

WATER PUPPETRY

Vietnamese water puppetry is a unique folk art. It's said that 'Not watching a performance of water puppetry means not visiting Vietnam yet.' That's why water puppetry is a must-see show for tourists in Vietnam. Watching this show can help you escape from your busy life and refresh your minds with unforgettable moments.

During the shows, you can only see the puppets and a small folk orchestra of about 7 people; the puppeteers stand behind a curtained backdrop in a pool. All puppets are made of fig wood which goes along well with water. Then they are carved and painted. The themes of the shows are very familiar to Vietnamese people. **They** focus on the daily life of farmers and common aspects of Vietnamese spiritual life.

Vietnamese water puppetry has been introduced to many countries all over the world and received much love from audiences. Foreigners don't understand Vietnamese, but they enjoy the shows because the puppets clearly demonstrate Vietnamese life and culture through their actions. Thang Long Water Puppet Theatre on Dinh Tien Hoang Street near Hoan Kiem Lake is the most popular theatre for water puppetry.

Task 1: Decide if the following statements are True or False.

| 1. Water puppetry is a must-see show for tourists in Vietnam. | T | F |
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| 2. Audiences can see the puppets, the orchestra and the puppeteers during the show. | T | F |
| 3. Vietnamese water puppetry hasn't received positive feedback from audiences over the world. | T | F |
| 4. Foreigners can still understand the water puppet shows even though they don't understand Vietnamese. | T | F |
| 5. Thang Long Water Puppet Theatre is <i>the</i> most popular theatre in Hanoi. | T | F |