

Mighty Mekong Catfish (7 days)

Private Tour



Tour Facts

Tour Code – FITHMC
Class of Tour – Standard
Minimum Number – 1
Maximum Number – 8 (fishing)
Activity – Fishing
Activity Level – Medium
Accommodation – 6 nights in 3-star hotels
Transport – Air-conditioned bus/minibus/car
Meals – 6 Breakfasts (B), 0 Lunch (L) and 0 Dinners (D)

NB: Availability is not normally a problem with this tour but please check before booking and book early to be safe. Prices and itineraries available for non-anglers on request

Basic Itinerary

Day	Activity
1	Arrive in Bangkok
2	Bangkok - full day fishing
3	Bangkok - full day fishing
4	Full day fishing
5	Bangkok - full day fishing
6	Bangkok - full day fishing
7	Bangkok - free time. Transfer to airport for flight home

Private and Tailor-made Tours

Private Departures:

Please contact us first to check availability and that your required departure date fits the fishing boat schedules.

Tailor-made Tours:

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 extra sightseeing etc.).

Options:

On all of the above types of tour, we offer various different options, which can be added to the tour. These options are listed within the itinerary below, and then in detail at the end of this factsheet and also on our website.

Some options (normally that include a flight) should be pre-booked, but paid for in Bangkok.

Detailed Itinerary

Extra Days Option

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 and provides you with some useful tips for exploring the area.

Overnight at hotel in Bangkok

Day 2 and 3 Fishing at Bung Sam Lan

Early this morning we transfer you to the Bung Sam Lan for full day fishing.

Bung Sam Lan Lake is also called "the Temple of the Giant Mekong Catfish". Converted into a lake from a swamp, with 20 acres of water, this lake houses some of the biggest freshwater fish in the world. These fish were introduced from the Mekong River and the Amazon River. Since the opening of this lake 17 years ago, 35 Amazonian Pirarucu have been introduced in the Bung Sam Lan waters. Anglers can see them everyday, as these predators like to show up from time to time during the day; rolling slowly in the water with big red scales on their back - this sight is quite spectacular. The lake also imposes a "catch and release" policy. Bung Sam Lan Lake is a real fishing paradise that has great facilities and warm Thai hospitality where you will find comfortable, traditional Thai bungalows with a large fishing pontoon, rigging table

and weighing scales. A supermarket and a restaurant service are open all day and all night. Food can also be ordered and delivered to your own bungalow.

Our guides will constantly be on hand to help as much as you like with the rigging, baiting and casting. You will have two rods to fish thus enabling you to target other species like the Giant Siamese Carp; the world's biggest carp species which can weigh often over 100kg or the giant of the Giant Predators, the Pirarucu Arapaima gigas, over 110 kg.

Overnight at hotel in Bangkok (B)

Day 4 Bangkok, free day

Today is a free day for you to explore Bangkok or if you feel up to it you can add an extra day's fishing. Bangkok is the lively and colourful capital of Thailand and has a wealth of sightseeing on offer to the interested visitor. The city has numerous traditional markets, in which you can experience the day to day lives of Bangkok's residents. There are plenty of modern shopping complexes for the more serious shopper. If your interest lies in architecture then you won't be disappointed by Bangkok's wealth of temples and monuments. The Grand Palace complex is a stunning array of temples and buildings set in beautiful gardens. Of course Bangkok nightlife is not to be missed!

Extra Day Fishing

Temples & City

The Grand Palace

Any of the above options can be booked in advance to fill your free day in Bangkok.

Overnight at hotel in Bangkok (B)

Day 5 and 6 Fishing at Bung Sam Lan

Today it's back to Bung Sam Lan for more fishing action. This lake truly is an angler's paradise and we guarantee you won't be disappointed with the awesome fishing you'll experience at this exceptional fishing lake.

Overnight at hotel in Bangkok (B)

Day 7 Tour ends

Your day is free until we transfer you to the airport in time for your flight home.

(B)

Extra Days Option

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Options

- Booking and Paying for Options:

All options should ideally be booked in advance, when booking the tour. You can also add extra options to your tour, after you have made your booking, and during the tour itself, subject to availability at the time.

To comply with ATOL regulations, some options including internal 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. (IATA License No. 35/3/00440) Credit Cards, traveller's cheques or cash are accepted in Bangkok for these payments at the start of the tour. A receipt will be provided in Bangkok to show the flight & payment details.

Temples & City

This is a half day tour of the city to visit three of the most famous monasteries in Bangkok, the Marble Temple, Temple of the Reclining Buddha and the Golden Buddha Temple. You will be enthralled by the beauty of these spectacular yet delicate Thai architectural works of art. Besides the classical three temples visit, any request can be made for alternatives such as Wat Ratchanatdaram for the only one existing Metal Palace in the world, the amulet market where Thais buy and exchange the Buddha images, the Giant Swing and Wat Suthat for the outstanding Ordination Hall and beautifully crafted wooden doors, etc. These alternatives are available only on private basis.

Book in advance. Pay in advance

The Grand Palace

This is a half day visit to the Grand Palace, including the Coronation Hall, Wat Phra Keo (Emerald Buddha Temple) and the replica of Angkor Wat. This is a "must" for every visitor to Bangkok, for the Grand Place Complex, which includes the Temple of The Emerald Buddha (Wat Phra Keow) is unquestionably one of the wonders of the world today. Within its enormous grounds is the most exotic Buddhist temple and at the heart of the temple itself is a fabulous Buddha image, carved from one piece jade, which is the holiest and most revered of religious objects in Thailand today.

Book in advance. Pay in advance

Tel: +44 (0) 845 130 48 49

Extra Day Fishing

This option adds an extra day fishing at Bung Sam Lan and includes all you tackle, bait, fishing licences for two rods, and transportation

Book in advance. Pay in advance

Extra Days

These are available on request in Bangkok before and after the tour starts and finishes.

The price includes a night in a budget/tourist class hotel, breakfast, all taxes and transfers.

Book in advance. Pay in advance

Single Room Supplement

If you are a single traveller, then we do need to add a single supplement charge. This guarantees you a single room in the Bangkok hotel. You can also choose to book a single supplement if you require a room on your own.

If you are travelling in an odd numbered party (i.e. 3 people, 5 people etc.), then we may be able to offer triple rooms in Bangkok if required. Please contact us for details.

Note: Couples will always be given a private double room, and triple/family rooms are available on request in Bangkok.

Included in the Price of the Tour

- Accommodation
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- All transfers, including 24-hour airport transfer service
- Tours & Guides as indicated on the itinerary
- Entrance fees to all sites mentioned in the itinerary
- Fishing licence
- Fishing tackle
- 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 items not mentioned above

Accommodation

Our Standard tours use good quality hotels (approx. 3-4 star) in which all rooms have air-conditioning and en-suite bathrooms.

Hotels used on this tour:

Bangkok – Royal Benja Hotel (***)

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

Please see our website for more current details of the hotels that would be used on the tour.

Bung Sam Lan

At Bung Sam Lan boarded lake you will have your own private hut for safe storage of all your equipment and relief from the hot sun. Facilities include a kettle for boiling water - perfect for a cup of tea. All bungalows have running water, 240 Volt electricity, which is ideal to plug in a well needed fan. There is a small room for a short nap, when the non-stop, arm-pumping action become just a little too much! More importantly, fishing is done on a private wooden platform attached to the bungalow.

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).

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 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.

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Whilst fishing you will be looked after by one of our local professional guides who will escort you throughout your fishing adventure. These guides have all been guiding for many years and their experience of the lake is second to none. They will always provide you with help and advice on what works best and how to maximise your chance of catching that once in a lifetime fish.

Entrance Fees

The tour price includes entrance fees to all the tourist sites mentioned in the itinerary. Camera and video fees may be applied at some of the sites, and these are not included in the price.

Fishing Licence

Your fishing licence is included in the cost of the tour, and will be obtained on your behalf by your guide when you arrive at the lake.

Tackle Required

All fishing tackle is provided whilst fishing the boarded lakes. It is not recommended that you bring your own as these fish require very heavy specialist tackle. In our experience anglers who have brought their own have ended up with it smashed and a fish of a lifetime lost.

Dates & Prices

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 set tour privately for you on any other dates, or customise it to make a tailor-made tour to fit your personal requirements. Please contact us for help creating the right tour for you.

Tipping

While an accepted part of the culture and customs in Thailand, 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.

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.

Note: The trekking area in this tour is not considered to be a malarial risk (the only endemic area is close to the border with Myanmar), and there have been no reported cases of malaria among tourists.

Country Guide

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

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.



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