



Experience ecotourism in Ba Vi

About 60km from the center of Ha Noi capital to the northwest, Ba Vi is a land with many beautiful natural landscapes such as mountains, forests, waterfalls, streams, rivers, and lakes associated with many tourist attractions known by guests - including Ba Vi National Park; Ao Vua tourism; Khoang Xanh - Suoi Tien; Thien Son - Suoi Nga, Tan Da, etc. The place is the accommodation of numerous rural farms, rich agricultural products, and natural hot water sources from Thuan My villages which aid the development of Ba Vi's resort tourism.

GREEN TOURISM POTENTIALS

The best tourist attractions for agricultural experience in Ba Vi include Dong Que Farm (Bavi Homestead), Green Farm Joint Stock Cooperative, Ba Vi Cow, Grassland Research Center in Van Hoa Commune, Gia Trinh eco-farm, or Happy farm in Yen Bai Commune. In each of these places, visitors can participate in traditional agricultural production systems, enjoy natural specialties, and have the opportunity to participate directly in agricultural tourism activities imbued with Vietnamese countryside cultures. These activities are growing rice, catching fish with bamboo tools, planting and picking wild and herbal vegetables, observing the honey-making process, nature pick and star dry tea, feeding the ostriches, goats, rabbits, cows, etc.

Ba Vi has a great density of historical and cultural relics associated with the names of national heroes and great personalities like Saint Tan Vien Son or President Ho Chi Minh. The honorable list mentions the temple of President Ho Chi Minh on the top of Ba Vi mountain, the K9 relic site, Thuong temple's relics cluster, Trung temple, Ha temple, Tay Dang communal house, Chu Quyen hall communal house, Thuy Phieu communal house, etc. With a system of recognized monuments, Ba Vi tourism promises many cultural and spiritual tourist attractions towards tourists.

Nearly 100 years ago, from 1932 to 1944, the French built a town and a resort on Ba Vi mountain and divided them into a cluster of sectors. Coste 400 contains enormous pine forests and green lawns, while coste 600 remains the ruins of the French's great architectural works. In coste 800, if you take a right turn and forge yourself through a steep slope and a tight turn - you will come across the ruins of a church and beautiful unspoiled resort villas. Nearly 200 ruins built by the French now remain in ruined mossy walls scattered among the mountains and forests of Ba Vi. The place is the destination of many photographers and young people who love to explore and take photos.

In addition, Ba Vi district provides tourists with many specialty services, mentioning healthcare services in Ao Vua tourism such as herbal medicine bath service or traditional medicine and



▲ Ba Vi is a land with many beautiful natural landscapes



healthcare treatment. Also, there is “Ba Vi’s Muong - Dao fair” festival in which visitors can experience Ba Vi’s Muong - Dao culture through numerous activities: village elders’ water-carry custom in the early spring, learning about the ethnic culinary culture, Muong gong culture, the ancient calendar of Muong ethnic people, etc. Other experience activities include participating in agricultural experience (visiting tea gardens and medicinal gardens of the Dao ethnic group) at Ban Coc Tourist Area in Minh Quang Commune.

Each year in November, Ba Vi National Park holds the hot balloon festival - where visitors can participate in many experience activities, watch the wild sunflower show, and take a trip around the flower path, flower tent, and wild sunflower carnival.

At tourist spots in Minh Quang, Ba Vi, Van Hoa, and Yen Bai communes, there are cultural products and cuisine of the Muong ethnic group like Muong gong culture, national costumes, and Muong ethnic cuisine. Moreover, visitors can engage in experiential activities such as growing vegetables, processing traditional agricultural products, take part in the local production of OCOP products.

Ba Vi region also boasts vast rolling grass fields and dairy farms. The combination of different tourist products including ecotourism, resorts, community tourism, and cultural and religious tourism make Ba Vi an ideal destination for tourists whether from Vietnam or overseas.

CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

To further develop Ba Vi’s tourism potential, it is necessary to have synchronous solutions such as building an overall tourism planning, preserving the values of natural resources, cultural values, and developing new tourism products, connecting Ba Vi tourism with the surrounding areas.

Taking advantages of the natural resources, Ba Vi needs to continue to preserve and develop the bestowed natural values such as: Ba Vi national park, beautiful streams and waterfalls, effective exploitation of land resources, water sources protection, flora and fauna development to create typical values of the region.

Ba Vi district needs to focus on completing all types of planning; connecting tourism businesses in the area to create

the attractive tours. In addition, the district continues to promote propaganda and investment promotion in construction projects such as: Tan Vien international luxury tourist area, Ba Vi mountain west slope tourist area, and Thuan hot water mineral area.

The district has policies to mobilize investment resources to build infrastructure to support tourism development; actively coordinate and integrate projects to upgrade relics and scenic spots, support products and focus on capital to upgrade power lines and communications; create links inside and outside the district; propagate the environmental protection, natural resources and train tourism human resources,...

In the coming time, the district needs to invest in renovating and upgrading facilities and infrastructure, including upgrading and improving roads leading to tourist areas; introducing technology information and providing free wifi networks at tourist destinations. In addition, the district needs to create conditions for investors to build a store system and introduce Ba Vi’s typical products.

Ba Vi is one of the localities that the city will focus on developing tourism to become a new tourism center of the capital. In particular, in addition to eco-tourism, health care tourism and golf tourism can also be developed, Ba Vi needs to coordinate with travel companies to organize famtrips (tourism market survey) to make connections with destinations and accommodation facilities in Ba Vi to attract more tourists to Ba Vi.

Ba Vi’s tourism potential has been affirmed, but to fully develop that strength and turn it into the specific tourism product, attracting domestic and international tourists requires to work together to build a long-term products with tourist attractive costs.

Along with the above solutions, Ba Vi district needs to create the most favorable conditions to attract investors to develop high-end resort tourism and develop high quality, environmentally friendly tourism products. Ba Vi also needs to prioritize the development of professional and highly qualified tourism human resources.

Ba Vi district develops a community tourism model at Co Do painter village, Ba Trai commune tea village associated with Muong ethnic culture. In addition, the locality will take advantages of the potential strength of the rich flora here to develop green tourism.

Besides, Ba Vi needs to connect surrounding areas to maximize the effectiveness of the region’s potential strengths. Around the Ba Vi area, there are many tourist destinations such as Ngoc Xanh island, K9 relic site, Cultural Village of Vietnamese Ethnic Groups, Duong Lam ancient village, etc. Travel agencies and management boards need to build tours. The tourist route connects Ba Vi tourism in harmony with the surrounding area to maximize the potential of each locality ■

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