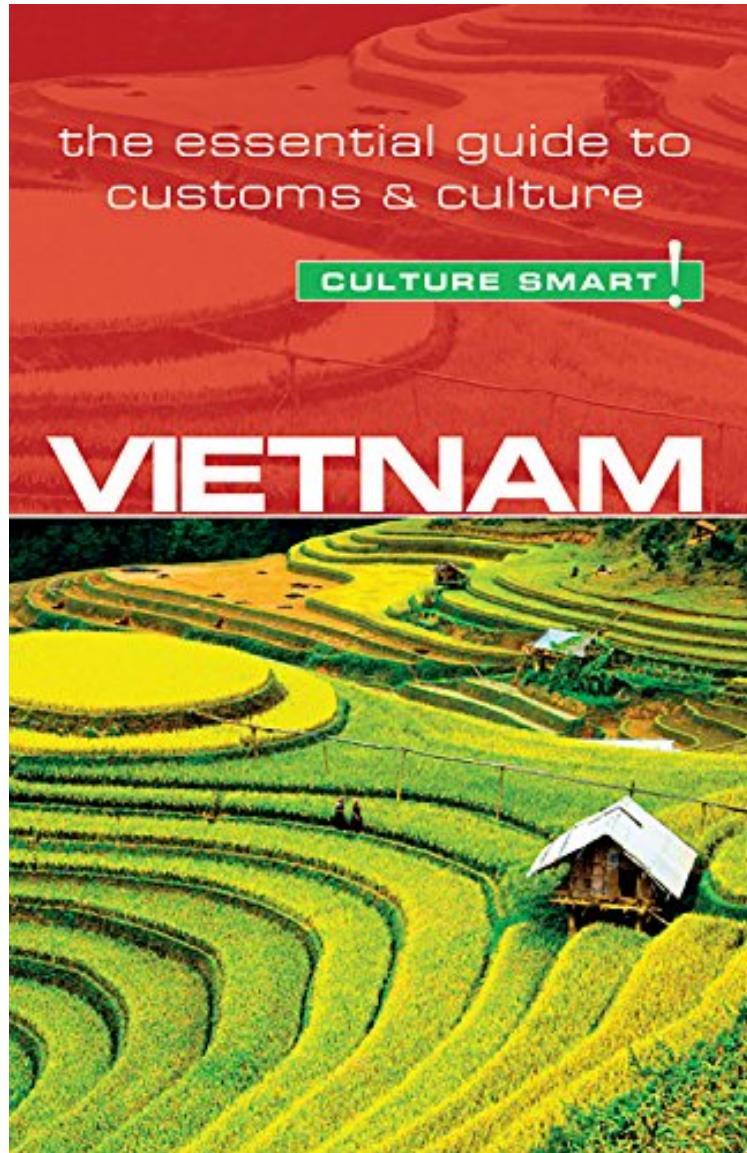


Vietnam - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture

Geoffrey Murray

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Geoffrey Murray : Vietnam - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Vietnam - Culture Smart!: The Essential Guide to Customs Culture:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Vietnam- Culture Smart was very helpful to meBy Andrew EvansAn insightful portrayal of a mysterious and intriguing country, Vietnam- Culture Smart was very helpful to me. I'm filming an ethnography on Vietnamese owned nail salons, and was curious about the country/its customs. In school, students are often not properly educated on the culture and history of many countries, including Vietnam, so I knew

very little about it. This was a brief yet informative summary of a country which is often over-looked. With my ethnography it helped me to understand Vietnamese manners and values. The men and women who work in the United States as nail professionals are often under estimated but always stay polite. It mentions in the book that the Vietnamese are "the concrete example of politeness"(44). I can only agree after my experiences in nail salons and working with these people. Vietnam-Culture Smart also mentioned that "Visitors to Vietnam will find a proud and independent people happy to go along with the notion that they are special"(43). It's obvious in their salons that they are proud of their culture by the decorations that hang in their stores and the jewelry that dangle from their wrists. This book helped me to connect the dots on Vietnamese culture and the immigrants working in nail salons in America; I imagine it would help any one who is curious about Vietnam to understand the quiet culture as well. 13 of 13 people found the following review helpful. Out of Date By Annie D This might have been a little useful five years ago when it was first published, but it is quite out of date in 2011. I would not recommend purchasing it until, and if, it is updated. Vietnamese people have really moved forward in the last decade and are currently a bustling and very capitalistic society. Also, it is relatively superficial and provides relatively little of practical use. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Required knowledge By Benjamin Herman I'm new here in Vietnam and this book was a great introduction to basic manners and ideas central to the region. It's thorough without being overly dry, and a nice, quick read. Having never been over to SE Asia before, I enjoyed reading through this as I went through my first couple days of moving into the country. I'm in HCMC, so I can't vouch for Ha Noi, but it was spot on for the southern region. I'd recommend for anyone going out of their comfort zone to Vietnam, whether it's for a few days or for a longer stay. I'll be here teaching English for a year, and it was perfect for my longer stay.

In the second half of the twentieth century war raged in Vietnam. It was hard to know if it would ever end, and harder still to understand fully the rights and wrongs of the various protagonists. At last, the North Vietnamese turned out to be tough, resilient, and ultimately victorious. Patience in adversity sums up the Vietnamese character. After reunification in 1975 the Vietnamese experienced many difficulties. The immediate postwar years were harsh. Some fled into exile; others underwent "rehabilitation" to make them fit to live in a Communist state. To this were added economic hardships and even starvation. Since then, however, life has been transformed. The decision to abandon the centrally planned economy in favor of a "socialist market economy" was a bold step, as was the decision to throw open the doors and invite the world to invest in the new Vietnam. Visitors today will find a confident, independent people, nursing few if any grudges about the war. They are open and friendly, with a sense of humor and irony, and frankly curious about the outside world. Kind and generally helpful toward strangers, they are industrious, shrewd, and determined to improve their lot. Culture Smart! Vietnam outlines the history, culture, traditions, sensibilities, and modern way of life of the Vietnamese. It explains certain deep-seated attitudes, describes some of the social and cultural changes now under way, and gives practical advice on what to expect and how to behave in unfamiliar situations. It aims to help you discover for yourself the warmth and vast potential of this fascinating country and its delightful people.

If you worry about being socially correct, you are likely to find Culture Smart! A genuinely useful guide The cultural guides offer glimpses into the psyche of a faraway world. "About the Author Geoffrey Murray is a journalist, author, and teacher who has worked in Asia for more than forty years. He has published fifteen books on a wide range of business and socioeconomic issues. He has closely followed developments in Vietnam ever since he served as a news agency war correspondent with the Australian army in the mid-1960s, winning the Australian government's Vietnam Logistic and Support Medal. Peter Noble was born in South Africa he has a warm crisp tone and a natural reader's prose. Hippy musicians dragged him from an idyllic childhood, running barefoot through rich and matted grass with his dog, Bartok, to vegetarian communes from California to India, via Lisbon, London and Findhorn. He picked up a wide range of authentic local accents and character voices along the way. Peter is credited for numerous Audio Books.