Airport (DAD)
	Group Size	2-16 riders
	Minimum Age	14 (on scheduled departures)

### ACTIVITY PROFILE



<b>5</b> Cycling days	<b>250</b> <sub>km</sub> Total cycling distance
<b>50</b> <sub>km</sub> Avg distance / day	<b>283</b> <sub>m</sub> Avg climbing / day

### PRICING



Price	US\$ 1,675
Bike Hire	Included
Single Supplement	US\$ 300

### WHAT'S INCLUDED

- ✓ SpiceRoads jersey
- ✓ Water bottle
- ✓ Support vehicle
- ✓ Guide(s)
- ✓ Meals (as indicated)
- ✓ Accommodation
- ✓ Bike and helmet
- ✓ Snacks and drinks

### WHAT'S EXCLUDED

- ✗ International flights
- ✗ Domestic flights
- ✗ Airport pick up
- ✗ Airport drop off
- ✗ Visa fees
- ✗ Alcohol
- ✗ Tips

### DEPARTURES



22 July - 28 July 2024  
19 August - 25 August 2024  
21 October - 27 October 2024  
11 November - 17 November 2024  
30 December - 05 January 2025  
04 February - 10 February 2025  
17 March - 23 March 2025  
21 April - 27 April 2025  
19 May - 25 May 2025  
16 June - 22 June 2025

See website for later departures

## TRIP PROFILE

Our biking adventure takes us from Hue to Hoi An with lots of time spent sight-seeing and exploring enigmatic Vietnam. We ride a total of 250 km in five cycling days. The biking is on a mixture of well-surfaced roads and good quality, wide dirt tracks. The bicycle is still the most common form of transport, and you will share the road with school children and farmers alike.

**Suitability:** This trip is suitable for anyone with a reasonable level of fitness. This trip is not too arduous, and so riders with less experience are more than welcome, although the fitter you are, the more you will enjoy it.

**Biking Conditions:** This trip is mainly on good quality tarmac roads and some vehicle-width dirt roads. There are undulating rides in Hue and Hoi An and a climb to the top of Hai Van Pass. Participants can cycle as much or as little as they like and still enjoy the same views as the rest of the group.



### Day 1 Meet in Hue

We start this bike tour by meeting in Hue, the old capital of the Nguyen Dynasty. It is worth arriving in the morning, so you have time to explore this wonderfully historic city. You can fly to Hue from Saigon or Hanoi, or alternatively you can fly into Danang and transfer up to Hue (transfer can be arranged at an additional cost). SpiceRoads can arrange these internal flights. We meet in the early afternoon for an introduction to the Nguyen Dynasty at the Imperial Citadel, modeled after the Forbidden City in China. While much of this site was destroyed during the Tet Offensive, you will nevertheless gain a clear understanding of how the royal family lived during the peak of their rule. We then end our day with a traditional Vietnamese dinner.



Emm Hotel



Dinner

### Day 2 Hue's Tombs

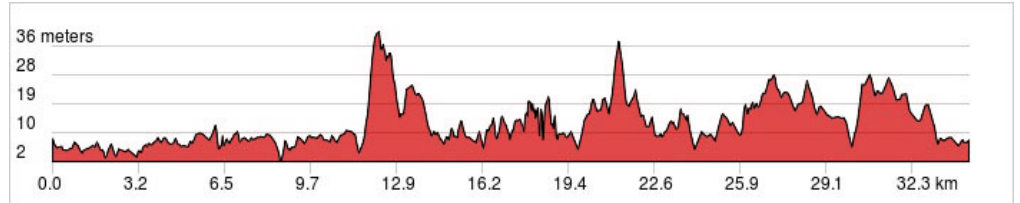
We explore by bicycle and boat the rich heritage left behind by the emperors of the Nguyen Dynasty. We start our cycling trip with a ride to a pier where we meet our boat for a cruise on the Perfume River to the seven-story Thien Mu Pagoda that has become the symbol of the city. Be sure to get a photo with the marble turtle! Then it's back on the bikes for a ride through the rolling countryside to Ming Mang mausoleum. After a walk through this extensive complex, we cycle back across the Perfume River to Hue via the mausoleum of Khai Dinh. After our undulating ride, we will have earned our dinner of Vietnamese specialties.



Emm Hotel



Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Ride 30km



+179m



-179m

### Day 3 Hue Countryside

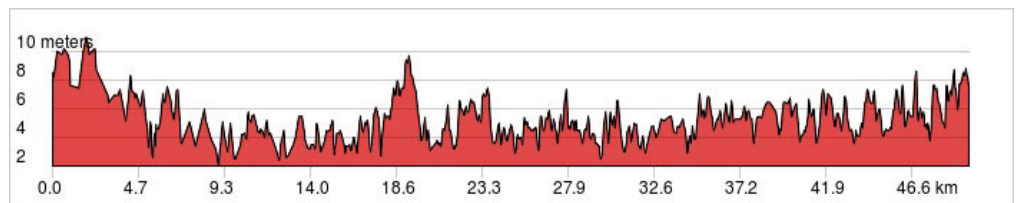
This morning, we cycle a loop of Hue's lush countryside on a mix of footpaths and quiet country lanes to the traditional village of Phuoc Tich. The route follows back roads passing through many untouched villages and local markets. Along the way, we'll come across a Catholic village, perhaps see locals making colourful incense or cutting bamboo into useful items. A highlight of Phuoc Tich are the many homes that date back 200 years and follow traditional feng shui design. We visit ancient houses and learn more about this rich and culturally significant village. In the afternoon, loop back toward Hue along quiet country lanes. Dinner is on your own tonight to experience some authentic Vietnamese dishes.



Emm Hotel



Breakfast, Lunch



Ride 50km



+144m



-145m

### Day 4 Hue - Lang Co

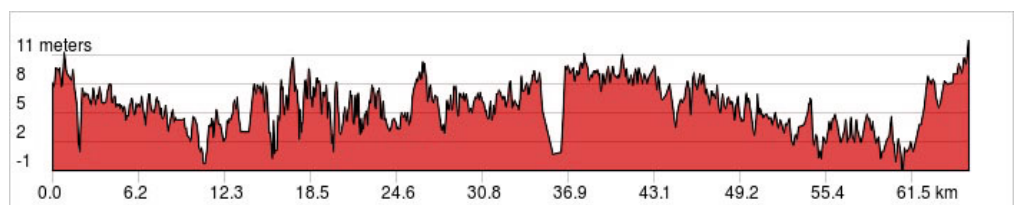
We leave Hue and follow the coast south. During our cycle, we'll pass roads shaded by coconut palms, and dunes scattered with mini mausoleums. These colourful graveyards are comprised of inlaid broken tiles and dishes creating symbols of the afterlife with lotus flowers, dragons, and cranes. We ride to Phuoc Tuong Hill and then transfer the final 40 km to Lang Co Beach. Here we have lunch, and the rest of the day is free to enjoy the resort and beach.



Lang Co Beach Resort



Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Ride 65km



+122m



-125m

## Day 5 Lang Co - Hoi An

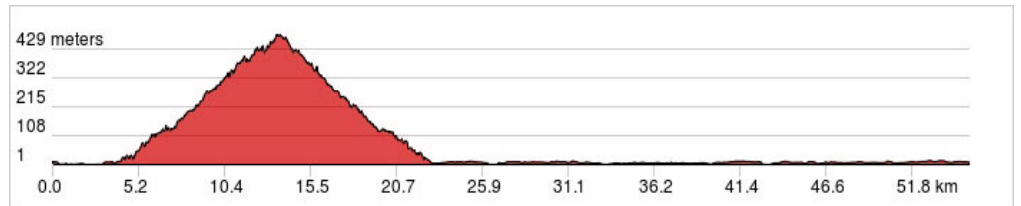
Our hardest cycling day lies ahead, with a 11-km climb and an ascent of 550 m to the top of Hai Van Pass. It is a gradual gradient with many switchbacks, and the superb views at the top make it well worth the effort. The reward is a downhill to Danang, our destination for lunch. After lunch, we have a flat and very scenic ride to Hoi An. It is just a short distance to the Marble Mountains, an outcrop of five rocks said to represent the five elements, (Wood, Water, Metal, Fire, and Earth). We then visit Danang Beach (formerly China Beach), made famous by the American TV series "China Beach". After a brief stop at the beach, we continue down this country road to Hoi An. The town was known as Faifo to early western traders and was one of Southeast Asia's major trading ports during the 17th and 18th centuries. It was an important point of call for Chinese, Japanese, and Portuguese traders, and the architecture reflects its cosmopolitan past. More than anywhere in Vietnam, Hoi An retains the feel of the past. There are over 844 structures of historical significance, and most people spend the afternoon wandering around and enjoying the sights and atmosphere.



Vinh Hung Riverside Resort



Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner



Ride 55km



+791m



-788m

## Day 6 Hoi An - My Son - Hoi An

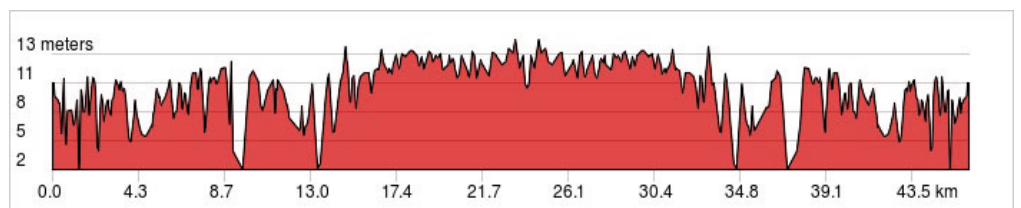
We ride out on small village roads on our way to visit My Son, the ancient centre of the Cham civilisation. The ride is worth the effort, as we cycle along scenic country backroads past paddy fields and many pretty villages. Eventually, we arrive at My Son, which was once Champa's greatest city from the 4th to the 14th centuries. Although many of the temples were destroyed by American bombs, there is still enough of the archaeological site to impress visitors. We take lunch before spending the afternoon visiting the site. Then, we transfer by bus back to Hoi An for dinner. Dinner is your choice, though the decision may be difficult with so many choices!



Vinh Hung Riverside Resort



Breakfast, Lunch



Ride 50km



+179m



-179m

## Day 7 Hoi An Departure

Our cycling adventure comes to an end today. We celebrate our success with one last breakfast together. Then, we can assist with arranging transport to the airport or with hotel arrangements if you'd like to stay in Hoi An longer. Those looking to explore more of Vietnam can head to the beaches of Nha Trang or cruise around Halong Bay.



Breakfast

Disclaimer: The adventure cycling tours we operate often go beyond the beaten track, and the countries where we ride are not always predictable. Due to these reasons, it is occasionally necessary to reroute or update itineraries. Our guarantee is that we will not change a trip unless for safety or to improve it. Our listed hotels are always accurate at the time of writing, but should we have to change any hotel, it will always be for a similar or better one.

## NUTS & BOLTS

### Bikes

Included in this tour are well-known makes of mountain bikes with lightweight alloy frames, 24- to 27-speed gearing, v-brakes, and Shimano components and front suspension.

We also have E-Bikes available for hire, but they are limited in number & size - please send an email to us to check on availability.

### Bike Repairs

Basic spares and tools are carried by the guide and on the support vehicle, though we cannot guarantee having spares for every conceivable problem. Carrying a basic tool kit, a spare tube and a pump while riding is recommended.

### Safety

Wearing a helmet is required on all our biking adventures and is non negotiable. If you do not wear a helmet you will not be allowed to cycle. Your tour leader is trained in first aid and emergency rescue, but to a large degree you must be responsible for your own safety while riding. It is therefore compulsory that you take out travel insurance that will cover you for a mountain biking tour.

### Guides

You will be led by a local English-speaking guide and if the group is 9 people or more we will add another guide to the tour. All our guides are well informed in the history, culture and religions of the area where you are biking and are skilled at passing that knowledge on to you. Your guide is also medically trained and an experienced cyclist, able to handle most minor repairs en route.

## THE NITTY GRITTY

### Passports and Visas

Vietnam e-Visa is available to 80 nationalities. Please check [this link](#) to determine if your country is on the list. To apply for an e-visa please visit the official government website [here](#) and follow the required steps and make payment. You can apply for a single entry visa up to 30 days. Multiple entry e-visas are not currently available. For peace of mind, we suggest applying for your e-visa as early as possible, and no later than 2 weeks before your expected arrival in Vietnam. While processing time is generally no more than 1-3 working days (not including weekends and Vietnamese holidays), it is wise to give yourself some buffer time in case there are any issues.

If your nationality is not on the list for e-visa eligibility, or you need options for longer stays or multiple entries, then you may consider Visa on Arrival. The process for this is more complicated than e-visa and requires the acquisition of a visa letter prior to arrival. Please see [here](#) for a detailed overview.

**If you are joining our "Saigon to Bangkok" or "Saigon to Siem Reap" tour, when you are applying for your e-visa, please select Song Tien Landport as the exit point. This refers to the river crossing at Chao Doc.**

### Health

Recommended vaccinations are typhoid, polio, tetanus and hepatitis A. A certificate for Yellow Fever is required when arriving from an infected area within six days. Vietnam is a malarial area and you will need to take anti-malarial tablets. Please speak to your doctor for the most up to date information.



## Weather

Weather in Vietnam is divided into 4 main regions - the far north, north, central and south.

The far north can get very cold in December and January while the dry season runs from October to late March and the wet season between April to September.

In Hanoi & the north, it is hot, wet and humid from May to October while November to April is cooler and dry.

Central Vietnam experiences hot, dry weather between January & August with temperatures ranging in the mid 30°C. High levels of rainfall are during September - November.

Southern Vietnam is dry and hot from November to April, and warm and wet between May & October, with the highest rainfall in June, July & August.

## Food

Meals are included as per the itinerary where B = breakfast, L = lunch, D = dinner. Most meals are Vietnamese food and features noodles, rice curries and soups. Vietnamese cuisine is world famous and we make sure you sample as much variety as possible. Any special dietary requirements can also be catered for as well. Please let us know at the time of booking.

## Drink

Keeping you completely hydrated is a job we take very seriously. Cold water, some energy-restoring local fruit, and soft drinks are included in the tour price while riding. Soft drinks and other beverages during meals are not included. Beer is freely available everywhere in Vietnam but is NOT included in the price.

## Solo Travelers

SpiceRoads does not require you to pay a surcharge for traveling alone. We will arrange for you to share accommodation with another traveler of the same gender and if we can not match you up we will provide a single room at no extra charge. If you prefer not to share a single supplement is payable to guarantee your own room. The cost of the single supplement is listed above.

## Extra Expenses

We recommend that you tuck away a few extra dollars, perhaps US\$10, for incidentals. It is customary to tip local tour guides and drivers, however, the amount you give should be dependent on the level of service you receive. As a general guide, we suggest US\$ 3-4 per person per day is appropriate.

## Money

The official national currency is the Vietnam dong (d), but the US dollar is widely accepted in tourist centers. However, in smaller towns and villages the dong is preferred. ATMs are available in all major tourist destinations and big cities. Vietcombank has the best network with a single withdrawal limit of 2,000,000d (about US\$125). Most major currencies can be exchanged at leading banks in Vietnam, but the US dollar is preferred away from the tourist centers. Changing US\$100 will make you an instant millionaire! You cannot legally take the dong out of Vietnam but you can reconvert reasonable amounts of it into US dollars on departure.

## GENERAL BOOKING INFO

If this is the tour for you here's what you need to do to confirm your place:

### FLEXIBLE BOOKING CONDITIONS

Booking a SpiceRoads cycling adventure is easy and we try to do everything possible to make sure you have full flexibility and peace of mind. We do not require a deposit to hold your place on a tour and once full payment has been made your money is protected in our client account and you have the flexibility to cancel or change your booking if needed.

### CONFIRMING YOUR BOOKING

Just complete our online booking form or send your booking details offline (email or post), and we will confirm your participation. No deposit is needed to confirm your place on a SpiceRoads tour.

You are advised to read our [Booking Conditions](#) in full before you make your payment and should you require further clarifications of any of the conditions below, please [email us](#) or call

our office.

## TRIP STATUS

There is a minimum number of participants (usually 2) required to enable the trip to go ahead. Once the minimum number is reached, the trip status will change from 'Available' to 'Guaranteed to Depart'. Once a trip is guaranteed to depart you are free to book your flights and make other travel arrangements. If the trip status is 'Limited' will mean we have only a small number of spaces available for booking. If you are unsure about the trip status, please [email us](#) or call our office.

## BOOKING ONLINE

From the tour page, click the 'Book Now' link. All departures for this tour will appear, just select the date you'd like to travel. For the next steps, you'll need to know the names of the people travelling. If you wish you can also provide extra details such as passport numbers, height (for bike hire), or you can add that later by logging into [Manage My Trip](#) (we'll set up an account for you automatically if you don't already have one). Our system will contact you from time to time to fill in the missing information, as it will be required before departure. However, if the trip that you are booking offers a child discount, you will have to fill out the date of birth of each rider (so we can calculate the appropriate discount).

If you are having any problems [please send us an email](#), or give us a call (+66 026 3295) and one of our travel specialists will assist you with your booking.

## BOOKING OFFLINE

Just call us or send an email indicating which trip you want to join and we will happily send you a list of questions and process your booking for you.

## DEPOSITS AND PAYMENTS

We do not require a deposit or full payment to book a place for you on a tour.

The balance of the tour's cost (final invoice) will need to be paid 60 days before the departure date with fees for any bicycle rental(s), single supplement(s) and extra hotel nights.

In the case where a booking is made when there are less than 60 days until the tour departure date, the tour's cost should be paid in full within 72 hours of receiving an invoice from SpiceRoads. Payment can be made by credit card using our online payment gateway or by bank transfer. When making payment online you will need to confirm that you have read these booking conditions during the "checkout" process, which equates to agreeing to the terms of services and stipulations as indicated in this document.

In all cases, tour fees need to be paid "in full" before participation in a tour. No person(s) will be allowed to join a tour without fully settling their invoice and receiving a confirmation number from SpiceRoads.

The exception can be made for last-minute miscellaneous fees that can be paid locally (visas, additional local hotel bookings, etc.) can be settled on the day of arrival.

## FULL FLEXIBILITY FOR TOUR CANCELATIONS

If the tour is cancelled or postponed by SpiceRoads because we didn't make the trip numbers and the tour can't run, we will make a full cash refund (by bank transfer or on your credit card).

If the tour is cancelled for any other reason, including due to Covid related travel restrictions, we will give you a full credit (with no deductions for admin or any other small-print item) to use on any SpiceRoads tour with no time limit. (Exceptions being flights, special permits and other non-refundable items and these will be advised when booking the trip).

Before paying for your tour, you can cancel your booking with no charge and up until 40 days before departure, you can change your booking to another travel date or move your booking onto another SpiceRoads tour with no charges.

If you need to cancel after you have made full payment, please see our [cancellation policy](#).

## Loyalty Riders Club

For those who have been on several long tours with us, we reward customer loyalty by offering repeat customers a special discount off the tour price (excludes single supplement and bike rental). If this is your fourth scheduled tour or more you will receive a 5% discount. If this is your eighth scheduled tour or more we will extend a 10% discount. The discount will be reflected in your online booking, but

please contact us if any questions. Loyalty discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other offer. Note: Only tours of 7 days or more will be applicable for a loyalty discount.

### International Flights

International flights, to and from the start and finish points are not included in the tour price. Once your tour is Guaranteed to Depart you can book your flight. Please contact us for advice before arranging flights for the best arrival and departure times. We would only cancel a trip for an extreme circumstance, but in that case, where we cancel your trip, we cannot be liable for losses incurred relating to any flight booking you have made. Please claim any losses from your [travel insurance](#) that you acquired when you booked your holiday.

### Newsletter

Our adventure travel [e-newsletter](#) is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from SpiceRoads, be sure to subscribe.

The information in this document is given in good faith, and covers the average range of conditions likely to be found on this trip. Please note that the itinerary is subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances, however, we will always do our best to adhere to this original itinerary

### CONTACT US

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