

Tet is one of the most special and important holiday in Vietnam that is worth to take part in. Besides immersing yourself on the atmosphere of this occasion, there are some things you should know if you stay in Vietnam during these days.

Just-in: whether you travel to Vietnam during Tet or at any time, checking for Vietnam visa requirements is the most important step to go first. We highly recommend Vietnam-visa.com which have over 11 years of uninterrupted service and have full guide for Vietnam visa for over 200 nationalities.

What is Tet in Vietnam?

Tet, also called Lunar New Year, not only plays an important role in Vietnam but also is the biggest traditional holiday of the whole nation. It marks the transition between the old and New Year. Like New Year in western countries, there are fireworks at midnight on Lunar New Year's Eve to welcome the New Year.

Tet is calculated on lunar calendar, which is popular in some Asia countries. It happens differently every year and falls in late January and early February of the Gregorian calendar. Coming to Vietnam during Tet holiday, you will have a great chance to enjoy and know more about the local's life, and their customs on this special occasion.

Lucky money for Vietnamese Tet

Lucky money is a symbol of luck and only appears on Tet. It is money put into a red envelope. This long-standing tradition has its own interesting meaning. When people wish good things to each other such as their grandparents, parents, and relatives, adults will give lucky money to the younger to wish them a good and successful year.

Most important traditional dishes for Tet of Vietnam

1. Banh Chung (Sticky Rice Cake)

Banh Chung is the most important traditional food when Tet comes. It appears in every Vietnamese family at this time. Banh Chung usually has a square shape and wrap in banana leaves. Its main ingredients include glutinous rice, mung bean, and pork.

2. Gio Cha (Vietnamese Sausage)

Gio cha is one of the main foods on Tet Holiday. It is often made of lean pork. There are three common types of Gio Cha depending on the main meat. They are gio lua (pureed pork), gio bo (pureed beef), and gio thu (pork and parts of its head such as ear, nose, tongue, and cheek).

3. Mut (Candied / Jam Fruits)

Mut is a popular snack of Tet. There is a wide range of Mut which are made of plentiful ingredients such as ginger, coconut, kumquat, lotus seed, lime, and pumpkin.

Transportation during Tet in Vietnam

1. Flights

Without a doubt, it is quite difficult to plan your trip in Vietnam on this occasion as flight tickets are mostly sold out. So, if you want to come to Vietnam, book the tickets as soon as possible.

The same goes for domestic flights between big cities of the country. If you don't book the ticket in advance and your travel date is too close, you may have to pay nearly five times as much for a ticket.

1. Trains

On Tet holiday, it is really hard to buy a train ticket and almost impossible for a long trip one. Therefore, book it as early as you can.

You can try dividing your train journey into two or three short ones as maybe there are some tickets left for short routes. For example, instead of getting a ticket for Saigon - Nha Trang, you can the one for Saigon – Phan Thiet and Phan Thiet – Nha Trang.

2. Public transportation

Buses, taxis, Grab, and Uber still work on Tet. However, except buses, the prices of the others will be higher.

Accommodations in Vietnam during Tet

Hotels, hostels, homestays or dormitories in Vietnam during Tet are quite plentiful. In addition, some accommodations may hold parties welcoming New Year for tourists and staffs. But, Tet is still a "hot" occasion for tourism; thus, you should book rooms in advance or check the place you wish to stay whether there is an available room for you or not.

Vietnam Tourist Attractions

Museums, Mausoleums, exhibition and art houses will be not opened for at least 4 first days in all of the destinations in Vietnam. In large cities such Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, there are a few people as most of them return to their hometown in Tet. However, apart from these cities, the other tourist attractions seem to be more crowded because both foreigners and Vietnamese tend to visit these places to enjoy their holiday.

Vietnam Shopping during Tet holiday

Most of the shops, malls, supermarkets will be closed for the first 2 to 3 days of this period of time. However, some stalls in markets may still be opened with few goods than normal. If you go shopping on Tet, you'd better not haggle as it is seen to bring bad luck to their business for the whole new year.

Things to notice on Tet holiday in Vietnam

- If you are invited or stay with a Vietnamese family on Tet holiday, you should notice the things below:
 - Do not sweep and clean the house at least the first 5 days of Tet holiday. If you do this, it means you throw possessions and luck away.
 - Do not ask for fire or water because these elements are considered as luck. Give them to you means give all their luck to you.
 - Do not break anything, especially glasses and ceramics.
 - Do not comb your hair. Combing hair means you leave your bad luck or call for evil in their house.
 - Do not mention bad things or argue with anyone
 - "Xong dat" is a unique rite on Tet. Vietnamese believe that the first people go into a house affect how their life will be in the coming year. They often invite a cheerful, tidy person whose zodiac is good for the host as the first guest. Therefore, if you are not that one, only enter the house after that people did.

Tet in Vietnam is worth to take part in. With the information above, we hope you will have a

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wonderful time on the national holiday of the country.