

Anh Duc (Tom) Do

HANOI, VIETNAM

From a young age, Tom Do developed a fascination with the seemingly-magical power of medicine....

Study Choices

As he grew older, Tom realised he would like to work in pharmaceutical drug development, and he and his family began to consider study options in New Zealand.

After visiting a number of New Zealand cities, Tom – then aged 16 – chose Dunedin. “The University of Otago in Dunedin was definitely the best choice for studying medicine and science,” he says.

“Also, I loved the southern landscape. The mountains, the ocean, the scenery – spectacular!” He was also excited to discover he would be able to work in New Zealand after completing his studies.

He chose King’s High School and then the following year, Tom started at the University of Otago, completing a Foundation Year in Health Sciences. He is now studying Biochemistry and Pharmacology as he works towards his Bachelor of Science degree.

Accommodation

During his Foundation Year, Tom lived in a residential college called Salmond College, which he describes as the greatest experience of his life.

“I recommend living in a residential college because it is the best way to make friends,” he says. “Friends provide fun and social support, but also study support and motivation, too. Friendships are essential for a balanced and happy student lifestyle.”

Now, he is flatting with four friends he met at Salmond College. They live about 10 minutes’ walk from the University campus.

“The University of Otago feels like a family,” he says. “The lecturers encourage you to take the subjects you enjoy and are interested in – to follow your passion. It’s an awesome environment.”



Tom’s Study
Journey



Left Hanoi,
Vietnam



Explored the
ocean and the
beaches



King’s High School
Dunedin,
New Zealand



Took the
leap – bungee
jumping!



📍 Tunnel Beach

Extracurricular Activities

When he isn't studying, Tom enjoys socialising with friends and being active. As well as hiking and sightseeing in the city's beautiful surrounds, he regularly plays badminton and soccer.

"I've also been skiing for the first time in nearby Central Otago - we don't get snow in Vietnam," he says.

Once Tom finishes his studies, he plans to spend some time working and travelling in New Zealand. "I love it here - New Zealanders are so nice and friendly. Vietnam is very crowded and busy, and everyone is rushing. Here there is a slower pace of life."



📍 St Clair Beach



📍 Kawarau bridge, Queenstown



📍 Coronet Peak



Health Sciences
Foundation Year
University of Otago



Learnt
to surf



Bachelor of Science
University
of Otago



Saw snow for
the first time -
learnt to ski!



What's
next?