



# vietnam

**Visitors are astonished by Vietnam's geographic diversity. You'll find remote mountain markets, vibrant cafés and urban art galleries. All of this is intertwined with serene views of emerald paddy fields in the lowlands, and endless stretches of unspoilt beaches.**

## **hanoi**

Hanoi remains Vietnam's political centre, its crowded streets lined with reminders of its long and tumultuous history. You'll find the Temple of Literature, an Old Quarter of winding alleys, crowded markets and tree-lined avenues flanked by imposing French colonial villas.

## **ho chi minh city (saigon)**

Renamed Ho Chi Minh City in 1975, Saigon is Vietnam's business hub, a city that never stops. There's a buzz of energy; everyone is buying, selling, building, moving. Beautiful French colonial buildings stand beside newly-built skyscrapers. You'll find great nightlife and some of the best shopping in Southeast Asia in this vibrant city.

## **ha long bay**

More than 3,000 limestone islands rise from the turquoise waters of Ha Long Bay...a World Heritage Site and a naturalist's dream. Sculpted into strange shapes by the wind and weather, the islands hide deserted beaches, magnificent caves, and hidden lagoons that may only be reached by chinks in the cliffs that are revealed at low tide.

## **and more**

Hue was home to 13 Nguyen emperors, whose palaces and tombs provide fascinating glimpses into a luxurious and secretive world. Explore the red-lacquered Citadel pavilion or take an evening boat cruise on the Perfume River. Hoi, a beautifully preserved city; the streets still lined with old tile-roofed shop houses, shady pagodas and colourful communal halls.

The sun-washed town of Nha Trang hugs a seven-km-long stretch of golden sand, making it perfect place to get a dose of sun, surf and fresh seafood.

And in the Mekong Delta, life in Vietnam's agrarian heartland still unfolds as it has for centuries, as farmers tend their orchards and fish in the rivers and canals that criss-cross this fertile plain.

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## **Trails of Indochina**

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