

# Taste of Thailand from only £825pp\*

7 DAYS / SMALL GROUP OR PRIVATE TOUR / SUPERIOR TOUR /



Taking in temples and palaces in Bangkok, the bridge on the River Kwai at Kanchanaburi, jungle and waterfalls at Erawan National Park, and the ruins of Thailand's ancient capital of Ayutthaya, this tour is ideal for those short of time, or who just want a brief introduction to the main sights in and around Bangkok. The tour also features a trip to the colourful Damnoen Saduak floating market and an introduction to Thai cookery.

## TOUR FACTS

<b>Tour Code &amp; Class:</b>	CUTHTT / Superior
<b>Group Size &amp; Age:</b>	Min. - 2 Max. - 12 / Min. age - 7
<b>Activity - Cultural:</b>	Sightseeing
<b>Activity Level:</b>	Low
<b>Accommodation:</b>	6 nights in hotels
<b>Transport:</b>	Private A/C minibus
<b>Meals:</b>	6 Breakfasts (B), 4 Lunches (L) and 2 Dinners (D)

## YOUR 7 DAY TOUR ITINERARY

- Day 1:** Arrive in Bangkok. Transfer from airport to hotel.
- Day 2:** Bangkok - Grand Palace & City canal tours
- Day 3:** Kanchanaburi - River Kwai tour.
- Day 4:** Erawan National Park.
- Day 5:** Ayutthaya - Temple tour, transfer back to Bangkok.
- Day 6:** Bangkok - Damnoen Saduak floating market & Thai cookery tours.
- Day 7:** Bangkok - Free time. Transfer to airport for flight home.

"Would you like to extend this tour and visit Chiang Mai? ...then check out our Treasures of Thailand tour"



**FLIGHT BOOKINGS AVAILABLE**  
See page 3 for details

Regular small-group departures run all year round. Call or check the website for dates and prices. Private and tailor-made options are also available on request. Please refer to page 2 or website for details.

### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

Temples & Palaces of Bangkok, Bridge on the River Kwai, Erawan National Park, Temples at Ayutthaya, Damnoen Saduak Floating Market & Thai Cooking.

<b>FLIGHTS INCLUDED:*</b>	<b>LOCAL PAYMENT:</b>	<b>ENTRANCE FEES:</b>	<b>AIRPORT TRANSFERS:</b>
X	X	✓	✓

To book visit: [www.thailand-uncovered.com](http://www.thailand-uncovered.com),  
email: [tours@thailand-uncovered.com](mailto:tours@thailand-uncovered.com) or call us on: +44 (0) 845 130 48 49  
Please quote Tour Code: CUTHTT when booking

\* LAND ONLY PRICE, FLIGHT QUOTES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. / LAST AMENDED 11/08/2008 /

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## DETAILED ITINERARY

### DAY 1 / ARRIVE IN BANGKOK

You arrive at Bangkok airport where we greet you and transfer you to your hotel. Your Thailand Uncovered rep welcomes you, helps you settle into the hotel, and provides you with some useful tips for exploring the area as well as outlining the schedule for the next few days.

*Overnight at hotel in Bangkok.*

### DAY 1 EXTRA OPTIONS

#### Bangkok Introductory tour

*See pages 3-4 for details*

### DAY 2 / BANGKOK, GRAND PALACE & CANALS TOURS

After a pre-tour briefing, we start today with a half day tour to the splendid Grand Palace complex and the Royal Temple of the Emerald Buddha, where varied styles of Thai architecture are delicately woven together to enchant the viewer.

In the afternoon we take a cruise along the canals of Bangkok's surprisingly rural western suburbs and enjoy the natural scenery and observe the daily lives of the people who live along the canals. We stop en-route for an opportunity to talk to some of the students attending the temple school or take a leisurely stroll through vegetable and herb gardens. Continuing by boat we visit an orchid farm and the boathouse where the Royal Barges are kept and maintained.

*Overnight at hotel in Bangkok (B L).*

### DAY 3 / KANCHANABURI & RIVER KWAI

Today we take you on a trip to historic Kanchanaburi where the remains of the famous bridge over the River Kwai can be seen. You visit the Allied War Cemetery, war museum and the bridge over the River Kwai. After a lunch by the river it's time to take a train journey on the Death Railway, over the bridges and a spectacular wooden

viaduct built by the POWs during the Second World War. A short long-tailed boat trip along the Kwai Noi River is also included.

*Overnight at hotel in Kanchanaburi (B L D).*

### DAY 4 / ERAWAN NATIONAL PARK

This morning you take a walk into Erawan National Park and visit a beautiful multi-tiered waterfall. Erawan National Park is a unique and rugged landscape of high elevation plateaus and steep valleys. Its forests support an amazing array of plants and a diverse range of wildlife, from minute brilliantly coloured insects to tigers and the mighty Asian elephant.

The afternoon is now free for you to enjoy the riverside location of Kanchanaburi at your leisure. There are plenty of activity and sightseeing option available or alternatively you can just relax and take it easy.

*Overnight at hotel in Kanchanaburi (B L D).*

### DAY 5 / AYUTTHAYA, TEMPLE TOUR

Next we head east to Ayutthaya, the former capital of Thailand (1350-1767AD) and UNESCO world heritage site. Ayutthaya's many ancient temples are scattered throughout the site and along the encircling Chao Phraya River. We visit several of the most important temples and the former summer palace Ban Pa-In, before driving back to Bangkok. A Thai lunch is included today, on board a traditional rice barge.

*Overnight at hotel in Bangkok (B L).*

### DAY 6 / BANGKOK FLOATING MARKET & THAI COOKERY TOURS

You depart early this morning to Ban Paew and a boat cruise along the Damnoen Saduak Canal. You will enjoy the beautiful sights along the way and witness the day-to-day activities of the Thai people who live on the canals. The cruise ends at the wonderfully colourful floating market at Damnoen Saduak. In the afternoon,

we take you for a cruise in a long-tailed motorboat to witness the scenic life of people who live along Bangkok's waterways. You'll learn some of the secrets of Thai cooking at the house of a Thai banks of the canal. Upon arrival a Thai herbal drink is served as a welcoming to the house. Discover how fresh herbs and spices are blended into tasty dishes. You will have plenty of time for discussion and to test the tastes of all that is demonstrated.

*Overnight at hotel in Bangkok (B).*

### DAY 7 / TOUR ENDS

Your day is free to do some last minute sightseeing and shopping, until we transfer you to the airport in time for your flight home.  
*(B).*

## SMALL GROUP, PRIVATE AND TAILOR-MADE TOURS

### SMALL GROUP DEPARTURES:

We have regular small group departures on this tour throughout the year. Departure dates are given on our website, and on request.

### PRIVATE DEPARTURES:

You can also choose to do the tour privately, following the itinerary above, but on any other date. We add a small supplement for these departures. Please contact us first to check availability.

### TAILOR-MADE TOURS:

Finally, this tour can also be used as a base for a private tailor-made itinerary, to be run on any dates. You can make adjustments as per your own requirements (for example, adding extra days, slightly shortening the tour, adding a scuba-diving course etc.).

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## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

### OPTIONS:

#### Booking and paying for options:

Options can be booked when you make your reservation on our website, between confirming your booking and your departure, and some can also be arranged during the tour itself, subject to availability at the time.

To comply with ATOL regulations in the UK, some options including flights where we don't issue the tickets here in the UK, are to be booked in advance, but purchased from, and paid for to, our agent in Bangkok.

Credit cards, traveller's cheques or cash are accepted in Bangkok for these payments at the start of the tour (a fee will be added if you use a credit card). A receipt will be provided to show the flight & payment details.

#### Single room supplement - Price: £340

If you are a single traveller, then we do need to add a single supplement charge (we do not share rooms between separate bookers on our Superior level Thailand tours). This supplement guarantees you a single room throughout your tour.

**Note:** Couples will always be given a private double room. Triple rooms with 3 beds are not generally available, but rooms with connecting doors are available for family groups.

*Book in advance. Pay in advance.*

#### Extra days - Price: £75-£150 p/p/night

These are available on request in Bangkok before and after the tour starts and finishes. If you'd like to add extra days into the time elsewhere, then please request a tailor-made tour.

The price includes a night in the hotel, breakfast, all taxes and

transfers (peak season & single supplements apply).

*Book in advance. Pay in advance.*

#### Bangkok Introductory tour - Price: £20 p/p (min 2)

This introductory half day tour is done on foot and using a wide selection of different public transport to familiarise you with the city of Bangkok and its many different sites and features. We concentrate more on learning about the life of the city rather than visiting famous sites which you may see during the main part of your tour.

*Book & Pay in advance or in Thailand.*

#### INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THE TOUR:

- All accommodation (see below)
- Meals as indicated on the itinerary
- Entrance fees to all sites visited in the itinerary
- All transfers, including 24-hour airport transfer service
- Tours & guides as indicated in the itinerary
- All transport

#### NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THE TOUR:

- International airfares
- Visa costs
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Drinks, snacks, tips, and other personal expenses
- Travel insurance - please see the policies available on our website
- Any other items not mentioned above

#### ACCOMMODATION:

Our Superior level tours in Thailand use high quality 3 to 5-star hotels, in which all rooms have air-conditioning, en-suite bathrooms, telephone and cable TV. Other facilities and services include swimming pools in pleasant garden surroundings, an

assortment of coffee shops, cafes, restaurants and shops, fitness studio, business centre, laundry service and room service.

**Note:** For our group departures, we will advise you of the hotel to be used on the tour about 2 weeks before departure. If you have specific requirements for hotels, then please request a private or tailor-made tour.

#### Example hotels used on this tour (subject to availability):

##### Bangkok (5-star):

- Landmark hotel.

##### Kanchanaburi (3 to 4-star):

- Kasalong Resort hotel.

At certain times of the year or where circumstances dictate we may need to use different hotels from those listed above. In this event alternative accommodation will always be of a similar standard.

Please see the Accommodation page on our website for more details of the hotels that we use in Thailand.

#### TRANSPORT:

The transport used on this tour includes private AC cars or minibuses.

#### TRANSFERS:

The tour includes both your airport arrival and departure transfers (24-hour service), and all other transfers.

After customs and immigration formalities you will be met by our representative, and after introductions, they will take you straight to your hotel (full details will be provided after booking).

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## INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS:

In order to keep our tours flexible, and to make them accessible to as many people as possible, we do not include your international flights in the set tour itinerary or price.

However, we do hold an ATOL (UK flight sales license) and are happy to book your flights for you. If you let us know your ideal dates and departure airport, then we will be happy to provide you with some flight options that we can arrange for you. You can then choose whether to book the flights through us, or make your own arrangements. Either way, your airport arrival & departure transfers are included.

## TOUR LEADERS/GUIDES:

For this tour we provide fully trained, local English-speaking Thai guides to act as your tour leader.

Our local reps in all the towns and cities en-route are also at your service.

To help support the local people and economy, and also because we know it works best for you, our policy at Thailand Uncovered is to use only local guides and tour leaders for this tour. Please check our website for further details.

## ENTRANCE FEES:

The tour price includes entrance fees to the tourist sites mentioned in the itinerary.

## TIPPING:

Tipping is not part of Thai culture, but has become customary but not compulsory in the service & tourist industry. Tipping is always optional, and any amounts paid should reflect excellent service.

It is normal and accepted for people to tip differently, and you should not feel under any pressure to tip any particular amount.

We are often asked for advice on common amounts however, and

suggest that up to 10% of the tour price would be a suitable budget for this tour.

## COUNTRY GUIDE:

For an in-depth overview of Thailand, please check out the country guide pages on our website.

## CLIMATE:

The weather in Thailand varies between the northern & southern halves of the country, and the time of year, and is controlled by several different monsoons. These monsoon rains start and finish at slightly different times every year.

In the northern & central regions (including Bangkok & Chiang Mai), the 'dry season' lasts from November/December to May, before getting steadily hotter in June and July. The most rain falls in August and September.

In the south (including Khao Sok & Krabi), the 'dry season' normally runs from November to April, with most rain falling from May to October, with less temperature difference between them than in the North.

In Koh Samui and Ko Tao, the 'cool dry season' runs from December to February, with the 'hot dry season' running from March to August, and the 'rainy season' starting sometime in September and finishing late November.

Each of the seasons has its own charms and its difficulties!

## DATES & PRICES:

We have regular departures on this tour throughout the year. Our small group departure dates are listed on our website and on a separate dates & prices sheet (available on request).

We can also run the tour privately for you on any other dates for a small supplement, or customise it to make a tailor-made tour to fit your personal requirements.

Please contact our knowledgeable sales staff for more help on creating the right tour for you.

## HEALTH:

For up to the minute health information & vaccination requirements for Thailand we recommend that you contact your GP or a travel clinic (1st Contact have a travel clinic with free advice tel. 0800 0393073).

General vaccination recommendations for Thailand include Tetanus, Diphtheria, Hepatitis A, Polio and Typhoid.

## VISAS:

British, European, and many other nationalities do not require a visa for travel to Thailand for stays of 30 days or less. If you are staying longer then visas are required. For further information on your visa requirements, please contact us or check out the visa pages on our website.

## RESPONSIBLE TOURISM:

We take responsible travel seriously, and as well as taking this into consideration when we design our itineraries, and select the people and agents we work with, we also donate £2 for every person travelling on of our Thailand tours. One of the organisations we support is the Border Green Energy Team (BGET), who provide hands-on appropriate technology training and financial support to village innovators in ethnic minority areas on both sides of the Thai/Burma border. More examples of how we spend your money and full details of our responsible travel policy are given on our website.

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## PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION:

After booking, we will provide you with detailed information to help you prepare for the tour. This will include helpful advice on money, health, insurance, tipping, climate, clothing etc.

Further information is also available in the County & Travel guides on our website.

## YOUR SPACE @ UNCOVER THE WORLD:

We have launched a community space for use by past, present and future travellers with us. Here you can make contact with fellow travellers in your group before you travel, or share photos and stay in contact with them after you return home. You can also ask questions of our staff and read updates on itineraries and destination news etc. For further details, please check...

<http://yourspace.uncovertheworld.travel>



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