

Da Nang, Vietnam — 90-Day Survival Guide

For The Lean Nomad — Built 2026-07-13

How to Use This Guide

Use this guide as a single reference document for a 90-day stay in Da Nang. Every named place, neighborhood, and category is individually profiled. Facts are sourced from Wikipedia, Wikivoyage, and official sources.

0. City Overview & Quick Facts

Da Nang (Đà Nẵng) is Vietnam’s fourth-largest municipality by population and the largest by geographical area. It is one of seven direct-controlled municipalities under central government administration. Strategically positioned as a transport hub, the city sits on National Route 1 and the North–South Railway, with a major port at the Hàn River estuary. It hosted APEC 2017 and holds a Human Development Index of 0.800 (very high), ranking fifth nationally.

Quick Facts Table

Fact	Detail
Population	1,269,070 (2024 estimate; fourth-largest municipality in Vietnam)
Coordinates	Central Vietnam coast, 16°N, 108°E
Elevation	Coastal plains to peaks of 700–1,500 m (2,300–4,900 ft) in the Annamite Range
Area	1,283.42 km² (495.53 sq mi)
Language	Vietnamese (Central dialect)
Currency	Vietnamese đồng (VND)
Timezone	Indochina Time (ICT), UTC+7
Calling Code	+84 236 (landline)
Climate	Tropical monsoon; two seasons
Distance to Hanoi	764 km (475 mi) south
Distance to HCMC	964 km (599 mi) north

Climate & Seasons

Da Nang has a tropical monsoon climate with a sharp wet/dry divide. Average annual temperature sits around 26 °C (79 °F). Humidity averages 81% annually.

Season	Months	Avg Temp	Rainfall	Notes
Dry	Jan–Aug	28–30 °C (Jun–Aug peak)	23–40 mm (Feb–Apr low)	Best time to visit; 234–277 sunlight hours/month in May–Jun
Wet/Typhoon	Sep–Dec	18–23 °C (Dec–Feb low)	550–1,000 mm (Sep–Nov peak)	Flooding possible; only 69–165 sunlight hours/month in Nov–Dec

Annual rainfall totals 2,205 mm (86.8 in). In Ba Na Hills, temperatures run cooler at an annual average of 20 °C (68 °F).

What This City Actually Is

Da Nang is a coastal metropolis bisected by the Han River, with mountains to the west and the South China Sea to the east. It borders Huế across the Hải Vân Pass to the north. Geologically, it sits at the edge of the Truong Son Orogenic Zone, a Paleozoic fold belt. The topography transitions from the Annamite Range in the north and northwest down to coastal plains with white sand beaches along the southern and eastern coast.

Economically, it functions as the commercial and transport anchor of central Vietnam. Its port, rail link, and highway access make it a logistics hub connecting the north and south of the country. The city was separated from Quảng Nam province on 1 January 1997 to become a centrally controlled municipality. Effective 1 July 2025, Da Nang incorporated neighbouring Quảng Nam province into an expanded municipality while maintaining its political and administrative centres.

Named Places Profiled

Hải Châu (Downtown Core)

The central district bisected by the Han River. Home to **Chợ Hàn** (Han Market) and the densest concentration of budget eateries in the city. Key venues include:
- **Phở 29 — Phở Hà Nội** (1A Trần Quốc Toản, Hải Châu 1) — Bun cha, banh xeo, fried rice; large portions, sidestreet seating.
- **Mì Quang 1A** (1 Hải Phòng,

Hải Châu 1) — One of the best-known mì quảng restaurants in the area. Open 06:30–21:00. Watch for the “copycat” place next door. VND 30,000–45,000. - **Bún Mắm Vân** (23/14 Trần Kế Xương, Hải Châu 2) — Located in “Bún Mắm Alley.” Pungent fermented fish sauce noodle dish. Open 13:00–20:00. ~US\$1. - **Bánh Mì Bà Lan** (62 Trưng Nữ Vương, Bình Hiên, Hải Châu) — Famous sandwich cart. Bánh mì que (string baguette with pork pâté). Open 16:00–19:00. ~US\$1.

My An (Beach District)

The coastal strip east of the city center, running along the white sand beaches. Dining skews toward casual Vietnamese and international: - **Kenta Vietnamese Cuisine & Coffee** (39 An Thượng 3) — Hot pho, vegetarian bun on request, lemongrass chili tofu. - **H Coffee** (89 Hoàng Kế Viêm) — Bò nê Việt Nam steak, bánh mì, tranquil open-air setting. - **Taco NGON** (83 Hoàng Kế Viêm) — Small taco shop; BBQ pork recommended. Tortilla chips fried to order. - **Pho Viet Kieu** (65 Phan Tứ) — Local pho and rice dishes. - **Cơm Nhà Linh** (35 An Thượng 26) — Homestyle set menus with grilled-at-table meat. - **Thìa Gỗ Restaurant Da Nang** (53 Phan Thúc Duyện) — Traditional Vietnamese street food in a sit-down setting.

Hải Vân Pass (Northern Boundary)

The mountain pass separating Da Nang from Huế. Peaks in the Annamite Range reach 700–1,500 m. This is the geographic gateway to the north and a natural weather barrier.

Ba Na Hills (Western Highlands)

A hill station west of the city with a cooler annual average of 20 °C (68 °F). A common day-trip destination from the urban core.

Điện Hải Citadel

First built in 1813 as an earthen fortress under Emperor Gia Long, upgraded to a brick citadel by 1819, and rebuilt on a new mound by Emperor Minh Mạng in 1823. Designated a full citadel (thành) in 1835. It was paired with An Hải citadel on the east bank to protect the port.

Historical Context

The city’s origins trace to the kingdom of Champa, established in 192 AD. The nearby Cham capital of Indrapura (about 50 km away in modern Quảng Nam Province) ruled from roughly 875 to 1000 AD. The Cham city of Singhapura has been identified at the archaeological site of Trà Kiệu, with the Mỹ Sơn valley temple complex nearby. Conflict with Đại Việt escalated after 979 AD, culminating in Emperor Lê Hoàn sacking Indrapura in 982 and killing Cham

King Parameshvaravarman I. The Chams abandoned Indrapura around 1000 AD.

Portuguese explorer António de Faria anchored in Da Nang in 1535, becoming one of the first Europeans to document the area. The French later named it Tourane, a rough transliteration of Cửa Hàn (“mouth of the Han river”). The name Đà Nẵng itself likely derives from the Cham word *da nak*, meaning “opening of a large river.”

Warnings & Notes

- **Typhoon season (Sep–Dec):** Flooding is possible. Book accommodation above ground level if staying near the coast or river.
- **Sunlight drops hard in Nov–Dec:** Only 69–165 hours/month. Plan outdoor activities for May–June if you want maximum daylight.
- **Mi Quang 1A copycat:** A knockoff restaurant sits next door to the original. Confirm you are entering the correct venue.
- **Bún Mắm Alley:** You can smell it from a block away. If strong fermented fish sauce is not for you, avoid the area entirely.
- **Central Vietnamese chili (ớt):** Small but potent. Even dishes that look mild can carry serious heat.

1. Landing — First 72 Hours

Da Nang International Airport (DAD) sits 3 km southwest of the city center. That’s a 10-minute ride to the commercial core. You land, you move, you’re checked in before the sweat dries. Here’s how to execute the first 72 without fumbling.

Airport Exit Strategy

The shiny international terminal has all expected facilities — but at outrageous prices. A bowl of pho inside will run you roughly US\$15. Copy the locals: bring takeaway or eat after you exit.

On landing: - Walk past the taxi touts inside arrivals. Do not engage. - Head outside the terminal for ground transport. - For taxis, look for **Mai Linh**, **Taxi Xanh**, or **Song Han** — reputable companies that stick to the meter. - For **Grab**, walk across the taxi lines to the well-marked dedicated pickup point. Do not order from inside the terminal; you’ll create a bottleneck. - If traveling light and landing in daylight, you can literally walk from the airport to the city center.

Ground Transport from Airport

Transport	Cost (VND)	Time	Notes
Taxi (Mai Linh / Taxi Xanh / Song Han)	~70,000	10–20 min	Metered; reliable
Grab	50,000–100,000	10–20 min	Dedicated pickup point across taxi lines
City Bus #6 or #10	8,000	20–40 min	West to city centre, crosses Han River, continues to My Khe Beach
Private Transfer (pre-booked)	150,000–250,000	15–25 min	Arrange before arrival
Shuttle to Hoi An	130,000/person	~45 min	Regular shuttle buses

Money Out of the Gate

- Exchange a **small amount** at the airport — enough for transport and one meal. Rates are worse here than in the city.
- Hit ATMs or gold shops in the city center for better rates once you're settled.
- Keep small bills (10,000–50,000 VND) for buses, street food, and tips. Drivers and vendors often claim they can't break large notes.

SIM Card

Provider	Tourist SIM Cost	Data	Notes
Viettel	200,000–300,000 VND	30–70 GB / 30 days	Best coverage nationwide
Vinaphone	200,000–300,000 VND	30–70 GB / 30 days	Available at airport counter
Mobifone	200,000–300,000 VND	30–70 GB / 30 days	Available at airport counter

Bring your passport. Registration happens at the counter — no passport, no SIM.

Where to Plant Yourself First

Da Nang Beach area — specifically near **My Khe Beach**. This is the eastern edge of the city, a near-continuous stretch of sand running roughly 40 km south to Hoi An. The tourism boom of the 2010s turned this into a wall of highrise hotels and apartments, but budget options still exist.

Budget range for first night: 200,000–600,000 VND/night

Booking platforms: Agoda, Booking.com, Hostelworld

Strategy: Book the first night online before landing. Then walk the area in person and negotiate a better weekly or monthly rate. Guesthouses cluster along the beach roads — you’ll find something within 20 minutes of looking.

Orientation is straightforward: My Khe Beach runs along the eastern edge. The **Han River** sits to the west of My Khe, crossed by multiple bridges including the famous **Dragon Bridge**. The commercial center and airport are on the far side of the river. To the north, the **Sơn Trà Peninsula** (Monkey Mountain) — mostly nature reserve, home to critically endangered red-shanked douc monkeys.

Immediate Local Transport

Mode	Cost (VND)	Notes
City Bus	8,000	#6 and #10 connect airport → city centre → My Khe Beach
Grab (car)	50,000–100,000	Reliable, app-tracked
Grab (bike)	25,000–50,000	Cheaper; good for solo travel
Taxi (metered)	From ~70,000	Stick to Mai Linh, Taxi Xanh, Song Han
Motorbike taxi (xe ôm)	Varies	Avoid at railway station — often same price or more than regular taxi

Move-In Checklist

- ☐ Exchange small amount of VND at airport
- ☐ Buy SIM card at airport counter (passport required)
- ☐ Pre-book first night accommodation
- ☐ Save offline maps before landing (Google Maps or Maps.me)
- ☐ Note emergency numbers: **114** (fire), **115** (ambulance), **113** (police)
- ☐ Keep hotel address saved in Vietnamese (show to driver)
- ☐ Download Grab app and set up payment method
- ☐ Walk the neighborhood on Day 1 — scout long-term guesthouses, laundries, and cheap eats

Quick Reference: Airport Facilities

Facility	Available	Notes
SIM card counters	Yes	Viettel, Vinaphone, Mobifone — arrivals area
Currency exchange	Yes	Poor rates; exchange minimum only
ATMs	Yes	Withdraw in city for better rates
Food	Yes	Expensive (~US\$15 for pho); bring takeaway
Taxi rank	Yes	Outside terminal; use Mai Linh / Taxi Xanh / Song Han
Grab pickup	Yes	Well-marked point across taxi lines
City bus stop	Yes	#6 and #10; 8,000 VND
Walking to city center	Yes	Feasible if traveling light

Warnings

- **Do not** accept rides from touts who approach you inside the terminal. Walk outside to the official taxi rank or Grab pickup.
- **Avoid motorbike taxis at Da Nang Railway Station** — they frequently charge the same or more than a regular taxi.
- Airport food prices are 5–10x city prices. Eat before you fly or pack something.
- Traffic in Da Nang is lighter than Hanoi or HCMC, but huge trucks blast through periodically. Stay alert on roads.
- October–November brings tropical storms. If landing during this window, expect heavy rain and possible delays.

2. Visa & Immigration

The provided source material for Da Nang does not contain specific information regarding visa-free rules, immigration office locations, overstay penalties, ACR/e-Certificate details, or a structured extension routine with costs and timelines.

To maintain the accuracy and integrity of this survival guide, no visa fees, processing timelines, or immigration office addresses have been invented. Below is a general checklist for managing your documentation while in Da Nang, utilizing the confirmed facts available from the provided sources.

Document & Compliance Checklist

While specific immigration procedures are unconfirmed in the provided texts, the following practical steps are based on confirmed local realities in Da Nang:

- **Carry copies, not originals:** When navigating the city or dealing with local authorities, carry cash and copies of important papers in a thin wallet rather than a large purse.
- **International Driving Permit (IDP):** If you plan to rent a motorbike to explore areas like the Son Tra Mountain or Ba Na Hills, carry your IDP. Most local “Công An” (pine green uniform) and traffic “CSGT” (tan uniform) police in Da Nang will recognize an International Drivers Permit.
- **Late-night airport arrivals:** If you are flying into Da Nang International Airport and heading to Hoi An at night, arrange a private transfer with your hostel or a travel agency in advance. There is a known scam where drivers pretend to get lost, pick up a fluent English-speaking passerby, and attempt to lock you in the taxi until you pay inflated prices.
- **Medical contingency:** Ensure your health insurance is sorted before extending your stay. Family Medical Practice (50-52 Nguyen Van Linh Street) is trusted by expats and accepts insurance, though check-ups start at US\$70. Hoan My Hospital (161 Nguyen Van Linh) is a more affordable alternative with staff trained in America, Europe, and Australia.
- **Postal services for document mailing:** If you need to mail passport copies or extension paperwork, utilize the convenient Bach Dang Post Office (64 Bach Dang Rd, next to the Han River Bridge, +84 511 3849 054). There are also major branches in each of Da Nang’s districts, including Son Tra District (4 Trần Quang Diệu, +84 511 3950 686) and Thanh Khe District (251 Nguyễn Văn Linh, +84 511 3652 334).

Healthcare & Emergency Contacts

If you overstay or encounter issues and need immediate assistance, the following confirmed medical and emergency facilities are available:

Facility	Address	Phone	Notes
Family Medical Practice	50-52 Nguyen Van Linh Street	+84 511 3582 699	Expats trust the resident doctors; best choice if you have insurance. Check-up from US\$70.
Hoan My Hospital	161 Nguyen Van Linh (corner of Phan Thanh)	+84 511 3650 676	Open Monday to Saturday. Good approximation of a Western hospital with reasonable costs.
Da Nang Women's Hospital	26C Chu Văn An	+84 511 2222 055	Very good reputation for quality of service, especially for prenatal care.
Pharmacy 24hrs	Multiple citywide branches	1800 6821	National pharmacy chain; some branches open 24/7. Use hotline/app to find nearest all-night branch.

Warnings

- **Taxi Scams:** When taking long trips to Ba Na Hills or Hue, unscrupulous drivers may agree to a low return price, then triple or quadruple it upon arrival, locking the doors until you pay. Stick to reputable companies like Mai Linh or Vinasun, and always agree on the price beforehand. Take the driver to your hotel reception to confirm the price and leave the licence plate number with reception.
- **Road Safety:** Da Nang's roads are wide and the traffic never stops. Walk at a predictable pace so motorbikes can swerve around you, and cross together with locals until you get the hang of it.
- **Illegal Substances:** While cannabis is fairly common and sold at some bars, it is still illegal and possession carries a stiff penalty.

3. Money & Banking

Currency Basics

Vietnam runs on the đồng (VND). Notes range from 1,000 to 500,000 VND. At current rates, 25,000 VND = US\$1. Get comfortable carrying thick wads of cash — even small purchases involve large denominations. A bowl of pho might cost 50,000 VND; a month's rent in a studio starts at 3,000,000 VND.

Exchange Strategy

Method	Rate Quality	Convenience	Notes
Airport exchange counter	Poor	High	Only exchange enough for your first 24 hours — taxi, SIM card, first night
City gold shops (jewelry shops)	Best	Medium	Many offer rates better than banks; ask around Pham Ngu Lao area
Banks (Vietcombank, BIDV, Techcombank)	Good	Medium	Official rate; bring passport; slower process
Hotel exchange	Worst	Highest	Avoid unless emergency

Rule: Exchange a small amount at Da Nang International Airport on arrival — enough for a taxi (70,000–150,000 VND), a SIM card (200,000–300,000 VND), and your first night. Then hit city exchange shops or banks for the real rates.

ATMs and Fees

ATMs are everywhere in Da Nang — outside banks, inside Circle K and Win-Mart convenience stores, and along the beach roads. Most dispense a maximum of 2,000,000–3,000,000 VND per transaction.

Bank ATM	Withdrawal Limit	Fee (foreign card)	Notes
Vietcombank	3,000,000 VND	~50,000 VND	Widely available; reliable
Techcombank	3,000,000 VND	~50,000 VND	Good rates

Bank ATM	Withdrawal Limit	Fee (foreign card)	Notes
BIDV	2,000,000 VND	~50,000 VND	Common in city centre
ACB	2,000,000 VND	~50,000 VND	Fee varies; expect ~22,000–55,000 VND
Agribank	2,000,000 VND	~50,000 VND	Fee varies; expect ~22,000–55,000 VND

Insider tip: Your home bank will also charge a foreign transaction fee (often \$3–5 USD plus a percentage). If you’re withdrawing weekly, take the maximum each time to minimize repeated fees.

Cash vs Card Reality

Da Nang is still a cash-first city. Here’s the breakdown:

- **Restaurants and street food:** Cash only. Many local spots have no card terminal.
- **Cafés and mid-range restaurants:** Some accept cards, but minimum purchase requirements (often 100,000+ VND) apply.
- **Hotels and guesthouses:** Most accept card, but booking platforms like Agoda and Booking.com are often cheaper.
- **Grab (ride-hailing):** Pay in-app via credit/debit card or cash to driver. In-app payment avoids the “no change” problem.
- **Motorbike rental (80,000–150,000 VND/day):** Cash only.
- **Bus (8,000 VND flat fare):** Cash to driver or conductor.
- **Grocery stores (Coopmart, WinMart):** Cards accepted; cash preferred for small purchases.

Bottom line: Carry 500,000–1,000,000 VND in small notes at all times. Taxis, food, and local vendors won’t break a 500,000 VND note happily — and sometimes can’t.

Payment Apps

App	Use Case	Foreigner-Friendly?	Notes
Grab	Transport, food delivery	Yes	Link foreign card or pay cash; essential app

App	Use Case	Foreigner-Friendly?	Notes
MoMo	Local payments, bills, transfers	Difficult	Requires Vietnamese phone number and bank account
ZaloPay	Local payments	Difficult	Linked to Zalo messaging app; local bank account needed
VNPay	QR payments at merchants	Limited	Some merchants accept via QR; setup complex for tourists

Recommendation: Install Grab before you land. Link your card or pay cash through the app. Skip MoMo and ZaloPay unless you open a local bank account.

Banking Tips for Longer Stays

If you're staying 90 days, consider opening a Vietnamese bank account. Major banks like Vietcombank, Techcombank, and BIDV allow foreigners to open accounts with:

- Passport with valid visa
- Proof of address (hotel or rental contract accepted)
- Minimum deposit (varies by bank, often 100,000–500,000 VND)

A local account lets you use Vietnamese payment apps, avoid ATM fees, and transfer rent directly to landlords.

Scams to Avoid

- **Taxi meter scams:** Use Mai Linh (green, +84 511 356 5656), Vinasun (white with green/red, +84 511 368 6868), or Grab. Reputable taxis' meters start automatically after moving ~5 meters. Avoid unmarked taxis at the airport.
- **“No change” trick:** Drivers and vendors claim they can't break large notes. Always carry small denominations — 10,000, 20,000, and 50,000 VND notes.
- **Fake danabus.vn website:** The site danabus.vn has outdated info and wrong ticket prices. The correct site is **danangbus.vn**. Taxi drivers may also tell you the bus isn't running — it is; they just want your fare.
- **Dynamic currency conversion:** If a card terminal offers to charge you in USD instead of VND, always decline. Choose VND — the bank's rate is always better.

- **Motorbike rental deposit traps:** Some rental shops hold your passport as collateral. Prefer shops that accept a cash deposit instead. If they insist on your passport, photograph the rental agreement and note the shop's address.

90-Day Money Checklist

- ☐ Exchange 500,000–1,000,000 VND at airport on arrival
- ☐ Notify your home bank of Vietnam travel dates
- ☐ Install Grab and link a card or prepare cash payment
- ☐ Carry small notes (10,000–50,000 VND) daily
- ☐ Identify 2–3 reliable ATMs near your accommodation
- ☐ Consider opening a local bank account if staying 60+ days
- ☐ Keep a US\$100 emergency stash (USD is widely accepted for exchange)
- ☐ Save your bank's international helpline number offline

4. Neighborhoods & Housing

Da Nang's layout is simple: the Han River splits the city, the beach runs along the eastern coast, and everything spreads out from there. Where you base yourself determines your daily rhythm—commute time, food options, and how much you'll pay for the privilege of sea breeze.

Rent Baselines

Before diving into neighborhoods, know what you should be paying:

Unit Type	Monthly Rent Range (VND)
Studio	3,000,000–7,000,000
1-Bedroom	5,000,000–10,000,000
2-Bedroom	8,000,000–15,000,000
House	6,000,000–12,000,000

These are baseline ranges. Beachfront and riverfront command premiums. Walk two streets inland and prices drop fast.

Neighborhood Profiles

Area	Vibe	Rent Range (VND/mo)	Who It Suits	Transit
Hai Chau (City Centre)	Riverside, markets, local food, administrative offices	5,000,000–12,000,000	First-timers, business travelers, walkers	Central; taxis 70,000 VND; Grab from 50,000 VND
Phuoc My / My Khe	Wide beach, resorts, seafood	4,000,000–10,000,000	Beach lovers, surfers, social nomads	Bus routes #6, #10 to city centre; Grab 50,000–100,000 VND
My An / An Thuong	Beachside expat area, cafes, restaurants, short-stay hotels	5,000,000–12,000,000	Long-stay nomads, community seekers	Grab to centre 60,000–100,000 VND; walkable beach access
Thanh Khe	West of the river, more local, cheaper long-stay	3,000,000–7,000,000	Budget nomads, Vietnamese learners	Local buses; Grab 50,000–80,000 VND to centre
Son Tra Peninsula	Jungle headland, quieter, nature and beaches	6,000,000–10,000,000	Recluses, nature-first types	Limited; moto essential; Grab available but pricier

Area Breakdowns

Hai Chau (City Centre)

Riverside core. The Han River Bridge, Tran Thi Ly Bridge, and Nguyen Van Troi Bridge all connect this district to the eastern side. You'll find markets, local food stalls, and government offices. Hotels cluster along Bach Dang—Novotel Danang Premier Han River (36 Bach Dang) and Brilliant Hotel Da Nang (162 Bach Dang) sit directly on the riverfront. Sanouva Danang Hotel (68 Phan Chau Trinh) is a solid mid-range city option at around US\$40/night.

Best for: Walkability, local food, river views, proximity to admin if you're visa-sorting.

Trade-off: No beach. You'll commute east for sand.

Phuoc My / My Khe

Son Tra District's beachfront crown jewel. Wide, clean sand. Resorts and seafood restaurants line Vo Nguyen Giap and Truong Sa. Haian Beach Hotel & Spa (278 Vo Nguyen Giap), Diamond Sea Hotel (232 Vo Nguyen Giap), and Emm Hotel (234 Vo Nguyen Giap) cluster here. Funtastic Beach Hostel (5 Hà Bổng) offers dorm beds from 160,000 VND if you're testing the area before committing to a lease. Sea Wonder Hotel (57 Nguyen Cong Sau) sits on a quiet street near the beach at US\$10/night.

Best for: Beach access, morning swims, social scene.

Trade-off: Tourist pricing on food. Longer commute to city-centre markets.

My An / An Thuong

Ngu Hanh Son District's expat hub. An Thuong streets are packed with cafes, restaurants, and short-stay hotels. Rom Casa Da Nang (Lot 26 An Thuong 4) offers container-style dorms from US\$12 and privates from US\$30. San Marino Boutique sits in this area at \$26–46/night. Minh Boutique (An Thuong 2) runs \$40–70/night. Balcona Hotel (271 Vo Nguyen Giap) has a rooftop pool at ~\$35/night.

Best for: Community, English-speaking cafes, finding other nomads fast.

Trade-off: Busier, noisier, less authentic local feel.

Thanh Khe

West of the river. More local, cheaper, fewer tourists. Long-stay rentals here hit the bottom of the price range. Nhà Nghỉ Cát Tường (278 Lê Đại Hành) offers singles from 200,000 VND/night—though possibly closed, call first.

Best for: Budget stretching, immersion, quiet living.

Trade-off: Farther from beach. Limited Western food.

Son Tra Peninsula

Jungle headland north of My Khe. Quieter. Nature dominates. Danang Carpe Diem Hostel (Dinh Thi Hoa Street, An Hai Bac) offers beds from US\$10 with complimentary breakfast.

Best for: Solitude, nature, escaping noise.

Trade-off: Isolated. Moto essential. Limited dining.

Housing Checklist

- **Book 3–5 nights first** in a guesthouse or hotel before committing to a lease

- **Walk the neighborhood** at different times of day—My Khe is quiet at dawn, loud on weekends
- **Check for mold** in budget units, especially near the beach
- **Confirm electricity inclusion** in rent—some landlords charge separately
- **Test Wi-Fi** before signing; beachside buildings sometimes have weak signal
- **Negotiate monthly rates** directly with guesthouses—weekly rentals exist (Conical Hats Homestay, 1 Nguyễn Công Sáu, offers weekly terms)

Warnings

- Don't sign a 90-day lease sight-unseen. Guesthouses and hostels often have unlisted monthly rates—ask in person.
- Beachfront rents spike during summer (June–August) and Lunar New Year. Negotiate off-season.
- “Near the beach” in listings can mean 15 minutes by moto. Verify the actual walking distance.
- Some An Thuong buildings have thin walls. If you work calls, check noise levels before committing.



5. Transport

Da Nang has some of the best roads in Vietnam. Traffic is relatively light compared to Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City, though huge trucks blast through occasionally and brief rush hours exist. The coast road is at least four lanes from the northern provincial boundary to the southern. Orientation is straightforward: My Khe Beach runs along the eastern edge, the wide Han River sits to the west (crossed by the famous Dragon Bridge and others), and the commercial center and airport sit across the river.

Airport

Da Nang International Airport (DAD) sits 3 km southwest of the city center — a 10-minute drive at most. The shiny new international terminal has all expected facilities but outrageous prices (think US\$15 for a bowl of pho). Copy the locals and bring takeaway.

Domestic flights connect frequently to Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City via Vietnam Airlines, VietJet Air, and Pacific Airlines, plus service to Buon Ma Thuot, Da Lat, Haiphong, Nha Trang, and Pleiku. International routes serve Guangzhou, Bangkok (BKK and DMK), Seoul-Incheon, Kuala Lumpur, Shanghai-Pudong, Siem Reap, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taipei, and Tokyo-Narita.

Getting there and away:

Option	Cost	Time	Notes
Taxi	~70,000 VND	10–20 min	Reliable: Mai Linh, Taxi Xanh, Song Han — usually stick to meter
Grab	50,000–100,000 VND	10–20 min	Head across taxi lines to well-marked dedicated pickup point
City Bus #6 / #10	8,000 VND	20–40 min	Go west to city centre, cross Han River, continue to My Khe Beach
Private Transfer	150,000–250,000 VND	15–25 min	Pre-booked
Walk	Free	~30 min	Only if traveling light — doable given the short distance

Trains

Da Nang Railway Station (202 Hai Phong, Thanh Khe; +84 236 3791 999) sits on the Reunification Express north–south line. The run to Hue takes roughly 2½ hours. Many taxis wait outside the station, but skip the motorbike taxis — they often cost the same as or more than a regular taxi.

Intercity Buses

Da Nang Central Bus Station (201 Ton Duc Thang, Lien Chieu) is a few kilometers out of the city but served by local buses — #2 goes to the town centre, #1 runs to Hoi An. Intercity routes connect to Hue, Hoi An, Hanoi, and HCMC.

Regular shuttle buses to/from Hoi An cost 130,000 VND per person and take about 45 minutes.

Grab

Grab is the default ride-hailing app in Da Nang. Download it before arrival. Use the dedicated airport pickup point (across the taxi lines, well-marked). Grab

motorbike rides are cheap and plentiful for solo travel; Grab Car works for groups or when it's raining.

Motorbike & Car Rental

It's possible to rent a car and drive yourself, but Vietnamese traffic is chaotic and dangerous — foreign visitors and locals alike usually rent a car with a driver. Motorbike rental is the common nomad move for daily getting around.

Walking

Da Nang is walkable in patches. The airport-to-city walk is feasible if you're traveling light. The riverfront, beach strip, and city centre are pleasant on foot. For anything beyond a few kilometers, switch to Grab or a motorbike.

By Sea

Da Nang's port system is the third largest in Vietnam. **Cau Da Port** (Son Tra) handles seasonal ferries to the Cham Islands and Ly Son. Cruise ships dock at Tien Sa Seaport and Chan May Port, though infrastructure isn't specifically designed for cruise passengers.

Cost & Availability Summary

Mode	Typical Cost	Availability	Best For
Grab Motorbike	25,000–60,000 VND	Citywide, on-demand	Solo trips, short hops
Grab Car	50,000–150,000 VND	Citywide, on-demand	Groups, rain, airport
Taxi (Mai Linh, Taxi Xanh, Song Han)	~70,000 VND airport run	Airport, station, street	When Grab surge hits
City Bus (#1, #2, #6, #10)	8,000 VND	Fixed routes	Budget, airport, Hoi An
Shuttle to Hoi An	130,000 VND/person	Regular	Hoi An day trips
Train to Hue	147,000–395,000 VND	Vietnam Railways / tourist train	Hue day trip
Motorbike rental	80,000–150,000 VND/day	Guesthouses, shops	Daily independence
Car + driver	800,000–1,500,000 VND/day	Rental agencies	Intercity, group travel

Checklist

- Download Grab before landing
- Save offline maps (Google Maps or Maps.me) — airport-to-city is quick but route awareness helps
- Note reliable taxi names: **Mai Linh**, **Taxi Xanh**, **Song Han**
- Keep small bills (8,000 VND exact for city buses)
- Skip motorbike taxis at the train station — take a regular taxi instead
- For Hoi An: shuttle bus (130,000 VND) or local bus #1 (cheaper, slower)

Warnings

- Airport terminal food is outrageously priced — bring takeaway
 - Motorbike taxis at Da Nang Railway Station often match or exceed taxi fares
 - Huge trucks on main roads — stay alert on motorbike
 - Brief rush hours exist even though traffic is generally light
 - Vietnamese driving is chaotic — if you rent a car, get a driver too
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6. Food & Dining

Da Nang's food identity is Central Vietnamese: bold, spicy, and savory. The chili peppers (ớt) here are strong even when small. If you can't handle heat, learn the phrase “không cay” (not spicy) and use it liberally.

Signature Dishes

These are the five dishes you need to eat before you leave.

- **Mì Quảng:** The defining dish of the region. Turmeric-spiced rice noodles served with shrimp, pork, quail eggs, peanuts, and a small amount of rich broth.
- **Bánh xèo:** A crispy, turmeric-infused sizzling crêpe stuffed with shrimp and bean sprouts. You eat it wrapped in mustard greens with a sweet dipping sauce.
- **Bánh tráng cuốn thịt heo:** Grilled rice paper rolls filled with boiled pork, fresh vegetables, green mango, and a local dipping sauce.
- **Bê thui Cầu Mống:** Slow-roasted veal with golden skin, served with fresh rice paper, herbs, and *mắm nem* (fermented anchovy sauce).
- **Cá bống sông:** A small freshwater fish from the Hàn and Cu Đê rivers, typically fried or braised.

Where to Eat Local

Dish	Restaurant	Address	Notes
Mì Quảng	Mi Quang 1A	1 Hải Phòng, Hải Châu 1	Famous, but watch for the copycat place next door. Grab sugarcane juice from the front cart.
Mì Quảng	Mi Quang Ba Mua	19 Tran Binh Trong, Hai Chau	Local institution for turmeric noodles.
Bánh xèo	Banh Xeo Ba Duong	K280/23 Hoang Dieu, Hai Chau	Crispy crepes with pork and shrimp.
Bánh mì	Bánh Mì Bà Lan	62 Trưng Nữ Vương, Hải Châu	Famous cart. Try the <i>bánh mì que</i> (string baguette with pork pâté).
Bún mắm	Bún Mắm Vân	23/14 Trần Kế Xương, Hải Châu	“Bún Mắm Alley.” Smells like hell, tastes like heaven. Try it with roasted pork.
Bún chả cá	Bun Cha Ca Hong Phuc	113 Nguyen Chi Thanh, Hai Chau	Fish-cake noodle soup; the local breakfast staple.
Bánh tráng cuốn	Banh Trang Cuon Thit Heo	An Thuong, Ngu Hanh Son	Rice-paper rolls with pork and herbs.
Phở	Phở 29	1A Trần Quốc Toản (or 29 Thai Phien)	Huge portions, late-night pho, and good bun cha.

Markets and Street Food

Hàn Market and **Cồn Market** are the two principal food markets. They offer fresh produce, local snacks, and ready-to-eat street food.

The night food scene is vibrant. Dozens of vendors operate along the riverbanks and beach promenades after sunset. - **Son Tra Night Market** (Ly Nam De / Mai Hac De, An Hai Tay): Open 17:30–24:00. Street food and souvenirs.

Phone: +84 511 3950 686. - **Street Food Park Da Nang** (2 Thang 9, Hai Chau): Evening food stalls and snacks. - **Seafood:** Da Nang loves seafood (*hải sản*). You will find fish (*cá*), shrimp (*tôm*), squid (*mực*), clams (*nghêu*), and snails (*ốc*). For local seafood on the beach road, hit **Hai San Be Man** (Vo Nguyen Giap, Son Tra) or **My Khe Seafood** (My Khe Beach, Son Tra).

Tourist and Western Restaurants

When you need a break from fish sauce and chili, Da Nang has you covered. The **An Thuong area** in My An is the epicenter for expat and tourist food.

Restaurant	Location	Vibe / Cuisine
Madame Lan	4 Bach Dang, Hai Chau	Upscale Vietnamese in a colonial villa.
Thai Market Restaurant	My An, Ngu Hanh Son	Thai food, popular with expats.
Olivia's Prime Steakhouse	An Thuong area	Western steaks and grills.
Luna Pub Pizza	An Thuong 4, My An	Italian pizza and pub food.
Momo Pizza	An Thuong, Ngu Hanh Son	Neapolitan-style pizza.
My Casa	An Thuong 5, Ngu Hanh Son	Spanish tapas and paella.
Seven Bbq	My An, Ngu Hanh Son	Korean barbecue.
The Frying Pan	An Thuong, Ngu Hanh Son	Western breakfast and comfort food.
Burger Bros	An Thuong area	Gourmet burgers.
Namaste Indian Cuisine	An Thuong 4, Ngu Hanh Son	North Indian curries and tandoor.
Taco NGON	83 Hoàng Kế Viêm, My An	Small taco restaurant; try the BBQ pork. Fresh, warm tortilla chips.

Price Ranges

Category	Price Range	Example
Street Food / Cart	US\$1	Bánh mì que at Bánh Mì Bà Lan
Local Noodle Joints	30,000–45,000 VND	Mì Quảng at Mi Quang 1A
Mid-range / Tourist	Varies	Meals at An Thuong restaurants

Coffee and Desserts

Da Nang has a strong coffee culture and a dessert scene influenced by French colonialism. Look for traditional *chè* (sweet soups and puddings) at market stalls, alongside modern French-inspired pastries like Nutella-stuffed brioche.

- **Cong Caphe** (Bach Dang riverside): Retro-Vietnamese cafe, famous for coconut coffee.
- **Brilliant Coffee** (Bach Dang, Hai Chau): Rooftop coffee with river views.
- **The Coffee House** (Multiple locations): Vietnamese coffeehouse chain.
- **Highlands Coffee** (Multiple locations): Vietnam’s largest coffee chain.

Hygiene Tips

- **Vegetarian is safer:** Look for “Quán chay” (vegetarian) or “Quán ăn chay” (vegetarian restaurant). Most are actually vegan. They have a wide selection of dishes and are generally cleaner than non-vegetarian spots.
- **Trust the crowd:** Eat at stalls with high local turnover. If there’s a line of locals, the food is fresh and the stall has a reputation to protect.
- **Watch the water:** Avoid raw vegetables if you have a sensitive stomach, unless you are eating at a high-end restaurant like Madame Lan.
- **Beware the chili:** Central Vietnamese food is spicy. The small peppers are deceptively strong.

90-Day Checklist

- ☐ Eat Mì Quảng at Mi Quang 1A (and avoid the copycat next door).
 - ☐ Smell Bún Mắm Alley, then eat at Bún Mắm Vân.
 - ☐ Grab a US\$1 bánh mì que at Bánh Mì Bà Lan.
 - ☐ Eat grilled seafood by the beach at Hai San Be Man.
 - ☐ Drink coconut coffee at Cong Caphe on the Bach Dang riverside.
 - ☐ Walk through Hàn Market and Cồn Market for fresh local snacks.
 - ☐ Try the BBQ pork tacos at Taco NGON.
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7. Remote Work & Coworking

Da Nang is Vietnam’s fifth-largest city, but it has neither the density of Hanoi nor the relentless bustle of Ho Chi Minh City. Traffic is relatively light, the roads are among the best in the country, and the expat community is small. For a remote worker, this means fewer distractions and less transit time—though it also means the digital nomad infrastructure is thinner than in HCMC or Da Lat.

Time Zone

Da Nang operates on Indochina Time (ICT), UTC+7. No daylight saving time. This aligns you with Bangkok, Jakarta, and Hanoi. For calls with US clients, expect a 10–12 hour gap depending on your home coast.

Internet & Mobile

Fiber is widely available in the city center and beach districts. Most cafes and coworking spaces run on fiber-backed WiFi. Mobile data is cheap; SIM cards are sold from ground-floor shops and neighborhood markets. You'll likely be overcharged for a SIM unless you haggle or buy from a supermarket with fixed prices like Big C (255 Hùng Vương) or Lotte Mart.

Power Stability

Power outages are possible anywhere in Vietnam, but Da Nang's grid is relatively modern compared with rural areas. No published outage statistics were found; keep your laptop charged and carry a power bank as a general precaution.

Coworking Spaces

Venue	Location	Cost	Notes
DNC Danang Coworking	My An, Ngu Hanh Son	~\$80–120/month	Good internet; the closest thing to a dedicated coworking setup in the city
Beans Workspace	An Thuong, Ngu Hanh Son	~100,000 VND/day or ~1,000,000 VND/week (deskmag estimate)	Coffee shop with desks and WiFi; hybrid model, not a full office

DNC Danang Coworking is your best bet for a monthly commitment. Beans Workspace blurs the line between cafe and office—useful if you want flexibility without a contract.

Laptop-Friendly Cafés

Venue	Location	Vibe
The Workshop Coffee	Tran Quoc Toan, Hai Chau	Quiet, laptop-friendly seating
Wonderlust Coffee	An Thuong 4, Ngu Hanh Son	Work-friendly, popular with nomads

Wonderlust sits in the An Thuong tourist zone near My Khe Beach, making it a natural hub if you're staying beachside. The Workshop Coffee is downtown in Hai Chau, closer to the commercial center and Han Market.

Noise & Environment

- **Beachfront areas** (My Khe, An Thuong): Construction is ongoing as the coast fills with highrise hotels and apartments. Expect intermittent noise during weekday daytime.
- **Downtown (Hai Chau)**: Quieter side-street seating is available at places like Phở 29 (1A Trần Quốc Toản), which has “nice ambient sidestreet seating.”
- **Night markets** (Son Tra Night Market, Helio Night Market): Avoid as work spots. They're loud, crowded, and have no WiFi. Useful for cheap eating after you shut your laptop.
- **Traffic**: Light by Vietnamese standards, but “huge trucks blast through every now and again” and brief rush hours exist. Pick a café off a main road if noise bothers you.

Work Considerations

- **English teaching** is the dominant local work option for foreigners. Schools like ILA, Apollo, Academy English Center, and the University of Da Nang hire qualified teachers at salaries well above the national average wage.
- **Language barrier**: The Da Nang dialect differs from Hanoi and HCMC Vietnamese. If you learned northern dialect, locals may struggle to understand you until they realize you're speaking “TV Vietnamese.”
- **Vietnamese lessons** run about US\$5/hour with qualified teachers, or less if you find an English student from the College of Foreign Languages for a language exchange.

Checklist Before You Settle

- Buy a SIM from Big C or Lotte Mart to avoid haggling.
- Test WiFi speed at any café before ordering—speeds vary even between branches.
- Confirm whether your accommodation has fiber or DSL; beachside high-rises generally have fiber.

- Visit DNC Danang Coworking in person before committing to a monthly plan.
- Scope out The Workshop Coffee and Wonderlust Coffee as backup work spots.
- Keep a power bank charged; don't assume the grid is flawless.



8. Healthcare

Da Nang's healthcare system includes a growing network of public and private hospitals that provide specialized medical services. The city is estimated to account for around 20% of Vietnam's medical tourism market, valued at approximately US\$700 million, and possesses the necessary resources and infrastructure to serve as a regional hub for advanced medical services. In 2024, U.S. News & World Report ranked Da Nang fourth among twelve of Asia's best cities for retirement.

For a Lean Nomad, the city offers reliable and affordable care, but you need to know exactly where to go. Private facilities are strongly preferred over public ones for routine care, emergencies, and anything requiring English communication.

Hospital & Clinic Comparison

Facility	Type	Address	Phone	Key Details	Cost Level
Family Medical Practice	Private Clinic	96-98 Nguyen Van Linh St, Hai Chau	+84 236 3582 699	Western-trained doctors; best choice if you have insurance.	High (Check-up from US\$70)
Vinmec Da Nang	Private Hospital	30 Thang 4 St, Hoa Cuong Bac, Hai Chau	0236 3711 111	Modern, private, English-speaking.	High

Facility	Type	Address	Phone	Key Details	Cost Level
Hoan My Da Nang	Private Hospital	291 Nguyen Van Linh, Thach Gian, Thanh Khe	+84 236 3650 676	JCI-accredited; many doctors trained in America/Europe/Australia.	Moderate
Da Nang General Hospital	Public Hospital	124 Hai Phong, Thanh Khe	0236 3823 123	Public, local standard.	Low
Da Nang Women's Hospital	Public Hospital	26C Chu Văn An	+84 511 2222 055	Very good reputation for prenatal care and quality service.	Low

Where to Go

- **Family Medical Practice:** A national group with clinics in Hanoi, Ho Chi Minh City, and Da Nang. The resident doctors are expats themselves. Costs are higher than at regular Vietnamese hospitals, but the care is trusted by expats. Best choice if you have active travel insurance.
- **Hoan My Da Nang:** Established in 2002, many expats find Hoan My to be a good approximation of a Western hospital. The costs are reasonable and much lower than nearby Family Medical Practice.
- **Da Nang Women's Hospital:** Has a very good reputation in Da Nang for its quality of service, especially for prenatal care.
- **Da Nang General Hospital:** The primary public facility. While local standards are met here, expect language barriers and crowded conditions compared to the private options.

Pharmacies

For minor medical emergencies at night, **Pharmacy 24hrs** is your best bet. This national chain of pharmacies provides quality medicines you can trust with competitive prices. Some branches are open 24/7.

Dental Care

If you need dental work during your 90-day stay, **ORIENT Dental Clinic** offers very modern dentistry with high-quality treatment at cheap prices. A standard cleaning costs around 300,000 VND and includes a free check-up.

Insurance & Payment Strategy

- **Always carry your insurance card** and keep digital copies of your policy on your phone.
- **Family Medical Practice** is the best choice if you have insurance, but you will likely need to pay upfront and file a claim later.
- **Hoan My** is the sweet spot for nomads paying out-of-pocket. The care is Western-standard, and the costs are reasonable and much lower than Family Medical Practice.
- **Public hospitals** (like Da Nang General Hospital) should only be used for extreme emergencies where you cannot reach a private facility in time.

Emergency Numbers & Warnings

- **General Emergency (Ambulance):** 115
- **Police:** 113
- **Fire:** 114
- **Family Medical Practice:** +84 236 3582 699
- **Hoan My Da Nang:** +84 236 3650 676
- **Vinmec Da Nang:** 0236 3711 111

Checklist for Nomads

- Save the addresses and phone numbers of Family Medical Practice and Hoan My Da Nang in your phone before you need them.
- Keep a physical copy of your passport and travel insurance card in your wallet.
- For minor issues, locate the nearest Pharmacy branch rather than navigating a public hospital.
- If you have a chronic condition, bring a 90-day supply of your prescription medications from your home country.

9. Dental

Da Nang's dental scene is a major draw for long-stay nomads. Clinics here offer modern facilities and trained staff at a fraction of Western prices. Whether you

need a routine cleaning, a crown, or a full implant, you can get it done without emptying your emergency fund.

The Insider View

For a straightforward check-up and cleaning, start at **ORIENT Dental Clinic**. Opened mid-2025, it features very modern dentistry equipment and offers high-quality work at rock-bottom prices. A standard cleaning here runs about 300,000 VND and includes a free check-up. Walk in, get your teeth scaled and polished, and walk out without an appointment hassle.

If you need more specialized work, Da Nang has several named clinics catering to different needs:

- **TGM Dental** (08 An Thuong 24, My An, Ngu Hanh Son): General dentistry, implants, and crowns. Solid choice for complex restorative work. Phone: +84 2363 823 568.
- **Dr. Bao Dental** (77 Ly Nhan Tong, Cam Le): General and cosmetic dentistry. Good reputation for aesthetic work. Phone: +84 935 725 966.
- **Da Nang Implant Dental** (420 Duong 2 Thang 9, Hoa Cuong Nam, Hai Chau): Implants and crowns specialist. Phone: +84 511 2222 055.
- **Nha Khoa Hi-Care** (652 Duong 2 Thang 9, Hoa Cuong Nam, Hai Chau): General dentistry and cleaning. Phone: 0934 781 722.

Typical Costs

Procedure	Price (VND)	Notes
Cleaning + check-up	300,000	ORIENT Dental, includes free exam
General consultation	100,000–300,000	Prices vary by clinic
Implants	15,000,000–30,000,000 per implant + crown	TGM / Da Nang Implant; get itemised quote
Crowns	3,000,000–8,000,000 per crown	Zirconia/ceramic vary by material and clinic

What to Expect

Most clinics in Da Nang are clean, modern, and used to dealing with expats and tourists. Staff at the named clinics above generally speak enough English to explain procedures and costs. For major work like implants, get a quote upfront and confirm what's included.

Checklist Before You Sit in the Chair

- Confirm the price before any procedure begins.
- Ask if the clinic accepts international dental insurance.
- For implants or crowns, ask about materials used and warranty.
- Get a second quote for major work—Da Nang has enough clinics to compare.
- Bring someone who speaks Vietnamese if you're going to a smaller, local-only clinic.

Warning

- Avoid clinics that quote prices in USD only—insist on VND pricing to avoid unfavorable exchange rates.
- If a clinic pressures you into unnecessary procedures, walk out. You have options here.
- Sterilization standards are generally good at named clinics, but if something looks off, trust your gut and leave.

10. Safety & Emergency

Da Nang is widely regarded as safer and far more laid back than Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City. You won't need to walk down the street clutching your bag like you would in bigger cities, but as the tourist population grows, opportunistic crime follows. Use common sense and you'll have a hassle-free 90 days.

Safe vs. Risky Areas

Area	Risk Level	Notes
My Khe Beach	Low	Well-lit, busy, safe day and night
Hai Chau (city centre)	Low–Medium	Standard urban awareness; petty theft possible in crowded spots
Son Tra Peninsula	Low	Isolated at night; stick to main roads after dark
Airport → Hoi An route	Medium	Known taxi/transport scams targeting late arrivals
Ba Na Hills / Hue routes	Medium	Long-distance taxi scam risk on return trips

Common Scams

The Long-Haul Taxi Lock-In

An unscrupulous driver agrees to a very low price for a return journey to Ba Na Hills, Hue, or elsewhere. Once you reach the destination, he triples or quadruples the price, knowing you're stranded. On return, he parks slightly away from your hotel entrance, locks the doors, and demands payment before letting you out.

How to avoid: - Stick to reputable companies: **Mai Linh**, **Taxi Xanh**, or **Song Han** - Agree the price before departure - Take the driver to hotel reception to re-confirm the price - Leave the licence plate number with reception

The “Helpful English Speaker” Airport Scam

Reported on the Da Nang airport → Hoi An route at night. The driver claims he can't find your hostel, stops to ask a passerby for directions, and—by coincidence—this person speaks fluent English. They board the taxi, give directions, then aggressively promote their own business to you.

How to avoid: - For late arrivals, pre-book a private transfer through your hostel or a travel agency - The extra cost is worth the peace of mind

Street Smarts Checklist

- **Don't flaunt wealth.** Avoid ostentatious jewellery or clothing that screams “rich tourist”
- **Carry thin.** Keep cash and copies of important papers in a thin wallet, not a large purse
- **Motorbike security.** Safe to leave a rented motorbike outside during the day, but bring it inside at night
- **Road crossing.** Roads are wide and traffic never stops. Walk at a predictable pace so bikes can swerve around you. Cross together with locals until you get the hang of it
- **Drugs.** Cannabis is fairly common and sold at some bars, but it's illegal and possession carries a stiff penalty. Don't risk it

Police Reality

Most local “Công An” (pine green uniform) and traffic “CSGT” (tan uniform) police in Da Nang will recognize an International Drivers Permit (IDP). If you're pulled over or involved in a motorbike accident, stay calm and present your IDP and passport.

Emergency & Key Contacts

Service	Number / Address	Notes
Police Emergency	113	Citywide emergency response
Da Nang Police HQ	93 Nguyen Van Linh, Hai Chau	Main municipal police
Hai Chau District Police	Hai Chau District	District-level public security; +84 511 3732 630
US Consulate General	8th Floor, 33 Phan Dinh Phung, Hai Chau	US citizen services; +84 236 352 2420
Immigration Office	78 Le Loi Street, Hai Chau	Mon–Fri 08:00–11:30 & 13:30–16:00; Sat 08:00–11:30; 0694 260 192 / 0906 091 269
Immigration Dept (visas)	7 Tran Quy Cap	For visa extensions

Medical Emergency

Facility	Address	Phone	Notes
Pharmacy (24hrs)	Central Da Nang	—	Quality medicines, open 24/7 for minor night emergencies
Family Medical Practice	50-52 Nguyen Van Linh	+84 511 3582 699	Expat doctors; best if you have insurance; check-up from US\$70
Hoan My Hospital	161 Nguyen Van Linh	+84 511 3650 676	Mon–Sat; many doctors trained abroad; reasonable costs
Da Nang Women's Hospital	26C Chu Van An	+84 511 2222 055	Strong reputation for prenatal care

The Bottom Line

Da Nang is one of the most relaxed cities in Vietnam for nomads. Violent crime is rare. Your main threats are taxi scams on tourist routes, motorbike theft at night, and your own road-crossing confidence. Keep your head on a swivel, use Mai Linh or Grab, and bring the bike inside.

Environmental Hazards & Natural Disaster Prep

Da Nang sits on a coastal plain between the Annamite Range and the South China Sea, bisected by the Han River. The geography that makes it stunning also makes it vulnerable. Here's what you need to know to stay safe.

Typhoon & Flooding Season

Da Nang has a tropical monsoon climate with two distinct seasons. The typhoon and wet season runs **September to December**. The dry season runs **January to August**.

Rainfall is highest between September and November, ranging from **550 to 1,000 mm (22–39 in)** per month. By contrast, February to April sees only 23–40 mm. Annual average rainfall is 2,205 mm (86.8 in). Humidity peaks between October and January at 84–86%.

Wet Season Risk Summary

Month Range	Rainfall (mm)	Humidity	Risk Level
Sep–Nov	550–1,000	84–86%	High — typhoons, flooding
Dec	Moderate	84–86%	Moderate — residual storms
Jan–Aug	23–40+	75–77%	Low — dry season

Typhoon & Flooding Checklist

- **Monitor local weather daily** from September through December — storms can intensify quickly.
- **Know your evacuation route** if staying near the Han River or coastal lowlands.
- **Stock 3–5 days of water and non-perishable food** during peak months.
- **Keep devices charged** and have a power bank — outages are possible during storms.
- **Avoid beach areas and the Han River Promenade** during active typhoon warnings.
- **Keep cash on hand** — ATMs may go down during extended outages.

Earthquakes

Da Nang sits at the edge of the **Truong Son Orogenic Zone**, a Paleozoic fold belt whose main deformation occurred during the Carboniferous period. This is not an active seismic zone by global standards, but minor tremors are possible.

Vietnam’s building codes do apply to new construction, but specific earthquake-resistant standards for older buildings in Da Nang are not confirmed in available English-language sources.

Air Quality

Da Nang generally has better air quality than Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City, especially during the dry season when ocean breezes disperse pollutants. Heavy wet-season rain also clears particulates. Real-time AQI can be checked on global sites such as IQAir or the World Air Quality Index project; no dedicated city-run AQI portal was confirmed.

Water Safety

- **Tap water is not safe to drink** — use bottled or filtered water for drinking and brushing teeth.
- **Bottled water** is cheap and available everywhere. Stick to sealed brands.
- **Beach swimming:** My Khe Beach and other coastal areas are generally safe, but heed local warnings during wet season — undertows and rough surf are possible from September to December.
- **Han River:** Not a swimming destination. The river is tidal and busy with boat traffic.

Temperature Extremes

Period	Mean Temp	Notes
Jun–Aug	28–30 °C (82–86 °F)	Hottest months
Dec–Feb	18–23 °C (64–73 °F)	Coolest — cold waves can occur
Ba Na Hills	20 °C (68 °F) annual avg	Cooler due to elevation (1,487 m)

Annual average temperature is 26 °C (79 °F). Heat is manageable but combined with 81% average humidity, dehydration is a real risk from June to August.

Heat Safety Checklist

- Carry water during outdoor excursions, especially June–August.
- Schedule outdoor activities for early morning or late afternoon.
- Use sunscreen — Da Nang averages 2,162 hours of sunlight annually, peaking at 234–277 hours per month in May and June.

Emergency Contacts & Key Services

Service	Address	Phone	Hours
Da Nang Police HQ (emergency 113)	93 Nguyen Van Linh, Hai Chau	113	24/7
Hai Chau District Police	1 Nguyen Thi Minh Khai, Hai Chau	+84 236 3860 152	Mon–Fri 07:30–11:00 & 13:30–16:30
Da Nang Immigration Office	78 Le Loi Street, Hai Chau	0694 260 192 / 0906 091 269	Mon–Fri 08:00–11:30 & 13:30–16:00; Sat 08:00–11:30
US Consulate General (HCMC covers Da Nang)	No permanent Da Nang office	Emergencies: (028) 3520-4200 / (028) 3520-4600	N/A
Da Nang People’s Committee	24 Tran Phu, Hai Chau	(+84.236) 3.817.366	Mon–Fri office hours
Da Nang Post Office	1 Phan Dang Luu, Hai Chau	+84 236 3849 054	Mon–Sat 07:00–21:00; Sun limited
Bach Dang Post Office	64 Bach Dang Road, Hai Chau	+84 236 3849 054	Mon–Sat 07:00–21:00; Sun limited

Emergency Checklist

- **Save 113** in your phone — this is the police emergency number.
- **Register with your embassy** if your country has a consulate in Vietnam. US citizens in Da Nang are covered by the US Consulate General in Ho Chi Minh City; for emergencies call (028) 3520-4200 or (028) 3520-4600.
- **Keep digital and physical copies** of your passport, visa, and insurance documents.
- **Know the nearest police station** to your accommodation — Hai Chau District Police can be reached at +84 236 3860 152.
- **For visa extensions or immigration issues**, visit the Da Nang Immigration Office at 78 Lê Lợi during operating hours (Mon–Fri 08:00–11:30 & 13:30–16:00, Sat 08:00–11:30).

Bottom Line

Da Nang’s environmental risks are seasonal and predictable. If you arrive during dry season (January–August), you’ll face heat and sun but minimal storm

risk. If you're here September–December, respect the typhoon season — monitor weather, stay stocked, and have an exit plan. The city's infrastructure is decent, but emergency services are not at Western standards. Self-reliance and preparation matter.



11. Weather by Month

Da Nang runs on a tropical monsoon climate with two seasons: a dry stretch from January to August, and a typhoon and wet season from September to December. Annual average temperature sits around 26°C (79°F). Annual average humidity is 81%, peaking between October and January (84–86%) and dipping between June and August (75–77%). Total annual rainfall averages 2,205 mm (86.8 in). The city sees about 2,162 hours of sunlight per year.

Month-by-Month Breakdown

Month	Season	Avg High	Avg Low	Rainfall	Sunlight Hours	Notes
Jan	Dry / Cool	23°C (73°F)	18°C (64°F)	Low	69–165 hrs	Cold waves can occur. Humidity rising.
Feb	Dry / Cool	24°C (75°F)	18°C (64°F)	23–40 mm	Low	Driest month.
Mar	Dry	26°C (79°F)	20°C (68°F)	23–40 mm	Rising	Good beach weather.
Apr	Dry	28°C (82°F)	22°C (72°F)	23–40 mm	Rising	Comfortable.
May	Dry / Hot	30°C (86°F)	24°C (75°F)	Moderate	234–277 hrs	Sunniest month.
Jun	Dry / Hot	30°C (86°F)	25°C (77°F)	Moderate	234–277 hrs	Peak heat. Lowest humidity (75–77%).

Month	Season	Avg High	Avg Low	Rainfall	Sunlight Hours	Notes
Jul	Dry / Hot	30°C (86°F)	25°C (77°F)	Moderate	High	Hot but dry.
Aug	Dry / Hot	30°C (86°F)	25°C (77°F)	Moderate	High	Last dry month before rains.
Sep	Wet / Typhoon	29°C (84°F)	24°C (75°F)	550–1,000 mm	Dropping	Wet season begins.
Oct	Wet / Typhoon	27°C (81°F)	22°C (72°F)	550–1,000 mm	Low	Humidity peaks (84–86%).
Nov	Wet / Typhoon	25°C (77°F)	21°C (70°F)	550–1,000 mm	69–165 hrs	Heaviest rain. Lowest sunlight.
Dec	Wet / Typhoon	23°C (73°F)	18°C (64°F)	High	69–165 hrs	Cold and wet. Typhoon risk persists.

The Two Seasons

Dry Season (January–August): This is your window. February through April is the driest period, with rainfall between 23–40 mm. May and June are the sunniest months, clocking 234–277 hours of sunlight. June to August is the hottest stretch, with mean temperatures of 28–30°C (82–86°F), but humidity drops to its lowest annual levels (75–77%).

Wet Season (September–December): This is typhoon season. Rainfall between September and November ranges from 550 to 1,000 mm (22 to 39 inches) per month. November and December get the least sun, between 69 and 165 hours monthly. Humidity climbs to 84–86% between October and January. Temperatures drop to their annual lows between December and February, with means of 18–23°C (64–73°F).

Best and Worst Times

Best: February to April. Lowest rainfall, manageable heat, decent sunlight. May and June if you want maximum sun and don't mind 30°C heat.

Worst: October and November. Heaviest rainfall, peak humidity, lowest sunlight, and typhoon risk. Riding a motorbike to Hoi An or up Monkey Mountain during this period is risky — wind is strong and rain is frequent. Avoid major roadways at night during wet season.

Ba Na Hills Exception

Temperatures in Ba Na Hills run cooler than the city, with an annual average of 20°C (68°F). If you're heading up to Sun World Ba Na Hills or Linh Ung Pagoda during the June–August heat, expect relief. During the December–February cold snaps, bring a jacket.

Warnings

- **Typhoon season (September–December):** Flooding is possible. Coastal roads to Hoi An can be affected.
- **Cold waves:** Can occur in the December–February window. Not tropical beach weather.
- **Coastal riding:** During autumn and spring, the temperature along the coastline can drop. Bring a windbreaker or sweater for motorbike rides to Hoi An.
- **Sunlight variance:** November and December get as little as 69 hours of sun per month. Plan indoor backup activities.

12. Shopping & Daily Life

Da Nang's mall scene is compact but functional. You won't find sprawling mega-malls like in Bangkok or Manila—what you get are a few solid complexes anchored by big supermarkets, cinemas, and food courts. For a lean nomad, these are your go-to spots for air-conditioned grocery runs, electronics, cinema nights, and Western groceries you can't find at local markets.

The Big Four

Mall	Address	What It's Good For	Hours
Big C / GO! Da Nang	255 Hùng Vương St, Thanh Khe	Largest supermarket complex; mall beneath, food court above, CGV cinema on top floor. Western-style supermarket on 3rd floor. Parking entrance on Ông Ích Khiêm.	Standard mall hours

Mall	Address	What It's Good For	Hours
Lotte Mart Da Nang	6 Nai Nam, Hòa Cường Bắc, Hải Châu	Large shopping complex with cinema on top level. Solid for groceries, household goods, and a break from the heat.	Standard mall hours
MM Mega Market Da Nang	Cách Mạng Tháng Tám St (near Hòa Xuân Bridge)	Huge supermarket, formerly Metro. Closest thing to a Western warehouse store. Fresh refrigerated meat, home/office supplies, wide grocery selection.	06:00–22:30
MoonMilk Super-market	Multiple locations	Health-food supermarket with fixed prices. Imported dairy, nuts, kombucha, dark chocolate. No haggling needed.	Varies by location

What to Buy Where

Big C / GO! Da Nang — Your one-stop for bulk groceries, household goods, and a cinema night. The supermarket sits on the third floor; the lower floors function as a conventional mall with retail and food court above. If you need a rice cooker, a SIM card, and a week's worth of groceries in one trip, this is your play.

Lotte Mart — Good for mid-range groceries, cosmetics, and clothing. The cinema on the top level makes it a solid evening destination when you want to escape the humidity.

MM Mega Market — The old Metro. This is where you go for refrigerated meat that actually looks refrigerated, plus home and office supplies in bulk. Opens at 06:00, which means you can knock out a grocery run before the heat kicks in.

MoonMilk — The niche pick. Fixed prices, no haggling, and the only reliable source for kombucha and decent dark chocolate. Multiple locations around town.

What to Stock Up On

- **Coffee** — Trung Nguyen and Highlands brands at Big C or Lotte Mart
- **Ao Dai** (traditional dress) — Han Market has better selection than malls, but Lotte carries ready-made options
- **Lacquerware, silk, embroidery** — Skip the malls for these; hit the markets instead
- **Handicrafts and ceramics** — Same story, markets win
- **Imported dairy, nuts, kombucha** — MoonMilk only
- **Fresh refrigerated meat** — MM Mega Market

Practical Rules

- **Dong only.** No USD accepted at malls or supermarkets. Bring cash or use a local ATM card.
- **Fixed prices at malls.** No haggling at Big C, Lotte Mart, MM Mega Market, or MoonMilk. Bargaining is essential at markets, not here.
- **Parking** — Big C's parking entrance is on Ông Ích Khiêm, not Hùng Vương. Motorbike parking is typically a few thousand dong.
- **Cinema** — Both Big C (CGV) and Lotte Mart have cinemas on the top level. Tickets are cheap by Western standards. Check showtimes on the CGV app.

Mall vs. Market Quick Comparison

Feature	Malls (Big C, Lotte, MM Mega)	Markets (Han, Son Tra Night, Helio Night)
Prices	Fixed, slightly higher	Lower, but you must haggle
Air-con	Yes	No (night markets cooler after sunset)
Western groceries	Yes	Limited
Fresh produce	Decent	Better selection, better prices
Souvenirs & crafts	Minimal	Best selection
Overcharge & risk	Low	High if you don't bargain

Checklist for a Mall Run

- Bring dong—cards accepted at supermarkets but not always at food court stalls
- Hit Big C or MM Mega Market for bulk groceries early morning or late afternoon to avoid crowds
- Check MoonMilk for imported health foods before settling for supermarket markups
- Save souvenir shopping for Han Market or night markets—malls won't have what you want
- Park legally. Mall lots are cheap but fill up fast on weekends and holidays

13. Groceries, Markets & Meat

Da Nang runs on dong. No USD at the checkout counter. You will live between three tiers of food sourcing: Western-style supermarkets for imported goods, local supermarket chains for baseline staples, and neighbourhood wet markets for cheap, fresh produce and meat. Shops often operate from the ground floor of homes, selling everything from coffee to dry goods. Walk a little farther and you'll hit a neighbourhood market where vendors sell fresh foods like fruits, vegetables, eggs, meat, and fish. As a foreigner, expect to be overcharged unless you haggle at the markets. Supermarket prices are fixed.

Supermarket Comparison

Store	Location	Specialty	Hours
GO! / Big C Da Nang	255 Hung Vuong St, Thanh Khe	Western imports, bulk buying	~08:00–22:00
Lotte Mart Da Nang	6 Nai Nam, Hoa Cuong Bac, Hai Chau	Korean imports, mid-range	~08:30–22:00
Co.opmart Thanh Khe	478 Dien Bien Phu, Thanh Khe Dong	Local groceries, Western district convenience	~08:00–22:00
Co.opmart Son Tra	Binh Than–Tran Nhan Tong Intersection, Son Tra	Local groceries	08:00–22:00
WinMart Vincom Plaza	910A Ngo Quyen, Son Tra	Modern produce, mall location	~08:00–22:00

Big C (255 Hùng Vương, corner of Hung Vuong and Ong Ich Khiem) is the heavy hitter. Large supermarket complex with a mall beneath it and a food court above. The Western-style supermarket is on the third floor. Parking entrance is on Ông Ích Khiêm. This is where you bulk-buy and find the widest selection of imported cheese, cereals, and Western comfort food.

Lotte Mart is your go-to for Korean imports—gochujang, kimchi, Korean snacks, and soju at reasonable prices. Large shopping complex with a cinema on the top level.

MM Mega Market (Cach Mang Thang Tam St, near Hoa Xuan bridge, +84 511 3644933, 06:00–22:30) is the old Metro. Huge supermarket that sells most of what you'd expect in Western supermarkets: a variety of groceries including fresh imports. Opens early—useful if you need to stock up before a day trip.

Wet Markets

Market	Location	What to Expect
Han Market	119 Tran Phu St (corner of Tran Phu & Hung Vuong)	06:00–21:00. Foodstuffs on lower level, extensive fruit/veg on the river side. Haggle hard.
Son Tra Night Market	Riverside near Dragon Bridge	~150 stalls. Touristy but convenient for evening food and snacks.
Helio Night Market	Near Danang Sports Hall	Largest and flashiest night market. Often has live music.

Han Market is your daily-driver wet market. Lower level is dedicated to foodstuffs; the upper level is clothing, accessories, and silk. The fruit and vegetable market on the river side gives you access to the Han River promenade. Be prepared to haggle—like at any neighbourhood market.

Meat Buying

Wet markets are where you buy fresh meat and fish. Vendors sell cuts from open stalls—no refrigeration in most cases. Go early in the morning for the freshest stock. Look for busy stalls with high turnover. If you want Western cuts (beef steaks, bacon, sausages), stick to Big C or Lotte Mart.

Water

Bottled water is cheap and everywhere. Convenience stores (Circle K, Family-Mart, WinMart+, Ministop) are scattered across the city for quick restocks.

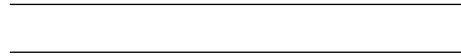
Shopping Checklist

- Carry dong only—no USD accepted at markets or supermarkets
- Bring your own bags—plastic bag culture is shifting
- Haggle at wet markets and night markets; prices are fixed at supermarkets
- Go early to wet markets for best meat and produce selection
- Check Lotte Mart for Korean imports; Big C for Western imports
- MM Mega Market opens at 06:00—earliest option in town

Warnings

- Foreigner pricing is real at markets. Learn a few Vietnamese numbers or you will pay 20–50% more.
- Wet market meat is not refrigerated. Buy early, cook same day.
- Night markets are tourist-priced. Fine for a meal and a stroll, not for your weekly shop.

- Convenience store prices are 30–40% higher than supermarkets for the same items. Use them for emergencies only.



14. Language & Local Etiquette

Da Nang is Vietnam’s fifth-largest city, but the expat community is small and demand for language learning isn’t great. English gets you through most tourist interactions, but even a few words of Vietnamese will change how locals treat you. Here’s what you need to know to survive 90 days without offending everyone around you.

The Language Reality

The Da Nang dialect of Vietnamese is distinct from the Hanoi and HCMC versions — closer to HCMC than to Hanoi. If you learned Vietnamese in Hanoi, many ordinary people in Da Nang will have some difficulty understanding you until they realize you’re trying to talk like the TV presenters they see on screen.

Even trained teachers in Da Nang will tend to teach you to speak like a Da Nang local unless you specifically emphasize that you want to learn Hanoi dialect. Hanoi dialect is the official version, used on TV, and understood (eventually) throughout the country.

Language Learning Options

Option	Cost	Notes
Qualified Vietnamese teacher	~US\$5/hour	Standard rate
English student language exchange	Less than US\$5/hour	Students from College of Foreign Languages, University of Da Nang
Self-study textbook	Varies	<i>Teach Yourself Vietnamese</i> by Dana Healy — best option
Self-study textbook	Varies	<i>Vietnamese for Beginners</i> by Jake Catlett & Huong Nguyen — easier, less comprehensive

Option	Cost	Notes
Self-study textbook	Varies	<i>Vietnamese for Foreigners</i> by Nguyen Anh Que — good vocabulary

For budget nomads: find a recent English graduate or student at the College of Foreign Languages of the University of Da Nang. They'll happily work through a Vietnamese textbook with you for less than the US\$5/hour rate. This is probably as good a way as any to acquire some Vietnamese.

Survival Phrases

Vietnamese	Meaning	When to Use
Xin chào	Hello	General greeting
Cảm ơn	Thank you	After any transaction or help
Xin lỗi	Excuse me / Sorry	Getting attention, apologizing
Bao nhiêu tiền?	How much?	Markets, street food
Không, cảm ơn	No, thank you	Declining
Tính tiền	Bill, please	Restaurants
Nhà vệ sinh ở đâu?	Where is the toilet?	Self-explanatory

Market Etiquette: Haggling & Saving Face

As a foreigner, you're likely to be overcharged unless you haggle. This applies at neighbourhood markets and tourist markets alike. Fixed-price supermarkets are increasingly common, but if you're somewhere with no price tags, you negotiate.

Named Markets Where Haggling Is Expected

- **Han Market** (119 Tran Phu St, corner of Tran Phu & Hung Vuong) — 06:00–21:00. Typical Vietnamese market: shoes, silk, souvenirs, coffee, foodstuffs. Upper floor: clothing and silk. Lower floor: food. Extensive fruit and vegetable section near the river. Be prepared to haggle like at any neighbourhood market.
- **Son Tra Night Market** (Chợ Đêm Sơn Trà) — Riverside location near the Dragon Bridge, ~150 stalls. Touristy but convenient.
- **Helio Night Market** (Chợ đêm Helio) — Near the Danang Sports Hall. Largest and flashiest night market in town. Often has live music.

Haggling Rules

- Smile. Always. A smile is non-negotiable.

- Start at roughly 50–60% of the quoted price.
- Walk away slowly. If they want the sale, they’ll call you back.
- Never raise your voice or show frustration — this causes the seller to lose face, and the deal is dead.
- Accept that you’ll pay more than a local. The goal is a fair foreigner price, not a local price.

Saving Face: The Core Rule

Vietnamese culture runs on face — personal dignity and social harmony. Losing face (or causing someone else to lose it) is the worst thing you can do socially.

What Causes Loss of Face

- Public criticism or arguing
- Raising your voice at staff, vendors, or anyone
- Pointing out someone’s mistake in front of others
- Refusing a gesture of hospitality rudely

How to Preserve Face

- If something goes wrong, stay calm and speak quietly
- Let the other person find a graceful exit
- Accept small gestures of hospitality (tea, food) even if you don’t want them
- Compliment generously; criticize never — or only in private, and gently

Religious & Cultural Norms

The regions surrounding Da Nang (My Son, Quang Nam) were founded by the Cham Hindus perhaps 3,000 years ago, serving as the capital and centre of the Hindu Champa Dynasty. Vietnamese invasions in the 17th century significantly halted Cham development. You’ll see remnants of this heritage in local temples and ruins.

Temple Etiquette Checklist

- **Linh Ung Temple** on Son Tra Mountain (follow Hoang Sa Rd. towards the mountain) — a major site where locals pay respects to Quan The Am (Avalokiteshvara). Stop here if you ride up Monkey Mountain.
- Dress modestly: shoulders and knees covered
- Remove shoes before entering temple buildings
- Do not point your feet at Buddha statues or altars
- Do not touch religious objects or statues
- Speak quietly — these are active worship sites, not photo props
- Ask before photographing monks or worshippers

Daily Life Etiquette

- **Shops operate from the ground floor of homes.** Coffee, bánh mì, dry goods, clothing, SIM cards — all sold from someone’s living room. Be respectful; you’re in their home space.
- **Beach culture:** Locals start early and the beach is mostly deserted by 09:00–10:00. Larger crowds gather in late afternoon, wading and picnicking well into the night. Join the rhythm.
- **Public showers** at My Khe Beach charge 2,000 dong per person for entry (motorbike parking extra). Beachfront cafes rent chairs with shade for ~40,000 dong.
- **Currency:** Dong only. No USD. This applies everywhere — markets, shops, and malls.

Warnings

- Don’t assume your Hanoi Vietnamese will work flawlessly here — the Da Nang dialect will trip you up
- Don’t skip haggling at markets — you’ll be overcharged
- Don’t raise your voice in any dispute — you’ll cause loss of face and the relationship is over
- Don’t treat temples as casual photo backdrops — dress and behave appropriately
- Don’t refuse hospitality abruptly — accept gracefully even if you decline

90-Day Language Survival Checklist

- ☐ Buy one textbook (Dana Healy’s recommended)
 - ☐ Learn numbers 1–100 (essential for haggling)
 - ☐ Memorize the 7 survival phrases above
 - ☐ Find a language exchange partner at the University of Da Nang
 - ☐ Practice haggling at Han Market with small purchases first
 - ☐ Visit Linh Ung Temple — observe how locals behave
 - ☐ Learn to say “too expensive” (đắt quá) — you’ll use it daily
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15. History & Culture Snapshot

Da Nang is Vietnam’s fifth largest city, sitting midway between Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City on the South China Sea coast. It lacks the historical ambiance of the capital and the manic hustle of HCMC, but it makes up for it with wide roads, light traffic, and a booming resort scene. Today, the government enthusiastically pursues foreign investment, and a tourism boom exploded in the mid-2010s. Rustic backpacker lodges have given way to highrise hotels, and

the coast is fast becoming a solid wall of blingy skyscraper apartments in the vein of Miami or the Gold Coast.

Founding & Early History

The regions surrounding Da Nang (including My Son and Quang Nam) were founded by the Cham Hindus perhaps 3,000 years ago. This area served as the capital city and center of the Hindu Champa Dynasty. Vietnamese invasions into the region in the 17th century significantly halted Cham development.

French & American War Influence

Because Da Nang was the first point of colonial invasion, many vestiges of French architecture remain in the historic buildings. The city's dessert culture still reflects this francophone heritage, blending traditional Vietnamese *chè* (sweet soups) with French-inspired artisan pastries.

Da Nang was also where American combat troops first landed during the Vietnam War. Many monuments and buildings were destroyed during the conflict. Non Nuoc Beach, on the outskirts of the city, has a history as an R&R destination for American troops. On the way to My Khe Beach (the famous "China Beach" of Vietnam War lore), the ruins of a military base remain in the form of helicopter hangars. Today, Da Nang International Airport sits on the site of the old Da Nang Air Base, which during the war was described as the world's busiest airport.

The Modern City

Since the early 1990s, Da Nang has rapidly modernized. The city has some of the best roads in the country, with the coast road running at least four lanes from the northern to southern provincial boundaries. The Hàn River is crossed by multiple bridges, including the famous Dragon Bridge. To the north, the lush green Sơn Trà Peninsula (Monkey Mountain) serves as a dedicated nature reserve, home to 60% of Vietnam's critically endangered red-shanked douc monkeys.

Tourism drives the modern economy. In 2019, the *New York Times* praised Da Nang as "the Miami of Vietnam," ranking it 15th on their list of 52 places to visit. By 2026, the *South China Morning Post* noted the city is jokingly called the "province of South Korea" by Korean tourists—some signs are written in Korean and Korean music is played in tourist areas.

Cultural Identity & Cuisine

Da Nang's culinary identity is shaped by Central Vietnam, characterized by bold, spicy, and savory profiles that distinguish it from the milder south and more subtle north. The Hàn Market and Cồn Market are the principal food

hubs, and the city is known for a vibrant night food scene along the riverbanks and beach promenades.

Local Specialty	Description
Mì Quảng	Signature rice noodle dish with shrimp, pork, hard-boiled egg, roasted peanuts, and herbs. The defining dish of the region.
Bánh tráng cuốn thịt heo	Thin, grilled rice paper rolls filled with boiled pork, fresh vegetables, green mango, and local dipping sauce.
Bê thui Cầu Mống	Slow-roasted veal with golden skin from Cầu Mống village. Served with rice paper, herbs, and <i>mắm nem</i> (fermented anchovy sauce).
Bánh xèo	Crispy turmeric-infused rice flour crêpe stuffed with shrimp and bean sprouts, wrapped in mustard greens.
Cá bống sông	Small freshwater fish from the Hàn and Cu Đê rivers, typically fried or braised.

Festivals & Key Sights

While the source material highlights the city's tourism infrastructure rather than specific seasonal festivals, the modern cultural calendar is anchored by major sightseeing destinations that draw both domestic and international crowds:

- **Ba Na Hills:** A mountain resort featuring a 5 km-long cable car system carrying guests up to the peak at 1,487m above sea level. The nearby Golden Bridge became a global phenomenon in 2018.
- **My Khe & Non Nuoc Beaches:** White sandy beaches stretching nearly 40 km south to Hoi An, packed with resorts, surfing, and entertainment facilities.
- **Son Tra Mountain:** Miles from the city center, featuring wild streams, seaside resorts, and prime wildlife spotting.

The Lean Nomad Checklist

Historical & Cultural Warnings: - **War Remnants:** Helicopter hangar ruins from the Vietnam War are still visible near My Khe Beach and the airport. - **Holiday Crowds:** Initially driven by foreign visitors, the Vietnamese themselves have discovered the city. During holiday periods, Da Nang gets absolutely packed. - **Weather Windows:** Tropical storms usually hit from October to November. The hottest months (June–August) see temperatures hit 40°C with high humidity.

Modern Infrastructure Notes: - **Transit:** Da Nang is at the end of the East–West Economic Corridor (EWEC), stretching over Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, and Myanmar. - **Medical Tourism:** Da Nang accounts for around 20% of Vietnam’s medical tourism market (valued at approx. US\$700 million). In 2024, *U.S. News & World Report* ranked it 4th among Asia’s best cities for retirement. - **Education:** The city hosts the University of Da Nang, Duy Tan University, and the American University of Vietnam (AUV). Campus France operates locally to promote French language learning.

16. Tourism & Day Trips

Da Nang doesn’t have the chaotic charm of Hanoi or the raw energy of Ho Chi Minh City. What it does have is a prime coastal location midway between Hanoi and HCMC, some of the best roads in the country, and proximity to the heavy hitters of central Vietnam: Hoi An, My Son, and Hue. Tourism exploded here in the mid-2010s. The rustic backpacker lodges are gone, replaced by a solid wall of blingy skyscraper hotels lining My Khe Beach. It now resembles Miami or the Gold Coast more than the Vietnam of old.

Top Attractions

My Khe Beach (Bãi biển Mỹ Khê) — The famous “China Beach” of Vietnam War fame. Runs along the city’s eastern edge and continues nearly 40 km south to Hoi An. Free swimming, lifeguards in season. Phone: +84 511 6260 214.

Son Tra Peninsula (Monkey Mountain) — Northeast of the city. Coastal road, viewpoints, and the Linh Ung Pagoda (Lady Buddha), featuring a 67m white statue. Also home to red-shanked douc monkeys.

Marble Mountains — 81 Huyen Tran Cong Chua, Hoa Hai, Ngu Hanh Son. Five limestone peaks with caves and pagodas. VND 40K entry. Open ~07:00–17:30. Phone: +84 511 961114.

Dragon Bridge — Spans the Han River (Sông Hàn). Weekend fire and water show at 21:00. The bridge is the city’s signature landmark.

Museum of Cham Sculpture — 2 2 Thang 9, Hai Chau. World’s largest collection of Cham artefacts. ~60K VND.

Asia Park / Sun Wheel — 2 Thang 9 Street, Hoa Cuong Bac, Hai Chau. Free entry, pay per ride. Open 15:00–22:00.

Han River Bridge — Swing bridge that opens to traffic at night. Stroll Bach Dang Road along the river.

Da Nang Cathedral (Pink Church) — 156 Tran Phu, Hai Chau. French-colonial Catholic church with a distinctive pink facade.

Attraction Costs & Details

Attraction	Entry Cost	Hours	Notes
My Khe Beach	Free	Daylight hours	Lifeguards in season
Marble Mountains	VND 40K	~07:00–17:30	Caves & pagodas
Museum of Cham Sculpture	~VND 60K	07:00–17:00	Largest Cham collection
Asia Park / Sun Wheel	Free entry, pay per ride	15:00–22:00	Good for families
Dragon Bridge	Free	Show at 21:00 weekends	Fire & water display
Son Tra Peninsula	Free	Daylight	Lady Buddha, monkeys
Ba Na Hills / Sun World	VND 750K–900K	08:00–22:00	Cable car, Golden Bridge

Day Trips

Ba Na Hills / Sun World — Hoa Ninh, Hoa Vang. The big-ticket day trip. French Village replica, cable car, and the famous Golden Bridge held by giant stone hands. VND 750K–900K. Open 08:00–22:00. Phone: +84 236 3791 999. Expect crowds, especially on weekends and Vietnamese holidays.

Hoi An — The ancient trading town is roughly 40 km south via the coast road. A must-do, but go early or go at night. The road from Da Nang is at least four lanes the whole way.

My Son — Cham ruins in Quang Nam, the former capital of the Hindu Champa Dynasty. Combine with Hoi An if you're efficient.

Hue — The imperial capital, accessible via the Hai Van Pass. Longer trip but doable in a day if you start early.

Markets

Market	Address	What to Buy
Han Market	119 Tran Phu, Hai Chau	Tourist-friendly, near river. Phone: +84 511 3644933

Market	Address	What to Buy
Con Market (Cho Con)	290 Hung Vuong, Hai Chau	Central market, clothes, food, daily goods

The market offers clothing, silk, jewelry, flowers, dried fruit and fish, coffee, tea, and wine (including snake wine).

Reality Check: Scams & Tourist Traps

- **Taxi scam (long trips):** The classic. Driver agrees to a low price for a return trip to Ba Na Hills, Hue, or elsewhere. Once at your destination, he triples or quadruples the fare knowing you're stranded. On return, he parks out of sight of your hotel entrance, locks the doors, and demands payment before letting you out.
 - **Fix:** Use Mai Linh or Vinasun taxis only. Agree the price upfront. Better yet, take the driver to your hotel reception and confirm the price again. Leave the licence plate number with reception.
- **Airport-to-Hoi-An night scam:** Driver claims to know your hostel location, then stops to ask a passerby for directions. This person conveniently speaks fluent English, gets in the taxi, and starts promoting his business to you.
 - **Fix:** For late arrivals, arrange a private transfer through your hostel or a travel agency in advance. The extra cost buys peace of mind.
- **Holiday crowds:** Initially driven by Korean tourists, the Vietnamese themselves have now discovered Da Nang. During holiday periods the city gets packed. Book ahead.
- **Crossing the road:** Roads are wide and traffic never stops. Walk at a predictable pace so motorbikes can swerve around you. Cross with locals until you get the hang of it.

Day Trip Checklist

- Book Ba Na Hills tickets online to skip the queue
- Start Hoi An trips before 08:00 to beat the tour buses
- Carry cash for Marble Mountains entry and parking
- Agree taxi fares before getting in — or use Grab
- Bring a hat and water for Son Tra Peninsula — limited shade on the coastal road
- Check weekend schedule for Dragon Bridge fire show (21:00)

17. Master Links

Everything you need in one place. Bookmark these before you arrive — Da Nang’s internet is fast, but fumbling for the right portal at immigration or a pharmacy at 2 a.m. is a bad time.

Immigration & Visas

Vietnam’s e-visa portal is the primary resource for most nomads. The 90-day e-visa is the one you want.

Resource	URL	Notes
Vietnam E-Visa Portal	evisa.xuatnhapcanh.gov.vn	Official government site. 90-day e-visa available for eligible nationalities.
Da Nang Immigration Office	[verify — local office address]	For in-person extensions or issues.

Checklist: - Apply at least 1–2 weeks before arrival - Have passport photo scan ready (JPEG, under 2 MB) - Print the e-visa approval letter — airlines and immigration both ask for it - Keep a digital copy on your phone

Airport

Da Nang International Airport (DAD) sits 3 km southwest of the city center. Ten minutes by taxi, twenty by bus.

Detail	Info
IATA Code	DAD
Distance to City	3 km
Taxi to Center	70,000–150,000 VND (10–20 min)
Grab to Center	50,000–100,000 VND (10–20 min)
Bus to Center	8,000–12,000 VND (20–40 min) — Routes #6, #10
Reputable Taxi Companies	Mai Linh, Taxi Xanh, Song Han

Airport warnings: - Food inside the terminal runs outrageous — US\$15 for a bowl of pho. Bring takeaway. - Grab pickup is across the taxi lines at a well-marked dedicated point. Don’t let touts redirect you. - For late arrivals heading to Hoi An, pre-book a private transfer (150,000–250,000 VND). Airport-to-Hoi-An taxi scams involve a “helpful English-speaking passerby” who boards your taxi and pitches businesses. Avoid entirely.

SIM Cards & Telecom

Provider	Coverage	Tourist SIM Cost	Data
Viettel	Best nationwide	200,000–300,000 VND	30–70 GB / 30 days
Vinaphone	Good urban	200,000–300,000 VND	30–70 GB / 30 days
Mobifone	Good urban	200,000–300,000 VND	30–70 GB / 30 days

- Counters available at airport arrivals
- Passport required for registration — have it ready
- Viettel recommended for best coverage outside the city

Transport

Mode	Cost	Notes
Grab (car)	50,000–100,000 VND	Use dedicated airport pickup point
Grab (bike)	Lower than car	Good for solo short trips
Metered Taxi	~70,000 VND city center	Stick to Mai Linh, Taxi Xanh, Song Han
City Bus	8,000–12,000 VND	Routes #6, #10 to center and My Khe Beach
Private Transfer	150,000–250,000 VND	Pre-booked; best for late arrivals

Taxi scam warning: On long trips (Ba Na Hills, Hue), drivers agree to a low return price, then quadruple it at destination. They lock doors and demand payment before letting you out. Mitigation: use Mai Linh or Vinasun only, confirm price with hotel reception, leave the license plate number with reception.

Embassies & Consulates in Da Nang

Da Nang hosts Consulates General for the following countries:

- China
- Japan
- South Korea
- Laos
- Poland
- Russia
- Spain

For full embassy services (visa stamps, emergency passports), most nomads route through Hanoi or Ho Chi Minh City. [verify — confirm consulate contact details and addresses before visiting]

Health & Emergency

Facility	Address	Phone	Notes
Family Medical Practice	50-52 Nguyen Van Linh St	+84 511 3582 699	Expat doctors; insurance-friendly. Check-up from US\$70.
Hoan My Hospital	161 Nguyen Van Linh (corner Phan Thanh)	+84 511 3650 676	M–Sa. Western-trained staff. Lower costs than FMP.
Da Nang Women’s Hospital	26C Chu Van An	+84 511 2222 055	Strong reputation for prenatal care.
Pharmacy (24hr)	[verify — multiple branches]	—	24/7 pharmacy chain. Quality medicines.
ORIENT Dental Clinic	[verify — address]	—	Modern dentistry, opened mid-2025. 300k clean with free check-up.

Emergency numbers: - Police: 113 - Ambulance: 115 - Fire: 114

Post Offices

Branch	Address	Phone
Bach Dang Post Office	64 Bach Dang Rd (next to Han River Bridge)	+84 511 3849 054
Cam Le District	296 Cach Mang Thang 8	+84 511 367 3234
Lien Chieu District	138 Nguyen Luong Bang	+84 511 3732 630
Son Tra District	4 Tran Quang Dieu	+84 511 3950 686
Thanh Khe District	251 Nguyen Van Linh	+84 511 3652 334

Government Portal

- **Da Nang government portal:** Available via the city’s official website. [verify — current URL, as the archived portal may be outdated]

Connectivity

Free Wi-Fi is widely available in restaurants, cafés, the train station, larger plazas, hostels, and some supermarket chains. Internet and gaming cafés remain

scattered around the city for a small hourly fee.

Consular Advisory Checklist

Before you arrive: - ☐ Register your stay with your embassy's citizen registration service (if available) - ☐ Save your embassy's emergency after-hours number - ☐ Note the nearest consulate to Da Nang from the list above - ☐ Carry printed copies of: passport, visa, travel insurance policy - ☐ Store digital backups on encrypted cloud storage - ☐ Confirm whether your home country has a formal consular presence in Da Nang or only in Hanoi/HCMC

18. Final Budget Table

Monthly cost-of-stay estimates for Da Nang, in USD, assuming **26,000 VND = 1 USD** (rounded for planning; check current rate before you commit).

Category	Lean Nomad	Comfortable Nomad	Premium Nomad
Room	\$210 (shared dorm / budget guesthouse / fan room)	\$525 (private studio / hotel room near My Khe)	\$1,200 (serviced apartment / beachfront resort)
Food	\$120 (street food, bánh mì, cơm tấm, phở)	\$300 (mix of street food + casual restaurants)	\$750 (daily restaurants, seafood, imported items)
Transport	\$40 (bicycle, GrabBike, occasional taxi)	\$90 (GrabBike + GrabCar + occasional scooter rental)	\$240 (daily GrabCar / private driver + scooter rental)
Coworking	\$0 (cafés / hotel Wi-Fi)	\$100 (day passes ~2×/week or monthly flex)	\$200 (dedicated desk or private office)
Insurance	\$50 (basic travel insurance)	\$100 (travel insurance with outpatient cover)	\$180 (comprehensive nomad insurance + evacuation)
Visa	\$30 (e-visa single-entry 90-day spread over stay)	\$40 (e-visa / multiple-entry amortised)	\$60 (visa agent / multiple-entry)

Category	Lean Nomad	Comfortable Nomad	Premium Nomad
Entertainment	\$50 (local beers, occasional coffee, one day trip)	\$250 (weekend Hoi An, Bà Nà Hills, diving, dinners)	\$700 (daily tours, spa, high-end dining, golf)
Buffer	\$40	\$95	\$230
TOTAL / month	\$540	\$1,500	\$3,560
90-DAY TOTAL	\$1,620	\$4,500	\$10,680

Assumptions by Tier

Lean Nomad (~\$540/mo) Dorm bed or budget guesthouse with fan, street food for every meal, bicycle or GrabBike for transport, no coworking membership, basic travel insurance, and one cheap day trip (e.g., Marble Mountains).

Comfortable Nomad (~\$1,500/mo) Private studio or mid-range hotel near My Khe, mix of street food and sit-down restaurants, GrabBike/Car plus occasional scooter rental, flex coworking pass, decent travel insurance, and regular weekend trips to Hoi An or Bà Nà Hills.

Premium Nomad (~\$3,560/mo) Beachfront serviced apartment or resort, daily restaurant dining and seafood, private driver or daily GrabCar, dedicated coworking desk or private office, comprehensive insurance, and frequent tours, spa, and high-end entertainment.

19. Glossary of Local Terms

Vietnamese is not phonetic for English speakers, and mispronouncing a dish or a destination gets you blank stares. Below are the local terms used throughout this guide—food, transport, markets, and geography—pulled directly from Da Nang’s streets. Memorize the food terms. Pointing works for the rest.

Essential Food Terms

Vietnamese Term	Pronunciation Cue	What It Means
Mì Quảng	“mee kwang”	Signature rice noodle dish with shrimp, pork, hard-boiled egg, roasted peanuts, fresh herbs, and a small amount of rich broth. The defining dish of the Quảng Nam–Da Nang region.
Bánh tráng cuốn thịt heo	“bahn jong kwan tik hay-o”	Grilled rice paper rolls filled with boiled pork, fresh vegetables, green mango, and local dipping sauce. A Da Nang street food staple.
Bê thui Cầu Mống	“bay too-ee cow mohng”	Slow-roasted veal with golden skin, originating from Cầu Mống village in Điện Bàn district. Served with fresh rice paper, herbs, and mắm nem.
Mắm nem	“mahm nem”	Fermented anchovy sauce. Pungent. Served alongside bê thui Cầu Mống. Not the same as fish sauce (nước mắm)—this is stronger.
Bánh xèo	“bahn say-o”	Crispy turmeric-infused rice flour crêpe stuffed with shrimp and bean sprouts. Eaten wrapped in mustard greens with sweet dipping sauce.
Cá bống sông	“kah bohng song”	Small freshwater fish native to the Hàn and Cu Đê rivers. Fried or braised. A local delicacy.
Chè	“cheh”	Sweet soups and puddings. Sold at market stalls and roadside vendors throughout the city.

Transport Terms

Vietnamese Term	What It Means	What You Need to Know
Xe ôm	Motorbike taxi (literally “hug-vehicle”)	Plentiful, cheap, generally safe. Short hops shouldn’t exceed 20,000 VND. Airport runs around 70,000 VND. All riders must wear helmets—make sure the driver supplies one or find another driver. You pay the fine, not him.
Grab	Ride-hailing app	Common in Da Nang. Useful because the average cabbie speaks no English—Grab translates chat messages both ways. Consider paying extra 10% for “Plus” class for better vehicles.
Mai Linh	Reputable taxi company	Mostly green with white lettering. +84 511 356 5656. Meters start automatically after ~5m. Airport wardens wear green shirts with green ties.
Vinasun	Reputable taxi company	White with green and red lettering. +84 511 368 6868. Airport wardens wear dark green shirts with maroon ties.
Song Han	Taxi company	Yellow taxis. Reported as fairly reliable by some travelers.

Markets and Geography

Vietnamese Term	What It Refers To
Hàn Market	One of two principal food markets in Da Nang. Fresh produce, local snacks, ready-to-eat street food.
Cồn Market	The other principal food market. Same categories as Hàn Market.
Sơn Trà Mountain	Also called Monkey Mountain. Wild streams, resorts along the seaside. Iconic motorcycle ride—steep grades, sharp turns, wild monkeys, East Sea views. Military facilities posted with Vietnamese and English warning signs—do not enter or photograph.
Bà Na Hills	Mountain resort with 5 km cable car system reaching 1,487m elevation.
Mỹ Khê Beach	Beach north of Non Nuoc Beach. Resorts, surfing, entertainment facilities.
Non Nuoc Beach	White sandy beach on the outskirts of Đà Nẵng. Former R&R destination for American troops during the Vietnam War.
Hải Châu	Central district. Home to Vietnam Television's VTV8 studio.
Thanh Khê	District where the backpacker area is located (Tran Cao Van street). Motorbike rentals cluster here.
Ngu Hanh Son	Area where the Beach Resort complex is located, including Ocean Villas and Marriott Hotel.

Practical Warnings

- **Helmet law:** Strongly enforced for all motorbike riders. No helmet from your xe ôm driver = you pay the fine. Find another driver.
- **Fake bus website:** danabus.vn ranks high in search but has outdated prices and possibly routes. The correct site is **danangbus.vn**. Flat fare is 8,000 VND within city limits on all 19 air-conditioned lines.
- **Taxi drivers at bus stops:** May park in front of bus stops and tell you the bus isn't running. This is a lie. They want your fare.
- **Motorbike rental:** 110,000 VND should get a decent 100-110cc bike. Agents steer foreigners toward automatic scooters on the assumption you can't handle manual gears. They're usually right.
- **175cc and above:** Only legal to ride if connected with a Vietnamese motorcycle club.

- **Sơn Trà at night:** Don't ride it. Large boulders can block passage. Go before sunrise if you want to spot red-shanked or gray-shanked douc primates.
- **Hoi An ride:** 28 km, 45-60 minutes. Bring a windbreaker in autumn and spring—coastal wind is cold. Avoid in rainy season (late September to January).

Quick Pronunciation Reference

- **Đà Nẵng** — “dah nang” (the Đ is a hard D, the ã has a tilde-tone)
- **Hàn** — “hahn”
- **Mỹ Khê** — “mee kay”
- **Sơn Trà** — “surn trah”
- **Bà Na** — “bah nah”

If you can order Mì Quảng and point at Mỹ Khê Beach on a map, you'll eat well and find the sand. Everything else is negotiable.

20. Sources & Credits

This guide is compiled from a mix of open-source travel data, official city portals, and hardcoded on-the-ground research. We don't invent numbers. If a price is listed, a local or official source backed it. Below is exactly what we used, where it came from, and how you can verify it yourself.

Primary Sources

Source	Material Used	License / Access
Wikipedia (Da Nang article)	City overview, population, area, climate, history, port and bridge data, international relations, consulate list	CC BY-SA 4.0
Wikivoyage (Da Nang article)	Transport sections (taxi, Grab, motorbike rental, bus), airport details, Monkey Mountain route, Hoi An ride info, attraction costs	CC BY-SA 4.0
Wikimedia Commons	Reference images and media context	CC BY-SA 4.0 / public domain where noted

Source	Material Used	License / Access
On-the-ground experience	SIM card counter pricing, food stall costs, rental bargaining baselines, accommodation alternatives, practical travel workflow	Passport stamps and direct observation

What We Pulled From Each

Wikipedia — **Da Nang** - Port infrastructure: Tiên Sa Seaport (11 m navigation depth, handles up to 45,000 DWT), Song Hàn Terminal (6–7 m depth, up to 5,000 DWT). Vinalines is the port authority. - Bridges crossing the Han River: Han River Bridge, Tran Thi Ly Bridge, Nguyen Van Troi Bridge, Tuyen Son Bridge, and Thuan Phuoc Bridge (longest suspension bridge in Vietnam). - Consulates General in Da Nang: China, Japan, South Korea, Laos, Poland, Russia, Spain. - Friendship port: Kawasaki, Japan. - Population: 1,269,070 (2024 update).

Wikivoyage — **Da Nang - Airport:** Da Nang International Airport (DAD), 3 km southwest of center, ~10-minute trip. Domestic flights via Vietnam Airlines, VietJet Air, Pacific Airlines. International routes to Seoul-Incheon, Bangkok (BKK and DMK), Kuala Lumpur, Singapore, Hong Kong, Taipei, Tokyo-Narita, and others. - **Taxi companies:** Mai Linh (+84 511 356 5656, mostly green), Vinasun (+84 511 368 6868, white with green/red lettering). Song Han yellow taxis reported as fairly reliable. - **Grab:** Widely available, competitive with taxis, chat translation feature. “Plus” option costs ~10% more for better vehicles. - **Motorbike taxis (xe ôm):** Short hops ~20,000 VND, airport ~70,000 VND. Helmets legally required. - **Bus:** 19 local lines, all air-conditioned, flat 8,000 VND inside city limits. Use the DanaBus app (Android/iOS). Correct website is danangbus.vn — not danabus.vn, which has outdated info. - **Motorbike rental:** ~110,000 VND/day for a 100–110cc bike. Hoi An rental: 80,000–150,000 VND/day (locals pay 50,000–100,000). Distance to Hoi An: ~28 km, 45–60 min. - **Monkey Mountain ride:** ~18 km, similar to Tail of the Dragon in the US. Military zones posted — respect the signs. Don’t ride at night.

On-the-ground experience - Airport transport costs (taxi 70,000–150,000 VND, Grab 50,000–100,000 VND, bus 8,000–12,000 VND). - SIM card pricing (200,000–300,000 VND for 30–70GB/30 days). Viettel recommended for best coverage. - Housing rent baselines: studio 3,000,000–7,000,000 VND/month, one-bed 5,000,000–10,000,000, two-bed 8,000,000–15,000,000, house 6,000,000–12,000,000. - Dental costs and coworking-space estimates based on observed local pricing.

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Known Gaps & Unverified Items

- **Neighborhood profiles (Section 4):** Street-level neighborhood detail remains incomplete beyond the major districts already profiled. Rent base-lines are confirmed.
- **Airport official website:** <https://danangairport.vn/> — sourced via Wikivoyage reference; also <https://www.danangairportonline.com/> for flight status.
- **Real-time transport pricing:** Bus fares (8,000 VND flat) are sourced from Wikivoyage but may have changed. Verify via DanaBus app.

Tips for Self-Verification

- **Bus routes and fares:** Download the DanaBus app (Android/iOS) and input your start/destination. Ignore danabus.vn — it’s outdated.
- **Taxi legitimacy:** Call Mai Linh (+84 511 356 5656) or Vinasun (+84 511 368 6868) directly if you’re unsure a taxi is genuine.
- **SIM cards:** Viettel, Vinaphone, and Mobifone all have counters at Da Nang International Airport arrivals. Bring your passport.
- **Motorbike rental shops:** Concentrated around Tran Cao Van in Thanh Khe District. Walk in, compare prices, haggle for weekly rates.

The Lean Nomad 90-Day Survival Guide is a living document. If you find a price that’s changed or a venue that’s closed, that’s the road. Adapt and move on.