

Hang Va Expedition Tour

- *Tour code: HV2*
 - *Adventure level: Moderate*
 - *Age 16-70 years old*
 - *Group size: 10 customers*
 - *Tour type: Join-in*
 - *Operation: January to August*
 - *Price: USD 346/pax*
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The 2-day, 1-night Hang Va Expedition reveals the wonders of Nuoc Nut Cave and Hang Va Cave, known as the world's two most unique wet caves. Hang Va was featured in Planet Earth III - BBC's famous documentary series, showcasing its exceptionally rare towering cones emerging from emerald-green waters. This tour is ideal for adventurous travelers seeking mountain trekking, rope traversing, and overnight stays in a jungle campsite. The experience is particularly rewarding for photographers.

The 2-day Hang Va Expedition Tour will offer a unique experience with 1 night of camping in the forest. The Hang Va Expedition will take you to explore 2 caves: Hang Nuoc Nut and Hang Va.

Located in the core zone of [Phong Nha – Ke Bang National Park](#), close to the exit of [Son Doong Cave](#), Hang Va (Va Cave) was discovered by Mr [Ho Khanh](#) in 1992 and surveyed by the British - Vietnam Cave Expedition team led by Howard Limbert in 2012.

Hang Va is considered a special cave in the world of cave formations, with a river passage below and a large high-level passage above with dozens of tower cone formations. There are cones of different sizes and shapes, with the tallest tower cones being around 2 meters high. Geologists yet cannot confirm how these cones have formed. They are located in giant gour pools behind huge gour dams.

Hang Va and Nuoc Nut Caves were introduced in the "Otherworldly landscapes: 7 of Vietnam's best cave experiences" by [CNN Travel](#). Hang Va was also featured as the coolest new adventure in Asia by [Forbes](#).

On November 26, 2023, Hang Son Doong, Hang En and Hang Va were featured on Episode 6 - EXTREMES of the famous documentary series [Planet Earth III](#) made by BBC.

The highlights include:

- World-class and unique geological formations:** This is the signature feature that draws international attention. Visitors are often captivated by the thousands of cone-shaped stalactites (or "tower cones") rising from the deep pools of water inside Hang Va. These formations are considered geologically unique and are rarely found elsewhere in the world.

The sight creates a surreal, otherworldly atmosphere that appeals strongly to photographers and nature enthusiasts.

✔️ **Challenging, hands-on technical caving experience:** The tour offers a great balance of accessibility and adventure. Western visitors love the technical elements that require using international safety equipment (harnesses, ropes, helmets), giving them a genuine caving experience. This includes scrambling/climbing with ropes over slippery, steep sections and the [thrill of swimming](#) / wading through the cold underground river (water level can be belly-high) for about 700 meters.

✔️ **High standards of safety and professional logistics:** A key factor in the positive reviews is the top-tier safety protocol and support. Visitors consistently praise Oxalis for adhering to European [safety standards](#), providing high-quality gear, and having a highly professional team of experienced guides, safety assistants, and [supportive local porters](#). The seamless logistics, from safe navigation to providing excellent meals (including catering to dietary needs), ensure a worry-free expedition.

✔️ **Exclusive campsite deep in the primary jungle:** The overnight experience is a major draw. Visitors appreciate the opportunity to camp exclusively at the mouth of Hang Va, nestled in a pristine valley surrounded by towering limestone karsts. It offers a rare chance to fully disconnect and enjoy the tranquility of the primary rainforest, listening to the sounds of nature, and viewing the dark, starry sky.

✔️ **Intimate connection to the Phong Nha cave system:** For many international adventurers, this tour serves as a perfect way to explore the geology that underpins the region's fame. Hang Va and nearby Nuoc Nut Cave are part of the same hydrological system as the magnificent Son Doong Cave. Visitors find significant value in seeing this intricate system up close, often viewing Hang Va as an accessible yet equally unique alternative to the larger, more expensive expeditions.

Itinerary

The Oxalis Hang Va tour schedules can be changed due to weather conditions. The jungle trail can be quite muddy and slippery when raining. Hang Va Cave Expedition itinerary, booking process, fees and other information are detailed below.

[Download the itinerary](#)

Day 1: Phong Nha - Nuoc Nut Cave - Hang Va Campsite

Your expedition begins between 8:00 – 8:30 AM with a pickup in Phong Nha and a transfer to the

Oxalis headquarters. After a safety briefing and gear check, you'll head to the trailhead to begin the adventure.

From the drop-off point, a 30-minute jungle trek leads you along a forest path to the entrance of Nuoc Nut Cave. Here, you will gear up with helmets, headlights, and gloves before enjoying a picnic lunch. Entering Nuoc Nut requires navigating a low opening, but once inside, the cave opens up into a mysterious underground world. You will marvel at massive sandbanks, unique rock formations, and perhaps spot the rare albino insects adapted to life in total darkness.

The adventure intensifies as you leave the large passages of Nuoc Nut to navigate the narrow connection leading toward Hang Va. After maneuvering through this thrilling technical section, you will be rewarded with a refreshing swim in the cool waters of the Hang Va stream passage. Finally, you will don a safety harness to climb out of the cave entrance, emerging right at your campsite located deep in the jungle. A well-earned dinner awaits you in this spectacular natural setting.

Day 2: Hang Va - Phong Nha

The exploration continues upstream into the heart of Hang Va. This section is physical and exciting, requiring you to maneuver through narrow rocky crevices before opening up into a beautiful stream passage. Here, you'll witness a unique phenomenon: water spouts cascading from the cave ceiling like natural showers.

The highlight of the expedition awaits in the upper level. Using safety harnesses, you will climb into the Tower Cone Passage. Walking on a specially designed path to protect the fragile formations, you will stand in awe of the rare tower cones – thousands of stalagmites rising from the water like a submerged city. Amidst this surreal landscape, your guides will share the fascinating history of the cave's discovery by Mr. Ho Khanh and the British-Vietnamese Cave Expedition Team, including the geological link between Hang Va and the massive Son Doong Cave.

After returning to the lower passage and exiting the cave, enjoy a final lunch at the jungle campsite. Pack up and prepare for the trek out, which involves navigating a rocky pass and descending into the Hang Va Valley. A driver will meet you at the road for the return transfer, arriving in Phong Nha around 5:00 PM.

Suggested itinerary before and after the tour:

To ensure the best preparation before your journey or to unwind after the expedition, Oxalis suggests staying at Chay Lap Farmstay, featuring premium rooms, a swimming pool, spa, kayaking, cycling, and more. A special discounted rate for Oxalis customers is 1,000,000 VND/room for 2 people. Check availability here: chaylapfarmstay.com

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 adventure tourism activities, Oxalis Adventure has created a Level of Adventure scale to help guests participating in Oxalis tours to visualize and choose the adventure tour most suitable for their fitness and health. This scale is not to be applied to other companies or tours with different conditions and terrains. The easiest level (level 1) anyone can join, and the most difficult level - 6 requires regular exercise and some trekking experience. Those who often play sports or do exercise can complete this tour.

Adventure level: 3 · Moderate

The Hang Va Expedition tour is rated as Moderate (Level 3) 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.

Activities: Crossing and climbing rocky terrain, hiking through the jungle, caving, swimming in the cave, and using rope and technical equipment with the support of safety assistants.

The number of guests per tour: Maximum of 10 guests; Age 16-70 years old.

- ★ 15km of mountain trekking with rough terrain
- ★ 7km cave exploration
- ★ 100m underground swimming
- ★ Elevation gain: 150m
- ★ Trekking through underground stream passages
- ★ Using rope and technical equipment



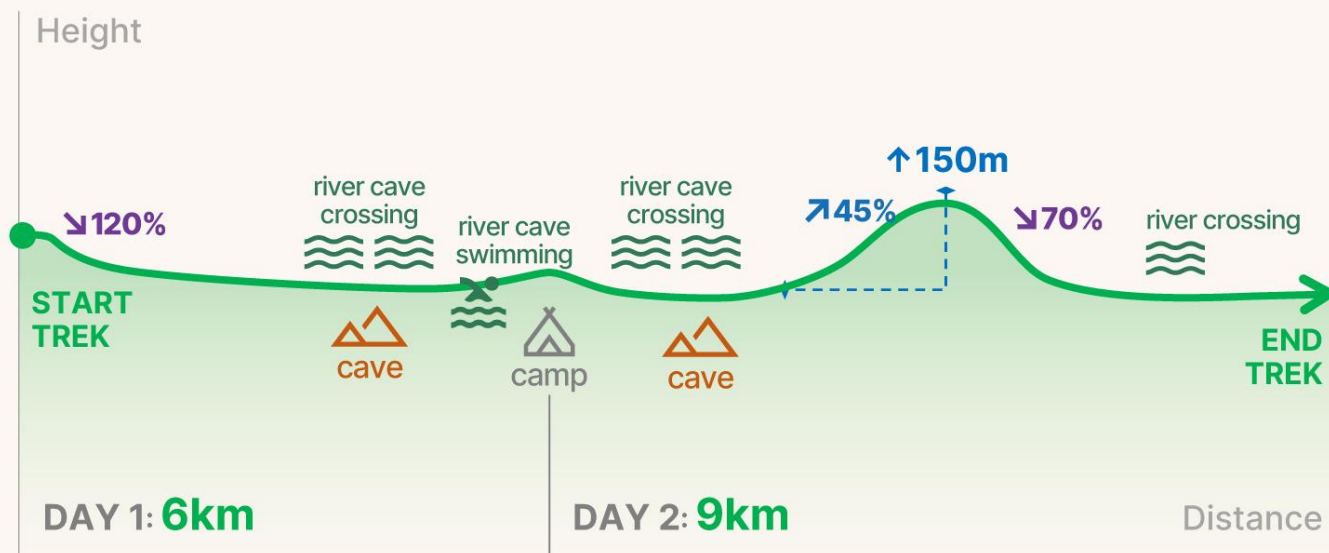
Terrains

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.

Hang Va Cave Expedition (HV2)

DISTANCE **15km** incl. **7km** CAVING | ELEVATION GAIN **150m**

Percentage of Slope: 100% = 45°



Preparation for the Hang Va Expedition

The Hang Va Expedition tour includes 1-night camping in the forest, so the items you need to prepare are quite simple. However, for a caving and camping tour in Vietnam, visitors will be asked to prepare suitable clothing for safety and comfort. Clothing should be good for trekking in the jungle, river crossings, or exploring the cave as well as avoiding dangers and risks from sharp rocks, snakes, insects, or poison ivy. Long trousers and long-sleeved tops should be worn. Trekking shoes play a very important role in adventure tours like the Hang Va Expedition. Visitors need to choose a good and well-fitting pair of shoes for steep rocky terrain. Besides, they also need to prepare personal items for 1 night's camping in the jungle. The Oxalis tour consultant will give you helpful advice before joining the Hang Va tour in Quang Binh, Vietnam.

Provided by Oxalis

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.

Dry box for electronic devices

Water bottle (1L)

Water purifier

Compost toilet, toilet paper, hand cleaner

Semi-dry bag (15L) for campsite clothing sets and personal items

First-aid kit and medical rescue equipment

Satellite phone

You need to prepare

Essential clothing

Trekking clothes:

- 1-2 quick-dry, bright, long-sleeved shirts
- 1-2 pairs of long trekking pants (quick-dry)
- 1 waterproof jacket (winter months January to March)

Campsite clothing sets:

- Warm clothes for winter from January to March
- Shorts and T-shirts for summer from April to August

1 pair of good gripping trekking/approach closed shoes. Heavyweight trekking boots are not necessary

2 pairs of calf-length, thick socks

1 pair of sandals/slides for campsite

Personal items

- ★ Mosquito repellent
- ★ Sunglasses, sun hat, sunscreen
- ★ Hand fan for summer (April to August)
- ★ 1 medium towel
- ★ Underwear
- ★

Personal hygiene items (toothbrush, toothpaste, nature-friendly shampoo & soap, ...)

★ Power banks

★ Personal medication

★ Antifungal foot powder

★ Passport

Optional

Arm cover if wearing short-sleeved T-shirts

Camera & Tripod

Ear plugs

Bandana or headband

Rehydration tablets

Blister prevention tape

Photos



