

# THE REAL

## Ha Giang

TOURS



ROTATE PHONE FOR BETTER  
VIEWING





## Introduction

Ha Giang city shares its name with Vietnam's most northern province – Ha Giang! It's a huge province and has a 270 km border with China. The Yunnan Mountain range runs right into the province, the mighty Nho Que river which runs through the province, also originates in the Yunnans.

The entire province offers incredible and epic scenery – it's absolutely, hands-down, the most beautiful province in Vietnam!

Ha Giang is home to some 23 ethnic minorities, many of them situated in the hills and valleys of the now famous 'Extreme Northern Loop'. Life is simple here and the pace is slow, people still lead a very traditional and basic existence.

Wooden and even clay houses are common, water and electricity is a luxury for many. You will see women washing clothes and children bathing in the rivers and streams, families collecting feed for their livestock and happily going about their daily business without the frills and comforts we have become accustomed to in the west. For many visitors it is a very humbling experience!

Whilst Ha Giang has gained in popularity over recent years, it is still significantly less famous and thus less touristy than other destinations in Vietnam. The sheer size of the province also gives it a more authentic and off the beaten track feel.

The full loop is over 400km and one could easily double this by exploring all the side roads and paths etc. Due to this there are still places where you feel like you are the first to discover the area.



## “The Real Ha Giang”

We focus on providing authentic, cultural experiences that benefit both you and the local population. A deep cultural immersion for a unique and genuine life impacting experience. This is absolutely not just another Ha Giang Loop tour - it's an experience!

If you are looking to party each night and stay in touristy hostels, eating at tourist restaurants with a large group of like minded party-goers – **SORRY** - that's not what we do! We prefer quieter, less crowded spots, a good nights sleep and authentic experiences!

We will show you “The Real Ha Giang”, ethnic minority villages, an insight into daily life, secret paths, hidden gems and pristine landscapes – lost valleys, towering limestone karsts, Jungle covered mountains, crystal clear rivers, lush rice paddies, refreshing waterfalls and swimming holes. Not to mention some absolutely world class driving roads.

Don't worry, we will still show you the best of the loop, particularly those worthy of their popularity, such as the Ma Pi Leng Pass!

The best way to experience the area is by motorbike, trekking is also popular but it simply isn't possible to see the whole loop on foot. We offer a three or a four day tour that incorporates both.

We do not share our exact route, locations, activities or homestays - they would simply be copied and become touristy. We Are very keen on ethical and sustainable tourism, our group tours are limited to a maximum of 8 guests, this not only allows us to take you to places others can't but also ensures we do not become a hindrance or inconvenience to our hosts.



## The 3 day, 2 night tour

Our 3 day tour starts with a visit to a Tay ethnic minority village, perhaps one of the most well preserved and traditional farming villages in Ha Giang. We will take you deep inside this village, where you will experience local life, culture and traditions. We will explain their daily lives, show you around their homes and provide the opportunity for you to get involved with whatever they may be doing on that particular day. This experience is exclusive to our tours.

From here, your epic loop journey begins.....

Whilst it is not possible to see the whole loop in just 3 days, we have crafted an itinerary designed to show you the best of the loop.....

The Bac Sum Pass / The Ma Pi Leng Pass / The 'Skywalk' / The Nho Que river  
The 'M' pass / Meo Vac / Mau Due / Du Gia / Heaven's Gate / Quan Ba  
Nam Dam village / Dong Van

Above are just some of the highlights, however, you will also experience a night in a traditional Hmong ethnic house, high in the mountains and just 2 KM from the Chinese border. It doesn't get more authentic than this, you will experience a genuine insight into life in the mountains.

You will be taken 'off the beaten path' by our local guides, away from the main roads and into the heart of the Ha Giang loop.... get ready for a real adventure!

Our tours offer you plenty of opportunity to get off the bikes and explore areas on foot, we include various treks - there is no better way to discover the secrets Ha Giang offers than walking through original and unspoiled areas. Again many areas are devoid of tourists and exclusive to our tours.

Your return to Ha Giang will be via a new mountain pass, with epic high altitude views, passing several waterfalls and remote villages.





## The 4 day, 3 night tour

Our 4 day tour takes a completely different route and the extra day allows us to show you the whole of the Ha Giang loop.

You can expect everything we include on the 3 day tour, however, we cover different roads, view points and areas.

The final day is totally exclusive to the 4 day tour and will take you through areas seen by very few foreigners, it has a very different feel and is noticeably different, many areas are very remote, untouched and simply naturally beautiful.

You will get to see parts of Ha Giang that have yet not experienced tourism and a real glimpse into a very authentic lifestyle of ethnic minorities.

We will start early as it's a big day, covering over 150 km, the terrain and scenery is very varied and from highland peaks, to lowland rice paddies.

The route takes us through simple villages and farming communities as well as several towns, many situated along rivers and lakes.

Sections of this route are very humbling and you are sure to ponder why people still live as they do in 2024, it really does feel like time has stood still and you could be forgiven for thinking it was 1924!

If you've got the time and you're only planning to do it once - go for the 4 day option.



## The Real Ha Giang Tours

Private tour or a mixed group with “Easy Rider” or “Self Drive” options available.

### Our tours are all inclusive:

- Local Easyrider
- All meals during the tour
- Accommodation (Private rooms subject to availability and surcharge)
- All entrance tickets & permits
- Motorbike (Mechanical insurance included) and fuel
- Helmet, elbow and knee protection, Rain cover for your bags
- Free main luggage storage

### Excluded:

- Transport to and from Ha Giang (we can book for you)
- First nights accommodation in Ha Giang (tours start around 830am)
  - Medical insurance cover
  - Accident damage waiver (available as an option)
- Drinks and personal expenses; snacks, additional purchases

### PRICING

	3 Day	4 Day
• Easy Rider group tour	4.3m	5.6m
• Self drive guided group tour	3.6m	4.8m
• Passenger sharing 1 bike	2.6m	3.9m
• Easy Rider private tour	5.3m	7.0m
• Self drive guided private tour (1 pax)	6.4m	8.5m
• Additional self driver	3.6m	4.8m
• Passenger sharing 1 bike	2.6m	3.9m

**Our Private Tours** - Just you or you and your friends and our guides!

Not only offering you a more exclusive and intimate experience but also more freedom and control over your trip. We are totally flexible to adapt our routes, timings and activities to suit exactly what you’re looking to experience.





### Self Driving Option

Legally, to ride in Vietnam (motorcycles above 50cc.) you require a motorcycle license in your home country and a valid International Driving License (IDP), Vietnam has only signed and ratified the 1968 Vienna Road Traffic convention. The International Driving License and 1949 Geneva version are not legally accepted in Vietnam.

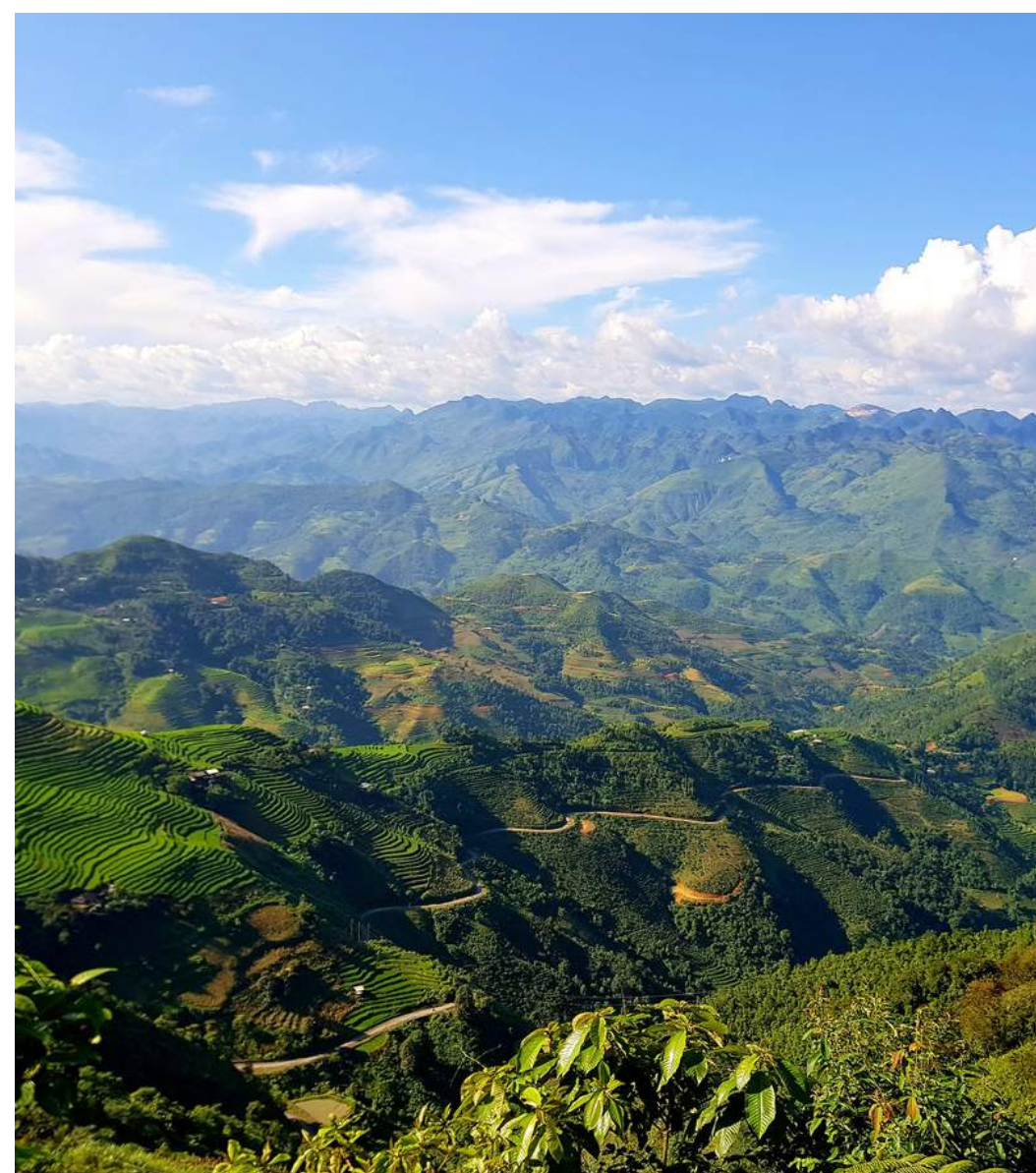
In reality most tourists ride in Vietnam, illegally, the vast majority without any issues whatsoever. There are a few things you need to be aware of; the police may accept any IDP and even an international license, this can potentially avoid you receiving a fine. There are no guarantees though, fines can be up to 2m vnd. However, in a serious accident where the police are involved you will need the correct license and the correct IDP. You should also be aware that it is likely any medical or travel insurance will **NOT** cover you when riding illegally.

We use 110cc semi-automatic bikes, these are not scooters, they have 4 gears, a front hand operated brake and a foot operated rear brake. They do not have a clutch like a full manual bike but are very different to automatic scooters.

It is important that you are comfortable and confident riding the bike, we **DO NOT** teach people how to ride for our tours, we cannot allow you to learn as you go as this will endanger other guests, our own staff and other road users.

If you have only ever ridden an automatic scooter before we **CANNOT** allow you to join our tours as a self driver. We appreciate many people do have substantial riding experience but may not have a motorcycle licence and/or IDP for whatever reason.

Should you wish to ride yourself, we expect you to sign a waiver, acknowledging the risks have been explained to you and that you accept full responsibility for any costs and consequences that may arise.







## Easy Rider Option

Ideal for anyone who isn't confident riding themselves or those that simply prefer to relax and enjoy the journey, you are free to enjoy 360-degree views without having to focus so much on the road ahead.

We use local riders, born and raised in Ha Giang, many of them from towns and villages throughout the loop. As you probably already know, the Vietnamese were essentially born riding motorbikes, you will see very young children riding motorbikes throughout the loop. All of our drivers are licensed for fully manual bikes and we are proud to have a 100% safety record.

Because our riders are local, they know the roads, traffic rules and potential hazards. They are also very well connected and thus can help us with any issues that might arise on our tours. Despite the size of the loop, we are never far from friends and family!

Whilst very knowledgeable about their homeland and confident riders, many do not speak fluent English.

Ha Giang has one of the lowest levels of English speakers in Vietnam, which is already one of the lowest countries in South-East Asia.

We are teaching them but this takes time and so we ask for your help, the more English they are exposed to the quicker they will learn.

You will start as strangers but will leave as friends by the end of your trip!

Communication, however, is never a problem, Google Translate works very well and our head guides have good English skills. We are also available 24/7 to handle any queries or translation needs.







## General Information

Ha Giang is full of micro climates, the **WEATHER** can and does change quickly. It has the same 4 seasons as Europe: Spring is mild and dry but very short, by early May the summer arrives with daily temperatures in the 30's, rainy season starts June and runs through to September, most of the rainfall happens at night after a hot day, however, you can also experience early morning and afternoon downpours, these tend to be heavy but short. Autumn is again mild, dry and short. The winter months of December, January and February are dry but can be very very cold up in the mountains, morning frost is not rare in January and February.

All year round, you **SHOULD PACK** rain gear, a light waterproof jacket for the summer months is ample. Decent footwear for riding, trekking. The sun is very strong and so long sleeve tops and trousers are great to stop sunburn, if however, you love the sun, factor 50 still ensures you'll get a tan! For Spring and Autumn you may need a fleece or hoodie as it can feel a little cool. For winter you will need full winter clothing, proper jackets, multiple layers, gloves, scarfs etc... it can be seriously cold on a motorbike during winter... usually dry but cold!

We can store your **MAIN LUGGAGE**, so a smaller pack is useful to just take enough for the 3 or 4 day trip. All accommodations on our tours provide you with towels although you may wish to bring swimwear and a travel towel for a river dip or dunk in one of the waterfalls.

There's very good **MOBILE 4G** almost everywhere throughout the region, every homestay, café and restaurant also has free Wi-Fi.

There are **ATMs** in most towns, however, these all charge a fee, Agribank being the cheapest at around 1 usd (22k vnd). They do limit the amount to 2 or 3m dong.

**TIMINGS** - Tours start around 830am and finish between 4-5pm. **BUSES** run all day from Hanoi and all day from Ha Giang. Night buses to onward destinations, Ninh Binh, Sapa, Cat Ba, Ha Long start from 630pm. We can arrange to include pick up and drop off.



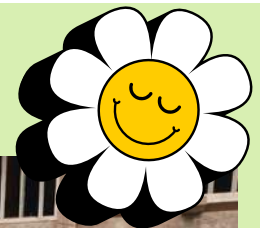


**WE DON'T DO THIS!**



*THE REAL*  
**Ha Giang**  
TOURS

**WE DO THIS.....!**











## CONTACT AND BOOKINGS

"The Real Ha Giang Tours" are only offered by  
**Be's Home** and **Nomadders Ha Giang**

Should you wish to stay elsewhere in Ha Giang city we will pick you up in the morning of the tour.

To book we require a 25usd deposit, you can contact us by any of the methods below, to arrange...



**Be's Home**

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