

# ELECTRIC CITY

Ho Chi Minh City is a dizzying hub of activity that'll whisk you away –  
we shortlist some of the best spots and experiences to take in | 胡志明市擁有各式讓你  
流連忘返的精彩熱點，我們為你精選部分最佳勝地和獨特體驗

BY LEANNE MIRANDILLA



Image courtesy of Thinkstock



When it comes to Southeast Asia, Ho Chi Minh City might not be atop your Mid-Autumn Festival travel plans, but it'd be a crime to overlook the energetic, intriguing city. While you may already be familiar with its historical architecture – the colonial charm of the Notre Dame Cathedral and the Central Post Office, for instance – and its buzzing street markets, look closer and you'll discover the new and creative developing alongside the old and traditional, from the artisanal coffee houses cropping up next to the countless stalls and cafes where you can order Vietnamese drip coffee to young, up-and-coming designers infusing new life into local crafts.

談到東南亞地區，胡志明市或許未必是你的中秋旅遊首選，但要是你敢輕視這活力跳脫的城市，那就絕對不可原諒。或許你對她的歷史建築已有一定認識(如美麗的聖母大教堂和中央郵局)，還有精彩的街道市場，但只要近距離細賞，你便會在古舊傳統的元素之間找到新穎的創意發展，包括無數攤檔和咖啡館旁的工藝咖啡室，讓你享受越南滴漏咖啡滋味，以及年輕新進設計師為當地工藝注入新生命的作品。



**BRIC-A-BRAC**  
The Central Post Office is a historical and architectural gem. Cong Ca Phe boasts quirky, homey design and delicious iced drip coffee

**小巧精品**  
中央郵局是歷史建築寶地。Cong Ca Phe供應各式玩味家居設計，以及冰凍透心的滴漏咖啡



## EXPLORE

### VESPA ADVENTURES

Forget cruising through the city in the comfort of a taxi or coach – the best way to experience it is to get up close and personal, and what better way to do so than on the back of a Vespa? If riding a Vespa is a skill you never got around to picking up – let alone navigating the weaving, sometimes seemingly lawless traffic of Ho Chi Minh City – tour operator Vespa Adventures has got you covered. The company offers a range of tours focused around different interests, but we particularly recommend the Saigon After Dark tour, a four-hour culinary journey that takes you through various cafes and street stalls where you can sample local staples – from *banh xeo* (savoury pancakes) to do-it-yourself prawn rice rolls – in between watching night views of the city whip by. You'll even get to see local talent in the form of live music at some of the venues.

忘掉乘坐的士或旅遊巴遊走城市的經歷吧，最佳體驗方法還是要親身近距離感受，還有甚麼好比安坐在Vespa機車後細賞沿途風光？要是你擔心學不會駕駛Vespa——更別說要遊走在看似無法治可言的胡志明市交通現場——導賞團營辦商Vespa Adventures正好全盤為你精心安排。公司提供一系列集中針對不同愛好的導賞團，當中我們首推Saigon After Dark團，這個為時4小時的美食之旅帶你走遍多間咖啡店和街鋪，一嚐當地必試美食，包括越南煎餅和親自動手做的蝦米卷，並欣賞到城市的亮麗夜景。你甚至有機會與表演現場音樂的當地人才見面。

**vespaadventures.com**

### WILD RIDE

Sample street food during Vespa Adventures' Saigon After Dark tour while being whisked through the city

### 風馳電掣

Vespa Adventures的Saigon After Dark導賞團帶你一邊遊走城市，一邊細嚐地道美食

## DRINK



Image courtesy of Cong Ca Phe

### CONG CA PHE

Tucked into the upper floors of an old building is a cafe that serves delicious drip coffee and Vietnamese snacks in a quirky setting. In a sort of stylish, coordinated chaos, austere wood floors combine with playful floral prints and bright colours, with furnishings that look like they could have been randomly bought from a multitude of thrift shops and second-hand sales. (Think cushy sofas and pendant lights made from upside-down plastic colanders.) It's a perfect spot to watch the city go by while enjoying a caffeine fix.

隱身舊建築上層的咖啡店在一片滿有另類特色的空間內供應美味滴漏咖啡和越南小食。亂中有序的時尚空間中，以樸素木地板結合玩味花紋和鮮色，還有看來像隨心從多間舊貨店和二手特價鋪買來的家飾品(想想以倒置濾盆整成的吊燈和舒適沙發)。這是一邊享受完美咖啡和欣賞城市動態的好地點。**congcaphes.com**





## SHOP



### SHOPPING SPREE

Kujean is a boutique worth visiting for its interiors as much as its products; we love the colourful tiling and quaint wooden furniture. Find delicate ceramics alongside woven bamboo accessories at Sadec District

### 盡情購物

精品店Kujean的室內裝潢和產品同樣引人入勝；我們特別喜愛它的彩色磚片設計和舊式木傢具。Sadec District供應大量竹織飾品和精緻陶瓷



### KUJEAN

Founded by local designer Chuong Dang, Kujean is both a lifestyle boutique and fashion label. Chuong gives traditional clothing such as the national costume *ao dai* new life by updating the designs to be more casual and comfortable, and by using unexpected colours and fabrics. Alongside his unique pieces are locally made curios such as ceramics created by socially conscious store and workshop Reaching Out, and styling services for men.

由當地設計師Chuong Dang創辦的Kujean是一間生活文化精品店和時裝品牌。Chuong為傳統衣飾——國服奧黛換上新面貌，選用驚喜色彩和布料改造成更悠閒自在的款式。他的獨特設計都是當地製作的珍品，如注重社區責任的店子兼工作室Reaching Out創製的陶瓷，以及為男士而設的造型服務。[facebook.com/kujeanbychuongdang](https://facebook.com/kujeanbychuongdang)

### SADEC DISTRICT

While traditional crafts such as lacquerware and tableware inlaid with duck-egg shell are readily available at the markets, souvenir shops and handicraft stores throughout the city, Sadec District offers up home accessories in ceramic, wooden and glass with a more modern twist; they're sourced from Vietnam and other countries throughout Southeast Asia. We particularly love the range of delicate, irregularly shaped porcelain mugs and bowls.

傳統工藝如加上鴨蛋殼嵌飾的餐具和漆器在城中多個市場、紀念品店和手藝店普遍有售，而Sadec District卻是一處提供各式陶瓷、木、玻璃和較現代摩登家飾品的必到站，產品搜購自越南及東南亞各地。我們特別喜愛形狀不規則的精緻瓷杯和碗。[sadecdistrict.com](https://sadecdistrict.com)



## STAY



### ITALIAN DECADENCE

The Reverie Saigon has a decidedly European flavour. Their designer-themed suites are a particular draw, where an entire room is outfitted in pieces from brands like Giorgetti and Visionnaire

### 意國風情

西貢萬韻酒店洋溢歐陸氣派。以設計師為主題的套房尤其吸引，房內選用品牌如Giorgetti和Visionnaire的出色之作

### THE REVERIE SAIGON

Opened late last year and spearheaded by a local developer, five-star The Reverie Saigon is perched at the top of the luxurious Times Square building. The owner's love of Italian design is evident, from the marble and mosaics used throughout the property to its designer furniture. The hotel boasts stunning views of the city or the river, delicious restaurant offerings – from sophisticated French-Asian fusion restaurant Cafe Cardinal to casual eatery The Long – as well as a stellar spa. In our opinion, the biggest draw is its designer-themed suites, where the majority of the furnishings within are sourced from a single designer, including the likes of Giorgetti and Visionnaire. Not only do you get to experience the exquisite pieces first-hand, but plenty of the brands have their flagship presences in the building, so you can head straight there to order a piece for your own home if anything happens to catch your eye. //

去年底開幕、由當地發展商牽首的五星級西貢萬韻酒店位處時代廣場大樓頂層。擁有人對意大利設計的熱愛各處彰顯，看看物業大量運用的大理石、馬賽克，還有各式設計師傢具，即略知一二。酒店飽覽城市和河流美景，還帶來各式美味餐廳選擇——法國亞洲混合菜餐廳Cafe Cardinal和供人間坐享用美食的The Long——當然還少不了舒適水療。最吸引我們的當然是以設計師為主題的套房，那兒大部分傢具家飾均出自單一設計師之手，包括Giorgetti和Visionnaire等。你不但可親身感受各款精緻作品，更能一到品牌位於大樓內的旗艦店，直接選購心儀作品。[thereveriesaiagon.com](http://thereveriesaiagon.com) //