

# PANORAMA OF VIETNAM



Fishing on Hue's Perfume River

## April 3-19, 2012

Join our most popular all-country Vietnam tour in 2012. Our tour begins in Hanoi in the north and extends to the Mekong Delta in the south. Ride through the old merchant district of Hanoi in a cyclo and glide through the narrow canals of the Mekong Delta in a sampan. Cruise world-famous Ha Long Bay on our private boat. Our *Panorama of Vietnam Tour* is an opportunity to see and experience Vietnam as a land of breathtaking beauty and fascination.

Many Americans still think of Vietnam as a war, not a country. Most of the Vietnamese were born after the war ended almost four decades ago. To them, the war is ancient history. Many things have changed. Although still ruled by a communist government, the Vietnamese abandoned Marxism in the 1980s and have embraced Capitalism. As a result, the nation is thriving.

Our tour is designed for the American Veteran, his family and friends, as well as anyone interested in the history and culture of Vietnam. Our *Panorama* tour visits important sites of the Vietnam war, including Hue, Khe Sanh, Dak To and Cu Chi. But this tour program also includes amazing scenery, art, culture, cuisine, and an opportunity to see and understand Vietnam and the Vietnamese people as never before.

Many American Veterans experienced only a small part of Vietnam in the 1960s and 1970s. Their Vietnam was a base or relatively small area of operation around that base. Now they can travel freely and see the entire panorama of this beautiful land.

Millions of European, Asian and Australian tourists visit Vietnam each year. The growing tourism business in Vietnam has ushered in a building boom in the hotel and resort industry. As a result, we stay in modern, comfortable hotels and we travel in modern air-conditioned coaches and vans. An English-speaking Vietnamese Tour Guide assures that all of the tour logistics are handled smoothly and enables tour participants to interact with the people we meet along the way.

Our *Panorama* tour begins in Hanoi, a once forbidding city that has been transformed by nearly two decades of Capitalism. We visit the an-

cient city of Hue where Emperors once ruled and travel Highway #1 as it hugs the South China Sea from Da Nang to Quy Nhon.

Following Highway #19, we turn west and climb into the Central Highlands where coffee cultivation is transforming the region once inhabited largely by Montagnard tribes. We will see the remnants of historic US bases and walk through the colorful Pleiku marketplace. From there we fly to Saigon (yes, that is what everyone still calls it).

We will visit the famed "Tunnels of Cu Chi" and watch a religious service at the colorful Cao Dai Temple in Tay Ninh City. A gondola lift will take us halfway up the side of Nui Ba Den, the infamous "Black Virgin Mountain." In the Mekong River town of My Tho, we see the river commerce and ride in a sampan through a narrow canal.

Our groups include Veterans, their wives & children, friends & other relatives, students and those curious to see this amazing land. Sometimes history enthusiasts come along for the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to tour battlefields and hear firsthand from those who were present when historic campaigns and battles occurred.

Our tour programs include visa processing, roundtrip air from the USA (if elected), all in-country air, all hotel accommodations, most meals, ground transportation in modern air-conditioned vehicles, and more. Because so many tourists are visiting Vietnam today, it is important that you sign up early. Airline seats sell out and hotels fill up, so don't delay. Sign on today!

## Itinerary

**Tuesday, April 3, 2012: USA/Aloft**

**Wednesday, April 4, 2012: Cross International Dateline**

**Thursday, April 5, 2012: Arrive Hanoi.** Arrive in the capital of Vietnam and transfer to our hotel in the center of the city. After hotel check-in, afternoon tour of Hanoi highlights including the Temple of Literature, Tran Quoc Pagoda, Lake of Restored Sword, then a tour of the Old Quarter of "36 streets and 36 wares" by cyclo. This afternoon attend a traditional water puppet show, a uniquely northern Vietnamese art form especially designed for depicting scenes from rural life and many episodes of national history. Then enjoy a Welcome Dinner at the Wild Rice Restaurant. (D)

**Friday, April 6, 2012: Hanoi.** An early morning departure for Ha Long Bay. On arrival, we board our private boat for a tour among the thousands of limestone islands that have made this beautiful bay one of Vietnam's most picturesque and famous sites. A fresh seafood lunch aboard the ship before we return to the docks and drive back to Hanoi. We may stop at



Worship Service in Tay Ninh's Cao Dai Temple

local craft shops on the way to and from Ha Long Bay. (B, L)

**Saturday, April 7, 2012: Hanoi/Hue.** After breakfast, visit the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum, Ho Chi Minh House, the One Pillar Pagoda, the Army Museum, and Hoa Lo Prison. Lunch is at Le Tonkin Restaurant. Afternoon, continue sightseeing tour of Hanoi until transfer to the airport for the evening flight to Hue. Upon arrival, transfer to your hotel for check in. (B, L, D)

**Sunday, April 8, 2012: Hue.** After breakfast, enjoy a full day tour to historic sites in the former I Corps military region including the Quang Tri Citadel, Camp Carroll, Lang Vei Special Forces Camp, Khe Sanh Combat Base, Dong Ha, DMZ. Later, return to Hue. (B, L, D)

**Monday, April 9, 2012: Hue.** Tour Hue today including the Royal Tombs of Emperor Tu Duc & Khai Dinh during the Nguyen Dynasty, the Imperial Citadel and other Hue sites. (B, L, D)

**Tuesday, April 10, 2012: Hue/Hoi An.** Morning ride on the Dragon Boats down the Perfume River to visit the Thien Mu Pagoda, before continuing South on Highway #1. Lunch is on the South China Sea en route to DaNang. We cross over the Hai Van Pass, arrive in DaNang and visit the Cham Museum, Marble Mountains and China Beach. Continue to Hoi An. Our guide takes us to visit the 6-hour tailors for those who wish to have shirts, dresses or suits custom made. Dinner is at Pho Hoi Garden Restaurant. (B, L, D)

**Wednesday, April 11, 2012: Hoi An.** This morning we enjoy a walking tour of the ancient town center and take in the former merchants' houses, the 400 year-old Japanese Covered Bridge and the colorful market with its stalls brimming with tropical specialties. Afternoon is free at leisure for wandering around ancient Hoi An, getting your clothes made or go with your guide to tour My Son, home of the ancient Champa kingdom nearby the infamous "Arizona Territory" of the Vietnam War. Dinner is at Full Moon Restaurant. (B, D)

**Thursday, April 12, 2012: Hoi An/Quy Nhon.** Drive south on Highway #1 today. Stop in Quang Ngai Province to visit the remains of My Lai. Then continue to Quy Nhon, with stops to observe traditional crafts and agriculture along the highway. Arrive in Quy Nhon and check into Hoang Anh Resort Hotel on the beach. (B, D)

**Friday, April 13, 2012: Quy Nhon/Pleiku.** An early morning departure with a stop at fabulous Cham towers overlooking the countryside outside of Quy Nhon. Continue on scenic Highway #19 over the breathtaking An Khe Pass, through the town of An Khe (where the U.S. 1st Cav. Division was stationed in the shadow of Hong Kong Mountain) to the Mang Yang Pass where the French Groupment Mobile 100 (a mechanized infantry bat-



Harvesting Rice near Quy Nhon

alion) was ambushed in 1954. Continuing to Pleiku, we check into our hotel and then visit the former 4<sup>th</sup> Division base at Camp Enari and other wartime sites around Pleiku. (B, L, D)

**Saturday, April 14, 2012: Pleiku.** We drive north on Highway #14, crossing the Dak Bla River into Kontum to visit the Vinh Son Orphanage where a dozen Catholic nuns care for over 200 children. Continue on to Dak To and then to the site of the Ben Het Special Forces Camp overlooking the tri-border area (Laos, Cambodia & Vietnam). Along the way we see the site of a smaller SF Camp overlooking the town of Dak To and a major airstrip that served as base for the US 4th Infantry Division and

173rd Airborne Brigade during the fierce hill battles of late 1967. If time allows, we will walk through a Montagnard village before returning to Pleiku. (B, L, D)

**Sunday, April 15, 2012: Pleiku/Saigon.** Morning is free at leisure until we drive to the Pleiku airport for the afternoon flight to Saigon. On arrival, transfer to your hotel in central Saigon. Tonight, dinner is at the Majestic Hotel Rooftop Garden overlooking the Saigon River. (B, D)

**Monday, April 16, 2012: Saigon.** An early breakfast, then depart for the famous "Cu Chi Tunnels" in the Ho Bo Woods. After a chance to go through several of the tunnels, we continue on to Tay Ninh, where we visit the famous Cao Dai Temple and observe part of the noon service. After lunch, ride the gondola lift part way up Nui Ba Den, the infamous "Black Virgin Mountain." Return to Saigon through Go Da Ha and Trang Bang. (B, L, D)

**Tuesday, April 17, 2012: Saigon.** This morning we drive to the Mekong Delta town of My Tho. We board a boat in My Tho to travel up the Mekong River, visiting a fruit farm on an island and a traditional craft village. We take a ride back to our boat through the narrow nippa palm lined canals in a traditional sampan. After lunch, we visit a reptile farm adjacent to the former U.S. 9th Infantry Division Dong Tam base camp. We return to Saigon on Highway #1 (formerly Highway #4) through Tan An and Ben Luc. Dinner is at Indochine Restaurant. (B, L, D)

**Wednesday, April 18, 2012: Saigon.** A day to tour Saigon or to relax and shop. Your guide will escort you to famous Saigon sites including Notre Dame Cathedral, the Colonial Post Office, the former Presidential Palace, Cholon, the U.S. Consulate (site of the former U.S. Embassy that played such a dramatic role in the 1968 Tet Offensive and the 1975 evacuation of Saigon.) View Saigon from the observator deck of the Bitexco Building. Alternately, your guide can show you the Ben Thanh Market and other places in central Saigon where you can shop for all variety of gifts, crafts and clothing. Tonight, enjoy a Farewell Dinner at the Blue Ginger Restaurant. (B, D)

**Thursday, April 19, 2012: Saigon/USA.** Mid morning transfer to Tan Son Nhut Airport for return flight to the USA. Re-crossing the International Dateline, we arrive home the same day. (B)



The New Saigon Skyline



Cyclo tour through the Old District in Hanoi

*B = Breakfast; L = Lunch; D = Dinner*



# PANORAMA OF VIETNAM TOUR

## April 3-19, 2012 Reservation Application from \$2,494 per person

(Cost based on double occupancy - single room \$787 additional)

Please make \_\_\_ reservation(s) on the 2012 Panorama of Vietnam Tour. Enclosed is \$\_\_\_\_\_ representing \$400.00 per person deposit. (Please make checks payable to "MilSpec Tours")

Tour Option (Check  one)

- Land only\* \$2,494 per person \*Your in-country flights are included in this cost, but you make your own airline reservations from the USA to Vietnam and back to the USA.
- Land & roundtrip Transpacific Air: \$3,539 per person

Payment Option (Check  one)

- Option A: I would like to Pay In Full. Payment enclosed.
- Option B: I am paying a deposit only and will pay in full 90 days before departure.

Insurance Option (Check  one)

I accept the travel insurance at an additional:

- \$164 (Land-Only - double occupancy)     \$235 (Land-Only - single room)
- \$270 (Land & Air - double occupancy)     \$305 (Land & Air - single room)

(Included your insurance payment with your enclosed deposit - i.e. \$400 deposit *plus* insurance payment)

- I will obtain my own insurance.



**Please  
PRINT  
clearly!**

**New TSA regulations require the full name (as it appears on the passport), gender and date of birth of each airline passenger.**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  Male  Female Date of Birth: \_\_\_\_\_

- I have attached a photocopy of each person's passport data pages.

- I do not have a passport but will apply for one (forms available at your local US Post Office)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City/State/Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please furnish us with both your street address and post office box address to avoid delays in shipment of documents to you by Federal Express*

Home Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Work Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ @ \_\_\_\_\_

Any diet/health problems? \_\_\_\_\_

*FAA regulations require emergency notification information for all international passengers. Please print the name and phone number of a person not traveling with you who is to be notified in the event of an emergency.*

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Relationship \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Special requests/places to visit: \_\_\_\_\_

I desire:     2-in-a-room.     Single Room at \$787 extra.

- Willing to share, 2-in-a-room basis. Roommate (if known) \_\_\_\_\_

To charge your deposit to a major credit card, please complete the following:

- Discover Card     Visa     Mastercard     American Express

Name on Card: \_\_\_\_\_ Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Cardholder: \_\_\_\_\_

***I agree to the terms and conditions as outlined in this tour brochure.***

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Tour #12-409

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to:

**MilSpec Tours**

Post Office Box 340  
Flourtown, PA 19031-0340  
Phone 215-248-2572 Fax 215-248-5250  
Email: MilSpecTours@aol.com • Web: GoMilSpec.com



a \$350 per person service charge. Cancellations of 30 days or less will be refunded less a \$600 fee plus any cancellation charges assessed against MilSpec Tours by hotels, transportation companies, airlines and other purveyors of services. Trip cancellation and interruption insurance is available and strongly recommended on all tours.

**Revisions and Refunds:** All changes must be confirmed in writing. A handling fee of \$50.00 per transaction will be charged for any alteration or revision made to a tour reservation. All claims for refunds must be made within 60 days after termination of the tour and must be accompanied by a statement from the Tour Manager, certifying exactly the services not taken. No refund can be made for unused transportation where group tickets or vehicles are involved. No refund can be made for services not taken unless the services omitted cover 72 consecutive hours or more.

**Tour Participants:** In order to insure the smooth operation of all tours, and to ensure congenial tour groups, MilSpec Tours reserves the right to accept or reject any person as a tour participant and to expel from the tour any person for any reason including anyone whose conduct is deemed incompatible with the interest of the tour group. Any handicapped participant who requires special assistance must be accompanied by a qualified helper who assumes total responsibility for the handicapped participant's well-being. MilSpec Tours reserves the right to exclude from the tour any handicapped participant whose physical condition impairs customary operation of the tour. Should a wheelchair or other special equipment, care, maintenance or services be required at any time, all arrangements shall be made and all costs and obligations will be borne by the tour member. All tour members must be able to make their own way on/off the motorcoach. Well-behaved children over 10 years of age are welcome on any MilSpec Tours tour under the same conditions as noted above.

**Responsibility:** MilSpec Tours and/or its agents act only in the capacity of agent for carriers, hotels, bus operators, and other suppliers of services and shall not be held responsible for any injury or for any loss or damage caused by accidents or events beyond their control, or by any action or negligence of attendants or third parties who are not in their employ and on their payroll. The tour operator and/or its agents can accept no responsibility for losses or additional expenses due to delay or changes in air, sea or other services, sickness, weather, strike, war, quarantine, or other causes. All such losses will have to be borne by the passenger, as tour rates provide for arrangements only for the time stated. The right is reserved to substitute hotels specified for others of similar category. The right is reserved to make minor adjustments in the itinerary. Prices are based upon current tariffs and are subject to adjustment in the event of change. The right is reserved to decline to accept or retain any person as a member of the tour. No refund will be made for any unused portion of the tour unless arrangements are made prior to departure. The issuance and acceptance of vouchers or tickets shall be deemed to be consent to the above conditions. In addition, transportation companies concerned shall not be held responsible for any act, omission or event during the time that passengers are not on board their carriers. The passenger contract in use by the carriers concerned, when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the transportation companies and the purchaser of the tour and/or passengers. The itineraries shown are planned at the time of issue of this flyer, but are subject to revision should circumstances make it necessary. Such revisions will be shown on the individual traveling itinerary you receive before departure.

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## Your MilSpec Tour Includes. . .

\* Nonrefundable roundtrip coach-class Transpacific airline transportation if selected from the West Coast on regularly scheduled flights. \* First-class and selected hotels with private bath (where available) 2-in-a-room basis. Single Room additional cost. \* Breakfast daily plus other meals as noted in the itinerary. \* Mini-van or motorcoach transportation as required by the itinerary. \* Sightseeing as specified with English-speaking professional guide & appropriate admission fees. \* Visa processing. \* Transfers between airports and hotels if traveling on group flights. \* Tips & taxes on all prepaid services. \*

**Tour Prices Do Not Include:** Airport/customs/departure taxes, passports, excess baggage charges, optional sightseeing, meals other than those shown in the itineraries, items not on table d'hote menus, laundry, liquor, mineral water, beverages with lunch & dinner, customary gratuities to Professional Guides, Drivers & local guides, & any other expenses of a personal nature.

**Tour Prices are based** on a minimum of 10 tour participants as shown in the itinerary, and on tariffs and rates (currency & exchange) known at the time of printing; prices are subject to adjustment without notice in event of changes to such rates prior to departure.

**Airfares** are subject to change without notice. Coach-class airfares are often non-refundable and/or subject to cancellation fees. Trip Cancellation Insurance is strongly recommended.

**Hotels:** Unless otherwise stated, all tour prices are based on two persons sharing a twin/double room. Applicable single supplements are indicated for those wishing single room accommodations. Single rooms are limited in quantity and are sometimes not of the same size or quality as twin/double rooms. We do not recommend triple rooms as they tend to be very crowded; in most cases, triple rooms are a twin room to which a cot has been added. There is no reduction in tour cost for triple rooms. If you wish to share a room and do not have a roommate, we will place you in a twin/double room with the next same-sex participant to register for the tour who also requests to share a room. If we are unable to match you with a roommate, you will be assigned to a single room and must pay the single supplement.

**Deposits and Final Payments:** A deposit of \$400 per person is required to effect reservations. This deposit forms part of your final payment which is due when billed but not later than 90 days prior to departure. Acceptance on tour is subject to verification of payment in full to MilSpec Tours.

**Baggage:** No responsibility is incurred by MilSpec for loss or damage to baggage or any of the passengers belongings. It is recommended that all passengers purchase baggage insurance.

**Passports and Visas:** A valid passport is required for all tour participants. Visas are required for this tour program. Instructions will be sent to you.

**Smoking:** Please kindly note that for the safety and well-being of the group, smoking is not permitted in the van or on the motorcoach at any time.

**Cancellations** for unforeseen and valid reasons in advance of departure are entitled to a full refund less actual expenses incurred and a \$75.00 per person service charge, if written notice is received not later than 120 days prior to departure. If cancellation occurs between 119 and 60 days prior to departure, deposits will be refunded less \$250 per person service charge; less than 60 days prior to departure date, deposits will be refunded, less

## Travel Insurance

Take advantage of our valuable insurance protection. For \$164 to \$305 you can enjoy the security of the following coverage:

### Schedule of Coverages

• Trip Cancellation & Interruption	Up to Tour Cost
• Travel Delay (\$100 maximum per day)	\$500
• Baggage and Travel Documents	\$1,000
• Baggage Delay	\$100
• Medical Expense	\$10,000
• Emergency Medical Transportation	\$20,000
• Accidental Death & Dismemberment	\$25,000

*This is a brief summary of the insurance plan offered. For a full description of the benefits, exclusions & conditions, an insurance brochure is available. Or, call Travel Guard International at 1-888-826-1300.*

