

# GEOGRAPHY

## Tourism in Vietnam

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### Advantages of developing tourist attractions

- Foreign investment in infrastructure such as airports, roads and hotels
- Training and employment of locals for tourist services
- A commercial market for goods and services ranging from souvenirs and food to transport and banking
- Reducing poverty in undeveloped regions
- Providing an added incentive to preserve cultural icons and areas of natural beauty
- Developing friendly relations with people from other parts of the globe

### Vietnam's major tourist locations

Figure 7.26 Vietnam's major tourist locations (VCE Geography units 1&2, Geography Teachers' Association of Victoria)

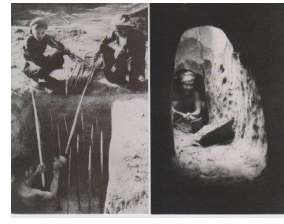


### Tourist attractions

- Natural landscapes such as spectacular coastal and land-based limestone scenery in the north



- Historic sites such as Hoi An (an old city) and the Cu Chi Tunnels remaining from the 1954-75 war



- Coastal sun sights



- Ethnic hill tribes

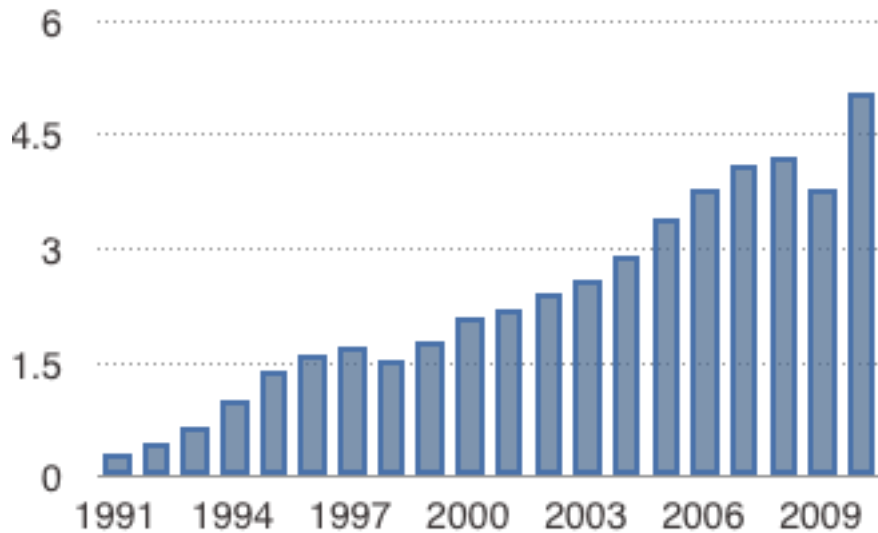


- Vibrant cities with shopping opportunities



## Tourist numbers

The largest sources for international tourists to Vietnam are China, Japan/South Korea and South-East Asian countries. Other smaller proportions of tourists come from Australia, New Zealand, Europe and North America. Tourists to nearby countries such as Thailand, Malaysia and Indonesia have contributed to the significant increase in tourist numbers.



■ Number of international tourists (millions) by year

### Impacts of the tourist industry

- Employment - 1.4 million people are employed in the tourist industry, helping to create more sustainable jobs
- Foreign investment and expertise has been bought into Vietnam helping to revolutionise the country
- World Tourist Organisation is assisting in training people and identifying potential sites for development and tourist groups
- Development of ethnic minority areas provides alternative sources of income for locals whilst preserving their cultural identity



### Negative aspects of the tourist industry

- Tourists may be regarded as walking ATMs, and promote large differences between social classes
- Tourism industry may negatively impact or destroy natural beauty of some areas through their development
- Pollution can become an issue in areas with large numbers of tourists travelling there each day
- The character of the country and its people can be destroyed through the western world impacting their development



### **Benefits of visiting Vietnam**

As a tourist there are many benefits of visiting Vietnam. These include:

- Experiencing a culture very different to our own
- Helping to develop a third world country
- Giving back to the community and having a sense of achievement by helping someone in need
- Experiencing a wide variety of natural beauty and traditional and ancient sites
- Gaining a better understanding of the history of the country
- Trying a range of new cuisines
- Enjoying weather different to Australia's
- The price ranges are very affordable

### **Bibliography**

Information sourced from the Geography Environments, VCE Geography Units 1 & 2, Geography Teacher's Association of Victoria.

