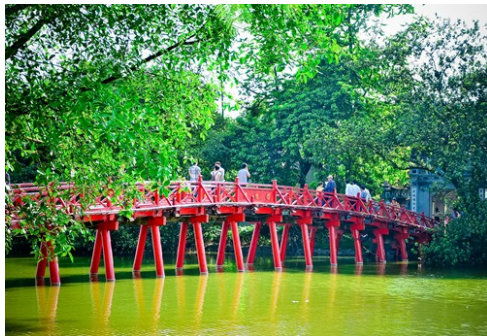




# Hanoi

in collaboration with Blue Dragon Tours

Photo:



If Saigon is the frenetic, commercial heartbeat of Vietnam then gentle, verdant, historic Hanoi is the sedate, intellectual soul of the country. Its leafy boulevards, serene lakes and sweeping white French colonial architecture set the scene as tourists and locals alike seem to go about their business at a pleasingly civilised pace. The city is the administrative capital of the country and its political metronome still beats to communist time, but with a distinctly modern nod towards welcoming tourists from all over the world to enjoy its rich and varied heritage.



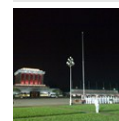
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### Top 5



**Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum**  
This is the number one tourist attraction in the city and it is only open on...



**Ho Chi Minh Museum**  
This museum honours President Ho Chi Minh who is considered to be a Vietnamese...

#### Vietnam History Museum

Vietnam History Museum is open seven days a week. This rich collection of archaeological finds illustrates the development of ...



**Ngoc Son Temple**  
Sitting on an island at the north end of Hoan Kiem Lake, this peaceful temple...



**One Pillar Pagoda**  
The 11th-century wooden shrine, revered for its fertility and healing proper...



## THE CITY



Photo: eustaquio/

Most travellers want to be based in the central Hoan Kiem District - in the vicinity of lovely Hoan Kiem Lake whose pathways and surrounding greenery is the site of much activity as the sun rises. Don't be surprised to see graceful schools of tai chi-ers moving as one as the sun rises and Hanoi health fanatics doing jogging laps before work. As the day falls, couples stroll there for privacy and children wrap-up their games.

Northwest of the lake is the legendary Old Quarter with its winding alleyways and hundreds of quaint shops, guesthouses, galleries and places to eat. Tourists adore it and the locals make hay – you'll find its establishments stay open long after the doors have shut elsewhere in the city. It's also crammed with temples and monuments to ponder over between eating and shopping.

Ba Dinh District, to the west of the lake, is the place to head for a little historic enlightenment – The Mauseleum and Museum of Hi Chi Minh and the Hanoi Old Citadel all reside there – and the Old French Quarter, south of the lake, will transport you back to the days before the French realised that the Vietnamese were a force to be reckoned with. Upscale restaurants, hotels and embassies now occupy the stunning white villas.

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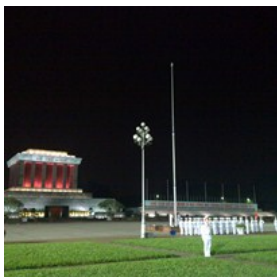


## DO & SEE



Visiting Hanoi and you will find white French villas next to temples and monuments and there is always something to amaze you. The Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum is one of the most visited attractions in the country and should not be missed. Hanoi Old Quarter is another must - where you will be able to witness Hanoi at its liveliest moments: flows of people and motorbike permeate all through out the streets.

### Ho Chi Minh's Mausoleum



This is the number one tourist attraction in the city and it is only open on limited time so prepare for very long queues. Watch out for the guards who will prod you hard if you linger, chat or fail to pay due respects.

Address: Điện Biên, Hanoi

Public Transport: Bus number 9 stop at the rear of the Mausoleum.

Opening hours: 8.00-11.00 (closed Mondays and Fridays)

Phone: +84 4 3828 9465

Tickets: Free entrance

More Info: Ba Đình District

### Ho Chi Minh Museum



This museum honours President Ho Chi Minh who is considered to be a Vietnamese hero. The museum holds a collection of his letters and military orders

that explain the Communist Party's early days to the present.

Photo: baotanghochiminh.vn

Address: 19 Ngoc Ha St., Hanoi

Public Transport: Ba Dinh District

Opening hours: Weekdays 08.30-11.30, 14.00-16.00. Closed Monday afternoon and Friday afternoon. In October and November every year, the Museum is closed for maintenance.

Phone: +84 4 846 3752

Internet: [www.baotanghochiminh.vn](http://www.baotanghochiminh.vn)

### Vietnam History Museum

Vietnam History Museum is open seven days a week. This rich collection of archaeological finds illustrates the development of Vietnam from ancient times up until the start of Communist rule.

Address: 1 Pham Ngu Lao Street, Hanoi

Opening hours: 08.00 to 11.00, and 13.30 to 16.30

More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### Ngoc Son Temple



Sitting on an island at the north end of Hoan Kiem Lake, this peaceful temple site honouring scholars and war heroes is best known for its preserved turtle corpse which links to the lake's mythology. There is a red-painted bridge that takes you to the island.

Address: Dinh Tien Hoang St

### One Pillar Pagoda



The 11th-century wooden shrine, revered for its fertility and healing properties, was burnt by the French in the 1950's and is now replaced by a concrete one and is still a popular destination. To honor the symbol of purity in Buddhism the pagoda is built to look like a lotus blossom.

Photo: Blue Dragon Tours

Address: Pho Ong Ich Kiem, Ba Dinh Square

Tickets: Free entrance

More Info: The One Pillar Pagoda is located within Ho Chi Minh Complex, making an easy visit from either the Museum or Mausoleum

### Hoa Lo Prison



Constructed by the French in 1896, the prison was taken over by the Vietnamese in 1954 to house prisoners of war. The original guillotine room and stories told by the

ex-inmates themselves make this a gruesome but compelling experience.

Address: 1 Hoa Lo Street, Hanoi

Public Transport: Quan Su

Phone: +84 4 824 6358

### Temple Of Literature



The Temple Of Literature is the most revered of the city's temple complexes and the 1,076 site of Vietnam's first university. It sits within the old Imperial City west of the old

Quarter.

Photo: Blue Dragon Tours

Address: Pho Van Mieu, Hanoi

Public Transport: Bus number 23 stops at the front of the site

Phone: +84 9154 2268

Tickets: VND 15,000

More Info: Corner of Pho Quoc Tu Giam.

### Vietnam Women's Museum

This museum shows the history of Vietnam's women through times. Over an area of 2,000 square metres more than 25,000 objects display information about their lives during war time until today.

Address: 36 Ly Thuong Kiet Street, Hanoi

Phone: +84 4 3825 9936

Internet: [www.womenmuseum.org.vn](http://www.womenmuseum.org.vn)

More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### Thang Long Water Puppet Theatre

Water Puppet Theatre is a traditional and prestigious artwork in Vietnam and especially in the northern parts of the country. Live musicians and beautifully made puppets on a scene made of water, perform together and shows local and traditional stories.

Address: 57B Dinh Tien Hoang, Hanoi

Phone: +84 04 8249494

Internet: [www.thanglongwaterpuppet.org](http://www.thanglongwaterpuppet.org)

### Vietnam Museum of Ethnology

With over 50 different ethnic groups in the country, this museum has a lot to show. Inside the museum you can watch all types of artefacts and exhibitions and on the outside, it offers an area showing different types of houses in various parts of Vietnam.

Address: Nguyen Van Huyen St, Hanoi

Opening hours: Everyday 8:30 to 17:30. Closed Mondays

Phone: +84 4 37562193

More Info: Cau Giay District

### St. Joseph's Cathedral



This cathedral is one of the sights remaining from the French colonial time. It was built in 1886 in neo-gothic style and its interior with coloured windows and religious paintings is still the same.

Address: 40 Nha Chung street, Hanoi

### Hanoi Cooking Centre

To bring some of the Vietnamese culture with you home, a cooking class could be a good idea. At Hanoi Cooking Centre you can participate in one of their classes where you first make a visit to the market to buy your groceries and then get back to the kitchen to prepare your own meal.

Address: 44 Chau Long Street, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 3715 0088  
Internet: [www.hanoicookingcentre.com](http://www.hanoicookingcentre.com)  
More Info: Ba Dinh District

### Cuc Phuong National Park

Even if it takes almost three hours to get to this national park from Hanoi it is worth the effort. Here you can experience the nature and wildlife of the northern parts of Vietnam. The park offer different guided tours and there are also a few options for staying over night.

Address: Nghi Tam, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 915 666 916  
Internet: [www.cucphuongtourism.com](http://www.cucphuongtourism.com)  
More Info: Tay Ho

### Halong Bay



Hanoi is the perfect starting point for a trip to the UNESCO heritage listed, Halong Bay.

Book an organized tour, either a day trip or over night, with one of the many different Junk

companies and enjoy the magical landscape of the thousand islands scattered in the green water.

Address: Halong Bay  
Internet: [www.halongbaytours.com](http://www.halongbaytours.com)  
Email: [info@halongbaytours.com](mailto:info@halongbaytours.com)

## DINING



*Blue Dragon Tours*

Hanoi restaurants tend to centre around Vietnamese with Asian fusion or European fare, particularly French and Italian. You're more likely to find international dining in the Hoan Kiem District, but for local authentic flavours (and Hanoi's famous Pho noodle soup dish) head to the Old Quarter street vendors. Quality at either end of the scale is high. Note that most restaurants close at 23.00.

### Vine

Food connoisseurs rush to Vine for its unbelievably high quality dishes of all nationalities, and its wine list to die for. Wine fans can even don a cloak and go on a tasting tour of the expansive cellars.

Address: 1A Xuan Dieu, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 3 719 8000  
Internet: [www.vine-group.com](http://www.vine-group.com)  
More Info: Tayn Ho District

### Al Fresco's

This restaurant is raved about by Westerners who miss home cooking, Al Fresco's serves huge, tasty portions of ribs, burgers, steaks, pizza and pasta.

Address: 23L Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 826 7782  
Internet: [www.alfrescosgroup.com](http://www.alfrescosgroup.com)

### Indochine

Indochine is set in a stunning colonial building. Here, upmarket Vietnamese cuisine is presented beautifully and they have traditional acts on in the evening.

Address: 38 Thi Sach, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 942 4097  
More Info: Hai Ba Trung District

### **Seasons Of Hanoi**

Seasons Of Hanoi is a restaurant with romantic colonial setting. They serve excellent, elegantly presented Vietnamese food and offering a great wine list.

Address: 95B Quan Thanh Street, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 843 5444  
Internet: [www.seasonsofhanoi.com.vn](http://www.seasonsofhanoi.com.vn)

### **Tandoor**

Tandoor is a much-loved curry house patronised by backpackers tired of noodles and locals looking for something different. There's a lot to choose from on the menu and the service is quick.

Address: 24 Hang Be St, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 824 5359  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### **Restaurant 69**

This cosy restaurant is located in the heart of the Old Quarter in a traditional shop house. Head to the second floor balcony for great people-watching while you choose from a menu featuring anything from seafood hotpot to the traditional Pho dish.

Address: 69 Ma May Street, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 926 1720  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### **Ngon Restaurant**

In an open-air atmosphere Ngon Restaurant offer a selection of local food. Here you can order fresh spring rolls and different kinds of noodles at very reasonable prices

Address: 18 Phan Boi Chau, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 9428 162

### **The Gourmet Corner Restaurant**

This fine dining restaurant is located on the 12th floor of

the Elegance Diamond hotel. Let your self be served by efficient and professional waiters and enjoy a memorable dinner accompanied by the beautiful view over Hanoi.

Address: 32 Lo Su Str., Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 3935 1632  
Internet: [www.hanoielegancehotel.com](http://www.hanoielegancehotel.com)  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District, Old Quarter

### **La Badiane**

La Badiane shows upon the French influence on the city. Since 2008 this restaurant has served top quality French cuisine to both locals and tourists.

Address: 10 Nam Ngu, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 39 42 45 09  
Internet: [www.labadiane-hanoi.com](http://www.labadiane-hanoi.com)  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### **La Restaurant and Bar**

For a romantic night with good Asian or Western food, La is the restaurant to visit. With dark wooden tables, candle light and a fine wine and drink list, this restaurant has caught the perfect atmosphere.

Address: Ly Quoc Su, Hanoi

### **DC Bistro Boutique**

At DC Bistro Boutique you can pop in for either lunch or dinner. On the menu you find all from light snacks to set menus, all of them French inspired.

Address: 15A Ngo Van So, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 3944 0288  
More Info: Hoan Kiem district, close to French Embassy

### **Pots 'n Pans**

At a location close to Lenin Park, you find this bustling restaurant. Innovative Vietnamese dishes and a wide array of wines are on the menu. This is a place to go for both celebrations and more informal dinners.

Address: 57 Bui Thi Xuan Street, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 3944 0204  
More Info: Hai Ba Trung District



### **El Gaucho - Argentinian Steakhouse**

If you long for a juicy steak head to El Gaucho. Argentinian cuisine and delicious cocktails are served in a warm and welcoming atmosphere.

Address: 99 Xuan Dieu St, Quang An Ward, Hanoi

Phone: +84 4 37186991

Internet: [www.elgaucho.asia](http://www.elgaucho.asia)

More Info: West Lake District

### **Green Mango**

Green Mango is a restaurant with a contemporary design, serving fusion cuisine. The atmosphere can tend to be elegant but the prices are affordable and the service is warm and friendly.

Address: 18 Hang Quat Street, Hanoi

Phone: +84 4 3928 9916

Internet: [www.greenmango.vn](http://www.greenmango.vn)

More Info: Hoan Kiem District, in the Green Mango Hotel.

## **CAFES**



*Photo: slazebni*

Because of its French colonial history, Hanoi has a wide selection of cafés. Take a seat and order a café au lait while watching the Vietnamese in their everyday life.

### **129 Mai Hac De**

This place is great for a cooling fruit smoothie or a quick sandwich after a tour of the nearby Lenin Park. 129 is very small but thoroughly recommended.

Address: 129 Pho Mai Hac De, Hanoi

Phone: +84 4 821 6342

More Info: Hai Ba Trung District

### **Che Thap Cam Cun**

Che Thap Cam Cun serves only che, sweet green bean pudding, which is very cooling on a hot day. This is an old Hanoi favourite and popular with local women.

Address: 72G Tran Hung Dao Street, Hanoi

Phone: +84 4 824 5642

### **Kem Fanny**

Sitting opposite Hoan Kiem Lake, Fanny's offers up the best ice cream in town and presents flavours such as rice and tamarind. They also serve drinks and snacks.

Address: 51 Ly Thuong Kiet, Hanoi

Phone: +84 4 3937 8170

More Info: Hoan Kiem

### **Koto**

Perfect for dropping into after roaming around the Temple of Literature, Koto stands for Know One Teach One and specialises in nurturing young staff. It also serves wonderful shakes and desserts.

Address: 61 Van Mieu, Hanoi

Opening hours: Open Monday: 7.00 till 16.00 - Tue till Sun: 7.00 till 21.30

Phone: +84 4 747 0337

Internet: [www.koto.com.au](http://www.koto.com.au)

### **The Note Coffee**

Inside this small café, hundreds of love notes are posted on its walls. Enjoy a delicious coffee while reading them, or why not write your own and contribute to the decor.

Address: 64 Luong Van Can, Hanoi

Opening hours: 06.30-23.15

Phone: +84 4 3938 0468

## BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Photo: ccdoh1/

Hanoi has only recently come to grips with the concept of nightlife past 22.00, and the result is there tends to be pockets of activity dotted around the city. Most tourists head for the bustling Bao Khanh Street in the northwest of Hoan Kiem, where late night hangouts and bars huddle together which attract the locals just as much as out-of-towners. There aren't a huge amount of actual nightclubs in the city, but the handful you do come across are riotous affairs which stay open until the small hours and pump up the volume.

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### The Spotted Cow

This bar is highly popular with the chaps who want a night of beer swilling and sport watching. The Spotted Cow, next to Al Fresco's, is a great joint for a boys' night out.

Address: 23C Hai Ba Trung, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 824 1028

### Funky Monkey

For loud music, live sports coverage and budget-friendly extended happy hours, try out this expat, backpackers' and young locals' favourite. During the weekends DJ's play

house music.

Address: 15b Hang Hanh, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 928 6113  
More Info: Hoàn Kiếm

### Club Q

The Hanoi Daewoo's hotel nightclub has a capacity of only 65, but feels like a major club and draws the city's movers and shakers. For karaoke fans there are five different rooms to test your vocal skills.

Address: 360 Pho Kim Ma, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 831 5000  
More Info: Located in Hanoi Daewoo's hotel.

### Green Ho Guom

A relaxed place with wonderful views over Hoan Kiem Lake. Green Ho Guom has Vietnamese singers who start after 21.00.

Address: 32 Pho Le Thai To, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 828 8806  
More Info: Next to the lake

### Relax Bar

Despite its name, Relax can get rather frantic, but is a nice split between the locals and expats and tourists. Fans cite its friendliness and good food and drinks.

Address: 36 Quang Trung, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 3942 4409  
More Info: Hoàn Kiếm

## SHOPPING



Photo: flydime



Shopaholics should start off in the Old Quarter where the winding cobbled streets are teemed with shops and stores catering to every conceivable desire, from fine silk shirts to exotic sugared fruits. Clothes lovers should stroll along to upscale Hang Gai and Nha Tho for their fix. Try Song, on the latter, for designer gear and Khai Silk on Nguyen Thai Hoc for high quality threads.

Those looking for traditional crafts such as lacquerware, ceramics and mother-of-pearl inlay should head to Van Mieu, for ethical traders Craftlink, or Yen The for Lan Vietnamese Handicrafts. Antiques can be found at shops around Hang Bach, Hang Be and Dinh Liet and Pinnocchio on Hang Bong does very individual wooden shoes.

For a taste of everyday shopping in Hanoi, check out the December 19 Market on Ly Thuong Kiet Street in Hoan Kiem, which sells everything from dog meat to t-shirts. Hoan Kiem is also good for jewellery, art and art galleries and furniture with some very swanky shops springing up. Hom Market in the less touristy Ha Ba Trung is also a mecca for bargain hunters looking for typical Vietnamese products.

If you're in need of a good book, set off for Trang Tien Street at the lower end of Ho Hoan Kiem, where a profusion of book stores sell everything from guidebooks to Shakespeare's sonnets.

## ACCOMMODATIONS



Photo: joshua/

Most travellers want to be based in the central Hoan Kiem District - in the vicinity of lovely Hoan Kiem Lake whose

pathways and surrounding greenery is the site of much activity as the sun rises. Don't be surprised to see graceful schools of tai chi-ers moving as one as the sun rises and Hanoi health fanatics doing jogging laps before work. As the day falls, couples stroll there for privacy and children wrap-up their games.

### **Daewoo Hanoi**

At a place known as the most luxurious address in the city, the Daewoo is located. It is a five minute taxi ride to the centre of the action and well worth the trouble as no request is too small, and indulgence is the order of the day.

Address: 360 Kim Ma Street, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 831 5000  
Internet: [www.hanoidaewoohotel.com.vn](http://www.hanoidaewoohotel.com.vn)  
More Info: Ba Dinh District

### **Hilton Hanoi Opera Hotel**

The Hilton sits opposite the stunning Opera House and is itself a glorious piece of French colonial architecture. This is a favourite with wealthy tourists as it's within walking distance of all the main attractions, yet provides a welcome respite from the heat and buzz of the city.

Address: 1 Le Thanh Tong Street, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 9330 500  
Internet: [www.hilton.co.uk/hanoi](http://www.hilton.co.uk/hanoi)  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### **Sofitel Legend Metropole**

This French colonial style building has stood proudly in the heart of Hanoi since 1901. The hotel has a rich history and a century long tradition of welcoming ambassadors, writers, heads of state and entrepreneurs. It offers 265 rooms and suites with a beautiful interior garden and excellent French cuisine at the Le Beaulieu and refined Hanoi specialities at the Spices Garden.

Address: 15 Ngo Quyen, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 8266 919  
Internet: [www.sofitel.com](http://www.sofitel.com)  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### **Quoc Hoa Hotel**

Excellent-priced hotel in the Hoan Kiem District. It is renowned for its well-populated late night bar on the ground floor which attracts those with a liking for beer and board games.

Address: 10 Bat Dan Street, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 828 4528  
Internet: [www.quochoahotel.com](http://www.quochoahotel.com)

### **Church Boutique Hotel Nha Tho**

This minihotel has been transformed into a rather luxurious boutique establishment right in the heart of café and shopping land near the old Catholic cathedral. The hotel offers Free WiFi.

Address: 9 Nha Tho Street, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 39 288 118 / +84 4 39 288 119  
Internet: [www.churchhotel.com.vn](http://www.churchhotel.com.vn)  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### **Prince 1 Hotel**

Prince 1 Hotel is a well-established and popular guesthouse in the heart of Hoan Kiem. Book well ahead for a cheap, large room ideal for families. You might even get a balcony.

Address: 51 Luong Ngoc Quyen St, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 828 0155  
Internet: [www.hanoiprincehotel.com](http://www.hanoiprincehotel.com)  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### **Hanoi Legacy Hotel - Hang Bac**

This 3-star hotel has a perfect location in the Hoan Kiem District with major sights within just a few minutes walking distance. The rooms are contemporary decorated and offer free WiFi.

Address: 108 Hang Bac St., Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 39352662  
Internet: [www.hanoilegacyhotel.com/](http://www.hanoilegacyhotel.com/)  
More Info: Old Quarter, Hoan Kiem District

### **Rising Dragon Legend Hotel**

With its 25 rooms this hotel is located in the Hoan Kiem

district. The rooms are clean and decorated in a western style. A daily buffet breakfast is served at the hotels restaurant and they provide laptops including WiFi to use for free.

Address: 55 Hang Be St., Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 3935 2648  
Internet: [www.risingdragonhotel.com](http://www.risingdragonhotel.com)  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### **Somerset Grand Hanoi**

In a tall building right in the Old Quarters, Somerset Grand Hanoi offers luxury self catering apartments, equipped with all necessary amenities and with a panoramic view over the city. The complex also includes a swimmingpool, shopping arcade and a restaurant serving buffet breakfast.

Address: 49 Hai Ba Trung Street, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 3934 2342  
Internet: [www.somerset.com](http://www.somerset.com)  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### **The Hanoi Club Hotel & Lake Palais Residences**

This 5 star residence offers 128 modern hotel rooms with free WiFi. It provides a lovely view over West Lake and guests can relax by the pool and enjoy a meal in one of the four different bars and restaurants.

Address: 76 Yen Phu, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 38 238 115  
Internet: [www.hanoi-club.com](http://www.hanoi-club.com)  
More Info: Tay Ho District

### **Moevenpick Hotel Hanoi**

The stylish Moevenpick Hotel Hanoi is situated in a white French colonial building. The Old Quarter and attractions lies approx. 1,5 km from the hotel and can easily be reached with a short walk.

Address: 83A Ly Thuong Kiet Street, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 38 22 28 00  
Internet: [www.moevenpick-hotels.com](http://www.moevenpick-hotels.com)  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### Little Hanoi Hostel 1

At a central location close to the Hoan Kiem Lake and major sights, this clean and popular hostel is located. You can choose to stay in single-, double-, twin- and family rooms or dorms with bunk beds. A daily breakfast is served in the hotels restaurant.

Address: 48 Hang Ga, Hanoi  
Phone: +84.4.38284461  
Internet: [www.littlehanoihostel.com](http://www.littlehanoihostel.com)  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### Hanoi Blue Sky Hotel

Within a 10-minute walk from Hoan Kiem lake, you find Hanoi Blue Sky Hotel in Hanoi's Old Quarter. Its 27 rooms consists of single, double, twin and triple but also larger rooms for families. The hotel provides computers free to use for all its guests.

Address: 65 Hang Cot, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 38280620  
Internet: [www.hanoiblueskyhotel.com](http://www.hanoiblueskyhotel.com)  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### Angel Palace Hotel

On one of the most busy streets of the old quarter, the boutique hotel Angel Palace Hotel is located. It is decorated in Classic French design and European architecture and provides professional staff and service.

Address: 173, Hang Bong str., Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 62998666  
Internet: [www.angelpalacehotel.com.vn](http://www.angelpalacehotel.com.vn)  
More Info: Hoan Kiem District

### Golden Silk Boutique Hotel

In a building with 11 floors, located in the Old Quarter, you find Golden Silk Boutique Hotel. The elegant rooms offer free WiFi and beautiful views over the city. Guests can relax in the pianobar and sip a delicious cocktail after a day with sightseeing.

Address: 109-111 Hang Gai Street, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 3928 6969  
Internet: [www.goldensilkhotel.com](http://www.goldensilkhotel.com)

More Info: Hoan Kiem District

## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



Photo: martywindle

### Airport

Hanoi's sparkling new Noi Bai International Airport is being built right next to the old airport, which lies 45km north of Hanoi, and there are lots of ways of getting between it and the city.

Hanoi city bus numbers 07 and 17 leave from the right side of the terminal exit and take an hour, running from 5.00 to 22.00.

Airport minibuses congregate outside the arrival hall - the Vietnam Airlines minibus takes about 40 minutes and drops you outside their Hoan Kiem Lake office (south end). Tickets are sold inside the terminal building. However, many travellers opt for a taxi - there are hundreds outside the terminal exit gate. Unlike the minibuses, which run only intermittently at night, taxis are present 24 hours a day.

Tips: Taxis at the airport apply a fixed rate of about \$17/car to get to the city centre. If you are quoted more than this for just any reason, take another one.

Public Transport: Public buses numbered 7 and 17 are located to the right hand side of the airport  
Opening hours: 24 hours

### Train

Hanoi train station is conveniently located in the city



center, with Gate A serving mainly guests traveling South to Danang, Hue, Nha Trang and Ho Chi Minh City and Gate B serving guests travelling up north to Sapa. It takes about 10 minutes by taxi from either gate to Hanoi Old Quarter and Hoan Kiem Lake.

Train departs punctually with a variety of seat option: hard seat, soft seat, hard berth, soft berth. Despite many shortcomings, train is a safe and reliable means of transportation, and the essential way for guest to visit places such as Sapa.

To purchase train tickets, you can buy directly at the train station or book in advance with an online booking agent and have the ticket delivered to your hotel on your arrival.

Address: 120 Le Duan Street, Hanoi  
Opening hours: 7:00AM - 8:00PM  
Internet: [www.vietnamtrain.com](http://www.vietnamtrain.com)  
Email: [sales@vietnamtrain.com](mailto:sales@vietnamtrain.com)

### Public Transport

Public transport plays an essential part in Hanoi's transportation scene but it can be hard for first-timers to use. Unlike metros in big cities, Hanoi's bus system is rather confusing due to its many route covering the hundreds of streets with many different name.

Bus are numbered from 1 to 55 and runs as far as Bac Ninh province which is just by the airport. Fare starts from VND 7,000.

### Taxi

Taxis are plentiful in the city and charge by distance only (there is no surcharge for rush hour or late evening). Hanoi Taxi +84 4 8535353 and CP Taxi +84 4 8262626 are two of the major companies.

Try to have the right change as taxi drivers often don't have change. Also remember to have your destination written down as pronunciation is often difficult.

Phone: +84 4 8535353

### Health Care

The Family Medical Practice provide 24 hour service. They offer medical assistance on the same number.

Address: Van Phuc Compound 298, Kim Ma Road Ba Dinh District, Hanoi  
Phone: +84 4 843 0748  
Internet: [www.vietnammedicalpractice.com](http://www.vietnammedicalpractice.com)

### Telephone

Country code: +84

Area code: 04

### Electricity

220V is standard in Vietnam. In Hanoi, many outlets fit round pins. Use a surge protector when using computers.

If you stay at 3 star hotels and up, the hotel receptionist should be able to help you with an adapter.

### Population

6,451,909 (in 2009)

### Currency

Dong (VND)

### Opening hours

Shops are generally open from 8-8.30 to 21.00, 22.00, but can close for lunch for one or two hours. Banks are open Monday-Friday from 7.30-8.00 to 11.30 and from 13.00-16.00, and are closed on Saturday and Sunday. Governmental offices are open 7.30-16.30, excluding a one-hour lunch, Monday-Friday and closed on Saturday and Sunday.

### Newspapers

Nhan Dan (State newspaper, also available online in English)  
Vietnam News (English daily)  
The Vietnam Investment Review (English business publication)  
Word Hanoi (English publication for expats in Hanoi)

### Emergency numbers

Police: 113  
Fire: 114  
Ambulance: 115

### Tourist information

7 Dinh Tien Hoang Street, Hoan Kiem  
Opening hours: 8.00-21.00  
+84 4 9263366



Ba Dinh Square	A1	Le Van Huu	C3	Pho Ly Thai To	D2
Bsu Hang Dong	B1	Ly Quoc Su	C2	Pho Ly Thuong Kiet	B3 C3
Cao Ba Quat	A2	Ngo Cho Kham	A4	Pho Mai Hac	C4
Chuong Duong Bridge	D1	Ngo Dinh Chieu	B4	Pho Ngo	D2 D3
De La Thanh	A4	Ngo Luong Su	A3	Pho Ngo Thi Nham	C4
Duong Bac Son	A1	Ngo Si Lien	A2	Pho Nguyen Cong Tru	C4 D4
Duong Bach Dang	D1 D2	Ngo Thong Phong	A3	Pho Nguyen Huu Huan	C1 D1
Duong Dien Bien Phu	A1	Ngo Thuong Hien	A3 B3	Pho Nguyen Khuyen	A2
Duong Le Duan	A3	Ngo Van Chuong	A3	Pho Nguyen Thai Hoc	A2
Duong Thanh	B1	Nguyen Tri Phuong	A1	Pho Phan Chu Trinh	D3
Duong Tran Nghiep	C4	Pham Ngu Lao	D3	Pho Phuc Tan	D1
Duong Tran Nhat Duat	C1 D1	Phan Boi Chau	B2	Pho Phung Hung	B1
Duong Tran Phu	A1 A2	Phan Huy Chu	D3	Pho Quan Su	B2
Duong Tran Quang Khai	D1 D2	Pho 325	B4	Pho Quoc Tu Giam	A2
Hang Bac	C1	Pho Ba Trieu	C2 C3 C4	Pho Tang Bat Ho	D4
Hang Bo	C1	Pho Bat Dan	B1	Pho Tho Nhuom	B3 C3
Hang Boum	C1	Pho Bui Thi Xuan	C4	Pho To Hien Thanh	B4 C4
Hang Can	C1	Pho Cau Go	C1	Pho Tran Binh Trong	B3
Hang Chieu	C1	Pho Cua Dong	A1 B1	Pho Tran Hung Dao	B3 C3
Hang Cot	B1	Pho Dinh Tien Hoang	C2	Pho Tran Nhan Tong	B4
Hang Da	B1 B2	Pho Hai Ba Trung	A2 B2 C2	Pho Tran Thanh Tong	D3 D4
Hang Dao	C1	Pho Ham Long	C3	Pho Trang Thi	B2
Hang Dieu	B1	Pho Han	D3	Pho Trieu Viet Vuong	C4
Hang Duong	C1	Pho Hang Bai	C3	Pho Tue Tinh	B4 C4
Hang Khay Trang Tien	C2 D2	Pho Hang Bong	B2	Pho Yet Kieu	B3
Hang Luoc	B1 C1	Pho Hang Chuoi	D4	Phu Hang Gai	B2 C1
Hang Quat	C1	Pho Hoa Ma	C4 D4	Phu Lo Duc	D4
Hang Thiec Thuoc Bac	B1 C1	Pho Hoang Dieu	A1	Phu Quang Trung	B3 C3
Hang Trong	C2	Pho Hue	C3 C4	The Huc Bridge	C1 C2
Hang Voi Tong Dan	D2	Pho Kham Thien	A3	Thien Hung	A3
Le Hong Phong	A1	Pho Le Dai Hanh	B4 C4	Tran Ng	D2
Le Tach	C2 D2	Pho Le Thanh Tong	D3	Tran Xuan Soan	C4 D4
Le Thai To	C2	Pho Ly Nam De	B1		