



Nha Trang

Nha Trang is the main city of Khanh Hoa province and is famed as the finest city beach in Vietnam. The town is also a key transport crossroads, with Cam Ranh Harbor, Nha Trang Airport and good access to roads and railways. The vibrant local economy is based on fishing, tourism with many hotels and [resorts in Nha Trang](#), forestry products and its comprehensive infrastructure. Ethnic minorities include the Ede, the Cham and the Raglai. Highlights include the Ponagar Tower, a Vinh Phuoc commune, built in the 9th century by King Harivacman and boasts a group of Cham towers and a stunning 2.6m tall statue of Ponagar, wife of the god Shiva, the Nha Trang Cathedral, built by the French in 1928 and equipped with a grand clock and three giant bells, all still in fine working order, Hon Chong, an imposing rocky promontory virtually in the city centre. It is said to resemble a human hand reaching out to sea. Around Nha Trang are the Doc Let Beach, 50km north of Nha Trang, and is a popular tourist destination with 10km of white sand beaches, moderate surf and clean air, the Dien Khanh Citadel, 10km south of the city, built in 18th century by King Nguyen Anh in an architectural style influenced by contemporary Western palaces, Dai Lanh Beach, 80km north of Nha Trang, which is a beautiful resort that also houses some relics of the American War.

Vinh Long

For most travelers, Vinh Long is the first place in the Mekong Delta where it's possible to gain a reasonable experience of the area's distinctive culture. Most head straight for a boat to cruise some of the Mekong's famous canals and channels. This is a pity, for the town itself is something of a backwater is thus worthy of attention by those wishing to escape the commercial side of tourism. The town has interesting attractions, including some fine French buildings one of which is of singularly unusual design.

From there, a 2 km stroll will take you to the Temple of Literature. Although not on the scale of Hanoi's Van Mieu, it is nevertheless a good example of nineteenth century Vietnamese architecture. The temple is dedicated to Confucius – unusual in the south of Vietnam. It will probably be locked, so you'll need to ask your guide to find out who has the key. A bonus is an opportunity to explore some of the tiny back streets on the way to and from the temple. Watch out for some of the traditional Mekong crafts: you might get an explanation over tea with the locals, and maybe a chance to try your hand.

The Vinh Long Cong Than Temple, destroyed by the French, was later rebuilt and is unique in retaining 85 official diplomas bestowed upon local mandarins during the reigns of Kings Thieu Tri and Tu Duc. The 5,000 troops of the US Army 9th Infantry Division arrived in Vietnam on December 16, 1966, landing on the beaches along the south bank of the Co Chien River at Vinh Long. Little remains of their nine-year presence apart from some rusting remains in front of an unappealing local museum. Many of the surrounding hamlets within easy reach have interesting temples and communal buildings. The main targets for visitors to Vinh Long are the boat trips and floating markets, both of which are 'must-see' elements of an itinerary. However, those of a more independent disposition would probably enjoy taking a short ferry trip to An Binh Island (which is nothing of the sort – it's a vaguely-defined collections of pocket handkerchiefs of land poking up from the mud). Apart from a good pagoda

and a fish sauce factory, wandering past and through the orchards and scrambling across the narrow monkey bridges that link the islets is a delight.

Ha Tien

Ha Tien, a very beautiful beach and market town, is situated virtually on the Vietnamese-Cambodian border and offers a diverse spread of Vietnamese life. There is a high percentage of Khmers living in this area, reflecting the historical significance of the area that has changed hands between Cambodia and Vietnam and in the late 1970s bore the brunt of Khmer Rouge raids across the frontier. Today, Ha Tien is a bustling smuggling town between two former enemies, but for the traveller, the main attractions of the area are the superb beaches.

Phu Quoc island

Situated in the Gulf of Thailand, close to both Ha Tien, Rack Gia and the Cambodian coast, Phu Quoc Island possesses excellent white sand beaches and great snorkeling opportunities. Some of the islands to the South of Phu Quoc are also great for swimming and viewing the marine life. Foreign tourists can fly to Phu Quoc island directly without applying [visa for Vietnam](#).

Sapa

Sapa was first discovered by the French in late 19th century. It soon became famous in Indochina for its ideal climate. In colonial times, French officials from Hanoi the port city of Hai Phong and Hai Duong used to flock to Sapa in summer to escape the unbearable tropical heat in the low-lying land. At that time, some 200 detached cottages and villas were built for French colonialists. The most imposing villas were that of the Sixth Bureau, the Governor General and the Metropole hotel. Now there remain only dozen or so villas. Yet even the existence of this small number of villas can attract keen interest from architecturally minded visitors for their gothic style of architecture. Situated at an altitude of 1,000 meters above sea level, Sapa is as cool in summer as the low-lying land below in autumn. The first thing you notice when approaching the resort town of Sapa are some detached wooden mansions and villas perched on a hill top or hillside, behind thick pine forests and almost invisible on this foggy morning. Sapa is home to various families of flowers of captivating colors, which can be found nowhere else in the country.

When Tet, the Lunar New Year Festival, comes, Sapa is filled with the pink color of peach blossom brought from the vast forests of peach just outside the town. Sapa is regarded as the kingdom of orchids. Visitors to Sapa in summer cannot fail to sample some yellow peach, whose origins go back to Yuannan in China. The sweet taste of Tan Van plum and pearl is found only in the Sapa forests. From time immemorial Sapa has been known near and far for its valuable medicinal herbs the vast preserve of which almost remained untapped. Sapa has many natural sites such as Thac Bac, Thuy Cung Grotto, Gio Cave, Troi Gate, and Truc Forest. Sapa is also the starting point for many climbers and scientists who want to reach the top of Fansipan Mountain. On Sundays, Nung, Dao, Tay, Cao Lan, Paxi, and Xa Phong minorities ride down the mountain in their colorful clothes to take part in the Sunday market at the foot of Fansipan Mountain.

Source: [Đặt khách sạn](#)