

Vietnam, January 2027: Spectacular Primates, Questionable Haircuts, and Room for Two

I'm sending myself to Vietnam. The monkeys are largely to blame.

From January 13–24, 2027, I'll be in Vietnam on a 12-day, photography-focused primate trip, and I'm looking for one or two people to join me. We'll start in Hanoi, finish in Da Nang, and spend the time in between looking for animals that appear to have put considerably more thought into their outfits than I have.

Five headline targets, local specialist guides, and a group of just two or three people. Think boats, forests, early starts, and time to do more than collect a distant glimpse and immediately leave.

13-24 JANUARY 2027 / 12 DAYS / HANOI → DA NANG



Cat Ba langur · Reference photograph

Cat Ba langurs, by private boat

We'll spend two days exploring isolated islands in Lan Ha Bay, looking for Cat Ba langurs during morning and late-afternoon photography sessions. A rather better reason to get out of bed than checking my email.

Two days in Lan Ha Bay.
One very persuasive reason to join.

The cast has range.



Delacour's langurs at Van Long

Mainland and boat-based sessions, with local scouts helping us find the langurs. Dramatic black-and-white animals, deeply questionable trousers, and an excellent excuse to lose track of time.



Hatinh langurs around Tuyen Phu

Time on foot with local trackers, looking for those wonderfully whiskered faces. Their expressions suggest they've already heard my travel plans and have concerns.

Reference photographs supplied for this post; existing image credits retained.

And we're not necessarily finished at sunset

The itinerary also includes an after-dark photography outing in Cuc Phuong National Park. Additional possibilities listed in the plan include pygmy loris, macaques, owls, and Vietnamese mossy frogs. Mammals are the main event, but I won't pretend I'm above being distracted by a very good frog.

Naturally, wildlife has not signed our itinerary. These are targets, not guaranteed sightings.

This should appeal to fellow mammalwatchers and wildlife photographers who enjoy patient searching, early starts, and spending proper time with their subjects. A sense of humour will also help when "one more photo" turns out to be an optimistic estimate.

Red-shanked doucs at Son Tra

Two days devoted to looking for and photographing these brilliantly dressed animals. They look as though somebody designed a monkey, got carried away, and refused every suggestion to tone it down.



Douc langur reference photographs

Grey-shanked doucs in Tam My Forest

We'll finish with a full day and a further morning, supported by local trackers and the community conservation team. Lunch in the forest, binoculars at the ready, and one more very good reason to miss the beach.

The practical bit

The quoted tour price is approximately US\$4,380 per person with two of us, or US\$3,597 each with three. Payment is in Vietnamese dong; the dollar figures are reference amounts.

The quotation includes single rooms, specialist guiding, local trackers, scheduled transport and boats, the internal flight, and meals as specified. Shared enthusiasm, not shared snoring.

Interested? Email me, Cory, at cravattacory@gmail.com for the full itinerary and quotation, or to talk about joining.

The monkeys have their outfits sorted. I just need one or two more humans.

Trip details and reference prices: supplied 12-day itinerary and quotation. Photographs are reference images, not a guarantee of sightings.