



## **10 enjoyable places in Hanoi**

In the eyes of foreign travelers, Hanoi has specialty that they never find in any cities in Asia. If you have already booked a ticket and fly to Hanoi with your [visa to Vietnam](#). Let's find out 10 enjoyable places to visit in Hanoi.

### **One Pillar Pagoda**

Located in the heart of Hanoi, One Pillar Pagoda is an overall extremely unique architecture of Vietnam, also known as the Secret Temple, Lien Hoa Dai or Dien Huu Tu. This temple was built in 1049 to reconstruct a strange dream of the King Ly Thai Tong. It was built between the lake and it has the shape like a lotus flower rising from the lake. The pagoda was damaged greatly during the war. In 1955, the temple was reconstructed based on old architecture and remains until this day.

### **Westlake**

Located not far from the city center, West Lake is the largest lake in Hanoi and the favorite leisure destination not only for locals but also many tourists. The most appropriate time to visit Westlake is at sunset, when you can participate in exciting activities such as rowing, biking... Particularly, going to West Lake, you have the chance to visit Tran Quoc Pagoda – one of the four most sacred ancient temple of Hanoi. Besides, you can enjoy a lot of special food like Banh tom Ho Tay (Crisp shrimp pastry), pho cuon Ngu Xa (rolled pho), West Lake ice cream, etc...

### **Thang Long Puppet Theatre**

When travelling to Hanoi, Thang Long Puppet Theater, right near Hoan Kiem Lake is favored among top places to visit in Hanoi by foreign tourists. Puppet is performed on the water and is controlled by the craftsman behind the backstage curtain. The stories of in puppet theater clearly express Vietnamese culture.

### **Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum**

Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum is the resting place of the great leader of Vietnam. It was officially started on 09.02.1973, at the former tribune in Ba Dinh Square, where Ho Chi Minh had read the Declaration of Independence. Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum is open 5 days a week, in the morning of Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday. Visitors can feel the peace, quiet and solemnness when going inside the mausoleum. It should be noted that visitors have to follow the requirements as dressing up, not bringing electronic devices as video recorder and keeping order in the mausoleum.

### **Ho Chi Minh Presidential Palace Historical Site**

Behind the Ho Chi Minh Mausoleum is a modest stilt house where President Ho Chi Minh lived in the 1960s. The stilt house brought the manner of a traditional countryside house, where there are both a fresh garden and fishpond. The vestige complex includes the Presidential Palace that was built for the French governor in colonial times at the beginning of the 1900s. This building is now used to welcome the important international delegations and not open for public to visit.

### **Hoa Lo Prison**

Ho Lo Prison lies in Hoa Lo Street, Hoan Kiem District, Hanoi was built in 1896 by French colonial. It has a total area of over 12,000 m<sup>2</sup>. The prison was built with the purpose of Vietnamese prisoners especially political prisoners' detention. It was also one of the largest and most solid prison in Indochina at that time. This prison is also in the list of top 10 most notorious prisons in the world. Hoa Lo today is only a small corner as historic monument where visitors can see clearly the bloody crime of French colonist in Vietnam.

#### Vietnam Museum of Ethnology

Visiting Vietnam Museum of Ethnology, travelers can do sightseeing and study of ethnology from the religious event to symbolized rites of the 54 ethnic groups in Vietnam. The museum has 3 main areas: One zone including galleries, offices and research facilities, library... The 2<sup>nd</sup> zone is an outdoor exhibition area and the 3<sup>rd</sup> one introducing the culture of foreign nation mainly in Southeast Asia. It's really nice places to visit in Hanoi.

#### Van Mieu - Quoc Tu Giam

Van Mieu - Quoc Tu Giam is a worship place of Confucius and the first university of Vietnam with the special emphasis of stelaes of doctors. This took place the auditions for talent from nationwide to find the best person for the country. Today, Van Mieu Quoc Tu Giam become a popular destination of tourists in Hanoi, especially the candidates before each exam often come here for good luck.

#### Hanoi's Old Quarter

The highlight of Hanoi tourism is the Old quarter of 36 streets, with old houses and streets still retaining the appearance of them from the 19<sup>th</sup> century. You can wander all day on the ancient streets and discover the peaceful place of Hanoi capital. You can feel the beauty of Hanoi people, who are close and friendly. There are many luxuries and [boutique hotels in Hanoi's Old Quarter](#) for staying, you need just choose one and book a room online.

#### Hoan Kiem Lake

Geographical features of Hanoi are that there are a lot of lakes in the heart of the city has a lot of lakes and surrounded by the big rivers. Hoan Kiem Lake is located in the city center where people "must come" when visiting Hanoi. Beside Hoan Kiem Lake are the impressive buildings and precious heritage such as Thap But, Dai Nghien, The Huc bridge, Ngoc Son Temple.