



10 DAYS/ 9 NIGHTS IN THAILAND

Day 1 – Arrive Bangkok

Arrive in Bangkok and transfer to hotel. In the afternoon our guide will pick you up at your hotel and take you to **Wat Po**. One of the oldest temples in Bangkok, Wat Po is home of the famous 45 metre reclining Buddha as well as being the original school of traditional Thai massage. Continue to **The Grand Palace**, the most important and impressive royal palace in Thailand. Your guide will show you the palaces used for different occasions – the Funeral Palace, the Reception Palace, the Throne Hall, the Coronation Hall, the Royal Guest House, and of course the mysterious Emerald Buddha, the most revered Buddha image in Thailand. Appropriate dress is required (or can be hired on site).

Afternoon free at leisure.

Day 2 –Bangkok (B)

In the morning your guide will pick you up and drive you to **Chinatown square** where you start an interesting walk through one of the oldest parts of Bangkok. Walk along Yaworat Road where you visit interesting shop selling birds nests and shark fins. Continue to a very old teashop to enjoy a cup of Chinese tea with the locals before heading down **Trok Leng Moi Eia** (a small soi) to Talad Kao for an interesting local market with variety of fresh foods, fresh & dry fruits, Chinese herbs, groceries. End the walk at **Wat Leng Neng Yee** to visit the Taoist temple before continuing by car to **Rachawong pier** and board on boat for the trip along Bangkok **Noi klongs** (Thonburi klong tour) sampling Thai houses and Thai life along the way with stop for visit to **Wat Arun**. Return to hotel in the early afternoon.



Day 3 – Depart Bangkok – Ayuthaya – Ang Thong - Uthai Thani (B)

Early morning departure from your hotel in Bangkok and drive to **Ayuthaya**. Capital of Thailand from 1350 to 1776 when it was sacked by an invading Burmese army, Ayuthaya. First stop at **Bang Pa In** to see the summer palace built by King Rama IV at a time of growing European influence in Thailand. See the Italian inspired palace building and surrounding temples. Also visit **Wat Nivet Thammavavat** a gothic inspired temple beside the river. Continue by car to Ayuthaya and visit the most important of the ruined temples in Ayuthaya historical park. Take lunch at a pleasant riverside restaurant before continuing north to Ang Thong

1

province to see the Sukhothai period reclining Buddha at **Wat Pa Mok Worawihan** on the west bank of the **Chao Phraya River** and **Ban Bang Sadet village** where Court Dolls are made by hand.

After the visits proceed to Uthai Thani for dinner and overnight.



Day 4: Uthai Thani - Sukhothai (B)

After breakfast visit the local market place before driving north to Sukhothai. **Sukhothai**, a name meaning dawn of happiness, was founded in the 13th century and became the kingdom's first capital, overseeing a period known as the golden age of Thai history. On arrival check in to your hotel and visit **Ramkamhaeng National museum** before proceeding to **Sukhothai Historical Park**. See Wat Mahathat, Wat Si Chum, Wat Sri Sawai and War Sra Sri and Wat Trapang Ngoen. Overnight in Sukhothai.



Day 5: Sukhothai – Sri Satchanalai – Phrae - Lampang (B)

After breakfast drive north to **Sri Satchanalai**, a smaller ruined citadel close to Sukhothai and particularly photogenic in the early morning. Continue to **Phrae**, one of Thailand's oldest cities founded in 828 under the name Muang Phon and one of the most authentic Lanana towns, Phrae is packed with traditional Thai architecture in the form of beautiful teak houses, eclectic wats and quiet lanes as well as several large colonial period teak mansions. We will spend some time visiting **Vontaburi House**, a large two-storey teak mansion built in 1897 for a family that held a large teak concession in the area. The house has remained in

the family ever since and is a living museum, full of fascinating relics of the past including documents related to the purchase of slaves. Also visit the small silver workshop on site to see bowls and other ornaments being made. Continue to Lampang by road. Overnight in Lampang.

Day 6: Lampang – Phayao - Chiang Rai (B)

After breakfast drive up to **Wat Phra That Lampang Luang**, one of the most spectacular temples in Thailand. Dating back to 1486 and is believed to be one of the oldest wooden buildings in Thailand. Then drive north to Phayao situated on the scenic **Kwan (Lake) Phayao**. Visit the interesting local museum and the quirky **Wat Analyo** with its eclectic mix of religious architecture and iconography perched on a hilltop with views of the Lake. Continue to Chiang Rai to visit **Wat Pra Singh** and the **Haw Kham Mae Fah Luang Royal Museum**. Overnight in Chiang Rai.

Day 7: Chiang Rai – Mae Sai - Golden Triangle – Chiang Saen - Chiang Rai (B)

Drive north to visit **Mae Sai** to see the bustling Burmese border market. Continue to **Sop Ruak** to see the point of the **Golden Triangle** where the Mekong River converges on Laos, Myanmar and Thailand. Continue to the 13th century ruined city of **Chiang Saen** and the heart of the Golden Triangle where the Ruak and the Mekong Rivers meet. Overnight in Chiang Rai.

Day 8 –Chiang Mai / Doi Suthep

Morning drive to Chiang Mai. In the afternoon drive to the mountain temple of **Wat Prathat Doi Suthep**, the most famous landmark of Chiang Mai. Climb the naga staircase to visit the exquisite golden pagoda with 6 kg of pure gold at its peak and the rest plated with gold shines high over the city. The sound of temple bells fills the air, and the view over the city makes an irresistible photo opportunity. Afterwards drive up the mountain by 'songtaew' pick-up truck passing the King's winter palace of Phuping and turn onto a rough dirt road to the Chang Khien Coffee Research Project where you can enjoy a cup of the local 'arabica' surrounded by fabulous gardens of flowers. Continue to the white **Hmong village of Chang Khien** where the 800 inhabitants still retain their traditional hill tribe clothes and culture that dates back 500 years. The modern city of Chiang Mai can be viewed down below 10 km away. Upon arrival enjoy a quick cup of steaming mountain tea with a village family and then back to **Doi Suthep** and down into Chiang Mai.



Day 9–Chiang Mai – Chiang Dao (B, L)

Drive north through the hilly, wooden area to the Chiang Dao area where you visit **Palaung, Akha and Lisu tribal villages**. Living separately from the lowland Thai's the tribal mountain people retain a different culture and way-of life unique for every ethnic group. In the afternoon drive to **Chiang Dao elephant camp**

for elephant riding and a gentle bamboo raft journey down the Ping River. Return to Chiang Mai in the late afternoon.



Day 10 –Chiang Mai – Departure (B)

At leisure until transfer to the airport for your return flight.

--- END OF TOUR ---

RATES & CONDITIONS

PRICES per person in AUD

Hotel Categories	2 pax	3-6 pax	7-10 pax	11-14 pax	15+ pax	SGL sup
Deluxe	4,916	3,915	3,624	1,739	1,690	1,064
Superior	1,834	1,472	1,346	1,161	1,091	615
First Class	1,700	1,337	1,214	997	951	481
Standard	1,630	1,267	1,145	928	881	401

Valid from Nov 1 – Dec 16 2006 and Jan 15-Apr 30 2007

Inclusive

- accommodation at selected hotels
- meals as mentioned (B= Breakfast, L= Lunch, D= Dinner)
- tours and transfers as mentioned by private air conditioned vehicle with English speaking guide. (1-2 pax by car, 3-6 by minivan, 7-15 by KL 24 seats, 16-up by coach 42 seats)
- entrance fees for mentioned visits

Exclusive

- other meals than mentioned
- other services than mentioned
- international airport tax ex Bangkok (THB 500.- net per person)
- Laundry, telephone calls and expenditure of a personal nature
- International Airport Tax

SELECTED HOTELS

CITY	DELUXE	SUPERIOR	FIRST CLASS	STANDARD
BANGKOK	Sofitel Silom	Holiday Inn Silom	Silom Serene	Classic Place
SUKHOTHAI	Ananda Museum (DLX)	Ananda Museum (DLX)	Ananda Museum (SUP)	Ananda Museum (STD)
UTHAI THANI	Phrayamai / River Marina	Phrayamai / River Marina	Phrayamai / River Marina	Phrayamai / River Marina
LAMPANG	Lampang River Lodge	Lampang River Lodge	Lampang River Lodge	Wienglakor
CHIANG MAI	Rachamankha	Tamarind Village	Manathai	Novotel
CHIANG RAI	The Legend (Deluxe Studio)	The Legend (Superior Studio)	Teak Garden (Dlx)	Teak Garden (Std)

Remarks: -

- ~ Rates are quoted nett in Australia Dollars, subject to change without prior notice, non commissionable, and based on minimum 2 travellers.
- ~ All quotes and bookings are subject to terms and conditions as outlined at www.hotelbookings.net.au.