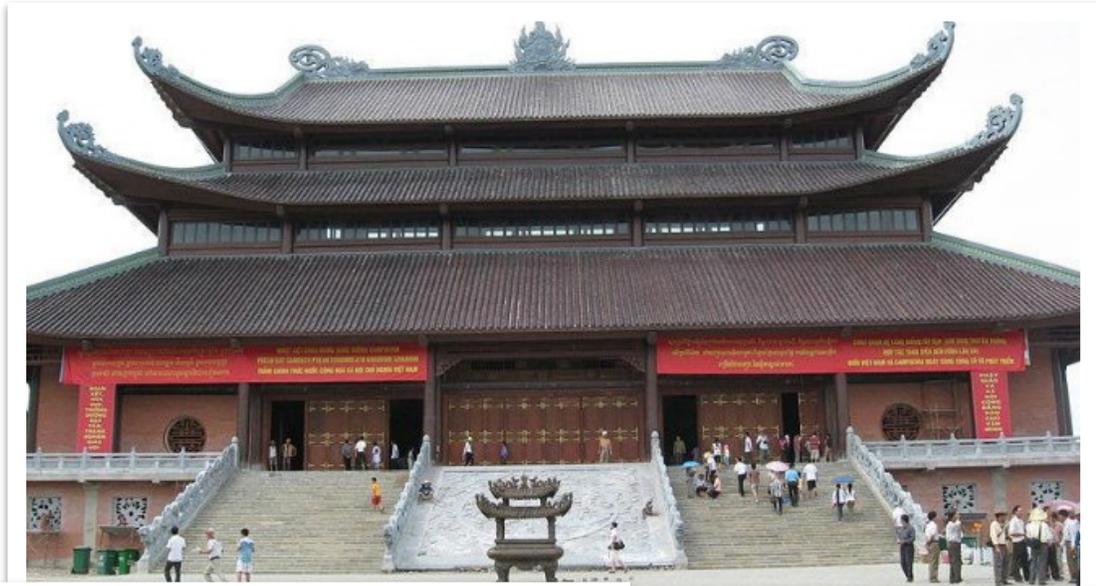


World Pilgrimage[©]

Vietnam - Ho Chinh Ho, Hue-Hoi Ann, Hanoi

March 24, 2020 - April 4, 2020



Experience the sights, sounds and cultures of Vietnam with men and women of faith. World Pilgrims offers a pilgrimage to this beautiful country in South Asia. It is a land of beaches, bustling cities and compelling history. During the ten day journey in Vietnam we began our pilgrimage in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) and end in the capital city of Hanoi. We travel across this fascinating country stopping in the historic cities of Hue and Hoi Ann as we immerse ourselves in the culture and the history of Vietnam taking in emerald mountains, sun drenched beaches and exhilarating urban landscapes. Vietnam will enchant us with its natural beauty and vibrant culture.



World Pilgrimage[©] Vietnam Vietnam - Ho Chinh Ho, Hue-Hoi Ann, Hanoi

Vietnam, officially the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, is the easternmost country on the Indochina Peninsula. With an estimated 94.6 million inhabitants as of 2016, it is the 15th most populous country in the world. Vietnam shares its land borders with China to the North, and Laos and Cambodia to the West. It shares its maritime borders with Thailand through the Gulf of Thailand, and the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia through the South China Sea. Vietnam is known for its beaches, rivers, Buddhist pagodas and bustling cities. Hanoi, the capital, pays homage to the nation's iconic Communist-era leader, Ho Chi Minh, via a huge marble mausoleum. Ho Chi Minh City (formerly Saigon) has French colonial landmarks, plus Vietnamese War history museums and the Củ Chi tunnels, used by Viet Cong soldiers.

All World Pilgrims[©] journeys have the same goals:

- To deepen the participants' personal faith by visiting some of the world's most sacred sites
- To gain an appreciation of the shared elements of the three religious traditions, as well as an understanding and respect for the differences
- To establish real friendships with pilgrims from many faith traditions, even with the complexities of today's world

All World Pilgrims[©] journeys operate from the same Guiding Principles:



1. A pilgrimage is a sacred journey—not a travel seminar or a tourist venture. We take time for personal and group reflection, meditation and sharing. Participants are asked to see these times as essential elements of the pilgrimage.
2. The journey will have a formal and very intentional structure. The purpose of this design is ensuring that all participants achieve the goals of the pilgrimage. Each participant will be asked to make a commitment to follow the structure so that the shared goals can be met. This means exercising discipline and a willingness to place the interest of the group above the interest of the individual.
3. The focus is on understanding and accepting the other pilgrims and their traditions. During a pilgrimage, we discuss rather than debate, respect rather than judge, empathize rather than criticize. **We seek to understand each other not to change each other.**
4. As pilgrims on a common sacred journey, participants are expected to share personal thoughts, beliefs and experiences with each other, trusting the others to respect and appreciate their life stories.
5. Pilgrims are expected to make a commitment to continue their common experience after returning home.

Program Design

1. Pre-departure: All participants are expected to attend an orientation session that includes the following elements:
 - a) Consideration of what it means to travel on an interfaith pilgrimage
 - b) Travel logistics and administration
2. Daily itinerary: The group will be together in Vietnam for 10 days. Led by clergy from three faith traditions, the group programs scheduled for each day will include:
 - a) Daily meditation: Time will be set aside each day for group and personal meditation. The leadership for these sessions will rotate among the faith traditions.
 - b) Worship Services: Worship services have been identified for the entire group to participate in. Special consideration is taken for worship connected to Muslim Jumah, Jewish Shabbat, Christian Sabbath and an indigenous Vietnamese Religious Group...
 - c) Making Friends: Building friendships across faith traditions is central to the pilgrimage and is not left to chance. Therefore, there is a formal structure to develop relationships, including roommate assignments, meal partners and seat mates during bus trips. It may seem to be an artificial way to get people together, but it works!
3. The return home: Pilgrims join the ranks of alumni from the 27 previous pilgrimages, who gather for reunions, times of personal joy and sorrow and to address important issues in our greater community.

DAILY ITINERARY *(tentative, specific plans and activities may change)*

DAY 1 - Tuesday, March 24: Atlanta to Ho Chih Minh Turkish Airlines departing Atlanta, GA at 10:55 P.M. (Layover in Istanbul, Turkey) We will arrive in Ho Chih Ming City on Thursday, at 7:40 PM.

Day 2-March 26: Ho Chih Minh

Upon arrival at Tan Son Nhat airport, you will meet you at the air bridge and assisted with immigration process and luggage. You will meet your tour guide as well as driver. We travel to your hotel for check in (after 2 pm, early check in is subject to room availability). You are free for the rest of the day. Meals on your own account. Overnight at the hotel in Ho Chi Minh.

Day 3 (Fri, 27 Mar 2020):

City of emerging old and new (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

We spend early time on the roof top for group reflection, meditation and sharing. This morning, we visit Cho Lon Area. Cholon ("The Great Market"), founded in the 18th century by the Chinese and located 5 kilometers from the city center. Your discovery of Cholon will definitely take you to one of the traditional pharmacies, Thien Hau pagoda - sitting majestically in the city and Binh Tay market. This market is located in a vast ochre-coloured building, designed by a French architect and financed by a Chinese merchant. It is famous for the thousands of stalls and a great variety of goods, making it a true temple of commerce in Ho Chi Minh City! We will arrive at Jamia Al Musulman Mosque to prepare for the "Jumu'ah" at 12:30 and afterwards we have lunch at authentic Viet restaurant. Your discovery of the capital of the South would not be complete without a visit to the city's main historical sites: the central post office, whose metal structure was designed by Gustave Eiffel; outside of the Notre-Dame Cathedral, constructed from red bricks and resembling Notre-

Dame in Paris; the War Remnants Museum, exhibits US weapons and vehicles used during the Vietnam War, along with photos showing the consequences of this war. We continue our day to meander over to the Ben Thanh Market and browse the local section. Then we arrive at the Chabad of Vietnam for the Shabbat service and then have Shabbat dinner. After tour, we return to hotel for a relaxing evening.

**Day 4 (Sat, 28 Mar 2020):
Mekong Delta lifestyle one day**

Join English Mass at Saigon Pastoral (Breakfast, Lunch)

We spend early time on the roof top for group reflection, meditation and sharing. In the morning you will depart from Ho Chi Minh City to explore Ben Tre in the Mekong delta, also known as the “Green Venice” of Vietnam. After visiting a brick factory in Phong Nam where bricks are still hand-made, step onto a boat for a cruise along the Chet Say River. Dinner at local restaurant. You will see traditional farms, rice fields and vegetable plants, before stopping at a small local restaurant to taste a delicious (and generous) lunch made of regional specialties, such as “elephant-ear fish” and freshwater shrimps. In the afternoon you will get back on the sampan for some leisure time along the narrow canals. You will travel back to hotel and have some refreshment. Today, at 6pm, we join English mass (Sunday liturgy) at the Saigon Pastoral Center. Dinner at local restaurant. Back to hotel for Interfaith Roundtable.

**Day 5 (Sun, 29 Mar 2020):
One day with monotheistic syncretic Caodaism-fly to Hue (Breakfast, Lunch)**

We spend early time on the roof top for group reflection, meditation and sharing. Today our tour guide escort you on a visit Tay Ninh, near the Cambodian border. This land is home to the unique Cao Dai sect, whose patron saints include Joan of Arc, Victor Hugo, and Winston Churchill to name a few. The religion is a hybrid of Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, and Christianity. The Cao Dai Temple at Tay Ninh has been described as a Walt Disney fantasia of the East. The temple’s exterior is decorated with multi-colored dragons of all shapes and sizes competing for space with a number of Buddhist symbols. Above the main entrance is the all-seeing holy eye, the symbol of the Cao Dai sect. The interior is just as engaging as statues of Jesus Christ, Buddha and the Hindu god, Brahma, stand side by side. We join the worship ceremony with the participants and enjoy the vegetarian lunch with the Caodai pilgrims. Then we head to Tan Son Nhat airport for the flight to Hue:

FLIGHT HOCHIMINH- HUE WITH VN1378 @ 19:30/20:55

Upon arrival in Hue, our tour guide will pick up and take you to hotel for check in. Overnight at hotel. Dinner on your own.

**Day 6 (Mon, 30 Mar 2020):
City landmark-The Bliss in mind and body with Zen House
(Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)**



We spend early time in the meditation room (maximum 20 minutes) for group reflection, meditation and sharing. This morning we start our tour at Thanh Toan Bridge. This village is one of the most beautiful villages about 8 km east of Hue. It is famous for its breathtaking roads, peaceful rural landscape and particularly the tile-roofed bridge. Spend some time winding around the local market with bustling life nearby before we head to the majestic Imperial Citadel of Hue, built in 1804 and located along the Perfume River. Followed is the visit to the Celestial Lady Pagoda overlooking the Perfume River. Its iconic seven-story pagoda is regarded as the unofficial symbol of the city, and the temple has often been the subject of folk rhymes and ca dao about Huế. Today we have lunch at one garden house typical of Hue City, which was built according to precise rules of geomancy. The peacefulness of this home will offer you a chance to experience the true serenity of such a place. After lunch, we return to hotel for some refreshment. Later this day, we visit the Zen House Cat Tuong Quan-the tranquil living space with pure living environment and elegant lifestyle, and you will be warmly welcomed by the host, Mme. Thao. After the introduction of “Nha Ruong” - a typical architecture in Hue and the spiritual meaning of Cat Tuong Quan, you will join the Qi Gong practice, following the Zen Master’s demonstration. Qi Gong, an ancient Chinese martial art form similar to Tai Chi. After the inspiring performance, we walk to the top of Thien An Hill for an opportunity to try some basic Qi Gong movements and breathing exercises taught by the Zen Master. When back to the house, we enjoy the brown-rice tea, dried ginger jam for relaxing time and have conversation with Mme. Thao who was raised without family since the age of six in a Buddhist ashram. After the spiritual retreat, we enjoy distinctive and delicious dishes and beverages that are made from fresh organic vegetables and products grown in Cat Tuong Quan. Tonight, we practice walking meditation and praying for peace with paper candle in Meditation Lake. Return to hotel for overnight.

Day 7 (Tue, 31 Mar 2020):

Hue-Transfer to Hoian- Hoian ancient town with tea ceremony-fisherman lifestyle (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

We spend early time in the meditation room (maximum 20 minutes) for group reflection, meditation and sharing. Today our tour guide will spend some time to stroll around Dong Ba market before we transfer to Hoian via Haivan Pass, the most scenic coastal road in Vietnam. (3-hour drive). We have lunch at local restaurant before arriving at hotel for check in. Your room is always available from 14:00. This afternoon, we wander through Ancient Town on foot. Cars and motorbikes are forbidden in the entire area, which allows you to peacefully enjoy some of most important sightseeing of Hoian such as Chinese temples, traditional houses, the Japanese bridge and daily active life of local people. The city itself has been listed UNESCO World Heritage. The morning tour ends with a cup of coffee or tea at Reaching Out – a special teashop where all the waiters and waitresses are deaf. Later this day arrive at the local boat pier, to board a boat that will transport you to the seaport of Cua Dai, at the mouth of the Thu Bon River, which runs through Hoi An. At this point, two very different activities will be awaiting you to enjoy. First of all, you will be initiated to a form of fishing using huge nets raised by special pulleys, the catch, accessed only by

paddling out in “basket boats”. After this first fun activity, a bamboo basket boat will take you into the mangrove forest. This amazing round basket boat will carry you along the forest and, from there, you will be able to watch and take part in scenes of crab fishing. At this point, you’ll no doubt be invited to try and maneuver your boat yourself, but it’s not an easy task making circular paddle movements while trying to make sure you keep your balance! Be that as it may, it's certainly a lot of fun. As a reward for your morning's efforts, you will be accompanied to a local family’s house to enjoy a dinner consisting of local dishes carefully prepared by the fishermen. We go back to hotel for Interfaith Roundtable and overnight.

Day 8 (Wed, 1 Apr 2020):

Cooking class with Red Bridge School-afternoon leisure at beach (Breakfast, Lunch)

We spend early time on the beach for group reflection, meditation and sharing. Our tour guide will take you to the meeting point - Hai Café- (8.15am) with a welcome drink. Then we visit Hoi An’s colorful market, and experience the amazing sights, sounds and aromas of this busy market. We will have the opportunity to interact with the local sellers and learn about all the ingredients to be used in the cooking lesson later. We board the Red Bridge boat for a leisurely cruise (25 minutes) along the Hoi An River to the Red Bridge Cooking School. This is a chance to view local river life, so make sure your camera is handy. On arrival, we explore the cooking school’s herb garden, before learning about some of Hoi An’s and Vietnam’s well-known dishes. The cooking lesson runs for about 2 hours – the Red Bridge chefs first demonstrate each dish before we prepare the same dish ourselves. Included in the class is a brief introduction to Vietnamese food carving (plate decoration). After the lesson, we sit down and eat what we have cooked. We back to hotel in the afternoon to enjoy the beach. Dinner on your own. Overnight at hotel.

Day 9 (Thu, 2 Apr 2020): Hoian- Danang-fly to Hanoi-City tour (Breakfast, Lunch)

We spend early time on the beach for group reflection, meditation and sharing.

This morning we have the flight to Hanoi:

FLIGHT: DANANG-HANOI WITH VN168 @ 10:30/11:50

Upon arrival in Hanoi, we meet our driver with our tour guide, and we transfer to hotel for check in. Today we have the lunch at the very special restaurant called Koto restaurant and learn about their story. Later on, you will visit the Temple of Literature (Van Mieu in Vietnamese), situated in the place once known as the first university of Vietnam. Built in 1070 by Emperor Ly Thanh Tong, the university was first opened for princes and mandarins exclusively. With its ancient courtyards, altars and roofs, Van Mieu is a very fine example of Vietnamese architecture. This afternoon, we worship at Al Noor Mosque (optional) before reaching Dong Xuan market for a visit. Then we proceed to Thang Long Theatre for water puppet show, just on the bank of Hoan Kiem Lake. Then we return to hotel for relax. Dinner on your own. Overnight at hotel.

Day 10 (Fri, 3 Apr 2020):

Follow the Pilgrims to Perfume Pagoda- Fare well dinner (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

The day begins on the roof top for group reflection, meditation and sharing.

And then on to the southwest of Hanoi for a visit to Huong Pagoda (or the Perfume Pagoda) located at the top of Huong Mountain (or Huong Son in Vietnamese). The place, sacred to Buddhists, is accessible either by walking up the mountain or if preferred, by cable car. Upon arrival, 1-hour sampan ride to reach the starting point of the hiking trail or the cable car station. You will visit Huong Tich cave and a pagoda with the same name at the top of the mountain. Then, on the way back, you will make a stop at Thien Tru Pagoda. At the end of the visit, you will return to your vehicle via another sampan ride then head back to hotel for relaxation before the farewell dinner at the authentic Vietnamese restaurant. Back to hotel for relax and overnight.

Day 11 (Sat, 4 Apr 2020):

City landmark (Breakfast, Lunch)

We spend early time on the roof top for group reflection, meditation and sharing.



In the morning, we will pay a visit to the Ethnology Museum and learn about the different ethnic groups of Vietnam. Created in November 1997 at the Francophonie Summit, it is both a research center and a public museum featuring the 54 ethnic groups found across Vietnam. You will be able to find here an impressive collection of traditional costumes, musical instruments, jewelry, weapons and illustrations of various customs of the 54 minorities, providing an interesting introduction to Vietnamese culture. We

back to center and visit Badinh square where Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum is located and look them from outside. We continue our day to St. Joseph's Cathedral and join the English mass here. We back hotel for some refreshment until transfer to airport for the flight out. Your room is available until 18:00.

DEPARTURE FLIGHT:

Turkish Airlines departing HCMs City at 9:35pm. (Layover in Istanbul, Turkey) We will arrive at Atlanta Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport on Sunday at 2:05 PM.

Tour Managed by Exotic Voyages - Vietnam

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PREMIER LUXURY TRAVEL

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

COST: \$3450 per person, double occupancy

Application with a deposit of \$750 is due with application, to make the list of travelers on first reply basis. Full payment is due by January 7, 2020. Please make all checks payable to ICI/World Pilgrims or pay online at www.interfaithci.org

AIR FARE: Round trip economy class out of Atlanta via any IATA/ARC carrier is included based on applicable fares. Current airfares used and subject to change as well as increases for fuel surcharges. Once airline tickets are issued they are non-refundable.

MEALS: Breakfast and lunch or dinner are included daily.

SIGHTSEEING: As per attached program. The schedule may have to vary the sequence of the tour or to make substitutions, if necessary. All transfers and sightseeing by private motor coach.

BAGGAGE: Please limit luggage to no more than one personal item and one carry one per person. ICI/World Pilgrims is released from any liability whatsoever, resulting in loss, damage, theft, weather, delay in transit to any baggage, luggage, hand piece, etc, of the participant during any and all portions of this tour.

TIPS/TAXES: All service charges for meals, tips for the driver and other gratuities are included in the cost of the Pilgrimage.

CANCELLATION: No cancellation fee if cancelled up to 60 days prior to departure, except a \$150 administrative fee; cancellation fee of \$400 per person if cancelled 59-31 days prior to departure; cancellation 30 days or less prior to departure has a cancellation fee of 100%.

NOT INCLUDED: Items of a personal nature such as in-room service, laundry, telephone, special food or drink, lunches and checked baggage costs

VISA IS REQUIRED/TRAVEL INSURANCE IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED.

ACCIDENT WAIVER AND RELEASE OF LIABILITY: I HEREBY ASSUME ALL OF THE RISKS OF PARTICIPATING IN ANY/ALL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH THIS PILGRIMAGE/IMMERSION including by way of example and not limitation, any risks that may arise from negligence or carelessness on the part of the persons or entities being released, from dangerous or defective equipment or property owned, maintained, or controlled by them, or because of their possible liability without fault. I certify that I am physically fit, have sufficiently prepared or trained for participation in this activity, and have not been advised to not participate by a qualified medical professional. I certify that there are no health-related reasons or problems which preclude my participation in this activity.

I acknowledge that this Accident Waiver and Release of Liability Form will be used Interfaith Community Initiatives, organizers of the activity in which I may participate, and that it will govern my actions and responsibilities at said activity.

In consideration of my application and permitting me to participate in this activity, I hereby take action for myself, my executors, administrators, heirs, next of kin, successors, and assigns as follows:

(A) I WAIVE, RELEASE, AND DISCHARGE from any and all liability, including but not limited to, liability arising from the negligence or fault of the entities or persons released, for my death, disability, personal injury, property damage, property theft, or actions of any kind which may hereafter occur to me including my traveling to and from this activity, INTERFAITH COMMUNITY INITIATIVES, INC. (ICI) and/or their directors, officers, employees, volunteers, representatives, and agents, and the activity holders, sponsors, and volunteers; (B) INDEMNIFY, HOLD HARMLESS, AND PROMISE NOT TO SUE the entities or persons mentioned in this paragraph from any and all liabilities or claims made as a result of participation in this activity, whether caused by the negligence of release or otherwise.

I acknowledge that ICI and its directors, officers, volunteers, representatives, and agents are NOT responsible for the errors, omissions, acts, or failures to act of any party or entity conducting a specific activity on their behalf.

I acknowledge that this activity may involve a test of a person's physical and mental limits and carries with it the potential for death, serious injury, and property loss. The risks include, but are not limited to, those caused by terrain, facilities, temperature, weather, condition of participants, equipment, vehicular traffic, lack of hydration, and actions of other people including, but not limited to, participants, volunteers, monitors, and/or producers of the activity. These risks are not only inherent to participants but are also present for volunteers.

I hereby consent to receive medical treatment which may be deemed advisable in the event of injury, accident, and/or illness during this activity.

I understand while participating in this activity, I may be photographed. I agree to allow my photo, video, or film likeness to be used for any legitimate purpose by ICI.

The Accident Waiver and Release of Liability Form shall be construed broadly to provide a release and waiver to the maximum extent permissible under applicable law.

I CERTIFY THAT I HAVE READ THIS DOCUMENT AND I FULLY UNDERSTAND ITS CONTENT. I AM AWARE THAT THIS IS A RELEASE OF LIABILITY AND A CONTRACT AND I SIGN IT OF MY OWN FREE WILL.

ICI/World Pilgrims
P. O. Box 7043

Atlanta, GA 30357

www.interfaithci.org

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL ANGELA RICE AT 404-836-0536

About Interfaith Community Initiatives

Interfaith Community Initiatives, Inc has the mission to transform the Atlanta metropolitan area into a model community for interfaith understanding and collaboration. We do this by developing and leading innovating, inviting programs that inspire deep engagement and interfaith appreciation. We are committed to developing long-term interfaith relations and collaborations through programs like World Pilgrims®, Interfaith Immersions, Interfaith Contemplative Groups, and the Atlanta Interfaith Leaders Fellowship.

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#WorldPilgrims