



Vietnamese Country Guide

Tourist Entry Requirements

Australian ordinary passport holders travelling to Vietnam as a tourist require a visa before departing Australia. Travellers who only require a single entry for 30 days or less may apply for an E-visa online at <https://evisa.xuatnhapcanh.gov.vn>, provided they are entering and exiting Vietnam through one of the border crossings that accept E-visas (see the above website for a list of these border crossings). Applying for an E-visa requires applicants to upload a copy of their passport data page and a passport photograph. This visa costs US\$25 and takes three working days to be processed. Tourist visas can alternatively be applied for online from the Vietnamese Embassy in Canberra at www.vietnamembassy.org.au. Passports are recommended to have a validity of at least six months beyond intended stay in Vietnam and at least one blank page.

Those seeking to stay longer, requiring multiple entries or using other border crossings will need to apply through the Vietnamese missions listed below. Travellers are required to register with the local police within 24 hours of arrival in Vietnam (generally undertaken by hotels). Additional conditions may apply to minors. Travellers are recommended to contact a Vietnamese mission for further information relative to their specific circumstances.

Vaccinations and Health Precautions

The following information is intended as a guide only and in no way should it be used as a substitute for professional medical advice relative to a travellers individual needs and vaccination history. No guarantee is made as to its accuracy or thoroughness. For further information, please contact The Travel Doctor on 1300 658 844.

Vaccination against hepatitis A is recommended for travellers to Vietnam. Vaccination against hepatitis B, rabies (particularly if working with animals) and typhoid (particularly when travelling to areas with poor sanitation and hygiene) should be considered, especially by frequent or long stay travellers. Care with food and beverage selection is recommended. There is a medium risk of malaria in Vietnam; dengue fever and widespread transmission of the zika virus also occurs, thus insect avoidance measures and anti malarial medication may be necessary depending on a travellers itinerary; pregnant women should consider postponing travel to Vietnam. Japanese encephalitis is present and vaccination should be considered by travellers spending more than 4 weeks in rural areas of the transmission zones.

Regardless of destination, all travellers should be up-to-date with their routine "background" vaccinations, including a recent annual influenza vaccination. Please consult a medical practitioner or contact The Travel Doctor for your specific risk to these preventable diseases and the appropriate avoidance measures. Australians travelling to Vietnam should ensure that they have adequate travel insurance to cover the length of their stay. Medications that are legal in Australia may be illegal in other countries. For further information on insurance, taking medication overseas, the zika virus and other issues please visit www.smartraveller.gov.au/tips.

Vietnamese Representation in Australia

Vietnamese Embassy, Canberra

6 Timbarra Crescent
O'MALLEY ACT 2606

Tel: (02) 6286 6059

Web: www.vietnamembassy.org.au

Vietnamese Consulate, Sydney

Suite 205, 203 New South Head Rd
EDGECLIFF NSW 2027

Tel: (02) 9327 1912

Web: www.vietnamconsulate.org.au

Vietnamese Consulate General, Perth

Level 8, 16 St Georges Terrace
PERTH WA 6000

Tel: (08) 9221 1158

Web: www.vietnam-consulate.org.au



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Time differences between Vietnam and Australia

Vietnam is Greenwich Mean Time +7 hours. Daylight saving is not observed. The applicable time zone is called Indochina Time (ICT).

Vietnam, 12 noon, December = Perth 1pm, Darwin 2:30pm, Brisbane 3pm, Adelaide 3:30pm, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney 4pm.
 Vietnam, 12 noon, June = Perth 1pm, Darwin, Adelaide 2:30pm, Brisbane, Hobart, Melbourne, Sydney, 3pm.

Important Contact Numbers

Country Code for Vietnam: +84
 To Dial Australia Call: 00 61 <City> <Number>
 Australian Reverse Charges Direct: 120 061 111
 Available at the main Post Office and some airports in Hanoi and HCMC. Users may need to insert phone cards or coins.
 Travelex Card Services:
 Call the US on +1 954 838 8294
 Visa Global Assistance:
 1 201 0288 (wait for dial tone) 888 710 7781
 MasterCard: Call the US on +1 636 722 7111
 American Express Travellers Cheques:
 Call Australia on +61 282 239 171
 The Travelex, MasterCard and Amex numbers can be called reverse charges by contacting the International Operator.
 International Operator: 110
 Emergency Services:
 Ambulance - 115, Fire - 114, Police - 113
 These services may not have English speaking staff. In this case, you should have a Vietnamese speaker call on your behalf or contact an Australian mission.

Important Information to be Recorded

Travellers are encouraged to carry photocopies of all important documents separately to their originals and to leave a set of these photocopies with someone in Australia. This includes those documents listed below.

Passports

Name: _____ Passport #: _ _ _ _ _
 Name: _____ Passport #: _ _ _ _ _

Credit Cards

Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Card Number: _ _ _ _ _
 Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Card Number: _ _ _ _ _

Travel Insurance

Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____
 Name: _____ Institution: _____
 Policy #: _____ Emergency #: _____

Australian Representation in Vietnam

Australian Embassy, Vietnam

8 Dao Tan Street
 Ba Dinh District
 HANOI

Tel: (+84 24) 3774 0100
 Fax: (+84 24) 3774 0111

Web: www.vietnam.embassy.gov.au

Australian Consulate, Ho Chi Minh City

Level 20 Vincom Center
 47 Ly Tu Trong Street
 District 1
 HO CHI MINH CITY

Tel: (+84 28) 3521 8100

Web: www.hcmc.vietnam.embassy.gov.au

Alternatively, Australians may obtain assistance by contacting the 24 hour Consular Emergency Centre in Australia on (+61) 2 6261 3305.

Australians in Vietnam are encouraged to register their presence and contact details with the Australian Embassy in Hanoi, or online with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade at www.orao.dfat.gov.au.



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Duty Free Allowances

Allowances when entering Vietnam:
 Alcohol: 1.5 L if >22% alc/vol or 2 L of other alcohol.
 Tobacco: 400 cigarettes or 100 cigars or 500 g of tobacco.
 Other Goods: Up to the value of 5 million Vietnamese Dong.

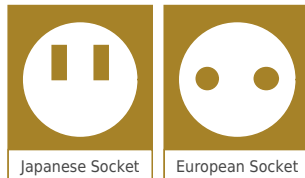
Allowances when entering Australia:
 Alcohol: 2.25 L.
 Tobacco: 25 cigarettes plus one open packet of cigarettes.
 Other Tax Free Goods: Up to \$900 (\$450 for minors).

Minors may not claim alcohol or tobacco products. Further restrictions apply when entering/exiting Vietnam and Australia. Travellers are encouraged to familiarise themselves with these restrictions. For information on Vietnamese customs visit www.customs.gov.vn, for information on Australian customs visit www.border.gov.au.

Electrical Adaptors and Voltage

Electrical Socket: European (type C) and Japanese (type A).
 Supply: 220-240 V, 50 Hz (same as Australia).

A voltage converter will generally not be required to use appliances designed for Australia. A socket converter is usually all that will be required for these appliances.



Vietnamese Words and Phrases

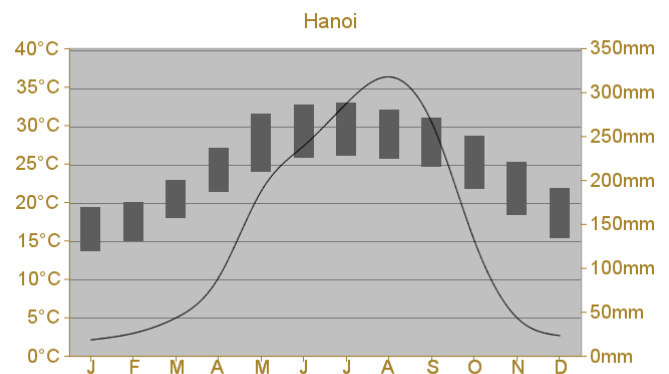
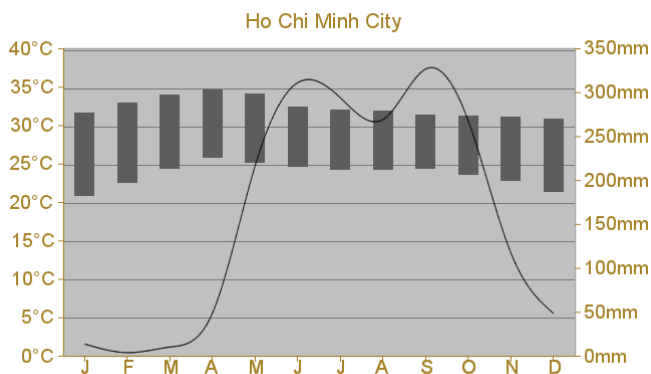
Yes	Có, Vâng, (or) Dạ	No	Không
Thank you	cám ơn	Please	Xin vui lòng
Hello	Xin chào	Goodbye	tam biệt
Where is..?	...ở đâu	Airport	Sân bay
Train station	ga xe lửa	Bus station	bên xe bus
Police station	đồn cảnh sát	Chemist	hiệu thuốc
Cheers!	chúc sức khỏe, vô	Hospital	bệnh viện
Coffee	Café	Tea	Trà
Juice	nuớc trái cây	Water	nuớc
Beer	bia	Wine	ruợu

Do you speak English?	có nói tiếng Anh không ?
Where is the bathroom?	Nhà vệ sinh ở đâu?
Please bring the bill	Tôi muốn tra tiền
How much does this cost?	Cái này giá bao nhiêu?

Vietnamese Holidays 2018

01/02 Jan:	New Year's Day (Solar)
14 - 20 Feb:	Tet holidays
16 Feb:	Tet (Lunar New Year's Day)
25 Apr:	Hung King Festival
30 Apr:	Reunification Day
01 May:	Labour Day
02/03 Sep:	National Day

Average Temperature (Bar) and Precipitation (Line) in Vietnam



For local forecasts please go to the Hydro-Meteorological Service of Vietnam at or www.nchmf.gov.vn or www.bbc.co.uk/weather.

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Exchange Rate with Australia

Interbank Rate

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) = 16,767 Vietnamese Dong
 10,000 Vietnamese Dong (VND) = 0.5964 Australian Dollars

With 4% Margin

1 Australian Dollar (AUD) buys 16,122 Vietnamese Dong
 10,000 Vietnamese Dong (VND) costs 0.6203 Australian Dollars

All rates were correct at a point in time on Monday, 05 Nov 2018. The "Interbank Rate" does not take into account any exchange fees, while the "With 4% Margin" adds 4% to the exchange rate to simulate a typical margin that would be paid when exchanging currencies. These currency rates have been rounded and should not be used when calculating transactions of large value.

Purchasing Power Parity

The following is a purchasing-power comparison of the Vietnamese Dong and the Australian Dollar, using the Big Mac as a common good. While it does not present a faultless comparison, it is a useful indicator of the purchasing power of each currency.

Big Mac Australia: \$5.95 (AUD) = 99,764 Vietnamese Dong
 Big Mac Vietnam: 65,000 (VND) = 3.88 Australian Dollars

A Big Mac in Vietnam is therefore 35% less expensive than in Australia.

This comparison is based on 2018 prices using current exchange rates. Prices may not include variations by locality or local taxes.

Currency Cheat Sheet

This cheat sheet uses the "With 4% Margin" rate of exchange listed above.	
5,000 VND = \$0.31 AUD	100,000 VND = \$6.20 AUD
10,000 VND = \$0.62 AUD	200,000 VND = \$12.41 AUD
20,000 VND = \$1.24 AUD	300,000 VND = \$18.61 AUD
30,000 VND = \$1.86 AUD	400,000 VND = \$24.81 AUD
40,000 VND = \$2.48 AUD	500,000 VND = \$31.01 AUD
50,000 VND = \$3.10 AUD	600,000 VND = \$37.22 AUD
60,000 VND = \$3.72 AUD	700,000 VND = \$43.42 AUD
70,000 VND = \$4.34 AUD	800,000 VND = \$49.62 AUD
80,000 VND = \$4.96 AUD	900,000 VND = \$55.82 AUD
90,000 VND = \$5.58 AUD	1 million VND = \$62.03 AUD
	2 million VND = \$124.05 AUD
	3 million VND = \$186.08 AUD
	4 million VND = \$248.10 AUD
	5 million VND = \$310.13 AUD
	6 million VND = \$372.16 AUD
	7 million VND = \$434.18 AUD
	8 million VND = \$496.21 AUD
	9 million VND = \$558.24 AUD
	10 million VND = \$620.26 AUD

Notes and Coins

The legal currency of Vietnam is the dong, which is abbreviated using the symbol đ. The sub units of the dong are the hao (1/10) and the xu (1/100), but these are so small that they are practically obsolete. The following units of currency are the most common in Vietnam however other versions and denominations are also in circulation. Pictures are not to scale. As it is illegal in many countries to print copies of bank notes, travellers are advised to remove the below images prior to travelling.





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About Vietnam

Full Name: Cong Hoa Xa Hoi Chu Nghia Viet Nam (Socialist Republic of Vietnam).

Size: 331,210 sq km (45% larger than VIC).

Population: 93 million (4 times larger than Australia). HCMC: 7 mil, Hanoi: 3.5 mil.

Ethnicity: Viet 86%, Tay 2%, Thai 1.8%, Muong 1.5%, Khmer 1.5%, Hmong 1.2%.

Language: Vietnamese. Others include English, French, Chinese and Khmer.

Religion: No Religion 81%, Buddhist 10%, Catholic 7%, Hoa Hao 1.5%.

GDP Per Capita: US\$5,600 (Australia US\$46,600).

Significant Dates:

- 207 BC - Kingdom of Nam Viet is established.
- 111 BC - The Chinese Han dynasty conquers Nam-Viet and rule for over 1,000 years. Chinese culture spreads.
- 939 AD - The Han are expelled and Vietnam becomes independent.
- 1527 - First Christian missionaries arrive.
- 1802 - Vietnam is united as a single nation.
- 1858-85 - France annexes Vietnam, which becomes part of French Indochina.
- 1940-45 - Rule of Japan and Vichy France.
- 1945-54 - Communist forces under Ho Chi Minh battle the French for control.
- 1954 - A cease fire is agreed and the country is split into north and south.
- 1957 - Communist forces from the north begin an insurgency in the south.
- 1964-68 - Gulf of Tonkin incident. Over 500,000 US and allied troops arrive to fight the communist forces.
- 1973 - US signs peace accord with North Vietnam and leaves the south.
- 1975 - Fall of Saigon. Vietnam is united.
- 1979 - Vietnam invades Cambodia, overthrowing the Khmer Rouge. In response, China invades Vietnam.
- 1986 - Economic reforms begin to help Vietnam modernise and grow.

