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VIETAGE

BY ANANTARA

DISCOVERY BOOK

WELCOME ABOARD THE VIETAGE BY ANANTARA



We are proud to welcome you aboard The Vietage by Anantara, offering a new age of luxury slow travel experiences through Central and South-Central Vietnam. You are about to embark on a journey that unites history with nature, beauty with opulence and excitement with serenity. Sit back and relax as the train meanders through the picturesque landscape transporting you into a world of glamour and nostalgia. We wish you a pleasant journey.

CREATED FOR YOU

The Vietage by Anantara operates two carriages running in opposite directions through the countryside, so whether you are boarding in Da Nang, Quy Nhon or Nha Trang, your trip is one to be savoured. We aim to create journeys that revive the romance of rail travel while offering a feast for the palate and senses to elevate your experience.

Settle into a haven of comfort and calm, far from the hustle and bustle of modern life. A place where you can luxuriate in your surroundings and immerse yourself in breath-taking views as the landscape rolls by. Let this trip be anything you need: relaxed and romantic, special and slow, or intimate and exclusive. Enjoy the adventure of solo travel or use the opportunity to bond with a significant other or enjoy quality time with family or friends.





THE VIETAGE BY ANANTARA EXPERIENCE

These magical railway adventures will take you through the lush sceneries and rural surroundings between Hoi An, Quy Nhon and Nha Trang. Lose yourself in the ambience of slow rail travel while enjoying all the indulgent comforts we have to offer. Treat yourself to a drink at the bar or simply enjoy your window seat and take in the views as we prepare your gourmet dining experience.

TALES TO SHARE

Consider this volume your trusted companion during your journey. If you would like to know more about the carriage, its surrounds, the culinary delights, intriguing imbibe-ables and other services on board, please flip through its pages.

Within these covers, you'll discover engaging information about the history and culture of the region, flora and fauna that appear outside your windows, and glimpses of life in this enchanting region. We hope this book enriches your journey and ignites your senses.



YOUR JOURNEY

The Vietage by Anantara's two luxury railway carriages depart from different destinations each day, passing each other during their routes.

The first carriage leaves Da Nang each morning on its way to Quy Nhon, before continuing through to the coastal city of Nha Trang, which is the end of this journey. The second carriage departs from Nha Trang every afternoon and travels up to Quy Nhon and then on to Da Nang, arriving late in the evening.



OUR HOSTS

From sommelier to mixologist to artisanal tea expert and wellness therapist, our highly trained carriage hosts all share one thing: a passion for pleasing people. They also know this region of Central Vietnam well, so feel free to ask them questions.

HOST UNIFORMS BY TOM TRANDT

You may notice and admire the modern-meets-traditional uniforms of our hosts. Created by popular Vietnamese fashion designer Tom Trandt, they combine a minimalist colour palette and natural fabric with the traditional silhouette of the ao dai dress for women, while the men wear a blazer in the same colour. Marking Trandt's first foray into uniform design after a career spent in high-end, avant garde fashion, he was pleased to collaborate with our team. Known for mixing modern touches with traditional Vietnamese elements, Trandt's signature style can be seen in these designs. If you look closely, you'll notice that the stitching lines on each garment take inspiration from the pattern of the railway tracks.



THE VIETAGE BY ANANTARA

HIGHLIGHTS

Each carriage offers:

- Sit-up bar
- Curated lunch or dinner menu of Vietnamese and Western flavours for journeys between Da Nang and Quy Nhon
- Exclusively-created afternoon tea menu for journeys between Nha Trang and Quy Nhon
- Selected free-flow wines, exclusively-curated cocktails and mocktails, beers, soft drinks, local coffee and artisanal Vietnamese tea
- Add-on dining choices include premium wines, Champagnes, caviar and local and international cheeses
- Dedicated area for back and shoulder treatments
- Power outlets and charging stations
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Luxurious seating for 12 passengers only
- Six private booths with two comfortable seats per booth
- Sleeper booths available for the evening journey from Quy Nhon to Da Nang

GOING THE DISTANCE

The journey from Da Nang to Quy Nhon and vice versa will take you a total of 318 kilometres, with an estimated travel time of six hours.

The journey from Nha Trang to Quy Nhon and vice versa will take you a total of 215 kilometres, with an estimated travel time of five hours.

The memories you accrue along the way will last a lifetime.

ALTITUDE, GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Each journey will travel through mixed terrains of plains, mountains and coastlines offering postcard-perfect vistas of all that makes this part of Vietnam so charming.

The overall climate in the Central and South-Central regions of Vietnam is tropical. The central region, which includes Da Nang, experiences both a rainy and a dry season, with warm temperatures throughout the year. The southern region, which includes Nha Trang, experiences high temperatures and humidity year-round.

STOPS ALONG THE WAY

For those interested in the names of the stations along the way, please refer to the table below. Each stop lasts only a few moments and we regret to inform you that it is not possible to leave the train at these short pauses in the journey.

DA NANG - QUY NHON	QUY NHON- DA NANG	QUY NHON- NHA TRANG	NHA TRANG- QUY NHON
Da Nang	Dieu Tri	Dieu Tri	Nha Trang
Tra Kieu	Quang Ngai	La Hai	Tuy Hoa
Tam Ky	Da Nang	Tuy Hoa	Dieu Tri
Nui Thanh		Gia	
Quang Ngai		Ninh Hoa	
Duc Pho		Nha Trang	
Bong Son			
Dieu Tri			



SAVOUR THE JOURNEY



Flavour and culture combine to make your dining experiences simply irresistible. On your trip aboard The Vietage by Anantara, enjoy beloved local specialities alongside international favourites, served with the grace of Indochine hospitality. Each dish allows us to take you on a journey through the taste sensations of Vietnam while the country's landscape passes by.

If you are travelling between Da Nang and Quy Nhon, you might be indulging in delicate king crab cakes with a tamarind emulsion, or a Quy Nhon-style half sundried beef salad to start your gastronomic experience. A pan-fried Magret duck breast, or traditional Hoi An chicken rice are among the main courses and those with a sweet tooth will savour Da La strawberries with coconut yoghurt, or mango and coconut tiramisu.

If you are travelling between Nha Trang and Quy Nhon, your culinary journey features a sumptuous afternoon tea including Bai Dai Lobster and Da Lat Caviar, along with an exciting tea tower full of homemade finger sandwiches, pastries, time-honoured scones and an artisanal cheese and charcuterie platter.

No matter what you discover, it is sure to delight and offer a taste of the region's flavours. If you get the munchies at any time, light snacks are available throughout the journey. Why not sit at the bar and enjoy some nibbles and a tipple or two! A la carte premium wines, Champagnes, caviar and cheeses are also available to purchase for an extra special treat.

For full details of today's culinary experience, your personal menu highlights your chosen epicurean extravaganza and the on-board menu details the wines, cocktails, beers, mocktails, soft drinks and selection of locally-grown tea and coffee available.



RAISE A GLASS

A ride through the countryside is further perfected by the addition of the perfect beverage. Free-flow wines, exclusively-curated cocktail and mocktails, beers, soft drinks, tea and coffee are all included for the duration. Have a look at the onboard drinks menu and choose your favourite tipple or two.

DRINK LOCAL

On board is a selection of exclusive teas from Epicurean Sao, a flourishing tea brand made in Vietnam, which selects leaves directly from tea leaf growers to ensure the freshest flavours.

Epicurean is a lifestyle with origins in the Greek Philosopher Epicurus, while Sao represents the star on the Vietnamese flag.

In addition to espressos and lattes, we are proud to serve classic Vietnamese iced coffee crafted from beans hand picked in the highlands of Vietnam. Our coffee beans come from Folliet's farms.

While Vietnam is well known for its coffee culture, tea consumption has been a part of Vietnamese culture for centuries and the country is home to some of the oldest living tea plants, as well as being the 5th largest tea producer in the world.

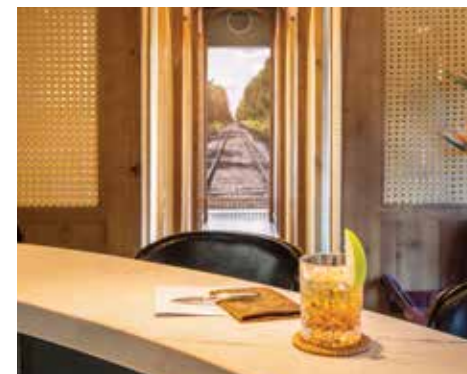
The local beers on offer include Hoi An's Biere Larue and Quy Nhon's Bia Lowen Pils, while a craft brew from the Heart of Darkness brewery in Saigon is a vibrant beer called Kurtz's Insane IPA.

The water is bottled at Anantara Hoi An Resort using eco-friendly and sustainable glass bottles.

Our selection of exclusively-curated cocktails and mocktails have been meticulously hand-crafted and will be created at the bar as you watch mixology in action.

SAY 'CHEERS' IN VIETNAMESE

One essential part of Vietnamese drinking culture is the idea of drinking together and raising your bottle or glass to good company. The local version of cheers is dzo, pronounced 'yo', and often follows a countdown of 1, 2, 3, or in Vietnamese, mot, hai, ba...dzo!



CREATIVE CARRIAGE DESIGN

The two custom-designed luxury carriages blend traditional elements with modern flair. The six private booths in each carriage are separated by rattan partitions, popular in Indochina architecture and designed to organise a space rather than act like a dividing wall. The locally-sourced rattan is semi-transparent and provides an element of privacy, yet keeps the space open and social.

The black inox marble counter bars, styled in a semi-circular shape with sit-up leather stools, add contemporary chic. Soft furnishings and interior colours add earthy and welcoming tones to complement the scenery passing by, while wooden features and warm textiles bring an essence of depth and calm.



KIDS' CORNER

Younger rail travellers have plenty to keep them occupied with drawing, colouring and sticker books, along with a selection of board games to while away the time.



MOMENTS OF RELAXATION



Throughout the journey, our hosts will provide soothing and relaxing 15-minute back and shoulder treatments for each guest. Once you board the carriage, the hosts will arrange a time that suits you during the journey.

Our treatments focus on pressure points, age-old techniques and the application of touch. No products are needed to achieve the maximum benefits and pure relaxation.



STAY ONLINE

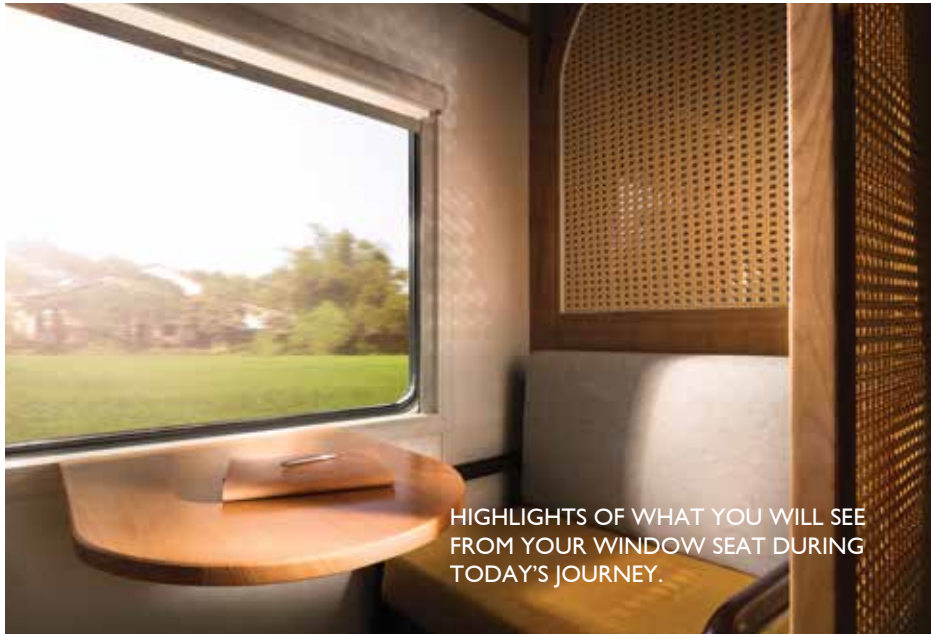
Connect to 'The Vietage Guest' Wi-Fi network and simply key in the following password: Guest1234

Share your amazing photographic memories and don't forget to tag us!

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DELIGHTFUL SIGHTS



HIGHLIGHTS OF WHAT YOU WILL SEE
FROM YOUR WINDOW SEAT DURING
TODAY'S JOURNEY.

WONDERFUL WILDLIFE

Catch a glimpse of water buffalo, Vietnam's national animal, as the train makes its way through the country's landscape, along with a plethora of lotus ponds, rice paddies and plenty of flora and fauna.

Flocks of cranes and geese are often seen depending on the time of year.



FABULOUS FLORA

Blooming alongside the train, you'll notice a cacophony of white, purple, pink and fuchsia flowers – offset by endless verdant greenery, of course. These blooms include some of South East Asia's most beloved floral varieties. Here you can read about a few of our favourites.

Lotus Flower

The national flower of Vietnam, the lotus flower (pictured right) symbolises purity, optimism and commitment. Each night the flower closes and sinks underwater, before rising again at dawn. This unique daily cycle of life, death and rebirth has earned the lotus the name 'the flower of life'.

Apricot Blossom

The bright yellow apricot flower blossoms in January and has become an enduring symbol of spring and Tet new year celebrations. If you're travelling at that time of year, the displays of colour on the streets and at flower markets are spectacular.



Crown Flower

With its distinctive white and violet star-shaped blossom, the crown flower is a common sight along Vietnam's coastline. Blooming from a bush-like plant, it thrives along the high-tide mark of sandy beaches. Its leaves and flowers are stiff and slightly shiny, appearing as if made of rubber. In the centre of each star-shaped flower, a five-sided stigma protrudes, resembling a royal crown.

AMAZING CULTURE

As you watch Central Vietnam roll by outside your window, there are plenty of magical things to take in. From the ruins of ancient Champa cities and former capitals to historic relics that are among the most extensive in South East Asia, there will be much to admire. Also along the journey, you'll encounter silver towers pointing into the sky, mysterious ancient ramparts and large and beautiful natural lakes. Here are a few of the highlights that will glide past.

DA NANG TO QUY NHON

Tam Ky

Founded in 1906, Tam Ky is the capital city of Quang Nam Province and was the administrative and tax base during the Vietnam War, housing a US military base. A former Champa territory, it is still possible to find Cham temples scattered along its landscape as well as a mural village called Tam Thanh and a Confucian temple that dates back 300 years.



Quang Ngai

This coastal city served as a stronghold for the communists during the Vietnam War. In 2005, archaeologists were amazed to discover the Long Wall of Vietnam, constructed in 1819, the most extensive defensive wall and monument that has been found in all of South East Asia.

Banh It Towers

A stately outcropping of four surviving Cham towers that date back to the end of the 11th century can be spotted on the outskirts of Quy Nhon, perched high atop a hill. Also known as the Silver Towers, they are one of the best preserved examples of late Cham architecture and stunning enough to feature in the book, 1001 Buildings You Must See Before You Die.

Tra Kieu

All that is left of Tra Kieu today are traces of its former magnificence in the form of rectangular ramparts on the ground. But long ago, from the fourth to eighth centuries, this destination in Quang Nam Province's Duy Xuyen was the first capital city of the Hindu Champa Kingdom.

An Khe Lake

An Khe Lake, the largest freshwater lake in Quang Ngai province, is considered to be a cradle of Sa Huynh culture, the predecessor of the Cham people in the Central Coast region of Vietnam.

AMAZING CULTURE

QUY NHON TO NHA TRANG

Striking stretches of coastline fronting the East Sea and a number of expansive bays are a highlight during part of this route, as well as the mountainous topography of Phú Yên province, which is home to one of the country's Champa people communities.

While not directly visible from the railway itself, the train passes nearby to many historical points of interest.

Mui Dien Lighthouse

Vietnam's oldest lighthouse sits at the easternmost point of the country making it the first place to witness the sunrise each morning. Although no longer in active use, it was first constructed by the French in 1890 as a working lighthouse and was declared a National Landscape Monument in 2008.



Ong Cop Bridge

Also known as Bình Thạnh Bridge, it is renowned as the longest operating wooden bridge in the country spanning 800 metres in length on the surface of Binh Ba River. The planks of the bridge are made from casuarina and eucalyptus trees, while the wall of the bridge is made of old bamboo.

Vung Ro Bay

Considered one of the most attractive and cleanest bays along the central coast of Vietnam featuring coral reefs and fine sands, Vung Ro once served as the landing spot for secret supply shipments via the Ho Chi Minh Trail in the mid-1960s. It is surrounded by craggy, jungle-covered mountains culminating in an 80m-high, free-standing boulder atop the highest peak in the region, known as Núi Đá Bia – 'Steale Mountain'.



O Loan Lagoon

The legend of O Loan Lagoon is said to be derived from a story about a beautiful, yet mischievous fairy named Loan and a mystical bird called O Thuoc. Loan decided to ride on the bird's back to soar above the world, but the bird soon became tired and landed in the Tu Bi Mountain Range, transforming them both into a lagoon, its shape resembling a bird spreading its wings.

Nhan Cham Tower

Situated on the top of the Nhan Mountain in Phu Yen province's capital city of Tuy Hòa stands the Nhan Cham Tower, built over 800 years ago and known as the last relic remnant of the Champa Kingdom. Countless flamingos (or Nhan) used to flock to the mountain in the old days, which paved the way for its name. Purposely built as a worshipping place, the tower still sees annual pilgrim visits in the middle of the Third Lunar Month.



DESTINATION – HOI AN

A charming UNESCO World Heritage Site, Hoi An is a treasure trove of captivating cultural experiences. Wander its enchanting streets to uncover rich history and ancient architecture that spans both centuries and cultures. Return after dark to explore bustling markets and a mesmerising display of traditional lanterns.

Crowned a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1999, Hoi An is a well-preserved example of a South East Asian trading port, with buildings that display a unique blend of local and foreign influences. Strolling the streets of the old town, you can imagine how it might have looked when it was the busiest seaport of the Champa Kingdom. From the second to the 10th centuries, that is precisely what Hoi An was – a Persian and Arab stop along the trade route for necessary provisions.

Over the centuries, Indonesian, Thai, French, British and American ships came to Hoi An to purchase fabrics, paper, porcelain, tea, sugar, molasses, pepper and, of course, the high-grade silk for which the area is still renowned.

Hoi An was also the site of the first Chinese settlement in Southern Vietnam. The town's Chinese hoi quan, or assembly halls, still play a special role in life in Southern Vietnam.



DESTINATION – QUY NHON



Though Quy Nhon was only officially founded in the 18th century, its history dates back to the Champa period. In the 10th century, Quy Nhon was a Cham capital called Vijaya. In 1471, the Vietnamese dynasty of Dai Viet launched an attack on the Champa Kingdom here, winning and ending centuries of war between the two nations and beginning the latter's downfall.

For many Vietnamese, Quy Nhon is remembered as the home of Emperor Quang Trung, who won many battles as leader of the short-lived Tay Son Dynasty.

Binh Dinh Province, of which Quy Nhon is the capital city, is known to be the cradle of Vietnam's national martial art, vovinam, also known as viet vo dao. It is a persevering myth that everyone in Quy Nhon is proficient in martial arts.



Nowadays, Quy Nhon is a prosperous coastal city with a seemingly endless beach and a promenadestyle walkway that's perfect for a sunset stroll.

Further inland, you will find a pastoral and beautiful landscape with much to discover on the back roads that criss-cross the countryside. For lovers of history, it is well worth arranging a day trip to visit the ruins scattered through the area while enjoying a scenic drive through rice paddies, river valleys and mountain towns.



DESTINATION – NHA TRANG



Situated along Vietnam's South-Central Coast, Nha Trang is a captivating blend of pristine beaches with golden sands and turquoise waters. It is also known for its diving sites, offshore islands, cultural landmarks and vibrant nightlife.

The city is home to the famous Po Nagar Cham Towers built by the Champa people during the 8th Century and is an architectural work typical of Cham ethnic aesthetics, blending different religious influences including Hinduism, Buddhism and Islam.

In the city centre, Nha Trang Cathedral is a display of ornate French-style stained glass windows and imposing columns, while at the Long Son Pagoda, a towering 78-foot tall Buddha statue watches over the city from a hilltop.



HOTEL HOTSPOTS

ANANTARA HOI AN RESORT



In just under an hour's drive from Da Nang Station is the historic and colonial UNESCO Old Town of Hoi An, on the edge of which lies Anantara Hoi An Resort. The colonial-style luxury resort boasts a stunning riverfront setting and is just a few minutes' walk from the Ancient Town.

The resort's two and three storey buildings reflect Asian and French colonial architecture. 92 rooms and suites are designed in a spacious split-level layout, a modern interpretation of Indochina's colonial style, infused with Vietnamese elements.

Bars and restaurants include quintessential Vietnamese and trendy bistro-style dishes, along with a large wine and cocktail menu.

Anantara Spa beckons for chill time with a range of nourishing scrubs, wraps, heavenly treatments and rejuvenating facials.

The resort's large temperature-controlled swimming pool is the perfect place to relax after a day exploring the bustling Old Town.

HOTEL HOTSPOTS

ANANTARA QUY NHON VILLAS



Just 30 minutes away from Dieu Tri Station is Anantara Quy Nhon Villas with 25 luxurious ocean-facing villas, all offering private infinity-style swimming pools and large, sleek timber sun decks.

Surrounded by mountains and directly overlooking the Bay of Quy Nhon, the resort is the epitome of beachfront relaxation and adventurous discoveries. The spacious villas also boast floor to ceiling windows, oversized bathtubs and dedicated villa host services.

Elegant dining options include the resort's signature restaurant Sea.Fire.Salt., poolside snacks, private in-villa BBQs and exclusive Chef's Table experiences.

Inspiring spa and wellness journeys at Anantara Spa promise to relax and reinvigorate the mind, body and soul. The extra large main swimming pool features a trendy swim-up bar, ideal for lazy cocktails and sundowners.

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