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## Tay Ninh



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### Attractions

#### ***Black Lady Mountain:***

This is a low mountain range, 986 meters above sea level, towering over the whole province. The mountain is 11 km Northwest of Tay Ninh town. From far the mountain looks like a conical hat over the local plain. Centuries ago the Mountain became the place of worship for the regional population. Perched on the mountain slope is Van Son Pagoda. A big lake nearby. The ascending and zigzag path to the mountain peak is crowned with many beautiful natural phenomena. Standing high on the mountain visitors can see the faraway Cau mountain peak to the east and Heo Son mountain peaks to the Northwest. Lying scattered in the mountain are some picturesque grottoes and caves. The temperature is often lower than that in Tay Ninh town and other places nearby.

The Black Lady Mountain is also the place that houses three different preserved parks which serve as natural museums. These museums display relics and photographs depicting the life and activities of the Vietnamese liberation forces during the Vietnam War. The Black Lady Mountain is a natural treasury, to the Tay Ninh people. Tay Ninh Great Temple: The Cao Dai Great Temple belongs to the Cao Dai sect which was formed in 1926. The Great Temple which is at the sect's Holy See is one of the most striking structures in all of Asia. The temple was built between 1993 and 1955. It is located in Long Hoa village, five kilometers Southeast of Tay Ninh town. The official symbol of Caodaism is the "Divine Eye." apart from the worship of the divine eye Caodai followers also worship, Jesus Christ, Confucius, Lao-tze and Buddha (Phat Ba Quan am).



The Great Temple is 140 meters long and 40 meters wide. The temple has four towers each with a different name: 36 meters high, Hiep Thien Dai, 25 meters high, and Cuu Trung Dai and Bat Quai Dai are each 30 meters. The entire temple is made up of a colonnaded hall and a sanctuary. The two rows of pillars are decorated with dragons coated in red and blue paint. The domed ceiling is divided into nine parts resembling a night sky full of stars and clouds, representing heaven. Under the dome is a giant star-speckled blue globe with the "Divine Eye" on it symbolizing 3,072 stars on it.

3,072 globes. The front gate to the temple faces west.

***Dau Tieng Man-made Reservoir:***

The reservoir was built in 1981 to provide water for agricultural production. This lake is 27,000 hectares in area, will contain as much as 1,5 billion cubic meters of water.

The reservoir, 37 kilometers from the provincial capital, has beautiful landscapes.

Headquarters of the Southern Vietnam Liberation Forces: The site of the headquarters of the liberation forces during Vietnam War is 60 kilometers from Tay Ninh town.

***Ba Den Mountain :***

Ba Den Mountain is located 10 km northeast of Tay Ninh and 106 km from Ho Chi Minh City. It is an historical and beautiful site covering an area of more than 24 km<sup>2</sup>.

Ba Den Mountain is also called Black Lady Mountain. According to legends, beautiful Ly Thi Thien Huong, Black Lady, was forced to marry the son of a rich mandarin while her true love was fighting the aggressors. Rather than marrying a man she did not love, she threw herself from the mountain.

Several shrines and pagodas were built in the mountain as well as in the caves. Ba and Hang Pagodas attract many pilgrims during the New Lunar Year and Vu Lan Festivals.



Ba Den Mountain was where the headquarters of the liberation force of South Vietnam were located. During war time tough battles were fought in that area.

***Cao Dai Great Temple :***

Cao Dai Great Temple is the cathedral of the Cao Dai religion and is the main attraction in Tay Ninh. The temple, built between 1933 and 1955, is located more specifically in Long Hoa, 5-km southeast of Tay Ninh.

The Great Temple is 140 m long and 40 m wide. It has 4 towers each with a different name: Tam Dai, Hiep Thien Dai, Cuu Trung Dai, and Bat Quai Dai. The interior of the temple consists of a colonnaded hall and a sanctuary. The 2 rows of columns are decorated with dragons and are coated in white, red, and blue paint. The domed ceiling is divided into 9 parts similar to a night sky full of stars and symbolizing heaven. Under the dome is a giant star-speckled blue globe on which is painted the Divine Eye, the official symbol of Caodaiism. Cao Dai followers worship Jesus Christ, Confucius, Laoze, and Buddha.



***Dau Tieng Lake :***

Dau Tieng Lake is located on the way to Tay Ninh, Cao Dai Great Temple, and Ba Den Mountain, 20 km from Tay Ninh. The lake covers 27,000 ha and has a water reserve of 1,5 billion m<sup>3</sup>, irrigating Tay Ninh province as well as neighbouring areas.

Dau Tieng Lake's beautiful landscape of mountains, its mysterious islets, and its fresh and pure atmosphere shall give you an agreeable feeling. Visitors shall also appreciate the food specialities of the locality.

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