



THAILAND

10-14 DAYS

ITINERARY**DAY 1 - BANGKOK TO CHIANG RAI**

11:35 AM ARRIVAL IN BANGKOK FROM TAIPEI. VIP ARRIVAL SERVICES AND TRANSFER TO DOMESTIC FLIGHT FROM BANGKOK TO CHIANG RAI.

14:00 FLIGHT FROM BANGKOK TO CHIANG RAI. 15:30 ARRIVAL AT CHIANG RAI AIRPORT, MEET OUR GUIDE AND PRIVATE TRANSFER TO YOUR HOTEL. AFTERNOON AT LEISURE AT THE HOTEL.

EARLY DINNER AT THE HOTEL.

Overnight in Chiang Rai (Dinner)

DAY 2 – CHIANG RAI

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL.

START YOUR TOURING DAY WITH A VISIT TO **PADONG LONG NECK HILL TRIBE** AND OTHER HILL TRIBES AT **THA KHAO PLEUK**.

DEPART TO VISIT WAT ROONGKHUN

VISIT **WAT ROONGKHUN (THE WHITE TEMPLE)**. THE WHITE TEMPLE IS A UNIQUE TEMPLE CONTAINING MURAL PAINTINGS OF THE BUDDAH IMAGE AND PAINTED ENAMEL CERAMIC FLOOR THAT TOOK OVER 5 YEARS TO COMPLETE. THE TEMPLE IS STILL UNDER CONSTRUCTION BY THE LOCAL THAI CREATOR WHO DEVOTES HIS LIFE TO DHAMMA.
ENJOY LUNCH IN A LOCAL RESTAURANT (INCLUDED)

AFTER LUNCH, VISIT THE **GOLDEN TRIANGLE**, LOCALLY CALLED "SOP RUAK" WHERE THE MAE KHONG MEETS THE RUAK RIVER AND ALSO WHERE THE BORDERS OF THE THREE COUNTRIES, **LAOS**, BURMA AND THAILAND MEET. THERE ARE REMAINS OF MANY ANCIENT PLACES AND STRUCTURES ATTESTING TO THE AREA HAVING BEEN SETTLED BY PEOPLE IN THE PAST. CONTINUE FOR A VISIT OF THE **OPIUM MUSEUM**, A SMALL MUSEUM WITH HISTORICAL DISPLAYS PERTAINING TO OPIUM CULTURE INCLUDE ALL THE VARIOUS IMPLEMENTS USED IN THE PLANTING, HARVESTING AND PRODUCTION OF OPIUM.

END YOUR TIME AT THE GOLDEN TRIANGLE YOU WILL TAKE A **BOAT TRIP ON THE MAE KHONG RIVER**. THE MAE KHONG RIVER IS THE LONGEST AND LARGEST RIVER IN SOUTHEAST ASIA. IT IS A MAGNIFICENT RIVER RUNNING FROM THE HIMALAYAS TO SOUTHERN VIETNAM. YOU WILL STOP AT THE **DON SAO ISLAND**, AN AUTHENTIC SMALL MEKONG RIVER ISLAND IN LAOS TERRITORY, FOR AN OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT AND STAMP YOUR PASSPORT WITH A LAOS VISA. ARRIVAL TAX IS COLLECTED.

AFTER DINNER, EVENING, TRANSFER TO VISIT THE NIGHT MARKET

Overnight in Chiang Rai (Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner)

DAY 3 – CHIANG RAI AND CHIANG MAI

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL. CHECK OUT FROM HOTEL AND DEPART TO CHIANG MAI (3.5 HOURS).

ARRIVE AT **BANDOO IN HANGDONG DISTRICT FOR HOME HOST COOKING**. THE HOME BELONGS TO THE **RAUNKAEW-YANON FAMILY**, WHO ARRIVED IN THE AREA BY ELEPHANT BACK ALMOST 150 YEARS AGO. THE FAMILY IS AN ANCIENT LANNA FAMILY, CONTINUING THE TRADITIONS OF MANY GENERATIONS IN BUILDING THEIR HOMES OF TEAK WOOD AND MAINTAINING THE NATURAL SURROUNDINGS IN A MANNER NOW RARELY SEEN IN CHIANG MAI.

AT THEIR HOME YOU WILL LEARN AND EXPERIENCE THE SIMPLE LANNA WAY OF LIFE INCLUDING A VISIT TO THE FAMILY ORCHARD WITH MANY TYPES OF FRUIT SUCH AS BANANA, MANGO, COCONUT AND THE GARDEN FILLED WITH HERBS FOR COOKING. YOU WILL JOIN THE FAMILY COOKING THE MEAL AND HAVE LUNCH.
[HOMEHOSTBYRAUNKAWEYANONFAMILY](#)

AFTER LUNCE CONTINUE TO THE **HOME INDUSTRIES “SAN KAM PHANG”** WHERE YOU WILL SEE AND LEARN HOW LOCAL VILLAGERS PRODUCE LOCAL HOMEMADE PRODUCTS SUCH AS PAPER UMBRELLAS, WOOD CARVINGS AND MORE.

ARRIVE AT THE HOTEL, RELEAX AND REFRESH AND ENJOY A SPECIAL **KHAOTOKE DINNER AND CULTURAL SHOW** AT KHUM KHANTOKE (TRADITIONAL DINNER) www.khumkhantoke.com/

Overnight in Chiang Mai (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 4 – CHIANG MAI

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL.

AFTER BREAKFAST DEPART TO **BAAN MAE KLANG LOUNG (KAREN HILL TRIBE VILLAGE)**. UPON ARRIVAL IN THE AREA YOU WILL ENJOY AN EASY TREK FOR ABOUT 2 HOURS, WALKING A 3 KM TRAIL THROUGH THE **KAREN HILL TRIBE VILLAGE** BY FOLLOWING THE ROUTE OF **PHA SEOW WATERFALL**. ENJOY THE BEAUTIFUL PICTURESQUE SCENERY AND THE AGRICULTURAL FARMS SUCH AS ASPARAGUS FARM, CHERRY TOMATO FARM AND COFFEE PLANTATION.

AFTER LUNCH AT A LOCAL RESTAURANT (INCLUDED), VISIT THE **ROYAL PROJECT (DOI INTHANON)**, THE **TWIN PAGODA** AND THE **WACHIRATHARN WATERFALL** WITH ITS 750 METER DROP.

RETURN TO THE HOTEL, RELAX AND REFRESH.
EVENING, SPECIAL HOLIDAY DINNER (INCLUDED FOR ALL HOTEL GUESTS)

Overnight in Chiang Mai (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 5 – CHIANG MAI

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL.

EARLY MORNING PICK UP AT THE HOTEL FOR PRIVATE TOUR AT THE **THE HAPPY ELEPHANT HOME** LOCATED IN THE **MAETANG AREA**, 1.5 HOURS DRIVE NORTHWEST OF CHIANG MAI CITY. ON ARRIVAL, ENJOY A WELCOME DRINK, INTRODUCTION AND EXPLANATION OF YOUR DAY. YOU WILL BE PROVIDED WITH A CHANGE OF CLOTHING - THEN SPEND THE MORNING **FEEDING, WASHING** AND GETTING TO KNOW THE ELEPHANTS. THERE ARE NO ELEPHANT RIDES OR HOOK CAMPS.

YOU WILL ENJOY LUNCH WITH EITHER DELICIOUS THAI FOOD OR VEGETARIAN OPTIONS. AFTER LUNCH, COOL OFF IN THE SWIMMING ENJOYING BREATHTAKING VIEWS OF THE **MAE TAENG RIVERB**. YOUR LAST ACTIVITY WILL BE TO SWIM AND TAKE BATHS WITH THE ELEPHANTS IN THE RIVER AND WALK WITH THE ELEPHANTS BACK TO THE FARM WHERE THEY ROAM FREE.
WWW.HAPPYELEPHANTHOME.COM/

AFTER YOUR VISIT CONTINUE TO THE TIGER KINGDOM FOR VIEW OF THE TIGERS. AT THE TIGER KINGDOM ONLY ENTRANCE FEE IS INCLUDED. ANY ENCOUNTER WITH BABY TIGERS ARE BASED ON AVAILABILITY AT THE TIME OF VISIT.
WWW.TIGERKINGDOM.COM

Overnight in Chiang Mai (Breakfast, Lunch)

DAY 6 – CHIANG MAI, SAMUI

AFTER BREAKFAST, CHECK OUT

10:30 MEET OUR GUIDE AND TRANSFER TO CHIANG MAI AIRPORT FOR YOUR FLIGHT TO SAMUI

12:30 PM FLIGHT TO SAMUI (FLIGHT NO: PG #242)

2:15 PM - ARRIVE IN SAMUI AIRPORT. MEET OUR REPRESENTATIVE UPON ARRIVAL AND PRIVATE TRANSFER TO YOUR HOTEL.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR ARRIVAL AT THE SAMUI AIRPORT:

Upon arrival there are **two meeting points areas** at Samui Airport.

Your representative / driver will be waiting for you at the Second Meeting point area. After baggage collection area .You will find the first meeting point. **Please keep walking left to the second meeting point area** to meet your representative.

Overnight in Samui (Breakfast)

DAY 7 – SAMUI

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL. DAY AT LEISURE.

Overnight in Samui (Breakfast)

DAY 8 – SAMUI

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL.

AROUND 7:30 AM, PICK UP AT THE HOTEL AND TRANSFER TO THE PIER, **BOARD THE SPEED BOAT TO ANGTHONG NATIONAL MARINE PARK.** ONCE YOU ARRIVE AT **KOH WAO** OR **KOH TAI**, ENJOY TIME FOR SNORKELING, WATCHING THE EXOTIC FISH AND VIEWING WONDERFUL CORAL REEFS. AFTER YOUR SNORKELING EXPERIENCE, CONTINUE FOR SIGHTSEEING TOURS AROUND THE NATIONAL MARINE PARK. YOU WILL CLIMB UP THE STEPS TO SEE THE WONDERFUL “**EMERALD LAKE**” KNOWN AS **TALAY NAI**, SURROUNDED BY THE MOUNTAIN.

AFTER BUFFET LUNCH (INCLUDED), BOARD YOUR BOAT FOR FREE TIME ON THE BEACH, SWIMMING AND, IF INTERESTED, CLIMBING UP TO THE MOUNTAIN’S TOP TO SEE THE FANTASTIC PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE **ANGTHONG MARINE PARK.**

AROUND 3:00 PM CRUISE BACK TO KOH SAMUI AND TRANSFER TO YOUR HOTEL. ESTIMATED TIME BACK AT THE HOTEL 5:00 PM.

DINNER AT THE HOTEL

Overnight in Samui (Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner)

DAY 9 – SAMUI

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL. DAY AT LEISURE.

OPTIONAL THAI BOXING PRIVATE CLASS (4 people). YOUR SPECIAL EXPERIENCE WILL INCLUDE ROUNDTrip PRIVATE TRANSFER, PRIVATE VAN ROUND TRIP TRANSFER. PRIVATE THAI BOXING CLASS, WARM UP, TECHNIQUE, PADS, TRAINING, BAG TRAINING, CLINCHING, COOLING DOWN, ENGLISH SPEAKING GUIDE, VAT, DRINKING WATER , REFRESHING TOWELS. **(14 days advanced reservation required)**

Overnight in Samui (Breakfast)

DAY 10 – SAMUI, BANGKOK

BREAKFAST AT THE HOTEL.

11:00 AM CHECK OUT. MEET YOUR PRIVATE DRIVER AND TRANSFER TO SAMUI AIRPORT.

2:20 PM - DEPARTURE FLIGHT TO BANGKOK (PG #136)

3:55 PM - ARRIVAL AT **SUARNABHUMI AIRPORT** IN BANGKOK. MEET YOUR GUIDE AND TRANSFER TO THE HOTEL. CHECK IN AND FREE AT LEISURE UNTIL DEPARTURE FOR YOUR PRIVATE WELCOME TO BANGKOK FUN NIGHT TOUR.

6:00 PM DEPART FOR **NIGHT TOUR**. YOUR FIRST STOP WILL BE THE **FLOWER MARKET OR “PAK KLONG TALAD”**, THIS VERY UNIQUE MARKET KNOWN WORLDWIDE MOSTLY AS A WHOLESALE FLOWER MARKET SERVES EVERYONE FROM FLOWER VENDORS TO FLORISTS, BUT IT ALSO HAS A GOOD SELECTION OF FRESH VEGETABLES AND TYPICAL THAI SWEETS, WHICH ARE BOUGHT IN THE PRE-DAWN HOURS TO BE TRANSPORTED TO NEIGHBORHOOD MARKETS AROUND BANGKOK FOR SALE IN THE MORNING.

AFTER YOUR VISIT CONTINUE FOR YOUR SECOND STOP AT **KHAOSARN ROAD OR “THANON KHAOSAN”**, THE WORLD’S FAMOUS DESTINATION FOR BACKPACKERS AND BUDGET TOURISTS. THE EXTRAORDINARY POPULARITY OF THE AREA, COUPLED WITH THE EXPOSURE IT RECEIVED FROM THE BOOK AND FILMS LIKE “THE BEACH,” “HANGOVER II” AND COUNTLESS NEWSPAPER AND MAGAZINE ARTICLES, HAS GIVEN KHAO SAN ROAD A SOLID NICHE IN THE WORLD’S POPULAR CULTURE. KHAO SAN ROAD AND THE SURROUNDING AREA IS A MAZE OF HOTELS, GUESTHOUSES, GREAT RESTAURANTS, PUBS AND CLUBS.

AFTER YOUR VISIT, CONTINUE FOR YOUR THIRD STOP OF THE NIGHT AT **ASIATIQUE THE RIVERFRONT**. ASIATIQUE THE RIVERFRONT WILL BE BANGKOK’S FIRST LARGE-SCALE RIVERSIDE PROJECT COMBINING SHOPPING, DINING, SIGHTSEEING, ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS UNDER ONE ROOF. THE STRONG CULTURAL ASPECT IS WHAT SETS IT APART FROM OTHER SHOPPING MALLS. EMBRACING HISTORY, BUT AVOIDING THE CULTURAL CLICHE AND TRADITIONAL SYMBOLS, IT STRIKES A BALANCE BETWEEN TRADITION AND GLOBALIZATION

AROUND 11:00 PM RETURN TO YOUR HOTEL.

Overnight in Bangkok (Breakfast)

DAY 11 – BANGKOK, AMPAWA

AFTER BREAKFAST, MEET YOUR PRIVATE GUIDE AND DEPART THE HOTEL (around 7:30 AM) TO **DAMNERN SADUAK FLOATING MARKET**. ON THE WAY STOP TO VISIT A **COCONUT FARM**, A PLACE WHERE COCONUT SUGAR AND FAMOUS QUALITY PRODUCTS OF THE **SAMUT SONGKHRAM PROVINCE** ARE MADE.

ARRIVE AT THE BOAT DOCK AND BOARD A **LONG TAIL BOAT “RUEA HANG YAO”** TO EXPLORE THE FLOATING MARKET **“DAMNERN SADUAK”**. THE MARKET WAS ACTUALLY THE NAME OF THE CANAL DUG IN THE REIGN OF KING RAMA IV. NOWADAYS, PEOPLE LIVE DENSELY ALONG BOTH SIDES OF THE CANAL. THE MAJORITY OF THESE PEOPLE ARE AGRICULTURISTS, GROWING SEVERAL DIFFERENT KINDS OF FRUIT AND VEGETABLES. THE FLOATING MARKET IS ROUTINELY CROWDED WITH HUNDREDS OF VENDORS AND PURCHASERS FLOATING IN THEIR SMALL ROWING BOATS SELLING AND BUYING OR EXCHANGING THEIR GOODS. WHAT THEY PURCHASE ARE PARTICULARLY FOOD, FRUIT AND VEGETABLE WHICH ARE MOSTLY BROUGHT FROM THEIR OWN ORCHARDS. YOU WILL HAVE TIME TO EXPLORE AND ENJOY THE MARKET. MAKE SURE YOU TASTE SOME OF THE FOOD!

AFTER YOUR VISIT DEPART TO **AMPHAWA**. ARRIVE AT THE **KLONG-KHONG MANGROVE FOREST**, AT BAANMAICHAILANE. BOARD A BOAT FOR AN EXCURSION THROUGHOUT THE MANGROVE FOREST TO THE **KRA – TENG**. KRA – TENG IS THE BAMBOO HUT WHICH IS BUILT ON THE SEA AND ALONG THE SEA SHORE. ENJOY A LOCAL THAI FOOD PICNIC LUNCH AT THE KRA-TENG. ON YOUR WAY BACK, STOP AT THE MANGROVE FOREST TO FEED FRUIT TO THE PICK TAILS MONKEYS.

RETURN TO YOUR HOTEL AROUND 5:00 PM. RELAX AND GET READY FOR YOUR SPECIAL NEW YEAR’S EVE DINNER AND ACTIVITIES (OPTIONS WILL BE PROVIDED AND BOOKED FOR YOU).

Overnight in Bangkok (Breakfast, Picnic Lunch)

DAY 12 – BANGKOK

AFTER LATE BREAKFAST, DEPART THE HOTEL (11:00 AM) AND START YOUR PRIVATE GUIDED VISIT TO BANGKOK. START WITH A VISIT TO **WAT TRIMIT** (THE GOLDEN BUDDHA TEMPLE). THE GOLDEN BUDDHA IMAGE IS ABOUT 900 YEARS OLD AND IS CAST IN THE SUKHOTHAI STYLE. WHEN THE BURMESE WERE ABOUT TO ATTACK THE CITY, IT WAS COVERED IN PLASTER TO HIDE ITS VALUE. TWO CENTURIES LATER, STILL IN PLASTER, IT WAS THOUGHT TO BE WORTH VERY LITTLE. BUT IN 1957, WHEN THE IMAGE WAS BEING MOVED TO A NEW TEMPLE IN BANGKOK, IT SLIPPED FROM A CRANE AND IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT THE STATUE WAS PURE GOLD. THIS STATUE IS THE WORLD'S LARGEST SOLID GOLD BUDDHA. THE GRACEFUL SEATED BUDDHA IS NEARLY 10 FEET HIGH AND WEIGHS OVER 5 TONS.

AFTER YOUR VISIT CONTINUE TO THE **WAT POH** (THE RECLINING BUDDHA TEMPLE). **THE TEMPLE OF THE RECLINING BUDDHA** IS THE OLDEST AND LARGEST BUDDHIST TEMPLE IN BANGKOK. WAT PHO IS THE LARGEST AND OLDEST WAT IN BANGKOK AND IS HOME TO MORE THAN **1,000 BUDDHA IMAGES**, MORE THAN ANY OTHER TEMPLE IN THE COUNTRY. WAT PHO IS THE BIRTHPLACE OF TRADITIONAL **THAI MASSAGE**. EVEN PRIOR TO THE TEMPLE'S FOUNDING, THE SITE WAS A CENTER OF EDUCATION FOR TRADITIONAL THAI MEDICINE, IT ALSO SHELTERS THE **RECLINING BUDDHA**, WHICH IS 46 METERS LONG AND 15 METERS HIGH.

AFTER A QUICK STOP FOR LUNCH (NOT INCLUDED), CONTINUE TO VISIT **THE EMERALD BUDDHA TEMPLE & THE GRAND PALACE**. THE TEMPLE OF THE EMERALD BUDDHA SITS WITHIN THE GROUNDS OF THE **ROYAL GRAND PALACE**, SURROUNDED BY WALLS MORE THAN A MILE LONG. INSIDE, IT CONTAINS SOME OF THE FINEST EXAMPLES OF BUDDHIST SCULPTURE, ARCHITECTURE, PAINTING, AND DECORATIVE CRAFT IN THAILAND. THE **EMERALD BUDDHA** SITS ATOP A HUGE GOLD ALTAR IN THE CENTER OF THE TEMPLE. IT IS OVER 2 FEET TALL, MADE OF GREEN JASPER OR PERHAPS JADEITE. YOU WILL RETURN TO THE HOTEL AROUND 3:30 PM, HOWEVER, YOUR GUIDE WILL BE HAPPY TO SUGGEST ADDITIONAL ACTIVITIES OR DROP YOU IN THE MAIN SHOPPING AREA FOR BANGKOK FOR ADDITIONAL SHOPPING AND TIME IN THE MARKETS.

Overnight in Bangkok (Breakfast)

DAY 13 – DEPARTURE

CHECK OUT. MEET YOUR DRIVER AT THE LOBBY AND TRANSFER TO **SUVARNABHUMI AIRPORT** FOR YOUR FLIGHT FLIGHT

