

The History department are delighted to announce the details of our educational school trip to Vietnam. Vietnam is an exciting destination that will provide pupils with inspiration and experiences that will stay with them for life.

This trip will give your child an opportunity to learn outside of the classroom in a fun and stimulating environment; this links well with the topics studied both at GCSE and A-level here at Princethorpe College in which the American war in Vietnam plays a prominent part.

There will also be a significant cultural aspect of this trip where the pupils will be able to immerse themselves in the culture of Vietnam and learn about its history beyond the conflict with American between 1965 and 1973.

### **Proposed trip details**

Destination:	Vietnam
Dates:	17/10/2020 – 24/10/2020 (1 night on overnight outbound flight)
Tour Cost:	£1,750
Tour Inclusions:	<p>Return UK coach transfers from school to airport  Return international flights  Private transportation and tours with English speaking guide.  2 domestic flights have been added to the tour, for transfer Hanoi to Hue and Danang to Ho Chi Minh.  Hotel accommodation with daily breakfast (Based on Twin or Triple Sharing).  Meal: Lunches &amp; dinners at local restaurant. Mineral water (1bottle/pp/day).  Private boat for sightseeing in Hue, Hoi An, Halong.  Entrances fees and sightseeing as indicated below.</p>
Proposed Excursions:	<p>Hanoi City Tour:  Hanoi is known for its centuries-old architecture and rich culture with Southeast Asian, Chinese and French influences. At its heart is the chaotic Old Quarter, where the narrow streets are roughly arranged by trade. There are many little temples, including Bach Ma, honouring a legendary horse, plus Dong Xuan market, selling household goods and street food. Your guide will take you to see all of this as well as the Hoc Chi Minh Complex and Presidential Palace</p> <p>Ho Chi Minh Complex:  President Ho Chi Minh was recognized by UNESCO as the one who “devoted his whole life to the national liberation of the Vietnamese people...”. In his honour, the Government had the Hochiminh Complex built in capital Hanoi. The Ho ChiMinh complex consists of Ho Chi Minh’s Mausoleum, Ba Dinh square, Presidential Palace, Uncle Ho’s House on stilt, One Pillar Pagoda and Ho Chi Minh Museum.</p> <p>Ha Long Boat Cruise:  Hạ Long Bay, in northeast Vietnam, is known for its emerald waters and thousands of towering limestone islands topped by rainforests. Your junk</p>

	<p>boat tour will take you past islands named for their shapes, including Stone Dog and Teapot Islands.</p> <p><b>Hoan Kiem Lake:</b> In the 15th century, the Vietnamese legend says a nationalist hero borrowed a magic sword and fought with it to drive out occupying Chinese forces. He returned it to a turtle that surfaced in Hoan Kiem Lake, the “Lake of the Returned Sword.” Hoan Keim Lake is the centre point of Hanoi, home to a rare endangered giant turtle species, and the Ngoc Son Temple located on an islet in the lake.</p> <p><b>Củ Chi Tunnels:</b> The tunnels of Củ Chi are an immense network of connecting underground tunnels located in the Củ Chi District of Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam, and are part of a much larger network of tunnels that underlie much of the country.</p> <p><b>Hội An:</b> Hội An is a city on Vietnam’s central coast known for its well-preserved Ancient Town, cut through with canals. The former port city’s melting-pot history is reflected in its architecture, a mix of eras and styles from wooden Chinese shophouses and temples to colorful French colonial buildings, ornate Vietnamese tube houses and the iconic Japanese Covered Bridge with its pagoda.</p> <p><b>Vinh Moc Tunnel:</b> Strategically located on the border of North and South Vietnam, this maze of tunnels were built to protect people from the heavy bombing the area faced. Students will learn how the villagers of Vinh Moc burrowed more than 20 metres in order to survive shelling by US forces.</p> <p><b>Notre Dame Cathedral:</b> Notre-Dame Cathedral Basilica of Saigon is a cathedral located in the downtown of Ho Chi Minh City. Established by French colonists who initially named it Cathédrale Notre-Dame de Saïgon, the cathedral was constructed between 1863 and 1880. It has two bell towers, reaching a height of 58 meters.</p> <p><b>Hien Luong Bridge:</b> Stretching across the Bến Hải River, the Hien Luong Bridge marked the military demarcation line between North and South Vietnam established by the Geneva Accords of 1954. One end was painted Red to symbolise the North and the other Yellow to symbolise the South. Students can still see sculptures that symbolise the improvised methods of communication developed by families divided on either side of the river.</p> <p><b>Reunification Palace:</b> A landmark within Ho Chi Minh City, Reunification Palace was once the home of the President of South Vietnam. The palace was also the site of the official handover of power during the Fall of Saigon in 1975 and remains brilliantly preserved within its 1960s-style architecture.</p>
Supervision:	There will be one teacher for each group of nine students.

## Insurance

This trip is covered by the school's annual travel insurance. This includes unlimited cover for medical expenses. Full details of the insurance can be found on the Parent Portal.

Pre-existing medical conditions are covered provided that travel is not against doctor's orders. We recommend that, if a pupil does have a pre-existing condition which a parent may be worried about, that they seek their doctor's permission to travel (preferably in writing).

The school will not make claims for items such as laptops, PDAs, smartphones and cameras and other expensive personal possessions and other expensive personal possessions under the travel insurance as we wish to maintain our claim record. Parents should ensure that personal possessions are covered through their own insurance. The school recommends that pupils do not take items of value on any school trip.

## Payments, deposits and cancellation fees.

The cost of the trip will be approximately £1,750 as detailed above. This will be paid by:

1. £200 deposit by Monday 01 July to secure your child's place on the trip [Deposit 1];
2. A second £200 payment by 05 August [Deposit 2];
3. £250 added to the Michaelmas term bill 2019;
4. £550 added to the Lent term bill 2020;
5. £550 added to the Trinity term bill 2020.

Deposits 1 and 2 will need to be paid into the school account. An email will be sent providing details of how to do this and which reference to use.

**Please note that deposits 1 and 2 are not refundable. If your child is unable to take their place on the trip after these dates, then we can only provide a refund for these if another pupil is able to take their place on the trip.**

Cancellation fees as detailed by the travel company are loss of deposit(s) plus travel insurance premium up to 70 days before departure. After 07 August 2020, this increases to £1,162 per travelling person. After 16 September 2020 this will increase to £1,540 per person.

## Who we are travelling with

The company we have chosen is **Travelbound**, an educational travel company with over 27 years of experience in providing enjoyable, educational and safe school trips. Travelbound have proudly been awarded full accreditation for the Learning Outside the Classroom Quality Badge, are a full member of the School Travel Forum and are fully bonded by ABTA and ATOL. For more information about Travelbound please follow the link to their website: [www.travelbound.co.uk](http://www.travelbound.co.uk)

## What to do next

A consent email will be sent to you via Evolve on the evening of 25 June 2019. This will include information on how to pay the first deposit into the school bank account. In order to secure your child's place on the trip:

1. Please complete the consent form online when it arrives by email;
2. Print, sign and return the pupil code of conduct form (attached to email) before 03 July 2019;

3. Pay the deposit in the account before 03 July 2019.

Please note that places on this trip are limited. If the trip is over-subscribed, places will be awarded on a first come-first served basis as detailed by the time stamp on the electronic consent form. Pupil applications to the trip will not be validated unless steps 2 and 3 are completed prior to 03 July 2019.

If you have any questions about the trip, please do not hesitate to get in touch:  
[peterbucknall@princethorpe.co.uk](mailto:peterbucknall@princethorpe.co.uk).

Yours sincerely,



Peter Bucknall  
Head of History