

VISITOR HANDBOOK

PREPARING A TRIP TO HANOI and VIASM

I. THE VIETNAM INSTITUTE FOR ADVANCED STUDY (VIASM)

On August 19th, 2010, Prof. Ngo Bao Chau received the Fields Medal at the International Congress of Mathematicians 2010, held in Hyderabad, India. This event set the momentum for many future activities of The 10-year National Program for the Development of Mathematics (NPDM 2010-2020).

The Vietnam Institute for Advanced Study in Mathematics (VIASM) is a prestigious research institution dedicated to advancing mathematical sciences in Vietnam and fostering international collaboration. Established in 2010 under the first NPDM 2010-2020, VIASM aims to create a world-class environment for mathematical research and education.

Located in Hanoi, VIASM provides state-of-the-art facilities and a stimulating atmosphere for mathematicians, researchers, and students. The institute organizes various programs, including workshops, seminars, and long-term research projects, attracting both local and international scholars.

VIASM's mission aligns with Vietnam's National Program for the Development of Mathematics, focusing on: 1) Promoting cutting-edge mathematical research, 2) Nurturing young talents in mathematics 3) Enhancing the quality of mathematics education in Vietnam. 4) Facilitating knowledge exchange between Vietnamese and international mathematicians.

By serving as a hub for mathematical excellence, VIASM plays a crucial role in elevating Vietnam's position in the global mathematical community and contributing to the country's scientific and technological advancement.

Address and contact information

VIASM Headquarters

No. 161 Huynh Thuc Khang, Lang Ward, Hanoi, Vietnam.

In Vietnamese:

Viện Nghiên cứu cao cấp về Toán

161 Huỳnh Thúc Kháng, phường Láng, Hà Nội, Việt Nam.

Phone: (+84) (24) 3 623 1542

Fax: (+84) (24) 3 623 1543

Email: info@viasm.edu.vn

Website: www.viasm.edu.vn

The VIASM campus consists of 3 buildings with 5 floors in each building (A, B, C) and a Main Lecture Hall (The Laurent Schwartz Lecture Hall) with approximately 190 seats; a parking area for cars/motorcycles; guest houses; etc., on a total area of 2000 sqm.

Block A: The main lobby of the headquarters; the Office of the Board of Directors, the Office, the Scientific Council; the International meeting room; the Conference room, and the common area.

Block B: Guest/Researcher's office area, Seminar room, and Canteen.

Block C: Area for the Researcher's office, Seminar room, Library, and Guest House.

II. VISA TO VIETNAM

Please see the visa information in a separate document here:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1B9JB8ifgrcgLkOu0l_drLyVt1XxKKjgoanHSw0cTBCY/edit

III. ARRIVAL

1. TRANSPORTATION

❖ From Noi Bai International Airport to VIASM

The distance from the airport to the Institute is about 28 km, with a variety of travel options.

Option 1. Taxi

The fare ranges from US\$12-15 (VND 300,000 - VND 380,000) and the preferred payment method is cash. Estimated travel time: 40 minutes.

A taxi ride to the city center takes about 40 minutes and costs approximately US\$16 –18 (350,000 - 400,000 VND) from the Noi Bai Airport to the downtown area.

Recommended taxi companies (other taxis could be cheaper and also safe, but below are the most reliable):

- **Airport Taxi:** (84-24) 3886 6666.
- **Noi Bai Airport Taxi:** (84-24) 38868888 (highly recommended!).
- **Mai Linh Taxi:** (84-24) 38222666.
- **G7 Taxi:** (84-24) 32 32 32 32.

Option 2. Bus Express 68

The bus operates from Noi Bai International Airport to 48 Tran Duy Hung Street (opposite the university “Đại Học Lao Động - Xã Hội”). Pick-up point is on the first floor of the public lobby of T1 terminal. The ticket costs around 2 USD (VND 50,000) per person, and the estimated travel time is approximately 1 hour 20 minutes.

Once you have arrived at 48 Tran Duy Hung street, you can take a taxi or public transport to VIASM,

which is about 1.6 km away.

Bus map:

https://moovitapp.com/index/en/public_transit-line-68-H%C3%A0_N%E1%BB%99i-2921-1597502-17099513-0

Option 3: AIRLINE BUS

Airlines: Airport Minibus, Vietjet Air

Route: Noi Bai Airport - Hanoi City Center.

Pick-up point: on the 1st floor of the public lobby of T1 and T2 terminals;

Cost: Around 2 USD (40,000 - 60,000 VND). Fares to specific requested destinations in Hanoi are higher.

More info: <https://hanoiairportshuttle.com/transportation/shuttle-bus-services/>
<https://www.vietjetair.com/en/pages/airport-buss-1608714508023>

Option 4. Public transport

There are several routes:

- Bus 07 (Cau Giay Bus Station) and Bus 17 (Long Bien Bus Station). The ticket is VND 9,000 with an estimated travel time of 1-1,5 hours.

Bus map: <https://map.busmap.vn/hn/route/7>

- Bus 90: Nội Bài-Hào Nam, 9,000 VND/ticket

Bus map: <https://map.busmap.vn/hn/route/90>

- Bus 17: Long Biên – Nội Bài, 9,000 VND/ticket

Bus map: <https://map.busmap.vn/hn/route/17>

For more information: <https://map.busmap.vn/hn> or <https://xe-buyt.com/> or <https://vinpearl.com/vi/xe-bus-san-bay-noi-bai>

Option 5: Transportation Apps: Grab (and Be) are the Uber of SE Asia. They can be used to reserve a car, taxi, or motorbike. In addition to ride-hailing, Grab is also a great app for food delivery.

2. Traveling in the city

A taxi from the Noi Bai International Airport to the center of the city costs approximately US\$10 – 12 (250,000 – 300,000 VND).

Most taxis have meters & receipts, the price is about US\$0.5 – 0.8/km (12,000 – 18,000 VND/km).

We recommend the following taxi brands:

- Taxi Group: (024) 38 53 53 53 or (024) 38 51 51 51
- Ba Sao Taxi: (024) 36 36 36 36

- G7 Taxi: (024) 32 32 32 32 or 1900 1123 (newest number)
- Mai Linh Taxi: 1055 (Nationwide phone number)

IV. SIM CARD AND CURRENCY EXCHANGE

The easiest place to buy a SIM card is at the airport when you first arrive in Vietnam. Make sure you bring your passport when you go to purchase a SIM Card and make sure to have your cell phone unlocked for international use (data roaming) before you leave your home country. Expect to pay between 150,000-350,000 VND (\$6-\$15 USD) for a SIM card and prepaid data package, depending on how long you stay in Vietnam and how much data you want. You can choose a mobile carrier that provides SIM in Vietnam such as Viettel, MobiFone, Vinaphone, and Vietnamobile.

It is best to purchase a Vietnamese SIM card either at the airport or at one of the mobile network providers' official stores.

- **At the Airport:** You'll find dozens of kiosks selling SIM cards as soon as you exit the baggage claim area in any of Vietnam's international airports.
- **At the Post and Telecommunication Office:** If you have already left the airport without a SIM card, you should head directly to one of the telecom companies' branch offices. You can find many official stores from Viettel, MobiFone, and Vinaphone (please see below).

Viettel Official Stores

1. No. 185 Giang Vo Street, Dong Da district, Ha Noi.
2. No. 145 Thai Ha Street, Trung Liet Ward, Dong Da district, Hanoi

Vinaphone Official Stores

1. No.57, Huynh Thuc Khang Street, Dong Da, Hanoi
2. No.75, Dinh Tien Hoang Street, Hoan Kiem, Hanoi

MobiFone Official Stores

1. No 97, Nguyen Chi Thanh Street, Dong Da, Hanoi
2. No 213, Xa Dan Street, Dong Da, Hanoi

Vietnamobile Official Store

1. 203 Xã Đàn, Nam Đông ward, Dong Da district, Hanoi

- **Currency exchange service** is also available at Noi Bai International Airport. You can find booths that offer this service at multiple locations within the airport:

Noi Bai International Airport has arranged the location of money exchange counters at T2 international terminal as follows:

Currency exchange counter #1: Departure Gate #17.18

Currency exchange counter #2: At the departure station, opposite the D procedure line

Currency exchange counter #3: At the arrival station, behind the border police counter

Currency exchange counter 4: At the Exit of the international arrivals hall

Public area on the 1st floor on the west side:

Direct foreign currency exchange counters: BIDV Bank and Maritime Bank.

ATMs for foreign currency exchange: BIDV Bank, Maritime Bank, VPBank Bank

Public area on the 1st floor on the East side:

Direct foreign exchange counters: Vietinbank and Techcombank.

ATM for foreign currency exchange: Vietinbank, Techcombank, Agribank.

V. HOSPITALS/MEDICAL CENTERS

Please see the **Hospitals and Medical Centers in Hanoi** here:

[Useful info in Hanoi - VIASM Recommendation](#)

VI. HOTELS

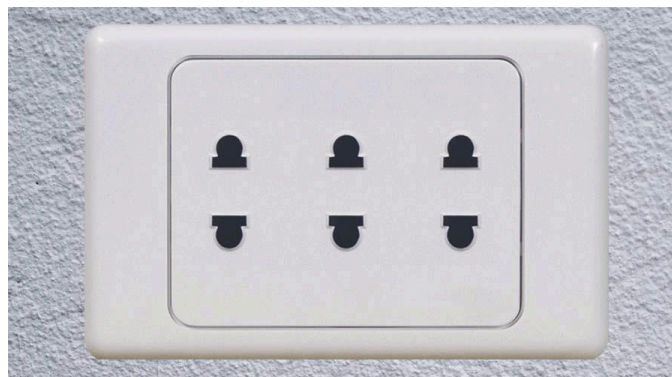
Please see some **options** here: [Useful info in Hanoi - VIASM Recommendation](#)

VII. INTERESTING TOURIST DESTINATIONS

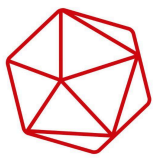
Please see the **Interesting tourist destinations** here: [Useful info in Hanoi - VIASM Recommendation](#)

VIII. ELECTRICITY

This is the most common outlet in Vietnam:

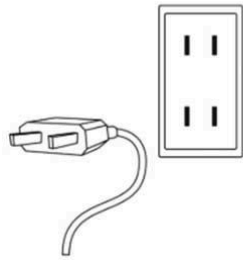


In short, plug type A (two flat vertical pins), type C, and type F (two round pins) fit most sockets in Vietnam. The following 3 adapters can be used without problems in Vietnam:

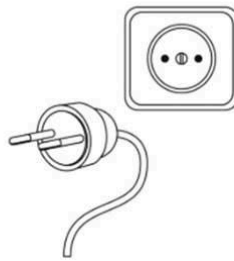


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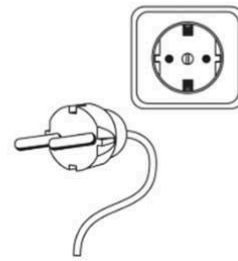
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Type A



Type C



Type F

You rarely encounter an outlet with only Type A, B, or C. There are some cases where an alternating current of 110 volts is used, for which you need a “flat three-point plug”; however, the chance that you will encounter it is minimal.

Voltage and frequency: The electricity voltage of Vietnam is 220 Volts at 50Hz. Check if the label on your device says something similar to “100-240V 50-60Hz” or “220V 50Hz”. If so, then the device is compatible with the voltage in Vietnam.

What to do if your plugs (or adapter) are not supported in Vietnam?

A travel adapter should be bought at home and packed in your luggage. If you have already landed in Vietnam, you can buy a world plug or travel adapter at electronic shops, electronic centers, convenience stores, and supermarkets such as **Dien May Xanh, Nguyen Kim, Pico, and Mediamart**. The price is around \$4 per adapter.

IX. CURRENCY AND PAYMENT

Vietnamese currency: The official currency in Vietnam is the Vietnam đồng (VND), 1 USD ~ 26,200 VND and 1 EUR ~ 30,400 VND (updated in September 2025). You can sometimes pay in US dollars or Euros in Vietnam (but it is not recommended). The widely accepted credit cards in Vietnam are Visa, Mastercard and American Express. You can exchange from USD or EUR to VND at the airport or any bank in the city.

You can refer to and check the exchange rate at Vietcombank's website below:

<https://www.vietcombank.com.vn/vi-VN/KHCN/Cong-cu-Tien-ich/Ty-gia>

However, in general, you can hardly exchange from VND back to foreign currency in a bank. Thus, please only exchange an amount enough for the duration of your stay.

Cash withdrawal and exchange: Upon arriving in Vietnam, you’ll want to have some cash in the local currency. You can find ATMs accepting international cards just outside the arrival gates at all

major airports. ATMs are a common sight in Vietnamese cities, and you should have no trouble locating one in most destinations. International cards such as Visa and MasterCard are accepted at more than 20,000 ATMs nationwide. If you need help finding the nearest ATM, just ask your hotel. Withdrawal limits per transaction range between 2 million VND (just under 100 dollars) and 3 million VND with local bank ATMs; and between 5 million VND to 10 million VND with international bank ATMs.

You can also find currency exchange vendors inside Vietnam's international airports just before the exit gates. Once you're at your destination, you can usually exchange currency at local banks such as: Eximbank, Vietcombank, Vietinbank, Agribank, Techcombank, BIDV, etc, around the city.

Card payments in Vietnam: While cash is used for small purchases and street vendors in Vietnam, most establishments accept payments from major credit card providers such as Visa. Hotels, tour operators, boutiques, restaurants, grocery stores, and spas generally accept international debit and credit cards. Conversion rates and swiping fees will be set by your card provider.

X. RESTAURANTS

Hanoi's foods boasts many popular dishes and there are a variety of choices:

Street food: [Useful info in Hanoi - VIASM Recommendation](#)

Halal food: [Useful info in Hanoi - VIASM Recommendation](#)

Jewish food: [Useful info in Hanoi - VIASM Recommendation - Google Sheets](#)

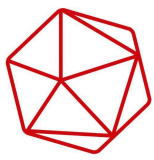
XI. BARS & DRINKS

- *Tadioto Bar*: 24 Tong Dan
- *Cộng Café*: 27 Nha Tho, 2 Le Phung Hieu, 4 Ly Thuong Kiet, 46 Trang Tien
- *The Kaffe*: 18 Dien Bien Phu
- *Highlands Café*: 38, Le Thai To
- *Nola Café-Bar*: 89 Ma May

XII. FOOD

Food Delivery Apps

There are a number of excellent food delivery apps available in Vietnam that you can easily use to enjoy delicious Vietnamese cuisine without actually leaving your place. Some of the most popular apps include:



- **GrabFood (on Grab app):** GrabFood is a great food delivery app that's available in Vietnam. It offers a wide selection of restaurants and dishes, making it a good choice for those who want to explore different cuisines.
- **ShopeeFood:** ShopeeFood is a popular food delivery app in Vietnam. It offers a wide selection of restaurants, and you can place orders for delivery or pickup.
- **Foody:** Foody is an app that offers food services. It is the most famous food app in Vietnam.

For some of the best places, please see [Useful info in Hanoi - VIASM Recommendation](#)

XIII. TOURS

Vietravel, Saigontourist, Vietglobal, and Sinhcafe are generally the most reliable.

Check out the following websites for further information:

Vietglobal: <http://vietglobaltour.com/en/home/>

Singcafe: <http://sinhcafetour.com.vn/>

Vietravel: <https://www.vietravel.com/en.aspx>

XIV. POSTCARD

If you want to send a postcard, the *Main Post Offices* (called *buu dien* in Vietnamese) are open daily from about 7 am to 7 pm. You can pick up a postcard at one of the souvenir booths and send it home. More personal than a text or an email, a postcard is a charming reminder from the days of yesteryear. On average, a postcard or letter to the United States or Europe costs about 1\$ to 2\$.

- **Hanoi Main Post Office.**

Address: No.75, Dinh Tien Hoang, Trang Tien, Hanoi, Ha Noi.

Season: Daily | Monday – Friday (7 AM – 7 PM) | Saturday & Sunday (8 AM – 6 PM)

- **Vietnam Post - VNPost**

Address: No. 95, Nguyen Chi Thanh Street, Lang Ha Ward, Dong Da District, Hanoi

XV. BIKE RENTAL

Bicycle rental is now straightforward and popular in all major cities in Vietnam. There are some bicycle rental places in Hanoi. We recommend the following:

- **Bike Plus**

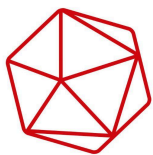
Address: No.96, Yen Hoa, Yen Phu, Tay Ho, Hanoi

Phone: 0243 999 880

Website: <https://bikeplus.vn/>

- **F-Bike**

Address: No.152, Hong Tien Street, Bo De, Long Bien, Hanoi



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Phone: 0929 876 666

Website: <https://xedapfbike.vn/>

- **Good Morning Store**

Address: No.73, Trich Sai, West Lake, Hanoi

Phone: 0987 989 191

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/GoodMorningHoTay>

- **Van Chinh Store**

Address: 112 Nguyen Van Cu, Long Bien, Hanoi

24D Ta Hien, Hang Buom, Hoan Kiem, Hanoi

Phone: 0942 467 674 – 0989 595 533

Website: <http://chothuexemayohanoi.vn/>

XV. OTHER HANOI GUIDES

We recommend the following pages:

- <http://www.lonelyplanet.com/vietnam/hanoi/sights>
- <https://www.di.ens.fr/users/phan/WhattodoinHanoi.pdf>
- <https://hanoifreelocaltours.com/one-day-in-hanoi/>
- <https://wander-lush.org/hanoi-souvenirs-best-things-to-buy-in-hanoi/#What>

We hope you have a good time in Hanoi!