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FIELD TRIP FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS  
TO VISIT VIETNAM TO DO PRACTICAL RESEARCH

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Western Travel has the pleasure to invite you to major touristy attractions during your trips to Vietnam, a country with many white exotic sandy beaches, charming cities and friendly people. Though a lot of modern developments have been done, Vietnam still keeps its own unique cultural and natural environment which brings a great chance to those who love the Asian beauty of nature like Ha Noi; the charm of ancient citadels like Hue and Hoi An; the variety of places to explore, including the cool, romantic central highlands-home like Dalat; the booming busy cities like HoChiMinh City and the magnificence of the sea and islands like Ha Long Bay.

Vietnamese people, the offspring of the legendary Dragon and Fairy always look forward to the future, keeping the past, cherishing the present and wishing to extend their hospitality to all people around the world coming to Vietnam. The healthy cuisine of Vietnam is internationally known, with colors and flavors unique to the region. Traditional folk arts such as water puppetry and opera are still practised, and the fine arts embody Asian and European styles.

Come and see Vietnam to enjoy and discover her spectacular nature, the friendliness of the local inhabitants and relax in the comfort of world class hotels on our package tours. It is also a good opportunity to strike up acquaintance with different people from all over the world.



We hope you enjoy visiting our website and that it will inspire you to visit the fascinating Vietnam we offer – we are sure you will not be disappointed

Your partner in Vietnam, Western

Travel, an experienced tour operator will provide you with many interesting and safe tour packages, tailor-made programs. Western Travel aims at good quality and excellent service at affordable prices. We use fully insured means of transportation, well-trained guides, central hotels and renowned restaurants.

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## **1. Tour Objectives**

- a) Practical field trip and workshop assignment in Vietnam discovery
- b) Globalize the study through this program
- c) Valued experience in information and study during the tour
- d) Leisure holidays in Mekong Delta and Vietnam Discovery particularly
- e) Practical research by the guidance and help of experts and local people
- f) The students will master the needs in Vietnam Market and understand study exchange program from the Vietnamese Universities
- g) Understanding laws for Economy, study, business and so on from the government in Vietnam
- h) The students will realize and understand what and how the potential development in industries in Vietnam
- i) Other valued information during the trip with practical and theoretical guidance of local people, students and professors
- j) The students will get new relationship with Vietnamese university and businesses
- k) The students will understand the history and culture of the Vietnamese people
- l) During the tour, students will have chance to do social work by helping poor people such a work of house roofing, teaching English children at primary school and helping school in repairing equipment and school painting and decoration

## **2. Tour Description**

- a. Field trip and practical workshop assignment
- b. Tour exploration with leisure holiday
- c. Factory visit
- d. Group discussion Assignment & Tour Summary
- e. Practical Research

## **3. Itinerary**

Day 1: Welcome

- Welcome and Hotel check in (Flight will be confirmed and VIP airport pick up and send off)
- Gala dinner with University in Vietnam

Day 2: Conference and City Tour

- 6:00: Breakfast at hotel
- 8:00: Conference with students and professors from Vietnamese University

- 12:00: Lunch
- 13:30: Visit university's campus
- 16:00: City tour – Visit War Museum, Central Post Office and City Cathedral
- 19:00: Boat dinner cruising on Saigon River

Day 3: Mekong Delta

- 6:00: Breakfast at hotel
- 8:00: Driving to Mekong Delta
- 9:30: Mekong Tour and Boat Trip on Tien River
- 12:00: Lunch on Tortoise Island
- 13:00: Field workshop
- 17:00: Driving back HCMC

Day 4: Flight to Hanoi and Ha Long Bay

- 6:00: Breakfast at hotel
- 8:00: Flight to Hanoi
- 10:00: On Board – Cruise on Ha Long Bay
- 10:30: On Board with Ha Long Tour

Day 5: Ha Noi City Tour and Flight back home

- 10:30: Cruise check out
- 13:00: Lunch on the way
- 15:00: In Ha Noi for Flight back home

#### 4. Site Description

##### HCM City

The economy of Ho Chi Minh City consists of industries ranging from mining, seafood processing, agriculture, and construction, to tourism, finance, industry and trade. The state-owned sector makes up 33.3% of the economy, the private sector 4.6%, and the remainder in foreign investment. Concerning its economic structure, the service sector accounts for 51.1%, industry and construction account for 47.7% and forestry, agriculture and others make up just 1.2%.



Quang Trung Software Park is a software park situated in District 12. The park is approximately 15 km from downtown Ho Chi Minh City and hosts software enterprises as well as dot.com companies. The park also

includes a software training school. Dot.com investors here are supplied with other facilities and services such as residences and high-speed access to the internet as well as favorable taxation. Together with the HCM City Hi Tech Park in District 9 and the 32 ha. software park inside Tan Thuan Export Processing Zone in District 7 of the city, Ho Chi Minh City aims to become an important hi-tech city in the country and the South-East Asia region. This park helps the city in particular and Vietnam in general to become an outsourcing location for other enterprises in developed countries, as India has done.

Some 300,000 businesses, including many large enterprises, are involved in high-tech, electronic, processing and light industries, and also in construction, building materials and agro-products. Additionally, crude oil is a popular economic base in Ho Chi Minh City. Investors are still pouring money into the city. Total local private investment was 160,000 billion dong (\$10 billion) with 18,500 newly founded companies, Investment trends to high technology, services and real estate projects.

As of June 2006, the city had three export processing zones and twelve industrial parks, in addition to Quang Trung Software Park and Ho Chi Minh City Hi-Tech Park. Intel has invested about 1 billion dollars in a factory in the city. Over 50 banks with hundreds of branches and about 20 insurance companies are also located inside the city. The Ho Chi Minh City Stock Exchange, the first stock exchange in Vietnam, was opened in 2001. There are 171 medium and large-scale markets as well as several supermarket chains, shopping malls, and fashion and beauty centers

## **Mekong Delta**

The Mekong Delta, as a region, lies immediately to the west of Ho Chi Minh City, roughly forming a triangle stretching from My Tho in the east to Chau Doc and Ha Tien in the northwest, down to Ca Mau and the South China Sea at the southernmost tip of Vietnam, and including the island of Phu Quoc.

The Mekong Delta region of Vietnam displays a variety of physical landscapes, ranging from mountains and highlands to the north and west to broad, flat flood plains in the south. This diversity of terrain was largely the product of tectonic uplift and folding brought about by the collision of the Indian and Eurasian tectonic plates about 50 million years ago. The soil of the lower Delta consists mainly of sediment from the Mekong and its tributaries, deposited over millions of years as the river changed its course due to the flatness of the low-lying terrain.

## **Ha Noi**

Hanoi, as the capital of French Indochina, was home to the first Western-style universities in Indochina, including: *Indochina Medical College* (1902) - now Hanoi Medical University, *Indochina University* (1904) - now Hanoi National University, and *École Supérieure des Beaux-Arts de L'Indochine* (1925) - now Hanoi University of Fine Art.

After the Communist Party took control over Hanoi in 1954 with support from the Soviet Union, many new universities were built, among them, Hanoi University of Technology remains the largest technical university in Vietnam.

Hanoi is the largest centre of education in Vietnam. It is estimated that 62% of the scientists in the whole country are living and working in Hanoi. Admissions to undergraduate study are through entrance examinations, which are conducted annually and open for everyone (who has successfully completed his/her secondary education) in the country. The majority of universities in Hanoi are public, although in recent years a number of private universities have started their operation. Thăng Long University, founded in 1988, by some Vietnamese mathematics professors in Hanoi and France is the first private university in Vietnam.

Because many of Vietnam's major universities are located in Hanoi, students from other provinces (especially in the northern part of the country) wishing to enter university often travel to Hanoi for the annual entrance examination. Such events often take place in June and July, during which a large number of students and their families converge on the city for several weeks around this intense examination period. In recent years, these entrance exams have been centrally coordinated by the Ministry of Education, but passing marks are decided independently by each university.

Although there are state owned kindergartens, there are also many private ventures that serve both local and international needs. Pre-tertiary (elementary and secondary) schools in Hanoi are generally state run although there are some independent schools. Education is equivalent to the K–12 system in the US, with elementary school between grades 1 and 5, middle school (or junior high) between grades 6 and 9, and high school from grades 10 to 12.

### **Ha Long Bay**



**Hạ Long Bay** (literally: "Descending Dragon Bay"; Vietnamese: *Vịnh Hạ Long*) is a UNESCO World Heritage Site, and a popular travel destination, located in Quảng Ninh province, Vietnam. Administratively, the bay belongs to Ha Long City, Cam Pha town, and part of Van Don district. The bay features thousands of limestone karsts and isles in various sizes and shapes. Hạ Long Bay is a center of a larger zone which includes Bái Tử Long bay to the northeast, and Cát Bà islands to the southwest. These larger zones share similar geological, geographical, geomorphologic, climate, and cultural characters.

Hạ Long Bay has an area of around 1,553 km<sup>2</sup>, including 1,960 islets, most of which are limestone. The core of the bay has an area of 334 km<sup>2</sup> with a high density of 775 islets. The limestone in this bay has gone through 500 million years of formation in different conditions and environments. The evolution of the karst in this bay has taken 20 million years under the impact of the tropical wet climate. The geo-diversity of the environment in the area has created biodiversity, including a tropical evergreen biosystem, oceanic and sea shore biosystem. Hạ Long Bay is home to 14 endemic floral species and 60 endemic faunal species.

Historical research surveys have shown the presence of prehistorical human beings in this area tens of thousands years ago. The successive ancient cultures are the Soi Nhụ culture around 18,000-7000 BC, the Cái Bèo culture 7000-5000 BC and the Hạ Long culture 5,000-3,500 years ago. Hạ Long Bay also marked important events in the history of Vietnam with many artifacts found in Bài Thơ Mout, Đầu Gỗ Cave, Bãi Cháy.

500 years ago, Nguyen Trai praised the beauty of Hạ Long Bay in his verse *Lộ nhập Vân Đồn*, in which he called it "rock wonder in the sky". In 1962, the Ministry of Culture, Sports and Tourism of Vietnam listed Hạ Long Bay in the National Relics and Landscapes publication. In 1994, the core zone of Hạ Long Bay was

listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site according to criterion vii, and listed for a second time according to criterion viii

### 5. Program Organization

REGISTRATION FORM					
Part 1. University Info					
No	University	Address	Year of Study	Faculty and profession	
Part 2: Students' Info					
No	Name in full	Faculty	Email	Phone	Photo
	Passport No	Place of issued	Date of issued	Payment Term	
				In cash	Wire transfer

### 6. Service

Service	No of Tourist	Unit Price in USD Full Package
<b>A. Included</b> - Transportation (Bus/ Van/ Car) - VIP airport pick – up and send – off - Experience Tour Guide - Hotel (4 Star standard with internet access in room)	- Group tour (Min 15 people)	- 2,000

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Domestic air ticket</li> <li>- Meal (B/ L/ D)</li> <li>- Drink: Water and cool tissue on bus; 1 drink (Lavie, Coke)/ each meal excluded Wine, Cocktail</li> <li>- Tour entertainment, Boat Trip, Entrance Tickets</li> <li>- Business Briefing Conference Room</li> <li>- Field trip and workshop</li> </ul> <p><b>B. Excluded</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- VAT tax</li> <li>- International air ticket</li> <li>- VISA fee</li> <li>- Shopping</li> <li>- Personal expenses</li> <li>- Other not listed in “INCLUDED” above</li> </ul>		
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