

**Land of Smiles  
10 days – 9 nights  
Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Phuket  
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 Destination Asia's local guide and transferred to your hotel for check-in. The balance of day is at leisure.

**Day 2: Bangkok**

Breakfast at the hotel is inclusive. Set off this morning with Bangkok significant highlight City and Temples and Grand Palace tour. 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 colourful 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-coloured 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**

Breakfast at the hotel is inclusive. 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 colourfully 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 splendor over two unforgettable hours of fine cuisine and magnificent culture. Savor 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).

*Popularly known as the Rose of the North, Chiang Mai is blessed with stunning natural beauty and unique indigenous cultural identity. Founded by King Mengrai the Great as the capital of the Lanna Thai kingdom by merging the various city states in the region in 1296. Today Chiang Mai is the economic, communications, cultural and tourism center of Northern Thailand. About 435 miles from Bangkok, Chiang Mai is situated on the Mae Ping River basin some 1,017-foot above sea level. Surrounded by high mountain ranges, it covers an area of approximately 4,970 acres. The terrain is mainly jungles and mountains, parts of which are within national parks which are still fertile and verdant with plentiful flora and fauna. There are many sites and locations where tourists prefer to visit to study the lifestyle of the tribal people who live on high hills.*

#### **Day 4: Bangkok, Chiang Mai**

After your leisurely breakfast in Bangkok, transfer to Bangkok Suvarnabhumi International Airport and board by your onward flight to Chiang Mai. Upon arrival in Chiang Mai, you will be welcomed by our representative and transferred to Chiang Mai city for sightseeing. The city of Chiang Mai has an abundance of beautiful and historic Buddhist temples and this tour takes in the most interesting. One of the highlights is a visit to the 600-year-old temple of Wat Pra That Doi Suthep, near the summit of Doi Suthep mountain. After a drive up the mountain's winding road, the final climb to the site is via a magnificent Naga (dragon-headed serpent) staircase of 306 steps. Inside is an intriguing copper-plated chedi topped by a five-tier gold umbrella which contains partial relics of Lord Buddha. On a clear day, there are incomparable views over the city of Chiang Mai. Other temple visits on this tour include: Wat Suan Dok, whose large central stupa contains the ashes of Chiang Mai's royal family; Wat Chedi Luang, where the Emerald Buddha was once enshrined; and Wat Phra Singh, housing a very sacred 1,500-year-old Buddha image. Afterward return to your hotel for check in and refreshment. Spend the rest of your afternoon at leisure. Later today, picking you up from your hotel, we head south out of Chiangmai to Badoo in Hangdong district. The home you will be visiting belongs to the Raunkaew-Yanon family, who arrived in the area possibly by elephant back, almost 150 years ago. The family is Lanna family, continuing the traditions of many generations in building their homes of teak wood and maintaining the natural surroundings in manner now rarely seen in Chiangmai. You will experience the simple Lanna way of life including the family orchard with many types of fruit such as banana, mango, coconut, whilst the garden is filled with herbs for cooking. You will also have the opportunity to join cooking and escorting with local family. Your evening meal will be served on the second-floor terrace of the home of the Raunkaew-Yanon family from where you will enjoy the panoramic view of this Lanna village. The tour is designed to give you a real experience and understanding of Lanna life, the traditions and buildings; the relationship between their religion and ancestors, and the way this all works together with nature. [B/D]

#### **Day 5: Chiang Mai**

Breakfast at the hotel is inclusive. Patara Elephant Farm invites you to hands-on experience on participating, sharing responsibilities and taking care of an elephant. "Elephant Owner for a Day" is a special program created for everyone to learn and interact with elephants as what an owner would do daily, during which time you are trained to approach your elephant correctly, know the elephant's temperament, feed and check its health, learn about and take care of your own elephant, bathe and brush it in the river, learn how to ride on its neck, and communicate through different spoken commands. You will get a chance to bare-back riding to visit forest, waterfalls or local temples. The program is specialized and meaningful activity to create trust and relationship between you and your elephant for the day:

- 07:30 am Pick up from hotel in Chiang Mai city hotel and transfer direct to Patara Elephant Farm. Briefing on history of domestic elephant in Thailand.
- 08:15 am Arrive at the Patara Elephant Farm. Make registration. Get change to our training outfit. Prepare for training.
- 08:30 am Training session includes, hiking to find the elephant in the bush. Learn about elephant farm management and our breeding program. Train to approach and be near elephant. Learn to observe elephant temperament. Introducing to every of our elephants. Morning feed. Daily health care for elephant. Pregnancy test for elephant and care taking for mother with small baby. Train to unchain and walk your elephant to the river. Learn about elephant skin care and bath your elephant in the river. Instructed training to get on the elephant neck with difference technique, sitting on the elephant, basic riding skill and spoken commands for elephant Practice on getting upon and coming down from the elephant.
- 10:00 am Bare-back riding session. Practice on easy riding trip within the farm and a short trip to visit local temple. Learn about elephant the Buddhism and the believe of the Thais people relate to elephant.
- 11:00 am Setting of for a long uphill trip to visit waterfall for picnic lunch and refreshing in the water with your elephant.
- 2:00 pm Elephant riding trip back to the farm for evening feed.
- 3:00 Farewell and photo taking with your elephants. A CD with photos from tour will be given as souvenir.
- 4:00-5:00 pm Transfer back to your hotel. [B/L]

### Day 6: Chiang Mai

One of the most unique experiences in Thailand is a visit to a Buddhist temple to offer alms to the monks. Each morning before dawn, the monks put on their distinctive saffron robes and quietly pad in their bare feet along the streets, carrying alms bowls and receiving boiled rice and condiments from the citizens of Thailand. In return, people receive the monks' blessings. This morning, we too are able to participate in this very special Thai custom by personally presenting alms. Beforehand, our guide leads us on an exploration of the temple. Afterward, return to your hotel for breakfast. Today, join cooking class at Cooking @ Home Thai Culinary School where is nestled in a secluded part of Sankhampaeng village, amidst rice field scenery, the Cooking@home Thai Culinary School offers you a peaceful sanctuary, where you can witness, practice the authentic Thai home cooking. It is a home-style learning environment in a charming open-air, Thai-style kitchen. Our superlatively hygienic premises operate at the highest standards of cleanliness. Students work with the highest quality cooking utensils, and a separate work station is provided for each student. Lunch will be provided at the cooking school where you will try your own master dishes. [B/L]

*\*Note: The cooking school normally closes every Sunday\*\**

*Phuket is the largest island in Thailand and is a province in itself. Phuket itself is a beautiful island with many great beaches, rocky capes, mountains and forested hills as well as lush farmlands incorporating crops such as rubber, pineapple and tapioca. Phuket is also a central point from which travelers may discover alternative but equally exciting destinations. Phuket has a major International airport, hotels of all categories, excellent infrastructure, established international standard restaurants, small local eateries, shopping centers, excellent nightlife, marina, movie cinema and a wide choice of recreation activities. The main beach areas are Patong, Kata, Karon and Kamala. There are also many other smaller and less well-known beach areas worth exploring, such as Mai Khao, Nai Yang and Nai Thon Beaches. Island offshore but close by are many such as, Koh Rach, Kho Yao, Kho Hae, Koh Mai Thon and Koh Rang Yai.*

### Day 7: Chiang Mai, Phuket

After your leisurely day in Chiang Mai, transfer to Chiang Mai International Airport in order to board by your onward flight to Phuket. Upon arrival in Phuket International Airport, you will be welcomed and transferred to your hotel in Phuket. [B]

**Day 8: Phuket**

Enjoy your free day at leisure; relax on the beach or by pool with good books and drinks. [B]

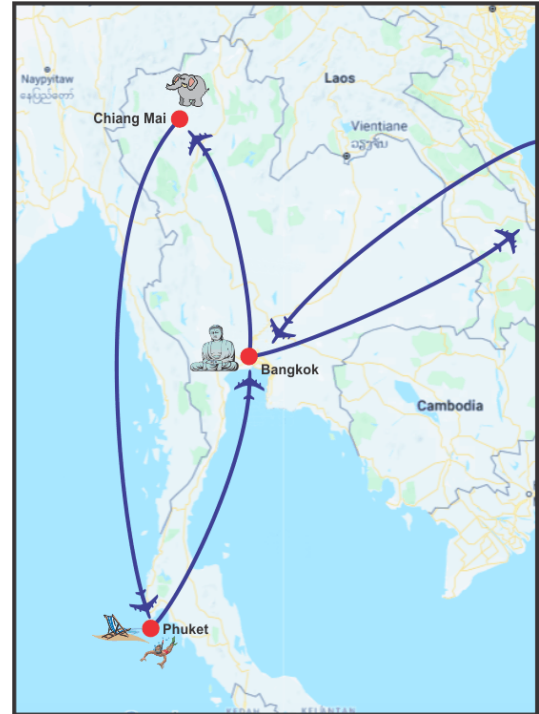
**Day 9: Phuket**

Enjoy your free day at leisure; relax on the beach or by pool with good books and drinks. [B]

**Day 10: Phuket, Bangkok, USA**

After your leisurely day in Phuket (normal check-out time is 12:00 noon), you will be met and transferred to Phuket International Airport where you will board by Bangkok bound flight. [B]

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



**Your Tour includes:**

- Private transfers in Bangkok, Chiang Mai & Phuket
- 9 nights' accommodation at your choice of hotel
- Meals
  - Breakfast daily
  - 3 lunches
  - 2 dinners
- air-conditioned vehicles for transfers and tours
- All entrance fees for sightseeing tours
- Service of English-speaking guide for sightseeing and transfers
- Porter services at the hotel and airport
- Applicable tax (including VAT)
- Bottled water

**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
- Porterage 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
<b>First Class</b>			
Bangkok	Riva Surya	Deluxe Riva	4.5
Chiang Mai	Siripanna	Deluxe Lanna	4.5
Phuket	Sala	Deluxe Balcony	4.5
<b>Deluxe</b>			
Bangkok	Peninsula	Deluxe	4.5
Chiang Mai	137 Pillar House	Rajah Brook Suite	5
Phuket	Banyan Tree	Signature Pool Villa	4.5

Hotel will be confirmed at time of booking

**Tour Prices:**

Season	2 Pax	3-5 Pax	1 Pax	Single Suppl.
<b>First Class</b>				
8 Jan – 29 Feb	\$2,685	\$2,585	\$4,675	\$1,459
1 Mar – 31 Mar	\$2,585	\$2,485	\$4,479	\$1,359
1 Apr – 30 Apr	\$2,465	\$2,365	\$4,239	\$1,239
1 May – 31 Oct	\$2,275	\$2,175	\$3,855	\$1,045
1 Nov – 23 Dec	\$2,519	\$2,425	\$4,355	\$1,299
Extra Bed	\$1,799			
<b>Deluxe</b>				
8 Jan – 29 Feb	\$4,905	\$4,805	\$9,119	\$3,679
1 Mar – 31 Mar	\$4,495	\$4,399	\$8,299	\$3,275
1 Apr – 31 Oct	\$4,119	\$4,019	\$7,559	\$2,895
1 Nov – 14 Dec	\$4,299	\$4,199	\$7,915	\$3,075
15 Dec – 23	\$4,705	\$4,605	\$8,719	\$3,479
Extra Bed	\$2,665			

Prices are per person, are valid up to December 2020 and may change without notice

**Surcharges: at Banyan Tree in Phuket**

City	Hotel Name	Period	Cost
Phuket	Banyan Tree	22 – 28 January '20	\$235
		8 – 14 April '20	\$95

Prices are per room per night

**Tour Code:** TH02BKK20DA