Hang Va Expedition Tour

- ***Duration: 2 days 1 night***
- ***Difficulty Level: Moderate***
- ***Age 16-70 years old***
- ***Group size: 10 customers (Join-in)***
- ***Operation: December to August***
- ***Price: USD 355/pax***

The 2-day, 1-night Hang Va Expedition takes travelers deep into Phong Nha - Ke Bang National Park to discover one of the world's most unique geological wonders: Hang Va's extraordinary tower-shaped stalagmite pools. The journey also explores Nuoc Nut Cave, the final link in the underground river system of Son Doong before it emerges into the open stream. Beyond its spectacular landscapes, the expedition connects travelers with Vietnam's wartime history at the Commander Cave Museum, once the headquarters of Station 14 along the legendary Victory Road 20.

Located within Phong Nha - Ke Bang National Park, home to more than 450 surveyed limestone caves, this area is known for geological landmarks such as Son Doong Cave (the world's largest cave), Hang En Cave (the world's third-largest cave), and Hang Va, discovered in 2012 and famous for its remarkable tower-shaped stalagmites rising from crystal-clear pools. Beyond their geological significance, these caves also played important strategic roles during wartime in Vietnam, serving as storage areas, shelters, and military headquarters.

This 2-day, 1-night adventure brings together some of the region's most impressive natural and historical highlights:

☑ ✅ **Commander Cave Museum**: A historic site that once served as the headquarters of Station 14 during the construction and operation of the legendary Victory Road 20.
☑ ✅ **Nuoc Nut Cave**: The final link in an underground river system flowing from Hang En and Son Doong through Hang Va before emerging into an open stream and eventually joining the Son River.
☑ ✅ **Hang Va**: A remarkable cave located directly beneath Son Doong and only about 50 meters from the Great Wall of Vietnam. Its crystal-clear pools conceal rare tower-shaped stalagmites, creating one of the cave system's most extraordinary geological formations.
☑ ✅ **Camping in the primary forest**: Spend a private night camping near the entrance of Hang Va, surrounded by rugged limestone mountains. With no city noise or crowds, you can enjoy the fresh mountain air and, weather permitting, a spectacular night sky.
☑ ✅ **Limited departures**: To protect safety, sustainability, and the privacy of the experience, the Hang Va Expedition operates only from December to August, with a maximum of 10 guests per group.

Thanks to their exceptional geological and adventure value, Hang Va and Nuoc Nut Caves were introduced in the "Otherworldly landscapes: 7 of Vietnam's best cave experiences" by CNN Travel and named by Forbes as one of Asia's coolest new adventures.

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 - Commander Cave Museum - Nuoc Nut Cave - Hang Va Campsite

Your expedition begins between 7:30 – 8:00 AM with a pickup in Phong Nha and a transfer to the Oxalis headquarters. Here, you will join a safety briefing, sign the Release Form, and receive the essential equipment for the expedition.

The group will then travel by vehicle to Commander Cave Museum, a natural cave that was once transformed by Station 14 of Group 559 into a fortified seven-level strategic logistics base. During the resistance war against the United States in Vietnam, it served as a staging area for weapons, military equipment, and supplies, supporting the southern battlefield along Victory Road 20. As you enter the cave, you will discover the remaining traces of a brutal wartime period and gain a glimpse into the lives of the soldiers who stayed and worked here day after day.

After leaving Commander Cave Museum, the Oxalis bus will take the group to Km 25 to begin the jungle trekking section of the journey. 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 enjoy a picnic lunch before gearing up with helmets, headlights, and gloves. 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 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 Doon 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

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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 Tri, 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 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.
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 December to March)

Campsite clothing sets:
- Warm clothes for winter from December 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













