

The Central Coast

Working my way up the coast of Vietnam from Nha Trang, I made stops in Quy Nhon, the very touristy town of Hoi An, I put in some beach time on the famed China Beach, and finally the historic city of Hue. I've spent a number of days in Hue waiting to get a Visa extension, so I send more on Hue later.



Central Vietnam was the center of the Hindu Cham Empire which was ruled Central and Southern Vietnam from 9th to the 12th centuries. The remnants of their brick temples primarily dedicated to the Hindu god Siva dot the landscape. However time and the Vietnam War have not been kind the temples and many of the temples are in pretty bad shape. These temples at Nha Trang are in relatively good shape.



Renting a motorbike is extremely cheap in Vietnam, in some places as little as \$3 a day. This doesn't always get you "top of the line" safety equipment. Here I am sporting a pink "motorcycle helmet" that probably won't protect me if I fell out of bed much less crashed on a motorbike. And yes, it looks like might have been purchased originally at the Village People's prop liquidation sale.



Deserted beach outside of Quy Nhon.



Water buffalo plowing rice field outside of Quy Nhon.



Woman working in a rice field outside of Quy Nhon.



Women collecting salt out side of Quy Nhon.



Woman sorting fish, Quy Nhon.



Women sorting fish, Quy Nhon.



Lobster and shrimp, Quy Nhon.



Pulling down the wall down, Quy Nhon.



Although many people love Hoi An it wasn't my favorite place. It was a little too touristy for me. It made me feel like I was in a Vietnam theme park while the buildings were old every one of them was a souvenir shop, tailor, or tourist restaurant. I'm sure it was a great place 10 years ago but definitely a place that mass tourism ruined.

Old building with a bird cage outside a window, Hoi An.



Fishing boat with approaching storm, near Hoi An.



Boatman, Hoi An



Guys playing soccer China beach, near Danang.