

The Old Town of Hanoi

Since ancient times, the old town of Hanoi has comprised 36 streets in the centre of the city. Established during the Ly and Tran dynasties, it is a place of partitioned trades, with each street a different trade village with its own mark. The names of the roads in the old town therefore all start with the word 'Hang'.

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Today, although the old town is not quite as it was, it still contains vestiges of its culture and history. Ancient markers can still be seen in the old houses, peaceful streets, and moss-covered tiled roofs, which are all elegant features of Hanoi's past and the pride of the people in the area. The bustling streets can seem to be outside the flow of time – golden sunshine on a window, aged roof tiles, the sweet scent of milk flowers in the evening, or the gentle charm of a Hanoi woman in traditional Vietnamese dress on The Huc Bridge over the Lake of the Sword. For Hanoi people, the Ancient Quarter is beautiful like nowhere else in the world.

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When were the 36 streets of Hanoi old town established?

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What word do all the street names in the old town contain?

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The Lake of the Sword has another name in English. What is it?