



THE HOI AN POST

ISSUE 06

PUBLISHED BY ELEGANCE HOSPITALITY GROUP

HIGHLIGHT

The Essential guestroom package

PAGE 02-03

WHAT'S ON

F&B promotions
Summer is coming

PAGE 04-05

OUR SERVICE

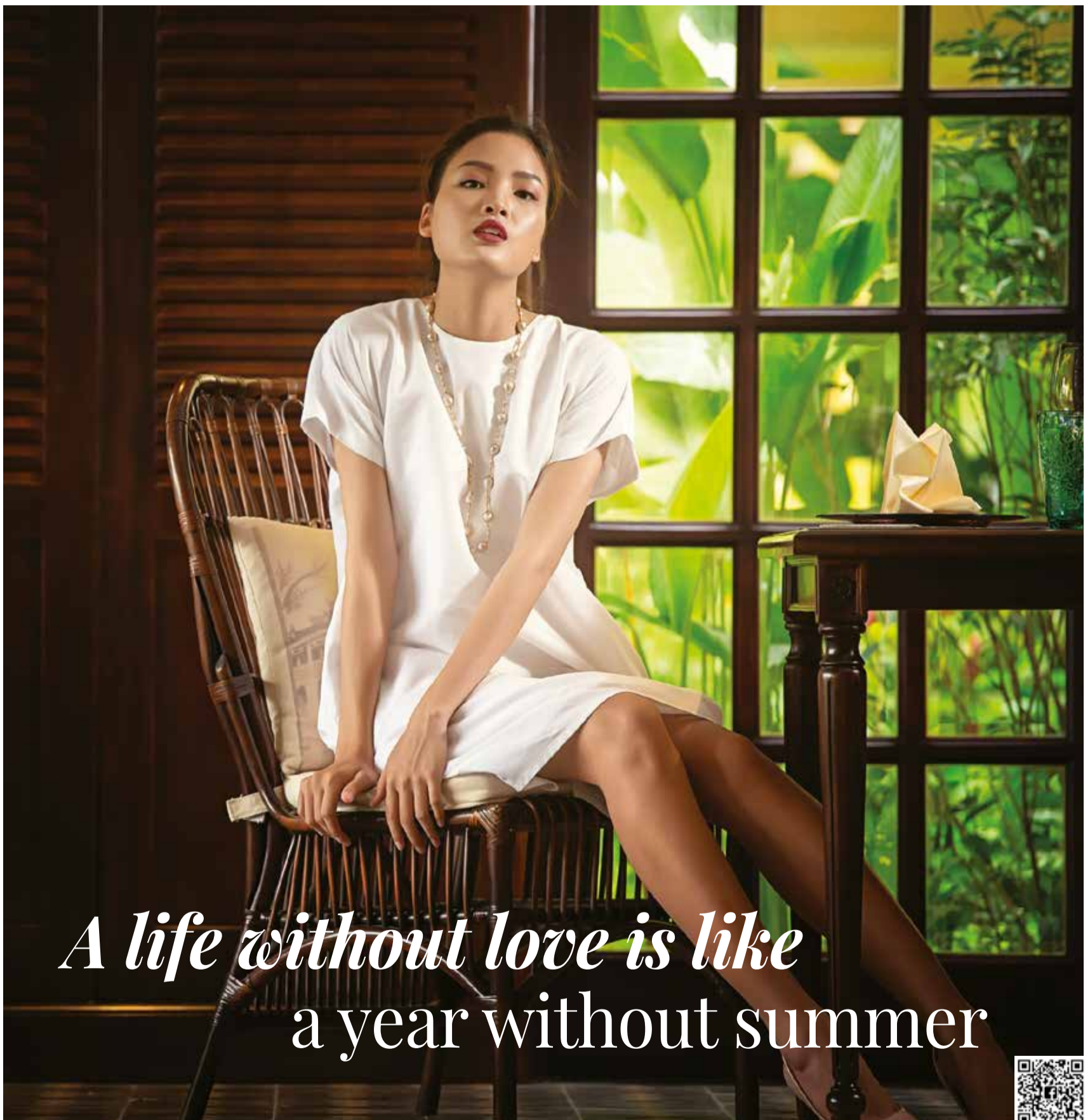
The ultimate foot soak

PAGE 07

TRAVEL

Art for a better community

PAGE 10-11



*A life without love is like
a year without summer*

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MESSAGE FROM CHAIRMAN

A warm welcome to all our Hoi An guests as we turn our attention to summer.

Please enjoy this edition of the Hoi An Post, which includes information on our hospitality group, new initiatives and promotions to help you make the most of your Hoi An stay. We also have suggestions of interesting tours and cultural activities in and around Hoi An.

In this edition, we review some F&B and accommodation offers to help you make the most of your stay with us and experience the best of our service offering. We also focus on the cocktail craze that hit Vietnam a few years ago. Our F&B section features one of the world's classic cocktails, the Mojito, one of the most popular beverages served at The Temple bar and restaurant. Early summer promotions also include happy hours, special lunches and wine discounts across our bars and restaurants.

The travel section includes an article on Tam Thanh mural village, south of Hoi An. This is famous for its spectacular gallery of murals that adorn the façades of houses and walls. Alternatively, closer to home in Hoi An, we invite you to take an evening boat trip down the romantic Hoai River - the River of Remembrance - witnessing its waters lit up by hundreds of floating candle lanterns.

In the meantime, EHG and all our staff at La Siesta Resort & Spa wish you a happy early summer and hope you enjoy your time in Hoi An.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Do Van Dan', with a long horizontal line extending to the right above it.

Do Van Dan (Mr.)
Chairman/CEO

Elegance Hospitality Group



The Essential guestroom





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room package

Let us introduce you to our "all-in Hoi An Essential Package" in the No.1 luxury brand La Siesta Hoi An Resort & Spa. This package is a wonderful way to spend a three-night vacation to the UNESCO World Heritage site of Hoi An in Quang Nam Province.

You will stay in a spacious, comfortable Junior Suite balcony room with free wifi internet and access to our 400sqm saltwater pool - the first of its kind in the Hoi An old town area. Daily buffet or a la carte breakfast is served from 06.30 to 10:00 in the Temple restaurant and the package entitles you to one dinner in Red Bean restaurant with the Hoi An Special Dinner Menu. The Junior Suites are located on the upper floor of each of the eight town house villas. The large balcony overlooks the saltwater pool, gardens and next-door Thanh Ha Communal Community House. Period furnishings with almost black hard wooden flooring gives elegance and depth, complementing white walls and cool linens. The large bathroom with a chic vintage-style, freestanding bathtub makes a great focal point. Mini bar items, replenished daily, are included in the price, as well as two Spa coupons, entitling you to a one hour Swedish massage and 20% discount on any La Siesta Spa treatment lasting over an hour.

Airport transfers from/to Da Nang International Airport is via our limousine service while on arrival at the Resort you can enjoy welcome drinks. Free use of the hotel bicycles is included subject to availability. There is a shuttle bus to An Bang beach about 6km away and free early or late check in/out up to 10.00 and 17.00 respectively.

Within the guestroom package is a 3-hour Hoi An Insight tour with the following options: orientation tour and lantern making, Street Food tour or Hoi An countryside bicycle tour.

We are delighted to welcome you to La Siesta Resort & Spa.

Package is priced at **259USD++** per person
Based on 2 people sharing



F&B promotions Summer is coming (May-June 2018)

La Siesta Resort's restaurants and bars have a great selection of food and beverage offers to quench one's thirst and tempt the taste buds as we head into summer.

BBQ by the Pool

Includes a live cooking station
A choice of three combo menus (Combo 1, 2 or 3) or individual BBQ skewers
Available Sunday to Thursday every week 16:00-18:00
Combo menu prices from 130,000 VND++/person
BBQ skewers (per skewer) 30,000 VND++/person
The Temple Bar poolside

Cocktail offers

Afternoon cocktails with a selection of gourmet canapés and snacks
Available 12noon-16:00 daily
The Temple Bar

Sangria Festival by the Pool

Red Bean and The Temple Bar Sangria Cocktails
The Temple Bar poolside and Red Bean poolside

World Cup live

Special food and beverage offers while you cheer on your favorite team on during this year's World Cup
Available 14 June-15 July during match times
Feliz Bar



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Are you a Mojito?

The simple cocktail is not just a drink. It is in fact an art form, glasses filled like mini art installations. It tells a story through the name and inspiration behind its creation while the “acrobatics” of making the drink enhances the drama. Seizing on Vietnam’s emerging cocktail culture, the bars of the La Siesta Resort have designed a selection of cutting-edge cocktail menus featuring classic, contemporary and unique recipes. One such cocktail is the classic Cuban born Mojito – one of the most famous rum-based highballs, of which there are a several varieties. This cocktail traditionally consists of five ingredients: white rum, sugar cane juice, lime juice, soda water and mint, topped with crushed ice. There are a number of legends and theories relating to the Mojito’s origins. One story links it to Sir Francis Drake when a similar drink was devised as a medicine to combat tropical diseases. Others attribute the drink to African slaves working on Cuban sugar cane fields. Author Ernest Hemingway was one person who made the Mojito really famous and popular when he lived in Havana. Today’s statistics indicate the drink was the most popular cocktail in Britain and France a few years ago.

The Mojito, Cuba’s unofficial national drink, remains one of the most refreshing cocktails around. At Red Bean and the Temple bars, we have devised some great pre-summer thirst quenching spins on the original recipe.

Take your pick, or many, from these fruity options:

- **Strawberry Mojito**
- **Pineapple Mojito**
- **Apple Mojito**
- **Chili’s Mojito**
- **Passion fruit Mojito**
- **Lychee Mojito**
- **Rambutan Mojito**
- **Mango Mojito**

Alternatively, maybe you just fancy a clear Mojito with a Vodka or Tequila base or just the good old classic version.

ROOM WITH A VIEW



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In January 2017 following an inspiring rebrand, EHG's Essence Hoi An Hotel & Spa was relaunched with a new sophisticated identity as it joined the ranks of the group's La Siesta brand. The 4-star hotel was transformed into a 5-star standard resort, with two pools, two wings, extended tropical gardens and two restaurants. The new Club Wing consists of eight luxury sunshine-yellow townhouse villas styled on Hoi An ancient town's historical houses. A variety of guestroom types is offered, including five Premium Terrace Suites, which take pride of place overlooking the grounds and bordering Thanh Ha Communal Community House.

Each suite opens out to its own expansive terrace with plants, sun beds and outdoor furniture as well as private outdoor Jacuzzi. The terrace affords a great opportunity to hold one's own cooking or cocktail demonstration and, for a group of friends booking a number of these suites, the terraces can be opened up to create one expansive space. Each suite is designed with colonial and style features; a white chic vintage-style, free-standing bathtub is a defining presence while top quality amenities add the premium touch.

La Siesta Resort & Spa Premium Terrace Suites gives you a luxury experience.



The ultimate foot soak



Vietnam does not have a recognizable signature massage therapy unique to the country, unlike for example Thailand. However, over the centuries Vietnamese society has practiced massage techniques focused on preventing and treating disease.

Traditional Vietnamese therapy combines techniques from around Vietnam using powerful pressure applications. These applications are integrated with traditional remedies based on indigenous herbs and locally produced essential oils, which target specific conditions.

Our La Siesta Spa menu features over 30 treatments and packages for body massage, natural wraps, organic scrubs and skin treatments with an emphasis on herbal properties, natural healing ingredients and essential oils.

A key feature of La Siesta Spa products and treatments is our relaxing foot soak, which gives your feet some well-deserved pampering. Before commencing your massage therapy your feet receive priority. Submerged in a bowl of warm water this service not only cleanses and softens the skin but also instills immediate relaxation. This therapeutic foot soak is infused with natural ingredients, which invigorate and relax the feet.

- Ginger
- Lemon grass
- Cinnamon
- Green tea
- Lemon

Ginger has many benefits including improving digestion, circulation and combatting colds and flu while lemon is a well-known cleansing and detoxing ingredient.

The feet have a high concentration of acupuncture points and focusing on these has long been used to relieve pain, improve circulation and the immune system while some say it can also cure disease. It is believed the condition of all areas of the body are affected by the feet, ie. each zone of the feet is directly linked to an organ/body part. Take the toes as an example. In very general terms, the toes connect with the head and neck. The second and third toes link to the eyes, while the others correspond with teeth, sinuses and top of the head. The lower part of the little toe connects with the ears. Therefore, treating your feet to a pampering session in warm water with herbs and natural products helps circulate the meridians, making the whole body healthy before the massage treatment starts.

For more information, please visit our website www.lasiestaspa.com

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Da Nang and the land of the Cham



Scan here, get there!

Let us tempt you with our full day tour by private car to the city of Da Nang and surrounding area. Da Nang is one of Vietnam's international gateways, a major port and the largest city in central Vietnam-much of its history dates from the Champa Kingdom.

On arrival in Da Nang we visit the Linh Ung Pagoda on Son Tra Peninsula where, in the courtyard, is the amazing and stunning statue of the Lady Buddha, Goddess of Mercy. This immense 67m high statue is the equivalent to a 30-storey building, standing on a 35m diameter lotus flower carving. On Lady Buddha's hat is a Buddha statue 2m high. The statue faces the sea - one of her hands exorcises, the other holds a bottle of holy water. For the energetic, a climb up inside the statue reveals an altar on each of the 17 floors with 21 Buddha statues featuring different characteristics. The climb leads to stunning views from the top.

Marble Mountain is a well-known pilgrimage site with peaks, caves, tunnels and temples, a group of five limestone and marble hills named after the five elements, Metal, Wood, Water, Fire, and Earth. The mountains are climbed for their spectacular views, the Water Mountain being the most popular with pagodas dating from the 17th century as well as caves. To reach the Tam Quan Gate involves climbing up 150 steep stone steps but the view to Mount Kim Son (Metal Mountain) is rewarding. The most beautiful observatory spot is the Riverview Tower.

We also visit the Museum of Cham Sculpture, the largest such exhibition in the world with 300 items on display dating from the 7th to 15th centuries, many considered masterpieces. The museum's façade is decorated with carved symbols of Hinduism.

We then take a southerly route enjoying coastal and beach scenery to lunch at a traditional restaurant, after which we join the Hai Van Pass, an unmissable experience. At 500m above sea level, it is the highest pass in Vietnam.

Then it is back to the hotel. Our tour includes private car, English speaking guide, entrance fees, lunch and water.

Prices dependent on group numbers:

- 3,150,000vnd/person (for one person tour)
- 1,650,000vnd/person (for two people)
- 1,520,000vnd/person (for three-five people)
- 1,300,000vnd/person (for six-ten people)



The River of Remembrance



The Hoai River, which is also known as the River of Remembrance, is a small tributary of the Thu Bon River that flows through Hoi An. The locals regard it as a symbol of the town, making it even more beautiful and romantic.

During the day, the river is tremendously busy, full with the boats of local people plying their various trades, but at night it attains a very special magic when the streets along both banks of the river are ablaze with lights from the colored lanterns, creating a beautiful ambience.

If you are lucky enough, the best time to see the Hoai River at its most beautiful is the night of the full moon. On the night of the 14th of every lunar month, the townspeople turn off the lights in their homes and hang decorative colored lanterns in front of their houses, a practice that has lasted for three hundred years. Also on full moon night, hundreds of floating lanterns are released on the river, gliding down the quiet water in a stunning showcase of breathtaking beauty.

To hire a boat on the River at night is a "must do" for any visitor to Hoi An. There are several options available from the smart dinner cruise to a simple wooden boat steered by a ferryman. Whichever you choose, sail on the Hoai river and immerse yourself in the atmosphere of Hoi An as it was a century ago. The River at night is as quiet as it is iconic and poetic.

The dinner cruises start and finish at the pier opposite Bach Dang, and last a leisurely two hours, starting at sunset. This is a relaxing and perfect way to unwind after a day's sightseeing. You are escorted aboard to a private table, with complimentary cocktail and nibbles. For dinner, sample the ocean's fresh produce, together with a selection of fine wines and a dessert of tropical fruits. There is no tour guide but the crew are happy to answer questions and it is an excellent opportunity to learn more about local history and see some of the lesser-known areas of Hoi An.

A simpler, but equally enjoyable way to sail the Hoai River at night is by wooden boat, such as a Ghe Bau. These boats have no motors so the whole experience is as if going back in time as the ferryman slowly moves the paddle forward, at the same time relating interesting stories about the area. Sit back and relax as you float down the river in the soft yellow light from a hurricane lamp hanging on the mast. Listen to the soft strains of a guitarist and the special songs of the girls as you pass the Quang area, the sound of which spreads across the river. The latter shines with the lights from the colored lanterns, imbuing a fairytale quality. Float your own candle lantern on the water whilst making a wish - possibly that you will return to Hoi An and to the Hoai River one day.

Tickets for the boats can be obtained from the Hoi An Tourist Office.

Art for a better community



About 42 km south of Hoi An, along Thanh Nien Road, can be found an explosion of color this is the Mural Village of Tam Thanh. The village, inspired by South Korean mural villages, is a joint initiative by the Korean Community Art Exchange Program and the Vietnamese People's Committee of Quang Nam Province.

The project, begun in the summer of 2016 and completed a mere twenty days later, is a huge achievement. Involved were five South Korean artists, seven Vietnamese artists and a few local volunteers who, between them, painted over one hundred murals, mainly on the walls of houses but also in unexpected places such as around corners and down alleyways.



Tam Thanh village was specially chosen for the project because of the high density of houses in a relatively small area, thus creating an 'easy-to-view' gallery effect for the murals. It is the first project of its kind in Vietnam and strives to boost local tourism and hence the economy of the village, which is a poor fishing community. The tagline is "art for a better community" and the village is now on the "must see" list for travelers and locals alike. The village is home to 20 or 30 very close-knit families who scrape together a living from the sea, having missed out on the economic transformation that has taken place in Hoi An, Ho Chi Minh and Hanoi.

The murals are vivid and bold, painted in a kaleidoscope of color - pinks and blues, yellows and greens, reds and deep violet. The façade of every house sports a unique mural, depicting scenes from everyday life of the local people, their culture and surrounding nature. As an example, the mural on the tailor's house depicts him working at his sewing machine whilst his family are included in the picture too. There are murals with wonderful local faces, both young and old, and scenes showing working activities mostly relating to the sea and the fishing industry. Included too are leisure pursuits, children playing volleyball and the art of paper-dart throwing. Flowers, trees, animals and birds depict nature.

The murals have brought a surge of interest to the village. A Community Tourism project has been launched while a Communal Arts Village and a nearby two-mile seaside walkway decorated with colorful coracles will open soon. The underlying message of the project is that art should not purely be the reserve of the privileged but that it can be a way of bringing people together.

So, hire a motorbike or take a car with driver and pay a visit to Tam Thanh Mural Village, explore this delightful place and be prepared for wonderful surprises. The local inhabitants are very pleased to show visitors around the murals and talk about their families and village life. It makes for a colorful day out to a beautiful place, which is a photographer's dream.



Hoi An Express
Expressions Of Indochina



HOI AN CYCLO TOUR IN VIET NAM TRADITIONAL AO DAI

Price: **USD 89/pax**

A comprehensive experience through the delightful Hoi An Ancient Town while dressing up in traditional Vietnamese costume, the elegant Ao Dai, a beautifully preserved UNESCO World Heritage Site which has remained virtually unchanged through the centuries.



HOI AN COUNTRYSIDE BY ELECTRIC SCOOTER

Price: **USD 56/pax**

A unique eco-tour experience exploring Hoi An's captivating countryside on a comfortable electric scooter. Discover some of Hoi An's most beautiful hidden spots, meet locals and learn first-hand about their daily routines. This is the only scooter tour in Vietnam where clients can legally drive themselves!

Hotline: +84-938 405 917 (whatsapp; viber; kakaotalk; imess; line)
Email: dailytour@hoianexpress.com.vn

Speaking Vietnamese

1. Hello! - Xin chao! (sin chow!)
2. Goodbye - Tam Biet
3. How are you? - Ban co khoe khong? (ban co kwe khome?) also, Ban the nao?
4. I'm fine, thank you! - Cam on ban toi khoe (gahm un ban thoy kwe)
5. And you? - Ban thi sao? (ban ty sao?)
6. What's your name? - Ban ten gi? (ban thane zee)
7. My name is... - Toi la (thoy la...)
8. Thank you - Cam on (gahm un)
9. You're welcome - Khong co' gi (khom go zee)
10. Yes - Vang (vung)
11. No - Khong (khome)
12. Excuse me/Sorry... - Xin loi (seen loy)
13. Can you help me? - Ban giup toi duoc khong? (ban zoop thoy duc khom?)
14. I'd like to eat - Toi muon an (thoy moowan un)
15. I'd like a drink - Toi muon uong (thoy moowan oowanh)
16. Good - Tot (thote)
17. Bad - Khong tot (khome thote)
18. What is this? - Cai nay la gi (guy nai la zee)
19. How much? - Bao nhieu? (bow nyew)
20. Too expensive - Mac qua (mahk qwa)
21. Where is the nearest internet shop? - Cho internet o dau? (choh internet uh doh)
22. Where is the nearest bank? - Nha bang o dau? (nya bung uh doh)
23. Hotel - Khach San (khack san)
24. Too hot - Nong qua (nom qwa)
25. Too cold - Lanh qua (lang qwa)
26. Coffee - Ca phe (cah feh)
27. Hot black coffee - Ca phe nong (cah feh nom)
28. Hot Coffee with milk - Ca phe sua nong (cah feh sua nom)
29. Tea - Tra (chah)
30. I like - Toi thich (thoy tick)
31. I am happy - Toi vui (thoy vuoy)
32. I am tired - Toi met (thoy mate)
33. Where is an ATM - Cay ATM o dau ? (kei a te mo uh doh)



ABOUT EHG

Elegance Hospitality is a group of hotels renowned for our well-equipped facilities and sophisticated service. Founded in the early 2000s, we have developed from our first hotel in Hanoi to the current chain of 5 boutique hotels in Hanoi's Old Quarter and one outstanding resort in Hoi An Town. Our distinctive collection of properties redefines the very concept of boutique and luxury hospitality.

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