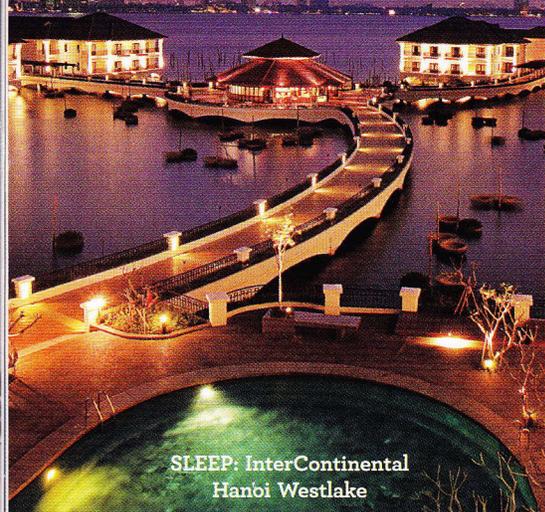
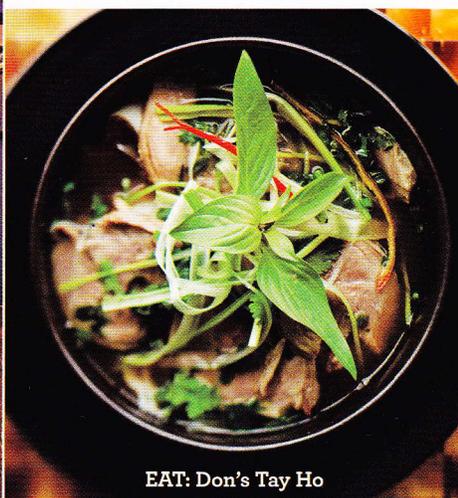


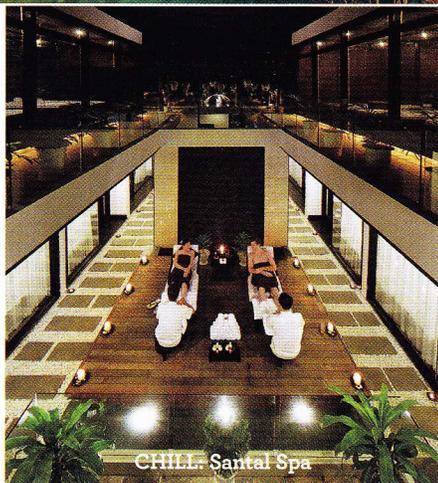
## Word of mouth



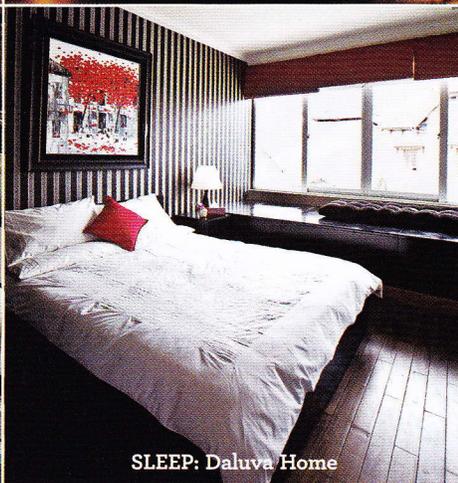
**SLEEP:** InterContinental Hanoi Westlake



**EAT:** Don's Tay Ho



**CHILL:** Santal Spa



**SLEEP:** Daluva Home

## ZONED-IN Hanoi

While the Vietnamese capital celebrates its 1,000th birthday this year, its Tay Ho district is a-buzz with cool bars, restaurants and shops that are distinctly 21st century in style

**EAT** Mingle with locals at **Daluva's** glowing glass-top bar, then head upstairs to the cosy candlelit lounge and order tapas (such as drunken feta with olives and Hong Kong crispy rolls) or a full-course feast. 33 To Ngoc Van (00 84 4 3718 5831; [www.daluva.com](http://www.daluva.com)). Dinner for two without wine about 300,000 dong (£10)

● New restaurant **The House of Son Tinh** is being lauded for its East-West fusion tapas and its drinks menu, featuring local beers and 16 herb- and fruit-infused liqueurs and spirits.

31 Xuan Dieu (00 84 4 3718 6377; [www.houseofson tinh.com](http://www.houseofson tinh.com))

**DRINK** Wine bar and café **Vine** stocks an impressive 600 wines, alongside various imported spirits. Follow your drink with Asian and Italian cuisine, or retire to the elegant cigar lounge. 1a Xuan Dieu (00 84 4 3719 8000; [www.vine-group.net](http://www.vine-group.net)). Dinner for two without wine about £30

● The open-air **Skyline Oyster Bar**, part of hip, multi-faceted restaurant **Don's Tay Ho**, serves premium cocktails and shellfish with a lakeside breeze. If you're

dining downstairs, grab a window seat for water views and people-watching through the building's sleek glass



**SHOP:** Dome

façade. 16/27 Xuan Dieu (00 84 4 3719 2828; [www.donviet.vn](http://www.donviet.vn)). Dinner for two without wine about £30

**SHOP** The furniture shops on the Xuan Dieu strip are a draw for interior designers. Meander through **Dome** and pick up lacquerware, traditional gifts and export-ready furniture. 9 Au Co (00 84 4 3719 0088; [www.dome.com.vn](http://www.dome.com.vn))

**CHILL** The wooden decor of **Santal Spa** helps create a calming hideaway just a few steps from bustling Xuan Dieu street. Pick a private treatment room overlooking the Tu Lien pagoda, and settle down for a relaxing massage. 112 Xuan Dieu (00 84 4 3 718 4686; [www.santalgroup.com](http://www.santalgroup.com)).

**SLEEP** Enjoy sundowners on your giant balcony at the **InterContinental Hanoi Westlake**, overlooking an 800-year-old lakeside pagoda, or take in the view from the Sunset Bar on the hotel's private island. 1a Nghi Tam (00 84 4 6270 8888; [www.intercontinental.com/hanoi](http://www.intercontinental.com/hanoi)). Doubles from about £110

● For somewhere with more of a boutique feel, **Daluva Home** (above Daluva bar and restaurant) is a one-bedroom apartment that combines Western home comforts with contemporary Vietnamese decor. 33 To Ngoc Van (00 84 4 3718 5831; [www.daluva.com/apartment](http://www.daluva.com/apartment)). Apartment from about £45 **KARRYN MILLER**

Don't miss

Wooden marionettes acting out Vietnamese folktales on a stage set filled with water, in daily performances at the **Thang Long Water Puppetry Theatre** ([www.thanglongwaterpuppet.org](http://www.thanglongwaterpuppet.org)) ● Vietnam's first **international film festival**, on 27–31 October at Hanoi's new BDH-MPV Global multiplex ● The street festivals and exhibitions taking place around the city as part of the millennial celebrations (for more details visit [www.english.vietnamnet.vn](http://www.english.vietnamnet.vn))