Tu Lan Family Adventure Tour

- ***Duration: 2 days 1 night***
- ***Difficulty level: Easy***
- ***Age 8-70 years old***
- ***Group size: 12 customers (Join-in)***
- ***Operation: mid-Nov to mid-Sep***
- ***Price: USD 283/pax***

This is a family adventure tour for children and parents to connect with and enjoy the wild Tu Lan landscape. Creating opportunities for children to gain confidence, and explore new challenges such as trekking through the jungle, wading streams, swimming (with life jackets), exploring caves and camping overnight in the middle of the mysterious jungle. A trip to the wild with your child will create lifelong memories.

The Tu Lan Cave Family Adventure 2-day tour, has been designed to provide an easy and safe introduction to trekking and caving. The route is safe and quite easy with activities such as: river crossing, climbing/scrambling a small hill, and crossing 2 scenic valleys of the Tu Lan area. Families are accompanied at all times by a Tour Guide and Safety Assistants.

☑ ✅ **Trekking adventure through lush mountains**: As a kid-friendly trekking tour in Quang Tri, this journey offers a fun and safe outdoor experience in the Tân Hoá mountains. The trail is easy and safe, featuring activities like stream crossing, gentle hill climbing, and hiking across two beautiful valleys in the Tu Lan area.

☑ ✅ **Explore stunning caves with diverse stalactite formations**: Visit incredible caves such as Secret Cave, Hung Ton Cave (dry branch), Rat Cave, and Little Rat Cave - each with spectacular structures like high-vaulted ceilings and grand stalactite columns. These caves look like natural stone castles, offering a wonderful opportunity for the whole family to learn more about caves that have formed over millions of years.

☑ ✅ **Enjoy swimming in fresh, cool streams**: Take a dip in the clear, cool water and float along the stream while enjoying the untouched nature of the valley. Parents and children can also join fun water games and enjoy quality time together.

☑ ✅ **Enjoy tasty meals surrounded by nature**: After a day of exploring and swimming, visitors will enjoy two lunches and a delicious dinner cooked by local chefs. Meals are served right at beautiful spots and the campsite, with many famous local dishes to try.

☑ ✅ **Enjoy a unique camping experience**: The campsite beside the stream gives the whole family a chance to relax in nature and enjoy a memorable outdoor experience.

☑ ✅ **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

Due to the weather conditions the itinerary may need to be changed at short notice. The paths can be muddy and slippery after rain. Lifejackets must be worn when swimming.

Download the itinerary

Day 1: Phong Nha – Tan Hoa – Rat Cave – Little Rat Cave – Hung Ton Campsite

Your family adventure begins with a pickup in Phong Nha between 07:30 and 08:00 AM for the journey to the remote village of Tan Hoa. Upon arrival at the Oxalis office, you'll meet your expert guide for a safety briefing tailored specifically for families and children.

Once gear is checked and bags are packed, the group begins an easy 2.5 km trek through green rice fields to the entrance of Rat Cave. Here, you will stop for lunch before starting your cave adventure.

As one of the impressive dry caves in the Tu Lan Cave System, Rat Cave features many unique stalactites and stalagmites. Our guide will share interesting facts about these natural rock formation and help the whole family learn more about how caves are formed. After trekking through Rat Cave the group continues to explore Little Rat Cave.

After leaving the cave, the family will cross a small slope known as Bo Di Slope before climbing Baby Hill, which is about 60 m high. The climb is manageable but still offers a fun challenge for both children and adults.

After conquering Baby Hill, the group will reach Hung Ton Camp. Here, the whole family can help set up the tents and join a cooking experience with local chefs. At the end of the day, everyone gathers for dinner, enjoys the peaceful natural surroundings, and relaxes at the campsite.

Note: Our tour departs promptly in the morning! Please plan your travel to reach Phong Nha before 07:00 AM. If you are traveling by train to Dong Hoi, the SE3 (from the North) and SE8 (from the South) are the best options. Don't worry if you arrive very early on tour departure date – we offer free use of our dorm beds so you can rest and freshen up before the adventure starts. Please book this in advance.

Day 2: Hung Ton Campsite – Hung Ton Cave (Dry Passage) – Secret Cave – Tan Hoa – Phong Nha

In the morning, visitors enjoy breakfast and relax at the campsite before continuing the adventure.

Leaving the campsite, you will walk through a lush green valley surrounded by towering limestone cliffs and the sounds of forest birds. The trail leads the family to Hung Ton Cave, where you will explore its dry passage and enjoy spectacular views of the valley from the cave entrance.

Next, the group climbs a slope to reach the back entrance of Secret Cave. The entrance is small an low, so you will need to crouch and crawl through it one by one. Inside, the cave opens into a much larger space waiting to be explored. This is one of the most exciting parts of the journey, offering a true taste of cave adventure. After exploring Secret Cave, the group will take a break and enjoy lunch near the cave entrance.

In the afternoon, the group leaves Secret Cave, crosses the Rao Nan River, and continues trekking back to the Oxalis office in Tan Hoa. Here, you will have time to rest, shower, and change clothes after the trek. Finally, our driver will be waiting to transfer the group back to your hotel in Phong Nha, marking the end of an unforgettable family 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 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

[{adventure-level-on-tour}Adventure level on tour]

Items to bring on Tu Lan Family Adventure Tour

The Tu Lan Family Adventure Tour involves 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 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 trekking tours with your family. Visitors must choose a good and well fitting pair of shoes for rocky paths. Please test your shoes before the trek. The Oxalis tour consultant will give you helpful advice before joining the Tu Lan Family Adventure Tour.

Oxalis provides

Camping equipment: tent, mattresses, pillow, sleeping bags
Caving and safety gear: helmet, headlight, gloves, safety harness,...
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.
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

You need to prepare

Essential clothing

Trekking clothes:
- 1-2 quick-dry, bright, long-sleeved shirts
- 1-2 pairs of quick-dry and long trekking pants
- 1 waterproof jacket (winter months from 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 dry bag/box for electronic devices
Swimwear using at the campsite
Clothes to change after the trek

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














