





BÁNH MÌ

Bánh Mì is the quintessential Vietnamese street food, found in every city and on any street. This yummy treat, with influences from the French baguette, comes in a multitude of regional variations, each showcasing unique culinary characteristics. The key to crafting a perfect Bánh Mì lies in its meticulous preparation: the bread is toasted to a golden crisp, added with a layer of liver pâté, filled with a variety of meats and then finally sealed with a tasty sauce.

Why we love it: Fresh veggies such as coriander, onions and cucumber are added to balance the meaty flavors, elevating both its taste and nutritional value. The fillings also come in a wider range of options including roasted pork and offal stew, which can cater to more diverse palates. Where to try it: Sample this tasty and healthy sandwich in Akorn's "Saigon Sidecar Foodie Adventure" tour.

SPRING ROLLS

Behold the ubiquitous Vietnamese spring roll! This culinary treasure sets itself apart from its Chinese counterpart through its distinctive characteristics. Delightfully petite in size, these rolls can either be fresh (Gỏi Cuốn) or fried (Chả Giò) and can be filled with meat, seafood or vegetables.

Why we love it: Whether as a humble street food or a high-class appetizer in the finest restaurants, this exquisite delicacy can be easily found everywhere!

Where to try it: Nibble on spring rolls and other snacks in Akorn's "Tastes of Hoi An" tour.



BÚN CHẢ

Bún Chả is Hanoi's gift to Vietnam's culinary scene. "Bún" means fresh white rice vermicelli and "Chả" is pork belly and meatballs grilled on charcoal. You can find different variations of this dish with a similar recipe (like Bún Thịt Nướng in Saigon), but this Hanoi native delicacy is unbeatable. It is even said to be former US President Barack Obama's favorite Vietnamese food after enjoying it with Anthony Bourdain in 2016 for the celebrity chef's "Parts Unknown" series.

Why we love it: Bún Chả's charm is all about the broth, also known as the dipping sauce. You can distinguish this dish's quality by the distinctive flavor of its sauce — a tasty combination of fish sauce, vinegar, sugar, garlic, hot chili and black pepper.

Where to try it: Savor this crowd favorite in Akorn's "Hanoi Cuisine and Culture" tour.









Experience Akorn's home-hosted meals with Chef Duc Tran, the culinary master behind some of Hoi An's well-loved restaurants as he prepares a traditional Vietnamese lunch in his countryside home.

Cover photo: A beautifully plated serving of Bánh Bèo, one of Vietnam's most popular street foods composed of mixed rice cakes and sausages.

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