

Tu Lan Experience Tour

TL1 • Adventure level: Easy

• Age 16-70 years old

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".

On this Tu Lan Experience tour you will participate in the following unique experiences:

- ✓ **Explore the magnificent natural scenery:** on the Tu Lan trekking tour, visitors will trek through two large valleys, Tan Hoa Valley and Hung Ton Valley; open green fields, encompassed by limestone mountain ridges thick with primeval forest.
- ✓ **Explore 2 dry and wet caves with a unique stalactite system:** Rat Cave and Hung Ton Cave with many unique stalactite structures: columns, stalactites, stalagmites and cave pearls, that make these caves look like magnificent castles. Take your time to look around and enjoy this cave experience.
- ✓ **Swimming in the underground river inside the cave:** This is one of the unique experiences of tours in Tu Lan. You will be equipped with exploration lights and immerse yourself in the pitch-black space without natural light, only with mystery and curiosity.
- ✓ **Enjoy swimming in the cool blue stream:** With a natural lake formed at the exit of Hung Ton Cave, visitors can immerse themselves in the cool and refreshing water, letting themselves be carried along with the stream to admire the pristine nature in the valley.
- ✓ **Enjoy a picnic lunch by the stream:** A picnic lunch with the famous grilled pork with rolled in wet rice paper will be prepared by local chefs.

Note: Tour takes place in remote areas with complex terrains. Customers must be physically fit.

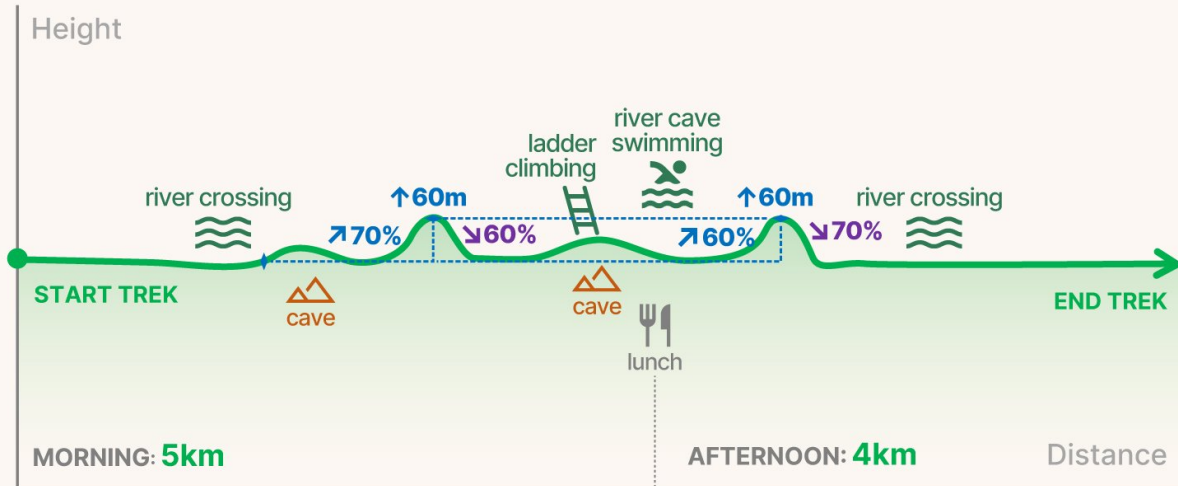
Please carefully read the tour itinerary and honestly fill out the booking information yourself, especially your experience and health condition.

Read more about [Oxalis Adventure Level](#).

Tu Lan Cave Experience (TL1)

DISTANCE **9km** incl. **800m** CAVING | ELEVATION GAIN **120m**

Percentage of Slope: 100% = 45°



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 - Explore Rat Cave

You should be in Phong Nha before 06:00 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. (The transportation cost to Tan Hoa is included in the price of the Tu Lan one day tour).

After the briefing, the group will start walking through the flat corn and peanut fields toward the Rao Nan River. You will cross the river and go up a small slope to get to the entrance of Rat Cave. Here, you will be provided with helmets, headlamps, and safety equipment to explore Rat Cave for about about 300m long. This cave has many beautiful stalactites and a soaring dome with a unique heart-shaped structure. After the exploration, the group returns to Rao Nan river to climb up the 60m high Baby hill. Crossing the Hung Ton valley to reach the dry passage of Hung Ton Cave.

Afternoon: River Passgae of Hung Ton Cave - To Mo Valley - Tan Hoa

Guests will descend a 15-meter ladder with safety harnesses in Hung Ton cave to continue exploring the remaining dry passage of the cave. Here, visitors will have the opportunity to see a fossil of a million-year-old marine species. The group will then move to the water passage of the cave. Customers will be provided with life jackets and start swimming in the underground river of the cave, swimming across a small reef, and at the end of the cave the picturesque To Mo Valley, is awaiting. Here, you have time to enjoy lunch and swim on the emerald-green stream before swimming through Hung Ton cave to return.

The 1-day Tu Lan experience tour by Oxalis ends with crossing the lush green valley and fields. You will return to the Rao Nan River and walk back through the farmland to the office. At the Oxalis Tan Hoa office, the group can relax and have some cool drinks.

The car will pick up the group and you will be back in Phong Nha at about 18:30 - 19:30, ending the trekking adventure to the Tu Lan caves - one of the most unique adventure tours in Quang Binh.

Suggested accommodations before and after the tour:

Chay Lap Farmstay is an ideal place to stay before and after joining Oxalis cave tours. High quality rooms, swimming pool, spa, kayaking, cycling, yachting... Specially discount rate for Oxalis customers are 1 million VND/room for 2 people. Check availability here

chaylapfarmstay.com →

Adventure level on tour

After many years of operating trekking adventures, Oxalis has created an adventure scale to help tourists visualize and choose the right cave experience 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

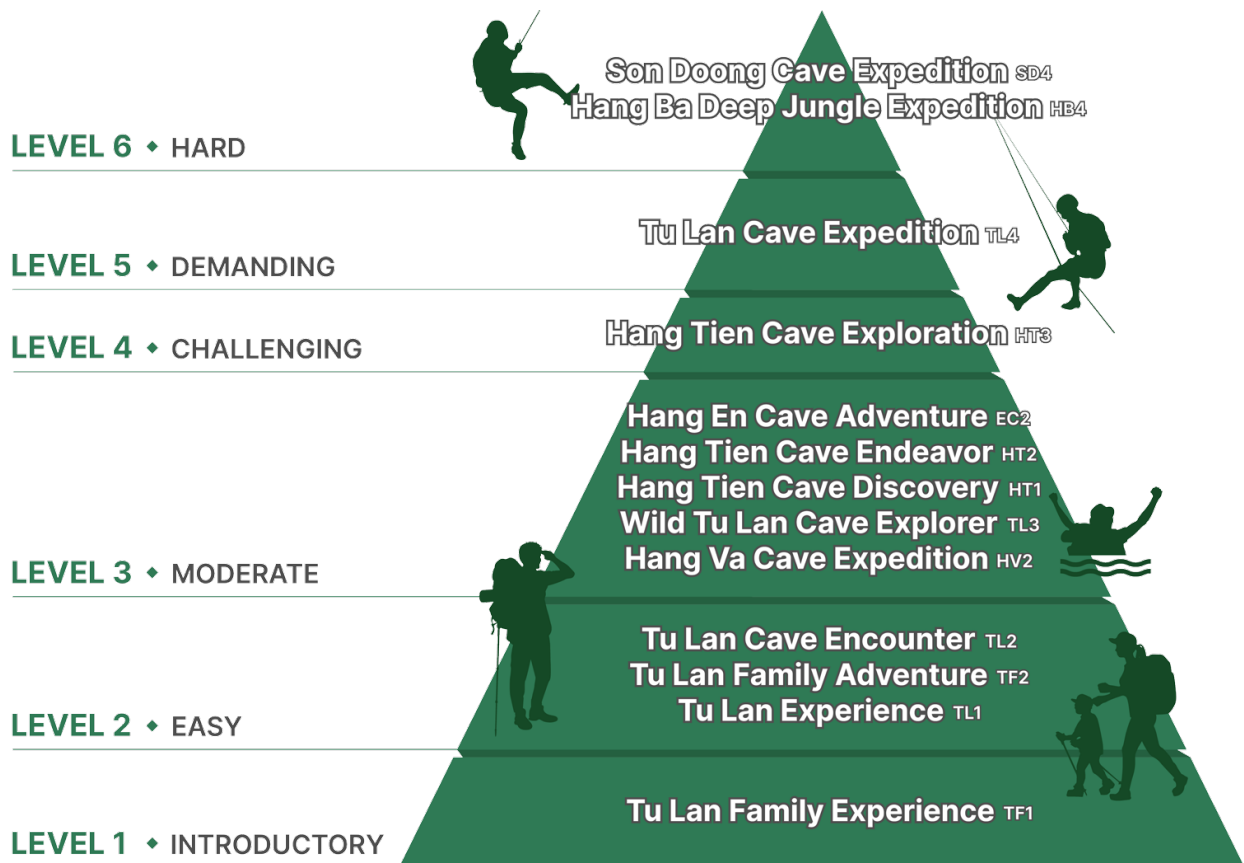
some trekking experience. The Tu Lan Experience Tour is easy (level 2) and suitable for reasonably active people who enjoy the outdoors.

Adventure Level 2 • Easy

Number of guests per tour: Maximum 12 guests; Age 16-70 years old.

Expect: Easy trails, some rocky sections & optional swim

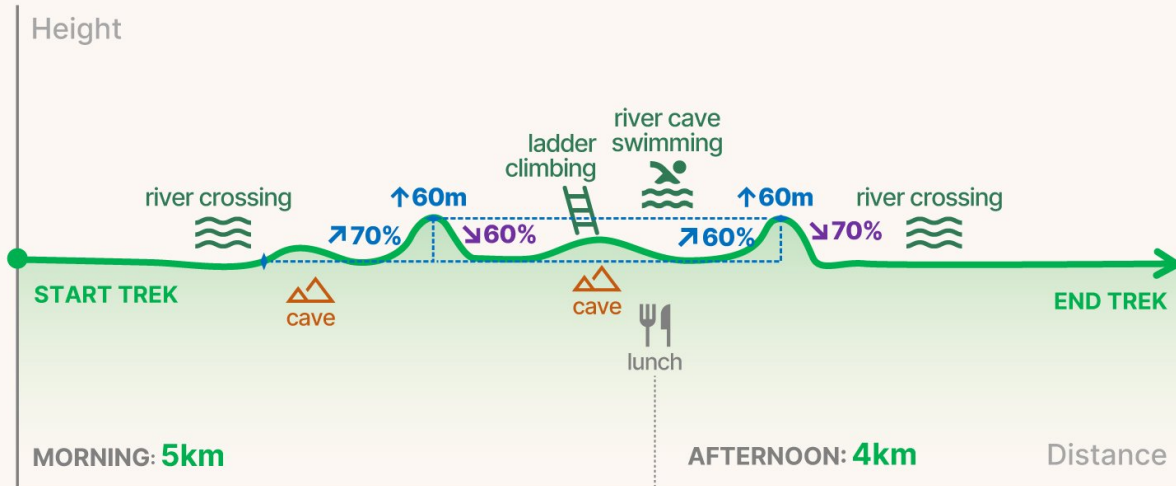
- ★ Easy to moderate trekking
- ★ 9km trek through valleys forest and river crossing
- ★ 800m cave exploration; elevation gain 120m
- ★ 15m ladder climbing; 150m swimming in underground river
- ★ Swimming and wading at the waterfall



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Items to bring on tour

It is necessary to be well prepared for the trip because the Tu Lan Experience, although for one day, is still a 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 and should NOT buy waterproof footwear for river crossings as they will retain water. Please test your shoes before the trek. Besides, guests also need to prepare personal items for one day's trekking in the jungle and caves.

Items to bring on Tu Lan Experience tour

Provided by Oxalis

Caving and safety gears:
helmet, headlight, gloves, ...
Basic jungle boots (size 36-46)

Provided by you (required)

ESSENTIAL CLOTHING

Trekking clothes:

EU)

Water bottle (1L)

Water purifier

Compost toilet, toilet paper,
hand cleaner

Floating backpack (25L) to
carry stuff that you need
while trekking

Shared dry box for electronic
devices

First-aid kit and medical
rescue equipment

Satellite phone

- 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 shoes
(drainable); *Waterproof/Gore Tex shoes are
not recommended.

1 pair of calf-length, thick socks

Clothes to change after the trek

PERSONAL ITEMS

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

OPTIONAL ITEMS

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

Photos

