



Program Summary

Date	Section & Activity	Meeting Place	Time	Registration Contact
Saturday 13 Jan	City Walks: Đền Quán Thánh, stories of Trúc Bạch lake and Ngũ Xã island English	Đền Quán Thánh, at the crossroads of Thanh Niên and Quán Thánh Streets next to West Lake and Hồ Trúc Bạch	9:00 AM (3 hrs)	Stella stellaciorra@hotmail.com
Sunday 14 Jan	Culture series talk: The Hanoi Ceramic Mosaic Wall (and other public art works) English	No.43, Road 5, F361 An Dương street, Tây Hồ district	2:30 PM (2 hrs)	Stella stellaciorra@hotmail.com
Saturday 20 Jan	City Walks: Imperial Citadel of Thăng Long English	In front of Hight Land Coffee Flag Tower, 28A Điện Biên Phủ Street	9:00 AM (2.5 hrs)	Alvaro https://tinyurl.com/20January
Thursday 25 Jan	FVH Film Night	Vietnam Feature Films studio (VFS), No. 4 Thụy Khuê St	7:30 PM (1.5 hrs)	Film group Filmteam.fvh@gmail.com
Saturday 27 Jan	Culture series talk: The Art of Nôm English	Vietnam Feature Films studio (VFS), No. 4 Thụy Khuê St	Afternoon event	Stella stellaciorra@hotmail.com
Sunday 28 Jan	Excursion: Thạch Xá village English	Pan Pacific Hotel, Yên Phụ Rd, corner of Thanh Niên Rd	9:00 AM (8 hrs)	Stella stellaciorra@hotmail.com
Monday 29 Jan	City Walks: St Joseph's Cathedral area Japanese	In front of the Church	9:30 AM (2 hrs)	Kamiya 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:

Đền Quán Thánh (the temple of Trấn Vũ, Protector of the North) and Ngũ Xã bronze village

Saturday, 13 January, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

(English)

Please arrive by 8.50am ready to start the tour at 9am. Meet outside Đền Quán Thánh, the very important, old and almost purely Taoist temple with its 3.7-ton 350-year-old bronze statue of Trấn Vũ, Hanoi's Protector of the North. While the main theme of this walk is bronze casting, we will also walk along Trấn Vũ around Trúc Bạch lake and learn about a number of past and modern day stories, legends and history associated with lake (including the brick house owned by a French brick maker, the part the young people played in Hanoi's reconstruction after the French war, and silk making in the old days). We will go onto Ngũ Xã island at the east end of Trúc Bạch lake visiting Chùa Thần Quang (pagoda) and Đình Ngũ Xã (communal house). Here we will learn about the history of bronze casting for which this area was famous. Depending on time and schedule we may have a chance to visit the house of Mr. Hưng who is one of 2 bronze casters left on the island and the last person to have cast items in his house. And also depending also on people's interest we may go inside the Đúc Đồng Ngũ Xã bronze casting showroom at 178 Trấn Vũ. This is the home and business of Mr Nguyễn Văn Ứng, of 2nd bronze casting family on the island (for over 400 years) – also please see notes section below. (NB - there are no bronze casting workshops any more on Ngũ Xã but the showroom has examples of some of the work that has been commissioned).



The tour will end approx 11.45am.

For those who would like to stay on for lunch, we can have lunch at one of the many phở cuốn restaurants on the island for which Ngũ Xã is now famous.

Place: Outside Đền Quán Thánh, at the crossroads of Thanh Niên and Quán Thánh Streets
Donation: 70,000 VND
Limit: 12 people

Registration: Stella, stellaciorra@hotmail.com (01662 979 605)

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

Note:

- (1) We will start the tour at 9am as we need to be able to arrive in time to visit the Pagoda and Communal house on Ngũ Xã island before they close (at 11am/11.30am)
- (2) Dress appropriately for the weather and bring possibly an umbrella, and plenty of water. We will visit 1 temple, 1 pagoda and 1 communal house so please dress respectfully for these places of worship.
- (3) Regarding the detail of bronze casting. Note we will also run a separate walk/talk involving Mr Nguyễn Văn Ứng dedicated to the bronze casting industry in greater depth e the techniques, history and processes of the bronze casting industry (therefore please note that this Trúc Bạch lake/Ngũ Xã island walk gives a more general overview and concentrates on the stories rather than technical detail)
- (4) Bronze casting is no longer carried out on the island – the trade has now moved to another side of Hanoi (we will follow this up in the 2nd separate walking tour to be planned)



Culture series talk:

The Hanoi Ceramic Mosaic Wall (and other public art works)

Sunday, 14 January, 2:30 PM - 4:30 PM

(English)

FVH is delighted to announce a talk/discussion with the amazing artist Nguyễn Thu Thủy. It was her idea to transform the Red River Dyke Road wall into a work of art running along Âu Cơ, Nghi Tàm, Yên Phụ, Trần Nhật Duật, Trần Quang Khải and Trần Khánh Dư streets. At 3.85km long this is the world's largest ceramic mosaic and is awarded a Guinness World Records certificate. Thủy is the founder, leader, project manager of this wall, which honours the 1,000 anniversary of Hanoi.



But this is not the only project she is famed for. She is the brainchild of a great number of other public works of art such as the ceramic mosaic lotus steps in Thanh Hóa, the Hanoi Amsterdam school mosaic sign, mosaic items along Trần Vũ by Trúc Bạch, the painted mural wall in the new Đà Nẵng airport terminal and so on.....

Thủy has kindly agreed to give a talk and presentation, which will take place at her studio. It will cover the mosaic wall (the inspiration behind it, how it was constructed etc) and her other projects.

More info to come in the agenda for the afternoon.

- Place:** No.43, Road 5, F361 An Dương, Tây Hồ – the location may not be easy to find. Full venue details and map will be sent to those who register
- Donation:** 200,000 VND pp
- Limit:** 30 people
- Registration:** Stella, stellaciorra@hotmail.com (01662 979 605)
Please provide your mobile number when registering.
- Note:** Nguyễn Thu Thủy will speak in English (no translator needed)

Discover Hanoi City Walk:

Imperial Citadel of Thăng Long

Saturday, 20 January, 9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

(English)

Our walk starts in front of the Flag Tower with a brief introduction to the Citadel. Then we will proceed into the Citadel to learn/discuss the architecture and history of this interesting place.

- Place:** Meet in front of Highlands coffee Flag Tower, 28A Điện Biên Phủ street
- Donation:** 70,000 VND
- Limit:** 10 people
- Registration:** Alvaro, <https://tinyurl.com/20January>
- Notes:** You will be received a confirmation email. If you receive the message "form is closed", it means that the walk is full.





FVH Film Night:

**** SAVE THE DATE ****

Keep the date saved for our October film night.
25 January 2018

The film programme will be sent in a separate email.

Place: Vietnam Feature Films Studio (VFS), No. 4 Thụy Khuê (Enter via entrance off Thụy Khuê Street)
Donation: 150,000 vnd
Time: film start 7.30pm
Limit: 50 people
Registration: Film group , Filmteam.fvh@gmail.com

Motorbikes and Cycles

Parking fees @ the Studio - 5,000 vnd motorbike; 2,000 vnd for a cycle; 10,000 vnd for car

Notes:

Your reservation is not confirmed until you receive our reply email.
Please arrive by 7.15pm latest to collect and pay for your ticket at VFS. As a courtesy to those on the waiting list - please cancel if you can't come (phone 0948 057 157).
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 get one of the big comfy armchair seats.

Refreshments

Saigon or Hanoi Beer 20,000 VND per bottle
Bottle of water complimentary
In the alley outside the studios are number of good food stalls for you to enjoy a pre-film dinner.

Please note that full joining instructions, venue information and location of the viewing theatre will be sent to all those who RSVP a few days before the film

Vietnam Feature Films Studio is the Big Brother of the country's film industry. This is a huge honor and privilege for FVH to have the chance to hold our film nights here. The studios have gone out of their way to support FVH and truly hope that as many of our members can come to support our 3rd FVH film night as well as supporting the great staff and organisation of VFS.



**** SAVE THE DATE ****

Culture series talk & film:

The Art of Nôm

**Saturday, 27 January, afternoon event
(English)**

This is PART 2 of our Nôm series (and follows the Dr Lâm's talk on Han-Nôm, 21 Jan)

At the time of publishing our January programme, the current plan is FVH together with Suzanne Lecht are planning to screen a short film called The Art of Nôm supported by a presentation from Suzanne.



This beautiful artistic documentary film has been made by filmmaker Bill Perna in collaboration with the Zenei Group of 5 Vietnamese artist/scholar and Suzanne Lecht. The film talks about Vietnam's thousand year old script

More information regarding time, programme and donation will follow but we wanted to make you aware of this planned event in advance.

If you would like to understand more about the academic side of Nôm please sign up for the talk with Dr Trần Đoàn Lâm on 21 January which will serve as a useful foundation for the Art of Nôm film.

Place: Vietnam Feature Films Studio (VFS), No. 4 Thụy Khuê (Enter via entrance off Thụy Khuê Street)
Donation: TBA
Limit: 60 people
Registration: Stella, stellaciorra@hotmail.com (01662 979 605)
Please provide your mobile number when registering.



Excursion:

Thạch Xá village

Sunday, 28 January, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

(English)

SAVE THE DATE – an outline agenda will follow shortly – keep the day free for this lovely excursion close to Hanoi

Thạch Xá craft village (appx 35-40 km from Hanoi) is famous for the wonderful coloured (balancing) bamboo dragonflies. Originally, they were made for children to play with; the trade has now blossomed into one of Vietnam's leading crafts.



We visit the village and learn more about this wonderful and intriguing craft

2nd part of the trip

Thạch Xá is also close to Tây Phương Pagoda dating from the 8th century. It features wonderful architectural woodcarvings and decorations and 62 beautiful wooden statues. The Pagoda complex consists of three buildings built in descending order on the hillside.

Place: Pan Pacific Hotel, Yên Phụ Rd, corner of Thanh Niên Rd.

Donation: TBA

Limit: 20 people

Contact: Stella Ciorra; Stellaciorra@hotmail.com (01662 979 605)

Please provide your mobile number when registering.

Discover Hanoi City Walk:

St Joseph's Cathedral Area

Monday, 29 January, 09:30 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: In front of the Church.

Donation: 70,000 VND/ person

Limit: 8 people

Registration: Kamiya , FVH.CityWalks.Japanese@gmail.com



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 Hòa 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 inspired 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; Marie - Treasurer
Helen Huntley - Vice Chair; Stella - 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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