

# VIETNAMESE LUNAR NEW YEAR

by Santa Fe Relocation

As we prepare in Vietnam for Tết (Lunar New Year), we would like to share our insights about the holiday so that you, your family and friends can fully enjoy this special time of the year. We hope this will help with the understanding of the history and traditions of Tết, what to be mindful of, how to say a few Tết phrases in Vietnamese, where Tết festivities are taking place and what establishments will be open during the holiday.

Please Enjoy! And Chúc Mừng Năm Mới!

# What is Tết?

Tét is the most important festival of the Vietnamese calendar. It marks the beginning of the Lunar New Year and a time for renewal. Festivities occur throughout the country; however, this is a family holiday therefore many of the observances take place at home.

The 2020 TET in Vietnam is "Canh Tý" and are from Fri, Jan 24 to Wed, Jan 29, 2020 inclusive: Tết Lunar New Year's Eve (Jan 24), The First Jan 25), Second (Jan 26), and Third (Jan 27) of Tết Nguyên Đán. Vietnamese traditionally celebrate Tết from the fifteenth day of the twelfth lunar month to the fifteenth day of the first lunar month. And, even today, business slows down two weeks before and two weeks after TET.

According to Vietnam zodiac, Vietnamese New Year 2020 is a year of the "RAT". The Rat is the first animal sign on the Vietnamese zodiac. It has characteristics of an animal with spirit, wit, alertness, delicacy, flexibility and vitality. It is theorized that a person's characteristics are decided by their birth year's zodiac animal sign and element. There are five types of Rats, each with different characteristics:

- Wood Rat (1924, 1984): Independent with proper pride, conforming to traditional ideas.- Fire Rat (1936, 1996): Clever, capable, but lacking sense of discipline.-Earth Rat (1948, 2008): Sober and contented mind, strong adaptability.

# TÉT SURVIVAL GUIDE 2020

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- Metal Rat (1960, 2020): Sensitive with strong self-awareness; persuasive with ready tongue.

- Water Rat (1912, 1972): Intelligent with high thinking faculty, but conservative in practice.

Fun fact about Rat's personality by blood types:

- Blood Type O: They are positive, kind, and warm hearted. People admire their uprightness and principles.

- Blood Type A: They are acute and thoughtful, for they can always sense the subtle changes of others. Tidy and orderly, they can always make the living place comfortable and cozy.

- Blood Type B: Straightforward and outgoing in nature, they are faithful friends in others' eyes. Besides, they are loyal and persistent in relationships.

- Blood Type AB: Humor and modesty are their shinning points, and for that they can

make a lot of friends. They are assertive, having different insights in their own perspective.

Preparations for the New Year begin a couple of weeks before the big day. This is a fun time full of anticipation and joy as we get ready for the thrill and excitement of the celebrations.



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## Preparations for Tét

Vietnamese families prepare their homes for the coming of the prosperous New Year with a thorough cleaning. Preparations begin about ten days before the New Year. Homes are cleaned out hopes of getting rid of the past year's bad luck. People buy new clothes, which is also considered lucky for Tết. In the days leading up to Tết, streets and markets are busier than usual. As many shops will be closed during Tết, we suggest stocking up on supplies to last at least 1-2 days. To note however that many establishments catering for foreigners nowadays limits their businesses closing.



Legend of the Kitchen God It is during this time that the Vietnamese believe Ông Táo comes in to serve as the Kitchen God. As the old year ends, it is believed that he discusses the family's situation with the Jade Emperor, the King of Heaven. Traditionally, Ông Táo returns to heaven on the 23rd day of the 12th month by lunar calendar. His departure is marked by a modest ceremony where offerings such as clothing, shoes, paper money are burned to help on his journey to Heaven.

Due to his status in Vietnamese culture, Ông Táo is a prominent character in many folk plays. He is considered a messenger from heaven, so often writers will depict the living conditions, problems, and solutions that need to be addressed by a family in their work.

Ông Táo is regarded as a family member, and various prayers and offerings are brought to him at the family altar.

#### **During Tết**

The last day of the old year (24 Jan) and the first three days of the New Year (25 - 27 Jan) are the most important days of the celebration. On New Year's Eve, families gather for dinner, with all members being present. The **Giao Thừa** at midnight, is the most sacred time with the passage from the old to the New Year. Individuals offer personal prayers to honor and thank the God of Heaven and the God of Earth for their blessings. During this time, it is believed that Ông Táo returns to earth after reporting to the Jade Emperor. Each family offers an open-air ceremony to welcome him back to their kitchen.



The first day of Tết is reserved for the immediate family. Children are given red envelopes containing money from their elders referred to as Lì Xì. Usually, children wear new clothes and give their elders the traditional Tết greetings before receiving the money. Since Vietnamese believe that the first visitor a family receives in the year determines their fortune **people never enter other's home on the first day without being invited first**. During subsequent days, people visit relatives and friends.

#### Food & Flowers of Tết

In Vietnamese language, to celebrate Tết is to *ăn Tết*, literally meaning "eat Tết", showing the importance of food in the celebration. Some of the dishes can be enjoyed all year-round, while other dishes are only served during Tết. It is also believed to be good luck to enjoy vegetarian dishes on Tết. Some of the traditional dishes reflect this.

Popular traditional foods served during Tết are:

**Bánh chưng** and **bánh tét**: tightly packed sticky rice with meat or bean fillings wrapped in Dong (Bánh Chưng in the north) or banana leaves (Bánh Tét in the south). Considered an indispensable dish of Tet, Bánh Chưng or Bánh Tét is placed on the family altars to honor the ancestors and pray for their support in the new year.

Hật Dưa: roasted watermelon seeds.
Dưa Hành: pickled onion and cabbage.
Củ Kiệu: pickled small leeks.
Mứt: These dried candied fruits are rarely eaten at any time besides Tết.
Thịt Kho Tàu: "Meat Stewed in Coconut Juice", a traditional dish of pork belly and medium boiled eggs stewed overnight in a broth-like sauce, often eaten with pickled bean sprouts and chives and white rice.



Bánh Chưng and Bánh Tét



Preparing Bánh Chưng for Tet



Hạt Dưa, Hat Bí, Hạt Hướng Dương (roasted seeds).



Múrt (dried fruit)



Thịt Kho Tàu (meat stewed in coconut juice)



A typical meal offering to ancestors.

Vietnamese families traditionally lay out a tray of 5 fruits at the altar called "Mâm Ngũ Quả". The fruits are colorful and meaningful. Asian mythology, the world is made of five basic elements: metal, wood, water, fire and earth. The plate of fruits on the family alter at New Year is one of the several ways to represent this concept. It also represents the desire for good crops and prosperity.



Fruit offering in the North include kumquats, bananas, oranges and Buddha hands.



Fruit offering in the South include custard apples, coconuts, papayas, mango and goolar fig. In Vietnamese they are "Cầu ,Dừa, Đủ, Xoài, Sung" which in the South literally is a prayer to "have enough to use" in the New Year.





Ben Binh Dong Flower Market (open from 20<sup>th</sup> of lunar December)

Similar to the pine tree for Christmas holiday in the West, Vietnamese also use many kinds of flowers and plants to decorate their homes for the holiday. Traditional plants include the **Hoa Đào** (Peach Blossom), **Hoa Mai** (Ochna Integerrima) and **Cây Quất** (Kumquat Tree). These plants represent coziness and prosperity. Other flowers may be displayed too.

# Tết-tiquette

Lì Xì, "Lucky money" is given by the older and superior, to the younger and subordinate. Parents and grandparents, aunts and uncles, give lucky money to children. People give money to their friends' children, teachers give lucky money to students, and Management gives lucky money to employees.



Lì Xì or Lucky Money is given in little red envelopes that you can buy in bookstores or on the streets. It should be given during the first few days of the New Year, but it is also possible to give a little before and after this time. It is traditionally important to give new bank notes, which are considered luckier for the recipients.

The amount of Li Xi can be from VND 50,000 to 500,000. Depending on the relationship of the giver and receiver, you may wish to give more or less.

For fulltime staff VND 200,000 to 500,000, for other staff (ie. trash collector, shared security, etc...) VND 100,000 to 200,000. You may also Li Xi their children, VND 50,000 to 100,000

#### **Bonus Time**

If you have household helpers, drivers, gardeners etc., it is expected at this time to pay their salaries as well as Lì Xì and/or bonus. The bonus is determined by how long they have been working for you and of course if you are happy with their services. Generally, if the employee has been working for you for more than one year the bonus starts from one month's salary and can be 2 or 3 months at your discretion. If the employee has been working for you for under a year you may pro rate the bonus.

Before Tết begins, you give your staff their salary and their bonus (bonus in red envelope) and wish them a happy Tết time with their families. For Employers who have already paid staff bonuses at the end of the calendar or fiscal year then a smaller amount for Lì Xì should be given for good luck.

## New to Vietnam?

Tét is an exciting time for gift giving and family gatherings. However, if you are a foreigner in Vietnam, you are not obliged to participate and need only do what you prefer. Some may want to enjoy the quiet streets around this time and keep an eye on what shops and restaurants are open. For options and information on what to do in Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, read more in our Calendar of Events & Activities and our Opening Time Guide.

#### Common Wishes for Tết

- Chúc Mừng Năm Mới (Chook moong numb moi) - Happy New Year
- Sống lâu trăm tuổi (Sowng I-ow chrum th-ui) - Live to be 100 years old - used by children for elders.
- An khang thịnh vượng (Ang khang tinh vuong) - Security, good health, and prosperity
- Vạn sự như ý (Vant su nhu ee) May a myriad of things go according to your will
- Súrc khoẻ dồi dào (Suok kewa yoi yao) -Plenty of health
- Cung hỉ phát tài (Khung he fak th-ai) -(from the Cantonese, Gung hay fat choy) Congratulations and be prosperous
- Tiền vô như nước (Th-ien voh nhu nhuk)
   May money flow in like water used informally
- Nhiều may mắn (nhew maye manh) -Good luck



# Dos and Please Don'ts and a Few Words of Caution

- DO Learn the Vietnamese greetings. If you're going to be around for Tét, join the festivities by wishing other people a Happy New Year in Vietnamese.
- DO Give out Lì Xì. Your children can also be part of the most exciting part of the New Year – give out the red envelopes to them to bring good luck!
- DO Be mindful of your belongings when going out. This is the time of the year when individuals may be under pressure to have money for the holiday and some resort to stealing.
- DO Double-check your doors and windows before leaving your home. Make sure that everything is locked.
- DO Put your wallet, hand phone, car keys in safe place. Be extra mindful when near crowds.

- DON'T Set foot in anybody's home on the first day of Tét, unless invited (Saturday, 25<sup>th</sup> of Jan this year). In many households, the father (or sometimes the whole family) is the first visitor. Many people and businesses will pick an auspicious date and time to leave their homes and/or start their businesses.
- DON'T Refuse anything others give or wish during Tét.
- DON'T: when you visit the host house, if they have son/daughter under marriage ages, do not ask their children "when will you get married?". If they are already married, DON"T ask "When will you get baby?" .It's used to be very popular questions to all Vietnamese but it's changing now as it's considered impolite to ask those questions today.



#### Local Taboos & Superstitions

- Vietnamese people extend wishes of good health and fortune to their fellows and avoid mentioning their ancestors' birth names or past mistakes.
- Fill vessels of rice, water, salt in the home for a prosperous New Year.
- Go to the pagoda to pick young buds from trees or plants and display them in your home to welcome good fortune.
- Sweeping or dusting should not be done on New Year's Day for the fear that good fortune will be swept away.
- All debts should be paid at this time.
- If you cry on New Year's Day, you will cry through the year. Therefore, children are tolerated and are not spanked.
- Shooting off firecrackers on New Year's Eve is a way of sending out the old year and welcoming in the New Year.

- Washing one's hair should not be done on New Year's Day as it will wash away the good luck of the New Year.
- Haircuts should be avoided on New Year's Day as you will be cutting your luck.
- Avoid wearing black as it is associated with bad luck.
- Avoid wearing white as it is associated with death.



Quả Phật Thủ, (Buddah's Hand) fruit, considered good luck.

# Tết Gift Giving

Gift giving is a popular Tét custom and is an important occasion for building and maintaining social ties. Much of the celebration of Tét centers around good luck, and everything is done with this in mind.



#### What to give for Tết?

Giving gifts in Vietnam during the Tết holiday should focus on the Vietnamese symbols of good luck such as new clothes for children, peach branches or anything red.

Wine, tea, cookies, chocolates are widely used as gifts.

Here are among the most popular gifts given:

#### Hoa Mai & Hoa Đào Flowers

Live, blooming flowers symbolize the rebirth that will take place in the coming spring and fruit blossoms symbolize the start of the cycle that will result in a new crop of fruit later in the year. These two distinct flowers are widely sold and purchased during Tết. The spectacular yellow flowers of the **Hoa Mai** (ochna integerrima) make it very popular in southern Vietnam.



Hoa Mai (Ochna Intergerrima)

**Hoa Đào** (peach blossom) is more common in the North as it can grow in the dry and cold weather. It is used to ward off evil spirits during the Tết celebrations.



Hoa Đào (Peach Blossom)

#### **Kumquat Tree**

Like a "family tree", the Kumquat plant symbolically represents the many generations of a household. The fruits are grandparents, the flowers are parents and the buds and green leaves are children. Kumquat plants are carefully selected for their symmetrical leaves, color and shape of fruit.



Remember, when buying plants, you should purchase them closer to the holiday as the plants should be fresh and bloom for Tết.

Historically wine was kept in pottery gourds and was believed to contain the essence of heaven and earth, nowadays; those old gourds are replaced by modern wine bottles. The meaning and tradition of giving wine has remained unchanged. It takes a lot of time for wine to ferment and distil; so wine is

people feel warm and energetic, which are

exactly what people wish for their upcoming

highly appreciated by Vietnamese. Nevertheless, drinking wine can make

Wine & Gift Baskets

year.

#### Red Items

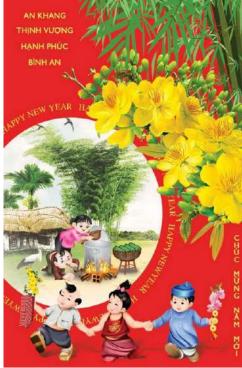
Red symbolizes good luck, prosperity, joyfulness and contentment. During Tét one can see the color red everywhere, from the ornaments, lucky envelopes, to the clothes of the elderly on the first days of the New Year. Whichever gifts you plan to give, place a priority on the red and yellow (gold) and avoid dark colors.

#### Lucky colors

Other lucky color in the year of the rats are: Blue & Green

#### **Greeting Cards**

Similar to western culture, greeting cards are also given for this holiday. Typical greeting cards are printed in vivid colors like red or yellow and with distinctive images such as apricot and peach blossom, sticky rice cake etc...



#### What NOT to give for Tết?

Several gifts are considered taboo, including watches, clocks (associated with death); knives, scissors, forks (cutting good luck) anything black (ink, coffee), anything related to fire (lighter) and handkerchiefs (as it symbolizes tears and sweat in the New Year).



Cây Quất (Kumquat Tree)

#### Did you KNOW that?

#### Vietnamese Zodiac Signs – Legend Stories



In Vietnamese tradition, it is widely known that each year is "sponsored" respectively by one of the twelve animals of the Vietnamese zodiac: the first one is the rat, then comes the buffalo, followed sequentially by the tiger, cat, dragon, snake, horse, goat, monkey, rooster, dog, and lastly, the pig. Every twelve years, the sponsorship goes back to the same animal. Let's take a closer look at the legend stories behind these creatures.

#### The Rat

The Jade Emperor organized the race that animals were supposed to swim across the river, and the first 12 finishers would take a place on the calendar. The cat and the rat, being lazy, decided to ride on the back of the water buffalo. Shortly before reaching the other side, the two-faced and deceitful rat pushed the cat into the raging river, quickly hopped off to the finish line and obviously became the first animal of the zodiac list.

#### The Buffalo

It is said that the gracious water buffalo was about to be the fastest one, but he was way too naive when agreeing to help the rat and the cat across the river. The rest of the story, as has been mentioned earlier, explained the reason why the buffalo just the second one after the rat. The rat pushed the cat down to the river and jumped off the head of the buffalo when they neared the finish line and crossed first. Therefore, the buffalo was pensive to be the later.

#### The Tiger

Even the great strength could not help the tiger become the winner as the currents of the raging river were too strong. Finally, he came in crossing the finish line huffing and puffing.

#### The Cat

This zodiac made its 4th after being betrayed by the rat in the Great Race. While crossing the river on the water buffalo's back, the cunning rat pushed the cat into the river to guarantee its 1st place. Since then, the cat and the rat have been implacable enemies.

#### The Dragon

Why was a legendary dragon with the ability to fly not in the first position? The answer is that he was being busy helping a village of farmers by creating heavy rains to irrigate a local village suffering from severe drought. That's why the dragon made it in 5th place.

#### The Snake

The snake was another scheming animal because it nested itself into the hoof of the horse. When the horse neared the finish line, he popped out scaring the horse and consequently became the 6th one.

#### The Horse

The horse with all its power crossed the river by itself. However, it didn't notice the snake hiding in its hoof. Being scared half to death causing, the horse made it in 7th place.



#### The Goat

Being a slow swimmer, the goat decided to make a deal with the monkey and the rooster forming a team in order to cross the river. After being informed by the rooster about a raft floating nearby in the marshy grasslands, the goat cut through the weeds and grass with its sharp teeth and helped the monkey pull the raft out of the river. Happily, all three of the animals rode the raft across the river to the finish line.

#### The Monkey

Its story is the same as the goat's.

#### The Rooster

Its story is the same as the goat's.

#### The Dog

Although being a great swimmer, the dog was still on the bottom of the list because of its playfulness and excitement in enjoying the river. He had so much fun that he nearly forgot the on-going race and finally made it in 11th place.

#### The Pig

The reason why the pig ended up at the end of the great race was that it stopped a bit to eat a huge meal and then fell asleep. When he woke up, he realized he was still in a race and in panic, ran into the finish line.

Source: govietnam.tours

# **Events & Activities**

#### Ho Chi Minh City



Flower Display on Nguyen Hue Street in Ho Chi Minh City

Youth Cultural House: 9 Jan –29 Jan at 4 Pham Ngoc Thach – Dist. 1. Popular with locals especially on special occasions/holidays.

- Vietnamese Calligraphy.
- Flower decoration on street
- Traditional handicraft villages: ceramic, rattan, incense, silk
- Traditional Vietnamese food
- Lion dance, drum performances, music shows and more...
- Tết Flower Markets: 17 Jan to 12 noon 24 Jan located in more than 125 places in Ho Chi Minh city, the biggest ones are at 23/9 Park (Pham Ngu Lao Street near Ben Thanh Market, Dist.1), Gia Dinh Park (corner of Nguyen Kiem Street and Nguyen Thai Son Street, Binh Thanh Dist.) and Le Van Tam Park (corner of Hai Ba Trung Street and Dien Bien Phu Street, Dist.3).

One of the oldest flower markets that are popular with locals is the Ben Binh Dong Flower Market, District 8. The flowers here are brought from Mekong Delta to HCMC by boat and sold on the riverside.

- **Crescent Flower Street & Market**: from **7pm**, **17 Jan to 24 Jan** at the Crescent Mall, Dist. 7, with traditional country Vietnamese food and flower market and Vietnamese traditional music performance every night.
- Tét Flower Festival: 19 Jan to 30 Jan at Tao Dan Park (55C Nguyen Thi Minh Khai Street, Dist. 3) include flower/ bonsai/ fish exhibition area, traditional festival area (games, calligraphy), souvenir area with music and traditional martial arts performance. Tickets 30.000VND/ person
- Book Street Festival: from 22 Jan to 28 Jan at Mac Thi Buoi Nguyen Hue – Ngo Duc Ke street, Dist.1. with theme "30 years DK1 gantry house" – protection for the sovereignty of sea and islands
- Annual Flower Street: displays will be up from 7pm, 22 Jan to 9pm, 28 Jan on Nguyen Hue Street. The opening decoration of the street will be the music band of Mouse family. This year the flower decoration will be a combination of technology and environment friendly materials
- Lunar New Year's Eve: 24 Jan outdoor music performances 23/9 Park, Gia Dinh Park, with light art performances on streets in District 1
- Outdoor Entertainment will include lion dances, drum performances – the performances will take place in front of all major hotels in Dist. 1, (ie. Caravelle, Rex, Majestic, Grand,

Continental, Kim Đô, Oscar, and Bông Sen, Palace Music, etc..) throughout February



Burning incense in Chinese Temple District 5 (a piece of paper Is attached to the incense, prayer writes name of the deceased or those who they are praying for).

Amusement Parks: Dam Sen Park – corner of Hoa Binh Street and Lac Long Quan Street, Dist. 11; Dai Nam Park - Thu Dau Mot Town in Binh Duong Province; Suoi Tien Park – Ha Noi Highway in Dist. 9. All locations will have many special performances.

Cinemas will remain open. Check their web pages for viewing times (www.lottecinemavn.com) (www.galaxycine.vn) (www.cgv.vn/en) (http://bhdstar.vn/en)

#### Lunar New Year's Eve Fireworks:

From 12:00am on the evening of **24 Jan 2019** at 6 different locations as stated below:

- Thu Thiem Tunnel (Dist. 2 side)
- Landmark 81 (Binh Thanh Dist.)
- Historical Cultural Park (Dist.9)
- Dam Sen Park (Dist.11)
- Nha Be Administrative Center (Nha Be)
- Football Field Can Gio (Can Gio)
- Cu Chi Memorial (Cu Chi)



Firework on New Year Eve in Dist. 1



# **NEW YEAR EVENT CALENDAR HCMC**

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			<b>09 Jan</b> Youth Cultural House	<b>10 Jan</b> Youth Cultural House	<b>11 Jan</b> Youth Cultural House	<b>12 Jan</b> Youth Cultural House
13 Jan Youth Cultural House	<b>14 Jan</b> Youth Cultural House	<b>15 Jan</b> Youth Cultural House	<b>16 Jan</b> Youth Cultural House	<b>17 Jan</b> Flower Markets Youth Cultural House	<b>18 Jan</b> Flower Street (D.7) Flower Markets Youth Cultural House	<b>19 Jan</b> <b>Flower Festival</b> <b>Flower Markets</b> Flower Street (D.7) Youth Cultural House
20 Jan Flower Festival Flower Markets Flower Street (D.7) Youth Cultural House	21 Jan Flower Festival Flower Markets Flower Street (D.7) Youth Cultural House	22 Jan Flower Street (D.1) Flower Festival Flower Markets Flower Street (D.7) Youth Cultural House	23 Jan Flower Street (D.1) Flower Festival Flower Markets Flower Street (D.7) Youth Cultural House	24 Jan NEW YEAR EVE Flower Street (D.1) Flower Festival Flower Markets Flower Street (D.7) Youth Cultural House	25 Jan Flower Street (D.1) Flower Festival Flower Street (D.7) Youth Cultural House	26 Jan Flower Street (D.1) Flower Festival Flower Street (D.7) Youth Cultural House
27 Jan Flower Street (D.1) Flower Festival Flower Street (D.7) Youth Cultural House	28 Jan Flower Street (D.1) Flower Festival Flower Street (D.7) Youth Cultural House	<b>29 Jan</b> Flower Festival Flower Street (D.7) Youth Cultural House	30 Jan Flower Festival			

#### Hanoi City



- Tét Flower Markets: Hanoi city has organized 64 Spots of Spring flower market for Lunar New Year 2020. It started to operate from January 9<sup>th</sup> and will be on display through January 24<sup>th</sup>. Biggest flower markets are located in Lac Long Quan, Quang Ba, Duong Buoi, Quang Ba, Hoan Kiem, Hang Luoc. Ecopark Compound and Times City.
- Lunar New Year 's Eve: there will be varieties of musical performances on New Year's Eve starting from 10:30pm -12:00am. The largest one being in front of the Hanoi Opera House, other locations for singing performances are Thong Nhat Park and several places around Hoan Kiem Lake.

#### Activities:

- Thong Nhat Park: Nhat Park: 354 Le Duan will open throughout the New Year festival and will have a lot of activities and special performances
- ✓ Vietnam Museum of Ethnology Tet activities: Introducing visitor to also participate in traditional handicraft performances, folk arts, water puppetry, games folk and to enjoy many types local cuisine
- ✓ Van Mieu (Temple of Literature): Ho Van 58 Quoc Tu Giam Street, Ba Dinh Dist. Spring calligraphy opens for Tét celebration (18 Jan 2020 - 5 Feb 2020)
- Hoang Thanh Thang Long: During the Lunar New Year, in Thang Long Royal Citadel, there are many traditional festivals and cultural festivals such as the worshiping ceremony of Ong Cong, Ong Tao. water puppetry, traditional martial arts
- ✓ Water Puppet Thang Long (57b Dinh Tien Hoang): open throughout the Lunar New Year 2020.

#### Performance:

- ✓ Baara Land: The most unique Entertainment program "Northern Essence Baara Land- Every night (except Tuesdays)- The most elaborate and ambitious entertainment program in Vietnam (Da Phuc, Sai Son Commune, Quoc Oai)
- ✓ Lim Festival: Lim town, Noi Due commune, Lien Bao Commune, Bac Ninh: 5-6 Feb 2020
- Perfume Pagoda: Huong Son Commune, My Duc Dist, Hanoi: 30 Jan 2020 till 17 Mar 2020.
- Yen Tu Pagoda, Quang Ninh: 5 Feb 2020 till the end of Mar 2020.

Historical Sight Seeing: Hanoi Museum, Ngoc Son Temper will be open during Tet

#### Entertainment:

Cinemas will remain open. Check their web pages for viewing times (<u>http://www.bhdstar.vn</u>); (<u>www.lottecinemavn.com</u>) (<u>https://www.cgv.vn</u>); (<u>https://chieuphimquocgia.com.vn</u>); (<u>https://betacineplex.vn</u>)

#### Lunar New Year's Eve Fireworks:

6 fireworks locations, starting from 12:00am on the evening of the  $25^{th}$  Jan 2020.

- Hoan Kiem Lake
- Thong Nhat Park
- Lac Long Quan Flower Garden
- Van Quan Lake
- My Dinh Stadium
- Son Tay Area



Ông Đồ (CalligraphyArtist)



Each year, 7 days before Tết locals release small carp into fresh water. The carp serve as vehicle for Ông Táo or the Kitchen God to travel to the Jade Emperor.



# NEW YEAR EVENT CALENDAR HANOI

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
			9 Jan	10 Jan	11 Jan	12 Jan
			Flower Markets	Flower Markets	Flower Markets	Flower Markets
13 Jan	14 Jan	15 Jan	16 Jan	17 Jan	18 Jan	19 Jan
Flower Markets						
					Temple of Literature	Temple of Literature
20 Jan	21 Jan	22 Jan	23 Jan	24 Jan	25 Jan	26 Jan
				NEW YEAR EVE		
Flower Markets	Temple of Literature	Temple of Literature				
Temple of Literature						
27 Jan	28 Jan	29 Jan	30 Jan	31 Jan	1 Feb	2 Feb
			Perfume Pagoda	Perfume Pagoda	Perfume Pagoda	Perfume Pagoda
Temple of Literature						
3 Feb	4 Feb	5 Feb	6 Feb	7 Feb	8 Feb	9 Feb
Perfume Pagoda						
Temple of Literature	Yen Tu Pagoda					
	Temple of Literature	Lim Festival	Lim Festival			
		Temple of Literature				

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Click to open the notification and you can save the contacts on your phone

# Santa Fe Relocation in the Community

Santa Fe Relocation are proud supporters of International schools Bazaars: ISHCMC, BIS, EIS, Bill & Boule; as well as several Communities, 4<sup>th</sup> July picnic day of Amcham, French Consulate, etc..

Reach out to us should you need kids' entertainment for your gatherings.



# Human and Digital. Consistent and Compliant. Global and Local.



HCMC: +84 28 3933 0065 Hanoi: +84 24 3941 0805 Vietnam@santaferelo.com www.santaferelo.com Santa Fe Relocation is a global mobility company specializing in managing and delivering high-quality relocation services worldwide. Our core competence is providing services that help corporations and their employees relocate and settle in a new country. These services that are delivered to a consistently high standard, locally and globally, and managed through our own operations around the world.

We enable people and organizations to work, live and thrive in new places around the world.

## We are Santa Fe. We make it easy.



Vina Nam

#### HO CHI MINH City Opening Hours 2020



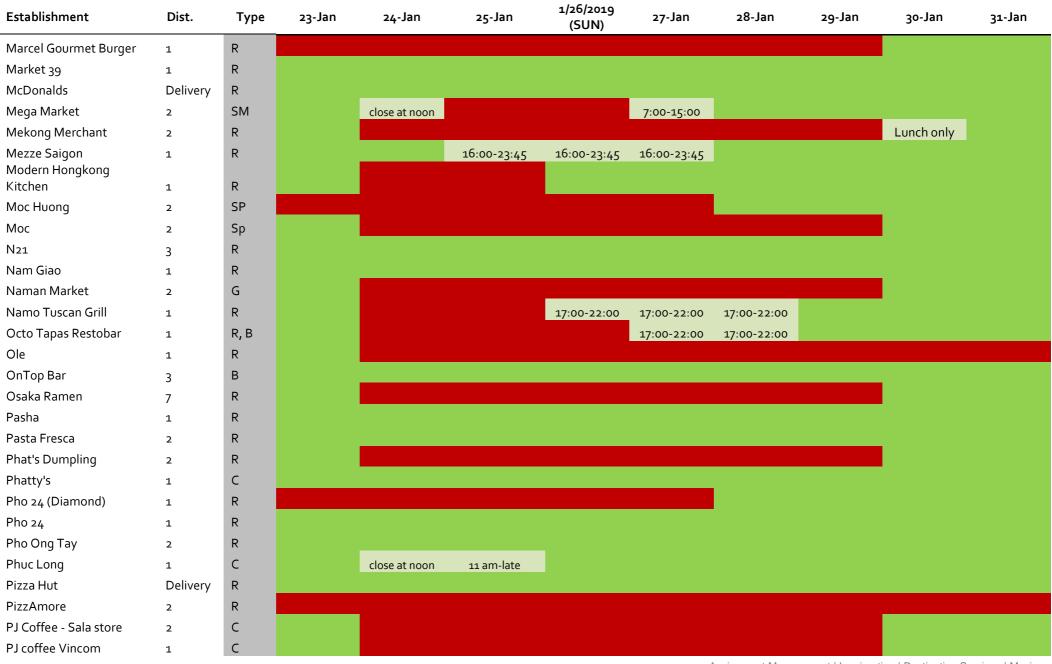
We tried our best to include your favorite establishments but we might have missed a few. Please give us your feedback Vietnam@santaferelo.com.





Establishment	Dist.	Туре	23-Jan	24-Jan	25-Jan	1/26/2019 (SUN)	27-Jan	28-Jan	29-Jan	30-Jan	31-Jan
KFC	Delivery	R						_			
Koh Thai	1	R									
L'Adresse Bistro Saigon	2	R									
L'Apothiquaire	1	SP, BS									
L'Herbanyste	2	R									
Laang	2	R									
La Cuisine	1	R									
La Hostaria	1	R									
La Phong	1	R									
La Plancha	2	R									
La Villa	2	R									
Le Banh Mi	1	R									
Le Square Epicier Fin	2	G									
Ichiba sushi	1	R									
Le Cochon D'or	1	G									
Le Corto	1	R					17:30-23:00	17:30-23:00			
Le Jardin	1	R									
Lotte Mart	7	SM		7:00-20:00		10:00-21:00					
Lubu	2	R									
L'Usine	2	С									
Mad Cow	1	R, B									
Mad House	2	R		10:00-21:00	10:00-21:00	10:00-21:00	10:00-21:00				
Mai An - VN cuisine	1	R									
Maison Marou Mana -Cocktails &	1	С									
Consoles	1	В					12:00-24:00	12:00-24:00	12:00-24:00	12:00-24:00	12:00-24:00
Mandala Wellness	2	SP									
Makhan Bhog (Veg)	2	R									
Malt Saigon	1	В									
Meatwork	2	G						Assignment Mana			

Assignment Management | Immigration | Destination Services | Moving



stablishment	Dist.	Туре	23-Jan	24-Jan	25-Jan	1/26/2019 (SUN)	27-Jan	28-Jan	29-Jan	30-Jan	
PJ Coffee - BIS	2	С									
Popeyes	Delivery	R			15:00-late						
Propaganda	1	R			8:00-23:00	8:00-23:00					
Pti Saigon	2	R							Dinner only		
Q Bar Saigon	2	В									
Quan Bui	1, 2	R			_						
QUINCE Eatery	1	R									
Quynh's Salon	2	BS									
Racha Room	1	R									
Red Apron	1, 2	W									
Refinery	1	R									
Relish & Sons	2	R, B									
Renkon	1	R, B									
Rico Taco	3	R, B									
Saffron	1	R									
Saigon Zoo	1	Е				_		_			
Secret Garden	1	R						11am-late			
aigon Pony Club	2	E									
hri	3	R									
kewers	1	R									
kyDeck	1	А									
nap café	2	R									
Sol Kitchen & Bar	1	R, B									
Sorae	1	R									
S. 1 1		6				Open at	Open at	Open at			
tarbucks	1	C				14:00	14:00	14:00			
toker	1	R									
itorm P	1	B									
uoi Tien	9	E									
Sweet + Sour Bakery	2	С							romont l'Immigratic		

Assignment Management | Immigration | Destination Services | Moving



Establishment	Dist.	Туре	23-Jan	24-Jan	25-Jan	1/26/2019 (SUN)	27-Jan	28-Jan	29-Jan	30-Jan	31-Jan
XU Restaurant Lounge	1	R, B									
YKC Hair Studio & Spa	3	SP, BS									
YuChu	1	R									
Zen Saigon	1	R									
Zeytun	1	R									
Zumwhere	3	R									
Zumwhere	1, PN	R									
TYPES											
R = Restaurant					SM= Superma	rket		K = Kids Activ	/ities		
B = Bar					C= Cafes			VET, Medical	, Dental		

G = Grocery Store

S = Shopping

OPEN

Special opening hours

We tried our best to include your favorite establishments and we might have missed a few. Dates were provided by each establishment at the time of printing, however there might be changes which is out of our control. Please give us your feedback at <u>Vietnam@santaferelo.com</u> Establishments are encouraged to contact us 1 month before Lunar New Year so that we can arrange for them to be part of the Santa Fe Tet Survival Guide.

E= Entertainment

**BS**=Beauty Salon

H=Health

Thanks to Facebook community Foodies in Saigon (FiS) for the help in collating the information.

SP = Spa

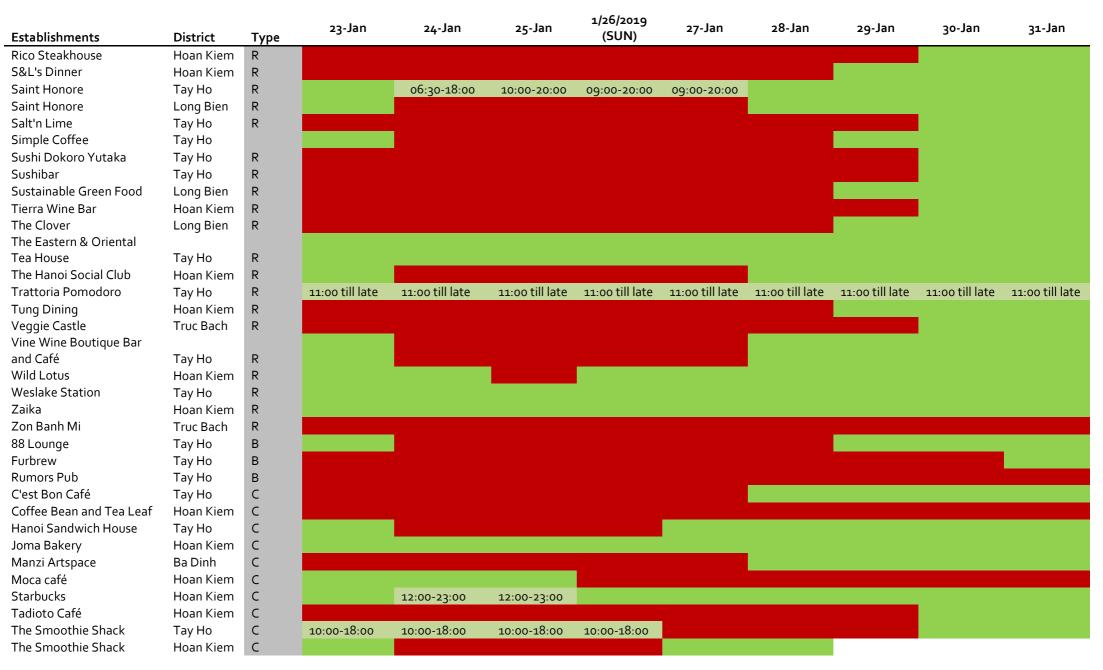
A = Activity

O = Online order



Assignment Management | Immigration | Destination Services | Moving

Establishments	District	Туре	23-Jan	24-Jan	25-Jan	1/26/2019 (SUN)	27-Jan	28-Jan	29-Jan	30-Jan	31-Jan
Jaspas	Hoan Kiem	R									
Khazaana	Hoan Kiem	R									
КОТО	Dong Da	R		10:00-15:00	10:00-15:00	10:00-15:00	10:00-15:00	10:00-15:00	10:00-15:00		
КуҮ	Hai Ba Trung	R									
La Badiane	Hoan Kiem	R									
La Bodega	Long Bien	R		_							
La Plume Bistro & Lounge											
- Press Club La Table du Chef - Press	Hoan Kiem	R									
Club	Hoan Kiem	R									
La Verticale	Hoan Kiem	R									
Le Jardin	Тау Но	R									
Les oublies	Long Bien	R									
Los Fuegos	Tay Ho	R									
Luna D'autunno	Hoan Kiem	R									
Ma Xo	Truc Bach	R									
M.A.D Society	Tay Ho	R									
Madame Hien	Hoan Kiem	R									
Maison De Tet Décor	Tay Ho	R									
Mamma Mia	Hoan Kiem	R									
Mau Dich	Truc Bach	R									
Mediterraneo Moose and Roo	Hoan Kiem	R									
Smokehouse	Hoan Kiem	R									
Namaste	Hoan Kiem	R									
NYC Pizza				16:00-22:00		17:00-12.30		17:00-12.30	17:00-12.30	17:00-12.30	
Nha Hang Ngon (Phan Boi											
Chau)	Hoan Kiem	R									
Paris Deli	Hoan Kiem	R									
Pepe la Poule	Tay Ho	R	11:30-14:00 &17:00-21.30						17:00-22:00	11:30-14:00/1	.7:00-21:30
Pizza 4P's	Hoan Kiem	R									
Porte d'Annam	Hoan Kiem	R									
Quinza	Long Bien	R									
Republic	Tay Ho	R		12:00-22:00	12:00-22:00	12:00-22:00	12:00-22:00	12:00-22:00			
Red River Tea Room				12.00 22.00	12.00 22.00	12.00 22.00	12.00 22.00	12.00 22.00			





Special opening hours

Establishments	District	Туре	23-Jan	24-Jan	25-Jan	1/26/2019 (SUN)	27-Jan	28-Jan	29-Jan	30-Jan	31-Jan
Family Medical Practice	Dong Da	Medical									
Raffles	Тау Но	Medical									
Peace Dental	Chuc Bach	Dental									to 3 Feb
Westcoast Dental	Тау Но	Dental									
Dao's care	Ba Dinh	Spa	From 22 jan								
TYPES											
R = Restaurant						SM	I= Supermarket				
B = Bar						C=	Cafes				
G = Grocery Store						E=	Entertainment				
S = Shopping						BS	=Beauty Salon				
SP = Spa						A =	Activity				
						VE	T, Medical,				
K = Kids Activities		-				De	ntal				
CLOSED											
OPEN											

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