

Other Information

Written by Administrator

Saturday, 11 April 2015 00:00 - Last Updated Wednesday, 13 May 2015 16:04

Local time

The official time in Vietnam throughout the congress is seven hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time (GMT+7). (No daylight savings time.)

Phone Calls & Mobile Phone Services

For international calls, dial the international dialing code (00), country code, area code, and the individual number. Domestic phone cards are available for sale at most convenient stores, hotels, and airports.

Tax & Tipping

Value-added tax is levied on most goods and services at a standard rate of 10% and is included in the retail price. Tipping is not customary in Vietnam. In tourist hotels, a 5% service charge is added to the bill, and 5-10% at some large restaurants.

Electricity



The standard household (hotel) electrical supply in Vietnam is 220 volt, 50 Hertz, but you may find that 110 volt, 50 Hertz outlets are still in use in some places.

In Vietnam, the standard socket accepts a two round pins plug without a ground pin (Type A), but non-standard two flat blade (Type B) or two rectangular blade sockets and plugs are still in use. Some modern hotels and office blocks have three pin round (Type D) or UK three pin square sockets (Type C). See below for diagrams and international naming conventions.

Before leaving for Vietnam, please survey your various items that you will be bringing that will require electricity to operate to assure you have the proper adapters, converters, or transformers.

Business hour

Governmental agencies work 8 hours/day from 7:30 am to 5:00 pm (excluding one-hour lunch). Saturday and Sunday are closed.

Banks are open from 7:30 am or 8:00 am to 11.30 am and from 1:00 pm to 4pm. Saturday afternoon and Sunday are closed.

Private shops are open from 8:00 am or 8:30 am to 9:00 pm or 10:00 pm.

Places of interests in Hanoi

- Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum and Ho Chi Minh Museum;
- One Pillar Pagoda are located in the same complex (was built in 11th century);
- West lake and Tran Quoc Pagoda (was built in 544th it is an island pagoda in west lake);
- Quan Thanh Temple (worshiping Taoism) is located in Thanh Nien road.
- And Old Quarter in the centre of Hanoi, Hoan Kiem Lake, Ngoc Son Temple;

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- Catholic Churches, Old Citadel;
- Museum of History, Museum of Fine Arts, Army Museum;
- Temple of Literature (the first university of Vietnam and to worship Confucius built in 11th century) and there are many other pagodas and temples;
- Bat Trang Ceramic Village;
- Van Phuc Silk Village.

Places of Interest out of Hanoi to make a day trip:

- Perfume Pagoda (boating half an hour to the foot of the mountain and climbing).
- King's Island in Ba Vi Mountain with Golf course of 18 holes.
- Tam Coc, the Ha Long Bay in land (boating trip through three natural mountain tunnels).
- Hoa Lu - the Old Citadel in the 10th Century,
- Phat Diem - the stone Cathedral Church,
- Bai Dinh pagoda
- Ha Long Bay (World Natural Heritage, with more than two thousand islands and beautiful caves).

Shopping in Hanoi:

The usual opening hours for shops are:

- Monday to Sunday: 8.00 - 20.00
- Many shops in tourist resorts are open till 21.00 or even 22.00

Favourite places for shopping of overseas visitors:

- Dong Xuan Market, Old Quarter and Hang Gai Street.