

HO CHI MINH CITY/Tan Son Nhat Intl (SGN/VVTS)

Elevation 33ft

CATEGORY A

AV brief not available.

GENERAL

- Tan Son Nhat Intl is located in the centre of Ho Chi Minh City, surrounded by built-up areas.
- It is the busiest airport in Vietnam and handled over 38 million passengers in 2018.
- During the Vietnam War Tan Son Nhut was one of the busiest military airbases in the world and during 1973 a Pan Am Boeing 747 service was operated four times weekly to San Francisco via Guam and Manila
- In 2004 United Airlines became the first US airline to fly to Vietnam since Pan Am's last flight during the Fall of Saigon in April 1975
- The Ho Chi Minh City – Hanoi route is the busiest in Southeast Asia and the seventh busiest in the world, serving 6,769,823 customers in 2017

Threats

CFIT

- A TV mast at 1,529 ft asl is located 5 nm SE and there is a 443 ft asl mast 2 nm NW

Runway Incursion

- Closely spaced parallel runways. Take care to ensure the correct runway is identified.

ARRIVAL

Diversions Airports

CAN THO	VCA/VVCT	071 nm/232°T	CAT A
PHU QUOC	PQC/VVPQ	162 nm/256°T	CAT A
PHNOM PENH	PNH/VDPP	115 nm/292°T	CAT B

- Preferred landing runway 25R
- Note that ILS approaches have minimum ceiling requirements (see charts)
- Descent will often be “via the profile” (i.e. ICAO “descend via...”). This implies that the aircraft should descend to the cleared level, observing any intermediate altitude restrictions on the STAR chart.

Approach

- Separation often achieved primarily through quite aggressive speed control
- Typical ATC speeds on final: 190 kt to 8 DME, then 160 kt to 4 DME
- Aircraft may be radar vectored to final or cleared own navigation via an RNAV fix to join final or a DME arc to final

GROUND

- ATC expect aircraft to squawk standby on the ground after vacating the runway on arrival, and until approaching the holding point for departure

DEPARTURE

- Rwy 25L preferred for departures
- xxxx2x SIDs will usually be issued in preference to the xxxx1 versions.
- Expect departure from the full length. E4 may be offered to medium and light aircraft departing Rwy 25L

WEATHER

- Average temperatures are around 28°C with little variation throughout the year
- The wet season (May-Oct) is dominated by the SW monsoon and marked by heavy rainfall, Cb activity and TYPHOONS. Rainfall can be prolonged and torrential
- The NE monsoon (Nov-Apr) brings calmer and more settled weather with regular sunny days

OPERATIONAL INFORMATION

Handling Agent	Saigon Ground Services
Handling Agent VHF	
Potable Water	Uplift not permitted

IF ONLY Electrical Power is required	Use ground power at all times
If BOTH electrical power and air conditioning is required:	Use both ground services at all times