

NOVEMBER 2022 Thailand Adventure



Journey 9 days: Bangkok to Bangkok

What's Included

- Traditional Thai Home Dinner, Chiang Mai
- Meet with Monks, Chiang Mai
- Cooking Class, Chiang Mai
- Tuk Tuk drive
- Arrival transfer
- Entrance to the Thailand-Burma Railway Centre war museum and train ride
- Visit to Erawan National Park
- Guided tour at Ayutthaya Historical Park
- Dinner on a converted rice barge
- Sunset visit to Doi Suthep monastery
- Explore Bangkok and take a klong boat ride
- Internal flights
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities



Highlights

Swim in turquoise pools below a seven-tiered waterfall,

Meet a resident monk and receive a Buddhist blessing at one of Thailand's most revered temples,

Explore Wat Pho to view a colossal gilded statue of the Reclining Buddha,

Visit a village home outside and sit down to a traditional khantok dinner

Daily Itinerary

NOTE: Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only.

Day 1: November 8, 2022 Bangkok

Arrive at any time; your arrival transfer is included. Please note that hotel check-in time is 2:00pm

Today is an independent day. If you arrive early feel free to explore Bangkok. If you'd like to meet up with some of the first group arrivals meet back at the hotel around 6:30 PM. Check for any schedule variations at the hotel front desk.

Please note that normal check-in times apply, but you can usually store your luggage with the hotel front desk if you arrive early.

Meet for Dinner at 18:30 (Optional) Today is your day to recover from the long flight. You can make your own dinner plans or opt to meet up with some of the group members to dine together. Just let us know either way and don't be late if you're joining us.

Private Vehicle

Suvarnabhumi Airport - Bangkok 45m-1h30m

Hotel

Accommodation: Hyatt Place Bangkok Sukhumvit (or similar)

Day 2: November 9, 2022 **Bangkok**

Free day in Bangkok. Today sleep late or explore as you see fit but please be back at the hotel to meet our Tour director at 6:00 PM.

Tour Director's Welcome Meeting
1h at 18:00

The group adventure begins tonight. Feel free to explore before the welcome meeting, but make sure you're back in time to meet the group. Check for the meeting time on the welcome note at the hotel. The tour director will make introductions and review the details of the group tour.

Day 3: November 10, 2022 **Bangkok/Kanchanaburi**

After breakfast, travel to the city of Kanchanaburi, situated at the convergence of the Khwae Noi and Khwae Yai Rivers. Board a train for a winding journey into World War II history as you cross the bridge made famous by the 1957 film *The Bridge on the River Kwai*. At the Thailand-Burma Railway Centre, learn about the Burma Railway, constructed by imperial Japanese forces to connect Bangkok and Burma; then visit the nearby Kanchanaburi War Cemetery to see where the prisoners of war who worked on the railway were laid to rest.

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: **Royal River Kwai Resort (or similar)**
Resort

Day 4: November 11, 2022 **Kanchanaburi/Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya**

This morning, hike into the lush landscapes of Erawan National Park, located high in the mist-shrouded Tenasserim Hills. Take a dip in the turquoise pools of the Erawan Falls—so called because its top tier of cascades resemble the three-headed, mythological elephant known as Erawan. This afternoon, transfer to the historic city of Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya, a former capital of the medieval kingdom of Ayutthaya, also known as Siam. Sample traditional Thai dishes during dinner on a converted rice barge from the 1930s.

Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner

Accommodation: **Kameo Classic Ayutthaya Hotel (or similar)**
Hotel

Day 5: November 12, 2022 **Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya/Chiang Mai**

Set out to explore the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Ayutthaya Historical Park, centered on the old city which served as the Siamese capital from the 14th to 18th centuries, when it was one of the largest and most cosmopolitan regions in the world. Stroll down well-planned city streets to view magnificent palaces and Buddhist monasteries that set the standard for Thai architecture for generations to come. Later, return to Bangkok and transfer to the airport for your flight to Chiang Mai. Visit a traditional village in the countryside and enjoy a khantok-style dinner, served on low pedestal trays.

Exclusive Inclusions: Traditional Thai Home Dinner

Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner

Accommodation: **Duangtawan Hotel Chiang Mai (or similar)**
Hotel

Day 6: November 13, 2022 **Chiang Mai**

Delve into the bustle of Chiang Mai's morning markets with a local chef, and learn about colorful fruits and fragrant herbs as you select ingredients for a Thai cooking class. Enjoy your creation for lunch, then set out to visit a historic temple. Sit down with one of the resident monks to discuss daily life and the tenets of Buddhism. Later, clear your mind to the chanting of monks at Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, one of the most spectacular gilded temples in Thailand.

Exclusive Inclusions: Cooking Class | Meet with Monks

Meals included: Breakfast | Lunch

Cooking Class

Pick out the best ingredients at a local market and learn how to make delicious Thai dishes.

Meet with Monks

Visit a Buddhist temple in Chiang Mai's Suthep district. Sit down with young monks to discuss daily life and Buddhism, and leave feeling spiritually refreshed. Monk Chats are informal discussions at a round table with a prepschool age Monk, usually accompanied by their teacher.

Doi Suthep Temple Visit

Doi Suthep - Chiang Mai 3h

Visit Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, a golden Buddhist temple outside of Chiang Mai on the Mt Doi Suthep. Climb 300 steps to reach the temple and be rewarded with an unforgettable view. Admire the many Buddhist relics at this sacred temple and visit the white elephant shrine. Legend has it that the location of the temple was chosen after a white elephant carried a relic to the mountain and trumpeted three times before dying on the spot. Also, with a little luck, you may witness the chanting of the monks.

Private Vehicle: Chiang Mai 1h30m-2h

Accommodation: Duangtawan Hotel Chiang Mai (or similar)
Hotel

Day 7: November 14, 2021 Chiang Mai

Spend a full day experiencing rural Thailand as you drive your Tuk-Tuk through farming villages, visit to a local elephant home where you'll learn about, feed and walk with the elephants and enjoy bamboo rafting along the local river. Please note that if you wish to drive the tuk-tuk, you must have a valid license (not required for backseat passengers). In the evening, choose to visit Chiang Mai's vibrant night market. Chiang Mai is a mecca for shopping and handicraft production, so take advantage of this opportunity to do some shopping if you wish.

Meals included: Breakfast, Lunch

Optional Activities - Day 7

Night Market- Chiang Mai

Pick up a souvenir at this shopper's paradise. Wander through the market to find music, food, and local artists selling handmade crafts.

Full Day Tuk-Tuk Adventure (without elephant sanctuary)- Chiang Mai

Learn how to drive a classic Thai mode of transport - the tuk-tuk - then set off for a full-day Northern Thailand adventure like no other. With your very own guide, explore the rural lanes of Chiang Mai, drive past rice fields and temples as you weave through the countryside, and experience Thai hospitality at its finest over lunch and chatting with the locals. Drinking water throughout the day, as well as pick-up and drop-off at your hotel in Chiang Mai, is included.

Accommodation: Duangtawan Hotel Chiang Mai (or similar)
Hotel

Day 8: November 15, 2022 Chiang Mai/Bangkok

This morning, fly to Bangkok and board a traditional klong boat for a ride along the winding canals that have earned the city the nickname the "Venice of the East." Glide past colorful temples, modern skyscrapers, and houses perched above the water. Visit Wat Pho, Bangkok's largest and oldest temple complex, and often considered Thailand's first public university—its many inscriptions were intended to instruct visitors. Marvel at the magnificent statue of the Reclining Buddha, glittering with gold leaf and mother-of-pearl.

Meals included: Breakfast

Plane: Chiang Mai - Bangkok 1h30m

Klong Riverboat Tour

Bangkok

Travel by longtail boat on the busy Chao Phraya River. Go through the smaller klongs (canals) to see skyscrapers, temples, and shops in the distance, and the densely populated waterfront settlements up close.

Wat Po Visit

Bangkok

This temple is known for its reclining Buddha, its feet covered with mother-of-pearl engravings of Buddhist symbols. Explore the large grounds and other compounds to see other Buddha figures, murals and the chedis that contain the ashes of Buddha. This is also the birthplace of traditional Thai massage.

Private Vehicle: Bangkok

Meals included: Breakfast

Accommodation: Hyatt Place Bangkok Sukhumvit (or similar)

Hotel

Day 9: November 16, 2022 **Bangkok**

Depart at any time.

Please note that check out time is 12:00pm.

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Want to see more. We can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure to Phuket, Chiang Rai, Vietnam and more.

Meals included: Breakfast

FLIGHTS, VACATION EXTENSIONS AND EXTRAS

We are happy to help you book your flights. If booking flights on your own please be sure you arrive in Bangkok no later than 4 pm on November 8, 2022.

Just let us know if you need an extra night of hotel at the beginning or end of your trip. On free days we can plan alternate excursions if you'd like.

Want to see more of Southeast Asia? We can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure to Phuket, Chiang Rai, Vietnam, Cambodia and more.

ITINERARY DISCLAIMER

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

TRAVEL INSURANCE

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate in this trip. When traveling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been provided. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and a minimum coverage of USD \$200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, trip interruption and loss of luggage and personal effects.