

## Quang Tri and the Demilitarised Zone

Written by Nava Nahi

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***Coming to Quang Tri Province, tourists are able to take an interesting holiday in the Demilitarized Zone (DMZ).***

**Quang Tri**, which was the province capital of that area, is located in the Central Region of Vietnam, near the crossways between North and South Vietnam, Laos, and Thailand. The province preserves many remains from the anti-American resistance war such as the ancient citadel of Quang Tri, Khe Sanh Combat Base, Truong Son National Cemetery, Truong Son trail, Vinh Moc Tunnels, Hien Luong Bridge and Ben Hai River.

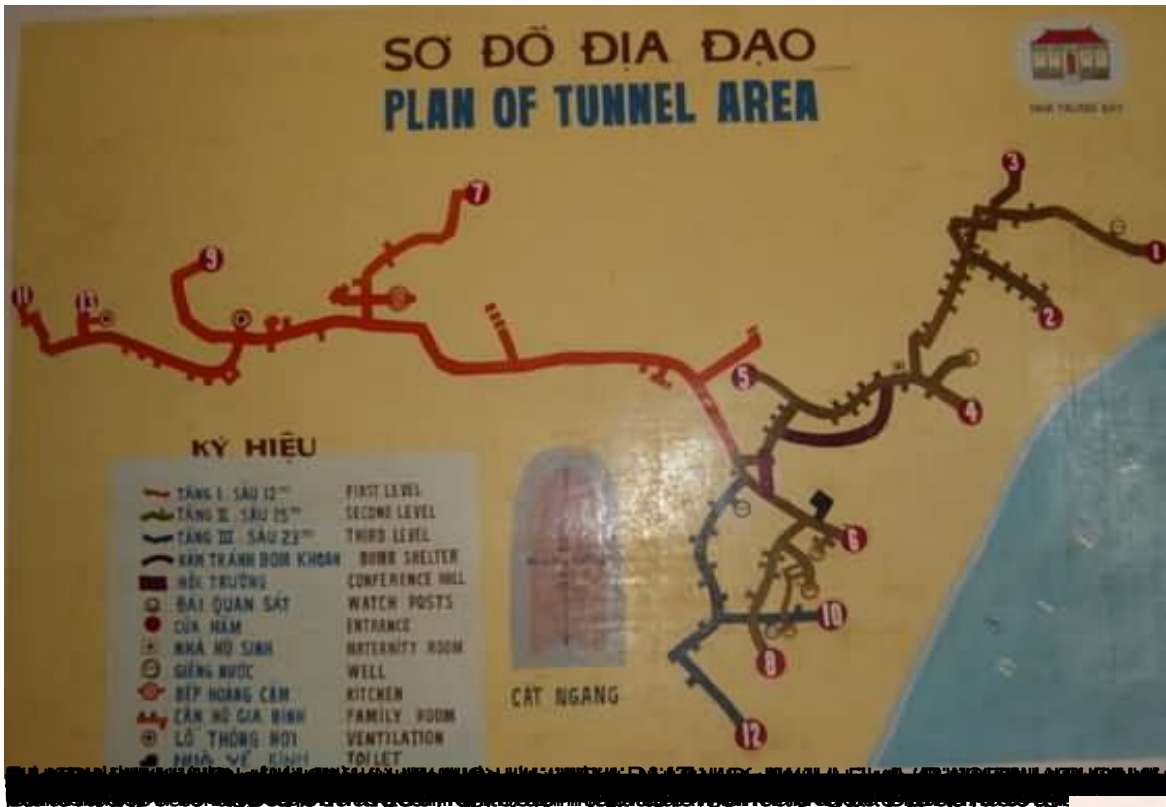
In 1954, Ho Chi Minh's government in the north and the French colonial administration in the south agreed an armistice that involved a 'temporary' partition of Vietnam. The Ben Hai River, in the extreme north of Quang Tri province, became the arbitrary line dividing the two halves of the country. When the southern 'government', backed by the US, reneged on the national elections promised in the agreement, Quang Tri became the theatre where most of the important scenes of the Vietnam War were staged. From then, until the early seventies when the Vietnamese army overwhelmed the defenses along the southern edge of the DMZ, Quang Tri was a battlefield, one of the most intensively bombed areas in military history. It left a barren desert created by hundreds of thousands of tons of high explosive, estimated to be the equivalent of seven Hiroshima atom bombs, as well as napalm, phosphorous and herbicide.

When you arrived in Quang Tri, you can take about an hour to the south of Ben Hai River, which was home to the DMZ during the war. In military terms, a DMZ is an area, usually the frontier or boundary between two or more military powers (or alliances), where military activity is not permitted, usually by peace treaty, armistice or other bilateral or multilateral agreement.

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[Nava Nahi, Quang Tri and the Demilitarised Zone, Soha.com.vn's itinerary](#)