Hang Tien Endeavor Tour

- ***Tour code: HT2***
- ***Adventure level: Easy***
- ***Age 16-70 years old***
- ***Tour type: Join-in***
- ***Group size: 10 customers***
- ***Operation: mid-Nov to mid-Sep***
- ***Price: USD 300/pax***

Hang Tien Endeavor Tour is a challenging 3-day, 2-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 Hang Fun, 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. During this adventure, visitors will enjoy a traditional dinner at a local home and spend the night at Rural Homestay—the very first weather-adaptive homestay in Vietnam.

Hang Tien is the largest dry cave in the Tu Lan System, and is located in Cao Quang Commune, Tuyen Hoa District, Quang Binh Province, Vietnam. This is about 70 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 Fun, 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.

☑ ✅ **Experience Tan Hoa's local culture**: On the final evening, travelers will enjoy a cozy,

authentic local dinner at a resident's home, savoring the simple and heartfelt flavors of Tan Hoa's cuisine. This is also an opportunity to hear stories about the transformation of Tan Hoa village, a place where people and nature live in harmonious connection. Additionally, guests can cycle to explore the peaceful village, admire the countryside, and enjoy the rare, fresh, and relaxing atmosphere.

☑ ☑ **Unique floating homestay experience**: Experience a night in Vietnam's most unique weather-adapted homestay model, built and utilized for tourism. These "floating house" homestays offer all the comforts of a mini-hotel, coupled with the open, enthusiastic, and warm hospitality of the host families. Sharing a cup of tea or a local cultural story with your hosts will provide an experience you won't find anywhere else.

☑ ☑ **A unique shared economy model**: To promote local tourism development, Oxalis has supported 10 families to offer home-cooked dinners and another 10 families to run homestays in their floating houses, which they normally use for flood evasion. By joining the Hang Tien Expedition, travelers are directly contributing to the creation of jobs and income for the local people, making it a sustainable and meaningful journey.

☑ ☑ **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.

Download the itinerary

Day 1: Phong Nha - Tan Hoa Commune - Fun 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 Tan Hoa Commune for the safet 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 Fun Cave – 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 Fun area. Here, visitors will be equipped like real explorers with headlamps, helmets, gloves, and specialized life vests for cave exploration, ready to conquer Fun 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 uniqu 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 t 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 - Tan Hoa

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 o 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 grou 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 heading back to Hang Tien 1. Here, guests will tackle the final challenge, a steep ascent to the pickup point. Back at the Tan Hoa office, the group will check in to Rural Homestay in Tan Hoa to shower and relax.

Around 6:00 p.m, the group will walk to the local's house for dinner and interact with the villagers. You will not only have the opportunity to try some delicious local food but also learn more about the living conditions of the people here. After dinner, the group will come back to Rural Homestay for a restful night.

Day 3: Visit local farms by bike - Transfer to Phong Nha/Dong Hoi - Tour ends

Morning in Tan Hoa is peaceful and rustic, with wide green valleys and limestone mountains fading in and out of the early mist. You can enjoy the sunrise from your homestay window or take a short walk around the village to feel the fresh, quiet atmosphere. After that, you can cycle to the Tu Lan Lodge restaurant for breakfast, served from 6:30 AM.

At 08:30 AM, our guide will lead you on a bicycle tour through the heart of Tan Hoa. You will cycle along quiet paths lined with cornfields and peanut gardens, observing the daily rhythm of rural life. Stops include visits to local farms to learn about the sustainable VAC farming model. Along the way you'll taste local specialties like boiled corn, roasted peanuts, and ginger honey tea.

The tour finishes around 11:00 AM, giving you time to pack and prepare for check-out at 12:00 noon. The shuttle from Tan Hoa to Phong Nha or Dong Hoi departs at 12:30 PM.

Please inform Oxalis Adventure travel consultant of your flight/train/bus schedule at least one day in advance. If you are leaving Quang Tri on the same day, ensure your departure is after 4:00 PM.

If you wish to stay longer or join additional activities in the Phong Nha–Ke Bang area, contact your Oxalis Adventure consultant or ask the hotel reception for assistance.

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 1,000,000 VND/room/night at Chay Lap Farmstay and 1,500,000 VND/room/night at Blue Diamond Retreat.

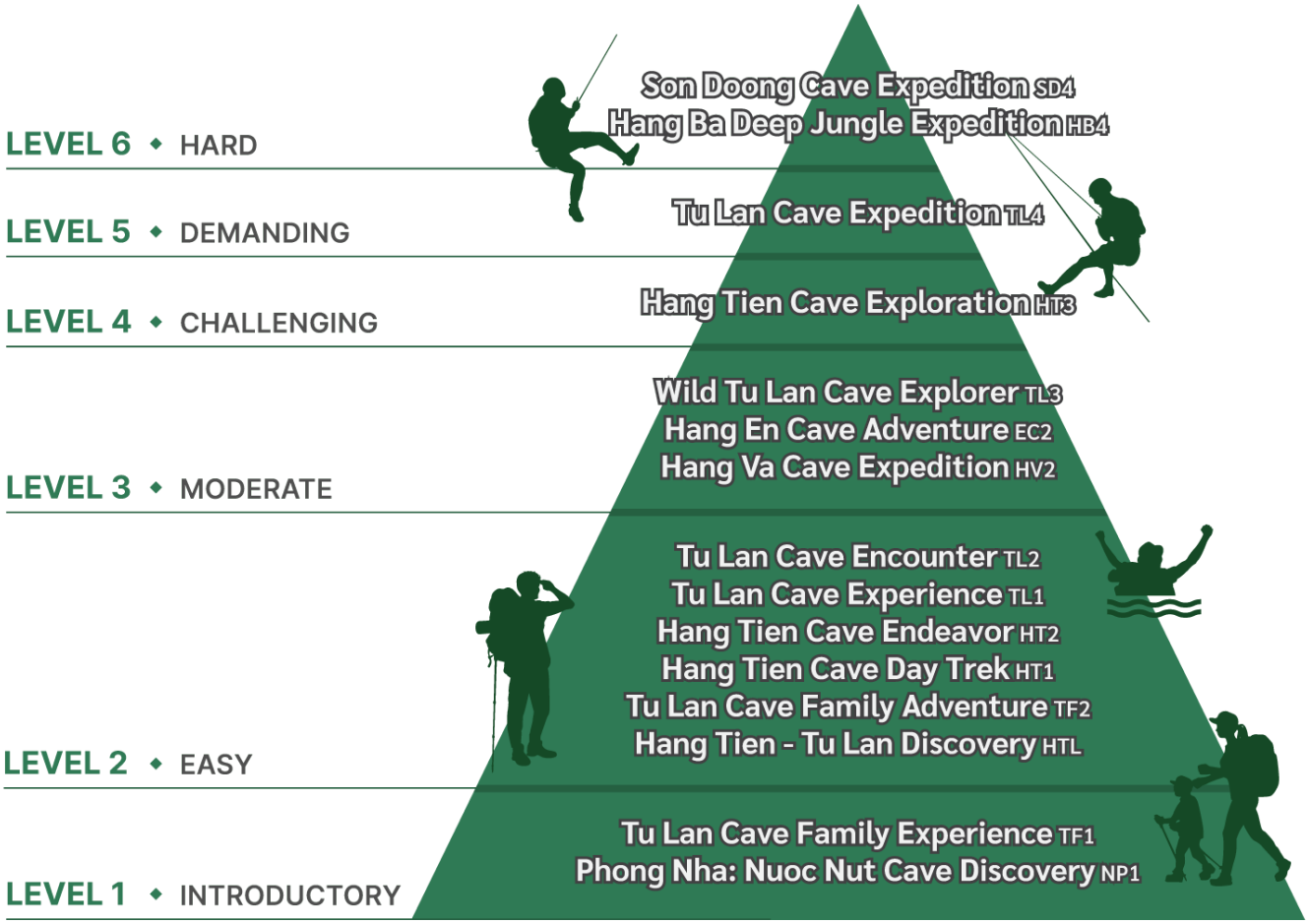
During your time in Phong Nha, the Phong Nha Caves Exploration Museum (open daily from 8:00 AM to 5:30 PM, free admission) is a must-visit destination. Here, you can experience the Son Doong 5D VR technology for 500,000 VND per ticket. All proceeds from this activity are contributed to the Oxalis Foundation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

Adventure level on tour

After many years of operating exploration adventure tours, Oxalis has created an adventure scale to help tourists visualize and choose the right caving trip for their fitness and health. This scale is not to be applied to other companies with different conditions and terrains. The easiest level anyone can join and the most difficult level 6 requires regular exercise and some trekking experience.

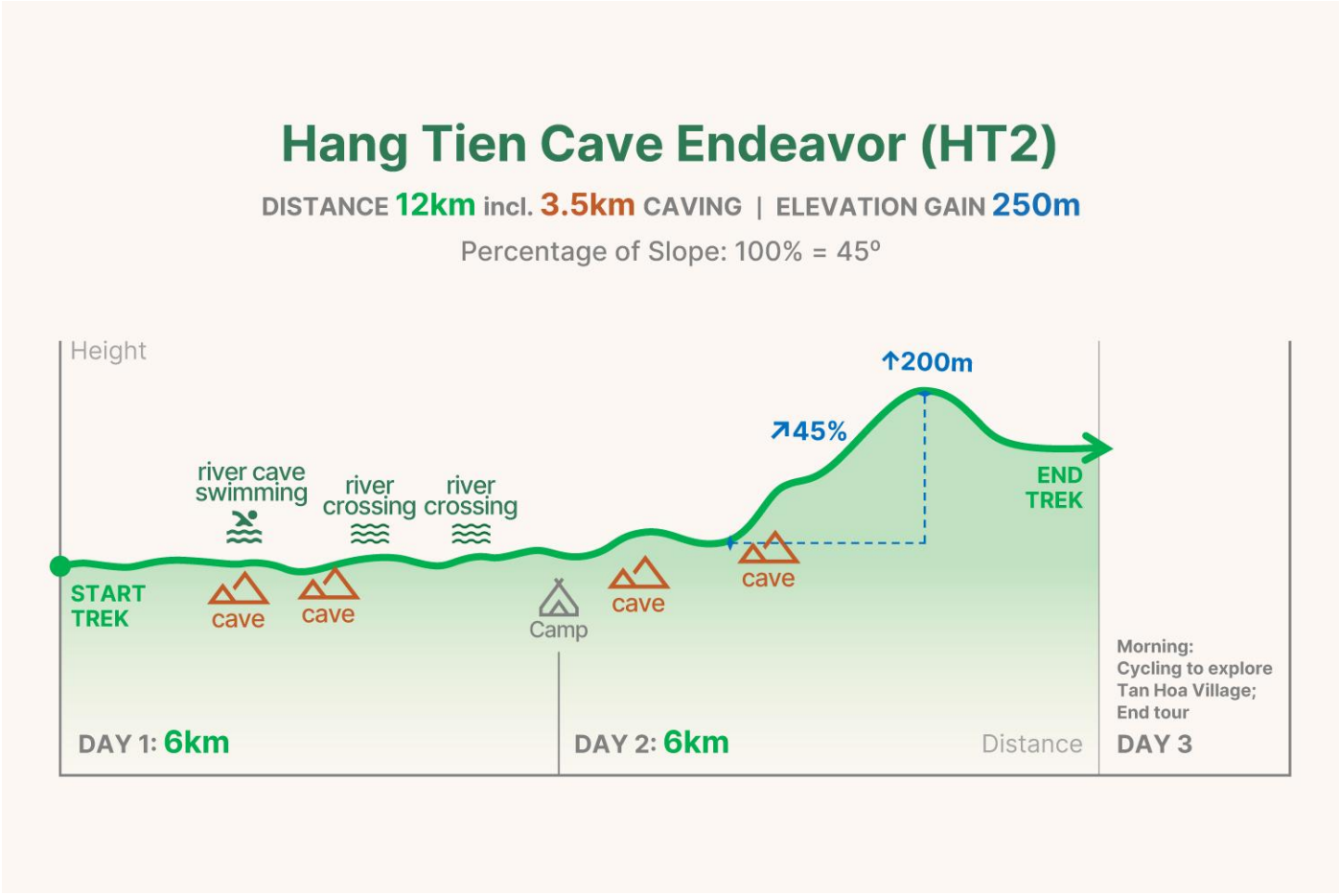
Adventure level: 2 - Easy
The Hang Tien Endeavor Tour is rated as Easy (Level 2) on the Oxalis adventure level system. The difficulty of the tour is based on the physical fitness and health of average active people, not runners, athletes, or intensely active individuals.
Number of guests per tour: Maximum of 10; Age 16-70 years old.
Activities: Rocky terrain, steep hills, long trek and short ladder climb

- 12km of trekking, 3.5km of caving
- 250m 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.



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.



Items to bring on tour

The Hang Tien Endeavor Tour is a three-day two-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. The Oxalis Phong Nha tour consultant will give you helpful advice before joining the Hang Tien Endeavor Tour.

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 jungle boots (EU size 36–44); if using Oxalis shoes, bring thick, long socks and 2 insoles to ensure comfort.
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

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
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Underwear
- Personal hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, nature-friendly shampoo & soap, ...)
- Power banks
- Personal medication
- Passport

Optional items

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

Photos

Hang Lam Homestay