

THAILAND SPECIAL PACKAGE

Bangkok - Chiang Mai - Phuket
(12 Days/11 Nights)

Day 1 : Arrive Bangkok

(-/-/D)

Arrive in Bangkok and transfer to hotel.

A relaxing evening beckons with a drive through Bangkok's old quarters that delivers sights of an illuminated Grand Palace, the Royal Ground, temples and the lit-up Rachadamnoen Avenue. A lavish Thai dinner and cocktails against the stunning backdrop of the Rattanakosin skyline at "The Deck" riverside restaurant will keep your night pleasurable. Then stroll along the Flower Market to see the myriad varieties of exotic orchids and sweet smelling flowers. The buzz in this market is best experienced at night during which busy vendors load their wares up and down their mopeds. A potential shopping opportunity awaits you at an adjacent local night market along the Memorial Bridge that overlooks the Chao Phraya River, where you can rummage for handicrafts or souvenirs to bring back home for your family and friends.

Overnight at Bangkok

Day 2 : Bangkok

(B/L/-)

An early start will get you to Wat Pho in time to experience the monks early morning chanting ritual (chanting starts at 09.00 Hrs). After this uplifting and often private experience visit the temple grounds and the famous 45-metre reclining Buddha. Continue to The Grand Palace, Thailand's most important landmark, where you will be awed by the grandeur and majesty of the building and its throne halls. Then, of course, marvel at the mysterious Emerald Buddha, the most revered Buddha image in Thailand. Lunch is served at the delightful Supatra River House overlooking the Chao Phraya River. In the afternoon, Experience an exhilarating boat ride along the bustling Chao Phraya River and the quiet Klongs (canals) in a boat "Jao Ying Noi". Be taken back in time to a more traditional way of life, far removed from Bangkok's modern skyscrapers. Visit the Royal Barge Museum to witness the beautiful barges used by the King on state occasions. And Wat Arun, the magnificent temple of Dawn with its 79-meter pagoda or 'prang', built in the Khmer style.

Overnight at Bangkok

Day 3 : Bangkok

(B/L/-)

At just an hour's drive south of Bangkok, Samut Songkram province offers visitors a glimpse into Thai countryside life. We will start the day with a stop at a local train station to experience a short regional Train Ride bounding for an amazing country market that has sprouted along the railway tracks. Here, you will witness the dexterity and speed of the vendors as they quickly pack their stalls away whenever the trains approach, hence bringing shopping to a brief halt. It is a standard practice and stall holders have learnt the art of assembling and reassembling their wares at a moment's notice! Then we will visit Tha Kha**, one of the many floating markets in the area where you can observe local trading in its authenticity. We will take a fascinating paddleboat journey through the maze of *klongs* (canals), cruising past plantations and Buddhist temples before stopping to enjoy a glass of palm sugar syrup and chat with a friendly local family.

Following lunch at a local restaurant, proceed to King Rama II Memorial Park which houses a Thai style pavilion museum displaying artefacts from the early Rattanakosin era and a

landscaped garden filled with native flowers. An easy bike ride through the orchards provides great fun and completes the village experience. Visit artisans who produce exquisite hand-painted Benjarong porcelain and potteries before returning to Bangkok in the late afternoon. If the visit falls on a Friday, Saturday or Sunday, we will spice up your upcountry trip with a visit to the weekend evening floating market full of vendors selling local delights.

Overnight at Bangkok

Day 4 : Bangkok - Chiang Mai

(B/-/D)

Transfer to Airport with your guide (time to be confirmed the day before) for your flight to the northern of Thailand "Chiang Mai". After check-in, this half day tour takes you to Studio Naenna to see a fine display of textile arts of South East Asia. Studio Naenna is the marketing arm for a woman's weaving group which was founded in 1986 in northern Thailand. This group, known as the Weavers for the Environment was initiated by Patricia Cheesman Naenna, an expert in antique, Lao and Thai textiles. Continue to Wat Phra Thad Doi Suthep (AD 1384), the most sacred temple in Northern Thailand. Inside the cloister of the temple you will see one of the most sacred stupas in all of Thailand. A panoramic view of the city is seen from here at 3500 feet above sea level, a perfect photo opportunity!

Enjoy typical Thai cuisine at the Baan Suan Restaurant.

Overnight at Yaang Come Village

Day 5 : Chiang Mai

(B/-/-)

Depart from the hotel in the early morning, enjoy a 30 minute trishaw ride in the town, and watch Chiang Mai waking up. Ride until you arrive at the covered market, purchase food, sweets and flowers as offerings to your monk and your blessing. Continue to Wat Ket by trishaw, here is little visited by tourists and is a very picturesque place. You will be at the temple when the monks are in prayer. Once the ceremony is over, offer your food and flower to the monk and receive the blessing. This is an authentic experience in Buddhist philosophy. After lunch, depart for travel to a local farmhouse in Mae Rim on the outskirts of Chiang Mai where you will take a leisurely stroll around the grounds. Then board a long-tail boat and enjoy a 30 minute cruise along the rural Mae Ping River. Along the river banks you will see traditional wooden houses and modern residences. Arrive at a boat landing and walk for about 10 minutes from the landing to Waroros fresh food Market for a visit, experiencing the Northern Thai way of life. From the market you take a trishaw ride along Tapae Road past City Walls and along Rajdamnern Road to Wat Phra Singh.

Overnight at Yaang Come Village

Day 6 : Chiang Mai

(B/L/-)

Hop on your bike for a fantastic day filled with sights, impressions, experiences and adventure. After a short early morning transfer out of town, you will visit the most famous landmark of Chiang Mai: Wat Phra That Doi Suthep. Chat with the monks and offer them a gift for merit. With the amazing view over the valley, your guide can show you from here where today's routes lie. Begin biking with a cool ride through the lush jungle of Doi Suthep & Doi Pui National Park. On the way, visit a Hmong hilltribe coffee plantation development project. After an exciting down-hill trail, exit the jungle and round the beautiful man-made lake Huay Taeng Taew. After lunch, continue riding through the dreamy town with its romantic lanes. En route visit temples, local markets, make contact with the friendly local

people and ride along the meandering Mae Ping River. At the end of the day, your guide will gently bring you back to your hotel.

Overnight at Yaang Come Village

Day 7 : Chiang Mai - Phuket (B/-/D)

After breakfast at your hotel, you free at leisure till transfer to Chiang Mai airport for flight to Phuket. Check-in at your hotel.

Uncover the rich and colorful cultural heritage of Phuket as you wander through the historic quarters of this provincial island. The wide array of exotic tropical fruits available in the downtown fruit market will tantalize and satisfy your palate. Explore the oldest Chinese shrine and uniqueness of the Sino-Portuguese architecture that are standing testimonies to the influence of the Chinese migrants during the tin mining days of the 19th century. After the walk, head to the summit of Rang Hill where you get to savor a refreshing cocktail and snack while revelling in the sweeping panoramic view of Phuket town. Cap off the day with a delightful Phuket cuisine at the Natural Restaurant, an eatery which serves excellent food and service in an innovative décor.

Overnight at Aspasia Phuket

Day 8 : Phuket (B/-/-)

Day free at leisure

Overnight at Aspasia Phuket

Day 9 : Phuket (B/-/-)

Day free at leisure

Overnight at Aspasia Phuket

Day 10-11 : Phuket (B/-/-)

Day free at leisure

Overnight at Aspasia Phuket

Day 12 : Depart Phuket (B/-/-)

Transfer to Phuket airport with your guide (time to be confirmed the day before).

END OF SERVICES

RATES & CONDITIONS

Please contact your travel agent or www.exotissimo.com

Accommodation

City	Hotel Name	Room Type
Bangkok	Triple Two Silom	Deluxe room
Chiang Mai	Yaang Come Village	Superior Room
Phuket	Aspasia Phuket	Deluxe Grand Garden Room

Tour Prices (THAI BAHT) (more than 10,000 THB per person cheaper than normally!)

Please contact your travel agent or www.exotissimo.com

No. of Pax	2 pax
11 Jan - 31 Mar 09	
1 Apr - 31 Oct 09	

Inclusive:

- Accommodation in selected hotel
- Meals as mentioned (B= Breakfast, L= Lunch, D= Dinner).
- English or French speaking guide
- Tours and transfers as mentioned by private air conditioned vehicle
- Entrance fees for mentioned visits

Exclusive:

- Other meals than mentioned
- Other services than mentioned
- International and Domestic Flights
- Laundry, telephone calls and expenditure of a personal nature

ADDITIONAL AIRFARES incl. taxes

Route (One way ticket)	Airline	Prices (per person)
Bangkok - Chiang Mai	TG	
Chiang Mai - Phuket	TG	
Phuket - Bangkok	TG	

Note:

- All airfares, taxes and conditions are subject to change without prior notice.

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