

## Noontime Gate or main entrance over moat into walled Imperial City at Hue

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The "Noontime Gate" is the main entrance over a moat into the walled Imperial City at Hué. The Vietnamese emperor appeared from the top tower on the left during important public events or rituals. Most of the original buildings of Hué's Imperial City date to ambitious efforts by Nguyen dynasty rulers in the 1800s to control both the north and south of Vietnam from a centrally located capital.

The architectural plan of Hué's walled Imperial City was designed as a near replica of the Forbidden City in Beijing, China. While drawing on the symbolic model of the powerful Chinese court, the Vietnamese here constructed two-tiered, rather than three-tiered, roofs to show their respect for the powerful Chinese emperor.



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