

#### Phu Quoc Island - Phu Quoc Beach Relax

Phu Quoc is a stunningly beautiful island in the far south of Vietnam, the country's largest. 99 forested mountains dominate the northern part of the island while the southern part is better known for its beaches. Phu Quoc is an almost unknown destination in Vietnam. International tourists and Vietnamese alike just recently discovered Phu Quoc. It is not hard to see why many tourists are boasting of the splendid natural beauty and untouched remote beaches of this spectacular tropical island.

Phu Quoc is a stunningly beautiful island in the far south of Vietnam, Phu Quoc is a very mountainous and densely forested Island of 1320 sq km; it is 48 km in length from south to north and has a population of approx. 80,000 people. Situated in the Gulf of Thailand 45 km west of Ha Tien on the Vietnamese mainland and 15 km south of the coast of Cambodia, Phu Quoc is ringed with some of most beautiful beaches in Vietnam, and offers the best seafood in the country The island's beauty is often compared to Phuket (its also a similar size), but without the people and infrastructure. The Vietnamese government has big plans for tourism on the island, a new airport is planned and foreign tourists donot need to have Vietnam visa to enter as well as many larger resorts will be opening over the next few years. Many consider it paradise with aquamarine water, idyllic beaches, romantic sunsets and a serene island-style atmosphere.

## Phu Quoc Island Nightlife - What to Do at Night on Phu Quoc Island

Night time in Phu Quoc is as relaxed as any other, the whole island is a place to just chill out and enjoy the scenery and after dark is no exception – the hypnotic lights from the squid boats at sea are so numerous they look like a galaxy. Nightlife invariably follows this pattern; cocktails at sunset, dinner at a beachside restaurant followed by a few drinks at a beach bar. It gets no more complicated than that.

#### Rainbow Bar

The quintessential beach bar, complete with thatched roof and sand underfoot. This is the place to hang out in Phu Quoc. The owner is French which means he understands the need for drinks to be kept cold in the warm climate, this also guarantees a decent wine list and that the bottles have been stored properly. Popular with divers, expect the vis to be one of the main topics of conversation.

#### Pho Bo Café

The upper storey overlooks the Dinh Cau Rock temple and lighthouse, its a nice spot in town to have some drinks while watching the sunset. You can have a closer look at the temple afterwards.

#### Ahoy Club

Located in Charm Resort this is the closest to a night club there is in Phu Quoc. Its a good venue, however it often lacks enough people to create any atmosphere, as the island receives most tourists this is sure to become a popular hangout.

# Phu Quoc Island Shopping - Where to Shop and What to Buy on Phu Quoc Island

Markets selling a wide range of fruit, vegetable and seafood are the main shopping venues in Phu Quoc, not necessarily what tourists want to buy but very interesting to see all the same. For tourists, shopping opportunities come in the form of handicrafts expertly made by locals and pearls which are farmed locally.

#### Markets

Local markets sell a colourful variety of fruit and vegetables of all shapes and sizes in addition to seafood and other foodstuff. Markets can be busy places but dont let that put you off. Some markets are one or two days a week however the main one in Duong Dong is a permanent fixture, you might want to avoid it when a cruise ship is in port though.

# Dinh Cau Night Market

The night market is the palace to buy souvenirs, all kinds of crafts are on sale in addition to the usual fresh produce and seafood. This can be a good place to buy pearls... while the kids are occupied in the playground.

# **Duong Dong Shops**

There are several shops that sell most basic items such as toothpaste, soap, beer, biscuits etc in Duong Dong, laundries are also here which are much cheaper than resort prices. There are a couple of pharmacies dotted around and the odd basic clothes shop, not high fashion obviously, but youll find the basics that you need.

## Pearl Shops

High quality items featuring South Sea pearls can be purchased from one of the islands pearl shops – the price tags match the quality of the pieces One such shop is Treasures from the Deep in Duong To which is run by a New Zealand company.

#### Attraction

Ask your hotel for an island tour, which may include visits to a fish sauce factory, the Nature Reserve or the disused prison. You can try a motorbike tour by yourself. Not all roads are good (some unpaved) but it is fun and the locals are really nice. In the far north corner you are able to see Cambodia. In the south are some really nice and quiet beaches.

#### What to See on Phu Quoc Island

The islands stunning beaches are a big draw, often picture postcard perfect with powder white sand and turquoise sea. For those interested in culture there are some interesting fishing villages to see and several temples and pagodas. The island is famous for growing pepper, you can see it growing all over the northern part. Many farms are happy to show you what they do.

# Beaches, Beaches

Anyone whos been to Phu Quoc will tell you its hard to believe that there are so many beaches that are both stunningly beautiful and deserted in just one place. The triangular-shaped island has many good beaches, like Long Beach on the western side, which is also the biggest and where most of the <a href="https://example.com/hotels-in-Phu Quoc">hotels-in-Phu Quoc</a> are located. Bai Sao, on the east coast, is a favourite spot – possibly the best beach on

Phu Quoc. Its fine white sand has many fans and most of the time you can expect crystal clear turquoise water – a postcard-like example of a tropical beach. Some others worth checking out are Ong Lang, Bai Thom and Bai Dai. Many of the islands beaches are not marked on maps very well. Go explore - seek and you shall find.

#### Waterfalls

Suoi Tranh waterfall is around 7km east of Duong Dong. Once youve paid the small entry fee its a 10-15 minute walk along a well trodden path through the jungle. There are many rock pools in which to take a dip, at the top theres a 4m waterfall (sometimes from January to May water can be a little lacking), the whole place has a lovely ambience.

If you want to see a more spectacular waterfall then Da Ngon is what youre looking for, the pool at the bottom is famed as a natural Jacuzzi. Its located deep in the jungle so a guided tour is the best way to see it, tours take half a day. Suoi Da Ban (stoney surface spring) is a natural spring that comes up through granite rocks. The white water cascades down and some of the pools are deep enough for a swim. Its easily accessible from the road.

## Dinh Cau Rock (Cau Temple)

This odd shaped rock sits at the mouth of the Duong Dong river. Initially a lighthouse until 1937 when a Buddhist temple dedicated to to Thien Hau (the Goddess of the sea) was built. No visit to Phu Quoc is complete without seeing little oddity.

#### **Pepper Plantations**

Vietnam is the worlds leading exporter of pepper and best quality harvest comes from Phu Quoc. Farms can be seen all over the central and northern parts of the island.

Those with a culinary interest can have a guided tour of a pepper farm to see the whole process in detail.

#### Pagodas and Temples

There are several pagodas and temples around the island that offer insights into Buddhism. In Duong Dong Town theres Sung Hung Pagoda which is surrounded by large trees. A well known monk built Hung Long Tu Pagoda. He chose the site, located 5km from Duong Dong Town, for its peace and tranquillity. There are several other temples dotted around the island which welcome visitors, however you should not have bare shoulders or wear shorts when you visit.

## Ham Ninh Fishing Village

On the islands east coast lies Ham Ninh, a quaint and sleepy fishing village. The locals will be pleased to see you, especially if you buy some of their pearls.

# Dogs

All around the island you cant help but notice the dogs with a Mohawk running down the length of their backs. They are Phu Quoc Ridgebacks a recognised breed that is native to the island. There are only two other breeds of dog in the world that have a similar distinctive Mohawk, they originate from Thailand and southern Africa. Phu Quoc Ridgebacks were originally wild dogs that were, over time, tamed by humans for hunting.

## **Explore the Island on a Motorbike**

Travelling around the island is one of most fun things you can do, but beware — many of the islands roads are not paved. Sturdy shoes and long trousers are a prerequisite. Scooters are easily rented from most hotels. In Duong Dong town you can see (and smell!) the fish sauce factories. Nearby is Suoi Tranh waterfall which is about 4m high (sometimes from January to May water can be a little lacking). Checkout Bai Sao on the east coast, reputed to be the best beach on the island, think white sand and turquoise sea. Find a deserted spot on long beach to stop for a swim. In the northern part of the island the terrain gets more mountainous, and the roads a little more bumpy. Lots of isolated beaches are waiting to be found, along the way up to Dai Beach and beyond, many small fishing villages are passed.

#### **National Park**

The national park, created in 2001 by the Vietnamese government, covers more than half the island. Thick foliage covers the mountainous slopes that are home to langurs, macaques, loris, otters, hornbills and fruit bats. The best way to visit the park is to book a tour with your hotel as most of the trails are not signposted very well. Its not a good idea to visit the park when its been raining heavily as you will get very muddy.

## Snorkelling

Phu Quocs crystal clear waters offer some of Vietnams best snorkelling. Reefs fringe many of the islands and islets that make up the archipelago and snorkelling tours run daily during high season and will show you underwater habitats full of life and colour. The An Thoi archipelago consists of 12 islands located due south of Phu Quoc with pristine scenenery and an abundance of colourful reef fish, daytrips here often include a spot of fishing.

## Scuba Diving

There are some dive sites around the north of Phu Quoc but most dive trips head to the pristine reefs of both hard and soft corals that teem with colourful fish around An Thoi.

Nice reasonably shallow dive sites are numerous but dont expect to any manta rays or large pelagic fish. Dive centres can be found easily around the island.

## How to get there

To get to the island you have two options; either by plane or ferry. An alternative is to catch a ferry from Rach Gia, but flying is recommended.

- From Noi Bai airport: 1.438km, 145-minute flight with Airbus 321 and CRJ-900, 5 flights/week on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday.
- From Tan Son Nhat airport: 300km, 55-minute flight with Airbus 321, ATR 72, CRJ-900 and A320, 13 flights per day.
- From Rachgia airport: 131km, 30-minute flight with ATR 72, 2 flights per day.
- From Can Tho airport: 198 km, 40-minute flight with Fokker 70, 5 flights/week on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday and Sunday.
- Hydrofoil from Rachgia port: 120km, 150 minutes of high speed boat, 6 trips per day and from Hatien port: 46km, 90 minutes of high speed boat, 4 trips per day.

Source: Đặt khách sạn