

Foreword from Gareth Ward, British Ambassador to Vietnam



British Embassy
Hanoi



Welcome to Vietnam!

2019 is proving to be another excellent year for the UK-Vietnam trade relationship. Strong economic growth and a stable policy environment in Vietnam led to a credit rating upgrade by Moody's last year. Vietnam has also improved by 22 places in the World Bank's ease of doing business index since 2016. This has enabled strong growth in UK export of goods and services.

Vietnam is a consistent advocate of free trade. Large volumes of FDI have created new manufacturing supply chains, which have driven its transformation to middle income status. Plans for the next stage of reform are ambitious, and this will provide many new opportunities for UK business.

We recently launched new Prosperity Fund programmes in Vietnam which will support sustainable and equitable growth and create trade opportunities in areas such as green finance, healthcare, future cities and capital markets.

The last two years have seen even stronger diplomatic relations between our two countries. We have had a record number of Ministerial visits in both directions leading large business delegations in areas such as education and financial services.

I hope to see continued progress towards ratification of the EU-Vietnam FTA. This will unlock enormous new potential for UK companies as Vietnam liberalises across a number of sectors. The UK will ensure continuity through adopting the agreement post Brexit.

On behalf of my colleagues at the Embassy in Hanoi and Consulate in Ho Chi Minh, please get in touch for export advice - there is something for everyone!

Gareth Ward British Ambassador to Vietnam

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