Tu Lan Experience Tour

- ***Duration: 1 day***
- ***Difficulty level: Easy***
- ***Age 16-70 years old***
- ***Group size: 12 customers (Join-in)***
- ***Operation: Year-round***
- ***Price: USD 75/pax***

Tu Lan Experience is a one day trekking tour. During this cave experience tour you will discover the unspoiled beauty of the Tu Lan Cave System - once the film set for the Hollywood blockbuster - Kong: Skull Island (2017). Director Jordan Vogt-Roberts once declared: "The world will see how beautiful Tu Lan is, they will come, experience and love Tu Lan as I did".

The highlights include:

☑ ✅ **Trek through legendary valleys**: Embark on an unforgettable journey through two vast, stunning valleys - To Mo and Hung Ton. Traverse sweeping emerald fields encircled by dramatic limestone karsts, crowned with untouched, primeval jungle. This is the authentic heart of Vietnam's wild nature.

☑ ✅ **Discover a hidden underground kingdom**: Plunge into a subterranean world as you explore two magnificent caves, Secret Cave and Hung Ton Cave. Marvel at unique, millennia-old formations - towering columns, delicate stalactites, immense stalagmites, and shimmering cave pearls. These chambers feel less like caves and more like natural, magnificent cathedrals.

☑ ✅ **The ultimate cave challenge**: Prepare for the most unique part of the adventure - cave swimming through the cool, pitch-black underground river. Fully equipped with headlamps, you'll immerse yourself in a world untouched by natural light, fueled only by a sense of mystery and pure exploration. It's an experience that will ignite your inner adventurer.

☑ ✅ **Refreshing finale**: Emerge from the darkness to the glorious sunlight and celebrate your journey with a refreshing dip. Take a leisurely swim in the cool, crystal-blue lake formed right at the exit of Hung Ton Cave, letting the gentle current carry you as you soak up the breathtaking, unspoiled beauty of the valley.

☑ ✅ **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 Tu Lan Experience tour schedule may be adjusted according to the weather conditions. The trek can be quite muddy and slippery when it rains

Download the itinerary

Morning: Tan Hoa - Secret Cave - Hung Ton Cave - To Mo Valley

You should be in Phong Nha before 07:00 AM on the tour day to ensure on-time departure. Oxalis provides dorm rooms with 6 comfortable beds available at Oxalis Home (Oxalis Office) for those who arrive in Phong Nha early in the morning of the tour and want to rest a bit before the tour (please inform us in advance if you want to use the free dorm room service).

Between 07:00 and 07:30 on the morning of departure, the guide and driver will pick you up at your hotel in Phong Nha town, and take the group to the Oxalis office in Tan Hoa Village, 70 km from Phong Nha. At the office, the guide will give you a short briefing about the trekking itinerary and safety regulations. You will sign the RELEASE FORM, and receive the necessary safety equipment. After the briefing, the group will depart for Tuyen Hoa to begin the Hang Tien one-day trek.

The journey begins with a trek across the flat fields of Tan Hoa. After crossing a valley and a small hill, you will reach Secret Cave. This small cave features uniquely shaped stalactites discovered by local porters. To protect these formations, especially the delicate cave pearls on the floor, visitors must follow the route marked with ropes throughout the exploration.

Leaving Secret Cave, the trek continues through the valley to Hung Ton Cave. Here, the guide will help you put on a safety harness before descending a 15 m ladder inside the cave. You will then explore the dry passage of Hung Ton Cave and see marine fossils dating back millions of years.

After exploring the dry passage, the journey continues to the water passage. You will put on a life jacket, check your personal belongings, and prepare to swim through the underground river inside the cave. As you reach the end of the cave, To Mo Valley gradually comes into view, surrounded by lush greenery and peaceful scenery. The valley was also chosen as a filming location for the movie

The Immortal.

Afternoon: Rao Nan - Tan Hoa

The group will stop in the valley for lunch and a short rest before continuing the journey in the afternoon.

In To Mo Valley, a jade-green lake lies among the surrounding mountains. Surrounded by peaceful primeval forest, the lake offers a refreshing place to swim, relax, and enjoy the sounds of nature.

As the afternoon draws to a close, the group will continue trekking through the forest, passing valleys and green fields in the soft evening light before returning to the Oxalis Tan Hoa office.

Here, you can shower, rest, and enjoy some refreshing drinks after a day of exploration. A vehicle will take the group back to Phong Nha between 17:30 and 19:00, marking the end of this memorable trekking adventure.

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 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}Adventure level on tour]

Items to bring on tour

It is necessary to be well prepared for the trip because the Tu Lan – Quang Tri 1 day discovery is a long hiking tour with a variety of terrain. Guests will be asked to wear appropriate clothing for safety reasons, good for moving in the jungle, river crossing, or

exploring the cave as well as avoiding dangers and risks from sharp rocks, snakes, insects, or poison ivy. Long trousers and long-sleeved shirts should be worn for trekking. Trekking shoes play a very important role in Oxalis Adventure tours in Vietnam, such as this. 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 day's trekking in the jungle.

Items to bring on Tu Lan Experience tour

Oxalis provides

Caving and safety gears: helmet, headlight, gloves, ...
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.
Water bottle (1L)
Water purifier
Compost toilet, toilet paper, hand cleaner
1 PVC backpack (25L) to carry helmet, dry box, water and things you need during the trek.
Shared dry box for electronic devices
First-aid kit and medical rescue equipment
Satellite phone

You need to prepare

Essential clothing

Trekking clothes:
- 1 quick-dry, bright, long-sleeved shirt
- 1 pairs of - long trekking pants (quick-dry)
- 1 waterproof jacket (winter months November to March)

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

1 pair of calf-length, thick socks
Clothes to change after the trek
Footwear to change after the tour (If you use your own trekking shoes)

Personal items

- Mosquito repellent
- Sunglasses, sun hat, sunscreen
- Hand fan for summer (April to August)
- Medium towel
- Personal medication
- Passport

Optional items

- Arm cover if wearing short-sleeved T-shirts
- Camera & Tripod
- Bandana or headband
- Swimwear
- Rehydration tablets
- Blister prevention tape

Photos










