



Programme Summary

Date	Section & Activity	Meeting place	Start time	Registration contact
Sat 3 Feb	City Walks: National History Museum tour (<i>English</i>) walk	Outside the National History Museum, Trang Tien Street	9am-11.30am	Chi evuhachi@gmail.com DONE
Thurs 8 Feb	Cultural Series: Tết Lunar New Year Traditions: THE KITCHEN GOD (Ông Táo)	The Hanoi Club 76 Yen Phu street	6.30pm- 8.30pm/9pm	John Reilly lefthanded2hanoi@yahoo.com
Thur 22 Feb	City Walks French Concession to Thien Quang Lake (<i>English walk</i>)	In front of The Opera House, 01 Tràng Tiền, Hoàn Kiếm	10.30am- 12noon/12.30	Alvaro https://tinyurl.cm/operahouse22
Thur 22 Feb	Film night: Monthly film night	VFS (Vietnam Feature Films Studios, 4 Thuy Khue)	7.30pm-9pm	Film group Filmteam.fvh@gmail.com
Fri 23 Feb	City Walks <u>Thăng Long Citadel</u> (<i>English walk</i>)	<u>In front of</u> <u>Highlands</u> <u>Coffee</u> <u>Flag Tower</u> 28A Điện Biên Phủ	11am-12.30pm	Alvaro https://tinyurl.com/citadel23

PLEASE SCROLL DOWN THE FOLLOWING PAGES FOR DETAILS OF EACH EVENT

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 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.



Programme in Detail

Discover Hanoi City Walks – English walk

National History Museum

Saturday 3 February

EVENT COMPLETED, VERY SUCCESSFUL. KEEP AN EYE OUT OF THE NEXT ONE

Cultural Series TALK AND PRESENTATION

Tết Lunar New Year Traditions: THE KITCHEN GOD (Ông Táo)

Thursday 8 February 2018: Evening event

Governed by tradition, taboos and legends, *Tết Nguyên Đán* welcomes the Lunar New Year and spring's arrival. It is Vietnam's most important festival and public holiday. The lunar and solar calendars are linked in Vietnam. The former dictates the observance of festivals and rituals according to cycles of the moon. Hence, *Tết* dates are not fixed. The New Year starts on the first night of the first moon of the first month of the lunar calendar.



Also known as The '*Feast of the First Morning of the First Day*', it is when the new and good replace old and bad elements. People turn one year older as traditionally the New Year determines one's age. Custom dictates actions and thoughts at the start of the lunar New Year influence one's fate and prosperity for the coming 12 months. Also high on the agenda are family reunions and paying respect to the ancestors.

One of *Tết*'s most important ritual is that of **The Kitchen God** or **Ông Táo** which signals the start of the *Tết* preparations. Legend says each home has three kitchen gods overseeing the household's affairs. On the 23rd day of the 12th lunar month, each kitchen god (Ông Táo) returns to the Jade Emperor, the King of Heaven, on the back of a carp fish. The kitchen gods report back to the Jade Emperor on each family's affairs for that past year, returning on New Year's Eve. People clean their houses and offer sacrifices in order to aid the god's journey and ensure a good report.

We are delighted to welcome our lecturer, Professor **Lê Văn Lan**, noted author, historian, archaeologist, television celebrity - basically a living legend in Vietnam - who will first explain the origins and rituals of *Tết*. 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, everyone will have a chance to release your own live fish into West Lake 'to carry your family's report'. This would lead 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.

The presentation will include:

- A snapshot summary about *Tết* (a huge topic)
- the legend of the Kitchen God
- move to the lake side to burn paper offerings and release fish on the lakeside
- return to the function room to enjoy a traditional *Tết* buffet meal
- a chance to meet and chat with Vietnam's legendary Professor



Venue:	The Hanoi Club Hotel, 76 Yen Phu street – Tay Ho district 6.30pm-8.30pm/9pm
Set donation:	250,000 VND pp (this includes 50,000 vnd voucher towards the cost of any soft drink or alcohol at the bar, 1 fish per person and a traditional Tết buffet) 125,000 vnd for students with current ID 100,000 vnd for accompanied children under 15 years
Limit:	40
Contact:	John Reilly lefthanded2hanoi@yahoo.com <i>Please provide your mobile number when registering.</i>

Discover Hanoi City Walks – English walk

French Concession to Thien Quang Lake
Thursday, 22 February, 10:30 am – 12:00 or 12:30 pm
(English)

Our walk starts in front of the Opera House. From there, we will walk to the School of Pharmacy, designed by Hebrard and proceed along Lý Thường Kiệt until Thien Quang Lake. Learn about the height of French presence in Hà Nội and its influence on architecture and urban design.

Place: Meet in front of The Opera House, 01 Tràng Tiền, Hoàn Kiếm
Cost: 70,000 VND
Limit: 15 people
Registration: Alvaro, <https://tinyurl.cm/operahouse22>

Notes: please **leave your mobile number** so that you can be contacted. Wear comfortable shoes (almost 3km walk) and clothes. Bring water to drink.

You will be receive a confirmation email. If you receive the message “form is closed”, it means that the walk is full.



FVH film night

THURSDAY 22 FEBRUARY

Film programme and further details will be issued over the next few weeks.

Please keep an eye out for update notices

Venue: VFS – Vietnam Feature Films Studios, 4 Thuy Khue
7.30pm-9.30pm

Donation: 150,000vnd

Limit: 50 people

Contact: Film group, Filmteam.fvh@gmail.com
Please provide your mobile number when registering.

Notes: Your reservation is not confirmed until you receive our confirmation email. Please collect your ticket and give your donation on the evening of the event (6:45 to 7:15 pm). As a courtesy to those on the waiting list - please let us know immediately if you can't come so we can re-allocate your ticket. Seating is allocated on a first come first served basis. We don't pre-book seating but if you come early you can pick your favourite seat



Discover Hanoi City Walk:

Imperial Citadel of Thăng Long

**Saturday, 23 February, 11:00 am –
12:30 pm (approximately)
(English)**

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

Place: Meet in front of Highlands Flag Tower, 28A Điện Biên Phủ

Cost: 70,000 VND (entrance fee not included. We buy our own, 30.000 VND)

Limit: 12 people

Registration: Alvaro, <https://tinyurl.com/citadel23>



You will be receive a confirmation email. If you receive the message “form is closed”, it means that the walk is full.