


## AT A GLANCE

<b>Official name:</b>	Socialist Republic of Vietnam
<b>National flag:</b>	
<b>Capital city:</b>	Hanoi
<b>Population:</b>	Vietnam has more than 94 million inhabitants (Jan/2016). The majority of the population lives in the densely populated areas in the deltas of the Red River and Mekong River where agriculture predominates. 87% of the population are ethnic Vietnamese (Viet or Kinh). In addition, there are other 53 ethnic minority groups that make up the rest of the population of Vietnam: Hoa, Cham, Khmer, Hmong, Nung, Dao, Thai, Tay and various mountain-dwellers. The largest minority group is the "overseas Chinese" (Hoa) with number estimated at about 1.2 million. The majority of them are descendants of immigrants who came to Vietnam in 1644 after the collapse of the Ming dynasty in the country.
<b>Religion:</b>	Buddhist, Taoist and Confucian elements are combined to varying degrees. There are significant Cao Dai, Animist, Christian and Hindu (Cham) minorities.
<b>Time zone:</b>	(GMT/UTC+07:00) Vietnam is 7 hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time. It is the same time zone as Bangkok.
<b>Electricity:</b>	Vietnam mainly uses 220V. Although you can still find 110V in rural areas. Sockets are both round and flat types.
<b>Dialing code:</b>	+84
<b>Emergency numbers:</b>	Police 113, fire 114, ambulance 115
<b>Internet:</b>	Internet is inexpensive and widely available throughout Vietnam. You will also find free WiFi at many hotels, cafes and restaurants.
<b>Phone:</b>	There is extensive mobile phone coverage in Vietnam, though you will need to contact your service provider to enable roaming before you leave. Purchasing a local SIM card on arrival is another option. International phone calls can be very expensive in Vietnam, with rates from 5USD per minute.