



Vietnam: Getting a Visa Online - Procedures

At the April 10, 2011 meeting, member Nathan Russo described his trip through Laos and Vietnam. Member Gary Hacker advised the audience that there was an easy and less expensive way to get a visa for Vietnam. The following are Gary's instructions on how to obtain the visa online.

In his talk last Sunday, Nathan mentioned that he felt the mail-in procedure for obtaining an Entry Visa for Vietnam was too complicated to pursue. He asked me to outline the steps to simplify the process eliminating the necessity to travel to the VN Embassy in Bangkok. Normally you would have to make a trip to Bangkok, wait in line at the Vietnam Embassy on Wireless Road, and return the next day to pick up the Visa and pay anywhere from \$45 to \$77 depending on the urgency of the applicant.

Here are the directions, step by step to avoid losing one or two days and making this inconvenient trip:

1. Send an email to <mailto:visa3@visa-vietnam.org> to request the application.
2. In return email, you will receive instructions to go to www.visa-vietnam.org to pay the \$20 fee by credit card or by using PayPal. (I always use PayPal)
3. Your Visa Application will be processed after they receive your payment.
4. You need to inform the company via email once the payment is made.
5. In return, you will receive by email attachment, a pre-approved letter with code for Visa and you will need this letter to board your airplane and to retrieve your Visa on Arrival at the "Visa On Arrival Window" on the left just before joining the line for your Immigration Stamp. The cost of the actual Visa at the window is \$25 by US \$ or Thai Baht for each single entry 30 day Visa and you will need one passport size photograph.

That's it! So simple to avoid the hassles of using an agency or making the Bangkok trip yourself. I have used this service at least six times and suggested it to many of my fellow travelers.

Gary H