Best guide to hanoi

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Hanoi tourists and locals alike head to Joan Kiem Lake while looking for a place to get away from the noise of the city. More hanoi Opera House was built in 1911 by the ruling Frenchman. Its neo-classical French architecture features gothic Details The World-renowned Tang Long Water Puppet Theatre in Hanoi has its roots in an art form that dates back to the 11th More Held every Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Hanoi Weekend Night Market is busy, bustling collection of roadside stalls and More Lotte Center Hanoi offers a wide range of approximately 250 fashion and lifestyle brands. This one-stop shopping spot More must be visited for any first visitor to Hanoi, Bia Hoi Junction is widely regarded as the quintessential nightlife More legendary nightlife whose for any first visitor to Hanoi, Bia Hoi Junction is widely regarded as the quintessential nightlife whose Grill 63 Restaurant in Lotte Hotel Hanoi offers extensive menus of Western and Vietnamese dishes As well as some of the More La Terrasse Du Metropole's Sofitel Legend Metropole Hanoi offers wealthy travelers an extensive menu for the day, which is More Cafe de Paris Hanoi stylish French bistro, which is located in the Old quarter, attracting a steady clientele a 4 minute walk from the Hanoi Opera House and a 10-minute walk from More... Located in Hanoi, Hanoi La Siesta Hotel Trendy is a 15-minute walk from the Thang Long Water Puppet Theatre and More... You will be a 5-minute walk from the Thang Long Water Puppet Theatre and More... You will never get stuck behind something in Hanoi, where ancient and proudly preserved Vietnamese culture is most acutely felt by visitors, and progress struggles with traditions in different parts of the city. Hanoi is actually over 1000 years old, so the richness of history here is staggering: temples, ancient citadels, a unique theater and stunning deserts near the city all offer fun-filled days in the Vietnamese capital. Make sure to visit as many of these attractions in Hanoi as possible because they all offer entertainment, beauty and education in different twists and turns. Enjoy our list of 10 best things to do in Hanoi below. From exquisite French gourmet restaurants to down-to-earth local joints specializing in one type of dish, dining in Hanoi More Hanoi is a city with so many unique things to do at night, and unlike any other capital in Southeast Asia or even More Ba Dinh district hotels have cozy rooms and suites, warm hospitality and on-site facilities, and easy More Top local restaurants in Nha Trang are among the most kept secrets of this coastal city (so far). This is where More Looking Hotels in Hanoi? Click on this link to find the hottest deals in town. This is an affiliate link, meaning I'm making a small commission at no extra cost to you. Your booking helps keep me this site running (2) I love Hanoi. It is one of my favorite cities on earth and it has a special place in my heart. Let's start with the video I made in Hanoi. What Can \$10 Get You to Hanoi, Vietnam? Guys! You're absolutely right - I held out my \$10 in Hanoi to buy 7 things, including an Uber MotoBike. Sounds crazy, doesn't it? Like and share this video to win a handmade Vietnamese postcard with a personal message sent to your doorstep! The winner will be selected within 24 hours and I'm shipping around the world! Music: bensound.com posted by Drew Binsky on Thursday, January 19, 2017 ——- Hanoi has been my home base for 4 months (from December '16 - April '17) and I'm just amazing to say about this city. In fact, I'm having some serious withdrawals writing this blog as I recall from my time there! While living in Hanoi, I was able to get a good sense and insight into Vietnamese culture, food, people and lifestyle - and I'm excited to share my ideas with you in this article! My intention in writing this post is to give you insider information about what to do, eat and see during your visit to Hanoi, because I know it can be intimidating as a first timer. Feel free to contact me if you how many random things and tips I think you should know before you visit Hanoi. Hanoi is the capital of Vietnam and the second largest city by population (after Ho Chi Minh City). It is located in the northern part of the activity and tourist spots are located in the Old Quarter (unlike Los Angeles or Tokyo, where everything is scattered). You will probably spend most of your time in the Old Quarter, where you will find tons of cafes, restaurants, hotels, bars, halls, markets, clubs, street food vendors, etc. see Hanoi in 1 or 2 days (no need to spend a week there). the area of the city you may find yourself in is called Tai Ho (translated to West Lake). This is where all the expats in Hanoi live, which are mostly made up of English teachers. Tay Ho has all the fancy restaurants and foreign food to enjoy, so if you're tired of eating Pho then go here! Hanoi does not have many high-rise buildings or a financial district in the center of the city - in fact, most of the buildings are under 5 storeys high. If you want to see skyscrapers in Vietnam, then head to Ho Chi Minh City. 80% of the vehicles in Hanoi are motorcycles and this will definitely overwhelm you first. Crossing the street is like playing Frogger in real life... and it doesn't help that there are no street lanes!! My best advice is to always walk at the same pace when crossing the road and drivers will walk around you. If you are slowing down or speeding up, you might be in trouble... People in Hanoi - Most people in Hanoi (and Vietnamese in general) don't speak English or speeding up, you might be in trouble... People in Hanoi (and Vietnamese in general) don't speak English level lower than in most Asian countries. To be honest, people in Hanoi are pretty lazy, and are usually seen cooling outside on the kerb to drink tea and spit sunflower seeds (this is what you need to do in Hanoi). No one seems to be in a hurry and things just happen as they happen. Hanoi people love to sit in TINY chairs and tables (like preschool-sized chairs) - and it's pretty funny the first time you see it. If you are a tall person then you may have some problems sitting down! You will find many tourists in Hanoi (mostly Australians, Europeans and Americans) as Hanoi has been on the rise in popularity with tourists. Most of them will hang around the Old Block or Ta Hien Street (beer street) at night - more on that later. Vietnamese words to know - Given the low level of English people have in Hanoi, it is in your best interest to learn a few Vietnamese words. Here are the main questions: - Cam On - Thank you - Shin Chao - Hello - Tam Biet - Goodbye - Mot, Hai Ba - One, Two, Three Money - Prices - Currency Vietnamese Dong, and Exchange Rate as I write this \$1USD and 22,000 dong. I know it's pretty overpriced... When you go to the ATM, you will pull out millions of Dong and it will shake your mind. You're a millionaire! With the exception of a few high end seats, everyone in Hanoi is just cash, so make sure to have twice as much cash as you think you need. It's very important because getting stuck without money is a nightmare. That being said, almost everything is cheap in Hanoi - I think it's the cheapest capital in Southeast Asia. Think \$1 for a bowl of Pho, \$0.50 for Ride around town, and \$1 for a T-shirt! Make sure to always try to rip you off). Don't be fooled. As around Hanoi- I would avoid a taxi at all costs because the driver is not friendly and they can try to rip you off. Instead, take Uber or Grab - both are reliable taxi services, with lower prices and safer standards than regular taxis. Believe me! There are also buses, but I have never ridden them. Walking is probably the best option and you can walk anywhere in the Old Block for an hour. Sanitation -Street food is available everywhere and I recommend eating as much as possible! However, some tourists get food poisoning because of the water - so always make sure to drink bottled water and eat only the fruit that you clean yourself. Avoid women on the street trying to sell you doughnuts or pre-cut pineapples because they probably used a dirty knife and/or they sat there for days. See the photo below. SIM Cards - Get yourself a local SIM card for your phone! They are so cheap (about \$5USD for 3GB of data, which will help you. Or you can get yourself a TEP portable Wi-Fi device that gives you Internet access in 100 countries. Accommodation - I recommend both Air Bnb and standard hotels in the Old Block. I found some really cheap seats on Air Bnb (as low as \$15 per night) and most hotels will manage you from \$10-40 per night. There are tons of hostels as well (if that's your thing) for beds as low as \$5 a night. But be careful that most hostels are full of drunken Australians, swiping their shirts and acting like fools on the streets... Arriving in Hanoi there are several different ways that you can arrive in Hanoi. The most common ways are by plane and by bus. Or you can come on your own motorcycle, in which case you won't need my guide. On the plane - Hanoi has a fantastic and modern airport called Noah Bai Airport, which is just 10 miles north of the city. It serves both domestic and international flights from hundreds of locations around the world. If you arrive at the airport, take an Uber to the hotel (you can use Wi-Fi at the airport to call it). Don't forget to check if you need a visa before you arrive in Hanoi (Americans and citizens of many other countries can apply for an online visa for \$40). If you receive an electronic visa, you can pick it up at the airport if you print the necessary documents. It's easy. On the train/bus - It is likely that you to arrive in Hanoi by land transport from another location in Vietnam. If so, the bus and train stations are located in the city centre and you should have no problems when you arrive. Make sure to print out address your hotel or Air Bnb (in Vietnamese and English) or have a screenshot on your phone in case you need help. What can you do in Hanoi Below are my top 9 recommendations for things to do in Hanoi. As I mentioned earlier, popular areas are all next to each other and you can do everything on this list in 1 or 2 days. Walk around Lake Hoan Kiem - In the centre of the Old Quarter is Lake Joan Kiem, a beautiful and charming lake with amazing views. Head here to avoid the hustle and bustle of the Cld Quarter - As I have said a lot already, the Old Quarter, where all the magic happens in the city. It's noisy from all the honking horns, and motorcycle traffic is always heavy, but I suggest walking around to discover tons of restaurants, bars, cafes, clubs and all around good vibes. The old quarter is a collection of about 36 streets that all specialize in selling something (e.g. jewelry, pillows, shirts, baskets, toys, shoes, sunglasses, etc.). Every time I wandered the streets, I found another hidden gem. Make sure to check in St. Joseph's Cathedral, a church that has been there since the late 1886s. It is a popular attraction and meeting place in the city. Go to the Weekend Night Market - Only on weekends is the night market on the city's main street - I forgot the street name, but you can't miss it. Starting around 7pm and going until about midnight, you'll find hundreds of mini-sellers side by side in tents selling everything. Normally, don't buy it until you know down the price of 50% of what they offer you. Take a motorcycle taxi - If you see an old man cooling on top of his motorcycle on the sidewalk, he will most likely driver and will lead you anywhere around the city if you see an old man cooling on top of his motorcycle taxi. It's cheap, a great way to feel local! Note - You can get a mask to avoid sniffing all the pairs outside. Fine Food in Tay Ho - As I briefly touched on earlier, Tay Ho is an area where all expats live (which are 80% of English teachers). If you are looking for a nicer meal, or foreign food, then head there! It's about a 10 minute drive from the Old Block and it's halfway between the airport and the Old Block. Drink beer on Ta Hien Street - Also known as Beer Street, Ta Hien Street is a place to party on any night of the week. In this area, everyone sits outside on small chairs, drinking beer and wander around Ta Hien to see street artists and all around happiness! Visit museums - Hanoi has many museums scattered throughout the city. I'm not really a museum man myself, (and admittedly there was none in Hanoi), but if you're in museums, check out the water puppet show - the stupidest recommendation in all this blog is the water puppet show at the Thang Long Water Pupper Theatre. For one reason or another, it is a huge tourist attraction. Basically, you pay \$5 to enter a small theater and see a classic puppet show in the water that consists of strange instruments, and an even more unfamiliar play that is entirely conducted in Vietnamese. Bring a beer and get ready to laugh. Venture to Snake Village (Le Mat) - For all you enterprising people out there, there is a village about 7 miles northeast of Hanoi called Le Mat, which specializes in selling snakes. Many restaurants throughout the cage (while he is still alive) and then they kill him at the table before cooking it in the back. They serve the snake in about a dozen gourmet dishes such as roast, soup and fried. Watch this video to get a better idea of what I'm talking about. I ate a snake in Vietnam, but there's more... WARNING: If you are a vegetarian, or easily feel uncomfortable, please skip this video. A few days ago, I ventured out of Snake Village #Hanoi, for an interesting and cultural experience. I'm a fan of trying everything the locals eat (anywhere) - but it was one of the wildest dishes of my life. Will you ever try to eat a snake? Thanks to my Vietnamese friends for helping me film this video Bui Ngoc Thieu Minh Tuan Thế Anh Music: Ben Sound posted by Drew Binsky on Sunday, March 26, 2017 — Things to Eat in Hanoi Pho - The most classic Vietnamese dish, and the one that is growing in popularity worldwide, is Ph.. It consists of rice noodles with beef or chicken, onion, garlic and cilantro in sour and delicious broth. The best fo in Hanoi is in a place called GIA TRUYAN at 49 Bath An, Cửa Ang, Hoan Kiếm - but it's only open from 6-10pm every night. You can't miss it because the line will be wrapped around the street. Banh Mi - This is a Vietnamese-style sandwich made on a French baguette and loaded with tons of vegetables, meat and Vietnamese spices. Best Banh Mi Pho Co. It is located next to the main square about 20 meters from the Aldo sign. Boone Cha is a specialty of Hanoi, the cha bun is served only in the North and it's my favorite dish in town. It's This. grilled meatballs and served in soup along with rice noodles and tons of green vegetables and cilantro. The best cha bun is in a place called Ben Chả Hang Muench on Hang Man Street. Look for a large red sign and a 3rd building. Spring rolls - Vietnamese spring rolls - Vietnamese spring rolls are made from vegetables mixed with shrimp or chicken, and either fried in plenty of butter, or served more health, wrapped in rice paper. I prefer one wrapped in rice paper - make sure to dip it in peanut sauce! Egg Coffee - Hanoi is very famous for egg coffee and it is known to be an original recipe in Vietnam. I know it sounds rude, but it's really delicious! It's just a coffee with a raw egg mixed on top, and tastes more like yogurt or custard than anything else. You can get it hot or cold (hot better) and make sure to mix it with a spoon before drinking. There are places for egg coffee all over Hanoi, but the best and original place is called GIANG CAF - you have to go here because it's incredible. The building and recipe hasn't changed since 1939 and it's quite touristy inside because everyone knows how great it is. Sugar cane juice - You can find sugar juice from a street vendor as cheap as \$0.30. While you can find it all over Southeast Asia, the one in Hanoi is sweet and delicious and you should try it! Fruit Juice - As Vietnam is a tropical country, fruit is as fresh as it gets. The best fruit stand is on Bat Dan Street - it's open very late! Pho - Yes, this is the second time I tell you there is a pho because it's just that DAMN GOOD! The best day trips from Hanoi You can book all tours to any travel agency in Hanoi (there are literally hundreds of travel agencies on the streets of Hanoi). There is no need to book any of these tours in advance before visiting Hanoi as there is always availability even during peak season. Most tours are all-inclusive, meaning you will pay one fee that will cover all transportation costs, accommodation and meals. Additional activities will be at their own expense. Below are the best day trips around Hanoi. Ning Binh - Ning Binh - Ning Binh - a small quaint town just 50 miles south of Hanoi. It is best known for its topography and stunning landscape, which is comparable to Ha Long Bay on high mountains, caves and greenery. The best way to capture its beauty is to take a boat ride along the river. Ninh Binh is only about an hour's drive each way, making it the most convenient day trip from Hanoi. Day tours at Ninh Binh range from \$10 to \$40. HA Long Bay - Ha Long Bay is the main reason why people visit Vietnam. It's one of the best manifestations of nature I've ever seen in my life. You can take either a day trip or a 2-3-day trip or a 2-3-day trip Hanoi (I recommend taking a 2 day trip). It's about \$60. Sapa Valley - Sapa Valley is my favorite place to visit in Vietnam outside Hanoi. It's a bit far away to make a day trip (7 hours one way by sleeping bus) so you'll probably have to spend the night in the village or family. Sapa is famous for its green countryside and rice terraces, which are located next to steep hills. Most tourists come here for trekking (half a day, full day or 2 days), where you will visit several villages and see how people live their lives in happiness without materialistic goods. It'll take you back in time. The locals who live there are part of the Hmong tribe - they speak their dialect and look physically different than the people in Hanoi. It's a really great experience and I couldn't recommend it anymore! The nightlife in Hanoi Hanoi isn't as crazy about a party city as Bangkok, Bali or even Ho Chi Minh City - but there are some fun things to do at night. Most parties take place on Ta Hien Street (Beer Street), or in the scattered bars in Tai Ho. Here are some of the best assortments of wine and cigars in Hanoi, and the atmosphere inside will keep you up all night long. Head there around 9pm so you can grab a table, otherwise it will be too crowded to get in. Club 1900 - One of the wildest nightclubs in the city, and located right on Ta Hien Street. This place is crowded around 11pm and goes until 3-4am. Expect to hear loud EDM music and dance all night in this massive club. Also - don't be shocked if you see people doing whip it out of a helium balloon - they sell them in the back and they make you high like 5 seconds (I don't recommend it). Rooftop Bar- Located on the top floor of a business building, the rooftop bar may have the best view of the Old Block. It's a great meeting place with a DJ playing live music and it offers a good selection of cocktails and food (you can go to dinner and then stay all night to the party). You can't miss this place in Hanoi, and I have a deep love for the city. I hope that reading this post has given you a better understanding of what to expect when you visit. If you have any further questions about Hanoi, please contact me and I will come back to you! Don't forget to find and book hotels in Hanoi here (2) Travel! January 3, 2019, 20182 May 201812 May 201818183 April 2018 2018

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