

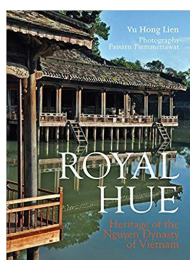
# Vietnam - Reading & Film List

## NON-FICTION



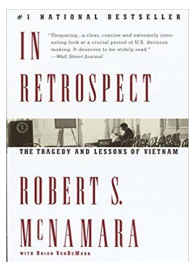
### VIETNAM: RISING DRAGON, BILL HAYTON

In recent years this country has gone through a rapid period of social change, with foreign investment bringing capitalism into an otherwise communist society. Cities have ballooned, social structures changed, and culture evolved. Bill Hayton's book gives you a crash course on the current state of social, economic and political affairs in Vietnam, as compared to what we might expect.



### ROYAL HUE: HERITAGE OF THE NGUYEN DYNASTY OF VIETNAM, VU HONG LIEN

Illustrated, in-depth and a substantial read, this book – based in the centre of Vietnam – focuses on the 143 years of the Nguyen Dynasty, and the history of Vietnam from the 14th Century onwards. For those visiting Hue this is a great read on the impressive and ancient history of the country.



### IN RETROSPECT: THE TRAGEDY AND LESSONS OF VIETNAM, ROBERT MCNAMARA

The controversial memoir and record of the eighth Secretary of Defence, who resigned in 1968. This book deals in retrospect with his feelings towards the Vietnam War and policy. A fascinating read for the younger generations, who may find it difficult to understand the frame of mind in the 60s.

## FILMS AND DOCUMENTARIES



### THE VIETNAM WAR, KEN BURNS & LYNN NOVICK

Available on Netflix (at time of writing) or on home release, this 10-part documentary explores one of the most publicized periods of Vietnamese History - the Vietnam War. It features interviews with combatants and civilians on both sides, and explores the years before and after the war, and the conditions that led to it.

<http://www.pbs.org/kenburns/the-vietnam-war/watch/>



### THE QUIET AMERICAN - 2002

Adapted into film in 1958 and again in 2002, and starring actors Brendan Fraser, Michael Caine and Đỗ Thị Hải Yến, this work of fiction has some beautiful shots of the well-known sights as they might have looked under French Colonial Rule, and takes place in the years leading up to the split of Vietnam, as French forces struggled to contain the rising nationalist sentiment. Well worth a watch or read, it brings the lead-up to war down to a very personal level through the eyes of the characters.

## Vietnam - Reading & Film List



### **INDOCHINE - 1992**

With plenty of shots of the stunning scenery of Hue, Hoi An and Halong Bay, and starring Catherine Deneuve, the visuals alone are worth watching for. This French-Language film also received an Academy Award and Golden Globe award for Best Foreign Language film. It is set in the French-Colonial period of Vietnam and touches on the relations between the French landowners and Vietnamese workers, along with the diminishing influence of the Vietnamese Royal Family.