

# Taste of Thailand

8 days

## **Tour Description**

Enjoy bustling and vibrant Bangkok before switching gears to see another side of Thailand. The northern city of Chiang Mai has all the delights of Bangkok, but on a smaller scale. In addition to visiting a beautiful orchid farm, there is a unique opportunity to commune with those gentle giants, elephants, at an elephant camp. Learn the secrets of Thai cooking techniques and spices at your Thai cooking class, where you will sample the fruits of your own labor. After so much excitement spend the end of your trip relaxing on the beaches enjoying the sparkling water surrounding Phi Phi Island.

## **Highlights**

- ❖ View the floating market of Damnoen Saduak
- Tour Bangkok's stunning Grand Palace
- ❖ Experience a Kantoke dinner with traditional folk performances
- ❖ Take an elephant trek
- ❖ Visit an orchid farm

## Sample Tour Itinerary

## Bangkok – 3 nights

#### Day 1: Arrive Bangkok

Upon arrival in Bangkok you will be met by the group's local tour guide and transferred to your hotel. This vibrant capital city offers endless sightseeing opportunities.

## Day 2:

Today you will enjoy a full day of sightseeing. This morning the group will travel outside of Bangkok to visit the bustling floating market at Damnoen Saduak. Then continue on to the oldest city in Thailand, Nakorn Pathom to see the tallest stupa in the world. After, the group will take a boat ride to a local restaurant for lunch. This afternoon the group will visit three of Bangkok's most impressive temples and the stunning Grand Palace, which many say is Bangkok's most beautiful site.

## Day 3:

Today is free to experience Bangkok at your leisure. You could take an optional hands-on cooking class or treat yourself to a traditional Thai massage. This evening you could indulge in a dinner cruise on a barge or attend a Thai dinner with classical dance.



#### Chiang Mai - 2 nights

#### Day 4: Arrive Chiang Mai

After breakfast the group will transfer to Bangkok airport for your flight to spectacular Chiang Mai. Upon arrival in Chiang Mai you will be met by your group's local tour guide and transferred to your hotel. After lunch on your own, as an introduction to the city you will take a trishaw ride around the old city area. The group will stop at the 14<sup>th</sup> century Monastery of the Lion Lord. After, you will visit Wat Pra That Doi Suthep, Chiang Mai's most important temple complex. At 3,520 feet above sea level, you can enjoy glorious views over the city. Tonight the group will delight in a Kantoke dinner with traditional folk performances.

#### Day 5:

Today the group will visit an elephant camp where the gentle giants will perform feats of skill and strength. You will also take an elephant trek and glide along the river on a bamboo raft. Lunch will be at a local restaurant. On the return to Chiang Mai, the group will stop to visit an orchid farm to view these exotic flowers. Tonight dinner is on your own at your leisure. Be sure to visit the famous Chiang Mai night market.

## Phi Phi Island - 2 nights

## Day 6: Arrive Phi Phi Island

After breakfast the group will transfer to Chiang Mail Airport for you flight to Krabi. Upon arrival at Krabi Airport you will be welcomed by your local representative who will escort the group to the ferry departing for Phi Phi island. The rest of the day is free at your leisure to experience the island.

#### Day 7:

Today is at your leisure, take this opportunity to snorkel in the clear water, take a swim, or just lay back and enjoy the breathtaking beaches.

#### Day 8:

After breakfast the group will transfer to Krabi Airport for your flight to Bangkok and connection flight home.

#### **INCLUSIONS**

- Accommodations: Bangkok 3 nights, Chiang Mai 2 nights, Phi Phi Island 2 nights
- Meals: Continental breakfast daily, lunch and dinner as noted in itinerary
- Ground transportation via air conditioned luxury coach
- English speaking assistants and guides
- Admission tickets as outlined in the itinerary