

## Thailand

Dates to be defined

*Package 12 Days / 11 Nights*

Once known as Siam, Thailand is a crossroads of peoples, cultures and religions, the main one being Buddhism. In the heart of Southeast Asia, Thailand has the shape of an elephant's head. The face looks to Myanmar (Burma), the ears border Laos and Cambodia, while the trunk

crosses the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Thailand to reach Malaysia. The natural landscapes are rich and varied; there are Misty Mountains and jungles in the North, the Central Plains contain

Emerald rice fields, and the white sand beaches and tropical islands run along the Eastern seafront to the South. Bangkok allows visitors to discover Thailand's fascinating culture within a vibrant metropolis.

The city is now the spiritual, cultural, diplomatic, commercial and educational centre of Thailand. Located in the heart of Southeast Asia, Thailand has never been colonized and has preserved a unique culture and heritage.

### Day 01– MAURITIUS □ BANGKOK

**Arrival at SSR International Airport. Flight for Bangkok. Dinner and overnight on board**

### Day 02– BANGKOK



#### **Breakfast on board. Welcome to Thailand!**

**Bangkok:** the first stopover in the Far East for most Western travellers, Bangkok is a disconcerting city in more than one way. It was made up of many nicknames all usurped like that of "Venice of the Orient" because today it looks exactly like Venice as a lark. Bangkok is unique stretching disproportionately but protecting miraculously through water and religion, it makes the city, one of the most captivating in the world. The first historic centre is in the current suburbs of thon Buri on the right bank of the Menam Chao Paya while Bangkok is on the left bank.

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Welcome by your local Guide. Each participant will be offered a Flower garland. Welcome cocktail, lunch and check-in at hotel. In the afternoon, walk on the Klongs (canals) in a canoe and visit the Wat Arun from where you can admire the sunset on the "city of Angels."

- **WAT ARUN (The Temple of dawn):** Located on the banks of the Chao Phraya River on the shores of Thonburi in front of the Grand Palais, this famous site is easily accessible by boat from the Bank of Bangkok. Since the period of Ayutthaya (1782-1809), this temple was enlarged by the Kings Rama II and Rama III, then renovated under the reign of King Rama IV. He sheltered the Emerald Buddha for a short period before his transfer to the opposite bank of Wat Phra Kaeo, near the Grand Palace built by King Rama I. The main focus of this temple is its 79-metre-high central pagoda, "Phra Pang", surrounded by four smaller pagodas. The Central pagoda is adorned with inlaid porcelain pieces, sparkling under the Sun. Despite its name, the best time to photograph the sanctuary is at the end of the day, when the sunset behind the Temple in a sky with blazing colours. Dinner. Overnight at the hotel.

## Day 03– BANGKOK / AMPAWA

Breakfast at Hotel. Visit of the Royal Palace with Wat Phra Keo (Temple of the Emerald Buddha) which contains the most revered sacred statue of the country, to which tradition lends the magical power to protect the reigning dynasty and the entire Thai people.

- **The GRAND PALAIS and WAT PHRA KAEO (the Temple of the Emerald Buddha):** this splendid Grand Palais has several monuments and temples adorned with different architectural styles. Gilt, sparkling tiles and statues of Buddha adorning the architectural. The magnificent Wat Phra Kaeo-treasure of Thai art shelter the Emerald Buddha, the most revered Buddha representation of Thailand it is located at the heart of the site. Other monuments located within the Grand Palais can be visited, including the Royal Pavilion of Thai decorations and coins, which presents a permanent exhibition of royal insignia, decorations, medals and coins dating from the early 11th century.

**Lunch.** Departure from Samut Sakorn then Samut Songkram, where various people live a bucolic life aboard rafts on dazzling rivers and reservoirs. We can visit the Klongs in a Boat via the Mae Klong River and one can approach the Venice of Oriente to discover the picturesque scenes of traditional Thai life, floating houses and tropical gardens. A stop at the famous Temple "Wat bang Kung" ranked among the unseen Thailand and garden residence of King Rama II. Back to the hotel. Dinner. After dinner, a visit by boat to see the Ballet of fireflies on the water. Overnight at the hotel.

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## Day 04– AMPAWA / DAMNOEN SADUAK / RIVIERE KWAI

**Breakfast at hotel.** Then, a tour through a landscape of salt marshes, then rice paddies and plantations of coconut palms and palm trees for a visit of the floating market of Damnoen Saduak with its canoes loaded with local products (flowers, fruits, silks, lacquers.). The market is located about 80 km from Bangkok and nothing seems to have changed. This is the most colorful and lively market in Thailand with the "barques boutiques" that ensure the supply of residents and taxis. DAMNOEN SADUAK floating market: despite the 80 km distance with Bangkok, this is the most popular floating market for both foreign and local tourists. There are many reasons to explain this craze. The waters of the main market of Klong ton Khem are usually invaded by sellers.

- MARKET of Damnoen Saduak: Despite the 80 km distance from Bangkok, is the market is most popular for both foreign and local tourists. There are many reasons to explain this craze. The waters of the main market of Klong Ton Khem are generally overgrown sellers.

**Departure from Kanchanaburi:** It is a shooting site from the famous Bridge on the River Kwai, immortalized in books and movies. Above the capital itself, 130 kilometres and two hours of leisurely drive from Bangkok, where the river Kwai Yai and Kwai Noi unite to form the Mae Klong River, Kanchanaburi unfolds in all its spectacular beauty of landscapes characterized by several waterfalls, caves once inhabited by Neolithic man, national parks and rivers and reservoirs. Lunch. A walk on the "Death Railway" of which remains 77 km track today it is a picturesque course between Kanchanaburi and Nam Tok.



- Visit of the museum Jeath constructed as a camp for Allied prisoners of war, then a visit at the cemetery allies of Second World War. A visit in a boat to the river of Kwai canoe downhill through the serene and green landscapes. Transfer by canoe from River Kwai to hotel. Dinner. Overnight at hotel.

## Day 05– RIVIERE KWAI / AYUTHAYA / LOPBURI / PHITSANULOKE

**American breakfast at the hotel. Drive to Ayuthaya.** Capital thriving free Siam from 1350 to 1767, embellished with palaces and temples. Along the way, visit of Wat Pag Laye Lai Temple which contains a statue of Buddha dating from the 13th sitting "European" on a throne - while in Asia Buddha is still on a cross-legged on the floor.

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- **Ayuthaya:** Located on the Chao Phraya River, the main river of the country, this province is very important because of the Siamese capital for four centuries. The city of Ayutthaya, located 76 km north of Bangkok, have many superb monuments, relics of the ancient capital. The province is also the headquarters of the SM Traditional Arts and Crafts Center at Bang Sai Queen. The historic city of Ayutthaya, known at the time as the Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya was the capital of Thailand for 417 years and today remains one of the main attractions of the country. Many monuments can be visited in this city founded in 1350 by King Uthong when the Thai migrate south were pressurized from their northern neighbours. During the period, when Ayutthaya was the capital, 33 kings and several dynasties succeeded until the glittering city, sacked by the Burmese in 1767, it has fallen apart and abandoned. The extent of ruins as well as archival documents show that Ayutthaya was one of the cities of Southeast Asia's most prosperous.
- In recognition of its historical and cultural importance, the Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Historical Park was the ruins near the present city located, it was declared a World Heritage by UNESCO IN 1991. The extent of the ruins as well as archival documents show that Ayutthaya was one of the cities of Southeast Asia's most prosperous.

Visit the archaeological site, the city with the discovery of the temple Mongkoï Bophit, lived to the highest bronze Buddha. Continue to Lopburi city of King Narai (King of the Sun) also known as "the city of monkeys".

Lunch and visit of Khmer temple Prang Sam Yod, "The paradise of the Apes" and Pran temple Karn. Continue to the Phitsanuloke via Chainat and Nakornsawan through green landscapes. Dinner. Overnight hotel.

## Day 06– PHITSANULOKE / SUKHOETHAI / CHIANG RAI

**Breakfast at hotel. Visite of Phitsanuloke** where some people live in stilt houses along the Nan River. Visit of Wat Phra Vuddha Shinnaraj which comprised one of the most beautiful Buddha in Thailand dating 13th century. Continue to Sukhothai where one can find the areas of rice fields and an approach of rural life in the rice fields. Then we can the processes for the production of rice during the visit of a cooperative. Thailand is the largest rice producer in the world.

- **Sukhothai:** Capital of the ancient Thai kingdom with an important historical, it was the first truly independent Thai kingdom and lived a golden period during the reign of the Great King Ramkhamhaeng. Abandoned and overgrown for several centuries, the magnificent temples and monuments of this splendid city has been carefully restored in Sukhothai Historical Park, site classified as World Heritage Heritage by UNESCO. A site not to be missed, Sukhothai is one of the most important historical sites in Southeast Asia.
- **Visit Sukhothai** Historical Park including Wat Mahathat, Buddha with a huge archaeological park stretching for kilometers and Wat SICHUM: one of the most poetic temples of Sukhothai with its monumental seated Buddha.
- **THE ROYAL PALACE AND WAT MAHA THAT:** The Royal Palace lies at the center of the city, surrounded by a moat and contains two important sites: the royal residence and royal shrine. Here, the famous inscriptions on the

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stone of King Ramkhamhaeng the Great were updated by King Mongkut (Rama IV) in the 19th century with some of the stone forming the throne called Manangkhasila-at. The Great King Ramkhamhaeng had built a throne in the middle of a sugar palm plantation where, according to his will, a monk preached the holy days of the Buddha, and the King led the affairs of state. This throne was later transported in Bangkok Buddha Temple Emeraude. Situated on the west of the Royal Palace the land is named the Wat Mahathat, the royal shrine which is the largest temple of Sukhothai with a main use chedi (stupa a bell-shaped) in a lotus bud shape and the remains of the vihara (the image of the room). At the base of the chedi sit the Buddha's disciples in adoration, and on the pedestal, representations of Buddha sitting. At the front of this shrine, there is a large vihara previously preserving a remarkable seated Buddha in Sukhothai style bronze, which was cast and installed by King Lithai of Sukhothai in 1362. At the end of the 18th century, the statue was moved to the Vihara Luang of Wat Suthat in Bangkok by the will of King Rama and therefore called Phra Si Sakaya Muni. Given this large vihara, is smaller which was probably built during the Ayutthaya period. Its main Buddha image (8 m high) was installed inside a separate building. Front representation in the south, a sculpture called Khom Dam Din was found, now kept in the chapel of Mae Ya near City Hall Old Sukhothai. To the south stands a pedestal of a large chedi staircase, the lowest platform is adorned with beautiful figures of demons, elephants and lions ridden by angels, stucco. A mural pare this chedi. Elephants and lions ridden by angels, stucco. A mural pare this chedi.

**Lunch. Proceed to Chiang Rai** via the most famous lake in the Kingdom Lake Phayao 06 kms long and 04 kms wide. Enjoy the plantations of tropical fruits such as langane, litchi, pineapple ... pineapple tasting (or seasonal fruit). Arriving at Chiangrai. Dinner and Overnight at Hotel.

**The province of Chiang Rai** This province's far north borders for both Myanmar and Laos. Several tribes are based in the mountains: Hmong, Lahu, Karen, Lisu, Akha, including their culture and dialect. The province of Chiang Rai is one of the oldest destinations in the country for rafting, and continues to attract fans of adventure around the world.

## Day 07 – CHIANG RAI / TRIANGLE D'OR / CHIANG MAI

**Breakfast at hotel. Departure to Mae Chan** to discover the remote villages of Yao and Akha tribes then you will reach in "pickup" sheeted. Then proceed to Chiang Saen - the northern city, where there is the United in the heart of Golden Triangle. : Myanmar, Laos and Thailand. One can have a Views on the Golden Triangle and a walk on the ethnic market along the Mekong. Lunch beside the Mekong. Embarking on "Hang Yao" (canoes) for a scenic descent of the Kok River that will take you to a village of Karen minorities. Continue to Chiangmai a very hilly, leafy road with beautiful landscapes. A short stop on the way to Mae Krachan geysers. Late arrival at Chiangmai.

- **Chiang Mai : Known as the "Rose of the North"** with its wonderful position near the Ping River, the city and its surroundings have a stunning natural beauty unparalleled and unique tribal cultural identity. Founded in 1296 by King Mengrai as. The capital of the Lanna Kingdom, Chiang Mai has a long history in itself, which contribute to the

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preservation of its cultural identity. This is visible both in the daily life of the inhabitants that perpetuated their original dialect, their customs, cuisine and also by the former fascinating temples heritage for their northern style architecture of Thailand with many details decorative. Chiang Mai also continues its renowned tradition as a handicraft centre, which produces silver objects, wood, ceramics, among many other things that make the city the main destination for buying handicrafts in all the countries. Beyond the city, Chiang Mai province covers an area of over 20,000 km<sup>2</sup> offering the most picturesque landscapes of the Kingdom. The fertile valley leading the Ping River, is a patch-work of poppy fields, surrounded by rolling hills, jungles and rivers. Dinner and Overnight at hotel.

## Day 08 – CHIANG MAI

**Breakfast at the hotel.** Morning visit at Doi Suthep, the most revered temple in northern Thailand, located on a hill overlooking the town which is reachable to a beautiful road (built in 1934) that access through a lush vegetation. Then one can climb a 300 steps on a monumental staircase whose ramps are two interminable naga. From there, you can enjoy a wonderful view. Visit the Temple stupa which is completely covered in gold leaf.

- **Wat Phra That Doi Suthep :** 15 km from the city center, is one of the most famous and visible Chiang Mai sites, rising to over 1,000 meters above sea level, the temple offers a view of the city and the surrounding countryside. A staircase of 290 steps flanked by a row of Naga each side (cable car access is also available) leads us to that temple, in 1383 with a golden Chedi was protecting Buddha relics attracting pilgrims from whole world.

**Lunch.** Then, visit the artisan village of San Khan Phaeng: manufactures parasols, silk, teak wood carving, black lacquer, celadon. Typical dinner "Kantoke" with traditional dance show of the different tribes of the North. Overnight at hotel.

## Day 09 – CHIANG MAI

**Breakfast at Hotel.** In the morning, visit of Elephants Camps where you can watch a demonstration of all the works that all the animal practice in the northern forest.

**Optional:** Walk on elephant in a jungle like Tarzan for half hour to admire all the picturesque in the forest **23 € / per person.**

- **Lunch. A trip to Lampang.**
- **Lampang:** Famous for its horse-drawn carriages that transport links. Founded in the mid basin of the Wang River, the province has a landscape of green hills less spectacular than Chiang Mai, and its main interest is more cultural than picturesque. The area has a long history since the early colonies settling here, leaving a rich archaeological and architectural heritage, reflecting the ancient civilization of Harinphunchai, Lanna and Myanmar. Obviously, the city of Lampang, on the banks of the Wang River, is of considerable historical interest. It is an important cultural hub since the 7th century, since its annexation to the Kingdom of My Harinphunchai, until the early 20th century when it was the centre of important trade of teak. During this time Burmese influences predominated. The centers of interest

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today include well-preserved temples that demonstrate the fusion of Thai and Burmese architectural styles and which is one of the most impressive examples located on a short distance from the city center, Wat Phra That Lampang Luang is undoubtedly the only fascinating temple of the entire northern region. What's more, Lampang is in its relaxed atmosphere and its daily life, more typically and traditionally Thai than Chiang Mai, and remains true despite the growing tourism. Combine the cultural interest with the concern for the environment, is the prowess of elephants Conservation Center. Elephants have played a key role as a "labors tool"

**Visit Wat Phra Kaew Don Tao**, one of the most beautiful temples in the region, remarkable for its ceilings, wooden columns carved, inlaid and porcelain. Boarding in the night train Heated 2 berth t travelling to Bangkok. Dinner "picnic" on board. Overnight on board.

#### **Day 10 – CHIANG MAI / LAMPANG / BANGKOK – Night Train**

**Arriving at Bangkok. Transfer to a hotel near the station for breakfast. Some rooms will be available to take a bath and to change. Transfer to hotel at Bangkok, lunch. Afternoon at leisure. Dinner. Overnight at Hotel.**

#### **Day 11 – BANGKOK**

**Breakfast at hotel. Day at leisure on half board basis at hotel.**

#### **Day 12 – BANGKOK**

**Breakfast at hotel. Day at leisure on half board basis at hotel.**

#### **Day 13 / BANGKOK □ Mauritius**

**Breakfast at hotel or a breakfast basket – it depends on the time of the flight. Transfer to airport. Assistance with the registration formalities. Flight to Reunion**

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## Package 12 days / 11 nights

Basic	LOW SEASON 25/30 BASE	HIGH SEASON 25/30 BASE	Single room supplement
Price " from " per adult in double ½ (2 adults)	59.800 MUR	69.575 MUR	13.110 MUR
Children in the room parents	55.200 MUR	64.975 MUR	-

### OUR PRICE INCLUDES

- Air transport Mauritius / Bangkok / Mauritius on Air Mauritius flights
- Welcome includes flower garland at Bangkok
- All transfers and coach transport are air conditioned
- Welcome drink at every hotel
- Journey Lampang / Bangkok 2 ndia class sleeper train with air conditioning at night (1 night)
- Accommodation 8 nights in hotels of first category find below link, on half board basis
- Insurance assistance, repatriation Hotels 3 \* or 4:
- 
- Bangkok : Royal River or Centra Hotel [www.royalriverhotel.com](http://www.royalriverhotel.com)
- Ampawa : Damnoen Maikaew [www.maikaew.com](http://www.maikaew.com)
- river Kwai : Comsaed [www.comsaedriverkwai.com](http://www.comsaedriverkwai.com)
- Phitsanuloke : Topland [www.toplandhotel.com](http://www.toplandhotel.com)
- Chiangrai : Rim Kok Resort [www.rimkokresort.com](http://www.rimkokresort.com)
- Chiangmai : Lanna Palace [www.lannapalace2004.com](http://www.lannapalace2004.com)
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- Full board for lunch on day 2 at breakfast on Day 12
- A Kantoke dinner with traditional dances in Chiang Mai
- The visits and excursions mentioned in the program included entries indicated sights
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- A French speaking tour guide during the tour - Assistance of our French correspondent there
- Refreshing cold towels offered during the tour

### OUR PRICE DOES NOT INCLUDE

- Drinks, personal expenses and gratuities of the guide and the driver **4 € per day**
- Stay interruption and return CLYPI not offered under this insurance
- Extra drinks at meals: **1 mineral water or 1 soft drink or 1 local beer + 5 € per meal**

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