

Kayaks & Caves

10 DAYS / PRIVATE TOUR / ISLANDS & BEACHES

Krabi is distinguished by its mountains, hills, and plains, with more than 30 small islands off the coast. The still pristine jungle offers a wonderful opportunity to observe the many species of birds, plants and animals in the area. Sea Kayak in Krabi lets you get closer to nature than you ever dreamed possible. You can enjoy tremendous views through the tranquil gorges that lead into a maze of mangrove forests; explore sea caves, lagoons, majestic cliffs and islands; or just relax on its idyllic beaches.

TOUR FACTS

Tour Code:	KATHKC
Group Size & Age:	Min. - 2 Max. - 8 / Min. age - 7
Travel Idea:	Islands & Beaches
Activity Level:	Moderate
Comfort Rating:	Standard
Accommodation:	7 nights in hotels, 2 overnight sleeper trains
Transport:	Minibus, 2nd class A/C sleeper train, local bus

YOUR 10 DAY TOUR ITINERARY

- Day 1:** Arrive in Bangkok. Optional airport transfer.
- Day 2:** Bangkok - Grand Palace tour, overnight train to Surat Thani.
- Day 3:** Bus to Krabi - Free time.
- Day 4:** Krabi - Boat cruise.
- Day 5:** Krabi - Mangrove kayaking.
- Day 6:** Krabi - Cave kayaking.
- Day 7:** Krabi - Free time (rock climbing option).
- Day 8:** Krabi - Free time. Bus to Surat Thani then overnight train to Bangkok.
- Day 9:** Bangkok - Free time. (you can finish the tour and fly home this afternoon).
- Day 10:** Bangkok - Tour ends. Optional transfer to airport for flight home.

"Would you like to try a jungle safari tour? ...then check out our Khao Sok Jungle Safari tour"



We run this tour on private departures only. Call or check the website for dates and prices. Various tailor-made options are also available on request.

FLIGHT BOOKINGS AVAILABLE
See page 4 for details

TOUR HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

Bangkok Grand Palace, Krabi's beaches, Mangrove Kayaking, Cave Kayaking.

FLIGHTS INCLUDED:*	LOCAL PAYMENT:	ENTRANCE FEES:	AIRPORT TRANSFERS:
X	X	✓	X

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

* SEE WEBSITE FOR FULL PRICE LIST, FLIGHT QUOTES AVAILABLE ON REQUEST. / LAST AMENDED 15/04/2012



Kayaks & Caves continued...

10 DAYS / PRIVATE TOUR / ISLANDS & BEACHES

DETAILED ITINERARY

DAY 1 / ARRIVE IN BANGKOK

You make your own way to the hotel today and check in (details & directions provided after booking).

If you are arriving in Bangkok today, then we offer an optional transfer in a private minibus from the airport to the hotel, after which our Thailand Uncovered rep will give you a brief introduction to the surrounding area.

Overnight at hotel in Bangkok.

DAY 1 EXTRA OPTIONS

Arrival airport transfer

See pages 3-4 for details

DAY 2 / BANGKOK, GRAND PALACE TOUR, TRAIN TO SURAT THANI

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.

Our afternoon is free to explore Bangkok further, or to take an optional long-tail boat cruise along the canals of Bangkok's surprisingly rural western suburbs.

In the early evening we transfer to the station and board the air-conditioned sleeper train to Surat Thani.

Overnight on train to Surat Thani (B).

DAY 2 EXTRA OPTIONS

Bangkok canal tour

See pages 3-4 for details

DAY 3 / BUS TO KRABI, FREE TIME

After arrival in Surat Thani, we have time for breakfast, before transferring by local bus through small villages and countryside to

the beautiful resort town of Krabi. You will have a good afternoon here just to relax on the beach after the journey.

Overnight at hotel in Krabi.

DAY 4 / KRABI, BOAT CRUISE

We start our time in Krabi with a cruise to visit some of the most beautiful beaches, islands and coral reefs in the area. We set-off after breakfast on a 20-minute boat ride passing scenic beaches, off-shore islands and spectacular limestone rock formations. We'll stop for two hours on Rai Leh Beach, one of the most beautiful and romantic beaches in Thailand, with time for swimming, rock climbing or trekking up the mountain for a breathtaking view of the lagoon. We then continue by boat to Chicken and Tab Islands, connected by a white sand bar. Here there is time to snorkelling over the stunning corals and swim with dazzling schools of fish.

Overnight at hotel in Krabi (B L).

DAY 5 / KRABI, MANGROVE KAYAKING

Today we take a trip kayaking to explore the mangrove forests and river estuary, and to admire their fascinating ecological systems. There should be a chance to see water monitor, monkeys, and gibbons. After paddling through mangrove forests, the day's highlight will be passing beneath the Khanab Nam Mountain, a magnificent canyon covered with wild flora and extending for some 400 meters. The afternoon is free to relax and soak up the sun back in your hotel.

Overnight at hotel in Krabi (B L).

DAY 6 / KRABI, CAVE KAYAKING

We have another morning of sea kayaking today through stunning caves to see marvellous stalagmites and stalactites. Then we paddle through mangrove forests, the river estuary and finally up river, passing through Lod Cave, beneath the mountains to the Great

Spirit or Skull Caves, famous for their pre-historic paintings and early human remains. The afternoon is again free for you to relax or explore Krabi further.

Overnight at hotel in Krabi (B L).

DAY 7 / KRABI, FREE TIME

We leave the whole of today free for you to relax and enjoy the idyllic surrounding here in Krabi. Alternatively you may wish to take up the option of a day rock climbing on Rai Leh beach, without doubt Thailand's most developed and extensive climbing area. With over 500 bolted routes in walking distance, the ability to belay off the beach in many areas and all year round sunshine, this has deservedly become one of the world's top climbing holiday destinations.

There are also more kayaking and boat trips available, or a local village tour where you can learn the art of batik and see how the rubber trees are tapped.

Overnight at hotel in Krabi (B).

DAY 7 EXTRA OPTIONS

Rock climbing

See pages 3-4 for details

DAY 8 / KRABI, FREE TIME, BUS & TRAIN TO BANGKOK

We have more free time this morning to enjoy a last swim or sunbathe before catching the local bus back to Surat Thani, and the overnight train back to Bangkok, staying in comfortable second-class air-conditioned sleeping berths.

Overnight on train to Bangkok (B).

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DAY 9 / BANGKOK, FREE DAY

Upon arrival back in Bangkok we transfer you to your hotel, where the rest of your day is free to do some last minute shopping or a little more sightseeing.

Note: You can finish the tour and fly home today if required (flights must leave after midday).

Overnight at hotel in Bangkok.

DAY 9 EXTRA OPTIONS

Early finish discount

See pages 3-4 for details

DAY 10 / TOUR ENDS

The tour ends after breakfast this morning. A departure airport transfer option is available if you are flying home today.

(B).

DAY 10 EXTRA OPTIONS

Departure airport transfer

See pages 3-4 for details

SMALL GROUP, PRIVATE AND TAILOR-MADE TOURS

SMALL GROUP DEPARTURES:

We do not generally offer regular small group departures on this tour. If you would like to put your own group together however, please do contact us and we will be able to offer you some discounted rates and to adjust the itinerary to fit your group's particular preferences and dates.

PRIVATE DEPARTURES:

This tour is designed primarily to be run as a private tour, just for you, your family, or your own group of friends. It can be run on any dates, but please contact us or check our website for more

information on ideal seasons and weather in different parts of the country. Prices on our website are based on 2 adults travelling in low season and sharing a room, and discounts are available on request if there would be more people travelling together. Prices in high season and peak periods will be slightly higher, and quoted on request.

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 as many or as few adjustments to the itinerary as per your own requirements and we will provide suggestions, ideas and prices to fit your own personal interests and budget.

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

If you want to guarantee yourself a single room throughout the tour, then we need to add a single supplement charge.

If you are a single traveller joining one of our Standard level group tours, then if you do not select the single supplement, you may share a twin or triple room with another traveller/s (same sex) in the group.

Note: *Couples will always be given a private double room where possible and triple/family rooms are available on request.*

Book in advance. Pay in advance.

Extra days

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 (single supplements apply).

Book in advance. Pay in advance.

Arrival airport transfer

If you wish, we can arrange to meet you on your arrival in Bangkok airport, and provide a private transfer to the hotel used at the start of the tour. This is a 24-hour service.

Book in advance. Pay in advance.

Departure airport transfer

At the end of the tour, this option covers a private transfer to the airport in time for your flight home. This is a 24-hour service and is available on Day 9 or 10 of the tour.

Book & pay in advance OR in Bangkok.

Early finish discount

If you want to finish the tour with us as soon as you arrive in Bangkok on Day 9, then this option removes the cost of your transfer from the station to our hotel, and the last night in the hotel.

You can still add a departure airport transfer option to your booking

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if you finish on Day 9.

Book in advance. Pay in advance.

Bangkok canal tour

This tour takes you on a traditional Bangkok long-tail boat to explore the canals in the western suburbs of Thonburi. We 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.

Book & pay in advance OR in Bangkok.

Rock climbing

Today you can spend a full day rock climbing on Rai Leh beach on any of the over 500 world class bolted routes. All equipment and a guide will be supplied

Book in Krabi. Pay in Krabi.

INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THE TOUR:

- All accommodation (see below)
- Meals as indicated on the itinerary
- Entrance fees
- All transfers and transport as detailed in the itinerary
- Tours & guides as indicated in the itinerary
- Lifejackets and equipment while kayaking
- Snorkelling equipment on island boat trip

NOT INCLUDED IN THE PRICE OF THE TOUR:

- International airfares
- Visa costs
- Airport transfers (available as extra options)
- 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 standard rating is based on good quality, comfortable hotels around the 3 and 4-star level. Most will have swimming pools and more than one restaurant and bar. Our cultural adventure tours that feature jungle trekking around Chiang Mai will, by necessity, include some more basic accommodation. This level of tour is suitable for anyone interested in a good balance of comfort and value for money.

***Note:** Our website prices are based on a range of hotels, and we will let you know which are to be used a few weeks before departure. If you would like to finalise and guarantee specific hotels before you book, please request a tailor-made tour. Please see the Accommodation page on our website for more information about the hotels we use.*

SEA KAYAKING:

The seas around Krabi where we enjoy the kayaking are shallow and very calm. Life-jackets are provided. The kayaks seat two people, and all equipment is provided.

TRANSPORT:

This tour aims at bringing you as close to the real Thailand as possible and not cocooning you from it. To this end we use public transport wherever we feel that it meets our high standards - this may include 2nd class overnight sleeper trains, local buses and local ferries. We also use private transport including jeeps or pick-up trucks to and from the trek, and minibuses for the sightseeing tours where necessary.

TRANSFERS:

The tour includes all transfers detailed in the itinerary. Airport arrival and departure transfers are not included in the tour price, but are available on request (see Options section above).

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 for all the sightseeing tours. Our website prices are based on using different guides in different parts of Thailand (for example, you generally keep the same guide for all of the Bangkok/Kanchanaburi/Ayutthaya region, and then a different guide would be used in the north for Chiang Mai & Chiang Rai. We do not generally send our guides with you to the beach resorts, where most optional activities are arranged either through your hotel/resort, or our local reps. If you would like the same guide to escort you throughout the whole tour we can certainly arrange this, but there will be an extra cost.

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

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to use only local guides and tour leaders. Please check our website for further details.

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.

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 checkout the country guide pages on our website.

DATES & PRICES:

We can run the tour privately for you on any dates 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.

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.

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

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 checkout 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.

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.

FACEBOOK & TWITTER:

Uncover the World recently joined the Facebook community; it would be great if you joined us and shared some of your travel photos and stories. It's also a great way to stay in touch with your fellow travellers, share photos, and also keep updated with special offers and news about new tours and destinations from us - click on www.facebook.com/UncoverTheWorld and 'Like' us.

You can also follow us on Twitter - www.twitter.com/utworld

We are fully bonded for your complete financial protection.



'Thailand Uncovered' is a trading name of Uncover the World Ltd.

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