



FAR NORTH, VIETNAM
ADVENTURE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY



MENTORS
SIMON TAPLIN & MIKE BROWNE

4 October to 11 October 2018

8Days/7Nights

ADVENTURE TRAVEL PHOTOGRAPHY “HEAVEN & EARTH”
(8DAYS/7NIGHTS)
FAR NORTH VIETNAM

4 October, Thursday (Day 1 International Arrival in Hanoi)

4* Hotel – 1 Night (Transit point to Far North)

Arrival of Mentors & Students – transfer to Hotel to rest and freshen up.

MEET & GREET 5.30pm Meet Simon & Mike at Hotel Lobby

5.30pm to 7.00pm Each student introduce himself/herself, their photography interest, their level of photography & what they hope to achieve on this workshop.

Highlight itinerary, “dos & donts” and checklist for Far North Vietnam.

Free & Easy.

5 October, Friday (Day 2 Hanoi - Lao Cai. 280km)

4* Hotel – 1 Night + Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

9.00am Checkout and drive towards Lao Cai (5 hrs). Stop at pharmacy and supermarket to stock up missing travel essentials for personal needs.

Stop for lunch on route.

Workshop Composition & Ways of Seeing Things
by Simon Taplin
You & Your Brilliant Mind. 1st Building Block of Photography
by Mike Browne.

5.00pm Estimated arrival in Lao Cai in the evening.
Check-in and freshen up.

7.00pm Depart for dinner.

6 October, Saturday

(Day 3 Lao Cai - Muong Khuong - Cao Son)

Homestay - 1 Nights + Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner.

- 8.00am Checkout and drive towards Muong Khuong (1 hr 40 mins), followed on to Cao Son (2 hrs). Photo stop and shoot grand landscapes especially along the Chinese border of the impressive Chay River throughout the day with chances of meeting ethnic living in villages along the way and farmers working in terraced fields during harvesting are Flowery H'mong, Black Dzao and Nung. The average altitude range around 950m with the highest peak at 1,600m above sea level.
- Stop for lunch on route.
- 7.00pm Estimated arrival in Cao Son in the evening. Check-in and freshen up.
- 8.00pm Dinner at homestay.

7 October, Sunday

(Day 4 Cao Son - Can Cau - Bac Ha)

Basic – 1 Night + Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

- 6.00am Checkout and drive towards Can Cau (2hrs), a local market scenes that has been going on for generations amongst the ethnic people. Spent the morning shooting different the local activities here amongst the Flower Hmong, Nung, Dzao, Giay, Tay and Phu La Han
- Continue photo stop and shoot the landscapes along the way from Can Cau to Bac Ha (1hr) around 700m above sea level.
- 12.00pm Estimated arrival in Bac Ha in the afternoon. Check in and freshen up.
- 1.00pm Depart for lunch.
- Workshop Raw Image Processing & Photo Critique with Simon Taplin & Mike Browne.
- 6.30pm Depart for dinner.

8 October, Monday

(Day 5 Bac Ha - Ban Gia - Xin Man - Hoang Su Phi. 137km)

Basic – 1 Night + Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

- 7.30am Checkout and drive towards Ta Cu Ty - Ban Gia (40mins), continue to Nan Ma - Xin Man. Photo stop and shoot stunning landscapes and ethnics of Red Hmong, Flower Hmong, Nung, Tay and Black Dzao along the amazing landscapes of Chay River Massif.
- 12.30pm Estimated arrival in Xin Man and break for lunch.
- Leave Xin Man to Thac Tien and Gio Pass, shooting Thac Tien and Gio Pass. Continue to Nam Dan Valley and back to Xin Man to have tea break and move onwards 39km to Hoang Su Phi.
- 7.00pm Estimate arrival in Hoang Su Phi.
Check-in and freshen up.
- 7.45pm Depart for dinner.

Hoang Su Phi is a district of Ha Giang Province which lies between 2 high ranges of mountains - Tay Con Linh and Kieu Lieu Ti (2nd and 3rd tallest in Vietnam). The scenery composed by stunning mountains, deep valleys, narrow canyons and especially the terraced rice fields and tea plantations on the sloppy mountain sides and these beautiful valleys in the region are recognized as National Heritage.

9 October, Tuesday

(Day 6 Hoang Su Phi – Thong Nguyen - Panhou)

4* Resort – 1 Night + Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

6.30am Checkout to shoot valleys + mountains + village + Nung tribes in San Sa Ho Valley. Leave San Sa Ho for moving uphill towards Ban Luoc. Photo stop and shoot mountain landscapes along the way to the top of the pass and at Ban Luoc Valley and Red Zao tribe.

Continue driving towards Ho Thau and break for home lunch with the Red Zao family in Ho Thau.

Photo stop and shoot after lunch from Ho Thau to Nam Dich and continue shooting along the main road - Nam Ty, Thong Nguyen and the Pass.

6.00pm Estimated arrival in Panhou.
Check in and freshen up.

7.30pm Dinner at Resort.

The route which makes a loop around the two famous valleys for the impressive terraced fields as well as imposing mountains are among the five most beautiful valleys. Followed by Nam Dich Valley before the road winds uphill the Hoang Su Phi Pass for 32km via Nam Ty and Thong Nguyen Valley which offers breath-taking scenery. Chances of meeting Nung, Black Dzao, Red Dzao and Tay ethnic. If time permits we should spend about 1 hour to walk off the motor way with light equipment to a superb place in Ban Luoc.

10 October, Wednesday

(Day 7 Thong Nguyen – Hanoi)

4* – 1 Nights + Breakfast & Lunch

Workshop Raw Image Processing + Photo Critique with
Simon Taplin & Mike Browne

12.00pm Check out and drive towards Hanoi (7hrs).
Lunch on route.

7.00pm Estimated arrival in Hanoi.
Check in and freshen up.

Free & Easy

11 October, Thursday

(Day 8 – International Departure from Hanoi)

Breakfast

12.00pm

Checkout from Hotel. Transfer to Airport for your international departure.

Sadly, all good things come to an end. We hope you had a wonderful experience with us and we look forward to seeing you again for our next adventure!

TUTORIAL SESSIONS

Please be aware that tutorial session times may vary as we are moving from location to location and are driven by weather and road conditions. When circumstances are perfect for exceptional imagery, we may over run or reduce the tutorials to maximize photo opportunities. Every effort will be made to 'catch up' along the way but a degree of flexibility is needed so we don't waste such opportunities after travelling to these fabulous locations!

Included in the tour price:

- Accommodation
- Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner (unless otherwise stated)
- Water, Coffee, Tea & Snacks
- Photography Tuition & Mentoring
- All Entrance Fees
- Airport Transfer
- Transport & Driver
- English Speaking Local Guides
- Service Charge & Tax

Not included in the tour price:

- Personal & Travel insurance
- Alcoholic Drinks
- Visa Fees
- International Air Tickets to/from Hanoi
- Overweight Luggage
- Personal Expenses & Tips