

7 Days Thailand's Cultural Treasures

Day 1 | Bangkok - River Kwai - Kanchanaburi

[-,L,-]

Our seven-day adventure includes the antiquities of Ayutthaya and Sukhothai and the beautiful landscapes of Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai provinces. After collection from centrally located hotels, we embark on a picturesque 150 km journey to Kanchanaburi province. Our first call is the Thailand-Burma Railway Centre, an interactive museum that reveals the story behind the construction of the Thailand-Burma Railway during World War Two. After getting an insight into the conflict, we embark on an intriguing journey alongside the River Kwai aboard a train that traverses the famous Bridge over the River Kwai and the railway once known as the 'Death Railway'. The tracks were built by Allied prisoners of war and this grim moniker relates to the estimated 102,000 lives lost during the construction period. Originally intended to connect Thailand to Burma, it saw limited use before Japan's surrender. Disembarking from the train, we trek towards the renowned Krasae Cave, once a wartime refuge and now a site of prayer. After lunch at a local restaurant, we check-in to our riverside hotel. After some down time, we embark on a relaxing bamboo rafting experience through the lush greenery adjoining the River Kwai. The evening is free at leisure.

Overnight and dinner are in Kanchanaburi.

Day 2 | Kanchanaburi - Bang Pa In - Ayutthaya

[B, L, -]

Captivating historical exploration starts our day with visit to the famous Bridge over the River Kwai, a structure immortalised in a 1957 epic war film. We take a walk along this and absorb the beautiful riverscape. A visit to the nearby JEATH War Museum reveals a collection of images that depict the harsh treatment Allied prisoners of war had to endure during the construction of the 'Death Railway', plus other exhibits from the war, including an unexploded Allied bomb that failed to detonate and destroy the bridge. We can also watch a video presentation about the conflict. Afterwards, we head to Ayutthaya, the ancient capital of Thailand, with a break en route for lunch at a local restaurant. In the afternoon, we head to the 17th century former royal retreat of Bang Pa-In Summer Palace. This expansive complex features a number of impressive buildings built in very different architectural styles, some classical Thai, some Chinese and some European, all within a beautifully landscaped garden. After absorbing the serenity of this site, we transfer to our hotel in Ayutthaya, with the rest of the day at leisure.

Overnight in Ayutthaya.

Day 3 | Ayutthaya - Lopburi - Phitsanuloke

[B, L, -]

Today 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 4 | Phitsanuloke - Sukhothai - Pha Yao - Chiang Rai**[B, L, -]**

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 13th 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 5 | Chiang Rai - Golden Triangle - Chiang Mai**[B, L, -]**

Day five 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 6 | Chiang Mai - Araksa Tea Garden - eTukTuk & Khao Soi Experience**[B, L, D]**

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. After this, we return to our Chiang Mai hotel for some free time. At 5 pm, we embark on a sustainable exploration of the city's iconic attractions in eco-friendly electric tuk-tuks, including a brief Buddhist blessing ceremony by monks at Wat Sri Suphan. We then head to a riverside restaurant to enjoy the classic Northern Thai dish of *khao soi*, followed by a transfer back to the hotel. There are many riverside bars with live music to enjoy and we can stay out later and head back to the hotel independently.

Please note: For animal enthusiasts, there's the option to swap the visit to the Araksa Tea Garden with a visit to an ethical Elephant Sanctuary. Under expert guidance, we can care for the friendly jumbos. Lunch is included at the sanctuary, followed by the return to the hotel to continue the main tour activities.

This experience costs 2,500 Thai baht per person.

Overnight in Chiang Mai.

Day 7 | Chiang Mai - Departure**[B, -]**

Today our grand tour of northern Thailand concludes. After breakfast at the hotel, we check-out of the hotel and transfer to Chiang Mai International Airport for onward flights.

End of Services

Hotel Selection

DESTINATION	Asian Trails Selection
KANCHANABURI	MIDA RESORT
AYUTTHAYA	CENTARA AYUTTHAYA
PHITSANULOK	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.
-	-	-	-	918.00	198.00

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 **Monday**, 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

- MIDA Resort Kanchanaburi**
 Peak Season Supplement 28th Dec - 03rd Jan USD 19.00 per room/night
 Compulsory New Year Dinner 31st Dec USD 49.00 per person
- Centara Ayutthaya**
 Peak Season Supplement 24th Dec - 01st Jan USD 35.00 per room/night
- Chainairai Riverside**
 Peak Season Supplement 24th Dec - 05th Jan USD 25.00 per room/night
- Mövenpick Hotel Chiang Mai Suriwongse**
 Loy Krathong Supplement 14th - 17th Nov USD 20.00 per room/night
 Peak Season Supplement 23rd Dec - 03rd Jan USD 23.00 per room/night
 Chinese New Year Supplement 26th Jan - 02nd Feb USD 19.00 per room/night
 Compulsory Loy Krathong Dinner 15th Nov USD 29.00 per person
 Compulsory Christmas Dinner 24th 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 1st 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 guests;
- 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