Hang Tien Endeavor Tour

This is a challenging trek to visit Hang Tien 1 & 2 - two biggest caves of Tu Lan cave system. Hang Tien means Fairy Cave in Vietnamese as it looks otherworldly with an enormous entrance.



Tour details

DURATION
2 days 1 night

DIFFICULTY LEVEL
Moderate

AGE
16-70 years old

GROUP SIZE
10 customers (Join-in)

OPERATION
mid-Nov to mid-Sep

PRICE
USD 253 • VND 6,700,000/pax

Source: https://oxalisadventure.com/tour/hang-tien-endeavor/

Generated on 29 Oct 2026

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> Please read this pack carefully before your departure and bring it with you.

Overview

Hang Tien Endeavor Tour is a challenging 2-day, 1-night adventure, where guests will trek through the jungle to explore four caves in the Tu Lan Cave System, including Hang Tien 1 & 2 - two of the largest dry caves in the area. These caves are well-known for their giant stalactites and immense passages that evoke an otherworldly feeling. The journey also offers the chance to swim in Ruc Cave, navigating beautiful maze-like underground rivers, and experience the eternal darkness of Ho Tien Cave, where visitors can listen to the sound of water droplets falling from the ceiling, forming unique stalactite formations over thousands of years. The tour includes one night camping by a tranquil river, immersing participants in the pristine nature.

Hang Tien is the largest dry cave in the Tu Lan System, and is located in Cao Quang Commune, Quang Tri Province, Vietnam. This is about 75 km from Phong Nha – Ke Bang National Park. Hang Tien is famous for its natural beauty with special cave formations such as gour pools.

The unique features of the trip are:

- **Explore Tu Lan's largest and most unique caves**: The journey to conquer Hang Tien Cave will take travelers through the four most beautiful caves in the Tu Lan Cave System: Hang Ruc, Hang Ho Tien, Hang Tien 1, and Hang Tien 2. Hang Tien is the largest cave in the Tu Lan System, boasting a colossal volume. In some spots, it reaches nearly 100 meters high and 50 meters wide. What truly sets Hang Tien apart is its incredibly unique and rare domed structure. The ceiling features swirling formations that resemble the Milky Way Galaxy in outer space.
- **Riverside camping at its finest**: Visitors will camp beside a natural underground lake, often likened to an "infinity pool" nestled in the Cao Quang mountains. As night falls, the star-filled sky and the profound silence create a breathtaking backdrop, offering a peaceful camping experience. It's a chance to fully immerse yourself in the wild, pristine nature—an unforgettable moment on your expedition.
- **A journey that transforms lives**: Beyond the natural splendor, your presence contributes to a powerful story of community resilience and growth. Sustainable tourism has played a key role in transforming Tan Hoa, driving the poverty rate down from 85.7% in 2010 to just 2% in 2024. This expedition supports vital initiatives, including the construction of floating houses and septic toilets to improve local living standards. Furthermore, Oxalis is committed to future generations, sponsoring free open swimming and safety training to over 300 children in Tan Hoa and along the Rao Nan River every year.

Itinerary

The itinerary of exploration tours can be changed due to weather conditions. The jungle trail during the exploration trip can be quite muddy and slippery when it rains.

DAY 1

Phong Nha - Cao Quang Commune - Hang Ruc Cave - Ho Tien Cave - Tien Cave Campsite

From 07:30 to 08:00 AM on the departure day of Hang Tien Endeavor Tour, the tour guide and driver will pick you up at hotels around Phong Nha town to drive to Cao Quang Commune for the safety briefing and packing. After signing the Release form, you will receive the necessary safety equipment and set off for the caving tour.

After warming up with an ascent of a small hill, you will overcome some rocky terrain and trek downhill to a small valley, with a short, steep peak to conquer before reaching Hang Ruc – a "warm-up" cave in this caving and jungle trekking tour. The Hang Tien trekking route begins with a walk along a trail leading to the Hang Ruc area. Here, visitors will be equipped like real explorers with headlamps, helmets, gloves, and specialized life vests for cave exploration, ready to conquer Hang Ruc Cave. Inside, you'll experience swimming through its maze-like underground river system before returning for a picnic lunch by a scenic stream, prepared by our porters.

Following lunch, the group will continue to explore Ho Tien Cave – a natural wonder with truly unique formations and an eternal darkness where the only sound is droplets of water creating one-of-a-kind stalactites. Afterward, you will resume the trek to reach the Hang Tien campsite, nestled next to a stunning emerald green lake, perfect for a refreshing swim in a "natural infinity swimming pool." Enjoy the beautiful surroundings before returning to camp for a hot cup of coffee or tea as sunset approaches. A delicious dinner will be served soon after by our amazing porters or chefs, allowing you to relax before retiring to your tent for a comfortable night.

DAY 2

Hang Tien 1 & 2 - Cao Quang

After breakfast at the camp, guests continue to walk through the jungle and over a very rocky path to reach Hang Tien 1. You will be amazed by the vast entrance with a high roof, and tall calcite formations covered with plants and mosses. Marvel at the circular ceiling dome inside. At the end of Hang Tien Cave, you will be equipped with safety harnesses to climb up a 10m high ladder, leading to the cave exit.

After about 30 minutes of trekking through the tropical jungle, with several rocky sections, the group will reach the entrance to Hang Tien 2. Pass through a small entrance and spiral down to a huge passage, containing a floor of fine terraces, cave pearls, and many formations. After finishing Hang Tien 2, the group will enjoy lunch before tackling the final challenge, a steep ascent to the

pickup point. Here, the vehicle will be waiting here with cold drinks before taking the group back to the Oxalis office to collect luggage, shower, and rest.

At around 4:30 PM, the Oxalis vehicle will take guests back to Phong Nha. The tour is expected to finish at around 6:00 PM. If you would like to stay a few extra nights at your hotel or join other activities in the Tu Lan or Phong Nha - Ke Bang areas, please contact an Oxalis consultant in advance for assistance.

Note: On days with heavy rainfall, the water in the river and caves will not be as clear as usual.

Suggested itinerary before and after the tour:
To ensure the best preparation before your journey or to relax after the expedition, Oxalis suggests staying at Chay Lap Farmstay if you wish to combine exploring Phong Nha with experiencing a peaceful countryside atmosphere, or Blue Diamond Retreat if you prefer to immerse yourself in nature and enjoy relaxing moments amidst the mountains and forests. Special discounted rates exclusively for Oxalis guests are 1,100,000 VND/room/night at Chay Lap Farmstay and 1,600,000 VND/room/night at Blue Diamond Retreat.

During your time in Phong Nha, the Phong Nha Caves Exploration Museum (open daily from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM, free admission) is a must-visit destination. Here, you can experience the Son Doong 5D VR technology for 500,000 VND per ticket. All proceeds from this activity are contributed to the Oxalis Foundation to support local community projects, making your journey even more meaningful.

Gallery


























Difficulty Level and Physical Fitness Requirements

Difficulty Level: Moderate

Requirements: Within the past 12 months, participants must have completed at least one overnight camping trek in a forest/mountain setting or 1–2 day treks (each covering a minimum of 6 km per day over rocky and steep terrain, with a total elevation gain of at least 500 m across the entire journey). Participants must possess a baseline physical fitness level, demonstrated by completing both of the following activities (performed independently, not necessarily consecutively): an outdoor 5 km run within 45 minutes and climbing 5 flights of stairs continuously, without experiencing symptoms of dizziness, lightheadedness, headaches, nausea, abnormal shortness of breath, or chest pain/tightness. Participants must not suffer from any medical conditions included in the restricted list for trekking and caving activities as recommended by Oxalis.

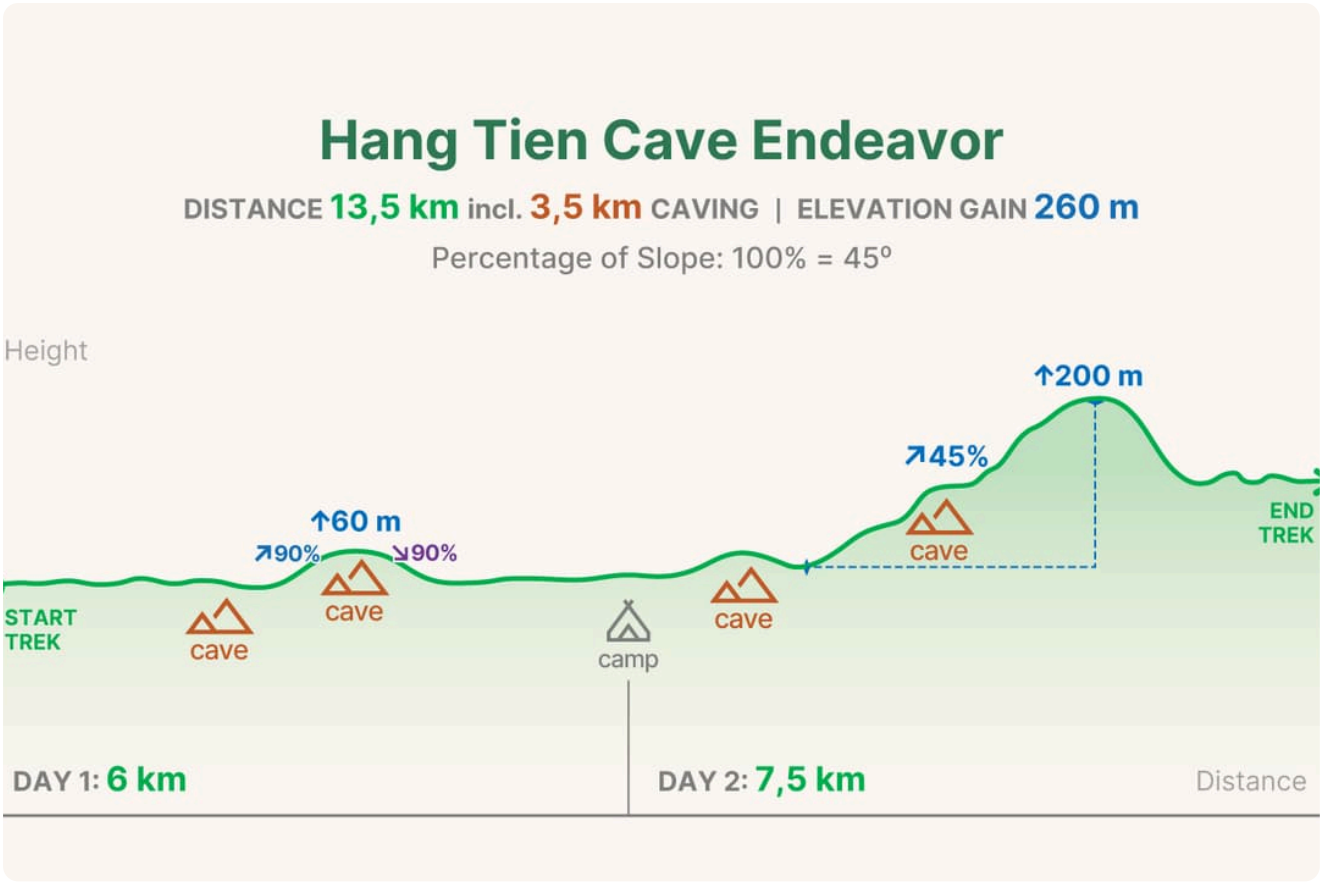
Suitable for: Guests with trekking experience and good physical fitness.

Tours with the same Difficulty Level: Hang Va Expedition Tour 2D1N , Hang En Cave Adventure 2D1N, Tu Lan Cave Encounter 2D1N, Hang Tien Endeavor Tour 2D1N, Wild Tu Lan Cave Explorer Tour 4D3N.

Terrains

The tour takes place in remote areas with complex terrains. Customers must be physically fit. Please carefully read the tour itinerary and honestly fill out the booking information yourself, especially your experience and health condition.

- 13.5 km of trekking, 3.5 km of caving
- 260 m elevation gain
- River crossings
- Swimming in the caves with a life vest provided by Oxalis
- Swimming in the natural stream
- A 10m ladder climb with a safety rope, operated by the safety team.



For more information on the necessary physical activities for a successful trip, please refer to: https://oxalisadventure.com/getting-ready-oxalis-tour/.

Safety on the tour

This is always the top priority of Oxalis Adventure to ensure the safety of both visitors and Oxalis' staff on any trip, including multi day adventures. We only use high-quality equipment meeting international standards, mainly imported from France, the UK, and Switzerland. The tour guides must undergo professional training and be tested for skills regularly. Only qualified guides may lead an Oxalis tour. Visitors can learn about the "safety management" and " safety equipment" that Oxalis uses here.

By signing the Release Form, visitors agree to follow all tour safety regulations and the instructions of the cave experts and guides throughout the expedition. To ensure the safety of the entire group, the safety experts and guides have the authority to require any guest to end the expedition if they fail to comply with the safety regulations explained during the briefing.

Items to bring on tour

The Hang Tien Endeavor Tour is a 2-day 1-night trip in the jungle with different terrains and weather conditions, so guests need to be well prepared. They will be asked to have appropriate clothing for safety reasons, good for moving in the jungle, river crossing, or exploring the cave and avoiding dangers and risks from sharp rocks, snakes, insects, or poison ivy. Long trousers and long-sleeved shirts must be worn for trekking. Trekking shoes play a very important role in Oxalis Adventure tours in Vietnam. Visitors must choose a good and well-fitting pair of shoes for rocky steep mountains. Please test your shoes before the trek. Besides, guests also need to prepare personal items for 1 night's camping in the jungle. Our adventure consultant will give you helpful advice before joining the Hang Tien Endeavor Tour.

You need to prepare

Essential clothing

- [ ] 1-2 quick-dry, bright, long-sleeved shirts
- [ ] 1-2 pairs of long trekking pants (quick-dry)
- [ ] 1 pair of good gripping trekking/approach closed shoes. Heavyweight trekking boots are not necessary
- [ ] 1 waterproof jacket (winter months November to March)
- [ ] 1-2 pairs of calf-length, thick socks
- [ ] Campsite clothing set:
  - Warm clothes for winter from November to March;
  - Shorts and T-shirts for summer from April to September
- [ ] 1 pair of sandals/slides for campsite
- [ ] Swimwear

Personal items

- [ ] Mosquito repellent
- [ ] Sunglasses, sun hat, sunscreen
- [ ] Hand fan for summer (April to September)
- [ ] 1 medium towel
- [ ] Underwear
- [ ] Personal hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, nature-friendly shampoo & soap, ...)
- [ ] Power banks
- [ ] Personal medication
- [ ] Passport

Oxalis provides

- [ ] Camping equipment: tent, mattresses, pillow, sleeping bags
- [ ] Caving and safety gears: helmet, headlight, gloves, ...
- [ ] 1 PVC backpack (25L) to carry helmet, dry box, water and things you need during the trek.
- [ ] Basic trekking shoes are available to borrow from Oxalis (sizes 36-44). If you use Oxalis shoes, please bring thick socks and two pairs of insoles to help prevent blisters. A VND 50,000 cleaning fee applies.
- [ ] Water bottle (1L)
- [ ] Water purifier
- [ ] Compost toilet, toilet paper, hand cleaner
- [ ] Semi-dry bag (15L) for campsite clothing set
- [ ] First-aid kit and medical rescue equipment
- [ ] Satellite phone
- [ ] Portable fan (in summer)
- [ ] Secure storage at office

Optional items

- [ ] Arm cover if wearing short-sleeved T-shirts
- [ ] Camera & Tripod
- [ ] Ear plugs
- [ ] Bandana or headband
- [ ] Rehydration tablets

Food and drinks in the tour

Although the expedition takes place deep in the primary forest and inside the cave, you will be provided with three meals a day: breakfast, lunch, and dinner. Oxalis has a dedicated team of cooks who prepare fresh ingredients brought directly to the expedition route, ensuring you receive the nutrition you need throughout the long days of trekking.

For your health and safety, all drinking water served during the expedition is treated through a specialized water filtration system and thoroughly boiled at the campsites to meet strict safe drinking-water standards. Hot drinks such as tea and coffee are also available.

The menu offers a variety of options, including standard, vegetarian, and special-diet meals. If you have specific dietary requirements or food allergies, please note them on your booking form so the Oxalis team can make the necessary preparations in advance.

Camping, Showers and Hygiene During the Expedition

This is considered to be one of the most beautiful campsites that Oxalis has, located right on the riverbank, and also the point where the underground river emerges, on its way to the sea, creating the amazing “natural infinity swimming pool”. The campsite in the valley has open views allowing visitors to contemplate the clear blue sky, millions of stars or the colorful dawn.

The average temperature in winter is about 15 to 18 degrees Celsius, and in summer it is from 30 to 38 degrees Celsius. Guests will be provided sleeping bags and warm mattresses for winter and solar-powered fans for summer. More information about the "unique campsites in Tu Lan Cave System" - camping inside Quang Tri forest is available here.

Tents: At each campsite, you will stay in tents specially designed by Oxalis. Each tent offers enough space for one or two people to sleep comfortably, and is set on a sturdy raised platform 30 cm above the ground, helping minimise moisture and insects. The tent walls are made of breathable mesh, with a fan provided inside to keep the space cool while allowing you to stay connected with the surrounding natural environment. Each tent is also equipped with a mattress, pillow, and sleeping bag, all thoroughly cleaned before every expedition to ensure a comfortable night’s sleep.

Toilets and water facilities : Each campsite is equipped with modern toilets and convenient shower facilities. All water used for washing and other daily needs is carefully treated through a filtration system to ensure safe use throughout the expedition.

Waste management and environmental protection: To help preserve the cave ecosystem, 100% of solid waste generated during the expedition is carried out of the cave. For wastewater and toilet waste, Oxalis uses portable septic tanks combined with an advanced filtration system to ensure that discharged water meets Vietnam’s strict environmental standards.

Tour booking process

This is a tour that requires careful logistical preparation from both guests and Oxalis. Reading the tour information thoroughly will help you make an informed decision before booking. If you have any

questions or are unsure about anything, please chat with an Oxalis adventure consultant using the chat icon in the bottom-right corner of the screen, or contact us via hotline at +84 919 900 357 for assistance. The booking process is as follows:

Step 1: Learn about the tour

Visit oxalisadventure.com to learn more about the itinerary, highlights, adventure level, tour price, and most importantly, the health and fitness requirements.

Step 2: Choose your departure date

Click "Book Now" on the tour page to view the available departure dates. Available dates will be shown on the calendar. Select your preferred date and enter the number of participants.

Step 3: Provide your information

Complete your contact details accurately, especially your email address and phone number. You must provide truthful information about:

- Your health condition and any medications you are currently taking;
- Allergies or special dietary requirements, such as vegetarian meals or food allergies;
- Trekking experience;
- Exercise frequency and level of physical activity.

Important: Oxalis reserves the right to cancel your booking without a refund if any information provided is found to be false or incomplete, particularly information related to your health and physical fitness.

Step 4: Complete your booking request

Select any additional services you may require, such as transfers or accommodation at Chay Lap Farmstay and Oxalis Home.

Read and agree to the booking terms and conditions, then click "Submit Booking Request." The system will send a booking code to your email address.

Step 5: Consultation and information confirmation

Within 48 working hours, an Oxalis travel consultant will contact you by email or phone to:

- Provide detailed information about the expedition;
- Confirm your booking details;
- Assist with arranging any additional services you have requested.

Step 6: Payment

Once your information has been confirmed, Oxalis will send you an invoice and payment instructions. You must complete the payment within 24 hours of receiving the payment instructions. After this period, your booking request may be automatically cancelled.

Step 7: Booking confirmation

Once Oxalis receives your payment, you will receive an official booking confirmation by email. From this point, you can begin preparing your clothing, equipment, and fitness for the expedition.

Terms of tour cancellation

To confirm your booking, you will be required to pay the tour deposit after completing the booking process. Guests may cancel the trip 7 days prior to the departure date and receive a full refund. For cancellations after 7 days, no refund will be given. See more details in "Terms of tour cancellation".

Useful Information

Weather and Climate in Tu Lan - Tan Hoa area

Tu Lan - Tan Hoa has 4 seasons in a year (spring, summer, autumn and winter) like many northern provinces of Vietnam. Due to the weather conditions, and because Oxalis Adventure wants to protect and conserve the Tu Lan Cave System. The Tu Lan Cave Encounter Tour will only be available from mid November to mid September every year. Weather conditions in the Tu Lan – Tan Hoa area are different in each season.

- From January to March, there are some cold days, especially on rainy days but there are also many warm sunny days.
- April and May are the warmer months, and this is the time when wildflowers are blooming.
- From June to August are the hot summer months, but most of the time visitors are in the cave with the temperature from 22 to 25 degrees, or forest, so it should not feel too hot. In the summer months, visitors can comfortably swim in the streams and underground lakes inside Vietnam caves, so exploring Tu Lan is the ideal suggestion for you if you don't know where to go for 2 days and 1 night.

Each season will have its own unique features for visitors to explore, and find out more about the uniqueness of nature. In addition, visitors can check the weather in Tu Lan - Tan Hoa through Accuweather before joining this caving adventure tour.

The weather & climate in Tan Hoa, Minh Hoa area

Communication on tour

Hang Tien - Quang Tri is operated in a remote forest with physical challenges, far away from external support such as medical assistance, hospitals etc.

The Hang Tien Endeavor Tour follows jungle trails, many hills up and down, and no paths are suitable for vehicles. There is no phone signal, no wifi, and no charging facilities. Each Oxalis cave tour is equipped with 1 satellite phone for the guide to contact the office in case of emergency. Guests can only use the internet and phone at the hotel before and after the Oxalis tours. During the tour, Oxalis staff will keep in touch by radio.

Emergency Response Procedure

Oxalis Adventure has an established "Emergency Response Procedure" that includes on-site first aid and rescue if an accident occurs during trekking or cave exploration. We organize many training courses for first aid, rescue, and evacuation, and have rescue teams for each tour operation area. The specialized equipment is imported from abroad and complies with European standards. Due to the remote location, rescue teams and medical assistants will take from 30 minutes to 2 hours to reach the location. Therefore, the safety of visitors is the top priority of Oxalis in any activities related to caving in Vietnam. For Experts and Sales consultants to give suitable advice, guests are required to fill in their fitness and health information in the Booking form honestly. They are also required to update the information to the Oxalis consultant 45 days before the tour departure.

* *Please note that tour communication is conducted in English and Vietnamese.*

How to get to Hang Tien - Tu Lan?

To join the Hang Tien - Tu Lan Cave tour, visitors need to arrive in Phong Nha before 7:00 AM. Phong Nha is about 45 km from Dong Hoi, Quang Tri. Visitors can take a bus directly to Phong Nha for a more convenient journey. If you arrive in Dong Hoi by plane or train, you will need to arrange a private transfer or take a taxi to Phong Nha.

On the morning of departure, the Oxalis shuttle will pick you up from your hotel in Phong Nha and transfer you directly to the Oxalis Cao Quang Office (approximately 75 km away) to begin the journey.

By air

Dong Hoi Airport is about 45 km from Phong Nha and currently offers direct flights from Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and Cam Ranh. From the airport, Oxalis offers a private transfer from Dong Hoi to Phong Nha at VND 650,000 per one-way trip for a 7-seater vehicle.

- Hanoi - Dong Hoi: Vietnam Airlines and Sun PhuQuoc Airways currently operate daily direct flights between Hanoi and Dong Hoi. The flight takes approximately 1 hour 5 minutes.
- Ho Chi Minh City - Dong Hoi: Vietnam Airlines and Vietjet Air operate direct flights from Tan Son Nhat International Airport to Dong Hoi, with a flight time of approximately 1 hour 40 minutes.
- Nha Trang - Dong Hoi: Sun PhuQuoc Airways operates direct flights between Cam Ranh International Airport and Dong Hoi, with 3 round trips per week.

By train

Dong Hoi Railway Station is located on the North-South railway line, approximately 45 km from Phong Nha. Trains to Dong Hoi are available from Hanoi, Ninh Binh, Hue, Da Nang, Nha Trang, Ho Chi Minh City, and many other cities and provinces. From the station, an Oxalis vehicle will pick you up and transfer you to Phong Nha. There is also a Hue-Phong Nha tourist train, offering a direct connection between the two destinations as part of a journey through Central Vietnam. This is a convenient option for guests who wish to combine a visit to Hue with their Son Doong Expedition.

By bus

Sleeper buses are a convenient option if you prefer to travel directly to Phong Nha without transferring to Dong Hoi. Direct bus services are currently available from Hanoi, Hue, Da Nang, Hoi An, and several other destinations.

International airports: There are 3 main international airports for international flights: Tan Son Nhat International Airport (SGN), Noi Bai International Airport (HAN) and Da Nang International Airport (DAD). From Ho Chi Minh City (Saigon) or Ha Noi, travellers can book domestic flights to Dong Hoi Airport (VDH). From Da Nang, travelers can catch a train or bus to Dong Hoi/Phong Nha.

You can check out the means of transportation to Phong Nha here. “How to get to Phong Nha?". All participants of Oxalis Adventure tours will be picked up at their designated hotel around Phong Nha town on the morning of the departure day.

Vietnam visa: Vietnam currently grants visa exemptions to citizens of 29 countries and has expanded its E-visa program to apply to nationals of all countries and territories.

Upon arrival and during their stay, travelers are required to present a valid passport together with a valid visa or other legal residence documents in Vietnam so that accommodation providers and tour operators can complete temporary residence registration as required by Vietnamese regulations.

For the latest details on travel policies, please verify the information here: Vietnam Travel Policy Updates

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Hang Tien Endeavor Tour price includes

The tour price for Hang Tien Endeavour is VND 6,700,000 (or US$253) per person. The tour price includes VAT, sightseeing fee, and environmental service fee along with the following services:

- Logistics: Each 10-guest tour will have 1 tour guide, 2 safety assistants, 1 chef, 2 security guards, and 4 porters as well as food and camping equipment. The number of team members may vary depending on the group's physical condition.
- Food and Drink: Oxalis provides food, water, tea, and coffee during the journey (not including extra requirements). Dinner at the local household. The Dishes are based on fixed menus, vegetarian and vegan will be provided if ordered.
- Accommodation: Oxalis offers 1-night camping in the jungle.
- Safety equipment: Oxalis will provide safety equipment such as helmets, harnesses, headlights, gloves etc.
- Travel insurance: Oxalis buys travel insurance for all guests participating in the tours with a maximum compensation of VND 10,000,000. Visitors are asked to buy comprehensive travel insurance for themselves before joining the tour.

Carbon Footprint Index

At Oxalis Adventure, we are dedicated to minimizing our environmental impact and promoting sustainable tourism practices. Since 2023, Oxalis has conducted annual greenhouse gas (GHG) inventories as an essential part of our journey toward Net Zero tourism.

According to the 2024 greenhouse gas inventory, participants of the Hang Tien Endeavor Tour were associated with an average carbon footprint of 95.1 kgCO2e per person. This figure comprehensively accounts for all emission sources, including transportation, accommodation, and tour-related activities.

FAQs

Do I need to know how to swim to join this tour?

You do not need to know how to swim to join this tour. If you like to swim, you are welcome to splash about in your choice of a large natural pools located next to campsite.

What can I do If I want to talk to/contact a consultant?

You can easily contact a consultant via chat box (on the right corner) on Oxalis website or email to: contact@oxalisadventure.com; Hotline: +84-919900357.