

ASIA  
SUMMER  
THAI LAND  
SONGKRAN FESTIVAL



- *Dates of Organization:*



✚ Songkran New Year take place in 3 days, on the first day of the year according to the Buddhist calendar (equivalent to April 13-15 of the solar calendar)



✚ As usual, the capital Bangkok is the venue for the biggest celebration activities. Visiter are advised to head to Chiang Mai (the capital of Songkran) – the best place in the world to witness the festival because this is the place where the traditional colorful water festival is held and Thai people still keep many ancient customs.

- *Festival Details:*



✚ The word Songkran comes from the Sanskrit word, which means: “as time moves, the sun moves from the Zodiac to the Taurus sector of the universe”, people celebrate Buddha’s birthday by spraying water on each other to wash away all sorrow and welcome the new year.





✚ *In addition to the custom of splashing water with the meaning of washing away the bad things in the old year, the Songkran Festival also comes with the tradition of visiting the elderly, going to the temple to worship the Buddha...*







*Songkran Festival will be divided into 4 days:*

*+1: Starting with Wan Sungkharn Long: this day is dedicated to cleaning the house and letting go of the old ones.*


*+2: Next is Wan Nao: a day dedicated to preparing food for the coming days. Wan Nao day is like the 30<sup>th</sup> day of the traditional Vietnamese New Year.*

*+3: Wan Payawan is the first day of the new year. Starting with some rituals at the temple in the early morning, people will offer food and clothes. At home the Buddha's picture will be cleaned and sprinkled*

*with fragrant water. Wan Payawan is also the beginning of the water festival.*

*+4: Finally, is the Wan Parg-bpee day: a day to pray, remember the elderly and ancestors, and sprinkle heavenly water.*



 *You should go to Chiang Mai on April 12, because that's when the locals start preparing for the festival. Chiang Mai is the birthplace of the Thai water festival, so here the ceremony is also early and spectacular. You can also witness the Buddha image procession.*







✚ For the Thai People, the more wet the Songkran New Year, the happier they are. They perform the finger-tipping ceremony as a form of good luck in the new year.





✚ Songkran is also the New Year when everyone in the family thinks of the deceased, so they often prepare hearty meals to worship their ancestors and then have fun later.