

Ho Chi Minh City

Garden Court Restaurant tel	68 Nguyen Hue, D1 848-231818
Thanh Restaurant tel	9 Nguyen Trung Truc St. 222152
Jacky Restaurant tel	5 Kong Truong Me Ling, D1 294476
Huong Xuan tel	123 Le Loi 290930

Holidays

Holidays in Vietnam are based on the lunar year and the calendar year, so the days will vary from year to year depending on the holiday.

Tet	Lunar New Year occurs between January 19 and February 20 on the first new moon of the lunar calendar. Tet Nhat means the first day of spring between the harvest and planting time. It is officially a three-day holiday
April 30	Liberation Day celebrates the anniversary of the liberation of Saigon from US control on April 30, 1975
September 2	Independence or National Day marking the founding of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in 1945 on the day of the Japanese surrender.
January 1	New Year's Day

Business Hours

Vietnam operates on a six-day work week. Government offices are usually open from 7:30 am to 4:30 pm with lunch from noon to 1:00 pm. Banks are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and Saturday until 1:00 pm.

Electricity

The power supply is mostly 220 volts with both two-pin plugs and flat-pin plugs.

Credit Cards

Some hotels, restaurants and shops take Visa, Mastercard, JCB and AMEX. Cash disbursements against credit cards are available at many banks, notably ANZ Bank in Hanoi.

Currency and Exchange Rate

The official currency is the Vietnamese dong. The highest denomination (released in March 1993) is 50,000 dong which is equivalent to approximately US \$7.00. There are also 20,000 and 5,000 dong notes. Individuals should be careful not to exchange a large sum of money at once or they will have a large stack of money to carry around. Starting October 1, 1994, day-to-day use of the US dollars will be outlawed in