



Program Summary

Date	Section & Activity	Meeting Place	Time	Registration Contact
Sunday 8 Jan	City Walks: Tràng Tiền Street and surrounding area English	Outside of Hanoi Opera House	9:30 AM (2.5 hrs)	Stella stellaciorra@hotmail.com
Saturday 14 Jan	Excursion: Kim Lan Pottery Village English	Outside of the Pan Pacific Hotel, on Yên Phụ Rd, at the corner of Thanh Niên Rd	9:00 AM (7 hrs)	Stella stellaciorra@hotmail.com
Thursday 19 Jan	Film: FVH Film Night English sub	2nd floor, TPD, 51 Trần Hưng Đạo, Hàng Bài St, Hoàn Kiếm Dist, <i>*New location*</i>	7:30 PM (1.5 hrs)	Hang nguyenvu_nganhang@yahoo.com
Friday 20 Jan	Beliefs and Religions: Ông Táo ritual – Kitchen God day celebration English	The Hanoi Club, 76 Yên Phụ St, Tây Hồ Dist	6:00 PM (2 hrs)	John Lefthanded2hanoi@yahoo.com
Tuesday 24 Jan	City Walks: Nhà Thờ area Japanese	Số 1 Nhà Thờ St (In front of Nhân Dân Newspaper)	9:30 AM (2 hrs)	Nakamura FVH.CityWalks.Japanese@gmail.com

Friends of Vietnam Heritage (FVH) is a non-formal group of mainly Hà Nội residents from many countries who work voluntarily to promote and preserve Vietnamese cultural and historical heritage. With a cadre of dedicated volunteers and limited financial resources, FVH is proud to offer an array of events like those listed above and detailed on the following pages.

Due to financial obligations incurred by FVH while planning events, please register for events in advance as space is limited. If you must cancel fewer than 24 hours before the event, or if you do not show up, you are kindly requested to pay the event fee.

Program Details

Discover Hanoi City Walk:

Tràng Tiền Street and surrounding area

Sunday, 8 January, 9:30 AM – 12:00 PM

(English)

Tràng Tiền and surrounding roads such as Hàng Bài, Bà Triệu, Hàng Khay etc. are no doubt familiar to most of us. As we stroll these streets we will touch on the area's development from the early days of Hanoi through the French period to the present time, hear some of its eclectic stories and history, notes on theatre and the cinema and the former 'lives' of some familiar and not so familiar buildings. Hopefully you will discover things you didn't know about these well-known streets and buildings. Our simple but detailed route will take us from the steps of the Opera House, down Tràng Tiền towards Hoàn Kiếm lake, into Hàng Bài, towards Hàm Long and back up to Bà Triệu and Hàng Khay with a few interesting hidden diversions on the way. Estimated time the walk will end - approximately 12noon.



(Please refer to updated joining notes which will be sent after registration)

Place: outside of Hà Nội Opera House, Tràng Tiền street, Hoàn Kiếm
Donation: 70,000 VND (excludes any refreshments you may wish to buy)
Limit: 12 people
Contact: Stella , stellaciorra@hotmail.com

Please provide your mobile number when registering.

Notes: We will visit a pagoda and temple complex so please dress appropriately, bring water
For those who do not need to rush off afterwards, if you would like to stay on for something to eat we can have lunch at a nearby local eatery. (lunch is an individual expense not included in the walk)

Excursion:

Kim Lan Pottery Village

Saturday, 14 January, 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

(English)

Day trip to Kim Lan Pottery village in Gia Lâm district on the banks of the Red River. For many years the village also has had a thriving ceramics industry, but not as famous as its Bát Tràng neighbour. However, in the year 2000, a large quantity of ceramic artifacts was discovered. After excavation and investigation, the ceramics were recognized as being of high quality and used by the Emperors and Imperial family of the Lý and Trần dynasties. It was an amazing discovery for the village and the archaeological society.



With the participation of a number of villagers/potters who will be our local guides, FVH is delighted to arrange this day trip to Kim Lan. Part village walk, part history and study tour and a chance to observe a number of pottery techniques - we hope you will find the day varied and fascinating.

Outline plan

MORNING – walking, ancient village history and learn about the ceramics trade

- Walking tour (we walk from each key location) and information about the history of the village and present day

Always check our website, www.fvheritage.org, for more events.



- Visit the **Communal House** dedicated to Cao Biền, a famous commander from the Tấn Dynasty of China, and the **Pagoda** on the banks of the Red River.
- Visit the excavation site close by
- Museum where we will have a guided tour of some of the key exhibits.
- Invited to the home of **Mr. Nguyễn Việt Hồng** who has spent the majority of his 80 years in the village. He found the hidden artefacts and his home is almost like a museum as well.
- Lunch – (there is a lack of local restaurants so please bring your own packed lunch, there is however a nearby bakery)

AFTERNOON – visits to workshops, and watch demonstrations

- In the afternoon we will visit the workshops of 3 potters – each producing work in a different style and technique.
- After lunch we walk to the workshop of **Mr. Nguyễn** (white and blue ceramics)
- We will travel to the last 2 potters by mini bus. Workshops of **Mr. Trinh** (marble effects) and finally **Mr. Thanh** (Japanese-style ceramics).

At the workshops we will learn about the production of each type of ceramic and watch some demonstrations

- Place:** Outside the Pan Pacific Hotel on Yên Phụ Rd, corner of Thanh Niên Rd
Arrive for **8:50 AM** ready to depart by **9:00 AM**
We plan arrive back at the Pan Pacific 4pm-4.30pm. Please be flexible for the return time as depends how long people like to spend at each workshop. You will have a chance to purchase ceramics direct from the potters.
- Donation:** 280,000 vnd (excludes refreshments you may wish to buy, lunch and any pottery items)
- Limit:** 22 people
- Registration:** Stella , stellaciorra@hotmail.com
Please provide your mobile number when registering.
- Note:**
+ Please bring your own packed lunch and refreshments;
+ FVH will provide some bottled water for the mini bus;
+ We will visit 2 place of worship so please dress appropriately;
+ Updates for the tour will be communicated accordingly.

Film:

FVH Film Night

Thursday, 19 January, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM
(English subtitles)

Friends of Vietnam Heritage would like to present to its members a screening of 4 very interesting films from TPD

1, Lâm by Nguyễn Bảo Châu

A journey back home, with lots of anxiety for Lâm - a son of the forest. Lâm is no longer who he was when he left his homeland. In his homeland, where the people's mindset is very simple and different, how will they accept Lâm's new character? How will Lâm react towards his native land and his family?

2, Grey lake, yellow corn, blue sky and white shirt by Lê Thị Hải Yến

This film is a lovely present to her family by young directress Lê Thị Hải Yến. The working life of each member of the family is portrayed very vividly and cleverly, integrated with life's concerns for a better future.

3, Vietnamese wooden houses: An unfinished love story by Nguyễn Trung Kiên

The film follows the steps of Mr. Giang - an experienced artisan in constructing and maintaining Vietnamese wooden houses in a now antique style. The film not only shows the beauty of these houses but it honors those who are struggling to preserve these traditional cultural values.

4, House with 3 people by Hương Vũ

Always check our website, www.fvheritage.org, for more events.



A film about family life of a mother and her children. Even after her husband has left, she has made the decision not to remarry but to take care of the children herself. Her oldest child has had to leave school to help support his mom and family.

Please join us at our new location.

Place: 2nd floor, TPD, 51 Trần Hưng Đạo, Hàng Bài St, Hoàn Kiếm Dist
Donation: 150,000 VND
Limit: 160 people
Contact: Hang , nguyenvu_nganhang@yahoo.com
Note: *Your reservation is not confirmed until you receive our email. Please pick up and pay for your tickets on the evening of the event at the cinema (6.30 PM to 7:15 PM). As a courtesy to those on the waiting list please cancel if you can't come (phone 090 602 0960 or 090 347 5768). Reserved seating tickets are allocated on a first come - first served basis.
We don't pre-book seating but if you come early you can pick your favorite seats.*

Traditional Beliefs and Religions:

Ông Táo ritual – Kitchen god day celebration

Friday, 20 January, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

(English)

The Kitchen God or Ông Táo ritual signals the start of preparations for Tết. This celebration marks the day when the three kitchen gods, the advocates of the family, travel on the back of a fish to the Jade Emperor, the King of Heaven.

The kitchen gods then report to the Jade Emperor on the good and the bad of the family and will then bring back good fortune for the family on the eve of Tết.

Our lecturer, Professor Lê Văn Lan, noted author, historian, archeologist and television celebrity will first explain the origins and rituals of Tết to us.

We will then participate in sending the three kitchen gods, a new set of clothes (made of paper) which will be burnt as an offering to Ông Táo.

After the offering of new clothes, you can then release your own live fish to carry your family's report into West Lake, which leads to the Red river, which leads to the ocean and then to the Jade Emperor.

We will then return to learn about and experience a wide range of traditional Tết foods.

More info: <http://www.thingsasian.com/stories-photos/1253>



Place: The Hanoi Club 76 Yên Phụ street – Tây Hồ district
Donation: 250,000 vnd for adults.
125,000 vnd for students with current ID
100,000 vnd for accompanied children under 15 years.
Price includes one live fish, a buffet style selection of Tet traditional dishes and one soft drink or tea.
Limit: 40 people
Contact: **John** , left-handed2hanoi@yahoo.com
Please include your mobile number so you can be contacted in case of any last minute changes.
Notes: Please come early around 5:30pm and meet with Professor Lê Văn Lan and FVH staff and get a good seat!



Discover Hanoi City Walk:

Nhà Thờ (St Joseph's Cathedral) Area

Tuesday, 24 January, 9:30 AM - 11:30 AM

(Japanese)

This tour will start at Nhà Thờ street. We will walk around in the south part of The Old Quarter. Nhà Thờ Street is popular as shopping street, but if you know some history and find the hidden place, it would be more fascinating to you.

This walk is going to be conducted in Japanese.

Place: Số 1 Nhà Thờ St (in front of Nhân Dân Newspaper)

Donation: 70,000 VND

Limit: 8 people

To Register: Nakamura , FVH.CityWalks.Japanese@gmail.com

Registration will start at 10:00 AM on 5th January.

Please leave your mobile phone number so we can contact you in case of any last minute changes.



Get Involved, Volunteer!

Walking Guide

Have you ever been on one of FVH's fabulous walks and thought to yourself: "Wow! I want to be a guide just like that!?" Well, now you too have the chance – we have a very limited number of walks that need guiding, and you could be the lucky person to guide one of these walks!

Main duties once every 3-6 months:

- Schedule the walk by sending in a pre-written template to the FVH newsletter publisher
- Register and keep track of attendees
- Send out a reminder e-mail before the walk
- Guide the walk, check-in attendees, and collect the event fee
- Submit a follow-up report

Expected output: One activity every 3-6 months (except during summer months)

Estimated time: 3 hrs per month

For more information: Please email fvh.citywalks.english@gmail.com





Publications

Friends of Vietnam Heritage produce a number of publications. All publications are **60,000 VND**. If you would like to purchase any of these books just contact FVH at fvheritage@gmail.com. Books are also sold at all FVH events or at Bookworm.

1. Bạch Mã Temple Guidebook (White Horse Temple)

Learn about King Lý Thái Tổ's dream and why the temple honors the White Horse Deity . This guidebook offers detailed information on the history of Bạch Mã Temple on Hàng Buồm Street , including temple layout, translation of panels written in Chinese characters, as well as information about the symbolism used in the temple. The guided walk contained at the end of this guidebook provides an opportunity to explore and experience some of the same streets where the craft guilds and merchants set-up within the third enclosure of the citadel.

Published 2001

2. Quán Thánh Temple Guidebook

This publication details the legends of Huyền Thiên Trấn Vũ , also known as the 'genie who guards the Dark Heaven.' This guidebook contains detailed information on the history of Quán Thánh Temple, as well as translations of the many parallel sentences and poems on the walls and columns of this magnificent Taoist Temple. A walking tour of the bronze-casting village of Ngũ Xã , with its Chùa and Đình and the enjoyable atmosphere around Trúc Bạch Lake is included .

Published 2002, reprinted 2008

3. Trấn Quốc Pagoda Guidebook

The Trấn Quốc Pagoda on Thanh Niên Road was founded some 1400 years ago, and it is one of the most ancient Buddhist pagodas in Hà Nội . Nestled between West Lake and Trúc Bạch Lake , the pagoda is considered a magnificent symbol of Buddhism in Việt Nam, and is one of the most visited sites in the capital. This guidebook covers the history of Buddhism, the temple layout, and describes in detail the different areas of the pagoda. A fascinating publication, which includes especially commissioned drawings and photographs.

Published 2003, reprinted 2006

4. Phủ Tây Hồ Guidebook (West Lake Palace)

Have you ever wondered who these doll-like statues in glass cabinets, in blue, white, red or green attire may be? Phủ Tây Hồ at the far end of the Tây Hồ peninsula is the most impressive pagoda dedicated to the cult of the Mother goddesses in Hà Nội, an indigenous cult that seems to permeate the lives of all Vietnamese women in varying degrees. The guidebook describes in detail the complex itself, then discusses the religion of the Mother goddesses, including its philosophy, pantheon and rituals.

Published 2004

5. Lãn Ông Street Guidebook (Traditional Medicine Street)

Traditional medicine is very much alive on this particular street of the Old Quarter. This guidebook not only describes the area in its historical context and current set-up, but also offers information on a variety of Vietnamese herbal teas for the health conscious as well as a comprehensive pictorial of Lãn Ông Street.

Published 2005, reprinted 2005



6. Bát Tràng Traditional Pottery Village : A Self-Guided Walk

This guidebook focuses on the old section of the pottery commune of Bát Tràng, a village with a long history hitherto unknown to many outsiders. The guidebook is based on a self-guided walk. There are three different circuits lasting from 45 minutes to two hours, all shown on a map.

Published 2006, reprinted 2009

7. Hoàn Kiếm Lake, its Legends and Temples: A Self-Guided Walk

The area around Hồ Hoàn Kiếm represents the physical heart and spiritual soul of Hà Nội. Continuing the tradition of FVH to promote the understanding of Việt Nam's history and culture, this guidebook focuses on the history and legends, the temples and pagodas surrounding the lake. Also included is information on the large Báo Ân Pagoda complex, which was razed between 1886-1889 and left only the Hoa Phong tower still standing today.

Published 2007

8. Vignettes of French Culture in Hà Nội

This guidebook provides an insight and appreciation of the influence on Hà Nội of the French colonial period from 1873 until 1954. The three guided walks contained in this guidebook provide an opportunity for the reader to explore and experience aspects of what the people of Hà Nội have absorbed and made their own as a result of eighty years of French presence in their city.

Published 2008

9. Hồ Tây – Walks Around West Lake

Hồ Tây continues to inspire writers, artists and photographers with its beauty, history, culture and religious aspects, but it also provides for its local residents a source of fish, water and a rich soil to cultivate a variety of plants and vegetables. This guidebook covers the legends of the lake, as well as its history and future plans for this rapidly expanding part of Hà Nội. Included are five self-guided walks identifying those places of interest both old and new around the entire West Lake shore.

Published 2009

10. Văn Miếu Walking Tour (Temple of Literature)

This guidebook introduces visitors to the Văn Miếu, or the Temple of Literature, one of the foremost architectural treasures of Việt Nam and its capital city Hà Nội. The Văn Miếu - Quốc Tử Giám ranks third in Việt Nam's register of national historic sites. A leafy oasis in the centre of the bustling city, it is a magnet for the citizens of Hà Nội and for visitors to the city who wish to spend a quiet moment contemplating its rich past. This guidebook contains a history of the school and the temple, a description of each courtyard and its meaning as expressed through its architecture, translations of all the plaques, as well as quick guides to Confucianism and the Royal Examinations

Published 2010



Resource Center

Hanoi City Library Thư Viện Hà Nội 47 Bà Triệu, 4th floor Hà Nội, Việt Nam

The Friends of Vietnam Heritage's Resource Center is on the 4th floor of the Hanoi City Library (Thư Viện Hà Nội), located on the corner of Trần Hưng Đạo and Bà Triệu streets. The FVH collection includes books and journals that focus on Vietnamese art, history and culture.

In order to access the collection you need to get a Reader's Card. Go to the office (just inside the main entrance of the library), fill out a simple form, and attach one photograph. You'll also need to show your passport and pay an annual fee of 22,000 VND. After becoming a member, show your card whenever you go in.



The FVH collection is for reference only. You cannot remove the books from the library. Please note that the Reader's Card does not authorize the holder to borrow other books from the main library. If you want a Borrower's Card for checking out non-FVH books, you will need to fill out another form to receive one.

Library Opening Times: Every day Monday to Friday except Thursday morning of the first and third week of the month. Daily times: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM and 1:30 – 5:00 PM. Closed on weekends and national holidays.

Moving?

Say goodbye to FVH by leaving us your gently-used books about Việt Nam. Your donation will be added to our reference collection, housed inside the FVH Resource Centre, Hanoi City Library. Contact John Reilly (lefthanded2hanoi@yahoo.com) to arrange donation. Your books will be enjoyed by many people for years to come—thank you!



The Last Page

Friends of Vietnam Heritage (FVH) is a non-formal group of mainly Hà Nội residents from many countries, including Việt Nam. FVH's purpose is to enjoy, enhance and deepen the understanding of Việt Nam's cultural and historical heritage and thereby help with its preservation. There is no membership fee to join.

- Website:** www.fvheritage.org
Bookmark the Friends of Vietnam Heritage website where you will find the monthly program and further information about FVH, including a photo page and links.
- Email:** fvheritage@gmail.com
Address all correspondence to the Friends of Vietnam Heritage email address.
- Program:** To receive our free monthly program, please send an email to fvheritage@gmail.com.
- Participation:** Our programs are open to all people. FVH programs and events are in English or translated into English, unless noted otherwise.
- Volunteering:** If you are interested in serving on the FVH Governing Council or in volunteering for a specific section, please send an email to fvheritage@gmail.com. Also visit the "Get Involved" section of our website for current volunteer openings. FVH does not have an office, so all volunteers work from home.
- Council Meetings:** The FVH Council usually meets every first Tuesday of the month at the Fine Arts Museum. However, times and dates may change. Everyone who receives this program is welcome to attend the meetings as an observer. If you are interested in attending, please email fvheritage@gmail.com to verify date and time.
- Executive Committee:** John Reilly - Chair; Yuko - Treasurer
Helen Huntley - Vice Chair;

Student Invitation

FVH would like to invite Vietnamese students to join our events for half of the activity cost. Please contact the event coordinator to reserve a place (subject to availability, as determined by the coordinator). Students are required to present their current student identification card.

Off the Record, Disclaimer

All FVH activities, especially the lectures and discussions, are considered "off the record" and as such, may not be quoted in the press or other format. Exceptions will only be considered when proper requests for permissions and arrangements have been made beforehand with FVH and the individual speaker. In addition, all statements made during FVH programs belong to the individual presenter(s) and as such do not reflect the views or opinions of the organization, council or members of FVH.

HOPE TO SEE YOU AT OUR EVENTS!

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with "UNSUBSCRIBE" in the subject line.*

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