

Vietnam Overview

Vietnam is a beautiful country which is well known for natural beauty, long history and multiple cultures. Therefore, it is easy to understand the reason why the number of tourists landing in Vietnam is increasing to a greater extent. People who are wishing to visit a country famous for both cultural and natural beauty can prioritize Vietnam without any constraint.

Even though there are thousands of places to visit, here are some highly recommended tourist spots which should not be missed once after landing in the Vietnam land: The 1000-year-old capital Hanoi, breathtaking Halong Bay, peaceful Hoi An town, bustling and modern Ho Chi Minh City and countless of white sand beaches along the country from the North to the South. Each minute of you in Vietnam will be surrounded by friendly people who are eager to introduce you the unique culture or authentic cuisine of Vietnam which are now popular all over the world. Vietnam is now waiting for your footprints to explore.

Fast facts

Location: South East Asia

Area: 329,247 sq. km (127,123 sq. miles). Population: 97.3 million (Estimate 2020).

Capital: Hanoi

Language: Vietnamese Religion: Buddhist majority

Entry Procedures

Arrival and Departure Cards are required to be completed upon entry into Vietnam; they will be provided by the airline or at the border gate. The yellow copy of the card will be returned to you and must be submitted when you depart Vietnam; keep it in a safe place. Making a photocopy of it is a good idea and keeping it with your other photocopies.

If you have been pre-approved for a <u>Vietnam visa on arrival</u> simply process though the Visa-on-Arrival lane at immigration. Once your <u>Vietnam visa</u> formalities have been completed claim your baggage and process through customs.

Duty Free

One-carton of cigarettes and one bottle of liquor.

Exit Procedures

Complete the customs declaration and process through customs then complete the immigration processing where you will be required to return the yellow copy of your Arrival and Departure Card.

Airport Departure Taxes

Departure Taxes are included in the price of the airline ticket.

Tendering Passports

Vietnamese law requires that passports be tendered to the hotel each evening. This may appear odd to Western travelers but until the 1960's a number of European

countries required that passports be tendered to the hotel each evening.

Business hours

Banks, government offices and the like have office hours from 8:00 to 11:30 am and from 1:00 to 4:00 pm and on Saturday morning until noon, however offices often open late (both in the morning and afternoon) and cease operating early. Post Offices are generally open at 6:00 am and close late, often as late as 9:00 pm. Retail shops generally open at 7:00 to 8:00 am and close by 4:00 to 5:00 pm. Private shops, restaurants and stalls are generally open very early and close late, sevendays-a-week.

Travel Insurance

Traveler's Insurance is strongly recommended. A number of companies sell competing policies and it is a good idea to read the fine print and ask questions if you are in doubt. Note: some insurance companies cover travel insurance in their existing policies; check, you may already be covered. Policies have differing benefits for trip cancellation, trip interruption, emergency medical and dental coverage, emergency medical transportation, lost baggage, missed connections, and accidents.

Of special note is the emergency medical transportation. This is extremely costly; if you any health condition which may require medical evacuation you should check to see if you are currently covered and if not purchase the insurance. Medical treatment, if required, can be costly and the pay is usually in cash.

Electricity

220 volt at 50 cycles however 110 volt at 50 cycles in the cities is sometimes encountered, but not often; in the countryside 110 volt via generators is common. For your convenience obtain electrical converters at outlets like Radio Shack prior to your departure. Your hotel may have converters but it is always easier to come prepared. Electronic equipment should be protected with a surge protector.

Weights and Measures

Vietnam is on the metric system; all weights and measures are in the metric system. Inches, miles and size-10 shoes have no currency in Vietnam.

Metric Conversions Temperature

Celsius to Fahrenheit - divide by 1.8 Fahrenheit to Celsius - add 32 Distance

- 1 centimeter .39 of an inch
- 1 meter 39 inches, approximately
- 1 yard 1 kilometer .62 miles
- 1 mile 1.6 kilometers

Weight

- 1 kilogram 2.2 pounds
- 1 gram .04 ounces
- 1 ounce 28 grams Volume
- 1 liter .26 of a U.S. gallon
- 1 U.S. gallon 3.8 liters

Source: Đặt khách san