

Vietnam Itinerary and Budget

Da Nang to Hanoi via Train

KLOOK LINK: Use my **PROMO CODE CMCBQ** to get a discount.

<https://s.klook.com/c/B1rkWaVKXP>

Da Nang Beaches, Son Tra Peninsula, Hoi An Side Trip, Overnight Train, Hanoi Old Quarter, Hoan Kiem Lake, Cathedral, and Cafés

Trip Overview

Category	Details
Destination	Vietnam
Route	Da Nang → Hoi An side trip → Da Nang → Hanoi
Suggested Duration	5 days/4 nights
Travel Style	Beach, city walk, cultural sightseeing, café hopping, train travel, budget-friendly solo travel
Main Transport	Grab motorbike, walking, taxi/ride-hailing, train
Budget Currency	Philippine Peso
Estimated Budget Range	PHP 18,000–35,000 per person excluding international flights
Best For	Solo travelers, couples, friends, budget travelers, café lovers, first-time Vietnam visitors

Route Summary

1. Explore Da Nang Beach, My Khe Beach, Han River, Dragon Bridge, Love Lock Bridge, Han Bridge, and Da Nang Pink Church
2. Visit Son Tra Peninsula and enjoy Da Nang coastal views
3. Take a side trip to Hoi An Ancient Town and Coconut Village
4. Travel from Da Nang Station to Hanoi by train
5. Explore Hanoi Old Quarter, Hoan Kiem Lake, St. Joseph's Cathedral, and cafés

Day 1:Arrival in Da Nang, Beaches, Han River, and Dragon Bridge

Daily Schedule

Time	Activity
Morning	Arrival in Da Nang
10:00 AM	Hotel check-in or luggage drop-off
11:00 AM	Brunch or early lunch
12:30 PM	Visit Da Nang Beach
02:00 PM	Walk along My Khe Beach
04:00 PM	Rest and freshen up
05:30 PM	Visit Love Lock Bridge
06:00 PM	Walk along Han River
06:30 PM	Dragon Bridge photo stop
07:30 PM	Dinner near Han River or My Khe area
08:30 PM	Han Bridge evening walk
09:30 PM	Return to hotel

Main Stops

Da Nang Beach

Da Nang Beach is a wide coastal area known for soft sand, relaxed seaside atmosphere, open views, and easy access from the city center.

My Khe Beach

My Khe Beach is one of Da Nang’s most popular beaches, ideal for sunrise walks, beach photos, swimming, and seaside cafés.

Love Lock Bridge

Love Lock Bridge is a small romantic bridge near the Han River, known for heart-shaped decorations, river views, and nearby photo spots.

Dragon Bridge

Dragon Bridge is one of Da Nang’s most recognizable landmarks. It is especially beautiful at night when the bridge lights up over the Han River.

Han River

Han River is a scenic riverside area surrounded by bridges, restaurants, cafés, and city lights.

Han Bridge

Han Bridge is a good walking route for evening views of the river, skyline, and city lights.

Transportation Tips

- Grab motorbike is a practical option for solo travelers moving between beaches, bridges, cafés, and city spots.
- Grab car is better for groups, rainy weather, or luggage transfers.

- Walking is ideal around Han River, Dragon Bridge, Love Lock Bridge, and Han Bridge.
- Beach-to-river transfers are short and usually affordable by Grab motorbike.

Estimated Day 1 Budget

Expense	Estimated Cost
Meals and drinks	PHP 700–1,500
Grab motorbike/local transport	PHP 300–800
Beach visits	Free
Love Lock Bridge	Free
Dragon Bridge and Han River walk	Free
Snacks/café stop	PHP 300–800
Accommodation	PHP 700–2,000
Estimated Day 1 Total	PHP 2,000–5,100

Day 2:Son Tra Peninsula, Da Nang Pink Church, Cafés, and Night Walk

Daily Schedule

Time	Activity
07:00 AM	Breakfast
08:00 AM	Travel to Son Tra Peninsula
09:00 AM	Explore Son Tra Peninsula viewpoints
10:30 AM	Visit Linh Ung Pagoda area, if included
12:00 NN	Lunch
01:30 PM	Rest or café break
03:00 PM	Visit Da Nang Pink Church
04:30 PM	Explore nearby city streets and cafés
06:00 PM	Dinner
07:30 PM	Evening walk near Han River, Dragon Bridge, or Han Bridge
09:00 PM	Return to hotel

Main Stops

Son Tra Peninsula

Son Tra Peninsula is a scenic coastal and mountain area in Da Nang known for ocean views, winding roads, natural scenery, and peaceful viewpoints.

Linh Ung Pagoda

Linh Ung Pagoda is a well-known spiritual and scenic stop on Son Tra Peninsula, famous for its large Lady Buddha statue and panoramic sea views.

Da Nang Pink Church

Da Nang Pink Church, also known as Da Nang Cathedral, is a charming French Gothic-style church known for its pastel pink exterior and city-center location.

Transportation Tips

- Grab motorbike is suitable for short city rides but may vary for Son Tra Peninsula depending on driver availability and route.
- For Son Tra Peninsula, a hired motorbike, private car, or booked local tour may be more convenient.
- Solo travelers using Grab motorbike should check route distance and driver acceptance before confirming.
- Afternoon is a good time for Da Nang Pink Church because it pairs well with cafés and city walks.

Estimated Day 2 Budget

Expense	Estimated Cost
Breakfast	PHP 200–500
Son Tra Peninsula transport	PHP 500–1,800
Lunch	PHP 300–700
Café stop	PHP 250–700
Da Nang Pink Church	Free
Dinner	PHP 400–900
Local transport	PHP 300–800
Accommodation	PHP 700–2,000
Estimated Day 2 Total	PHP 2,650–7,400

Day 3:Hoi An Ancient Town and Coconut Village Side Trip

Daily Schedule

Time	Activity
08:00 AM	Breakfast
09:00 AM	Slow morning in Da Nang or beach walk
11:00 AM	Early lunch
12:30 PM	Travel from Da Nang to Coconut Village
01:30 PM	Coconut Village basket boat experience
03:30 PM	Travel to Hoi An Ancient Town
04:00 PM	Arrive in Hoi An Ancient Town
04:00 PM–06:00 PM	Explore streets, cafés, shops, and heritage houses
06:00 PM–07:30 PM	Lantern views and dinner
07:30 PM–08:30 PM	Riverside walk and night market
08:30 PM–09:30 PM	Return to Da Nang

Best Time to Visit Hoi An

The best time to go to Hoi An Ancient Town is around 4:00 PM. This timing allows daylight exploration, golden-hour photos, lantern viewing after sunset, dinner, and a night market walk in one visit.

Main Stops

Coconut Village

Coconut Village is known for basket boat rides through coconut palm waterways. It is a popular side trip before continuing to Hoi An Ancient Town.

Hoi An Ancient Town

Hoi An Ancient Town is a UNESCO-listed heritage destination known for yellow buildings, lantern-lit streets, riverside views, cafés, tailor shops, temples, old houses, and night market stalls.

Suggested Hoi An Route

1. Coconut Village basket boat activity
2. Hoi An Ancient Town entrance area
3. Japanese Covered Bridge area
4. Riverside walk
5. Lantern street photos
6. Local café or dessert stop
7. Hoi An Night Market
8. Return to Da Nang

Transportation Tips

- Da Nang to Hoi An travel time is around 45 minutes to 1 hour depending on traffic.
- Grab car is more comfortable for the Da Nang–Hoi An route.

- Grab motorbike can work for solo travelers with light bags, but the ride is longer than usual city transfers.
- Shared shuttle, private car, or organized day trip is convenient for Coconut Village plus Hoi An.
- Return transport should be arranged before late evening because prices may increase at night.

Estimated Day 3 Budget

Expense	Estimated Cost
Breakfast	PHP 200–500
Lunch	PHP 300–700
Da Nang to Coconut Village/Hoi An transport	PHP 700–2,000
Coconut Village basket boat	PHP 300–800
Hoi An Ancient Town sightseeing	Free–PHP 700
Café/snacks	PHP 300–800
Dinner	PHP 400–1,000
Return transport to Da Nang	PHP 700–2,000
Accommodation	PHP 700–2,000
Estimated Day 3 Total	PHP 3,600–10,500

Day 4:Da Nang Free Morning and Train to Hanoi

Daily Schedule

Time	Activity
07:00 AM	Breakfast
08:00 AM	Final Da Nang beach walk or café stop
10:00 AM	Pack bags and check out
11:00 AM	Early lunch
12:00 NN	Buy snacks and water for train ride
01:00 PM	Travel to Da Nang Railway Station
02:00 PM onwards	Train from Da Nang to Hanoi
Afternoon–Overnight	Scenic train journey
Evening	Dinner on train or packed meal

Main Stop:Da Nang Railway Station

Da Nang Railway Station is the starting point for the train journey to Hanoi. The Da Nang to Hanoi train route is a scenic long-distance railway journey connecting Central Vietnam to Northern Vietnam.

Train Travel Notes

- Da Nang to Hanoi by train usually takes around 15–18 hours depending on selected train service.
- Sleeper berth is recommended for comfort.
- Soft sleeper is more comfortable than hard sleeper.
- Lower berth is more convenient for luggage access and movement.
- Snacks, water, wet wipes, tissue, power bank, jacket, and offline entertainment are useful for the journey.

Transportation Tips

- Grab car is best when going to Da Nang Railway Station with luggage.
- Grab motorbike can work for solo travelers with a backpack only.
- Arrival at the station should be at least 45–60 minutes before departure.
- Train tickets should be booked ahead, especially during weekends, holidays, and peak seasons.

Estimated Day 4 Budget

Expense	Estimated Cost
Breakfast	PHP 200–500
Lunch	PHP 300–700
Café/snacks before train	PHP 300–800
Grab to Da Nang Railway Station	PHP 150–500
Da Nang to Hanoi train ticket	PHP 2,000–4,500
Train meals/snacks	PHP 300–900
Estimated Day 4 Total	PHP 3,250–7,900

Day 5:Arrival in Hanoi, Old Quarter, Hoan Kiem Lake, Cathedral, and Cafés

Daily Schedule

Time	Activity
Morning	Arrival at Hanoi Railway Station
08:00 AM	Transfer to hotel or luggage drop-off
09:00 AM	Breakfast and Vietnamese coffee
10:00 AM	Explore Hanoi Old Quarter
12:00 NN	Lunch
01:30 PM	Visit St. Joseph's Cathedral
02:30 PM	Café hopping near cathedral or Old Quarter
04:00 PM	Walk around Hoan Kiem Lake
05:30 PM	Sunset walk and street photos
07:00 PM	Dinner in Old Quarter
08:30 PM	Night walk, dessert, or coffee stop
09:30 PM	Return to accommodation

Main Stops

Hanoi Old Quarter

Hanoi Old Quarter is a lively historic district filled with narrow streets, shops, local restaurants, cafés, hostels, markets, and street food.

Hoan Kiem Lake

Hoan Kiem Lake is one of Hanoi’s most iconic city landmarks, ideal for walking, photos, people-watching, and relaxing between café stops.

St. Joseph’s Cathedral

St. Joseph’s Cathedral is a famous Gothic-style cathedral near the Old Quarter. The surrounding area is popular for cafés, restaurants, and street photography.

Hanoi Cafés

Hanoi is known for strong coffee culture, including egg coffee, coconut coffee, iced milk coffee, and hidden cafés overlooking busy streets.

Suggested Café and Food Stops

- Egg coffee shops near Old Quarter
- Cathedral-view cafés
- Coconut coffee cafés
- Street-side Vietnamese coffee shops
- Local pho restaurants
- Banh mi stalls
- Bun cha restaurants
- Dessert cafés near Hoan Kiem Lake

Transportation Tips

- Walking is the best way to explore Old Quarter, Hoan Kiem Lake, and St. Joseph’s Cathedral.
- Grab motorbike is useful for short solo transfers from the railway station to hotel or from Old Quarter to farther cafés.
- Grab car is better when carrying luggage.
- Old Quarter streets can be busy, so walking routes should allow extra time.

Estimated Day 5 Budget

Expense	Estimated Cost
Grab from Hanoi Railway Station to hotel	PHP 150–500
Breakfast and coffee	PHP 250–600
Lunch	PHP 300–700
Café hopping	PHP 400–1,200
Hoan Kiem Lake	Free
St. Joseph’s Cathedral exterior visit	Free
Dinner	PHP 400–1,000
Snacks/dessert	PHP 200–600
Accommodation	PHP 700–2,000
Estimated Day 5 Total	PHP 2,400–6,600

Optional Day 6:Hanoi Slow Day or Departure

Daily Schedule

Time	Activity
08:00 AM	Breakfast
09:00 AM	Old Quarter café morning
10:30 AM	Souvenir shopping
12:00 NN	Lunch
01:30 PM	Hotel checkout or luggage storage
03:00 PM	Final Hoan Kiem Lake walk or café stop
Evening	Airport or onward travel transfer

Optional Activities

- Train Street café area, if access is open and allowed
- Dong Xuan Market
- French Quarter walk

- Hanoi Opera House exterior
- More café hopping
- Souvenir shopping in Old Quarter

Estimated Optional Day 6 Budget

Expense	Estimated Cost
Meals and coffee	PHP 800–2,000
Local transport	PHP 200–700
Shopping/pasalubong	PHP 1,000–5,000
Airport transfer, if departing	PHP 500–1,500
Optional extra night accommodation	PHP 700–2,000
Estimated Optional Day 6 Total	PHP 3,200–11,200

Comprehensive Budget Breakdown

Estimated Core Trip Cost Per Person

Expense Category	Estimated Cost
Da Nang accommodation for 3 nights	PHP 2,100–6,000
Hanoi accommodation for 1 night	PHP 700–2,000
Food and drinks	PHP 4,000–8,500
Cafés and snacks	PHP 1,500–4,000
Grab/local transportation	PHP 2,000–6,000
Da Nang to Hoi An side trip transport	PHP 1,400–4,000
Coconut Village basket boat	PHP 300–800
Hoi An sightseeing allowance	PHP 0–700
Da Nang to Hanoi train ticket	PHP 2,000–4,500
Miscellaneous	PHP 1,500–3,500
Estimated Total Excluding International Flights	PHP 15,500–40,000

Recommended Planning Budget

Travel Style	Estimated Budget
Tight budget solo traveler	PHP 18,000–23,000
Comfortable solo traveler	PHP 23,000–32,000
Private-room traveler with cafés and extras	PHP 32,000–45,000

Sample Budget Plans

Budget Solo Traveler Plan

Category	Estimated Cost
Hostel/budget accommodation	PHP 3,000
Food and drinks	PHP 4,000
Cafés and snacks	PHP 1,500
Grab motorbike/local transport	PHP 2,000
Hoi An and Coconut Village side trip	PHP 2,000
Da Nang to Hanoi train	PHP 2,500
Miscellaneous	PHP 1,500
Emergency buffer	PHP 2,000
Estimated Total	PHP 18,500

Comfortable Budget Plan

Category	Estimated Cost
Budget private/shared accommodation	PHP 5,000
Food and drinks	PHP 6,000
Cafés and snacks	PHP 2,500
Grab motorbike/car transport	PHP 4,000
Hoi An and Coconut Village side trip	PHP 3,500
Da Nang to Hanoi train	PHP 3,500
Miscellaneous	PHP 2,500
Emergency buffer	PHP 3,000
Estimated Total	PHP 30,000

Comfortable With Extras Plan

Category	Estimated Cost
Private accommodation	PHP 8,000
Food and drinks	PHP 8,500
Cafés and snacks	PHP 4,000
Grab car/local transport	PHP 6,000
Hoi An and Coconut Village side trip	PHP 5,000
Da Nang to Hanoi soft sleeper train	PHP 4,500
Shopping and pasalubong	PHP 5,000
Miscellaneous	PHP 3,500
Emergency buffer	PHP 5,000
Estimated Total	PHP 49,500

Transportation Guide

Grab Motorbike for Solo Travelers

Use Case	Best Option
Short city rides in Da Nang	Grab motorbike
Beach to Han River area	Grab motorbike
Da Nang Pink Church to café or hotel	Grab motorbike
Hanoi Railway Station to Old Quarter with backpack	Grab motorbike
Old Quarter to nearby cafés	Walking or Grab motorbike
Luggage transfers	Grab car
Rainy weather	Grab car
Da Nang to Hoi An	Grab car, shuttle, private transfer, or motorbike if comfortable with longer rides

Estimated Local Transport Costs

Route	Estimated Cost
Da Nang city Grab motorbike ride	PHP 80–250
Da Nang city Grab car ride	PHP 200–600
Da Nang to Son Tra Peninsula	PHP 500–1,800
Da Nang to Hoi An one way	PHP 700–2,000
Da Nang hotel to railway station	PHP 150–500
Hanoi Railway Station to Old Quarter	PHP 150–500
Short Hanoi Grab motorbike ride	PHP 80–250

Train From Da Nang to Hanoi

Train Option	Estimated Cost	Best For
Hard seat	PHP 1,200–2,000	Lowest budget, least comfortable
Soft seat	PHP 1,800–3,000	Budget travelers who can sit long hours
Hard sleeper	PHP 2,000–3,500	Budget overnight travel
Soft sleeper	PHP 3,000–4,500	Best comfort for long train journey

Accommodation Cost Guide

Accommodation Type	Estimated Cost Per Night
Hostel dorm	PHP 300–700
Budget guesthouse	PHP 600–1,200
Budget private room	PHP 900–1,800
Comfortable hotel	PHP 1,800–3,500

Food and Café Budget Guide

Daily Food Budget

Travel Style	Estimated Daily Cost
Street food and basic meals	PHP 700–1,000
Local meals plus cafés	PHP 1,000–1,700
Café-heavy and restaurant meals	PHP 1,700–2,500

Food to Try in Da Nang and Hoi An

- Mi Quang
- Banh mi
- Cao lau

- White rose dumplings
- Vietnamese iced coffee
- Coconut coffee
- Seafood near My Khe Beach
- Banh xeo
- Spring rolls
- Hoi An street snacks

Food to Try in Hanoi

- Pho
- Bun cha
- Banh mi
- Egg coffee
- Coconut coffee
- Fresh spring rolls
- Vietnamese iced coffee
- Sticky rice
- Local noodle dishes
- Street desserts

Attraction Budget Guide

Attraction	Estimated Cost
Da Nang Beach	Free
My Khe Beach	Free
Son Tra Peninsula	Free, transport cost only
Linh Ung Pagoda area	Free
Dragon Bridge	Free
Love Lock Bridge	Free
Han River walk	Free
Han Bridge walk	Free
Da Nang Pink Church exterior	Free
Hoi An Ancient Town walk	Free–PHP 700
Coconut Village basket boat	PHP 300–800
Da Nang to Hanoi train	PHP 2,000–4,500
Hanoi Old Quarter	Free
Hoan Kiem Lake	Free
St. Joseph’s Cathedral exterior	Free
Cafés	PHP 150–500 per stop

Suggested Packing List

Travel Documents

- Passport
- Flight or transport confirmations
- Train ticket
- Hotel booking confirmation
- Travel insurance details
- Digital copies of documents
- Cash and cards

Daily Essentials

- Phone
- Power bank
- Charger
- Cash in Vietnamese dong
- Small day bag
- Reusable water bottle
- Tissue and wet wipes
- Hand sanitizer
- Sunscreen
- Sunglasses
- Small umbrella or raincoat

Clothing

- Light breathable clothes
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Sandals
- Beachwear
- Light jacket for train ride
- Extra shirt for humid weather
- Café/city walk outfit
- Modest clothing for church and temple visits

Train Ride Essentials

- Snacks
- Water
- Power bank
- Light jacket
- Earphones
- Wet wipes
- Tissue
- Small towel
- Eye mask
- Offline maps

- Entertainment downloads
- Valuables in a small carry-on bag

Practical Travel Notes

- Grab motorbike is cost-efficient for solo travelers with light bags.
- Grab car is better for luggage, rain, and longer routes.
- Hoi An is best visited around 4:00 PM for daylight photos, sunset, lanterns, dinner, and night market.
- Da Nang to Hoi An transport should be arranged ahead for smoother return.
- Da Nang Railway Station arrival should be at least 45–60 minutes before train departure.
- Soft sleeper is the most comfortable option for the Da Nang to Hanoi train route.
- Walking is ideal for Hanoi Old Quarter, Hoan Kiem Lake, cathedral streets, and cafés.
- Cash is useful for small food stalls, cafés, markets, and local transport.