

Buddha and the Sea
10 days – 9 nights
Bangkok, Ching Rai, Koh Yao Noi
Relaxation, Discovery, Culture, History

Well known as the City of Angels, Krungthepmahanakorn (Bangkok) is the present capital city and the focal point for Thailand. It was made the capital of Thailand in 1782, the first monarch of the present Chakri Dynasty. It is a vibrant city, a national treasure house and Thailand's spiritual, cultural, political, commercial, educational and diplomatic enter with endless choice of sightseeing and entertainment opportunities. In addition to the many temples and historic buildings, such as The Grand Palace and Wat Arun, the list of interesting places to visit is endless. There are numerous canal (klong) networks, the Chaophraya River, giving it the name of "Venice of the East".

Day 1: Bangkok

Sawasdee...Welcome to The Land of Smiles!

Upon arrival at Bangkok Suvarnabhumi Airport and after immigration and customs formalities, you will be welcomed by our local guide and transferred to your hotel for check-in. The balance of day is at leisure.

Day 2: Bangkok

The Grand Palace is the "must see" attraction in Bangkok. It is an architectural wonder of golden stupas, walls and pillars encrusted in shining and colorful mosaics. Previously the residence of past Kings of Thailand, you will see palaces once used for different occasions; the Reception Hall, the Coronation Hall, the Throne Hall, the Royal Guest House and Wat Phra Kaew. The architecture is predominantly Thai, though there are some European influences. The palace served as the official residence of kings of Thailand from the 18th to the mid-20th century. The most famous building within the palace grounds is Wat Phra Kaew and this is regarded as the most sacred Buddhist temple in Thailand. Continue to Wat Po, with its massive reclining Buddha. Thai Set lunch will be provided at Supattra River House Restaurant. Set off this afternoon with Thonburi Klong tour to see Thai way of life along the canal. One of the best ways to explore Bangkok is by boat. A cruise along the Chao Phraya River and the canals of Thonburi on the east side of the river reveals a scene that offers a stark contrast to the frenzied activity of the modern metropolis of Bangkok. The city's network of canals earned Bangkok the title of "Venice of the East" we travel along these waterways by long-tail speed boat to see family homes and temples. On the return journey, we stop at the Temple of Dawn (Wat Arun) whose towering spire has become an iconic symbol of Bangkok. There will be ample opportunities to photograph the magnificent multi-colored porcelain-studded tower of this temple. Afterward return to your hotel for refreshment and spend the rest of the day at leisure. [B/L]

Day 3: Bangkok

There are countless floating markets throughout Thailand, but the Damnoen Saduak Floating Market is the most famous. Situated 110 km from Bangkok in Ratchaburi province, this market is like a trip back in time to the Siam of old. You will see colorfully clad merchants paddle along congested canals in sturdy canoes laden with fresh fruit, vegetables and other foodstuff to sell to shoppers on the canal banks. There is lots of activity and bargaining is part of the fun of the sale. This buzzing market is at its best in the early morning before the crowds arrive and the heat of the day builds up. After visiting the market, we continue onto Phra Pathom Chedi in Nakorn Pathom, reportedly the largest pagoda in South East Asia. The golden-tiled dome of the Chedi towers almost 380-foot into the air. Afterward return to your hotel and spend the rest of your afternoon at leisure. Relax in luxurious tranquility, admiring the River of King's illuminated banks and striking landmarks at night, from the bustle of Asiatique the Riverfront to the strikingly illuminated Temple of Dawn and glittering Grand Palace. Step aboard a beautifully restored antique rice barge and cruise in old world elegance along the majestic Chao Phraya River. Pass along famous royal sites, exquisite temples and striking modern landmarks as you dine on fine Thai cuisine at one of the best river dinner cruises Bangkok has to offer. Float down the River of Kings on a beautifully restored rice barge. Revel in old world splendour over

two unforgettable hours of fine cuisine and magnificent culture. Savour exquisite tastes and cocktails accompanied by a unique view of Bangkok. Pass famous royal sites, grand temples, and striking modern landmarks as you enjoy traditional Thai favorites. [B/D]

**Note: There will be possible to take an optional paddle boat (at extra cost).*

Known as the gateway to the Golden Triangle, Chiang Rai was founded in 1262 by King Mengrai as the capital of the Lanna Kingdom. Wat Pra Keow in Chiang Rai was once home to the famed 'Emerald Buddha' now residing at Wat Pra Keow in the Grand Palace. Chiang Rai itself is situated in a valley and the mountains in the surrounding area, are home to many people of the various ethnic minority 'hill tribe' groups. It is possible to arrange treks into the nearby mountains to visit the villages where these people still live a basic lifestyle, albeit one that is changing rapidly. One of the most popular activities in this area is to visit the 'Golden Triangle' or other places of interest such as Mae Salong and Mae Sai.

Day 4: Bangkok, Chiang Rai

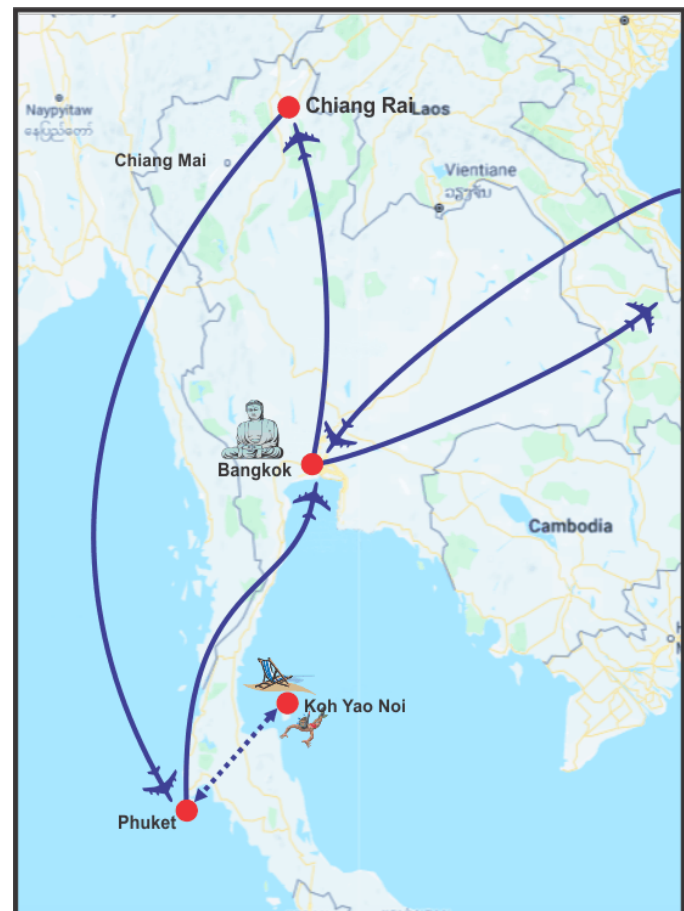
After your leisurely breakfast in Bangkok, transfer to Bangkok Suvarnabhumi Airport and board by your onward flight to Chiang Rai. Upon arrival in Chiang Rai, you will be welcomed by our representative and transferred to Chiang Rai city for sightseeing. Explore the charm and evidence of past civilizations in this bustling provincial capital. We are taken by rickshaw, the favorite local mode of transportation, through Chiang Rai's residential area and onto the market place. The excursion takes in the city's iconic Wat Phra Kaew, which during the 13th century housed the Emerald Buddha. This is now housed in the Grand Palace in Bangkok. The temple was originally known as Wat Pa Yeah (the Temple in the Golden Bamboo Forest) because it was surrounded by bamboo. The name of the temple was changed to Wat Phra Kaew in 1434 after the chedi was struck by lightning revealing the Emerald Buddha image within. Afterward return to your hotel for check in and refreshment. Lunch is on your own arrangement. [B]

Day 5: Chiang Rai

We cross the Sai River into Myanmar (Burma) to witness local life in a traditional village. Rickshaw riders wait to whisk us off to explore a Shan temple complex which is home to young novice monks. After a ride around town, through narrow lanes and twisting side streets, we stop off at a local market for shopping for local produce and handicrafts. The next destination is the Golden Triangle, once the infamous focus of the opium trade. From here, we view the beauty of the mighty Mekong River joining forces with the Ruak River and forming the "Triangle" with Laos, Myanmar (Burma) and Thailand. This tour gives a great insight into the local culture and lifestyles of this fascinating area. [B/L]

Day 6: Chiang Rai

Travel into the mountains north of Chiang Rai, into an area famous for its tea plantations. Visit local Chinese Yunnan villages in an area that sees few tourists, and enjoy the spectacular views the area has to offer. See the terraced tea plantations and sample some local tea in the traditional way. If prearranged, it is possible to include a visit to a local school. Return to Chiang Rai by late afternoon. [B/L]



Day 7: Chiang Rai, Bangkok, Phuket, Koh Yao Noi

After your leisurely day in Chiang Rai, transfer to Chiang Rai Airport in order to board your flight to Phuket via Bangkok. Upon arrival in Phuket International Airport, you will be welcomed by a representative of the selected resort who will help you with a land & sea transfer to Koh Yao Noi**. [B]

***Paradise Koh Yao Noi joint land transfer*

***Six Senses Koh Yao Noi private transfer*

Day 8: Koh Yao Noi

Day at leisure to enjoy beach and hotel's facilities. [B]

Day 9: Koh Yao Noi

Day at leisure to enjoy beach and hotel's facilities. [B]

Day 10: Koh Yao Noi, USA

After your leisurely day on the Island, a representative of the resort will help you with departure transfer to Phuket Airport where you will board your connecting flight to the USA via Bangkok.

[B] = Breakfast | [B/L] = Breakfast and Lunch | [B/D] = Breakfast and Dinner

Your Tour includes:

- Private transfers
- 9 nights' accommodation at your choice of hotels:
 - Bangkok 3 nights
 - Chiang Rai 3 nights
 - Koh Yao Noi 3 nights
- Meals
 - Breakfast daily
 - 3 lunches
 - 2 dinner
- All entrance fees for sites visited
- English-speaking guide for sightseeing and transfers
- A/C vehicle for for sightseeing and transfers
- Porter services at hotels and airports
- Applicable tax (including VAT)
- Bottled water and cold towel provided during sightseeing and transfers

Tour does not include:

- International or Domestic airfares
- Any taxes and surcharges relating to airfares
- Travel insurance
- Entry Visa and visa fees
- Wi-Fi at hotels except as indicated
- All alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks except as indicated
- Other meals not mentioned in the itinerary
- Extras and gratuities
- Early check-in, late check-out (Most hotels begin check-in around 2:00pm).
- Expenses of personal nature
- Portorage at airport and hotels
- Optional tours and activities
- Any service not specifically listed under "included"

Hotels in your Tour:

City	Hotel Name	Room Type	Tripadvisor
First Class			
Bangkok	Riva Surya	Deluxe Riva	4.5
Chiang Rai	The Legend	Superior Studio	4.5
Koh Yao Noi	Paradise	Jacuzzi Studio	4.5
Deluxe			
Bangkok	Peninsula	Deluxe	4.5
Chiang Rai	The Riverie by Katathani	Deluxe River	5
Koh Yao Noi	Six Senses	Hideaway Pool Villa	5

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking

Tour Prices:

Season	2 Pax	3-5 Pax	1 Pax	Single Suppl.
First Class				
11 Jan – 31 Mar	\$3,025	\$2,635	\$5,645	\$1,185
1 Apr – 14 Sep	\$2,779	\$2,385	\$5,155	\$939
15 Sep – 31 Oct	\$2,725	\$2,339	\$5,055	\$895
1 Nov – 20 Dec	\$2,939	\$2,545	\$5,625	\$1,099
Extra Bed	\$1,855			
Deluxe				
11 Jan – 19 Apr	\$4,965	\$4,575	\$9,525	\$3,125
20 Apr – 14 Sep	\$4,019	\$3,625	\$7,635	\$2,179
15 Sep – 31 Oct	\$3,985	\$3,599	\$7,575	\$2,155
Extra Bed	\$2,645			

Prices are per person and may change without notice.
Prices are valid through October '20

Tour Code: TH03BKK20DA