

# HO CHI MINH HANOI

which is the best  
city for food lovers?

QUANG PHONG  
2020





# PROBLEM

## Which is the best city for food lovers who want to visit Vietnam?

The 2 biggest cities not only in Vietnam but also in Indochina Peninsular, namely Ho Chi Minh City and Hanoi, have always made foreign travelers and even domestic ones indecisive to select the more suitable city to visit. The S-shaped country is narrow but long, which means the distance between the two biggest cities is large. For travelers with a limited time budget, visiting one city per travelling is virtually the only option. Therefore, they will benefit from understanding the similarities and differences between the two cities.

# OBJECTIVE

## Which is the best city for food lovers who want to visit Vietnam?

Representing (and sharing) the viewpoints of "young food addicts" who always hunger for more and more good food on their journeys, the author will compare and contrast Ho Chi Minh City (Thành phố Hồ Chí Minh, in Vietnamese) and Hanoi (Hà Nội, in Vietnamese) with regards to food-related aspects to give some hints to their decisions. As mentioned, the main target audience is travelers who desire to come to Vietnam. More importantly, this can be used by investors and business owners to expand their market in either of the 2 cities based on understanding the gaps





# QUESTION

- 1/ What are the most common venues in each city?
- 2/ What are the most common restaurants in each city?
- 3/ What are the most common venues in each district?
- 4/ What are the most common restaurants in each district?
- 5/ What are the most common restaurants in each ward?
- 6/ How many clusters can we categorize districts within each city based on restaurant-related venues?
- 7/ How diverse are each district's restaurants in terms of cuisines?
- 8/ How diverse are each city's restaurants in terms of cuisine??
- 9/ Which city has a higher number of restaurants per residents?



# DATA SOURCE

## 3 main sources of this project

- <https://www.citypopulation.de>
- OpenStreetMap via Nominatim API
- API powered by Foursquare



# RESULT AND DISCUSSION



## Venues

The 2 cities do not differ regarding this aspect. They are both great destinations to explore coffee culture and cuisine of Vietnam

### HO CHI MINH CITY

The 2 most popular are:  
Cafe/Coffee Shop and Vietnamese  
Restaurant

### HANOI

The 2 most popular are:  
Cafe/Coffee Shop and Vietnamese  
Restaurant

# RESULT AND DISCUSSION



## Restaurants

For seafood lovers and Chinese food lovers, HCMC is a better destination. However, for Japanese cuisines and fast-food lovers, Hanoi must be their choice.

### HO CHI MINH CITY

The 3 most popular restaurants in HCMC are:

- Vietnamese Restaurant
- Seafood Restaurant
- Chinese Restaurant

### HANOI

The 3 most popular restaurants in Hanoi are:

- Vietnamese Restaurant
- Japanese Restaurant
- Fast Food Restaurant

# RESULT AND DISCUSSION



## Diversity and restaurant density

Food-lovers may prefer Hanoi, but the difference is not that much. The 2 cities appear to be similarly the same regarding diversity of restaurants' choices of cuisine and restaurant density.

### HO CHI MINH CITY

The number of restaurants per resident in HCMC is: 1 per 12667, slightly lower than that of Hanoi, which is 11452

### HANOI

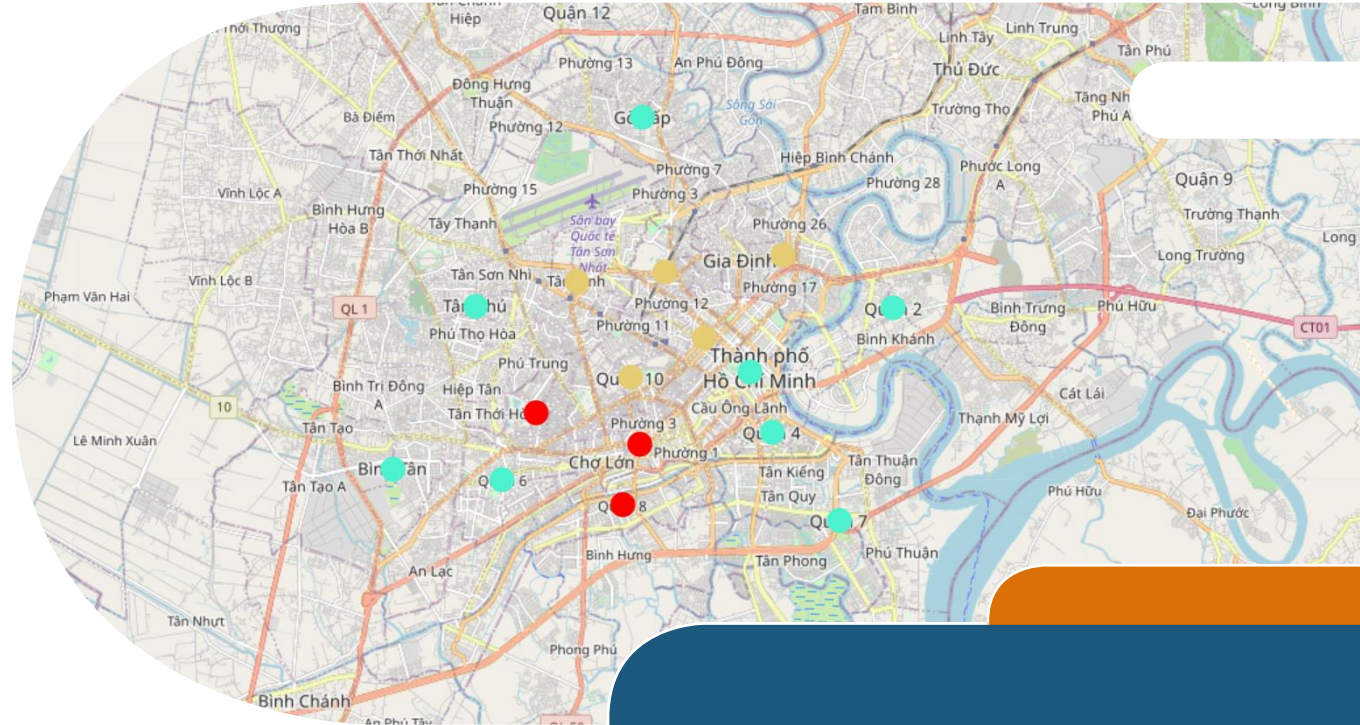
The number of different types of restaurants in Hanoi is: 33, slightly higher than that of HCMC, which is 31.



# CLUSTERS IN HCMC

## 3 clusters

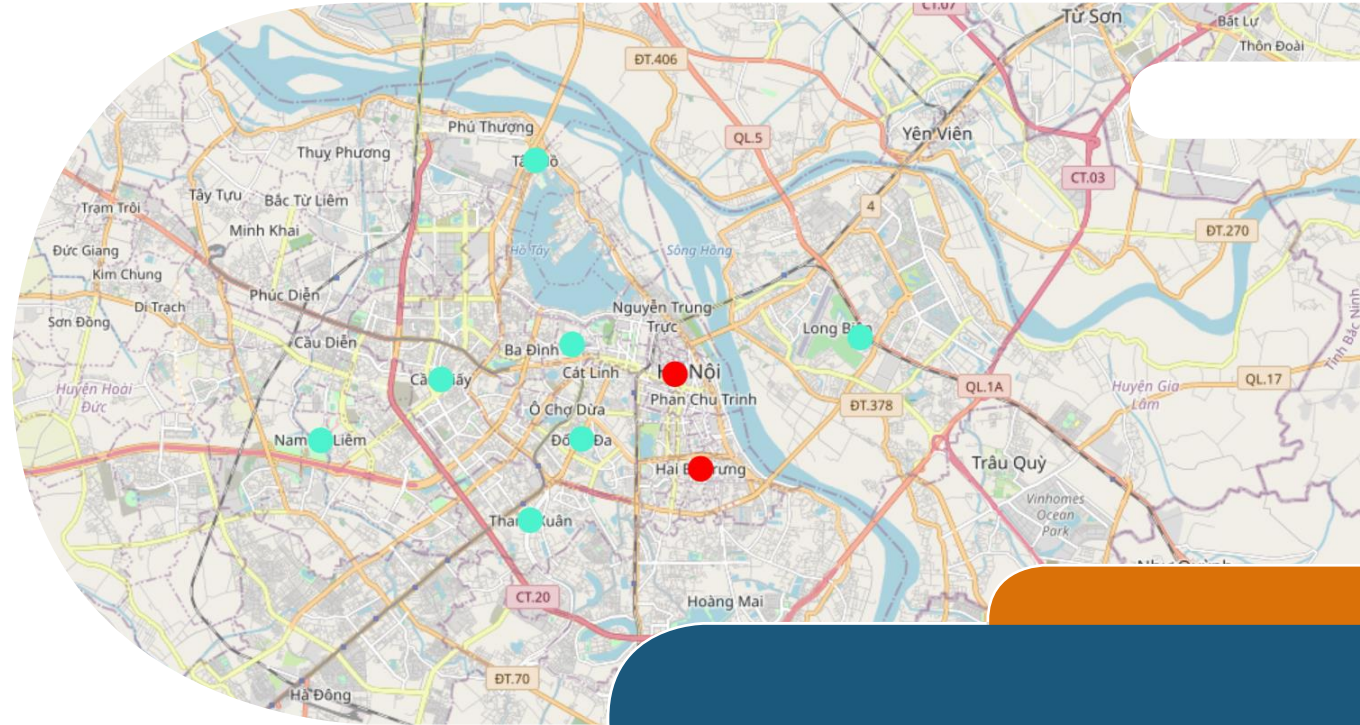
- + Cluster 0: Dist. 11, Dist. 5, Dist. 8, where Chinese restaurants dominate the foreign cuisine market, though Vietnamese restaurants are popular.
- + Cluster 1: Binh Thanh Dist., Phu Nhuan Dist., Tan Binh Dist., Dist. 10, Dist. 3, where foreign cuisines are diverse, and Vietnamese restaurants are extremely popular.
- + Cluster 2: Dist. 1, Dist. 2, Dist. 3, Dist. 4, Dist. 7, Binh Tan Dist., Dist. 6, Go Vap Dist., Tan Phu Dist, where foreign cuisines are diverse, and Vietnamese restaurants are also popular.  
However, the diversity of cuisines there is higher.



# CLUSTERS IN HANOI

## 2 clusters

- Cluster 0: Hai Ba Trung District, Hoan Kiem District, where Vietnamese restaurants are popular and relatively easier to find compared to other districts
- Cluster 1: remaining districts



# CLUSTERS

- In Ho Chi Minh City, for travelers desiring to explore Vietnamese cuisine, it is advisable to visit eateries in Binh Thanh Dist., Phu Nhuan Dist., Tan Binh Dist., Dist. 10, Dist. 3 while for Chinese cuisine lovers, it is a must to visit Dist. 11, Dist. 5, Dist. 8.
- In Hanoi, for travelers desiring to explore Vietnamese cuisine, it is advisable to visit eateries in Hai Ba Trung and Hoan Kiem District first.
- With regards to clusters, HCMC is divided to more distinct clusters apparently, thus it is more interesting. This also helps travelers plan their visits easier so that they can explore all cuisines available there without wasting time searching places.





# CONCLUSION



The comparison of HCMC and Hanoi from the perspective of a food hunter ends here after giving some hints on the differences and similarities between 2 cities. Each of the cities proves to be a great land to explore domestic foods as well as foreign one. However, there are still some differences worth keeping in mind before choosing their holiday destination.



# CONCLUSION



Final decisions are up to travelers based on their preferences for any specific cuisine and their available time. With less available time, one should visit Hanoi for their first travel to Vietnam to explore cuisines. With more time, one should consider Ho Chi Minh City for their first travel as the clusters are more distinct and more districts deserve exploring.