

Expedition to Thailand with Cambodia Extension

Thailand:

October 26-November 2, 2025

Led by Tahuayo lodge owner Dolly Arevalo Beaver

We will enjoy the cultural, architectural and geographical highlights of beautiful Thailand, including floating flower markets by boat, golden Buddhist temples, remote Chiang Ma, Kanta Elephant Sanctuary and Phuket's Patong Beach

Trip length 8 days/ 7 nights

Difficulty Level is Easy

Cost \$3195

Single supplement \$800

Initial deposit \$250 per person

Travel insurance is strongly recommended

Cost Includes	Cost does not include
* Room on a double/twin sharing basis at the mentioned hotels.	X Any airfares.
* Bed & breakfast at all locations and following meals – <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lunch during the cruise from Ayutthaya to Bangkok.• Lunch at a local restaurant on Day 05.• Traditional Khantoke Dinner with cultural performance.• Lunch at the floating restaurant on Panyee Island on day 07.	X Any personal expenses such as drinks, tips, laundry, or telephone charges.
* English-speaking accompanying guide from arrival at Bangkok airport to departure of the clients from Phuket.	X Any new tax imposed by the Govt.
* Transfers & sightseeing by private air-conditioned vehicle.	X Early check-in or late check-out.
* All excursions and visits listed in the itinerary.	X Tips for guides, drivers, and porters.

Day 01: Sunday, 26 October 2025

Arrive at Bangkok

Walking tour for early arrivals

Upon arrival at Bangkok Airport, you will be warmly greeted by our local English-speaking guide. After a brief introduction, you'll be transferred to your hotel for a smooth check-in process (Check-in time: 14:00 Hrs or 15:00 hrs.).

Bangkok is the vibrant capital of Thailand, renowned for its blend of ancient traditions and modern lifestyle. It offers a thrilling mix of bustling markets, awe-inspiring temples, vibrant street life, and state-of-the-art shopping malls. Famous for its cultural landmarks, such as the Grand Palace and Wat Arun, Bangkok also boasts a dynamic culinary scene, ranging from street food to fine dining. Whether you're interested in history, shopping, or exploring its lively neighbourhoods, Bangkok has something for every traveller.

The rest of the day is yours to enjoy at your leisure. You can relax at the hotel or take a casual stroll around the nearby area, soaking in the local culture and ambiance.

Optional Activity if your flight arrives early: Take a leisurely walk from Riva Surya Bangkok along Phra Athit Road in the early evening if you have time, where the street buzzes with riverside cafes and small stalls. Observe the relaxed market scene, as vendors wrap up their day and street food stalls begin to open for the evening. As you stroll toward the Amulet Market, soak in the tranquil atmosphere, with the golden glow of the setting sun enhancing the cultural ambiance. After browsing the stalls selling religious talismans, make your way back to the hotel, enjoying the peaceful riverside breeze as the city transitions into night.

Overnight stay in Bangkok.

Day 02: Monday, 27 October 2025

Bangkok - Grand Palace, Wat Pho, and Pak Khlong Talat Flower Market

After breakfast, embark on an exciting exploration of Bangkok's iconic landmarks.

Begin your journey by visiting three of the most popular Buddhist temples, starting with **Wat Pho**, the largest temple in Bangkok, renowned for its enormous **reclining Buddha** and the Chedis of Kings. This temple, located behind the Buddha Temple, is famous for its gigantic reclining Buddha, which is 46 meters long and covered in gold.

Next, visit the **Grand Palace**, undoubtedly the most famous monument in the city. Built in 1782, it served as the home of the King of Thailand, the royal court, and the government's administrative headquarters for 150 years. The Grand Palace continues to captivate visitors with its stunning architecture and intricate details. Within the palace complex, you'll find **Wat Phra**

Kaew, also known as the Temple of the Emerald Buddha (officially Wat Phra Sri Rattana Satsadaram), considered the most important Buddhist temple in Thailand. This temple enshrines the revered Emerald Buddha, carved from a single block of jade.

In the afternoon, enjoy a **stroll through the vibrant Pak Khlong Talat** (Flower Market) to experience the colourful atmosphere and discover the cultural significance of flowers in Thai society.

End your day in **Chinatown**, Bangkok's Street food paradise. Wander through its maze-like streets, lined with markets and food stalls, and indulge in delicious local dishes.

Overnight at your hotel in Bangkok

Day 03: Tuesday, 28 October 2025

Maeklong Train Market & boat ride through Damnoen Saduak Floating Market Tour

Meet your guide at the hotel reception and transfer 80 km southwest of Bangkok to visit the renowned Maeklong Railway Market. Watch in amazement as the train approaches and the merchants swiftly retract their stalls to allow the train to pass through the middle of the market.

After this unique experience, head to Damnoen Saduak Floating Market. **Take a boat ride** through the canals to reach the market and observe the lively trading of fruits, vegetables, and other goods.

After the excursion, return to your hotel. The afternoon is free for leisure activities (no vehicle or guide provided).

Overnight stay at the hotel in Bangkok.

Day 04: Wednesday, 29 October 2025

Bangkok – Chiang Mai by flight

Chiang Mai Night Bazaar

After breakfast, enjoy some free time at leisure until your departure. Room will be available till 12:00 Hrs.

Transfer to Bangkok Airport for Flight to Chiang Mai.

Upon arrival at Chiang Mai Airport, you'll be warmly greeted by our local English-speaking guide and transferred to your hotel for check-in.

Once you've settled into your hotel, the rest of the day is free for you to relax or explore at your own pace.

In the evening, you may want to visit the famous **Chiang Mai Night Bazaar**, a bustling marketplace known for its vibrant street culture, local handicrafts, clothing, and delicious street food. It's a great place to shop for unique souvenirs and experience the lively atmosphere of Chiang Mai after dark.

Overnight Stay in Chiang Mai.

Day 05: Thursday, 30 October 2025

Chiang Mai: Kanta Elephant Sanctuary, Wat Phra Singh temple & Doi Suthep Khantoke Dinner

Begin your day with a visit to the **Kanta Elephant Sanctuary**, where you will have an ethical and immersive experience with elephants. Learn about the sanctuary's work to protect elephants and get the chance to feed, bathe, and play with them in their natural environment.

- **06:30 - 07:00 am / 13:00 - 13:30 pm:** Pick up from your hotel.
- **07:30 am / 14:30 pm:** Drive approximately 50 minutes north of Chiang Mai through a forest and local farming areas.
- **08:30 am / 15:30 pm:** Arrive at Kanta Elephant Sanctuary; interact with elephants and learn about their behavior.
- **09:00 am / 16:00 pm:** Feed and play with elephants in their natural environment; take photos and enjoy getting muddy!
- **10:00 am / 17:00 pm:** Observe elephants bathing in a river; you have the chance to join them.
- **11:00 am / 18:00 pm:** Enjoy tea/coffee and seasonal fruit before saying goodbye to the elephants.

Please Note: *Time spent with the elephants is flexible, and the schedule is approximate, aside from the pick-up times.*

After lunch at a local restaurant, continue with a visit to:

Wat Phra Singh: One of Chiang Mai's most revered temples, known for its intricate Lanna-style architecture and the revered Phra Singh Buddha image.

Wat Phra That Doi Suthep: End your afternoon at this iconic temple, perched on a mountain overlooking Chiang Mai. The temple is famous for its 290-step staircase lined with naga (serpent) sculptures. From the top, you'll be rewarded with panoramic views of Chiang Mai and the surrounding valley.

In the evening, experience a traditional **Khantoke Dinner**, where you'll sit on the floor around low tables and enjoy northern Thai cuisine while watching cultural performances, including dances from various hill tribes.

Overnight at the hotel in Chiang Mai.

Day 06: Friday, 31 October 2025

Chiang Mai – Flight to Phuket

Patong Beach

Enjoy some **free time** to explore Chiang Mai at your own pace or simply relax at your hotel before your journey home. (Check-out time: 11:00 Hrs or 12:00 Hrs.)

Depart from Chiang Mai Airport for your flight to Phuket.

Upon arrival at Phuket Airport, you will be greeted by our local English-speaking guide and transferred to your hotel for check-in.

Spend your afternoon relaxing on one of Phuket's beautiful beaches or exploring Patong Beach.

Overnight Stay in Phuket.

Day 07: Saturday, 1 November 2025

Phuket – Full Day Island Tour (Phi Phi Islands or Phang Nga Bay)

After breakfast, embark on a full-day tour to explore the stunning **Phang Nga Bay by speedboat (08:00 - 17:00). (SIC Tour on shared basis)**

- **08:00 am:** Pick up from your hotel and transfer to Royal Phuket Marina Pier.
- **Speedboat adventure:** Begin your journey by speeding to Hong Island and Panak Island, where you'll enjoy an extraordinary canoeing experience amidst the breath-taking limestone formations of Phang Nga Bay. Explore the limestone caves on foot and take in the natural beauty of the area.
- **Lunch:** Enjoy a local lunch at a floating restaurant on Panyee Island, soaking in the unique atmosphere.
- **James Bond Island:** Visit the iconic James Bond Island (Khao Tapoo), famous as a filming location for "The Man with the Golden Gun," and explore the nearby Khao Ping Kan.
- **Island relaxation:** Sunbathe, swim, and relax at Naka Island or Rang Yai Island, where you'll have free time to unwind on the pristine beaches.

Late afternoon, Return to Royal Phuket Marina Pier and transfer back to your hotel.

Overnight stay in Phuket.

Day 08: Sunday, 2 November 2025
Phuket – Flight to Bangkok and Departure



(Check-out time: 11:00 Hrs or 12:00 Hrs.)

Enjoy your morning at leisure, taking in the last moments in Phuket. You can spend your time at the beach or enjoy shopping for souvenirs.

Later, transfer to Phuket Airport for your flight to Bangkok, where you'll connect with your international flight home.

End of part one of trip Start of Optional Extension

Cambodia Extension

November 2-5, 2025

We will explore the fascinating archaeological ruins of Angkor Wat as well as the temples of Siem Reap.

Cost is \$1095 per person

\$300 if single in Room

Travel insurance is strongly recommended

Cost Includes	Cost does not include
* Room on a double/twin sharing basis at the mentioned hotels.	X Any airfares.
* Bed & breakfast at all locations, and 01 buffet dinner in Siem Reap with Apsara Dancing show at local restaurant on Day 2.	X Any personal expenses such as drinks, tips, laundry, or telephone charges.
* English-speaking guide for the touring in Siem Reap.	X Any new tax imposed by the Govt.
* Transfers & sightseeing by private air-conditioned vehicle.	X Early check-in or late check-out.
* All excursions and visits listed in the itinerary.	X Tips for guides, drivers, and porters.
* Entrance fees	X Cambodia Visa.
* Taxes and service charges.	

Day 01: Sunday, 02 November 2025

Arrive at Siem Reap

Angkor Night Market

Upon arrival at Siem Reap International Airport, you will be met by a local representative and transferred to your hotel for check-in. (Check-in time: 14:00 Hrs or 15:00 hrs.).

Take some time to relax after your journey or explore the hotel's amenities.

Visit the **Angkor Night Market**: This bustling market is a perfect introduction to Cambodian culture. Stroll through stalls offering local crafts, souvenirs, and unique handmade items. You can also enjoy traditional performances and sample authentic Cambodian street food, including delicacies such as *lok lak* or *amok*.

Overnight stay in Siem Reap.

Day 02: Monday, 03 November 2025

Siem Reap – Exploring the Angkor Wat Archaeological Park

Begin your day with an unforgettable sunrise over **Angkor Wat**, the largest religious monument in the world. Arrive early to witness the sky change colours as the sun rises behind the majestic temple towers, creating a magical atmosphere. Explore the intricate **bas-reliefs** depicting scenes from Hindu epics like the Ramayana and Mahabharata. The temple's grandeur and architectural detail are sure to leave a lasting impression.

After exploring Angkor Wat, continue your journey to **Angkor Thom**, the last great capital of the Khmer Empire. Visit the **Bayon Temple**, located in the centre of Angkor Thom, famous for its 54 towers, each adorned with serene and mysterious smiling faces of **Avalokiteshvara** (the Bodhisattva of Compassion).

Marvel at the enigmatic stone faces and explore the temple's intricate carvings, capturing the essence of Khmer art and spirituality.

Continue your exploration with a visit to these two fascinating sites, which were part of the **royal palace compound**.

The **Terrace of the Elephants** is a grand 350-meter-long terrace where kings once stood to watch their armies return from battle.

Nearby, the **Terrace of the Leper King** features detailed carvings and mysterious statues that reflect Khmer art and legends. Both terraces offer insight into royal life during the height of the Khmer Empire.

End your day with a relaxing **dinner at a traditional Cambodian restaurant**. Enjoy a range of local dishes such as **fish amok**, **beef lok lak**, or **nom banh chok** (Khmer noodles), while soaking in the warm ambiance of Khmer hospitality. **Apsara Dance Performance**, where classical Cambodian dance tells ancient stories through graceful, intricate movements. This deeply rooted tradition in Khmer culture is a mesmerizing way to spend the evening.

Overnight stay in Siem Reap.

Day 03: Tuesday, 04 November 2025

Siem Reap – Temples and Cultural Exploration

Begin your day by visiting the mystical **Ta Prohm Temple**, made famous by its appearance in the "Tomb Raider" movie. Unlike other temples in Angkor, Ta Prohm has been left largely in its natural state, with trees and vines growing over the ruins. The dramatic sight of nature reclaiming the temple offers a unique, photogenic experience, and gives a sense of mystery and wonder.

Continue to the stunning **Banteay Srei**, also known as the "**Citadel of Women**". This smaller but intricately carved temple is famous for its pink sandstone and its highly detailed, delicate carvings, considered among the finest in Cambodia. The temple's beauty and craftsmanship make it one of the most beloved stops for visitors to Angkor.

Explore **Preah Khan**, another large and atmospheric temple built by **King Jayavarman VII**. This temple is slightly less visited than others, providing a more peaceful experience. Preah Khan, like Ta Prohm, features a mix of nature and ruins, and its long corridors, carvings, and towers offer much to explore. OR if you prefer a different experience, you can visit **Tonle Sap Lake** to see the famous floating villages. Take a boat tour and observe how local communities live and thrive on the water, gaining insight into Cambodia's rural life and the ecological significance of Southeast Asia's largest freshwater lake.

You'll have some free time to relax or explore Siem Reap's town on your own.

Overnight stay in Siem Reap.

Day 04: Wednesday, 05 November 2025

Siem Reap Departure

End of Services

After breakfast, in time you will be transferred to **the airport** for your departure flight.