

## Useful Information



### WEATHER

The following bar chart for Hanoi, Vietnam shows the years average weather condition readings covering rain, average maximum daily temperature and average minimum temperature.

Month	Average Sunlight (hours)	Temperature				Discomfort from heat and humidity	Relative humidity		Average Precipitation (mm)	Wet Days (+0.25 mm)
		Average		Record			am	pm		
		Min	Max	Min	Max					
Jan	1	13	20	6	33	-	78	68	18	7
Feb	1	14	21	6	34	-	82	70	28	13
March	1	17	23	12	37	Moderate	83	76	38	15
April	2	20	28	10	39	Medium	83	75	81	14
May	4	23	32	16	43	High	77	69	196	15
June	5	26	33	21	40	Extreme	78	71	239	14
July	5	26	33	22	40	Extreme	79	72	323	15
Aug	4	26	32	21	38	Extreme	82	75	343	16
Sept	4	24	31	17	37	High	79	73	254	14
Oct	4	22	29	14	36	Medium	75	69	99	9
Nov	3	18	26	7	36	Medium	74	68	43	7
Dec	2	15	22	7	37	-	75	67	20	7

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### TIME ZONE

UTC/GMT + 7 hours



### CURRENCY

The Vietnam Dong (VND) is the official currency in Vietnam. The exchange rate is approximately 1 USD = 16.960 VND (as of 17 Nov, 2008). Most of foreign currencies can easily be exchanged into Vietnam dong at the airport, hotels or at any bank of Vietnam. The U.S. dollar is considered the most widely accepted. You may bring in an unlimited amount of foreign currency as long as it is declared on the forms provided by customs officers.

Credit cards are not widely accepted in small shops where cash is more favorable.

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## ELECTRICITY

Electric current in Vietnam is 220 volts at 50 Hertz and most outlets are two flat pins. The rest are two round pins.

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## INTERNET ACCESS

Various internet cafés in the streets. Most hotels provide internet access.

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## TIPPING

Tipping is not customary in Vietnam, but it is appreciated.

- Porters: Porters, if they are available, can be tipped with American coins.
- Hotel maids: Some hotels catering to tourists charge an automatic 10% service fee.
- Taxis: Generous tips are not necessary. A small gratuity, however, is expected by cab drivers.

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## USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Police: 113

Fire Brigade: 114

Ambulance: 115

International telephone service: 110

International telephone service rate: 112

General inquiries: 1080

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## DINING AND DRINKING

Vietnamese food varies from region to region. Almost 500 traditional dishes have been recorded! Rice and noodles are staple foods, served with nearly all meals. The most popular dishes are nem rán (spring rolls), pho and bún thang (noodles with sliced pork, eggs, shredded chicken and shrimp), shellfish steamed with ginger and sea crabs fried with salt.

Imported beer is available in Vietnam, although a number of domestic beers are brewed. Rice wine is very popular, and there are many brands available. There is a variety of fruit wines such as apricot, orange or lemon. Soft drinks are processed from the many varieties of tropical fruits available.