





# Want to live in paradise?

We have put all our info and best recommendations together to provide you with the best guide for how to move to Hoi An.

In this guide you will find information and addresses for housing, food and fun places, sites to explore in town and along the coast of Central Vietnam.

This guide is a colorful mix from our team and members with different backgrounds, lifestyles and budgets. If you have questions that aren't answered in this guide, feel free to drop us a message at <a href="mailto:hello@hubhoian.com">hello@hubhoian.com</a>.

Whether you are a traveling couple, a solo-traveler or a family, we are here to help you to make your move to Hoi An as smooth and fun as possible.

See you soon in Hoi An!

The Hub Hoi An Team

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Smack in the middle of Vietnam is a little storybook town called Hoi An. It has a river, a beach, countless rice paddies and one ancient heritage town, where hundreds of lanterns are lit each evening.

Hoi An has long called to adventurers from across the seas. From the 15<sup>th</sup> to 19<sup>th</sup> centuries it was a bustling trading port receiving merchants from China, Japan and Europe. More recently, a new set of explorers have begun coming through. Come, explore with us!







#### Hoi An - Yellow Town

Cute yellow houses stretch along the Bach Dang street on the banks of the Thu Bon River, right in the heart of the Old Quarter. Hide in the shade and vanish down one of the many narrow alleys and find yourself in the pumping heart of the town. By accident you might find a little art gallery, a cozy café or catch a glimpse into one of the many restaurants kitchen.

Hoi An is a unique puzzle of hidden gems. Once you are here, there is the risk you won't want to leave anymore.

No worries! It happened to all of us.

#### **Cultural Diversity**

Hoi An is stunningly beautiful and full of history. No wonder the town is listed as an **UNESCO World Heritage Site**.

The former name of Hoi An is **Faifo**, the capital of the Cham Kingdom. Originally, this kingdom stretched between Hue in the north and Phan Thiet in the south.



One of the many little alleys between the yellow houses of the Old Quarter in Hoi An

Did you know that the Cham people were **Hindu**? You can see the spiritual influence of the Cham by visiting My Son temples.

After setting up a flourishing trading network with the **Arabic** world, many people converted to **Islam**.

Another great influencer in the political,

cultural, and economic life of Hoi An were the **Chinese**. There are a few temples and tea houses in town to see.

As a multi-cultural trading port, the **Japanese** also left a piece of art in town that has become the current symbol of Hoi An: The Japanese Bridge. **French** colonists brought Indochine architecture, cuisine, and the



Does Vietnam provide fast internet speed? What is the best mobile phone provider and what is the closest airport? And what is the best season to come?

If you have questions like above, this chapter is for you. We provide you with our best tips and recommendations to make your travel plans as easy as possible.









## What to know before?

#### Visa

**Tourist Visa** - Visitors must obtain a visa unless they are citizens from visa exempt countries. 13 European nations have a 15-days visa free visit. The normal way is the visa on arrival that can be issued for 1 up to 3 months including multiple entries. **Please read more**here. US citizens get a 1 year tourist visa for less than 200 USD.

**Visa extensions** - Book a 1-day trip to the Lao boarder and come back the same day. Best contact is **Mr Hung**. Recommended by expats in town.

Working here on a tourist visa - No problem as long as you don't work for a

Vietnamese company.

#### Internet

The internet in Vietnam is pretty good compared to other countries in Southeast Asia.

Hub Hoi An - We provide a reliable, constant and fast fiber optic line with a shared 60mbps up and down. We have chosen Viettel - the best internet provider in Central Vietnam. The Hub is equipped with UniFi hardware we imported from Germany, including two access points, one inside the main building and one in the glass house.

**Free City Wifi** - Hoi An offers free city wifi since 2012. Pretty cool, isn't it?

#### Phone

**Viettel** - The best internet provider for your phone is Viettel. You find a Viettel shop in **524 Cua Dai Street**, next to Eden Hotel.

**Hub Hoi An** - When buying one of our coworking & coliving packages, we provide you with a **5G sim card** 

including **5GB data**, valid for **30 days**. You want to extend your stay? No problem, we can top it up for you.

#### Money

**Currency** - Cash is king in Vietnam. The currency is Vietnamese dong and the exchange rate is roughly around **23,000 VND to 1 USD**.

ATMs - The best ATM is from the Military Bank (MB) as you can withdraw 5mil VND or more (depending on your card limit). There are two MB bank ATMs in town, one at 530 Hai Ba Trung Street and one next to the Charming Homestay in Cua Dai Street. Most other ATMs provide a limit of 3mil. VND per withdrawal.

**Credit cards** - Hoi An is a fast growing city and it is possible to pay via credit card in many local businesses like tailors, restaurants and hotels.

**Cost of Living** - Depending on your kind of accommodation and choice of restaurants, you can live in Hoi An starting around 500-800 USD per month. There might be cheaper ways, and more expensive for sure.



Great service for broken phones at Thien Loc Shop

## Safety

Hoi An is on average a safe place to stay. Many foreign families live here, sending their kids to international schools or kindergartens and there are many foreign solo female travelers living here as well.

**Tip #1** is to provide your bicycle with an extra light, most rental bikes come without. Ask your hotel to help you or get you a portable light before you come here.

**Tip #2** avoid cycling through the rice fields in the dark. There are no street lights and it is home of the water buffalos and cows. Those are attached with a rope most likely to one of the

trees and this can be a trap you are not aware of.

**Tip #3** don't walk home alone in the nights from beach to town. This is a tip a mother would tell her kids. As we want to make you feel safe, please have it in mind.

#### Healthcare

**Family Hospital Da Nang** - For all more serious problems and questions. Most expats go there. English speaking. **73 Nguyen Huu Tho Street, Da Nang**. Phone: 1900 2250.

Pacific Hospital Hoi An - A more closer option for smaller things like wounds from scooter accidents for example. Recommended by Sarah. English speaking. 6 Phan Dinh Phung Street, Hoi An.

**Tam Duc Anh** - Chiropractor, acupuncture, physiotherapy, reflexology. Simple English. Recommended by Sarah. No appointment needed. **87 Pham Van Dong Street**. Phone: 09134 59823.

**TGM Dentist** - Friendly, English

speaking staff, recommended by expats here in town. **387 Cua Dai Street**.

#### Schools

**Green Shoots International School & Kindergarten** - The typical international school for foreigners' kids. We know many people in town having their kids at Green Shoots.

## Electronics & Repair Shops

**Lazada** - Online shop with payment on delivery option. You just need a proper address.

**Thien Loc** - Best address to get your phone repaired. Broken screen or water damages, battery issues or secondhand phones, this is a good place. Sarah goes there regularly. **171 Ly Thong Kiet Street**.

**Minh Vu** - Computer repair shop in <u>126</u> <u>Ly Thong Kiet Street</u>. Recommended by Hub members.

Cameras, Go Pro and more - Anh Sao Vang, Digital Camera Center in <u>346</u> Nguyen Duy Hieu Street.



Summer at An Bang Beach

## When to come?

great





Yes, Vietnam is located in Asia, no we don't have 30 degrees all year round. Let's go through the year.

**January** - One of the coldest months and in the middle of the rainy season (**aah, different from Thailand!**). The average temperature is below **20°**.

**February** - Is most likely the month to celebrate **TET-fest**, the Vietnamese new year. The average temperature is around **22°**.

**March** - Spring arrives, the rice fields

are lush and green, the sun is back and we enjoy the first beach days! Great time to come here. The temperatures crawl up to **28**°.

**Tip #1** Come now! The prices for accommodation are low but it is the best time to come here.

**April** - Another beautiful month with long summer days. The water temperature is pleasant now for all who feel cold pretty fast.

**May** - Slowly the weather changes from pleasant spring to hot summer. Great for all peeps having a pool at home. The average temperature is around **30**°.

**Tip #2** No worries, the Hub is cooled down with great air conditioning. If you don't mind working in tropical climate, there is plenty of space in our green oasis.

**June** - A great month with low-season prices and best weather. It is summer here, meaning a temperature around **33°**. As a beach destination, there is always a fresh breeze coming from the sea.

**July** - One of the hottest months in Hoi An with a temperature of **33°**. The sea is calm and gives a light cooling.

**August** - The last summer month with temperatures above **30°**. If you like it pleasant, come here late August.

**Tip #3** Come now! The prices for accommodation are low but it is the best time to come here.

**September** - It's becoming autumn in Hoi An with a pleasant temperature of around **30°**.

**October** - Still a nice month to enjoy the beach life but the waves are getting higher already. Pleasant average temperature of **26**°.

**November** - A rough month with strong winds and the beginning of rainy season. It is getting colder in Hoi An, around **24°**.

**December** - A colder month for Hoi An, temperatures around **22°**. It doesn't rain all day but when it rains, it is raining heavily.

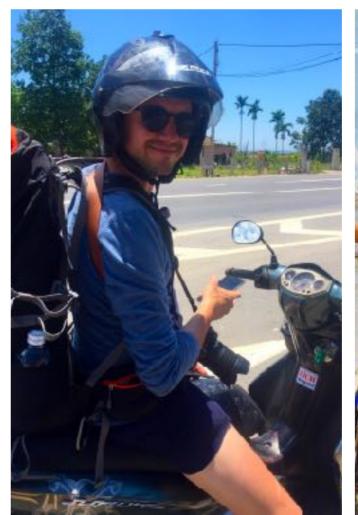


How to get here, how to get around and what is the best way to explore the town or the beachside?

What is the average renting price for a motorbike per month and when is it worth it to buy one?

We get you covered with everything you need to know about your mobile comfort.









Scooter is the most popular way of transport

## How to get here?

The closest airport is Da Nang International Airport (DAD). Da Nang City is about 25km or 40min. drive north of Hoi An.

## **Direct Flights**

**Da Nang Airport** - Has direct flights to Chiang Mai, Bali, Bangkok, Hong Kong, Kuala Lumpur, Siem Reap, Osaka, Seoul, Shanghai, Singapore, Taipei, and Tokyo, among others.

Within Vietnam, Da Nang is connected with Saigon, Hanoi, Nha Trang, Mekong Delta, Halong Bay and Da Lat.

#### How to get around

**Grab** - For all lovers of Uber, Grab and co, there is good news: Grab has reached Vietnam. Available in Hoi An are Grab motorbike taxi and the normal car. Good: Grab is usually much cheaper than taxis. Bad: Grab is new and sometimes you wait quite long to get one.

**Taxis** - Our recommendation is to use the green Mai Linh taxis in Hoi An. The phone number is 0235 3929 292. A taxi from the Da Nang airport to Hoi An costs around **350,000 - 400,000 VND**.

**Private car** - Sounds fancy but it is the cheaper way of transport. At the Hub, we can organize you an airport pick up for **250,000 VND** one way.

**Bus** - This option is for people with patience and time. The price is unbeatably cheap at only **25,000 VND** but you need to get on and off at the local bus stations. The bus station in Hoi An is at the corner Le Hong Phong Street / Nguyen Tat Thanh Street, a little bit outside of town.

#### Scooter - rent or buy?

Motorbike Rentals - Once you are in town, you will find a lot of motorbike rentals. The day prices vary from 80,000 VND to 150,000 VND, depending on your bargaining skills. Hotels charge around 150,000 VND per day for an average full automatic scooter. A good price is 80,000 VND per day. As normal, the prices get cheaper if you are renting for some weeks or months. Monthly prices here vary from 1.5mil. to 3.5mil VND.

Are you staying longer than a month and you are keen to explore the country? Think about to buy a scooter: prices for a decent one start at **4-6mil. VND**. Make sure you receive the blue card that identifies you as the owner of the bike.

#### Driver's License

Officially, foreigners need a driver's local license to drive in Vietnam. As you might guess, this is not happening in reality. The police are not typically controlling foreigners but if so, you might pay a small fine. Helmets are a must!

#### Bicycles

Most hotels and homestays offer free bicycles for guests. If you want to rent a bicycle, you can get one for **25,000 VND** per day.

If you consider buying a bicycle, try the **Hoi An Expat Group** on Facebook. There are often bicycles for sale. A decent bicycle can be bought for **2mil. VND**.

Good: Hoi An offers a pedestrian area that allows bicycles to pass through. Scooters, motorbikes and cars are not allowed to drive there. Also the rice paddies are an amazing choice to explore the green side of town and beach. Bad: most bicycles are in small size.

## Walking

Hoi An is a great town to explore walking. Nevertheless, you will need at least a bicycle to get from the Old Quarter back home.

Please note: Hoi An Old Quarter, the Hub, nor the beach are in walking distance to each other.



#### Traffic

The traffic in Hoi An is still quite relaxed compared to Saigon or Hanoi. It is a **bicycle-friendly** town and the main transport is the scooter.

## Parking in Old Town

**Hoi An Old Town** is separated into different zones and their borders vary

throughout the day. You are not allowed to drive or park in the pedestrian area.

Tip #1 take a photo of your motorbike number plate. When parking in Old Town, park between the Central Fabric & Cloth Market, a ticket is 10,000 VND. A ticket at a street corner, is 10,000 VND. Make sure to receive a number and ask how long you can park. There is a daily "clean-up" around 6pm moving bikes out of the inner city.



# Housing

Hotel, homestay, villa, or your own house?

Hoi An offers different options how to live here. Sometimes it takes a little bit of patience to discover in which area you want to live and what type of accommodation suits you best.

Let's have a look what's possible to get...





## Where to stay?

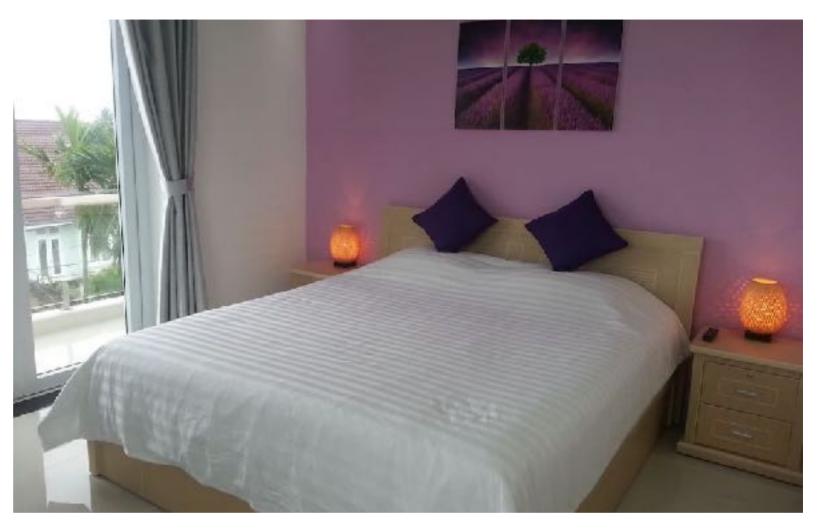
Hoi An offers you plenty of options where to stay and what to spend. A simple rule is, it is more expensive at the beach, namely in An Bang village.

## Types of Accommodation

**Homestay** - A homestay is the most common type of accommodation and often the cheapest as well. A homestay license requires that there is a local family living in the same house. The family is mostly living in the downstairs and the guest rooms are in the upper floors.

Homestays we can recommend are the Ricefield Homestay just around the corner from the Hub (village life), the Charming Homestay in Cua Dai Street (1.5km to the Hub, closer to the city), Huyen Homestay (2.5km to the Hub, 1km to the beach) in Tra Que Village (village life) or the Cashew Tree Homestay in An Bang (walking distance to the beach). Prices vary from 8-25 USD per room per night.

**Villa** - A villa is a small type of a hotel. As the local government restricted the



Ricefield Homestay around the corner of Hub Hoi An

amount of homestays, many local people open villas instead. Let's say the difference between a homestay and a villa is that the villa mostly comes with a pool. But this is not a must-have.

Our recommended villas are the **Golden Rice Villa**, just around the corner from the Hub (village life) or the **Pastorale Villa** in the same area. Both

have a pool and a small restaurant.

**Hotel** - the hotels in town have mostly 20+ rooms and are also booked by larger tourist groups.

A nice hotel to stay at is the new **Bau Bi Retreat** (500m to the Hub). The owner is German-Vietnamese. Nice guy!



Tra Que Village between beach and town

## Rent your own House

Are you planning to stay longer in Hoi An? Think about renting your own little (or bigger) house. Most houses come with a small front yard and are fully furnished.

Want to check what is available in town? Have a look at the website of **Nha Toi Real Estate**.

If you don't get through to have an appointment, have a look at the **Hoi An Expat Property** group on Facebook.

The prices of housing have increased in the last years, as Hoi An is becoming more and more attractive for foreigners. Nevertheless, you can find a 1-bedroom house with kitchen and little front yard beginning at **8mil. VND / month**. The prices are better the longer you stay.

Please note that the landlord needs your passport to register you at the local police station. This is a normal procedure and there is no need to worry. If you are staying in a homestay, villa or hotel, they will copy your passport and visa and do the same.

## Neighborhoods

An Bang - Living in An Bang means living directly at the white beach in a small but busy fishing village. This place has become very busy the last two years and it is a popular spot for beach bars, live music, backpacker's vibe and a buzzing beach life. An Bang is one of the most expensive areas to live.

**Tra Que** - One of the most beautiful villages around Hoi An is the **vegetable village** of Tra Que that is located on the bank of the Thu Bon River between beach and town. Living here means living between **farmers**, **gardeners** and **cooking schools**. Most bicycle tours lead through Tra Que. This village

doesn't offer so many homestays or houses to rent. One beautiful place is **Huyen Homestay** (photos). Tra Que is very quiet and Hoi An's Garden Eden.

An My Village - The Hub is located in An My village, a very quiet and not busy village in the middle of the green rice fields. The Ricefield Homestay, the Golden Rice Villa and the Pastorale Villa are located here. Living here means driving or cycling through the lush green landscape of Hoi An, passing water buffalo families and taking amazing photos of sunsets.

Cam Ha - This ward of Hoi An is located on the north-west side of town, directly after entering the town from the beach. You will find Nomad Yoga in this area, a park with a lake and a pagoda. This area has some new housing projects, is close to town, to the Tiger Market and to the beach.

Cam Thanh - Many foreigners live in this area of town. Cam Thanh is a peaceful area, nestled in rice fields and between the river arms. It is near Ba Le Market and close to the Hub.



Trekking through forest and mountain scenery, camping at Cham Islands, or discovering the colorful murals in Thanh Tan Village - Hoi An is a great spot for day or weekend trips.

Follow us, we'll show you our favorite places.







## What to see?

Besides the Old Quarter of Hoi An, there are many sights to see and places to explore. Either on a day or a weekend trip.

## Day Trips

Hai Van Pass - One of the most beautiful motorbike trips is the Hai Van Pass, north of Da Nang. From Hoi An you need around 1 hour until you reach the mountain range. The pass itself is just 25km long and on top of the mountain you will find a parking viewpoint area. If you are up for a short trek, leave the ruins on your left side and follow the small road up the hill (walk about 1 hour to a view point).

Lan Co Beach - Once you have passed the Hai Van Pass, you will cross a bridge where the pass route meets the highway that leads through the tunnel. There is a small town with a wide beach, seafood restaurants and beach chairs.

**Elephant Springs** - After Lan Co Beach you continue on the highway for **about 13km (20 min)** before you turn left into a small dusty road that leads you to the Elephant Springs. There is a tiny little sign on the street with two words **Suoi Voi**, the Vietnamese name. After passing a temple on the right side you will find the natural pools in the hills.

Son Tra Peninsula - A deep dive into mother nature is given during a bike trip to Son Tra Peninsula. Visit the Monkey Tree, home of a protected local monkey species or drive to the top of the hill and enjoy a stunning view of Da Nang. If you want to spend some hours at a beach, put Bai Bien in your Google Maps. Once you have found your way through the forest down the hill, you need to pay a fee of 25,000 VND per person.

Tam Thanh Mural Village - This place is located 50km south of Hoi An at the coast. A bike trip takes about 2 hours. The most beautiful road is the beach road that leads you parallel to the beach towards Tam Thanh. In Tam Thanh you will find a small restaurant but mainly mural paintings on the house walls. This art project is a collaboration between Korea and Vietnam.



Hai Van Pass



Son Tra Peninsula



Tam Thanh Mural Village



The Imperial City in Hue

## Weekend Trips

Hue - The cultural heart of Central Vietnam, lying on the romantic

Perfume River. The last kingdom was reigned from here and the old Royal Palace, also know as the Imperial City, is the must-do in Hue.

**Tip #1** to avoid tourists, start your sightseeing tour in Hue with the Imperial City.

Hue is about **125km north of Hoi An**. The drive without stops can be done in **3-4 hours**, otherwise Hoi An - Hue is a good day drive including stops.

Phong Nha Caves - Did you know that you can find one of the world's biggest caves in Vietnam? It is

possible to visit some caves of the system and stay in one of the homestays nearby. If you don't want to go to Phong Nha by motorbike, you can just book a bus.

Cham Islands - Just 12km offshore from Hoi An is a small group of islands, named Cham Islands, Divers and snorkelers love the underwater scenery, sun worshippers will find beautiful white sandy beaches. There are 2 villages, Bai Lang in the north and Bai Huong in the south. When you take the local ferry that leaves the port at 8:30am from Cua Dai beach, you will get off the boat in Bai Lang around 10:00am. The price for the ferry is around 100,000 **VND** per person per way. There are also **speed boats** you can book in advance that take about 20 min. to the island. You can either camp or book a room in one of the few homestays.

A recommendable homestay on Cham Islands is the **Hammock Homestay** in Bai Lang, in walking distance from the port. There is also the possibility to camp on the island. In walking distance from the Hammock Homestay is **Bai Xep beach**, a hidden beach with rocks and beautiful trees that give shade during the day.

Renting a scooter on Cham Islands is not possible. If you can rent one you must be very lucky or you paid a fortune. **A lift** from one village to the other costs **40,000 VND**, which is not the official price but a good benchmark.

There are no bigger nor medium-sized supermarkets on the islands nor restaurants. It is a good idea to reserve a **dinner** at the **Hammock Homestay**. The owner is a fantastic cook, you won't regret it.

**Prao** - This trip will bring you into the **mountains** near the Lao border. The village is about **100km west of Hoi An** and known as home of the ethnic trip of the Prao people.

You can book a homestay beforehand which is advisable.

Do you need any assistance or help to book one of the introduced homestays? Let us know and we take care of your reservation.

Give us a call: 035 2702 483 or send us an E-Mail to <a href="mailto:hello@hubhoian.com">hello@hubhoian.com</a>



Hoi An is an incredible place for foodies! From mouthwatering street food to fine French cuisine, from fresh seafood to creative vegan meals - Hoi An offers a feast for its citizens.

We put a list together with our favorite dishes, followed by a list of restaurants, bars and pubs.







## What to eat?

No matter where you go in Vietnam, the food is mostly fresh, seasonal and healthily cooked. Tropical fruits, exotic vegetables and local herbs give the food its healthy taste. Vietnamese don't use much salt. Why should they, when the food tastes amazing with its natural flavors?

#### Local food

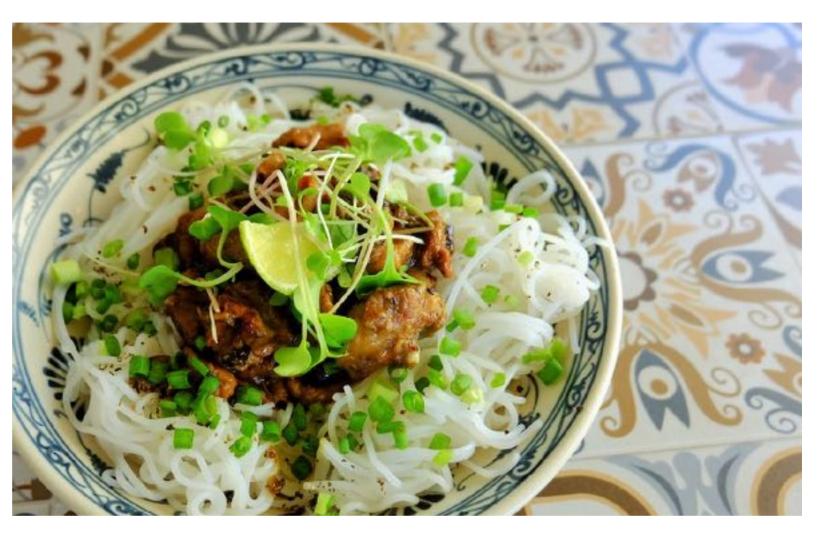
Cau Lau [Hoi An speciality] - This noodle-pork dish is only found in Hoi An and cooked with water of an old Cham well, Ba Le Well.

#### Ban Xeo [fried pancakes] - A

Vietnamese savory fried pancake. You can fill your ban xeo with vegetables, herbs, spices and either seafood or meat.

**Fried Wonton** - Originally brought from Chinese traders, this dish is made of crispy rice paper filled with pork, egg, shrimp and spices.

White Rose - Different from wontons, this dish is made of sticky rice flour and



Bun Thit Nuong cooked by Hub's Vietnamese chef Ms Thinh

filled with either minced pork or shrimp. The white sticky wontons look a little bit like white roses.

**My Quang Noodles** - Only found in Quang Nam Province, this dish is made of noodles, pork, herbs and a tasty broth.

Com Ga [chicken rice] - It is not only

chicken and rice. It's the best chicken and rice!

**Bun Thit Nuong [Bun Cha]** - Cold rice-vermicelli dish served with grilled meat and salad. In Hanoi it's Bun Cha, in Hoi An it's Bun Thit Nuong.

**Banh Mi [sandwich]** - A French baguette filled with meat or egg.



Opla Breakfast

## Where to eat?

#### Street food

**Banh Mi** - best sandwiches in town at **Banh Mi Phuong**, **Banh Mi Queen** or **Banh Mi Pho Co** (tips by Chau). Cost between 15,000 and 25,000 VND.

Com Ga [chicken rice] - An Hien Restaurant in 186 Ly Thuong Kiet Street (tip by Chau).

Cau Lau - Cau Lau Lien in 16 Thai Phien Street (tip by Chau).

**Opla** - 35,000 VND for the best breakfast imaginable. **40 Tran Cao Van Street**.

#### Vietnamese food

Ha Noi Restaurant - Thanh Nam Quan in 60D Tran Cao Van Street

**Central Market** - Bites and pieces from everything. **Here is the location**.

**328 Restaurant** - Good Vietnamese food, very reasonable prices. **328 Cua Dai Street**.

**Son Café** - Vietnamese food, very tasty, reasonable prices. **232 Cua Dai Street**.

**Nu Eatery** - Vietnamese fusion, try their steamed buns! Also visit their second place The Seashell by Nu Eatery. **Location**.

Cafe 43 - delicious well priced local Vietnamese food. Try their 'fried chicken wrapped in rice paper.'
43 Tran Cao Van.

Nha Hang Sen Viet - Best Pho & Chinese bread we've had in Hoi An.

11 Tran Cao Van

#### International food

Mix Greek Restaurant - Mmm yummy. We love the free dessert. 188/05 Tran Phu Street.

**Luna D'Autunno** - Best Italian-style pizza in town. And they deliver. We love it! **Next to Soul Kitchen**.

**Ganesh** - Once per week or every day? Sarah is an Indian food junky and loves this place. **24 Tran Hung Dao**.

**Eat Thai** - Mango Sticky Rice is a must, right? **228 Nguyen Duy Hieu**.

**Veranda Food Court** - Craving some authentic German food? **Veranda's cute garden** is a great place to nurse a draft beer and German snacks.

Circle Cafe - melted cheese injected into burger patties? Yes please. 317
Cua Dai.



Rosie's Café (photo credit Rosie's)

#### Vegetarian and Vegan

**Am Vegetarian Restaurant** - The artsy place in **Ly Thai To Street**.

Minh Hien - Vegetarian gem in 50
Tran Cao Van

**The Fisherman** - Creative **vegan** food directly **at the beach**.

Karma Waters - <u>213 Nguyen Duy</u> Hieu Street.

**Vegan Beets - <u>133 Ly Thuong Kiet</u> Street.** 

Rosie's Café - small but creative vegan menu. Location.

#### Breakfast & Sweets

Rosie's Café - Is a chilled place for a tasty breakfast. Yes, we love this place. Closed on Sundays. <a href="Mailto:02 Duong Mac">02 Duong Mac</a> Dinh Chi.

**Cargo** - Oo la la... you need a little bit more cash but you will sit on a nice smoking-free balcony on the river in Old Town.

**Nourish Eatery** - Brunch here is a must, we mainly go for the puppy, Jackie! But their overnight oats and granola heaven is to die for. **Location.** 

Victoria's Sunday Brunch - Craving for bread and cheese? Price is 600,000 or 900,000 including sparkling wine. Yes, we do this once per year. For reservations contact the Victoria Hoi An Beach Resort.

Opla Street food place - After the Victoria brunch, let's save money. There is a place opposite Be Be Tailor at 40 Tran Cao Van Street that makes the best breakfast eggs. Served with a baguette. It closes around 10am. There is no menu, one dish is 35,000 VND.

**Cosy Corner Cafe** - The name says it all. Great English fry-ups and they have a vegan option. **Location**.

**Dingo Deli** - Huge choices to create your own sandwiches and an all day menu with western food. **Dingo** is also a bakery, a gourmet supermarket and they sell great sausages and cheese.

**Salt Pub** - Great selection of yummy breakfast options and coffees. **Located at the beach**.

**Hub Hoi An** - Homemade granola, oatmeal porridge, pancakes, smoothie bowl, buddha bowl or avocado toast. Plus our tasty coffee!

La Petite Patisserie - Eclairs, tarts, crumbles, brownies, cookies or a triple-chocolate cake, Marine surprises us every day with her pastries and sweets. Delivery possible. Closed on Mondays. Located at Cua Dai Beach

**Voi's Kitchen & Bar** - great breakfast options paired with delicious coffee. **304 Cua Dai**.



Ellie's Café (photo credit Ellie's)

#### Beach Bars

**Soul Kitchen** - Our living room <u>at the beach</u>. Tasty food, nice cocktails (try the Planteur) and always the best live music in town. Check out their events on Facebook, there are festivals and parties all year long.

**Soul Beach** - Our living room at the beach. **Location**.

**Kunkun** - Fab beach bar with a cosy upstairs for film night or open mic. Great parties & dancing until you want to swim under the moonlight. **Location**.

**Kahunas** - We've been known to crash family day on Sundays to sit by the pool and play games. **Location**.

#### Cafés

**Rosie's Café** - Our friends from inspire us with their menu and sense for decoration. We love you girls, you rock! **Location.** 

**The Espresso Station** - Attention, hipster alert. A place for Instagramers. We love the coffee. **28 Tran Hung Dao**.

**Sound of Silence** - This little peaceful place is <u>located at the beach</u> and comes with sunbeds, great coffee and a nice little garden.

**Well Coffee** - A hidden gem in the centre of Old Town. Sneak upstairs to find peace and sip on their coconut coffee. **132a Nguyen Thai Hoc**.

Ellie's Cafe- Delicious and healthy brunch foods, and smoothie bowls 11/4 18 Thang 8.

**7 Son Bakery & Coffee** - Craving an all day breakfast bagel? Or a delicious sausage roll. This is the place for you. **Location**.

**Phin Coffee** - A beautiful outdoor courtyard with delicious coffee and breakfast options. **132/7 Tran Phu**.

Avos and Mango Coffee Shop - Unique blends of coffee and a cute courtyard out back. 82 Thai Phien.



Getting a work-life balance is essential for success and happiness.

Hoi An offers you everything from beach yoga to cultural shows, from the Hoi An Writer's Group to festivals—many fun activities to do in your free time.







## What to do?

Sport, Yoga & Meditation

**Superfit Gym** - A modern gym with fair prices. **Hub members get 10% discount**.

Muay Thai - A success story! Recently moved to Superfit Gym in Ly Thai To Street. Hub members get 10% discount.

Nomad Yoga - The place for yogis. Offers Yoga Teacher Trainings and beach yoga. Hub members get 10% discount.

**A Luminary Life** - Meditation and healing center, and workshops. They hold yoga at Sol on the beach.

**Ashtanga Yoga Hoi An** - held on the top floor of <u>145 Espresso Cafe</u>. Dropin mysore Mon-Fri 6.30am and evening guided classes. Message on <u>Facebook</u> to book a slot.

**Annen Yoga** - 90-minute Sivananda classes everyday except Sunday.

**SUP Monkey** - Fancy an early morning session on the calm water? **Find our more here.** 

**VAPA** - Dance for all ages. **Find out more here.** 

Fun Stuff

**The Escape Room** - A fun activity to help free a fictitious missing backpacking girl. Recommended by Hub's team and members.

The Amazing Race Hoi An - A very different sightseeing tour: "Part game, part scavenger hunt, part photography tour. You and your team will need to discover the hidden gems throughout the Old Town of Hoi An".

**Lune Production** - The best cultural show with top-quality art, music and dance performance. Tickets available at the Hub between 630,000 and 1,470,000 VND per person.

**March Gallery** - Contemporary Art Gallery themed on Vietnam with art, jewellery and gifts from local and international artists.

**Night Market** - Stroll around Old Town after sunset and have a look in the different stalls on An Hoi island.

**Swing Dance** - Led by the best teacher in town, our lovely Chau (Hub's Space & Community Manager).

**Festivals** - There are many local festivals going on in town, including the lantern and full moon festivals. Music festivals are organized by Soul Kitchen, for example Reggae Beach Festivals and more.

**Markets** - Hoi An is an artsy town with many galleries, run by local and foreign artists. There are many spring, summer or craft art markets you can join.

#### Nightlife and Live Music

**Soul Kitchen** - Our living room at the beach. Always the best live music in town. Check out their events on Facebook. Other beach bars include Kunkun, Moyo, and Kahuna's.

**Soul Beach** - Not a dinosaur like Soul Kitchen but as the little brother a great beach bar with the same type of live music.



Living in another country means experiencing a new culture with its own habits.

Learn a little bit about the Vietnamese culture and language.







## Do's & Don'ts

#### Do's

**Shoes** - Take off your shoes when you enter in someone's house. At the Hub we let you choose.

**Scooter** - Take a photo of your number plate.

**Parking** - When parking in Old Town, buy a ticket for 10,000 VND or park between the Fabric and the Cloth Market (Central Market) for 5,000 VND.

**Bargaining** - Check the local prices beforehand and try to get it close to the same price.

**English** - Be patient with the waiter. Hoi An area is quite new to tourism and maybe some people don't get what you are saying. Try in simple English without filling words.

**New Year** - Tet is the Vietnamese New Year, mostly around February. If you have neighboring kids or you are invited to Tet prepare some lucky money (5,000 VND notes) in an envelope or candies for the kids.

**Gifts** - You want to give a gift to your host or someone local? In general red is a good color. Vietnamese are super happy when you bring them a souvenir from your home country.

#### Don'ts

**Parking** - When parking in Old Town, don't drive or park in the pedestrian area. Your scooter might get removed and you will have a hassle to get it back.

**Dress code** - Don't cycle through Old Town with bikini or shirtless for men. For girls: don't be topless at the beach.

**Driving** - Don't make a hectic stop while driving on the street. The traffic here is like a fish swarm, try to flow with them.

**Night time** - Don't cycle in the dark through the rice fields. The ways are narrow and the homes of water buffalos and cows. And snakes.

#### Vietnamese Essentials

Hello - Xin Chao [sin chao]

Thank you - Cam on [gam on]

See you - Hen gap lai

Good bye - Tam biet

**Cheers** - Mot, hai, ba, yo! [1, 2, 3, yo!]

Language Classes - if you want to learn Vietnamese you can hire a private teacher. The cost per hour starts with 200,000 VND. Check on Facebook for free language exchange events in town.

**Hub** is organizing Vietnamese language classes every Tuesday and Friday from 3pm-4pm. Fee is 100,000 VND per person and drop ins are welcome. Check our Facebook page for the events.

