

# SPICE ROADS

## CYCLING



### VIETNAM HERITAGE BY BICYCLE

Tour Code  
**VNM-VHB**

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

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

### ACTIVITY PROFILE



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

### PRICING



Price	US\$ 1,350
Bike Hire (Mountain Bike)	Included
Bike Hire (E-Bike)	US\$ 225
Single Supplement	US\$ 250

### 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



18 March - 24 March 2019  
22 April - 28 April 2019  
20 May - 26 May 2019  
17 June - 23 June 2019  
22 July - 28 July 2019  
19 August - 25 August 2019  
23 December - 29 December 2019  
16 March - 22 March 2020  
20 April - 26 April 2020  
18 May - 24 May 2020

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 tour by meeting in Hue, the old capital of the Ngu Yen 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 Ngu Yen Dynasty at the Imperial Citadel, modelled 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.

## Day 2 Hue's Tombs

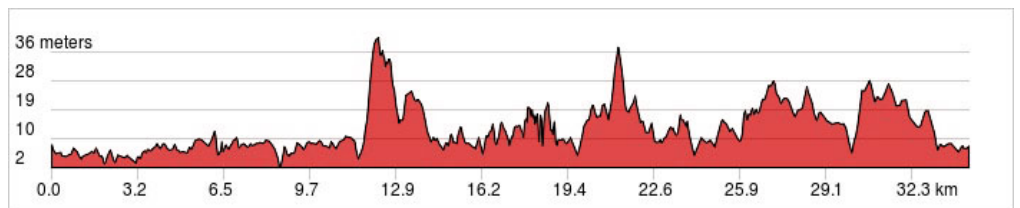
We explore by bicycle and boat the rich heritage left behind by the emperors of the Ngu Yen Dynasty. We ride to a pier where we meet our boat for a cruise on the Perfume River to the seven-story Thien Mu Pagoda that has become the symbol of the city. Be sure to get a photo with the marble turtle! Then 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

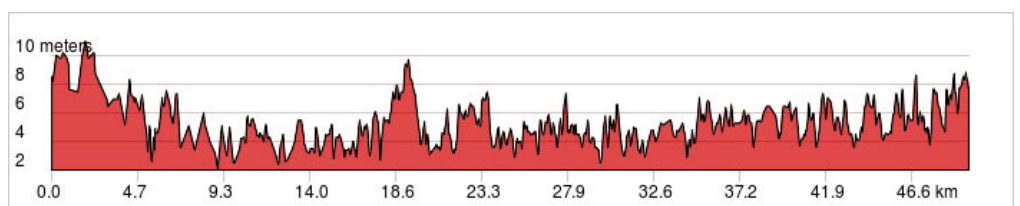
This morning, we cycle a loop of Hue's lush countryside on a mix of footpaths and quiet country lanes to the traditional village of Phuoc Tich. The route follows backroads passing through many untouched villages and local markets. Along the way, we'll come across a Catholic village, perhaps see locals 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. Enjoy a traditional lunch with Uncle Ho Van Te 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.

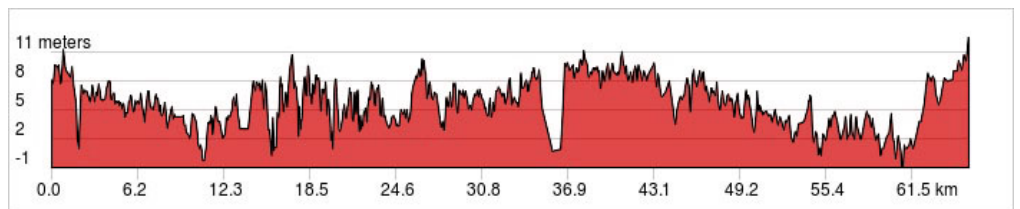


Emm Hotel



Breakfast, Lunch

Lang Co Beach Resort || Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

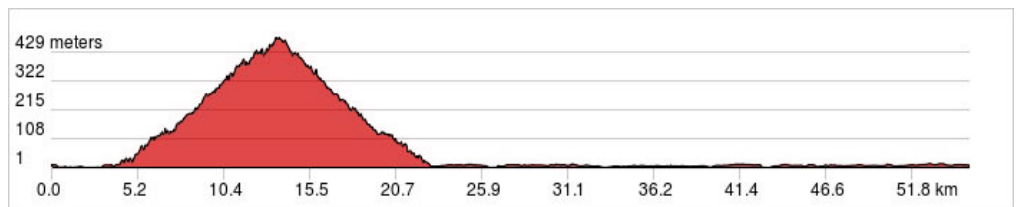


Ride 65km    +122m    -125m

## 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 China Beach, made famous by an American TV series of the same name. 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

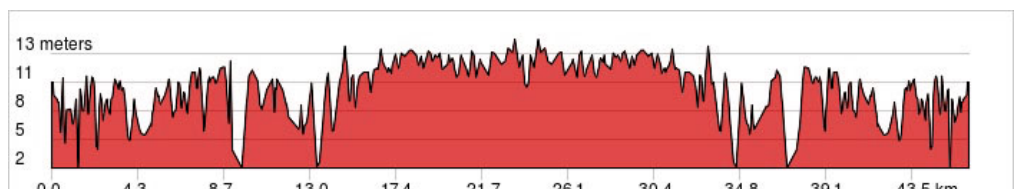


Ride 55km    +791m    -788m

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

We ride to 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 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 can transfer by bus back to Hoi An, or we can ride. 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

We'll go for a walk through the wet market this morning with your guide there to tell you what the many different fruits and vegetables are and how they are used in Vietnamese dishes. This will be also a perfect opportunity for you to try some more local foods. Then, we can assist with arranging transport to the airport or with hotel arrangements if you'd like to stay in Hoi An longer.



Breakfast

## 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.

You can also hire an electric bike (or an E-Bike) for the price listed in the tour pricing section. We have 2 sizes available: S = 155 cm - 170 cm and M = 171 cm - 180 cm. The E-Bikes are GIANT brand with SHIMANO Alivio 1,9 speed, disc brakes, and adjustable suspension fork.

### 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

Please make sure your passport is valid for a minimum of 6 months beyond the duration of stay in Vietnam. Most nationalities require a visa for Vietnam, however 22 nationalities including citizens of UK, France, Germany, Spain and Italy are exempted from visa when entering Vietnam not exceed 15 days, regardless of type of passport and immigration purpose. However they must acquire a tourist visa if staying longer. For a list of countries exempt go to this [page](#).

For [46 nationalities](#) – including Australians, Canadians and Americans – an [e-visa](#) can be obtained. This must be applied for and received before departure to Vietnam. To

check for the E-visa and tourist fee for single entry and multiple entries please check the [Visa fee](#). You must scan a copy of your photo and passport when applying and get your approval letter of your visa on arrival at international airport of Vietnam. To learn more click [Visa process](#). The processing time is 1-3 working days (not include Saturday, Sunday and Vietnamese holiday).

Alternatively you can obtain a visa to Vietnam from the embassy worldwide. Here is the list of [locations](#). You must specify your arrival date when applying for a visa and it is from this date that the 30 days will be calculated. When picking up your visa check to be sure the dates match your travel plans and that it is stamped directly into your passport as it will not be accepted if it is stapled in.

## 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

### Booking

If this is the tour for you here's what you need to do to confirm your place: Read our [Booking Conditions](#)

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. 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 you are unsure about the trip status, please [email us](#) or call our office. For the next steps you'll need to know the names of the people traveling and have either a Visa or a MasterCard. If you wish you can also provide extra details such as passport numbers, height, 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). However, if you wish to get a children's discount, please do fill out the date of birth of the riders. If you are having any problems, [please send us an email](#), or give us a call (+66 2 381 7490) and one of our travel specialists will assist you with your booking.

### Deposit

For Long Tours (7 days or more) to guarantee your place we require a 30% or 500 USD deposit, whichever is the greater. For Short Tours (6 days or less) we require full payment to guarantee your place. We also require that you take out [travel insurance](#) when you book your holiday. Besides covering you during your holiday it will also enable you to claim for any money that you have paid to us, including your deposit, should you have to cancel your trip.

### Balance

Full payment must be paid 45 days before the departure date with fees for any bicycle rental(s), single supplement(s) and extra hotel nights. Our confirmation will include personal details you provided us (including your flight information), visa application advice, a packing suggestion list and a detailed tour itinerary. It will also include a checklist to ensure you get everything ready for your holiday.

### Cancellation Policy

On the rare occasions when we, SpiceRoads, must cancel a trip, all payments received to date will be 100% refunded, which constitutes full settlement. There will be absolutely no deductions. If you, the client, must cancel your reservation, your cancellation fee will be determined according to when you cancel. For full details, please read 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 can not be used in conjunction with any other offer. Note: Only tours of 7 days or more will be applicable for 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

45 (Sub Soi Pannee) Soi Pridi Banomyong 26  
Sukhumvit Soi 71 Klongtan Nua, Wattana  
Bangkok, Thailand 10110  
Tel: +66 (0) 2 381 7490  
Email: [info@spiceroads.com](mailto:info@spiceroads.com)  
Website: [www.spiceroads.com](http://www.spiceroads.com)

## FOLLOW US

-  [twitter.com/spiceroads](https://twitter.com/spiceroads)
-  [youtube.com/user/spiceroads](https://youtube.com/user/spiceroads)
-  [instagram.com/spiceroads](https://instagram.com/spiceroads)
-  [facebook.com/SpiceRoad](https://facebook.com/SpiceRoad)