



Buddhist temples, Bagan, Myanmar.

## Vietnam

:: Best for... grown-up backpackers

:: Why go now?: Opportunities for visiting Indochina have opened up thanks to the launch of a new direct flight route from London to Vietnam with Vietnam Airlines. Shaving seven hours off the flight time, visitors can now travel in greater comfort with increased possibility for 'power break' stays, making Vietnam a viable option for a two-week holiday.

Although long-haul travel may seem like an extravagance in cash-strapped times, day-to-day living in Vietnam is actually very cheap; the Post Office rated it in the top three best destinations for value for money in its 2011 Long Haul Holiday Report.

Travel back several centuries by visiting the world heritage town Hoi An, take a luxury cruise along the Mekong or have a suit made for pittance by a tailor in Ho Chi Minh City (formerly named Saigon).

With 3,400km of sparkling coastline to choose from, beach lovers may also want to explore Vietnam as an alternative to Thailand.

Book it now:

:: WEXAS Travel offers a nine-night Saigon and Luxury Mekong itinerary, from £2,925pp, based on two sharing. Price includes direct flights with Vietnam Airlines, two nights at An Lam Saigon River, a seven-night cruise on the new 26-stateroom colonial cruiser The Jahan and domestic flights. Visit [www.wexas.com](http://www.wexas.com) or call 0845 643 6568.

:: Travelbag offers eight nights at the 4\* Victoria Hoi An Beach Resort and Spa (B&B basis) in Hoi An for £969pp. Price includes direct flights with Vietnam Airlines and internal flights. Book by January 30, 2012. Visit [www.travelbag.co.uk](http://www.travelbag.co.uk) or call 0871 703 4240.