RESPONSIBILITY: Valor Tours, Ltd. acts only as an agent in providing all the services in connection with the tour described in this brochure, and cannot assume responsibility for injury. death, damage or loss due to delays, mechanical defects or failure of any nature aboard aircraft, buses, ship's tenders or zodiacs, or any other means of conveyance, accommodation, or other services resulting directly or indirectly from any acts of God, dangers incident to the sea, fire, breakdown of machinery or equipment, acts of government, other authorities de jure or de facto, wars (whether declared or not), hostilities and civil disturbances, acts of terrorism, strikes, riots, thefts, pilferage, epidemics, quarantine, medical or customs regulations or procedures, defaults, delays or cancellations, or changes from any causes beyond our control, or any loss or damage resulting from improperly issued passports, visas, travel documents, and that neither we nor any of our affiliates shall become liable for any additional expenses of liability sustained or incurred by a tour member as a result of the foregoing causes. The airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act or omission or events during the time the passenger is not aboard the aircraft or conveyance. The passenger contract in use shall constitute the sole contract between the carrier and the purchaser of the tour and/or the passenger and the carrier. The right is reserved, should the circumstances warrant it, to alter the itinerary or the sequence of places visited. The right is reserved to substitute hotels for other hotels of a similar category. The operator reserves the right at their or their agent's discretion, to decline to accept, retain or cancel any member of the tour, at any time or place, or cancel the trip if circumstances demand. If the tour operator for any reason whatsoever cancels the trip, all partial and/or full payments will be refunded in full without any further obligation on their part. The schedules used in the operation of this tour are subject to change, without notice. If any tour member does not utilize any portion of the transportation at any time or for any reason whatsoever, additional cost of substitute transportation will be borne by the passengers. Payment of the required deposit or any partial or full payment for reservations shall constitute consent to all the provisions listed in the brochure. Valor Tours Ltd. cannot guarantee or be held responsible for assigned seating aboard any aircraft used in this tour. All legal questions will be settled within the jurisdiction of the County of Marin, California and by binding arbitration.

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Cover: DaNang (Vietnamtourism site); Halong Bay and our overnight boat; 2015 group at outdoor army museum with John Dewing in the middle in bright blue shirt.

# Valor Tours, Ltd. presents Return to Vietnam

Departing San Francisco on March 1, 2025 Returning to San Francisco March 15, 2025





Escorted by COL. John H. Dewing, USA Ret.





America's Oldest and Most Experienced Military History Tour Operator



For Vietnam War era History Buffs and Veterans, this now tranquil, mysterious and legendary country is offering travelers the chance to cross a bridge of history and experience to one of the last great adventure destinations in Southeast Asia.

Located in the center of the Southeast Asia, the country's diverse geography, spectacular scenery, the warmth of its people and its colonial history, added to its more turbulent past – are just some of the attractions that are drawing visitors to this unique land.

For some Americans visiting Vietnam is an emotional experience, while others are seeking a relatively new tourist destination off limits to American tourism from 1975 to 1994 during the trade embargo. Impressively, the Vietnamese welcome Americans warmheartedly to this one of the safest destinations in the World.

Our itinerary can be altered to fit the needs of the passengers on the tour. If there is a particular sight, memorial, museum or activity you would like to see included, let us know and we will do our best to fit it too far off the planned route.

Optional extensions available to Cambodia, Laos and/or Thailand.



Col. John H. Dewing, USA Ret, (middle above in sun glasses, with other members of 2019 tour group at Ho Chi Minh tomb) will escort tour. Col. Dewing served one tour of duty with the 864<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion at Nha Trang and one tour with the Americal Division at Chu Lai. He participated in Lam Son 719, the US supported RVN invasion of Laos and spent several months along the DMZ. Awarded the Silver Star, Bronze Star, Purple Heart, Air Medal and Combat Inf. Badge.

# **Application Form**

"Return to Vietnam" - March 2025

Mail to: Valor Tours, Ltd., 10 Liberty Ship Way, Sausalito, CA 94965

NameName
(As it appears on your passport)
NameName
Address
(where confirmation and documents should be mailed)
CityStateZip
Phone (days)Email:
Please reserve spaces on this tour. Enclosed is my/our deposit in the amount of (\$600 per person) in the form of a check, or credit card
Expiration, for accommodations based on a twin share basis or single occupancy or triple share (subject to availability).
I am traveling alone with wish to share with another tour member Smoking Non smoking
Reason for taking this tour, i.e. tourism, history buff, Vietnam Vet. (Division, etc.)
I/we am interesting in extending the trip to
I/we are interested in stopping over in Taipei on the way home for nights.
Handicap facilities do not exist in Vietnam. Please describe handicap, if any
Valor Tours, Ltd. requires passengers with handicaps to bring a traveling companion responsible for assisting with all your needs.)I/we do not require any assistance.
Next of kin:
I/we have read and understand the terms and conditions set forth in this tour brochure
Signature Date

# General Information & Terms/Conditions

#### Reservations & Cancellations

A reservation can only be held with a deposit of \$600 per person and on a first come-first served basis. Tour is limited to a maximum of 25 passengers. Please fill out, sign and return the application form with your check or credit card information, and a photocopy of the picture page of your passport. Final payment is due December 1, 2024. Cancellations received in writing by December 1, 2024 are fully refundable. Cancellations received between Dec. 2 and Jan. 2, 2025 subject to loss of deposit. Cancellations received in writing after Jan. 2, 2025 or no shows are non-refundable. Cancellation insurance is not included in tour cost, but is available upon request for additional cost. Refunds to credit cards can take up to 60 days to process. Changes to your reservations within 30 days of departure may result in administrative fees and/or penalties. Reservation deadline is December 1, 2024 however last minute bookings will be consider if accommpanied by full payment and subject to availablity. Cost is based on a minimum of 10 passengers traveling together. Unused components of the tour are non-refundable. Single travelers may choose to share with another tour member or pay the single supplement for single occupancy of hotel rooms. If a roommate cannot be found, then single supplement applies.

#### Travel documents

Passports must be valid six months beyond date of travel. Visa is required for Vietnam. See box next page. Visa fee is not included in tour cost. Travel documents such as airline tickets, passenger list, ID badge, baggage tags, maps and final instructions will be sent Priority Mail about two weeks prior to departure or Express Mail ten days prior to departure.

#### Health

No vaccines are not required at this time, but consult with your physician about Hepatitis A or B shots, which are now recommended but not required for all travel. Also check to see if your Tetanus is up to date. You should get one regardless of travel. As with all third world tropical climates, malaria-carrying mosquitoes exist. Use common sense precautions such as insect repellent or wearing long sleeved shirts and long pants in the evening hours when the mosquitoes are most prevalent. Avoid tap water in all its forms, i.e. beverages with ice, brushing your teeth, etc. Bottled water is available for purchase. We suggest keeping a bottle in your backpack at all times. Good restaurants, bars and cafes use purified or boiled waters, while local establishments often used tap water. Bring your Covid vaccine card just in case, although at this time it is not required.

#### Insurance

Emergency and cancellation insurance coverage thru Travelex is available upon request. A description of coverage will be sent to those who sign up with their confirmation.

# Itinerary in brief (Itinerary subject to change)

Sat March 1

8:00pm Check in at Eva Airlines, San Francisco.

#### Sun March 2

12:05am Depart San Francisco Int'l Airport via Eva Airlines #17/27 with inflight meal service and entertainment.

#### Mon March 3 (D)

5:55am arrive Taipei. Connect to Eva Airlines #397 departing Taipei at 9:15am, arriving Hanoi 11:35am. Upon arrival meet local guide and transfer to hotel in Hanoi. Cyclo tour of the old quarter. Group dinner tonight at the Seasons of Hanoi restaurant.

Overnight Thien Thai Hotel, Hanoi.

#### Tue March 4 (B, L)

Visit Ba Dinh Square (HCM house and the One Pillar Pagoda), Hoa Lo (Hanoi Hilton) Prison Museum, Temple of Literature and HCM Tomb. Water Puppet show after dinner.

Overnight Thien Thai Hotel, Hanoi.

### Wed March 5 (B, L, D)

Check out of hotel in Hanoi and drive to Halong Bay where we spend the day on a boat touring the bay. Overnight on Paradise Elegance boat.

#### Thu March 6 (B)

Spend the morning on the boat, and then go back to Hanoi Airport. Depart Hanoi on flight To Danang. Transfer to Hoi An. Overnight Vinh Hung Emerald, Hoi An.

#### Fri March 7 (B)

Morning walking tour of "ancient town" Hoi An. Afternoon free to either shop, rest, or drive to Chu Lai, Americal Division base. Overnight Vinh Hung Emerald, Hoi An.

#### Sat March 8 (B, D)

Drive to Dong Ha by way of Red Beach, China Beach, Hi Van Pass. Hue for lunch stop, visit the bridge at Dong Ha, the DMZ, and Vinh Moc Tunnels.

Overnight Saigon Dong Ha Hotel.

Sun March 9 (B)

Drive to QL 9 to visit the Mining Center, Rockpile, Khe Sanh, and Lang Vei. Drive through the A Shau Valley on QL 14 and then QL 49 to Hue. Overnight Eldora Hotel, Hue.

Mon March 10 (B)

Boat trip on the Perfume River; visit the Thien Mu Pagoda and Forbidden City and the Tay Loc airfield. Afternoon free to enjoy hotel facilities. Overnight Eldora Hotel, Hue.

Tue March 11 (B)

Morning transfer to airport with stop at Khai Dinh Tomb enroute. Fly to Saigon. Upon arrival, transfer to Can Tho in the Mekong Delta by bus. Overnight Victoria Hotel, Can Tho.

Wed March 12 (B)

Morning tour of Can Tho and floating market. Afternoon free. Overnight Victoria Hotel, Can Tho.

Thu March 13 (B)

Board bus back to Saigon. In the afternoon visit the post office and Notre Dame Cathedral. Overnight Rex Hotel, Saigon. (HCMC)

Fri March 14 (B, L, D)

Day touring Saigon including former presidential palace, War Remnants Museum, and Cu Chi Tunnels. Group farewell dinner at local restaurant. Overnight Rex Hotel, Saigon (HCMC)

Sat March 15 (B)

Check out and transfer to airport. Depart Ho Chi Minh City at 12:45 pm via Eva Airlines #392, arriving Taipei 5:00 pm. Connect to Eva Airlines #18 at 7:50 pm arriving San Francisco 4:00pm same day.

# \$4,100 per person, twin share. \$900 single supplement.

Includes round trip air fare from San Francisco to Vietnam in economy class via Eva Airlines; U.S. Departure taxes; air fare within Vietnam; services of John Dewing as tour leader; local guides and drivers; ground transportation for sightseeing throughout tour; entrance fees; 12-nights accommodations at hotels indicated in itinerary (or similar); meals as indicated in itinerary by B-breakfast, L-Lunch, D-Dinner; local taxes.

This tour is eligible for our Early Booking/Payment discount. Participation by children under the age of 12 years is not recommended.



"...the trip was very enjoyable. We had an excellent and congenial group, and all the arrangements were very good. The hotels and restaurants were excellent... Vietnam is an exceptionally interesting and affordable place to visit and I think the group got great value in many ways from making the tour."

Former Ambassador to Vietnam, James Rosenthal

"John Dewing did a great job (2015). I was very impressed with the country. When I left there 45 years ago it was a primitive, war torn and desparate country. It appears to be on it's way to becoming a prosperous nation. Friendly people, beautiful country, beaches and mountains. I was especially impressed with the hotels and meals arranged. I have a new appreciation of Vietnamese cuisine. John added a lot of informal insight to the people, government, history and his personal knowledge of the misty mountains of which I had not seen before." Lee Terry, 168th Engineer Battalion, Vietnam

A visa is required for Vietnam. You can apply online for this visa by going to www.etavietnam.org for a cost of \$25.00. If you do not have access to internet, Valor Tours can obtain a visa on your behalf at our local Vietnam Consulate for \$100 per person including visa fee. All we need is a simple form filled out which we will send you, and a copy of your passport.





