

Thailand & Angkor Temples

14 days | Bangkok to Siem Reap



Travel from bustling Bangkok to Siem Reap and the incredible Angkor Complex on this 14 day tour. Discover Chiang Mai's majestic temples and meet the hill tribes of Chiang Rai, explore the ancient royal capital of Ayutthaya, cross the infamous bridge over the River Kwai and swim at the waterfalls of Erawan National Park.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INCLUSIONS

Trip Highlights

- Angkor Wat – marvel at legendary Angkor Wat and see the stone faces of the Bayon Temple in Angkor Thom
- Bangkok – tour highlights of the city and enjoy a tuk-tuk ride then take to the water and cruise on a longtail boat around the canals
- Chiang Mai – explore the golden temple of Doi Suthep which overlooks the city and join a fun cooking class
- Tonle Sap Lake – cruise on the lake and visit the colourful floating villages of Kompong Phluk
- Chiang Rai – admire the unique 'White Temple' of Wat Rong Khun and browse the vibrant night market

- Hmong Hill Tribe – meet tribal villagers to learn about their way of life and enjoy a performance from local dancers
- Ayutthaya – discover the ancient ruins of the former Thai capital including Wat Phri Sanphet and iconic Wat Mahat where Buddha's head is slowly being lifted by a tree
- Kanchanaburi – pay your respects at the Allied War Cemetery and ride on a train on the famous 'Bridge Over the River Kwai'
- Erawan National Park – walk along scenic jungle trails and swim in the clear blue pools below the beautiful seven-tiered waterfall
- Siem Reap – enjoy free time in the popular resort town and perhaps discover the lively 'Pub Street'

What's Included

- 13 breakfasts, 1 lunch, 3 dinners
- 12 nights 3 - 4 star & Special Class hotels, 1 night floating hotel in the jungle
- Economy class flights (3) Bangkok to Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai - Bangkok and Bangkok - Siem Reap
- Airport arrival transfer day 1 (Bangkok) & departure transfer day 14 (Siem Reap)
- Escorted by an English speaking Thai and Cambodian tour guides
- Guided sightseeing - Bangkok, Kanchanaburi, Erawan National Park,

Ayutthaya, Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Siem Reap

- Guided sightseeing of Angkor Wat
- Train ride over the River Kwai and visit to Hellfire Pass
- Cooking class in Chiang Mai
- Longtail boat cruise on the canals of Bangkok and on the Kok River
- All relevant transfers and transportation in private air-conditioned vehicles

What's Not Included

- Tipping Kitty: USD\$55-65pp, paid in USD
- Entrance Fees: USD\$115-125pp, paid in USD
- International flights and visa
- Tip for your tour guide. We recommend you allow USD\$3 - 6 per day, per traveller. Tipping your guide is an entirely personal gesture

ITINERARY

Day 1 : Bangkok

Saturday. Welcome to Bangkok, the ever-alluring capital of Thailand. Once you have checked into your hotel the rest of the day is free until 6pm when you meet your guide for a welcome meeting. We'll make our way to the lively Khao San Road area, here we'll enjoy a welcome dinner down the bustling street of Soi Rambuthri. After dinner your guide will assist you back to the hotel, alternatively

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you can continue the night at one of the many exuberant bars in the area. **Overnight - Bangkok (D)**

Day 2 : Bangkok



This morning we set off to explore this sprawling metropolis. The first stop is at the 24 hour flower market where you get to view stunning orchids and roses on sale to the local restaurants and florists. We then jump on Tuk Tuks and take an exhilarating ride through the streets of Bangkok reaching our next stop Wat Pho, home to the famous reclining Buddha. Then we visit the spiritual and religious heart of the city - the striking Grand Palace. Topped by golden stupas, the complex has been the site of royal coronations and is home to the legendary Emerald Buddha.

After a break for lunch we board a longtail boat and set off on an exploration of the labyrinth of klongs (canals) that criss cross the city. On our journey we'll glide by stilted houses and gleaming temples whilst old men fish and children play about on the waters edge. Disembarking our boats the rest of the day is at leisure to further explore Bangkok independently. **Overnight - Bangkok (B)**

Day 3 : Chiang Rai



Bangkok - Chiang Rai. This morning we head for the airport before flying north to the stunning city of Chiang Rai. This afternoon

we'll visit fabulous White Temple of Wat Rong Khun which depicts scenes from movies including the Matrix, Star Wars and Superman! This temple is far from ordinary and it's white buildings glisten in the bright Thai sunshine.

This evening we will visit Chiang Rai night market, which boasts many interesting stalls selling local & national handicrafts and souvenirs. You'll also find a number of street food stalls offering a variety of delicious Thai dishes. **Overnight - Chiang Rai (B)**

Day 4 : Mae Rim

Chiang Rai - Mae Rim. After a leisurely breakfast we set off towards the hill tribe region, located north of Chiang Mai and reach our accommodation in the afternoon. From here we board our longtail boat for a cruise down Kok River, and onto the surrounding countryside and visit some of the nearby hill tribe villages. Gain a wonderful insight into the lives of some of the smaller minority groups in the country. In the evening we enjoy a sumptuous meal before being entertained by dancers from the local community. **Overnight - Mae Rim (B, D)**

Day 5 : Chiang Mai



Mae Rim - Chiang Mai. This morning we visit the Araksa Tea Gardens, home to 110 acres of verdant tea plantations. You'll learn about the history of the tea plantation and their commitment to supporting the local people. You'll also discover the process of tea growing in this area and try your hand at picking before enjoying a cup of the freshest brew.

Later we continue to Chiang Mai and make our way to the imposing Doi Suthep Temple that stands like a sentinel over the city. The temple is said to have been founded in 1383

and the beautiful golden stupa sitting in the centre of the temple complex is now the main attraction.

This evening your guide will give you an orientation of the sprawling night market of Chiang Mai. A perfect place to shop away the hours and try some exciting local food.

Overnight - Chiang Mai (B)

Day 6 : Chiang Mai Cooking class



This morning we head to a local cooking school to try our hand at preparing tasty local cuisine in a traditional Thai setting. This informative cooking class teaches us how to prepare three of Thailand's most popular dishes that we'll later get to enjoy for lunch.

The rest of the day is free for you to relax and explore at leisure. In the evening we visit the Chiang Mai night market, a haven of souvenirs and works by local artisans.

Overnight - Chiang Mai (B, L)

Day 7 : Ayutthaya



Chiang Mai - Ayutthaya. This morning we make our way to the airport for our flight south, arriving at the airport we then drive to the former Thai capital of Ayutthaya.

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This afternoon we explore Ayuthaya's famous ruins, visiting the magnificent stupas at Wat Phri Sanphet and iconic Wat Mahatat where the head of a damaged Buddha statue has slowly been embraced and lifted by a nearby tree. This is one of Thailand's most religiously significant places. This evening we continue to Suphanburi for our overnight stay.

Overnight - Suphanburi (B)

Day 8 : River Kwai & Hellfire Pass



Ayutthaya - Kanchanaburi. This morning we drive to the small town of Kanchanaburi. Here we pay our respects to the thousands of Allied POWs who perished in the area under the hand of the Imperial Japanese Army. After pausing at the Allied War Cemetery we continue to the infamous 'Bridge over the River Kwai', immortalised by the film of the same name. You have a chance to take pictures before you board a train for a 2 hour journey that crosses the bridge before following the tracks dug by the POWs and locals some 75 years earlier.

Disembarking at Nam Tok we have a short drive to 'Hellfire Pass' where the POWs dug through a mountain often using only their bare hands. A fascinating museum at the entrance details the region's history.

After our day's sightseeing a leisurely longtail boat ride leads us to our fabulous floating jungle raft hotel. To the beauty of a hundred softly glowing lanterns and the sounds of the tropical forest and cool water flowing by we enjoy dinner and a relaxing evening on the deck. **Overnight - Kanchanaburi (B, D)**

Day 9 : Erawan National Park



Kanchanaburi - Bangkok. This morning you might be lucky enough to interact with the local resident elephant who occasionally pops down to the river bank next to the jungle rafts. We then travel on to the beautiful Erawan National Park to explore the rivers, waterfalls and trails on foot. You'll have time to explore the 7 tiers of waterfall, perhaps taking a swim in each of the pools formed by the falls. Departing Erawan we make our way back to Bangkok for our final evening in the capital.

Overnight - Bangkok (B)

Day 10 : Off to Angkor

Bangkok - Siem Reap. Today offers free time for you to independently explore before early this evening heading to the airport for our included flight to Siem Reap, Cambodia. Arriving to the Kingdom of the Khmer empire at approx 9.30pm, you can either grab a good nights rest or head out for a late night bite to eat. **Overnight - Siem Reap (B)**

Day 11 : All about Angkor Wat

Today we immerse ourselves in one of the most astounding archaeological sites in the world. The magnificent Angkor complex of temples is scattered over an area of 200 square kilometers.

We start our exploration this morning with a visit to Ta Prohm when the birds and parrots outnumber the tourists. We then continue towards Angkor Wat. We return to our hotel for a well-earned siesta.

This afternoon we return to the temples by private vehicle and visit to the ancient city of Angkor Thom. We enter at the best preserved South Gate and take an in depth look at the Terraces of the Elephants and the Leper King, the Royal Palace, and Baphoun. But we

save the best till last, the Bayon is perhaps Angkor's most moving of all temples. As the sun gently falls it casts its rays on the giant stone faces and as the light changes so do their expressions, a magical experience!

In the evening, there's a lovely dinner and cultural dance performance you can attend or alternatively opt do your own thing. Siem Reap offers some hidden Cambodian culinary gems as well as international restaurants and everything in between. There is also 'Pub Street' for the party goer and to the fine dining options at the Foreign Correspondents Club, Raffles or Amansara.

Overnight - Siem Reap (B)

Day 12 : Banteay Srei Temple

This morning we drive to Phnom Kulen to visit Kbal Spean, commonly known as the River of a Thousand Lingas. This site was only 'rediscovered' in 1969 and is a tranquil place with an attractive waterfall.

Later we head to visit the elegant temple of Banteay Srei built by a Brahman in the 10th Century. It is said they must have been carved by women as the detail is too fine for the hands of a man. This gives us the origin of the Khmer name, Fortress of the Women.

In the late afternoon we return to Siem Reap where the rest of the evening is at leisure.

Overnight - Siem Reap (B)

Day 13 : Tonle Sap Lake

Today we take a short drive to Kompong Phluk, a floating/stilted community on the immense Tonle Sap. Here we board a private boat and explore the floating community of Kompong Kleang. The community is made up of ethnic Khmer, Viet and Cham, who tend to spend their entire lives on this bountiful lake. Note: Between Feb - July the water levels at Kompong Phluk village maybe too low to go boating, if so, we will visit Chong Kneas floating village where it will still be possible to go boating.

In the afternoon we enjoy some free time to relax by the pool, or to explore the

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town. We recommend a visit to the Artisan's D'Angkor workshops, where talented artisans from some of the poorest villages in the country are taught the ancient Khmer skills and are then encouraged to return to their communities to generate further work and opportunities there.

Overnight - Siem Reap (B)

Day 14 : Siem Reap

Today marks the end of your amazing trip through Thailand and Cambodia. A transfer will be provided to take you to Siem Reap Airport for your onward flight. (B)

HOTELS

Highlighted below are some of the hotels which we frequently use on this tour, though we reserve the right to substitute these hotels to ones of a similar standard.

Please refer to your Tour Voucher for your confirmed arrival hotel and further arrival information.

Royal Princess Larn Luang

Located in the heart of Bangkok Old City, The Royal Princess Larn Luang hotel offers stylish accommodation along with a range of facilities and, most importantly, comfort. The spacious guest rooms are decorated with neutral colours and equipped with modern amenities such as cable TV and internet access, with wonderful views of either the city or the pool area with its shady palms. The property has four restaurants, offering a range of delicious international cuisine, while tasty cocktails and light snacks are served in the lobby lounge and Princess Club. After a day of sightseeing guests can enjoy a refreshing swim in the hotel's large outdoor pool, or head to the spa and fitness centre, before listening to live music at the Princess Club.



Laluna Hotel Resort & Spa

Set in a stunning lily garden in Chiang Rai, the Laluna Hotel & Resort is the perfect place to soak up the relaxing atmosphere. Each air-conditioned bungalow features cable TV, refrigerator, mini bar and complimentary WiFi. The resort also features an open-air lobby and bar and restaurant to where guests can enjoy a range of local and international dishes. Guests can also enjoy the lagoon style swimming pool and jacuzzi or sit back and unwind with a massage.

Hmong Hilltribe Lodge

Set within the spectacular mountains and rice fields of Mae Rim, the Hmong Lodge offers guests a unique opportunity to experience traditional Hmong culture amidst striking natural beauty. Conveniently located just an hours drive from Chiang Mai, The Hmong Lodge offers travellers the perfect balance of style and comfort and offers them the chance to meet and learn about nearby tribal communities. The comfortable guest rooms are beautifully crafted from wood and have a splash of colour added with the Hmong quilts. The lodge features an outdoor pool, spa and open-air restaurant. Days can be spent with local tribes and exploring the stunning surrounding landscapes while evenings at the lodge can be filled with a barbecue and al fresco dining followed by traditional Hmong performances including dancing.



Amora Hotel Chiang Mai

Close to the Tapae Gate, Amora Hotel Chiang Mai is a modern property with great amenities. Guest rooms are designed in the modern Northern Thai (Lanna) style and come with air conditioning, TV, mini bar and room service. The hotel also boasts a refreshing outdoor pool and fitness centre as well as Chili's restaurant - serving up a delicious array of transitional Thai and international cuisine. The Lobby Lounge Bar

and Pool Bar are great places to enjoy a cocktail at the end of the day.



Songphanburi Hotel

Well-located in the centre of Suphanburi, the Songphanburi Hotel offers easy access to many local tourist attractions including the Dragon Descendants Museum and Wat Pa Lelai Woraviharn. Its spacious guestrooms are equipped with all the essential amenities, with WiFi access available. Guests can also take advantage of the refreshing outdoor pool, coffee shop and restaurant, which serves both international and Thai cuisine for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Expect a warm welcome from the friendly team of staff.



River Kwai Jungle Rafts

River Kwai Jungle Rafts Resort offers a unique accommodation experience right on the flowing Kwai Noi River. All floating rooms are tucked into a floating bamboo lodge moored along the historical River Kwai Noi surrounded by lush green mountains and jungle. The walls are weaved from local bamboo decorated with wooden furniture reflecting Mon living style. Each is appointed with en-suite private bathroom, balcony and a hammock. To work in harmony with the natural surroundings, the property does not use electricity and kerosene lamps are provided to light the rooms and evoke a romantic atmosphere.

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Somadevi Angkor Hotel

Named after a former Cambodian Queen, Somadevi Angkor is a world class hotel in the heart of Siem Reap. All guest rooms are beautifully decorated with hard wooden floors and excellent amenities. There are a number of good eating and drinking options at the hotel as well as a fantastic spa and health club. The refreshing outdoor pool is a great place to cool off after a long day exploring the amazing temples of Angkor Wat. Located in the middle of Siem Reap, just off the main highway and next to the local hospital.



PRICES / DATES INFO

Departure dates noted with a 'G' are guaranteed to operate. All other departure dates are guaranteed with a minimum of 2 persons. Prices shown are per person when there are 2 persons sharing a room. The 'Single supplement' applies for single travellers who require their own room and needs to be added to the per person price. If you are happy to be paired up with another single traveller of the same gender on your tour, this can be arranged provided there is another single traveller booked on the tour date of your choosing. If a roommate cannot be found the single room supplement will apply.

PRICES / DATES 2019

Date	Twin Share	Single
07 Sep	USD 2,945	USD 3,445
21 Sep	USD 2,945	USD 3,445
05 Oct	USD 2,945	USD 3,445
19 Oct	USD 2,945	USD 3,445
02 Nov	USD 2,995	USD 3,495
16 Nov	USD 2,995	USD 3,495
30 Nov	USD 2,995	USD 3,495
21 Dec	USD 2,995	USD 3,495

PRICES / DATES 2020

Date	Twin Share	Single
08 Feb	USD 3,195	USD 3,695

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