**Video: The Perfect Weekend in Hanoi**

**Text transcript**

[Upbeat music starts playing in the background]

*A traffic light turns from red to green; motorcycles move off. Then, two ladies sit on a bench beside Hoan Kiem Lake; one of them takes a sip from her bottle.*

*A guard looks at sprinklers watering the grass at Ba Dinh Square; a bride and groom have their wedding photos taken in front of a colonial building.*

*Scenes from Green Tangerine restaurant. First, shots of whirring ceiling fans and the patterns on the restaurant’s wrought-iron gate. Then, a green-clad waitress serves customers.*

*A Vietnamese national flag flutters in the wind.*

**Tracey Lister (founder of Hanoi Cooking Centre):** I’ve been living in Vietnam now for about 10 years. Totally in love with the city.

*Tracey sits at a table and speaks. Several cookbooks on Vietnamese food have been placed on the table.*

**Tracey:** It’s such an exciting city. There’s been a lot of changes since the ‘90s when I came here the first time, and it continues to be exciting and fascinating.

*Young boys play street soccer; a middle-aged lady sits beside several bottles and cans; a local craftsman carves wax seals by hand.*

*Bicycles whizz past a roadside food stall; a woman carries her wares on a bamboo stick over her shoulder; an elderly man smokes at a roadside stall; a barber cuts a young boy’s hair while his mother holds him still. The young boy turns to the camera and smiles.*

**See**

*An old-school record player whirs; a swan-shaped pedal boat glides across Hoan Kiem lake; a man practises stand-up paddle boarding; another man plays golf at a driving range; yet another man fishes.*

**Tracey:** When you come to Hanoi, hire a push bike and go for a lap around West Lake. It’s a pleasant 16-kilometer ride, you can stop along the way…

*Two elderly men sit and chat.*

**Tracey:** …Have some coffee, watch the rowers out on the lake…

*A dog splashes in the waters of the lake.*

**Tracey:** It’s a fabulous way to explore the city.

*The same swan-shaped pedal boat from before glides across the water; a group of men plays Chinese chess on a bench; the two elderly men from before continue chatting; a view of the lake at sunset.*

**Eat**

**Tracey:** The other thing you have to do is visit a market. In Vietnam, the markets are the heart and soul of the community.

*A close-up shot of plucked chickens at a local market; a stall-owner chops up parts of a chicken.*

**Tracey:** You want to find out what’s going on, you want to get a feel of the streets, go to a market, wander around.

*A lady purchases cuts of meat at the market; the stall owner weighs her purchase.*

**Tracey:** And you’ll get an essence of Vietnamese culture and traditions.

*More scenes at the market: A sweeping shot of a vegetable stall; a shopper places cucumbers into her plastic bag; seafood in tanks and Styrofoam boxes; skewers of meat on a grill; two children and a lady slurp down bowls of pho; the stall-owner ladles out more pho into bowls.*

**Modern interpretation of pho**

*A shot of a cocktail on a tray; bartenders whip up drinks at The Unicorn Pub.*

**Pham Tien Tiep (mixologist at The Unicorn Pub):** My signature cocktail is inspired by a traditional classic dish, pho. It is everywhere on the streets of Hanoi.

*A talking-head shot of Pham, against the backdrop of a Vietnamese national flag.*

**Pham:** I use only the spices of pho to make the real flavors of the cocktail, which is star anise, cinnamon, cardamom, coriander, and chilli. It’s my craving, but why don’t you drink what you can eat?

*Pham mixes cocktails in front of patrons; more customers drink, smoke and chat at the bar.*

[Background music fades out]