

## MUST-DO IN VUNG TAU



### Christ the King Statue

Towering above the city and sea atop Vung Tau's Mount Nho, stands a mammoth Christ the King statue, just 2 metres shorter than the Art Deco representation of Jesus in Rio de Janeiro. Measuring 36 metres from tip to toe, and with outstretched arms spanning almost 20 metres, the statue has been a major pilgrim destination for Christians from across the world since its completion in 1993.

### Vi Ba mountain

Known as 'The Big Mountain', majestic Vi Ba mountain sits at the tip of the peninsular to form the heart of Vung Tau city. Tree lined paths wind to the mountain's top where a viewing station offers dramatic views of the city's Back Beach and a coastline stretching into the distance. Half way up the mountain is Tam Bao Pagoda or Monkey Pagoda where you can stop for a rest and feed the monkeys.

### White Palace

La Villa Blanche, or White Palace, is located on Big Mountain and was built by the French in 1898 as a holiday home for French Governor General Paul Doumer who later became president of France. A beautiful example of colonial architecture, the grand building still has its original decoration and furnishings, and now houses an impressive collection of antiques from around the country.

## MUST-BUY IN VUNG TAU



### Ba Cu shopping street

Ba Cu is a wide, tree lined street that bustles with activity and leads down to the beachfront. Full of shops and businesses, you'll find international brands and local specialties, as well as delicious street food, corner cafes and plenty of clothes shops. Wander down one of the many said allies for a glimpse at local life.

### Thuy Duong Souvenir

Located between Trung Trac and Trung Nhi streets close to the sea front, this quaint little souvenir shop specialises in mementos made from seashells that capture a breath of the sea to remind you of this beautiful coastal city. An ideal place to visit if you're looking for something memorable to take home with you.

### Seafood Specialties

The old and new markets in Vung Tau are great places to visit for a feel for local life, to pick up a souvenir of your visit, or to try some of the freshest local seafood in the city. Vung Tau old market is located in the heart of Vung Tau, while the new market is on the corner of Nam Ky Khoi Nghia and Xo Viet Nghe Tinh streets.

## MUST-EAT IN VUNG TAU



### **Banh Khot Ba Hai**

As a visitor to Vung Tau it's not easy to ignore the plentiful local cuisines, and Banh Khot is a particular favourite among locals and guests alike. Said by many to embody the city's unique culinary culture, the rustic dish combines small shrimps with a creamy cake batter, fried in small pots and then served piping hot. Tasty, delicious and fulfilling!

### **Son Thuy Ngu - Long Son Grilled Chicken**

Famed for its fresh seafood, Vung Tau is also renowned for its delicious grilled chicken, and although a little out of the way, this is a popular spot not to miss if you're passing by. Not too salty, not too spicy, this local speciality is especially good served with sticky rice. And with enthusiastic service, you won't wait long until there's a plate of fresh-from-the-grill chicken in front of you!

### **Seafood Night Market**

Vung Tau is a haven for seafood lovers and the bustling night market is the place to head if you're feeling hungry. Open daily from 4pm to later than 3am, the market stretches along a long road bustling with people visiting the many restaurants specialising in delicious fresh seafood dishes. Full of life's daily comings and goings, this is a place to visit even if you're not feeling peckish.

## MUST-DRINK IN VUNG TAU



### **88 Beer Garden**

If you want to experience how the Vietnamese party, this beachfront venue is the place to check out. With music pumping from an impressive sound system, ice-cold beer flowing freely, and regular entertainment from a selection of performers, this high energy beer club attracts crowds of young locals wanting to let their hair down every day of the week.

### **Gazebo Beach Front Lounge & Cafe**

Vung Tau's first and only 'almost' beachfront lounge, this is where to head for sundowner cocktails in an upscale yet unpretentious setting. As the evening progresses, crowds start to form as local and visitors gather for excellent cocktails, to relax and socialise before DJs get the party started with a selection of pumping, up-tempo beats and breaks.

### **Lavie en Rose Coffee**

This beautifully landscaped bar is attached to a hotel and spa overlooking pineapple beach, serving beer and bites and delicious ice cream throughout the day in a relaxed, open-air setting. The café's atmosphere picks up in the evening as regular live music sessions make it an attractive place for a cold beer, sundowner cocktails or an evening bite.