

# *Pre-arrival guide*

HCMC & Hanoi • Vietnam

# *Welcome to Vietnam*

Incredible food, insanely good coffee, second-to-none sceneries, and rich history instilled in every corner. Trust us, you will love it!

To make the most of your trip, check out our suggestions in this guide, from reliable housing options, the best places for authentic cuisines, fun things to try out, to essential survival tips.

Enjoy the ride and see you soon!

RMIT Vietnam  
Global Experience Office



# Travel guide



What to mind



Where to stay

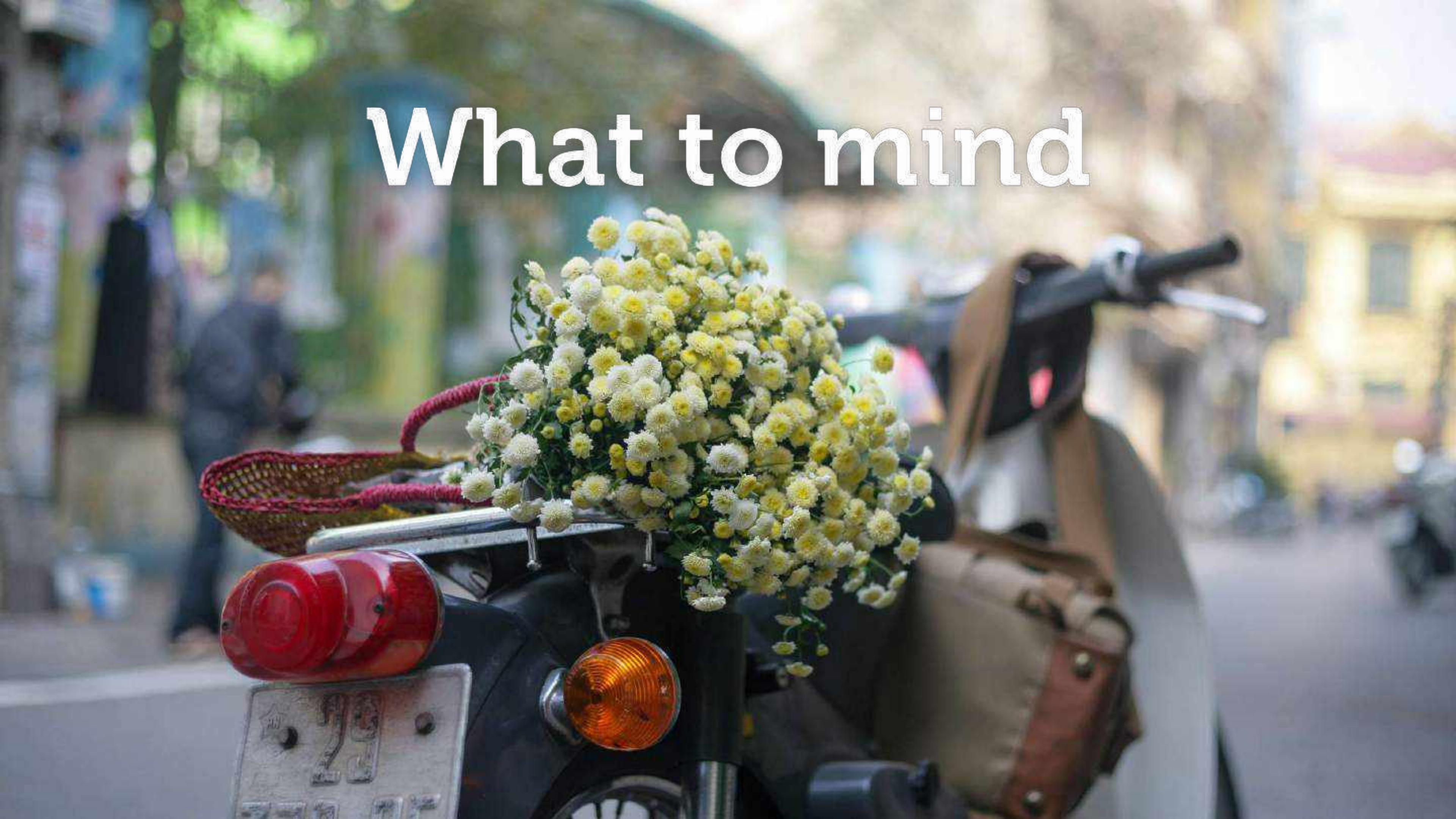


What to eat



What to do

# What to mind





# Packing checklist

## Documentations



**Valid  
passport**

Should be valid for >6 months after your return.



**Identification  
documents**

As a backup in case your passport is inaccessible.



**Scans of  
personal docs**

All important docs should be scanned and stored online.



**Cash to go  
for a few days**

Best to be VND or USD.



**Prescription  
meds**

Copies of prescription scripts should be useful too.

## Luggage & personal belongings



**Phone &  
laptop chargers**

It's a no brainer that's easy to forget.



**European or  
universal adapters**

You might need to charge several devices at the same time.



**Appropriate  
clothings**

1 set of formal clothes. Hanoi has a cold winter. HCMC is hot all year round. Beware of the sunlight and insects.



**Entertainment  
for long flights**

Long flight, stay comfortable and entertained!



**Reusable  
water bottle**

Stay sustainable during your trip & on the campus.



# Payments & transports

## Payments



**Cash**

Lots of zeros to count, so learn your notes and be extra careful!



**Cards**

Not always available. Always ask first!



**E-banking**

Suggested banks:

- [HSBC](#)
- [Shinhan](#)
- [Vietcombank](#)



**E-wallets**

Most common ones:

- [Momo](#)
- [Zalo Pay](#)
- [Apple Pay](#)

## Transports



**Taxis**

Reliable brands:

- [Mai Linh](#)
- [Vinasun](#)
- [Vinataxi](#)

Check the spelling of brand names carefully!



**Ride-hailing apps**

Vietnam's versions of Uber:

- [Grab](#)
- [Be](#)
- [Gojek](#)



**Buses**

Make sure you have your change ready. Bus routes and schedules can be found on Google map.



**Walking**

Be extra mindful of the weather and traffic.



# Survival tips



Keep your phone and wallet with you at all times.



Avoid dangly jewelry or phone and beware of snatchers.



Always bargain **(hard)** when going to traditional markets.



Don't let yourself get pressured into buying something.



Laws around drug possession, use, and dissemination are severely strict. It's best to refrain altogether.

# Useful phrases

**Hello:** Xin chào (*sin chow*)

**Thank you:** Cảm ơn (*calm earn*)

- it's not common to use "please" in Vietnamese

**I'm sorry/ Excuse me:** Xin lỗi (*seen loy*)

**Excuse me waitress/waitor:** Anh oi (*for male*) /  
Chi oi (*for female*)!

**Check, please:** Tinh tien!

**How much?:** Bao nhieu? (*bow yew*)

**Too expensive:** Mac qua! (*mac wa*)





# Useful contacts

## Embassies and Consulates

- [Hanoi](#)
- [HCMC](#)
- [Da Nang](#)
- [Hai Phong](#)

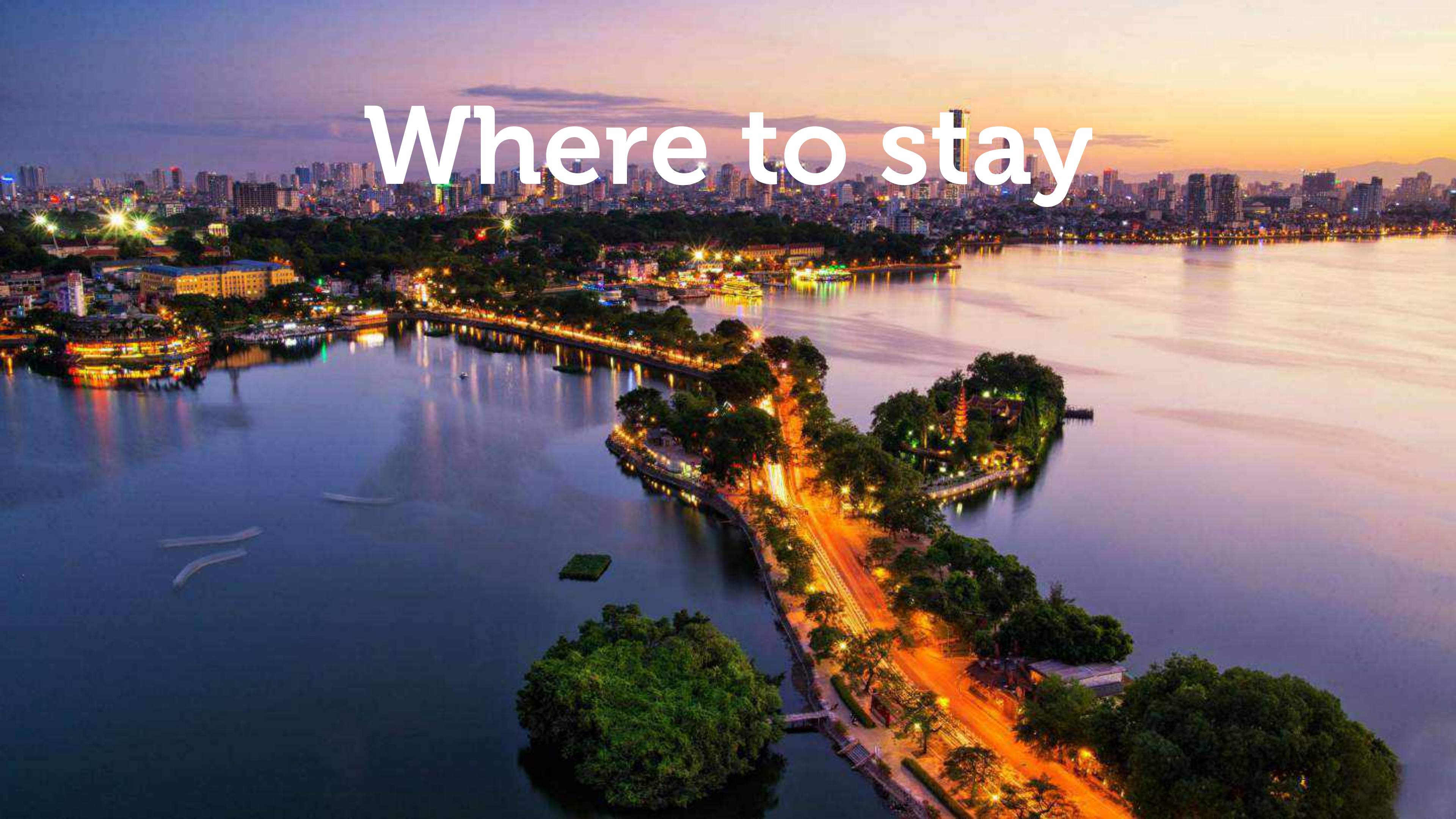
## Emergency contacts

- Police: **113**
- Fire & rescue: **114**
- Ambulance: **115**
- Emergency rescue: **112**

## RMIT departments

<b>International student support</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Airport pick-up</li><li>• Insurance</li><li>• Orientation</li></ul>	<a href="mailto:International.students@rmit.edu.vn">International.students@rmit.edu.vn</a>
<b>International recruitment</b>	Visa problems	<a href="mailto:international@rmit.edu.vn">international@rmit.edu.vn</a>
<b>International Office</b>	Assist exchange/ cross-campus students	<a href="mailto:mobility@rmit.edu.vn">mobility@rmit.edu.vn</a>
<b>International SOS</b>	Health-related issues	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• +84 28 3829 8520</li><li>• <a href="#">Assistance app</a></li><li>• <a href="#">Online country guide</a></li></ul>

# Where to stay





# HCMC

## **Crystal Palace**

- Hotel; serviced apartment.
- From 1.685.000 VND/night
- Lot C17 -1-2, Nguyen Luong Bang St, Tan Phu Ward, District 7. (5-10 mins away from SGS campus)
- **Contact Ms. Tran Ngoc Phuong via:**
  - Email: [phuong.tran@merperle.vn](mailto:phuong.tran@merperle.vn)
  - Tel: +84 909 6000 48

## **Sabina Services Apartment**

- Hotel; serviced apartment.
- 9.627.000 VND - 14.441.000 VND/unit/month (including bills)
- 32 - 34 Noi Khu Hung Gia 1, Phu My Hung, District 7 (5-10 mins away from SGS campus)
- **Contact Ms. Sienna via:**
  - Tel: +84 916.222.888

A tall skyscraper, likely the Bitexco Financial Tower, stands prominently in a city skyline at sunset. The building is illuminated by the warm, golden light of the setting sun, which casts a glow on the surrounding buildings and the sky. The sky is a mix of deep blue and orange, with some white clouds. The overall scene is a vibrant and modern urban landscape.

# HCMC

## **Mex (district 2 & 7)**

- Shared apartment; service apartment; villa.
- 8.424.000 VND - 16.848.000 VND/pax/month (excluding bills)
- **Contact Ms. Alicia Thanh via:**
  - Email: thanh.mex.vn@gmail.com
  - Tel: +84 914.163.187 ( whatsapp, zalo) | +84 909.078.084 (viber, Kakao talk)

## **Terranova Gold House An Tien**

- Shared apartment; service apartment.
- 5.900.000 VND - 7.220.000 VND/pax/month (excluding bills)
- Le Van Luong, Phuoc Kien, Nha Be District (10-15 mins from SGS campus)
- **Contact Ms. Duyen via:**
  - Email: kd@terranova-asia.com

## **Terranova New Saigon**

- Shared apartment; service apartment.
- 5.900.000 VND - 7.220.000 VND/pax/month (excluding extra monthly fees)
- Nguyen Huu Tho, Phuoc Kien, Nha Be District (5-10 mins from SGS campus)
- **Contact Ms. Duyen via:**
  - Email: kd@terranova-asia.com



# HCMC

## Riverside Housing Area

- Studio room size 18-25m<sup>2</sup>
- Average 6.000.000 - 7.000.000 VND/room (1 tenant). Rental includes water usage, parking, wifi, management, weekly room cleaning, and laundry.
- 101 - 103 Street No 2 - District 7 (across the street from RMIT)
- **Contact Mr. Duy via:**
  - Cellphone - Viber - Zalo - Whatsapp: 0962.997.679
  - Skype: quangduy264388

## City House

- Serviced apartment
- 8.424.000 - 19.254.000 VND/month (excluding bills).
- Depends on which one the students choose to stay (Location map: <https://goo.gl/17ix9p>).
- **Contact Ms. Quyen via:**
  - Email: [Quyen.nguyen@cityhouseapartment.com](mailto:Quyen.nguyen@cityhouseapartment.com)
  - Tel:+84 128 584 8885; Hotline: +84 937 308 111



# Hanoi

## 22 Housing

- Serviced apartment; shared apartment; studio.
- from 9.627.000 VND/month
- Van Cao street , Ba Dinh District. (10-15 minutes away from HN campus)
- **Contact Ms. Nguyen Dinh Quyen - Mr. Bui Viet Dung via:**
  - Phone: 0765102222/ 0765141111
  - Office: 4/51/97 Van Cao, Ba Dinh, Hanoi.

## Hanoi Residence

- Serviced apartment; shared apartment; villa.
- **Contact Mr. Tran Tuan - Executive Manager via:**
  - Tel: 0987 899 099



# Hanoi

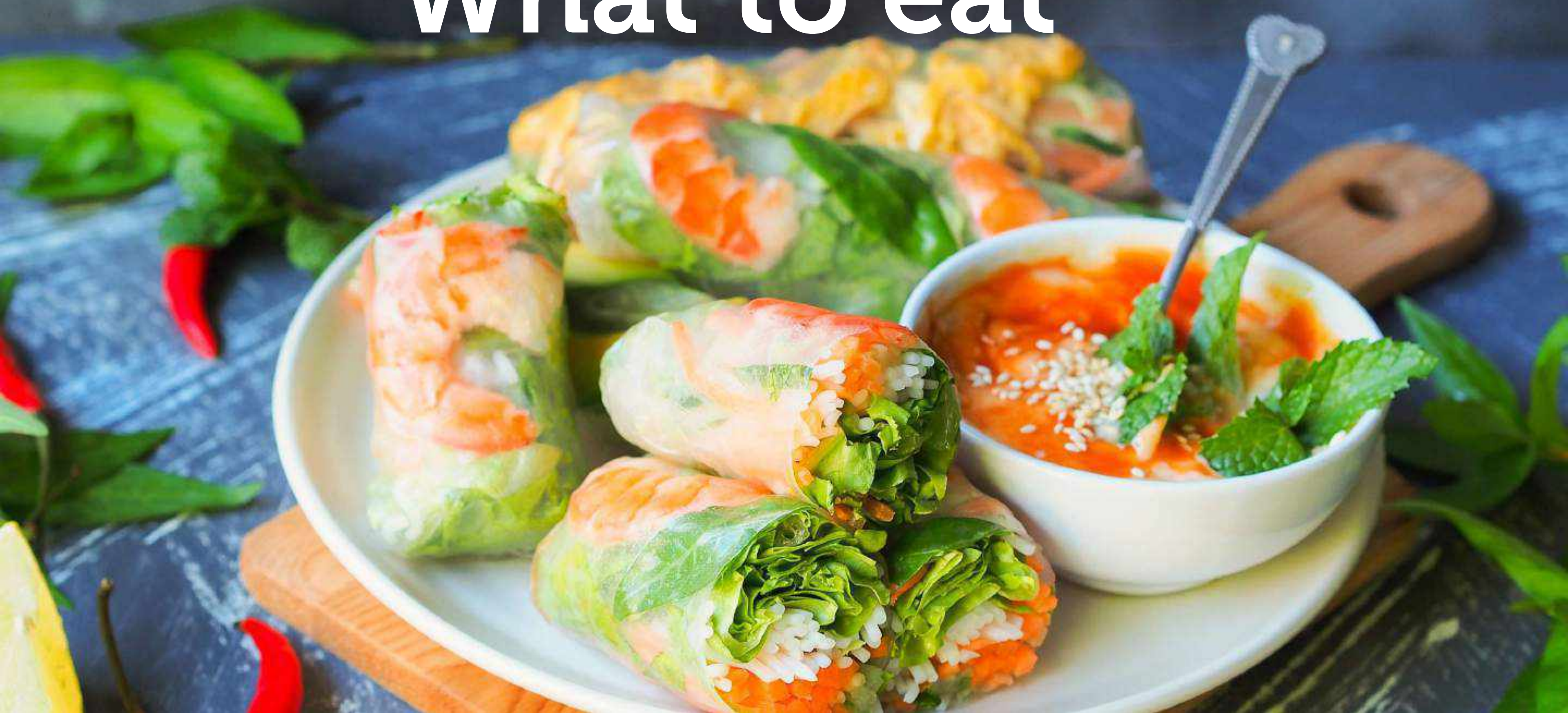
## Vietnam Housing

- Serviced apartment
- from 9.627.000 - 15.644.000 VND/month (excluding water & electricity bills)
- Ba Dinh District. (10-15 minutes away from HN campus)
- **Contact**
  - Email: [namnv@housing.vn](mailto:namnv@housing.vn)
  - Tel: 0932 237 988

## Hanoi Badinh Homes

- Serviced apartment
- from 7.221.000 - 9.627.000 VND/month (Can discount 20-30%, check airbnb link, Bike and motobike renting)
- Ba Dinh District. (10-15 minutes away from HN campus)
- **Contact Ms. Nguyen Thi To Nga via:**
  - Tel: 0913303193
  - Office: 1a 158/51 Ngoc Ha street, Ba Dinh, Hanoi

# What to eat





# Banh mi

## **Banh Mi Huynh Hoa**

- 26 Le Thị Riêng, District 1.

## **Banh Mi Bay Ho**

- 19 Huynh Khuong Ninh, Da Kao ward, District 1.

## **Banh Mi Hoa Ma**

- 53 Cao Thang, Ward 3, District 3.

# Pho

## **Pho Phuong 25**

- 25 Hoang Sa, District 1

## **Pho Le**

- 415 Nguyen Trai, District 1.

## **Pho Hoa Pasteur**

- 260C Pasteur Street, Ward 8, District 3.



# Bun Bo Hue

## Bun bo Vi Da Xua

- 2 Le Van Thiem, Tan Phong ward, District 7.

## Bun bo Chu Ha

- 300 Vo Van Tan, District 3.

## Bun bo Ganh

- 110 Ly Chinh Thang, Ward 8, District 3.



# Com Tam (Broken rice)

## Com tam A Dung

- 12 Hoang Dieu, Ward 12, District 4.

## Com tam Minh Long

- 607 Nguyen Thi Thap, Tan Hung Ward, District 7.

## Com tam Nguyen Van Cu

- 74 Nguyen Van Cu, Nguyen Cu Trinh Ward, District 1.

# Restaurants

## Quan Bui

- District 1, Binh Thanh District, Thu Duc city

## Di Mai

- District 1, District 7, Binh Thanh District

## Ngon Restaurant

- 160 Pasteur, District 1.

## Home kitchen Xu Quang (Bep Nha Xu Quang)

- 16 Tran Cao Van, Da Kao Ward, District 1.

## Propaganda

- 21 Han Thuyen, District 1

## Cuc Gach Quan

- 10 Dang Tat, Ward Tan Dinh, District 1.

## Ai Hue Restaurant

- 338 - 350; 412 - 418 Tran Hung Dao B, Ward 11, District 5.



# Vegetarian options

## Hum Vegetarian

- District 2 (Thu Duc city); District 3

## Chay Garden

- District 3; Thao Dien (Thu Duc city)

## Shamballa

- District 1; Hoi An city; Da Nang city

## Here & Now

- 74/1 Pham Viet Chanh, Ward 19, Binh Thanh District.

## Rou

- 567A Tran Hung Dao, Cau Kho Ward, District 1.

## Hong Lien Restaurant

- 143/9 Phan Đang Luu, Ward 2, Phu Nhuan District.



# Pho

## Pho Xao Bap Bo Trang Meo

- 11 Hang Buom, Hoan Kiem.

## Pho Bo Ly

- 27B Phung Hung, Hang Ma, Hoan Kiem.

## Pho Khoi Hoi

- 50 Hang Vai, Hang Bo, Hoan Kiem.

# Pho Cuon

## Pho Cuon Chinh Thang

- 7 Mac Dinh Chi, Truc Bach, Ba Dinh.

## Pho Cuon Huong Mai

- [Address](#)



# Bun Ngan

## Thuy Ngan Chay Toi Hang Luoc

- 49 - 51 Hang Luoc.

## **Bun Ngan Tron Hang Da**

- 34 Hang Da, Hoan Kiem.

## **Bun Ngan Co Lan**

- Alley 34 Hang Da, Cua Dong, Hoan Kiem.

# Bun Cha

## **Bun Cha Huong Lien (Bun Cha Obama)**

- 24 Le Van Huu.
- 14 alley 59 Lang Ha, Cho Dua, Dong Da.

## **Bun Cha Hang Quat**

- 74 Hang Quat, Hang Gai, Hoan Kiem.

## **Bun Cha Cua Dong**

- 41 Cua Dong, Hang Bo, Hoan Kiem.



# Restaurants

## 1946 Restaurant

- 3 Yen Thanh, 61 Cua Bac, Ba Dinh.
- 50 Mai Anh Tuan, Ho Hoang Cau, Dong Da.
- 292 Nghi Tam, Yen Phu, Tay Ho.

## **Tam Vi**

- 4B Yen The, Van Mieu, Dong Da.

## **Giang My**

- [Address](#)

## Coco A

- 13A Le Dai Hanh, Hai Ba Trung.



# Vegetarian options

## Uu Dam Chay

- 55 Nguyen Du.

## **White Cloud Vegan**

- 143 An Duong Vuong, Phu Xa, Tay Ho.

## **Buffet Chay Hương Thiên**

- 261 Xa Dan, Nam Dong, Dong Đa.

## Chay Vi Lai

- 67 Ly Thuong Kiet, Hoan Kiem.

## Veggie Castle

- 7 Yen Ninh, Ba Dinh.

## Sadhu - Vegetarian Buffet

- Udic Complex, N04 Hoàng Đạo Thuy
- 87 Ly Thuong Kiet





# What to do



# Siteseeingings

## 1. War Remnant Museum

- 28 Vo Van Tan, ward 6, district 3.

## 2. Jade Emperor Pagoda

- 73 Mai Thi Luu, District 1.

## 3. Independence Palace

- 135 Nam Ky Khoi Nghia, Ben Nghe ward, District 1.

## 4. Saigon Central Post Office

- 02 Cong xa Paris, Ben Nghe, District 1.

## 5. Ben Thanh Market

- Ben Thanh, District 1.

## 6. HCMC Museum of Fine Arts

- 97A Pho Duc Chinh, Nguyen Thai Binh ward, District 1.



# Day Trips

- [Cu Chi Tunnels and Mekong Delta Full Day Tour](#)
- [Cai Rang Floating Market](#)
- [Farming & Cooking class at Agricultural Village](#)
- [Vung Tau Full Day Tour](#)



# Embracing Coffee Culture

## Okkio Caffè

- [Address](#) (6 branches in HCMC)

## La Viet Coffee

- [Address](#) (5 branches in HCMC)

## Notre Dame street coffee

- 01 Cong xa Paris, Ben Nghe Ward, District 1.



# Handcraft workshops

## Meow Pottery Workshop

- 100 Tran Quoc Toan Str. Ward 7 Dist.3.
- [Website](#)

## Tipsy Arts

- 6B Nguyen Canh Chan, Nguyen Cu Trinh ward, Dist.1.
- [Website](#)

## Candle Making - Coming Home Candle

- Level 1, 158/17 Nguyen Cong Tru, District 1.
- [Website](#)



# Art shows & spaces

## Bamboo Circus A O Show

- Saigon Opera House, 07 Cong Truong Lam Son, Dist. 1.
- [Website](#)

## Saigon Outcast creative space

- 188/1 Nguyen Van Huong, Thao Dien, Dist. 2, Thu Duc city, HCMC
- [Website](#)

## Craig Thomas Gallery

- Address: 27i Tran Nhat Duat, Dist. 1.
- [Website](#)



# Shopping

## Takashimaya

- 77-89 Nam Ky Khoi Nghia, Ben Thanh ward, District 1.

## The New Playground

- 26 Ly Tu Trong, Ben Nghe, District 1.

## Oh Quao concept store

- 58/12 Pham Ngoc Thach, District 3.
- No. 19, street 18, Thao Dien, District 2.

## Vesta Lifestyle

- Flagship Store - 34 Ngo Quang Huy, Thao Dien, Thu Duc city, HCMC.
- Store 2. 33A Thao Dien, Thao Dien, Thu Duc city, HCMC.

## Saigon Square

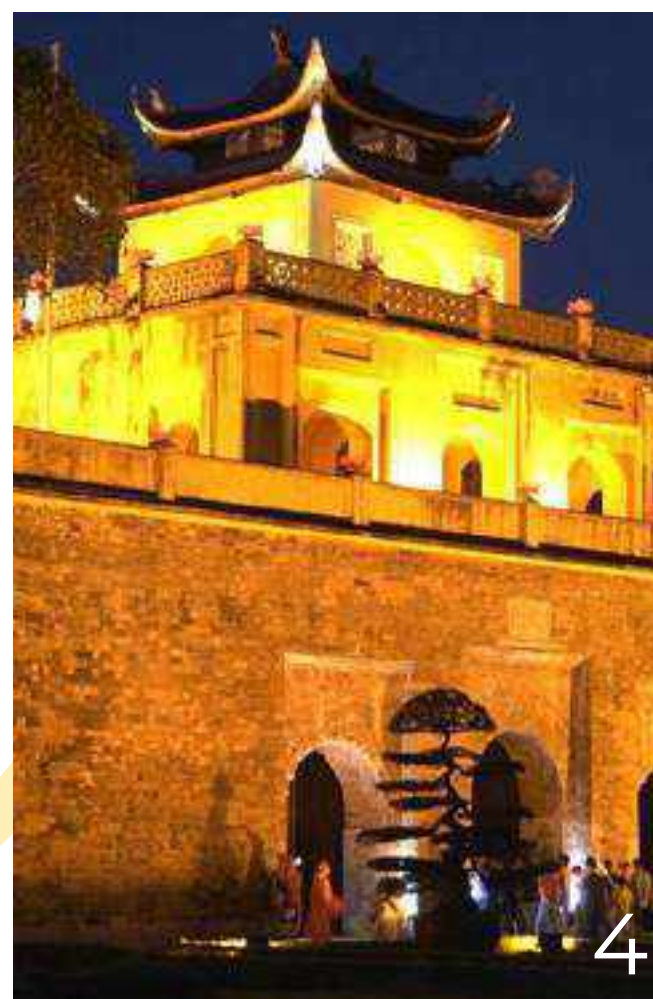
- 77-89 Nam Ky Khoi Nghia, Ben Thanh ward, District 1.

## Thiso mall

- 10 Mai Chi Tho, Thu Thiem ward, Thu Duc city, HCMC



# H



Hanoi

## Sightseeings

### **Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum**

- Hung Vuong, Dien Bien, Ba Dinh.

### **Hoan Kiem lake**

- city center, Hoan Kiem.

### **Hoa Lo Prison Relic**

- 1 Hoa Lo, Tran Hung Dao, Hoan Kiem.

### **Imperial Citadel of Thang Long**

- 19C Hoang Dieu, Ba Dinh.

### **Hanoi's Train street**

- 3 Tran Phu, Hang Bong, Hoan Kiem.

### **Hanoi's Memorial House**

- 87 Ma May, Hang Buom, Hoan Kiem.

# noi



# Embracing Coffee Culture

## Cafe Giang

- 39 Nguyen Huu Huan, Hoan Kiem.
- Foodhall level 3, Lotte Mall Tay Ho.

## Tranquill Books & Coffee

- 5 Nguyen Quang Bich, Hoan Kiem.
- 8 Nguyen Quang Bich, Hoan Kiem.

## Thai Yen

- 71A Nguyen Du, Hai Ba Trung.
- 182-184 Quan Thanh, Ba Dinh.
- 21 alley 42 Giang Van Minh, Ba Dinh.
- 9 alley 539 Nguyen Van Cu, Long Bien.



## Art shows & spaces

### Vincom Center for Contemporary Art (VCCA)

- B1-R3 Floor, Royal City, 72A Nguyen Trai, Thanh Xuan.

### Aea Space - an experimental arts spaces

- Lane 59, Ngo Gia Tu, Long Bien.

### Hanoi Opera House's shows

- 1 Trang Tien, Hoan Kiem.

### Thang Long Water Puppet show

- 57B Dinh Tien Hoang, Hoan Kiem.

### Bat Trang Pottery - Visiting & Making

- Bat Trang, Gia Lam.



# Shopping

## Lotte Mall West Lake Hanoi

- 683 Lac Long Quan - 272 Vo Chi Cong ,Tay Ho

## Trang Tien Plaza

- 24 Hai Ba Trung, Trang Tien, Hoan Kiem.

## Collective Memory - The House of Curios

- 12 Nha Chung, Hang Trong, Hoan Kiem.

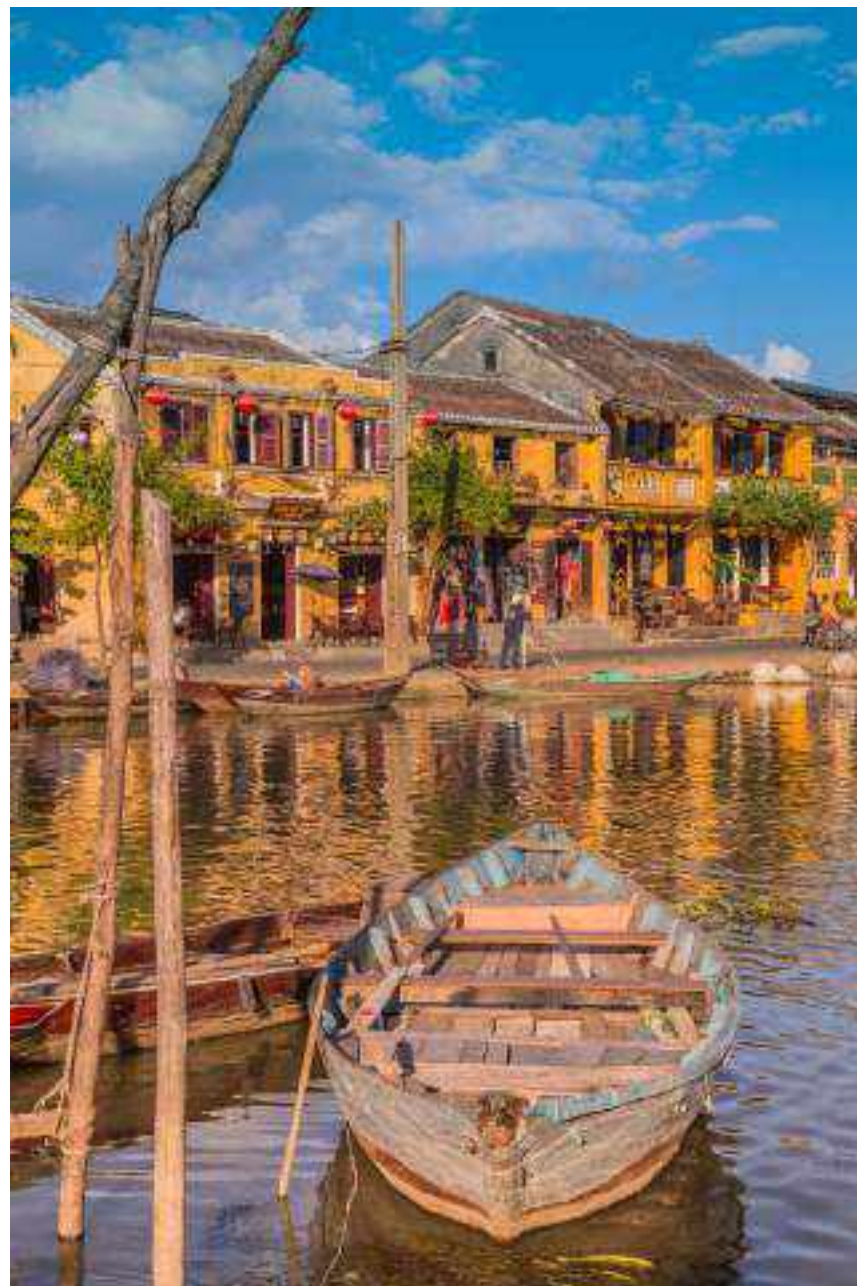
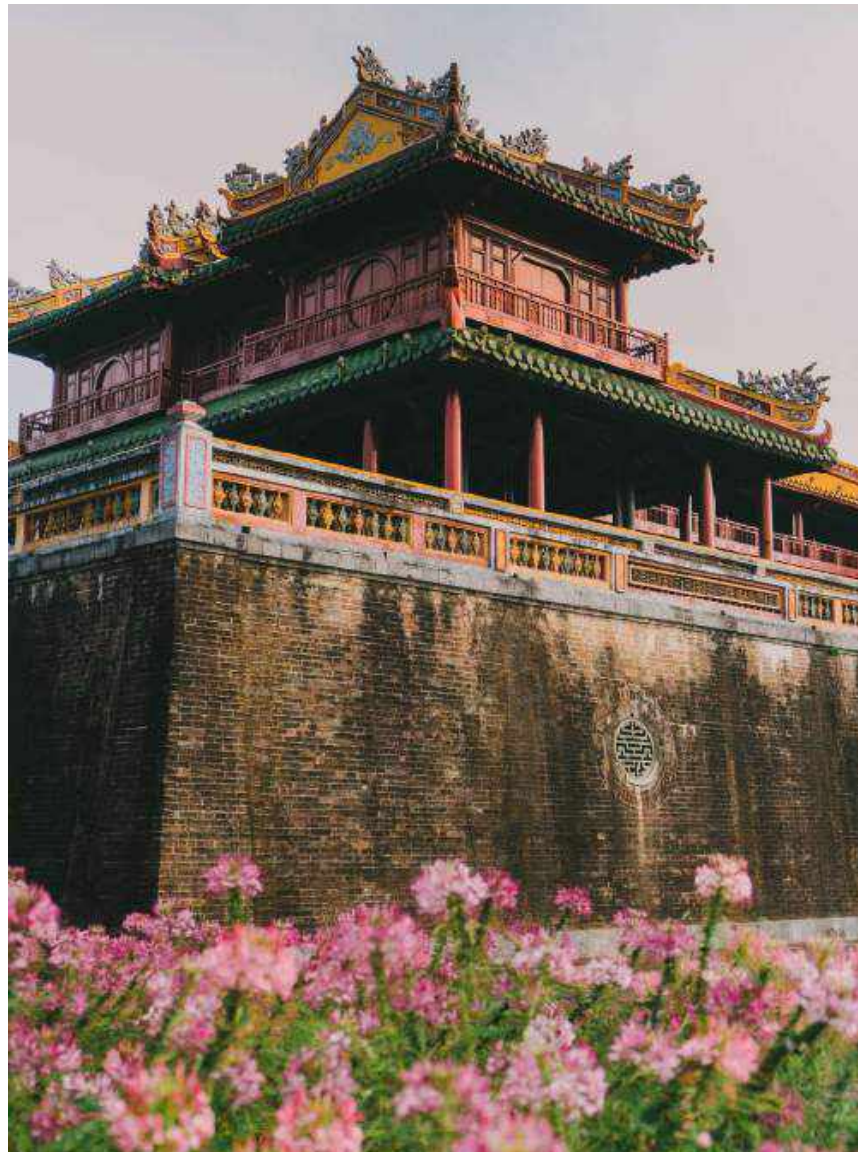
## Dong Xuan Market

- Dong Xuan, Hoan Kiem.



# Cities worth visiting

Hoi An



En cave, Quang Binh

Hue



Ha Giang



Ninh Binh



Phu Yen



Da Lat

*Enjoy Vietnam*