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Suggested food plans for 1, 2 or 3 days

From our guide **Top 10 Best Places to Eat in Hanoi**. Print it or save it to your phone.



Day 1: Old Quarter classics

Start with a bowl at **Pho Bat Dan**, then walk to **Banh Mi 25** for a light lunch snack. In the afternoon, wander the lake and stop at **Giang Cafe** for egg coffee. Finish with dinner at **Cha Ca Thang Long**. Everything is within a short walk.

Day 2: Street breakfasts and a long lunch

Eat breakfast at **Xoi Yen**, then head by taxi to **Bun Cha Huong Lien** for lunch before the queue peaks. Return for a slow afternoon, then have dinner at **Quan An Ngon** to sample a range of dishes.

Day 3: Lighter dishes and a sit-down finish

Try **Banh Cuon Ba Hoanh** for breakfast, then **Bun Thang Ba Duc** for a lighter lunch. Spend the afternoon at a museum or by the lake, then finish with a relaxed dinner at **Home Hanoi**.

The 10 places at a glance

1. Bun Cha Huong Lien

How to get there: It sits at 24 Le Van Huu street in Hai Ba Trung district, about 10 to 15 minutes by taxi or ride-hailing app from the Old Quarter.
How long to spend: About 45 minutes, including any wait for a table.
Best time to go: Late morning, before the lunch rush peaks.
Tip: Say "no" to extras you do not want, as side dishes and drinks are often added by default. Prices are shown on the menu, so check them before you order.
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2. Pho Bat Dan

How to get there: It is on Bat Dan street, a short walk west of the main Old Quarter streets and about 10 minutes on foot from Hoan Kiem Lake.
How long to spend: 30 to 40 minutes.
Best time to go: Early morning, when the broth is at its freshest.
Tip: Pay attention to the rules of the room: queue, find a seat and order once you sit. Check before you go for opening hours, as they vary by season.
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3. Cha Ca Thang Long

How to get there: It is on Duong Thanh street, about 10 minutes on foot from Hoan Kiem Lake through the Old Quarter.
How long to spend: About an hour.
Best time to go: Early evening, when the pans are busy and the herbs are fresh.
Tip: Fermented shrimp paste is strong. Ask for the milder sauce if you are unsure, and check before you go as menus and portion sizes can change.
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4. Banh Mi 25

How to get there: It is on Hang Ca street in the Old Quarter, a few minutes on foot from the Hoan Kiem Lake area.
How long to spend: 10 to 15 minutes to order and eat.
Best time to go: Late morning or early afternoon, when baguettes are fresh.
Tip: Order two small fillings and share, so you can try more than one. Check before you go that the shop is open, as stalls close on slow days.
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5. Bun Thang Ba Duc

How to get there: It is on Cau Go street, a short walk from the northern shore of Hoan Kiem Lake.
How long to spend: 30 to 40 minutes.
Best time to go: Morning or lunchtime, in cooler months.
Tip: The broth is very hot, so give it a minute. Check before you go for opening times, which can vary.
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6. Quan An Ngon

How to get there: It is on Phan Boi Chau street, about 15 minutes on foot from Hoan Kiem Lake, or a short taxi ride.
How long to spend: 1 to 1.5 hours.
Best time to go: Early evening, when the courtyard is cooler.
Tip: Order a few dishes at a time and share them. Check before you go that the venue is open and whether booking is advised for groups.
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7. Giang Cafe

How to get there: It is on Nguyen Huu Huan street, a short walk from the north-west corner of Hoan Kiem Lake.
How long to spend: 30 to 45 minutes.
Best time to go: Mid-morning or mid-afternoon, between meals.
Tip: Raw egg is used, so ask about preparation if this is a concern. Check before you go for current opening hours.
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8. Xoi Yen

How to get there: The best-known branch is on Nguyen Huu Huan street, close to Giang Cafe, a few minutes on foot from the lake.
How long to spend: 20 to 30 minutes.
Best time to go: Breakfast, or mid-morning to avoid queues.
Tip: Point at toppings if you do not know the names, and check before you go as the shop may have more than one address.
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9. Banh Cuon Ba Hoanh

How to get there: It is on To Hien Thanh street, south of the Old Quarter, about 10 to 15 minutes by taxi or ride-hailing app. Michelin lists it as cash only.
How long to spend: 30 minutes.
Best time to go: Breakfast or early morning.
Tip: Order a plate to share and add cha lua on the side. Check before you go that the shop is still at this address.
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10. Home Hanoi

How to get there: The restaurant has moved before and listings disagree on its current address, so confirm the location on its own page or a map app before you go.
How long to spend: About 1 to 1.5 hours.
Best time to go: Evening, when you want a slower meal.
Tip: Booking is wise for groups at busy times. Check before you go for the current menu and opening days.
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Getting around Hanoi

Most of the places here are close together, so walking works well in the Old Quarter. Pavements are often crowded with parked motorbikes and stalls, so you will sometimes walk on the road edge. Cross slowly and steadily, and traffic will flow around you.

For longer trips, such as Hai Ba Trung district, use a ride-hailing app or a metered taxi. Agree on the route or check the meter. Hanoi also has urban rail lines, but they do not serve the Old Quarter well, so taxis, ride-hailing apps and walking are simpler for this itinerary. If you have a spare day, a day trip to Ninh Binh from Hanoi pairs well with a food-focused stay. Check the official Vietnam tourism site for current travel advice and visa information.

Opening times, prices and transport change often, so check with each venue or operator before you go. For the full guide, photos and FAQs, see https://toptravelinsider.com/top-10-best-places-to-eat-in-hanoi/.