

# 4 Days Siam Capitals Discovery

### Day 1 | Bangkok - Ayutthaya - Lopburi - Phitsanuloke

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Our four-day exploration includes the antiquities of Ayutthaya and Sukhothai and the beautiful landscapes of Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai provinces. After collection from centrally located hotels in Bangkok, we step back in time to the Ayutthaya era, the nation's former capital between 1350 1767. During its heyday, merchants came from across the globe to conduct business. This resultant wealth financed the magnificence of the city's architecture. We will discover the ruins of palaces, temples, monasteries and statues set on a 4 km wide island at the confluence of three rivers. Highlights include Wat Chaimongkol temple, a hub of the Buddhist nun community, ancient Wat Mahathat, famous for the serene Buddha image enshrined within the gnarled roots of a thousand-year-old tree and Wat Phra Sri Sanphet, originally a royal chapel and long revered as a spiritual hub by the Thai people. Continuing on to Lopburi, we make a stop at Phra Prang Sam Yod, a Khmer-style Hindu sanctuary adorned with three imposing towers. This is also renowned as a sanctuary for hundreds of long-tailed macaques. Playful and well-fed, these apes have become a leading attraction in the area. Next, we visit Wat Phra Sri Rattana Mahathat. This ancient temple is renowned for its tallest Prang, or sacred spire, in Lop Buri. The Lop Buri-style Prang at the front of the temple was built around 1157 AD, during the Khmer rule of the town. After lunch at a local restaurant, we proceed to Phitsanuloke, one of the most prominent cities in the lower north of Thailand, where we overnight.

Overnight in Phitsanuloke.

#### Day 2 | Phitsanuloke - Sukhothai - Pha Yao - Chiang Rai

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Today we embark on a journey to explore the magnificent Sukhothai Historical Park. Nestled amidst meticulously manicured greenery, this park includes the ruins of the ancient capital that dates back to the 13<sup>th</sup> century. Sukhothai, meaning the 'dawn of happiness' was the golden era of Thai civilization. The remains of the kingdom can be seen in a 45 sq-km World Heritage Site containing 193 antiquities of royal palaces, temples, city gates, walls, moats and dams spread amid ponds, rice paddies and villages. The best way to explore is by bike and we use two wheels to visit the iconic White Buddha of Wat Sri Chum, known as the 'Temple of the Sacred Tree'. This is adorned with gold leaf and it is revered by both locals and visitors. After lunch at a local restaurant, we continue our journey to the intriguing city of Chiang Rai, with a stop en route at picturesque Phayao Lake, nestled in the valley of the Ing River. This is a pleasant place to enjoy a stroll along the lake's banks. As a gesture of good luck, we feed the fish before reaching our destination in the evening.

Overnight in Chiang Rai.

# Day 3 | Chiang Rai - Golden Triangle - Chiang Mai

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Day four commences with a first stop at Wat Rong Khun. Also known as the White Temple, this iconic masterpiece was created by legendary artist and designer Chalermchai Kositpipat. We also explore Wat Rong Suea Ten, known as the Blue Temple, this modern Buddhist sanctuary is characterised by a vibrant interplay of blue and yellow hues adorning the structure. After cultural exploration, we enjoy a view of a spectacular landscape at the famous Golden Triangle, the meeting point of Laos, Myanmar and Thailand. From atop a hill, we absorb magnificent views of the Mekong River and its tributary, the Ruak River which geometrically divides the borders of the three countries, forming the famous triangular shape. Our next call is the House Of Opium museum, a fascinating interactive attraction. After lunch at a local restaurant, we take a three-hour road trip to Chiang Mai. In the evening, we visit the city's most famous temple, Wat Doi Suthep, elevated above the landscape with views of the provincial capital and the rolling countryside. Overnight is in Chiang Mai.

Overnight in Chiang Mai.

### Day 4 | Chiang Mai - Araksa Tea Garden - Departure

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An insight into fine tea starts our day with a visit to Araksa Tea Garden. This is located in picturesque hills and it specializes in premium Assam tea. We get an insight into organic tea cultivation and take part in harvesting leaves. We then head to Araksa Tea House for lunch, followed by a delightful tasting experience of teas paired with Thai snacks.



**Please note**: For animal enthusiasts, there's the option to swap the visit to Araksa Tea Garden for a visit to an ethical Elephant Sanctuary, offering an eco-friendly experience with these magnificent forest giants. Here, under expert guidance, you can care for the friendly elephants, feeding them and observing their daily rituals. Lunch will be provided at the elephant sanctuary. Return to the hotel by 3:00 PM to continue the rest of the group's itinerary. **Supplement**: 2500 THB per person.

After lunch, we'll return to our hotel in Chiang Mai.

Transfer to Chiang Mai airport in time for the onward flight: it is suggested that the departure flight be scheduled no earlier than 6:00 PM.

**End of Services** 



#### **Hotel Selection**

DESTINATION	Asian Trails Selection				
PHITSANULOKE	TOPLAND HOTEL				
CHIANG RAI	CHAINAIRAI RIVERSIDE				
CHIANG MAI	MOVENPICK HOTEL SURIWONGSE				

#### Rates

#### 1 November 2024 - 31 October 2025

1	2	3 - 5	6 - 14	Seat-in-Coach	Single Sup.
-	-	-	-	550.00	95.00

Rates are in US Dollar (USD), per person in double sharing room, net and non-commissionable

# **Seat-in-Coach**

 Seat-in-Coach tours are operated every Wednesday, minimum 2 persons, with English Speaking Guide.

### **Complimentary VOX Chinatown by Night Pass:**

For all customers who confirm this tour, we are delighted to offer a complimentary VOX pass for the audio-guided walking tour of Bangkok Chinatown by night. Our reservations team will provide the ticket and further details upon confirmation.

### **Peak Season Supplements**

Chainairai Riverside

Peak Season Supplement 24<sup>th</sup> Dec – 05<sup>th</sup> Jan

USD 25.00 per room/night

Mövenpick Hotel Chiang Mai Suriwongse

Loy Krathong Supplement 14 <sup>th</sup> – 17 <sup>th</sup> Nov	USD 20.00 per room/night
Peak Season Supplement 23 <sup>rd</sup> Dec - 03 <sup>rd</sup> Jan	USD 23.00 per room/night
Chinese New Year Supplement 26 <sup>th</sup> Jan - 02 <sup>nd</sup> Feb	USD 19.00 per room/night
Compulsory Loy Krathong Dinner 15 <sup>th</sup> Nov	USD 29.00 per person
Compulsory Christmas Dinner 24 <sup>th</sup> Dec	USD 35.00 per person
Compulsory New Year Dinner 31st Dec	USD 44.00 per person

# **Domestic Airfares Supplements**

Flight	Class	Adult	Child
Chiang Mai - Bangkok	Economy	USD 159	USD 124
Chiang Mai - Phuket	Economy	USD 236	USD 182
Chiang Mai - Krabi	Economy	USD 183	USD 113
Chiang Mai - Samui	Economy	USD 256	USD 197

Airfares and conditions are effective from 1<sup>st</sup> November 2024 onwards and subject to change without prior notice.

#### **Inclusions**



- Tours and transfers with licenced English Speaking Guide services/ assistance. Other languages are on request and are subject to availability with supplementary charges apply;
- Accommodation in sharing twin / double room with air-conditioning;
- Transportation for tour and transfers by air-conditioned vehicle, unless otherwise stated;
- All entrance fees for visits as mentioned in the program;
- All applicable taxes and service charges;
- All meals as indicated in the program (food only).

#### **Exclusions**

- Voluntary Carbon Offset Compensation: USD 1.50 per person per day;
- Personal expenses such as other meals, drinks, tips and gratuities, shopping, portage fees and optional tours / visits, unless otherwise stated;
- Hotel accommodation in the destination of commencement;
- Any domestic / international airline tickets, airport taxes, visa fees, specific camera / video fees, additional transportation cost from and to the general pick-up / drop-off regions (such as airports, out-of-town resorts, ports, harbours and accommodation in surrounding towns);
- Any accommodation expenses of a personal nature. This includes (compulsory festive) meals
  and drinks, mini-bar consumption, laundry, room service, any telephone or other
  communication cost not mentioned in the program;
- International travel and medical insurance coverage for customers.

#### Good to know

- In line with the program, customers are strongly advised to spend the night prior to the start
  of this package in Bangkok;
- Please note that the hotels included in our tours are subject to limited room allotments and may change due to external events. In the event that the specified hotels are unavailable, alternative accommodations of the same category will be provided at no additional cost.
- We reserve the right to make necessary changes to the tour in case of unfavourable weather conditions or situations where we are forced to make alterations to guarantee the safety of our quests;
- Natural elements of any kind have a destructive effect on electronic equipment. It the
  customer's own responsibility to ensure that any camera, mobile telephone or other device
  is properly wrapped and protected against these elements. We cannot be held responsible
  in any way for negligence and/or not following suggestions for any damage related to this;
- Tours and excursions often include obstacles of various kinds that may not make this
  excursion suitable for wheelchair users or guests with limited mobility;
- The protection of the country's flora, fauna and its historical and cultural treasures is of immense importance for us. We will not pursue any activities that are not in line with our animal, wildlife and environment protection principles;
- Please ensure that you bring sunglasses, a hat /cap and sunblock with a high SPF factor when traveling with us. Even when it is cloudy, the sun still has an immense power;
- All mentioned times, durations and stops are based on approximations and may change due to unforeseen circumstances, weather and traffic conditions beyond our control.

For all our Trails, our standard Terms and Conditions apply