

## 2020 the year of the Covid19

2020 May 27

As I said before, I had a flight ticket due July 3rd Taipei – Nha Trang (Viet Nam). It came directly from VN airlines, Hanoi, the head office.

Somehow my intuition told me to make sure... and I went to VN Airlines office, Taipei.

There, I met the same young lady who already helped me, but my surprise was to see the office full of young Vietnamese, most often couples, although some girls were not accompanied. But all of them were PREGNANT.

And just for them, VN Airlines opened a chartered flight to repatriate them, obviously they were over 6 months of pregnancy. The young woman was holding a bunch of papers, it seemed that the flight was full.

Eventually my flight was not booked, the one I received from Hanoi! Because they had not cancelled the initial one. The young lady said she was going to ask the ticketing to make a firm booking, and she called me later in the late afternoon to say, 'it's alright, now you have a real booking.'

2020 May 18

so, what was this year schedule?

February 3 to March 2, a TTC in Nha Trang, Viet Nam

March 28 to April 18, the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of a TTC in Taidong, Taiwan

May, the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the TTC in Nha Trang, Viet Nam

June 22 to July 24, a TTC in Shanghai, China. I was planning to stay in China as I had a long term visa, then

Back to France for two months, approximately, August and September.

As planned, I flew from France to Viet Nam at the end of January.

Vietnam, from mid-January, had already stopped all flights coming from China including Hong Kong, Singapore of course (whereas the then minister of health in France said there was no big issue... and perhaps she was right since, as soon as the Covid19 was declared, it seemed that all the French (and other citizens) who die, die of the Covid19—I have not seen anyone declared as dying from the flu who kills approx 10,000 people a year, just in France.

Anyway...

BUT

Three students could not attend the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of a TTC in Taidong, **Taiwan** (March, April) because they lived outside Taiwan. So already the number of students was reduced though we maintained the TTC.

My friend, Kite, who came from New Zealand on March 22, had to undergo a quarantine in her home. I was lucky that the Taiwanese government had not yet set up that when I arrived in Taiwan on March 9.

I was supposed to fly back to Viet Nam on April 29. No way, all flights were cancelled to VN.

Finally VN airlines postponed my ticket to July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Meanwhile, what about the TTC in Shanghai? Well, I was ready to fly there around the end of May, and even undergo a quarantine in a hotel in Pudong, Shanghai, whatever the conditions: you cannot choose your hotel, there may or may not be aircon, you can't choose the food which seemed to be the same everyday... I was even psychologically prepared to FAST.

But when on May 18 I wanted to go and buy a flight ticket to Shanghai, there was a “no, sorry, not for people who hold a tourist visa!”

Alright, then I keep the flight ticket to VN on July 3...

Meanwhile, Taiwan has stopped all flights in, whatever their origin, until October 1<sup>st</sup>... which will make us change the date of the October TTC. Another change to think about, since that one Taiwan-TTC will be postponed, a bit only I hope.

That's all so far, on May 18