



## THAILAND: LEGENDS OF SIAM

From gilded temples to bamboo jungles, embark on a mystical journey through the northern kingdoms of Thailand. Experience a place of mesmerising natural beauty tucked away in the mountains.

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Tailor-Made Journeys, Suggested Itineraries



Asia, Thailand



12 days from AU\$10,040 pp



Private

## Journey Overview

Embark on an adventure through Thailand's ancient history on this 12-day journey from buzzing Bangkok to dazzling Phuket. Delve into a bygone era, led by local experts as you stand in awe of architectural marvels, experience remote village life, and discover a creative legacy steeped in tradition. Taste true Thailand at every turn, venturing from thriving cities to idyllic island havens and experiencing the people, culture and cuisine that make this country so enchanting.

### Journey Highlights

- Discover Thailand's regal heritage under the expert tutelage of a member of The Siam Society
- Revel in the untold stories of the old Lanna kingdom while exploring historical Chiang Mai
- Experience the extraordinary charm of Asian elephants with a stay at Four Seasons Tented Camp
- Savour flavourful local cuisine on guided market explorations and village visits
- Explore iconic Phi Phi Island on an exhilarating speedboat ride and snorkelling adventure
- Enjoy leisurely days walking barefoot on the beach or simply relaxing among golden sands



## Itinerary

### **Day 1: Arrive Bangkok, Thailand**

Arrive into Thailand's vibrant capital of Bangkok to a warm A&K welcome and be privately transferred to your hotel. Bustling with an eclectic mix of ornate temples and towering skyscrapers, today the city is yours to explore at leisure. Both traditional and contemporary, the city is a hive of colourful food and flower markets, buzzing streets and intriguing waterways complemented by a dynamic dining scene waiting for you to explore.

***COMO Metropolitan Bangkok***

### **Day 2: Bangkok**

Today starts with a discovery of Thailand's regal heritage and unique cultural charms, exploring the city with a charismatic scholar and member of The Siam Society. Glean fascinating insights about the city's elite society from your local guide as they take you through the city's iconic landmarks. Enjoy lunch with captivating views of the Temple of Dawn before hopping a private river boat to explore the Bangkok Noi Canal floating museum of ceremonial royal barges, discovering the vital history of these iconic vessels.

***COMO Metropolitan Bangkok | Meals: BL***

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### **Day 3: Design Your Day, Bangkok**

Today, explore more of Bangkok your way, with your choice of one of these Design Your Day activities:

- Discover a colourful side to Bangkok on a walking tour of a thriving creative neighbourhood on the Chao Phraya River. Meet local artists and discover the cultural and architectural heritage before a delicious lunch in a former jam factory turned chic restaurant.
- Be immersed in life along Bangkok's waterways, traveling by private water limousine as you take in the stories behind some of the city's longest-standing traditional neighbourhoods. Visit the "Artist's House," a centuries-old stilted residence heralded for vintage arts and crafts.
- Dive into the world of Siamese treasured textiles and explore unseen parts of the city with a charismatic scholar of Southeast Asian antiques. Discover the nation's artistic heritage and enjoy exclusive viewings of some of the kingdom's most unique historical treasures.

### ***COMO Metropolitan Bangkok | Meals: B***

### **Day 4: Bangkok - Chiang Rai**

This morning you will transfer to Bangkok airport for your onward flight to Chiang Rai. On arrival into Chiang Rai, you will be met and privately transferred to your resort. The day is yours to enjoy at leisure, and you may like to take advantage of the included resort activities:

- Walk with elephants in their habitat and observe their way of life. Watch them play in the pond and wander through grasslands.
- Take a longtail boat ride on the Mekong River to the point where the borders of Thailand, Myanmar and Laos meet. Hop on a local songtaew taxi for a ride around town, then take a tuk tuk to visit a vibrant local market and Chedi Luang temple.

### ***Four Seasons Tented Camp Golden Triangle | Meals: BD***

### **Day 5: Chiang Rai**

Today is yours to explore or relax as it suits you. Take advantage of the many resort amenities and activities on offer, or embark on a self-guided exploration of Chiang Rai.

### ***Four Seasons Tented Camp Golden Triangle | Meals: BLD***

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## **Day 6: Chiang Rai - Chiang Mai**

This morning you'll admire the charming country scenes as you travel by road to your hotel in Chiang Mai. En route, make a stop at Wat Rong Khun, or the "White Temple", known for its 'kanok' architectural style. Inside, drink in the eclectic mix of Buddhist images and 21st century iconography that adorn the walls.

On arrival at your hotel, the rest of the day is at your leisure.

***137 Pillars House | Meals: B***

## **Day 7: Chiang Mai**

Today, uncover the richness of northern Thai culture as you explore Chiang Mai's historical landmarks and discover the legacy of the Lanna kingdom. Pass through the 13th-century red-brick gate and step back in time as you admire ancient artefacts, architectural marvels and historical icons. Stop by a busy marketplace for a taste of local specialties such as mouth-watering khao soi – northern Thailand's signature noodle dish served with a delicious coconut-based soup.

***137 Pillars House | Meals: BL***

## **Day 8: Design Your Day, Chiang Mai**

Today, explore more of Chiang Mai your way, with your choice of one of these Design Your Day activities:

- Witness northern Thailand's rich tribal culture and tea traditions with a visit to a remote hill tribe. Stroll around the village, stopping at the temple and visiting the Shaman's house for an introduction to hill tribe medicines. Continue to a nearby tea plantation to try your hand at harvesting tea leaves with talented locals, and sip aromatic tea while enjoying a delicious lunch.
- Discover the vibrant and varied flora of Chiang Mai's Mae Rim district on a village visit, experiencing local life first-hand. Explore the Queen Sirikit Botanical Garden home to a kaleidoscope of wild orchids, water lilies and sweet-smelling gingers before lunch at a writer's "secret garden".
- Learn about northern Thai culinary traditions at a home kitchen surrounded by herb and spice gardens. Meet your chef instructor at a local market to learn about Thai ingredients before heading to the kitchen to prepare a selection of local Thai favourites using culinary insights and professional tips from the chef along the way. Then, sit down to enjoy your self-made lunch in the scenic garden studio.

Return to your hotel and enjoy rest of the day at your leisure.

***137 Pillars House | Meals: B***

**Day 9: Chiang Mai - Phuket**

Today transfer to the airport for your flight to Phuket. On arrival into Phuket, receive a warm A&K welcome and continue by road to your accommodation.

***The Surin Phuket / Meals: B*****Days 10-11: Phuket**

Enjoy time at leisure to enjoy the sun, sand, and seaside idyll of Phuket. You may choose to embark on an optional exhilarating speedboat journey to picturesque Phi Phi Island, exploring its steep limestone cliffs and crystal-clear waters with opportunities for walking, snorkelling, and swimming. Explore the most enchanting sites, including Pi Leh Cove, Monkey Beach and Viking Cave, before a visit to snorkelling paradise Khai Island, keeping your eyes peeled for a variety of exotic marine life such as black tip reef sharks and giant clams.

***The Surin Phuket / Meals: B*****Day 12: Depart Phuket**

Farewell captivating Thailand today, enjoying breakfast before transferring to Phuket airport in time for your onward flight.

***Meals: B***

# Map



## Accommodation

### Four Seasons Tented Camp Golden Triangle



Reached by river boat through a dense forest of bamboo, the Four Seasons Golden Triangle Tented Camp comes with a sense of adventure and style in an intimate tropical setting. There are just 15 luxurious tents, each designed as an open space with a large outdoor deck. Furnishings are handcrafted in styles reminiscent of 19th century expeditions, right down to the hand-beaten copper bathtubs. The resort is perfect for active adults seeking once-in-a-lifetime adventure – from bonding with the resort's friendly elephants to Golden Triangle excursions and Mekong cruises. Don't miss the stilt top bar for sundowners by the river and blissful Asian spa rituals in the open-air salas.

Sip cocktails at Burma Bar as the sun sets over the jungle, dine on regional cuisine at Nong Yao Restaurant and partake of the daily wine and cheese-tasting, private candlelit dinners or riverside picnics.

#### Why we like it

- Tucked away in the exotic jungle of Chiang Rai province
- Breezy luxurious tents decorated in a vintage safari style
- Intimate and attentive service for a maximum of 51 guests
- All-inclusive of transfers, meals, wines and spirits, elephant trekking and spa treatment



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