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Authors: Written and researched by Lonely Planet.

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**Best-selling guide to Vietnam. Source: Nielsen BookScan. Australia, UK and USA*

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From Reader Review Lonely Planet Vietnam for online ebook

Kerry says

Solid. Thanks again Lonely Planet. The maps and information was helpful. I wish I would have had a more up to date version. I think a lot in Hanoi and Halong Bay has changed in the intervening years. However, the background, tips and many websites were still relevant and helpful. I appreciate the no nonsense candor and information. Plus, the tips on the historical sites still stand. A useful reference for my travel purposes.

David Roberts says

The book I read to research this post was Lonely Planet Vietnam 8th edition which is an excellent book which I bought at a car boot sale. This book was published in 2005 but is really thorough in its exploration of Vietnam. Vietnam is probably not the most obvious place to visit on holiday although I think it's one of the more places to visit for students on their gap year. It does have a lot to offer and outside Hanoi & Ho Chi Minh City or Saigon its not too commercial or touristy. Hanoi is the capital city and one place worth visiting in particular is the Aerospace Museum which has Mig Fighters on display. Near Saigon is Cu Chi Tunnels which were similar to the Ho Chi Minh Trail in that they were a supply line of of re inforced tunnels under ground and faced some of the heaviest bombing and defoliation of the Vietnam War. The Vietnam Government was renovating the Ho Chi Minh Trail as a tourist attraction so that could be open to the public by now. There are 3 international airports in Vietnam, Hanoi, Darang & Saigon. They did have direct flights from Australia but not from Britain & America but there was talk of them having a direct flight from London, Heathrow. Internal flights in Vietnam are relatively expensive and the rail and coach network offer much better value. The customs when you go into Vietnam used to be a nightmare but they have relaxed a lot of the regulations to try and attract tourists. You do generally need a visa and certain parts of the country require a permit. Ex Vietnamese nationals who have emigrated are more likely to be harrassed by customs than Non Vietnamese travellers. There is quite a few vaccinations you should have prior to travelling here. They do have poisonous snakes but there is anti snake venom available to treat bites from most species. One thing it warns is you should try to catch a snake. There is also a risk of rabies from monkeys and dogs and if you get vaccinated against that all you have to do is wash the cut thoroughly to prevent infection although it probably is a good idea to consult a doctor. I have to admit this is a really good book which I thoroughly enjoyed reading.

Daniel says

This is a pretty good guidebook with good maps, information on many sights, background information, but some weaknesses in information on transportation. The book was published in March 2012, but by July 2012 train ticket prices were at least 50 percent higher than in the book. Bus fares seem a bit low too. Of course I don't expect perfect information, but there are some serious shortcomings: One of Hanoi's three major bus stations (Giap Bat) is missing and so is information on buses from Da Lat to Da Nang - two major destinations. The authors could also have done more for budget travellers by including more information on public transport. For example, it is possible and not too difficult to reach the Banh It Towers near Quy Nhon

by public bus, but the authors seem to assume that you hire a motorbike. When I buy a book focused on one country I expect information on various options for major sites like this (motorbike, xe om, public). The historical background information could be improved too. There is often a focus on a few interesting facts from specific periods (sometimes random, often the American War) instead of a general overview of the history of the place. I'd prefer less information on the war and more about other periods, but a lot of people probably still think 'war' when they hear Vietnam.

Jim Allen says

This guide served me well in my first trip to Vietnam. Hope to use it again when I return!

V? Nghi says

Amazing Vietnam through this book

Ulrike says

All in all a good guide, unfortunately it's not up-to-date anymore, and a lot of restaurants and hotels didn't exist anymore or had changed completley. Also you cannot rely on the information given in terms of transportation, which we had to learn the hard way.

Huy says

Có cu?n này ?i du l?ch b?i ch? s? gì c?, ?úng là kinh thánh c?a nh?ng ng??i thích lang thang.

Jennifer says

planning a trip for real!!!

Sabine says

Altijd fijn: alle must sees doornemen als voorbereiding op je reis en weer wat leren over de geschiedenis van een tot dan toe redelijk onbekend land. Ik weet nu bijvoorbeeld dat er 2 miljoen Vietnamezen zijn verhongerd in WW II. Terwijl ik geen idee had dat ze überhaupt wat gemerkt hadden van die oorlog in west-Europa. En dat Ho Chi Minh City vernoemd is naar een belangrijke communistische strijder. Om maar wat te noemen.

Tyler says

Restaurants were hit or miss, though the local food descriptions were good. It seemed like a lot of the recommendations were for upscale western style places so wandering around and picking street food or hole-in-the-walls served as equally well and was cheaper. We ended up not staying at any of the recommended hotels because prices and availability varied drastically. Booking.com and TripAdvisor were better better bets. Also, the guide was missing some good transit options like Good Morning Cat Ba/Sapa buses, Chapa Express overnight trains, and Uber/GrabTaxi phone apps. The maps, tourist attractions, traveler information, and general price guidelines were all great and useful.

Kasia says

Read the new (red) edition. Highly recommended if you are going to Vietnam!

Ninja Neko says

Glad I got it at the airport on my way to Vietnam, it was comprehensive, had good addresses (as usual for LP) and interesting info blurbs. The maps could be a bit better though.

Piret Seeman says

Vietnam is a country currently in a rapid changing process and you get the overview from the book. However, circumstances change so rapidly that it is quite normal to find restaurant suggested in a book released in 2016 to be no longer such a good choice or it may even no longer exist.
