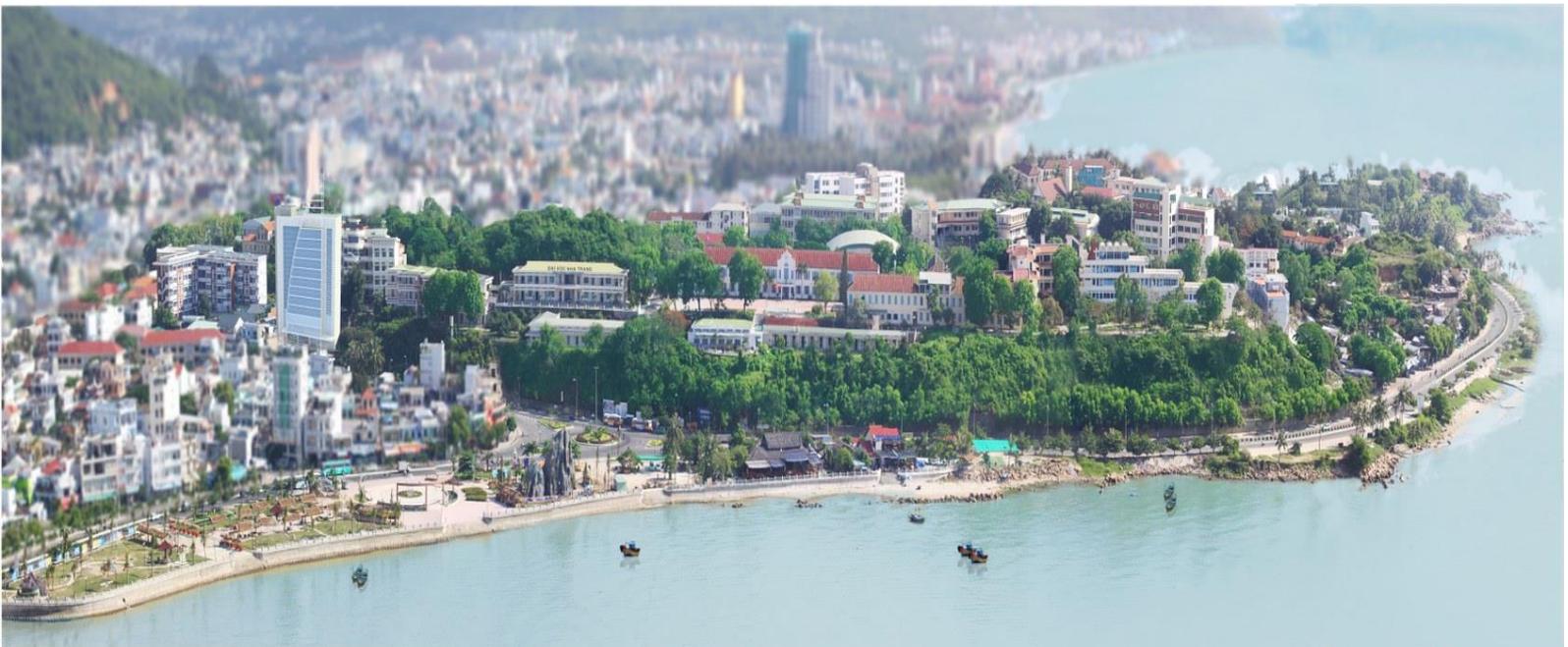


NHA TRANG UNIVERSITY



Department of External Affairs

**GUIDELINES
FOR
FOREIGN TEACHERS/ EXPERTS/ VISITORS AND STUDENTS**



Updated March 2020

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PART 1. WELCOME TO VIETNAM

1. Geographical location

Lying on the eastern part of the Indochinese peninsula, Vietnam is a strip of land shaped like the letter “S”. China borders it to the north, Laos and Cambodia to the west, the Eastern Sea (South China Sea) to the east and the Pacific Ocean to the east and south.

Vietnam has an area of 331,210 km² with 63 provinces and municipalities, and Hanoi is the capital. Mountains and hills cover two thirds of the mainland. Areas above 500m in altitude account for 70 percent of the mainland. The most grandiose and highest mountain ranges lie in the west and northwest of the country.

Vietnam’s territorial waters are comprised of around 1,000,000 km², with 3,260 km of coastline. Along the coastline, from the North to the South, Vietnam has lots of beautiful beaches. Nha Trang City is recognized as one of the most beautiful bays in the world.



2. National flag

The flag of Vietnam, or "red flag with a gold star", was designed in 1940 and was used during an uprising against French rule in southern Vietnam. Red symbolizes the goals of the social revolution behind the Vietnamese national uprising. The star represents the five main classes in Vietnamese society—intellectuals, farmers, workers, businesspeople and military personnel.



3. Language

Vietnamese is the national and official language of Vietnam, and the one which is spoken by the vast majority of the country's population.

Some basic words and sentences:

English	Vietnamese
Hello	Xin chào
Goodbye	Tạm biệt
How are you?	Bạn có khỏe không?
Yes	Vâng
No	Không
Thank you	Cám ơn
I'm sorry	Xin lỗi
Can you help me?	Bạn có thể giúp tôi được không?
No problem/ You're welcome	Không có chi
Do you speak English?	Bạn nói tiếng Anh được không?
Where's the toilet?	Nhà vệ sinh ở đâu?
Nothing too spicy, please	Làm ơn mọi thứ không quá cay
I'm vegetarian	Tôi ăn chay
Hot	Cay
How much is it?	Bao nhiêu tiền?
It is too expensive	Mắc quá
Do you have something cheaper?	Bạn có cái nào rẻ hơn không?
One to ten	Một, hai, ba, bốn, năm, sáu, bảy, tám, chín, mười
Oh my God	Trời ơi

4. Currency

The Vietnamese Dong (VND) is the currency of Viet Nam. 1 USD equals to around 23,700 VND (March 2020)

Value in VND	Bank note	Value in USD
1,000 VND		

2,000 VND		
5,000 VND		
10,000 VND		50 Cents
20,000 VND		\$1
50,000 VND		\$2.50
100,000 VND		\$5

200,000 VND		\$10
500,000 VND		\$25

5. Festivals and public holidays

All people are officially off from work and school on festivals and public holidays. The following holidays are public celebrations for the whole country, a time when all Vietnamese can enjoy time of work and school to travel or to gather with their family.

Date	English Name	Remarks
January 1	Western New Year's Day	
From last day of the last lunar month to 5 th day of the first lunar month	<u>Tết</u> (Vietnamese New Year – Lunar New Year)	Largest holiday of the year, occurs around late January-early February
10 th day of the 3 rd lunar month	Hung King Commemorations	New holiday since 2007, around in April
April 30	Day of Southern Liberation for National Reunification	Liberation of Saigon and reunification of Vietnam in 1975
May 1	International Labour Day	International Labour Day
September 2	Independence Day	Vietnam declares its independence, forming the Democratic Republic of Vietnam

6. Traditions and customs of Vietnam

Make sure you read these things before visiting Vietnam so that you can easily integrate with the local people and have a memorable trip by discovering other ways of thinking.

❖ Ancestor Worship

Vietnamese ancestors are believed to continue to live in another realm, and that it is the duty of the living beings to meet their needs. In return, the ancestors give advice and bring good fortune. A small altar is placed in almost every house in Vietnam; it is used to

commune with the departed loved ones. The rites consist of making offerings of fruits, food, wine, votive papers, lighting candles and burning incense before praying in front of the altar.



❖ **Burning votive paper**

Votive papers can be houses, clothes, fake money, cars, motorbikes... made of paper. They represent gifts for the ancestors. After being burnt, a little wine is sprinkled upon the ashes so that the spirits can ascend to heaven and bring the gifts for the ancestors to use them. This ritual takes place regularly on particular days such as festivals, new and full moon days, yearly ancestors' death anniversaries or the Lunar New Year.



❖ **God of Wealth Worship in business**

According to Vietnamese conception, Than Tai (God of Wealth) is a sort of "benefactor" to bring fortune into business. In principle, the altar should be placed in a well-ventilated position, in a corner of the house or in front of the entrance. That is why you will find a small altar like this one in almost every shop, boutique, restaurant, hotel in Vietnam.



❖ Visiting the pagoda

On full moon days or Lunar New Year, many Vietnamese go to the pagodas and temples to pray for health, peace and happiness. This is not only simply a wish, but also a moment for people to gather in a spiritual place, leaving behind the difficulties in life and feeling all together the harmony of heaven and earth.



❖ Lunar New Year reunion (Tet holiday)

The Vietnamese New Year (Tet Holiday) takes place from the first day of the first month of the Lunar calendar (around late January or early February) for at least three days. It is a joyful family reunion full of smiles and blessings to express the filial piety, the family bonds and the desire for a coming year full of happiness, prosperity and goodness.



Throughout Vietnam's rich and long history, what features prominently is the entire country's effort to preserve the national identity and the fascinating cultural heritage which has been passed down from generation to generation, obtaining as a result, a sublime fusion between traditional and contemporary values.

7. Climate and weather

The weather in Vietnam diversifies by region. In Hanoi & the North, from May to October, it is hot and humid with high rainfall; from November to April, it is cooler and dry. In the far North, December & January can be particularly cold. Central Vietnam experiences hot, dry weather between January & August when temperatures can hit the mid-30°C's; whilst high levels of rainfall can occur in September, October & November. Southern Vietnam is generally dry and hot from November to April, and warm and wet between May & October, with the highest rainfall in June, July & August.

8. Visa to Vietnam

There are several types of visa for different purposes of stay, foreign students and visitors must contact the Department of External Cooperation, Nha Trang University to receive advice and guidance about how to get appropriate visa. Usually, the required information should be sent to the Department of External Cooperation one month prior to departure from your home country.

During your stay in Vietnam, if you need an extension for your stay or a new visa, you should contact the Department of External Cooperation at least two weeks before the expiry date of current visa.

Contact info of the Department of External Cooperation can be found in Part III.

PART 2. WELCOME TO NHA TRANG CITY

1. Transportation to Nha Trang and other cities

Nha Trang is the capital city of Khanh Hoa province, a land rich in history and culture. The city is situated in the southern part of central Vietnam, approximately 440 kilometers north of Ho Chi Minh City and 1,280 kilometers south of Ha Noi, capital of Vietnam.

❖ *Reaching Nha Trang by air*

Most international airline companies fly to Ha Noi, Ho Chi Minh, or Da Nang city. From one of these cities, local airline companies (Vietnam Airlines, Vietjet Air, Jetstar Pacific, Bamboo Airways) can connect you to Nha Trang (Cam Ranh airport). These airlines offer daily flights. Recently, due to high demand from international visitors, many direct international flights have been connected to Cam Ranh Airport such as from China, Russia, Korea,... You can check flight time as well as airfare through <https://www.traveloka.com/en-vn/>

From Cam Ranh airport you can reach Nha Trang University by taxi or the airport bus. It takes you about 45 minutes for transportation.

❖ *Reaching Nha Trang by train*

Vietnam Railways offers trains from cities such as Ha Noi (24 hours), Da Nang (10 hours) and Ho Chi Minh (7 hours) to Nha Trang City. Nha Trang station is located in the centre of Nha Trang City. From Nha Trang Station you can reach Nha Trang University by a taxi or bus in 15 minutes. The service, with multiple services and levels of comfort travels from the North to the South of Vietnam, and vice versa, stopping at all cities on route.

❖ *Reaching Nha Trang by bus*

There are many options for your choice. Followings are reliable bus companies for your traveling:

- Phuong Nam Express
- Phuong Trang Express (FUTA Express)

- Quang Hanh
- Huynh Gia
- Cuc Tung Limousine
- Think Phat Limousine

2. Transportation inside Nha Trang City

❖ Bus

Generally, the bus system in Nha Trang city is cheap, air-conditioned, and pleasant. Currently, there are 6 lines. Lines 4, 5, and 6 can drop you close to the University. Line 4 bus passes through the tourist area.



Bus line No. 1: Binh Tan – Le Hong Phong - Thanh

- Operating time: 5:25 to 19:15
- Journey duration: 50 minutes/ time.
- Route: Vinh Truong People's Committee → Vo Thi Sau → To Hieu → Truong Son → Phuoc Long → Le Hong Phong → Ma Vong → 23/10 street (near Long Son Pagoda) → 1A Highway → Provincial Highway 8 (Dong Khoi) → Dien Son 1 Primary School and Vice versa.

Bus line No. 2: Binh Tan – Tran Phu - Thanh

- Operating time: 5:20 to 19:10
- Journey duration: 50 minutes/ time.
- Route: Binh Tan Bus Station → To Hieu → Bach Dang Park → 96 Tran Phu (opposite the alley to Queen Hotel) → Tran Quang Khai → Hung Vuong → Le Thanh Ton → Dinh Tien Hoang (Queen Hotel 3) → Ly Tu Trong → Quang Trung → Tran Quy Cap → Ma Vong → 23/10 street (near Long Son Pagoda) → Big C supermarket → 1A Highway → Provincial Highway 2 → Thanh Bus Station and Vice-versa.

Bus line No. 3: Cho Dam – Ngo Gia Tu – Song Lo

- Operating time: 5:50 to 17:55
- Journey duration: 30 minutes/ time.
- Route: Dam Market (Phan Boi Chau street) → Ngo Quyen → Pasteur → Tran Hung Dao → Nguyen Chanh → Ngo Gia Tu (Xom Moi Market) → Cuu Long → Le Hong Phong → Nguyen Tat Thanh Boulevard → Le Quy Don High School → Phuoc Dong 3 Crossroads (100 Eggs Mud Bath) → Phuoc Dong Parish → Song Lo Bus Station and Vice versa.

Bus line No. 4: Duong Hien Quyen – Nguyen Thien Thuat – Vinpearl

- Operating time: 5:10 to 19:10
- Journey duration: 45 minutes/ time.

- Route: Duong Hien Quyen (near University of Telecommunication) → Pham Van Dong (Khanh Hoa University) → Hon Chong → Thap Ba → 2/4 street → Quang Trung (General Hospital) → Ly Thanh Ton → Crossroads (Mountain Church) → Le Thanh Ton → Nguyen Thien Thuat → Tran Quang Khai → 86 Tran Phu → 96 Tran Phu (At the alley head to Queen Hotel) → Cau Da (Institute of Oceanography) → Vinpearl Port and Vice versa.

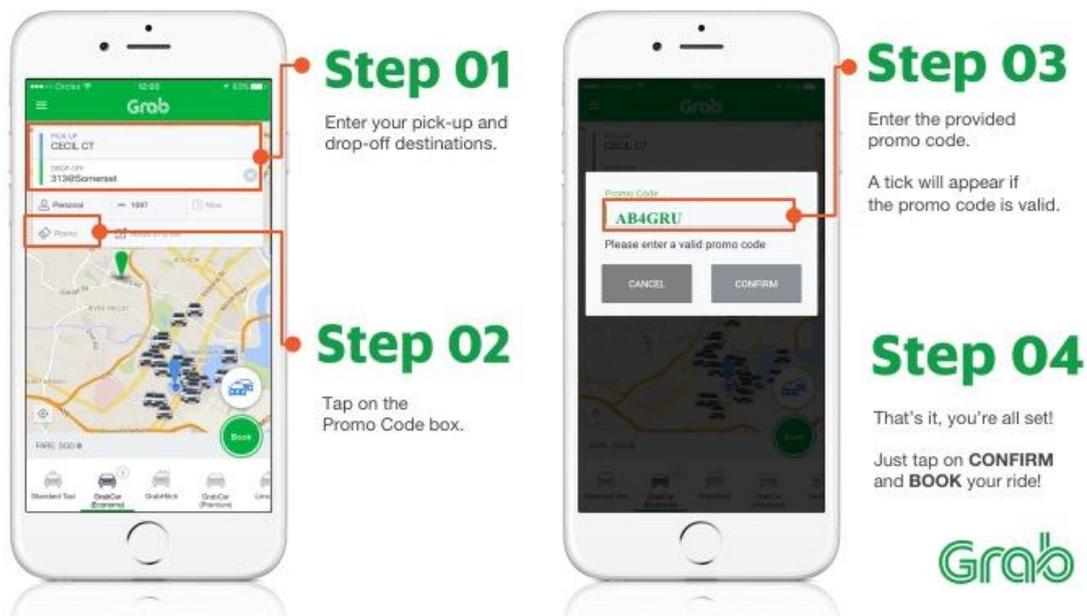
Bus line No. 5: Tran Phu Bridge – To Hien Thanh – Hon Ro

- Operating time: 5:20 to 18:35
- Journey duration: 35 minutes/ time.
- Route: The North side of Tran Phu Bridge (Near Nha Trang University → Nguyen Binh Khiem → Ngo Quyen → Phan Chu Trinh (Return way: Hoang Van Thu - Le Loi) → Hoang Hoa Tham → Nguyen Chanh → Le Thanh Ton (Return way: Dinh Tien Hoang) → Tô Hiến Thành → Nguyễn Thị Minh Khai → 96 Tran Phu (At the alley head to Queen Hotel) → Da Tuong → Vo Thi Sau → Phuoc Long → Le Hong Phong → Nguyen Tat Thanh Boulevard → Binh Tan Bridge → Hon Ro 1 and Vice versa.

Bus line No. 6: Big C Supermarket – Northern Bus Station – Luong Son Market

- Operating time: 5:20 to 19:00
- Journey duration: 45 minutes/ time.
- Route: Big C Supermarket → 23/10 street → Yersin → Quang Trung → 2/4 Street → Northern Bus Station → Nguyen Xien → Nha Trang National College of Pedagogy → Fiber Factory → 1A Highway → Luong Son market and Vice versa.

❖ **Grab**



Get a safe and reliable ride in minutes with Grab (formerly GrabTaxi). With the largest pool of drivers in Nha Trang, Grab offers the fastest booking service for taxis, private cars or motorbikes.

There are lots of options for you to choose when you want to go anywhere in Nha Trang City.

*GrabTaxi: Book a budget or premium taxi from Southeast Asia's largest network of drivers.

*GrabCar: Ride in comfort in a private car and pay a fixed fare that is agreed upfront.

*GrabBike: Get around the city in simply the quickest way possible.

❖ **Taxi**

Taxi in Nha Trang is usually metered, the price is generally fair. There are some outstanding companies:

- Mai Linh (Green taxi): (0258) 38 38 38 38
- Quoc Te (Blue taxi): (0258) 3 52 52 52
- Asia (Yellow taxi): (0258) 35 35 35 35
- Vinasun (White and green taxi): (0258) 38 27 27 27

3. Food

The most popular cuisine in Nha Trang is seafood. It comes in many forms and combinations. Fresh seafood is available round in Nha Trang. Seafood restaurants are plentiful around the city and you can find cheap dishes served by restaurants near the university.

There are plenty of foreign restaurants on Biet Thu Street, Tran Quang Khai Street, Nguyen Thien Thuat Street, and Hung Vuong Street, called "Pho Tay" or Foreign Streets. Western foods such as Italian, French, Mexican, Spanish; Asian foods as well, for example Chinese, Thai, Korean, Japanese, Indian and so on can be found there. Some recommended restaurants nearby are Zallo Buffet (specialize in fresh seafood) on Tran Quang Khai Street, Nha Trang Seafood and Ngoc Trai Restaurant on Nguyen Thi Minh Khai St.

Local food:

- Banh can on To Hien Thanh St
- Nem nuong, Bun thit nuong on Le Loi St
- Banh canh, Bun ca Pro on Thai Nguyen St
- Banh xeo on Thap Ba St
- Hanoi Food on Le Quy Don street

Coffee in Nha Trang is also famous because it is amazingly delicious. Local people usually drink black coffee or coffee with sweetened milk, called Café Sua Da. Coffee shops can be found everywhere in the city.

4. Destinations:

Nha Trang city is famous for tourism, there are numerous destinations to visit. Below are the names of some of these, type their names on Google search engine and you will find details.

- Vinpearl Land (Resort & Amusement Park)
- Thap Ba Hot Springs
- I resort Mud Bath
- Ponagar Tower
- Mountain Church
- Long Son Pagoda
- Chong Rock
- Islands in Nha Trang Bay
- Institute of Oceanography



5. Telephone:

There are several companies that provide services for cell phone, here are the most popular names.

- Viettel
- Vinaphone
- MobiFone
- Vietnammobile
- Gmobile

Access the website of the companies, and choose one suitable for you.

Sim cards can be found at shops on 2/4 St. Many mobile shops, retailers of famous brands (Samsung, Iphone, etc.), are located on Quang Trung St, you can buy a cell phone and also a sim card there. Big shops are priorities to visit are FPT shop (<https://fptshop.com.vn/>) or The gioi Di dong Shop (<https://www.thegioididong.com/>)

You can buy a card to charge/recharge your account at any post office. There is one in the campus near the canteen.

❖ Important Telephone numbers

Police: 0258.113

Emergency: 0258 .115

Fire: 0258 .114

Inquiries: 0258.1080

6. Other important addresses

- Khanh Hoa General Hospital: 19 Yersin St.
- Vinmec Nha Trang International Hospital, 42A Tran Phu St.
- Central Post Office: 01 Pasteur St.
- Nha Trang City Police: 02 Le Thanh Ton St., Tel: 0258 3510 149

PART 3. WELCOME TO NHA TRANG UNIVERSITY

1. Introduction

Nha Trang University (NTU) is located in Nha Trang City - reputedly the most beautiful coastal city on the South Central Coast of Vietnam. It's a popular destination for sunbathing and enjoying beach activities. Nha Trang weather has two distinct seasons. Its monsoon period takes place from September until December. The dry period is from January until August. The town enjoys moderate temperatures throughout the year. Expect an average low of 20°C and an average high of 32°C when you're here.

Starting in 1959 as the Fisheries Faculty of Hanoi Institute of Agriculture and Forestry, NTU took its debut as a separate institution in 1966 under the name "School of Fisheries". During its development process, the name was changed several times. In 2006, we took the current name - Nha Trang University.

During its 60 years of development, NTU has become a prestigious multi-disciplinary and multi-level institution with a strong foundation of fisheries and aquaculture. NTU has gained many achievements in training, scientific research, and international cooperation that have contributed tremendously to the socioeconomic development of Vietnam, particularly for the fisheries sector.

It has been and continues to be a leading university in the field of fisheries and aquaculture sciences at a national level, playing a significant role both in driving the development of marine economy in Vietnam and in generating the necessary human resources that can accommodate the inevitable integration process of the nation. Our vision is to become a prestigious university in training, research, and technology transfer and a leader in Southeast Asia in fisheries science and some selected areas in marine economy by 2030.

The full-fledge university currently has 25 faculties, institutes, research centers, technology transfer centers and 8 managerial departments. NTU now offers 37 programs for bachelor degrees, 16 programs for master's degrees and 6 programs for doctoral degrees. Additionally, the university also provides associate degrees and various programs for vocational training, short training courses, summer programs and so on to meet the demand of society. It has a stable enrolment of more than 3,500 new students annually and the total number of students is approximately 16,000. NTU students come from all over the country and numerous international nations. With 700 employees, including more than 100 PhDs, around 300 Masters, and more than 100 teaching staffs are pursuing their graduate programs, 40% of them have been trained at developed countries.



For more information about NTU, please access our website at: <http://en.ntu.edu.vn/>

2. Contact

Department of External Cooperation is responsible for all activities related to international affairs. If you have any issue during your daily life and activities, please contact us at:

Add: 02 Nguyen Dinh Chieu street, Nha Trang city, Khanh Hoa province, Vietnam

Phone: (+84) 258 2471 303

Email address: dea@ntu.edu.vn

For an emergency situation, do not hesitate to contact members of the Department of External Cooperation:

- Ms. Han - 0983335661
- Ms. Hanh - 0933455206
- Mr. Duy - 0905170615
- Dr. Ngan – 0917747603

3. Convenience around Nha Trang University

❖ *Computer and laptop*

Nha Trang University has an IT Team, where you can go to seek help from staff for issues related to laptop (software and hardware). The IT Team is located at 5th Floor, Multifunctional Building.

❖ *Library*

NTU Library provides documents, reference books at all levels, rooms for group work and quiet spaces for studying. It opens from 7h00-11h30, 13h30-21h00, from Mondays to Fridays and 7h00-11h30, 13h30-17h00 on Saturdays and Sundays.

❖ *Photocopy and stationeries*

NTU has a photocopy shop (called Xuong In) near the main gate. It opens at from 7:00 to 17:00. You can also purchase some office stationary there.

There are a lot of photocopy shops on Nguyen Dinh Chieu St. but some of them will frequently overcharge foreigners. There is a small shop on the university campus on the east side of the gymnasium that is economical.

Dang Khoa Shop on Nguyen Dinh Chieu St. (next to the way to the Institute of Marine Science and Fishing Technology) provides all kinds of stationeries at a cheap price.

❖ *Laundry*

Laundry is provided at outside campus at a cheap price. It can also be done on Nguyen Dinh Chieu St. near the main gate.

❖ **Accommodation**

Nha Trang University provides rooms in dormitories inside the Campus. There is one dormitory for international students, one dormitory for international teachers/experts. There are general rules for students living in dormitories and each building has its own regulations because of its own security and conditions. If you are staying in one of the dormitories please check the regulations.



Remember to lock all doors of your room before sleeping or going out. There are two entrances of the campus through the gates that close at 23:00.

❖ **Medical**

Popular medicine and first aid are provided at the Health Office at K4 dormitory for all students, it opens 7:00 - 11:30 and 13:30-17:00 from Monday to Friday.

If you have to go to a doctor, firstly contact the Department of External Cooperation to receive advice and help.

❖ **Parking**

All cars, motorcycles, bicycles must be left in the basement under the stadium, entering the basement from west side of the stadium.

❖ **Markets**

- Vinh Tho market is on 2/4 St, it is smaller than the other markets but the nearest to the university, 10 minute walk.

- Vinh Hai market is also on 2/4 St, a with reasonable prices, near the university. Turn right from the corner of Nguyen Dinh Chieu and 2/4 St.

- Dam market (Cho Dam) is the largest in town, selling all kinds of goods, popular with tourists but it is more expensive. You can test your negotiating skills here by “Bargaining”.

- Xom Moi market is on 49 Ngo Gia Tu St. Big market, cleaner and the prices more reasonable. It has the largest range of fruits, vegetables, meat and seafood.

- The Night market is on Tran Phu St., opposite of 2/4 Square, colorful at night, mostly visited by tourists.

❖ **Supermarkets**

- Vinmart is on 60 Thai Nguyen St.
- Coopmart is on 2 Le Hong Phong St.
- Lottemart is on 58 23/10 St.
- Citi Mart is on 2nd floor of Nha Trang Center

❖ **Bookshops**

- Vinh Phuoc Bookshop (Nha sach Vinh Phuoc) is on 2/4 St., turn right from Nguyen Dinh Chieu St., there is a bookshop on the right (east) side of 2/4 St. A walking distance from the University.

- Phuong Nam Book Cafe is on 17 Thai Nguyen St., near the Railway Station.

- Tan Tien Bookshop is on 11 Le Thanh Phuong St.

- Fahasa Bookshop is on the 2nd floor of Coopmart Supermarket or 2nd of Big C Supermarket.

❖ **ATMs and Banking**

There are ATMs next to the front gate of the university. Banking services are available at bank branches located on 2/4 St.

Some banks are reliable for foreigners for transaction:

- Vietcombank (Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Foreign Trade of Vietnam): No. 17 Quang Trung St., Nha Trang. Tel: (0258) 3568 899
- Vietinbank (Vietnam Joint Stock Commercial Bank for Industry and Trade): No.4 Hoang Hoa Tham St., Nha Trang. Tel: (0258) 3822 802
- BIDV (Bank for Investment and Construction of Vietnam): No. 35 on 2/4 St., Nha Trang. Tel: (0258) 3823 495

4. Security

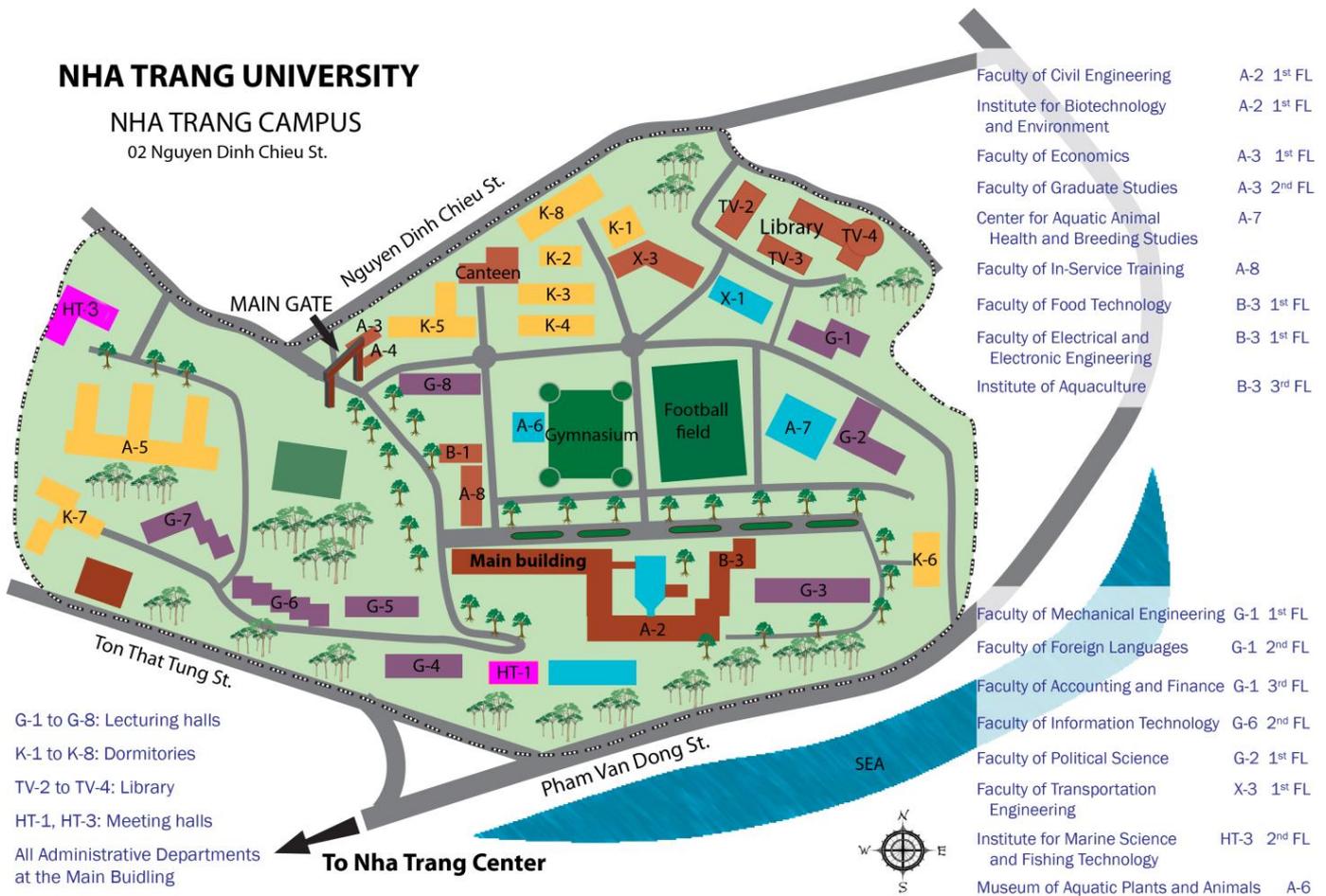
Unfortunately, theft sometimes occurs on the campus. Staff, students and visitors have been known to have been victimized. Never leave your bicycle, notebooks, book bags, glasses, cell phone, laptop or anything else unattended on the campus or around Nha Trang city. Lock your doors. Never carry a camera, camera bag, or purse loose in the basket of a motorbike or bicycle. If you are on a motorbike or bicycle, loop the strap of your purse/book bag/briefcase/computer case around your neck and shoulder. If it does not have a long strap, try to secure it against a “drive by” snatching. Be careful on the bus with your cell phone, pickpockets may target you.

Never let a stranger into your room under any kind of pretense. If you cannot understand what a stranger at your door wants, tell him/her to come back later or ask the students/persons next door to help you.

If you happen to find yourself outside bars or clubs late at night, gangs of girls or boys may accost you offering a “massa”/massage or some other service but walk away fast because your wallet and cell phone can be pick-pocketed.

When walking around the city (especially in places such as Dam Market), make sure your bag is kept close to your person, don’t walk around with valuables such as passports, or more money than what you require for that day.

5. Campus map





CONTACT US

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