

Asia Concierge



## CONCIERGE COLLECTION

DAY TRAVEL PROGRAMS TO INSPIRE



THAILAND



ASIA-CONCIERGE.COM







# HOW WE DEFINE TRAVEL TODAY

It is all too easy to travel to the main centres of a destination and consider having ‘seen it’. However, the true backbone of Asia’s culture and society is found in the unknown, the unaware, the places and areas where throngs of tourists do not tread because, quite simply, the knowledge and insight is not there to begin with. This is where we come in.

As tourism in the region expands and develops, most of us yearn for a travel experience away from the commercial centres. We have therefore carefully researched and created a series of select journeys that best represent another side of Asia ... an Asia that will enrich a trip with memories, an experience and an education.

This is about travelling with style, a high degree of comfort but, at the same time, being out of ones comfort zone to formulate a travel experience that will enrich a visit with insights and exchanges that will, hopefully, prove to be the highlight of your customer’s stay in this enigmatic region.

Ranging from the exclusive to the moderate, our concierge collection of travel programs are either half or full day excursions from the main centres and are therefore easily placed into a client’s base itinerary.

Please contact our Thailand office for pricing and to discuss any custom options to meet your client’s exact needs.

Thank you for travelling with us on this armchair journey.

The Asia Concierge Team



# CONCIERGE COLLECTION

DAY TRAVEL PROGRAMS TO INSPIRE

THAILAND

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**Above Left:**  
Monk walks the  
grounds of Wat  
Suthat

**Above Right:**  
Exploring the klongs  
of Thonburi

**Below:** Baan Silapin  
artist house

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the  
merits and attractions of this program.



## Bangkok Backwaters

WAT SUTHAT, MARKETS, WAT SAKRET, THONBURI KLONG, WAT ARUN

 CULTURAL | EXPLORATORY

Depart : 0800 / Return : 2100

This morning, we start our journey with a visit to Wat Ratchabophit. Built in 1896, this is the first temple with a mixture of fine local and western styles: colorful tiled rooftops, golden spires, and vaulting structures reminiscent.

From here, we venture to one of the oldest fresh markets in old Bangkok and watch the locals doing their morning shopping while sampling local snacks as we walk from stall to stall.

Then, we continue to visit Wat Suthat, one of the oldest and most impressive temples in Bangkok. It has an elegant prayer hall with sweeping roofs, magnificent murals, and exquisite hand-carved teakwood door panels. Wat Suthat is also widely known for the towering red Giant Swing standing strikingly at its entrance.

Afterwards, we walk along the Buddha street while making our way to the 'Golden Mountain'. Wat Sakret is one of the city's oldest temples and an iconic landmark, once being the highest point in Bangkok. The steep hill is topped with a golden stupa, containing relics of the Buddha that were brought over from India.

There are plenty of places to have a break and after climbing around 300 steps to the top, you will be rewarded with a panoramic view of Rattanakosin Island. It's a unique experience seeing the quieter side of Bangkok and the best place to learn about the different rituals while watching the locals paying respect to Lord Buddha.

After delving into the different aspects of Thai culture and history, it is time to move to maybe the most important aspect of Thai life....food! We hop on a local Tuk-Tuk to Nang Loeng market where you can find the capital's very best street food scene. While exploring the neighborhood community, we will sample local delicacies for lunch and learn how to make traditional Thai coconut dessert with one of the famed local stands.

Then we continue our day in the life with some typical local transportation as we head to the closest pier of Khlong Saen Saep express boat, with the ride being an experience in itself.

From boat to boat - We board a colorful long-tailed boat that will take us along the banks of the Chao Phraya River. After passing the skyline, say goodbye to the noisy city with its traffic jams and skyscrapers before entering a network of narrow canals.

Thonburi is considered one of the oldest neighborhoods and stands in great contrast to modern Bangkok with its traditional Teak houses on stilts built all along the canals. These waterways have played an important role in the development of Bangkok and due to lack of roads, many residents still depend on boats as main form of transport. Sit back and witness the charming tranquil scenes and while watching the locals going about their everyday lives, whether that be taking a nap on the veranda or fishing in the waters, you can feel that these local communities are holding on to the past and people still living a slow-paced lifestyle.

We will have a break at Baan Silapin, known as 'The Artist House', a well-preserved family house that has dedicated its work to teaching about the community. On the return journey we will make a short stop at Wat Arun (Temple of Dawn) whose magnificent multicolored porcelain-studded towers has become the visual identity of Bangkok, always pictured with the Chao Praya River in the foreground.

Finally, your day wouldn't be complete without watching the last light touching the horizon over Wat Arun. For dinner, we visit one of the riverside restaurants, relaxing after this eventful day with a stunning evening view over the temple with a well-deserved drink in our hands.

Afterwards, we return to the hotel or if you are still up for exploring Bangkok by night, we can end the tour at one of the hip bars or bustling night markets.







## Chao Phraya River & Rituals

PAK KLONG TALAD, LUXURY RIVER CRUISE, WAT SUTHAT

CULTURAL | EXPLORATORY

Depart : 1400 / Return : 2100

This afternoon, we drive to Pak Klong Talad, Thailand's largest flower market where flowers from around Thailand arrive before being distributed to hotels, restaurants, and small retailers. At this bustling, colorful market you will find everything from local jasmine to imported red roses.

We spend a little time taking in the local ambiance before stopping at chic Café for a refreshing drink. Here, we will learn how to hand-craft a lotus petal as an offering to be made to Lord Buddha later this evening.

At the closest pier, we step aboard our elegant Hacker-Craft boat to take in the illuminated cityscape and the tranquility of the magnificent Chao Phraya River while sipping on a glass of Champagne. This striking boat is hand-built with mahogany wood to perfectly balance luxury, utility, and comfort.

During the scenic 3-hour river ride, complete with champagne and canapés, we stop along the way to admire Wat Arun (Temple of Dawn) and its magnificent multicolored porcelain-studded towers which have become an icon of Bangkok, with the Chao Praya River in the foreground.

Our boat will take us right to the door of one of the many riverside restaurants where we will enjoy dinner with a stunning view over the temple scattered across the banks of the river.

Then, we continue to visit Wat Suthat, one of the oldest and most impressive temples in Bangkok. It has an elegant prayer hall with sweeping roofs, magnificent murals, and exquisite hand-carved teakwood door panels. Wat Suthat is also widely known for the towering red Giant Swing standing strikingly at its entrance.

You will have the opportunity to sit and listen to the surreal sounds of the monks chanting while they perform their evening rituals - close your eyes and lose yourself in the ambiance. After paying homage to Lord Buddha with the beautiful lotus petal you made earlier, we head further into the night.

Note: just around the corner is a famed local sweet shop. We can make a short stop to try local sweets while learning its history which dates back over 50 years.

Bangkok is known as the 'city that never sleeps' with some areas being busier at night than during the day. As soon as it gets dark, street vendors, restaurants, night markets, and bars fill up with regular patrons.

This evening we will bring you to a little soi (alley), one of Bangkok's coolest nightlife hotspots, outside of Sukhumvit and Silom Road.

The development started just about 3 years ago when young bar and gallery owners started to build tiny hidden bars within the restored shop-houses, creating a unique vibe. It is a great place for bar hopping with a variety of specialist bars offering some of the city's most sought-after cocktails.

Note: Ask for the signature drink at each bar - You won't regret it.



BANGKOK  
THAILAND



Above Left:  
Hacker craft boat  
near  
Wat Arun

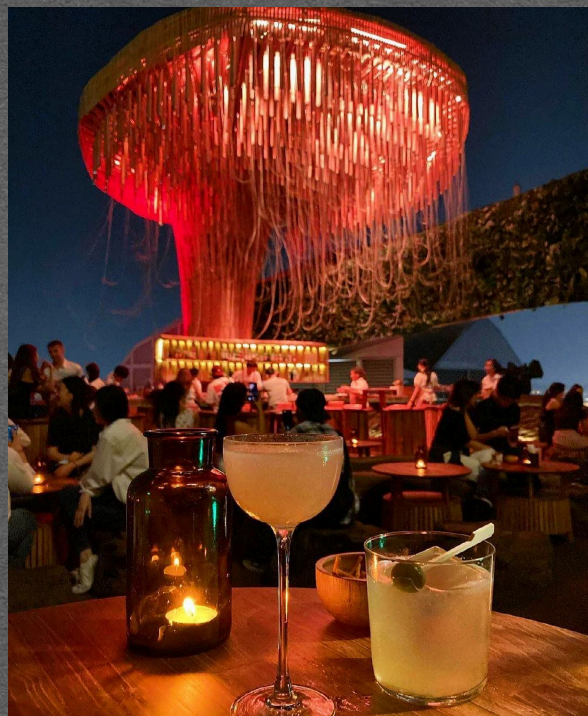
Above Right: Pak  
Klong Talad flower  
market

Below: Bangkok  
streetscape at Wat  
Suthat.

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the merits and attractions of this program.







**Above Left:**  
Tichuca rooftop bar  
**Above Right:** Jodd  
Fairs train market  
**Below:** Sac gallery on  
Sukhumvit

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the merits and attractions of this program.



## Bangkok's Hidden Corners

SUKHUMVIT ROAD NEIGHBOURHOODS

 CULTURAL | EXPLORATORY | UNUSUAL

Depart : 1500 / Return : 2200

There is more to Bangkok than temples and historical sights and today we explore another aspect of this fascinating city - Bangkok's bustling business and residential area along 'Sukhumvit Road'. This neighborhood offers a wide selection of attractions and is considered a lifestyle hub.

The local art scene started to flourish a couple of years ago and today, new gallery openings and short-term exhibitions are making constant appearances in trendy neighborhoods again. The small but vibrant contemporary art scene is especially inspiring to the younger generation since many of the city's private or commercial galleries beginning to promote Thai and regional artists.

Immerse yourself in Bangkok's contemporary art scene with our first stop by visiting one of these hidden galleries.

Next, we take a look at some unique artwork, Thai culture as well as the surprising details of Thailand's famed temples - all hidden in plain sight. Tucked away in a small side alley off the busy Sukhumvit Road, lies an exclusive private collection of Thai art.

We are going to explore the cultural story of Thailand's evocative and tabooed erotic art at a hidden venue that displays sensual paintings, sculptures, and pottery from the old Siam times.

This collection is so unique, as such art once formed an important part of Thai culture and was seen in almost all temples throughout the country. However, once the country opened to the west, this form of expressive art became taboo and was removed from temples. If it wasn't for this private collection, much of the artwork would have been lost forever and its story was never told.

The deep insight into this collection will be given by none other than the owner himself, Khun Watjanasin who inherited his father's impressive personal collection. Passionate about erotic art, Khun Uthaiphon gathered more than 500 pieces of all forms of erotic art over 40 years.

Every piece within his private collection was created by different Thai artists (some of whom remain anonymous), which includes a range of pieces from contemporary to priceless antique exhibits.

He will show us the pride of his father's collection while sharing his family's story and bringing many details of the historical background and stories behind each scene to our attention.

Afterwards, we venture to Tichuca Rooftop Bar as nothing beats a stunning sunset over Bangkok's Skyline with a cocktail in hand!

Opened in late 2020 and located on the 46<sup>th</sup> Floor, Tichuca Rooftop Bar is one of the newest Instagram spots of Bangkok's nightlife. The impressively designed rooftop stretches over 3 floors, granting fantastic views over Bangkok's business district.

True to the motto 'It's a jungle out there and you are going to have a wild time!' - the jungle-inspired theme creates a special flair with its Tiki bar vibe, greenery, and wooden-made furniture.

For dinner, we can bring you to one of the fine-dining spots scattered all around Sukhumvit Area, or for a more local experience, we will visit Jodd Fairs, Bangkok's newest train market.

For the nighttime street food enthusiasts, Jodd Fairs offers a great selection of local food, smaller pop-up restaurants, and shopping stalls in a market style. Take a stroll in the evening and be captivated by the vibrant market atmosphere whilst enjoying chilled drinks and tasteful local snacks.

Afterwards, we return to the hotel or if you are up for exploring Bangkok further into the night, we can end the program at one of the hip bars.







Above : Monks meditate in front of Wat Na Phra That, Singburi





**Above Left:**  
Wat Phra Mahathat

**Above Right:** Wat  
Chaiwatthanaram

**Below:** Wat Lokayasutharam  
reclining Buddha

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the merits and attractions of this program.



## Travel Back In Time

HISTORICAL SITES OF AYUTTHAYA WITH LUXURY VINTAGE CRUISE

 CULTURAL | EXPLORATORY

Depart : 0800 / Return : 2100

Historical Ayutthaya is one of Thailand's distinguished highlights. It was once one of the most glorified cities in South East Asia holding regional power for 417 years. Ayutthaya is located on an island surrounded by the three rivers, and visitors have long marvelled at its grandeur. With numerous magnificent temples and ruins concentrated in and around the city, Ayutthaya is Thailand's unsung archaeological miracle.

After breakfast, we set off on our journey to the Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya Historical Park (around a 90-minute drive). Located in the heart of the city, this is a UNESCO World Heritage site, and a wonder to behold.

First we visit Wat Phra Mahathat, one of the most picturesque spots in Ayutthaya, which is famed for a large stone buddha head trapped in the exposed roots of a colossal banyan tree. Exactly how it got there still remains mysterious until today.

Next, we continue our journey by tuk-tuk to Wat Phra Sri Sanphet, once revered as the grandest, most beautiful temple when it served the Siamese capital more than 700 years ago. Comprising three ruined chedis, this temple remains until today as a remarkable testament to an old culture, and its architecture is just as captivating as ever.

Then, we move onwards to Wat Lokaya Sutharam which houses a huge reclining Buddha, 42m. long, 8m. high, and usually wrapped in bright orange cloth. Even though it is very old, it is still in perfect condition with a glowing face beaming with happiness, the head supported by a lotus base platform.

Afterwards, we are heading to a local restaurant for a traditional Thai lunch.

The last temple today is the marvel of Wat Chaiwatthanaram, a magnificent structure on the west bank of the Chao Phraya River - the building of which was ordered by King Prasat Thong in 1630, to honor his mother. This temple features the architectural style influenced by the Angkor temple in Cambodia. The eye-catching layout includes a raised platform and eight towering chedis, all linked to secret passageways containing colorful paintings that illustrate the life of Buddha.

We have plenty of time to take in the glory at this site before we visit a local dessert shop to sample some traditional Thai sweets.

Next, a 15-min drive will take us to the outskirts of Ayutthaya.

We travel back in time on a luxurious, private, vintage wooden boat along the Noi River. As we drift down the river soft drinks, sparkling wine and snacks are served, while we float through the serenity of the countryside.

Ending this memorable day, we indulge in a luxurious traditional Thai dining experience, before returning to Bangkok.







# Sunrise and Buddhist Rituals

WAT PHRA THAT DOI SUTHEP

CULTURAL | UNUSUAL

Depart : 0500 / Return : 0900

Climbing to the terrace of Wat Phra That Doi Suthep gives one of the most breathtaking vantage points for watching the sun rise, an unforgettable sight in the grounds of this holy place.

We wake up early and enjoy a scenic ride to the majestic Wat Phra That Doi Suthep. It is a sacred site for many Thai people, located 15 kms away from the city center and situated at an elevation of 1,073 meters. From the temple we can see spectacular views of the surrounding landscape and downtown Chiang Mai.

Entering this ornate temple in the early hours is a truly remarkable experience. The serene bustle of monks chanting and performing their morning rituals is a calming start to the day. Afterwards, we give alms to the monks and pray for good luck, good health and a blessed day.

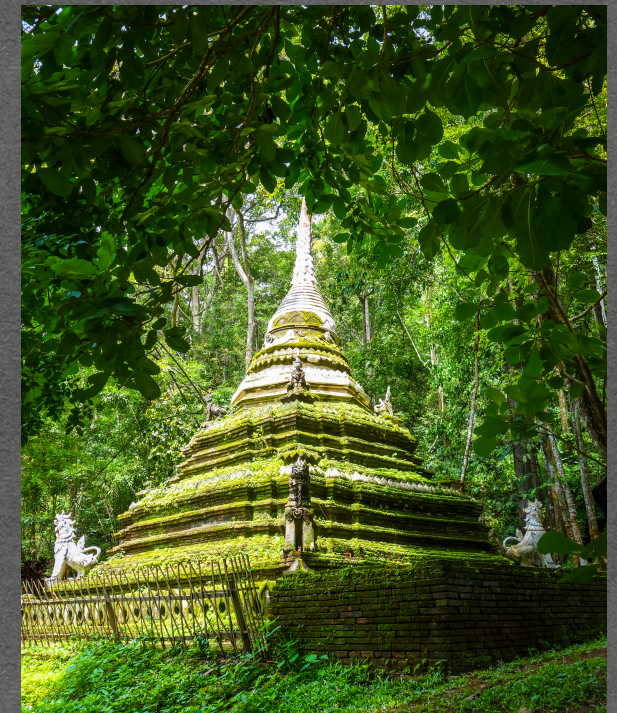
After the sun comes up and we've taken in all the impressive views of Chiang Mai, we drive back down the mountain and visit the pretty forest temple of Wat Palad, a hidden gem in the middle of the jungle. Palad temple was originally used as a resting place for people on the pilgrimage up to worship at Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, and later developed into a meditation retreat and a monk residence.

Along the way, your guide will share his in-depth knowledge of Buddhism which he practiced for 6 years. He was a former monk from the age of 13, when he lived in a cave in the forest with his grandfather. Listen to his stories and don't forget to ask him to teach you how to meditate while walking.

We then drive back downtown for a quality local coffee and snacks at a charming old village café, before returning to your hotel for a late breakfast.



CHIANG MAI  
THAILAND



**Above Left:**  
Monks at morning prayer  
**Above Right:** Wat Palad, the forest temple  
**Below:** Wat Phra That Doi Suthep from the air

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the merits and attractions of this program.







Above :  
Woo Cafe art

Above Right:  
Chiang Mai street  
art

Below: Local art  
gallery

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the  
merits and attractions of this program.



## Chiang Mai Street Art

HIDDEN TOUR WITH LOCAL ARTIST AND WOO CAFE ART GALLERY

CULTURAL | UNUSUAL

Depart : 0900 / Return : 1400

Travellers typically visit Chiang Mai to see its ancient temples, scenic mountains and majestic elephants. What many don't realize is that Chiang Mai is also becoming one of South East Asia's most popular destinations for street art. Chiang Mai City may only be a fraction of the size of Bangkok, but do not let that deceive you - there is a vast array of art on display.

Chiang Mai is also home to some incredible local artists such as Sanchai, Maui, Waris, and Kanaet, to name a few. One unique aspect of Chiang Mai's Street Art is that many of the murals are often collaborative efforts.

This morning, we meet a local artist at Ratmontien Temple, starting with a walking tour. Together we stroll around to admire the architectural beauty while the artist explains the history and religious aspects that make the temple integral to the community.

Next, we walk along Sri Poom Soi 8 for our first sample of the local street art. From here we will walk to Kuan Ka Ma community, discovering amazing art hidden amongst the twisting alleyways of the old city and local temples, the paintings telling their own story of the neighbourhood.

At around 10:30 am, we arrive at Addict Art Studio, spending the next 1.5 hours in a hands-on art workshop. Here, we are given the opportunity to try both spraying on the wall and painting on a tote bag with our own designs. The painted tote bag can be taken home upon finishing the program.

This experience is suitable for all ages with no previous experience, as we are starting from the basics, and the local artist will guide you all the way through the process.

For today's lunch, we head to Woo Cafe Art Gallery, for a mouth-watering lunch with beautiful decor. Woo Cafe Art Gallery is more than just a place to drink coffee and enjoy beautiful art. It's designed to have a tranquil and inspiring vibe, in which creativity and socializing combine to encourage the flow.

Woo Cafe offers a delicious menu containing both Thai and western dishes, using the very best ingredients. Those with a sweet tooth can look forward to the delights featured on their famous dessert menu!

Thereafter we conclude our program and return to the hotel.







# Valley Roads and Rivers

TUK TUK DRIVE, ELEPHANT SANCTUARY, BAMBOO RAFTING

EXPLORATORY | ACTIVE | DISAPPEAR

Depart : 0800 / Return : 1800

Today, enjoy a day of adventure to some of the rural areas of Chiang Mai. This off the beaten track route brings you to remote temples, an elephant home, ending with calming a bamboo raft through the valley.

At the appointed time, we are picked up and transferred to our starting point, nestled in the Mae Wang valley around 45-60 minutes from the city. On arrival, you will be introduced to your orange Tuk Tuk and personal driver.

We'll set out on a journey through tiny rural roads, sneaking through farming villages and past rural temples. Along the way to the north, we will make a stop and walk to a forest waterfall with the chance to cool down in the pool (depending on water level).

By noon, we will reach the offbeat elephant home where we will not only learn about the past, present and future of the Thai elephant but also have the opportunity to interact with these wonderful creatures. Compared to those bigger elephant sanctuaries, the experience at the home is far more personal. Here, we will enjoy a Thai lunch sitting next to the elephants while observing them interact with each other in their natural habitat.

From the elephant home, we will enjoy a leisurely float along the local river on a traditional bamboo raft which is a great way to see the local surroundings from a different perspective as we negotiate the twists and turns of the river as our expert rafter guides us downstream.

Note: there are no big rapids along the way.

It's then time to hop back onto our Tuk Tuk's and wind our way back down the valley enjoying our last moments behind the wheel of a real Thailand 'icon'. The road curves and sweeps gently down the valley and through some picturesque scenery and small villages.

On arriving back at the base, we will be transferred back to Chiang Mai by minivan.



CHIANG MAI  
THAILAND



Above Left: Interaction with the elephants.  
Above Right: Bamboo rafting on the river  
Below: Mae Wang valley landscape

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the merits and attractions of this program.







**Above Left:**  
Wat Pa Dara Phirom

**Above Right:** The  
Queen Sirikit Botanical  
Garden

**Below:** Elephants at  
Chang Rehabilitation  
Centre

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the  
merits and attractions of this program.



## Natural and Culinary Indulgences

THE CHANG, QUEEN SIRIKIT BOTANICAL GARDENS, WAT PA DARA PHIROM

 CULTURAL | EXPLORATORY

Depart : 0800 / Return : 2100

We begin our day with a trip to The Chang. Founded in 2013, The Chang is a rest and rehabilitation center for rescued elephants. They house animals that have grown too old to work or require special care due to illness or injury. At the sanctuary the elephants are no longer chained and enjoy complete freedom of movement. The mahouts do not ride the elephants, nor do they use hooks for control. Here, we have a chance to get close to the elephants, taking part in activities centered around animal care such as: preparing food, making herbal medicines used to treat them when they are sick, walking them to the stream, and bathing them.

**Note:** please be aware that the elephants choose if they will take a mud bath or bathe in the stream. We don't force them. Therefore, some activities may be subject to change at short notice.

For lunch, we enjoy a meal at a 1-Michelin-star restaurant. The venue is owned by a recent recipient of the National Artist of Thailand award and his wife. The delicious home-style menu is drawn from a cookbook based on his mother's recipes offering home-style authentic Thai cuisine served in a cozy atmosphere.

After lunch, we move on to The Queen Sirikit Botanical Garden, Thailand's very first botanical garden. This covers a mountainous area of 560 acres and displays a vast collection of plants from different climates around the world. Established in 1992 to honor HM Queen Sirikit, the garden features several highlights including Rainforest Glasshouses, and the longest suspended walkway in Thailand. It carries you high over the forest canopy below, offering stunning views over the far-distant mountains.

Next, we depart for a visit to Wat Pa Dara Phirom, a 100-year-old royal temple located in Mae Rim. With its unique structure and tranquil atmosphere, Dara Phirom Temple is considered one of the hidden treasures in Chiang Mai, containing prized Buddhist artefacts. This is an offbeat temple with an impressive historical background, yet beautifully built and decorated, making it a memorable visit.

This evening you will experience a fine dining, chef's table style restaurant in the middle of the valley in Mae Rim. This hidden gem is luxuriously decorated in a rustic style, filled with antiques. Knowledge of this restaurant is a well-kept secret amongst locals, privileged to experience the passion for Thai and Chinese culture on display here. Every course on the menu is meticulously crafted, making the dining experience a real journey of the senses.

After dinner, return to your hotel. steps to our vehicle and the return journey to the hotel.







Above : Phang Nga Bay from Samet Nangshe







Above : Praying in Wat Chedi Luang compound, Chiang Mai



Above : Buddhist hand of Wat Mahathat, Sukhothai





**Above Left:**  
Laem Sak lagoon

**Above Right:** Coastal  
landscape

**Below :** Wat Laem  
Sak Pagoda

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the merits and attractions of this program.



## A Tranquil Way of Life

LAEM SAK COMMUNITY

 CULTURAL | EXPLORATORY | ACTIVE

Depart : 0800 / Return : 1830

Set amidst lush vegetation and surrounded by the sea on all three sides, Laem Sak is a small traditional fishing village with a diverse cultural mix of Thai-Buddhism, Muslim, and Thai Chinese that has coexisted in harmony for generations.

The community is rich in naturally fertile mangrove forests, abundant marine resources, and is well-known for its locally grown orchids. Besides the natural beauty of the area, Laem Sak is a proud eco-community that cherishes its own precious natural resources and local knowledge.

We will be picked up and transferred to Laem Sak community pier where we are warmly greeted and introduced to the area surrounding our upcoming visit.

Board a Hua Thong traditional long-tailed boat as we start to explore the surrounding ecosystem and marine biodiversity around Laem Sak. Along the way, stop at a cave with prehistoric 3000-year-old paintings. Experience a fishermen's everyday life by learning how to use floating baskets for fish farming.

You will have an excellent opportunity to experience the contrasting view of the mountains and seas at Laem Sak Lagoon, and witness stunning landmarks such as; Fa Faed (Twin) and Lek Kone (Nail) mountains.

At noon we swim or simply relax at the beautiful beach of Ao Ching Chang, and enjoy either a picnic lunch on the beach or a floating basket.

Afterwards, we kayak to explore the fertile mangrove ecosystem at your own pace.

Upon returning to Laem Sak mainland, hop on local transport to sightsee around the community – visiting Laem Sak Pagoda, the mosque at Ban Hua Lam and the Muslim life along the seaside, the holy Sok Po See Aye shrine, and roaming through ancient Baba houses.

Late afternoon, we say goodbye to Laem Sak and enjoy a scenic ride back to our hotel.







## Luxury Long Tails

MU KOH HONG, KOH PAK BIA

EXPLORATORY | DISAPPEAR

Depart : 1400 / Return : 1830

Today, we travel in style to Mo Koh Hong archipelago by a traditional eco-luxury long-tailed boat that exudes a distinct local flair but doesn't compromise on comfort. With modern amenities and personal assistance that caters to our every need, we can relax on the deck or make use of the provided cushion while the boat is sailing out on the sea. As the ride goes, enjoy the breeze and the sun while embracing the peace and tranquility of the mighty Andaman Sea.

Mu Koh Hong is a get-away island on the Krabi coastline and is well known for its breathtaking natural lagoon surrounded by majestic limestone formations, white-sand beaches, and mesmerizing marine life.

Our first stop is Koh Pak Bia, a popular destination for island-hoppers in search of a quiet place to spend time relaxing. The scenery here gives a real feeling of exclusivity and well-being in the natural environment of this tropical island. Next, we move on to Koh Lao Lading, also known as "Paradise Island".

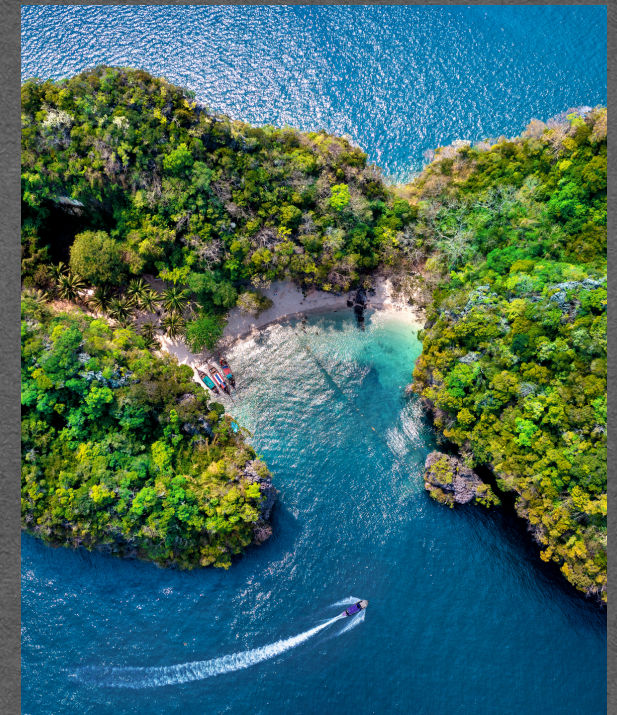
With its tranquil inlets and small bays fringed by lush, foliage-draped cliffs rising out of the azure seas, Koh Lao Lading is the epitome of the beauty of the Krabi region.

Finally, we reach the biggest island of Mo Koh Hong where we will enjoy a sumptuous picnic meal on the white sandy beach. After the meal, we are given some time to swim in the pristine water, enjoy a sunbath in the idyllic scenery, or hike to the viewpoint for spectacular views of the Andaman Sea.

When its time, return to Krabi's mainland and transfer to our hotel thereafter.



KRABI  
THAILAND



Above Left:  
Travel in style  
Above Right: Koh  
Lao Lading  
Below: Koh Hong

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the merits and attractions of this program.







**Above Left:**  
Cruising Mu Koh  
Lanta National Park

**Above Right:** Koh  
Rok Nok

**Below:** Koh Ha

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the



## Marine Life of the Southern Islands

KOH HA, KOH ROK NOK, KOH ROK NAI

 EXPLORATORY | DISAPPEAR

Depart : 0730 / Return : 1730

In the early morning, we head towards Noppharat Thara Beach to board our private speedboat for an 2 hour journey to Koh Ha.

Koh Ha archipelago is a hidden paradise that does not exist on Google maps. Before it became relatively well-known for locals, the main Island was a shelter for Sea Gypsies and fishermen. Its harbour provided a safe spot for them to avoid storms as there are no other nearby islands in this area of the Andaman Sea. We will stop here for about an hour allowing us to enjoy snorkelling and exploring the fascinating underwater world.

Koh Ha is home to manta rays, whale sharks, sea snakes, shrimps, lion fish, ghost pipefish, turtles, and colourful corals including sea whips or sea fans.

Our next stop is Koh Rok Nok which is located 30 km south of Koh Lanta Yai and belongs to Mu Koh Lanta National Park. There are almost no people living on Ko Rok, only the Marine Park Rangers reside here, leaving the islands to remain unspoiled. Ko Rok Nok has some beautiful beaches to offer and Ao Man Sai Beach in particular is ranked in the top ten most beautiful beaches in Thailand. This long beach has real white powder sands and crystal-clear waters, with a fairly shallow tide rich with fabulous corals offshore.

After a delicious lunch onshore, take your time to wander around and soak in the pristine coastline views right in front of you.

Just 100 meters away from Koh Rok Nok lays Koh Rok Nai which can be easily swum to. Between these two islands is a snorkelers' paradise with its clear waters and a visibility of up to 20 meters. The long reef extends for a square mile with both soft and hard corals. Sea lovers will surely not let themselves miss this excellent opportunity to discover the treasure of the sea.

Our 3rd and last snorkelling spot is called Laemson Bay, another of Koh Rok's attractive beaches where you can enjoy great snorkelling close to the shore. In the right season (November – April) the crystal-clear blue water has excellent visibility, providing incredible views of diverse marine life.

While pufferfish and angelfish are common sights, snorkelers might also see barracudas, pipefish, scorpionfish, and others.

You will have enough time to further relax or get some sun at Ao Man Sai at your leisure.

Bid farewell to this beautiful paradise and cruise back to Krabi mainland.

We arrive back at the hotel before sunset time.







# Hidden Viewpoints and Retreat

PHA HIN DUM, LAEM KRATING, BIGH BUDDHA, SUUKO SPA PATUMA

EXPLORATORY | ACTIVE

Depart : 0600 / Arrive : 1430

Before sunrise we begin our journey to Pha Hin Dum also known as Black Rock Viewpoint; one of the hidden gems in Phuket.

From the drop off point, we take a short walk to the summit where you will be amazed by the sea views overlooking Koh Bon and Coral Island; if the visibility is good on the day, you will see all the way down to Phrom Thep Cape and Koh Kaew Yai. Enjoy the sea breeze and views of the Andaman Sea as we serve you a picnic breakfast.

Afterwards, we hike down the hill for about 20 mins onwards to Laem Krating Viewpoint. This newly discovered viewpoint is one of the best-kept secrets and lesser-known among other attractions on the island. On a clear day, it boasts mesmerizing panoramic sea views and a piece of land covered by the lush or yellow meadow.

We return on foot down the coast and venture onwards to Phuket's Big Buddha. Sitting atop Nakkerd Hills between Chalong and Kata, the 45-meter-tall buddha is one of the most important and revered landmarks on the island which can be seen from afar. The lofty site offers the best 360-degree views of the island, with sweeping vistas of Phuket Town, Kata, Karon, Chalong Bay, and more.

After our activities this morning, drive to Suuko Spa Patuma for some true pampering.

Many spas and massages can be found across the island but there is no place in Phuket that can present an authentic Thai spa treatment combined with traditional Thai medicine better than Suuko (translated 'true happiness' in English) at the Sukko Wellness and Spa.

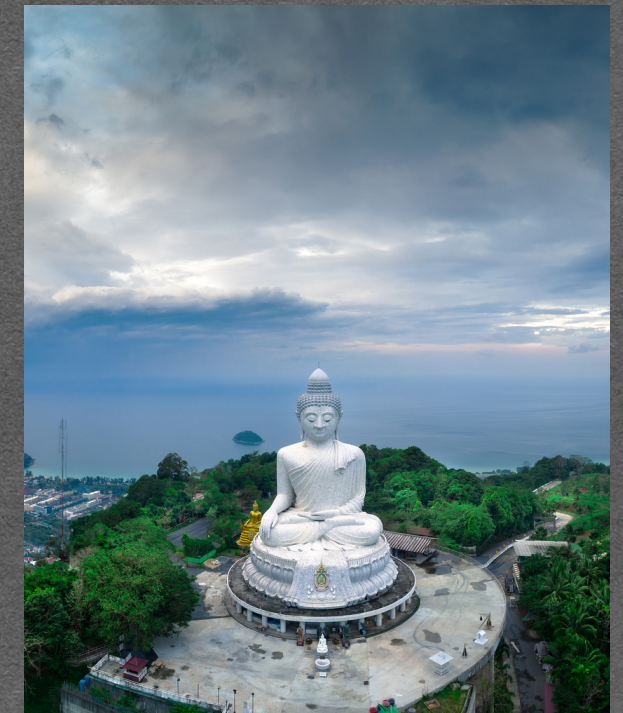
Your treatment starts with a discussion with an expert in Thai traditional medicine for you to learn more about the history of this ancient art form, followed by a personalized treatment with traditional Thai massage.

Aside from the professional team of masseurs, Suuko Spa only uses the most potent herbs, naturally occurring minerals and 100% pure essential oils; no petrochemicals, synthetic perfumes or non-organic ingredients are allowed. This will allow you to experience the best in Thai herbal remedies and Thai therapies in the Thai-deco style within peaceful atmosphere.

After the treatment, enjoy a healthy lunch before returning to the hotel thereafter.



PHUKET  
THAILAND



Above Left:  
Suuko Spa

Above Right:  
Big Buddha

Below: Aerial view of  
Krating Cape and  
viewpoint

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the merits and attractions of this program.







**Above Left:**  
Kayaking through  
the mangroves

**Above Right:** Old  
fishing boat

**Below:** Entrance to  
Tha Chat Chai  
Mangrove forest

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the merits and attractions of this program.



## A Fisherman's Way of Life

BAAN CHATCHAI

 EXPLORATORY | CULTURAL

Depart : 0900 / Return : 1600

Formally known as Baan Laem Ala, the community of Baan Chatchai is a melting pot of cultures with most of its residents migrating from other provinces, it is also home to the Mokens, the original Sea Gypsies who inhabited this area for centuries. In the past, most of the residents work outside of the village and only return at night, making the village deserted during the day.

For this reason, the leaders of the community have formed a learning center where the villagers can embark on an occupation and earn a living in a sustainable way without having to commute elsewhere.

The learning center has created a sense of pride towards their hometown, so much that they adopted the slogan "Frontier city, home of the Mokens, beautiful culture and legend of Sarasin Bridge".

On arrival, we will be warmly welcomed by the villagers, served a welcome drink before exploring the fertile mangrove forest. Here, we learn about plants in various species that grow in the area while strolling on the walkway that stretches to the end of the mangrove forest.

Then, we kayak and paddle through calm streams of water surrounded by aerial roots and vast green canopies, get up-close and personal with the island's flora and fauna to understand why it's crucial to preserve them.

Experience a local form of transport on Pho Thong, a general term for Phuket's version of a motorized bus that locals use to commute within the island, to the pier where you will board a long-tailed boat to Sarasin Bridge.

Next, we continue our boat ride to visit the famous Phuket lobster farm in the middle of the sea to learn more about the fishermen's way of life. A lunch will be served from freshly picked ingredients directly from the farm at the local community.

It's then time for some fun as we take a closer look at the Mokens' way of life. We join them in making a trap for catching squids, followed by learning how to catch mole crabs before its time to try by ourselves.

Although the Mokens pretty well integrated with the villagers by now, they have preserved their life-long profession of fishing

We return to the community to enjoy local sweets that the villagers prepared for us.

After spending some time for relaxation, we make our way back to the hotel.







# Discover Mu Koh Phi Phi

MAYA BAY, PILEH LAGOON, BAMBOO ISLAND

EXPLORATORY | ACTIVE

Depart : 0500 / Return : 1500

The Phi Phi Islands are one of the highlights of the South when visiting Thailand as the islands are home to some of the most spectacular sites across South East Asia. We take you on the ultimate experience of the Islands via your speedboat tour designed to beat the crowds and allow you to experience Phi Phi islands the way they are meant to be.

At around 5:00 am, we are picked up and taken to Phuket Marina Pier to board our speedboat. We know it is an early pickup, but beating the crowds and having the area to ourselves will make it worthwhile.

First, we visit Phi Phi Maya Bay, a stunning beach where The Beach was filmed in 1999. After closure for four years to allow the coral treasures, wildlife, and environment time to recover, Maya Bay has only recently been reopened since the beginning of 2022. Today, we will be one of the first boats to arrive at this awe-inspiring bay and have the area to ourselves.

Our next port of call, if the tide allows, is Pileh Lagoon, also before the crowds arrive. Surrounded by room of strikingly vertical cliffs capped with green foliage rising from the emerald water on three sides, Pileh is considered one of the world's most gorgeous natural swimming pools.

After breakfast on board, it's time to explore the underwater world of Phi Phi Islands with some swimming and snorkeling at your leisure.

In around Phi Phi waters, we are sometimes visited by Dolphins and Reef Sharks as well as an abundance of other marine life, so there is plenty to see. Next, we will move on to the Viking Cave which is home to the special Birds' Nests used to make Birds Nest Soup.

Although It is not possible to enter this enormous cave we can still witness the armed guards protecting the birds' nests from looters.

Enjoy some more time to snorkel or relax before a family-style lunch will be served at a seaside restaurant with all the flavors from the surrounding islands.

Our last stop is Bamboo Island, a popular and idyllic secluded beach located between Phuket and Phi Phi.

This island is shaped almost like a heart and surrounded by a strip of white powdery sand. Here, we will swim for about half an hour, relax and take in the sights before we back on the boat again as we set sail the short distance back to



PHUKET  
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Above Left:  
Pileh Lagoon  
Above Right:  
Bamboo Island  
Below: Maya Bay  
from above

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the merits and attractions of this program.







**Above Left:**  
Hin Ta Hin Yai natural  
rocks  
**Above Right:** Wat  
Plai Laem  
**Below:** Chaweng  
Beach

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the  
merits and attractions of this program.



## A Glimpse of Samui

HIN TA HIN YAI, CHAWENG BEACH, WAT PHRA YAI

 EXPLORATORY | CULTURAL

Depart : 1230 / Return : 1900

Suited in the Gulf of Thailand, Samui is the third largest island in Thailand offering pristine beaches and a wide range of activities. Aside from being well-known for its stunning beaches and rich marine life, Samui has some truly remarkable sites of historic, cultural, as well as breathtaking natural beauty.

We set out on a journey to the southern end of Lamai beach to visit Hin Ta Hin Yai, a natural phenomenon that originates from the granite eroded by seawater and heat to form unique boulders. Known as Grandpa (Ta) and Grandma (Yai), the rocks resemble a somewhat unique part of the male and female body, which always brings a humorous reaction to visitors.

There is a local market nearby where we will stop for a short stroll and try a freshly produced local Thai sweet - similar to Thai toffee caramel.

Then, we head further south to the unique overlapping stone viewpoint which is relatively untouched and perched right in front of a Thai family's house. This picturesque spot provides some of the best views of the island.

Next, we drive to Chaweng Beach. Regarded as the center of the island, Chaweng has a reputation for being a pristine white beach as well as an excellent nightlife spot on the northern end of the beach. We will spend a short time exploring some of the significant sites before traveling to Wat Plai Laem, one of Samui's most attractive temples on the island.

This extremely colorful temple houses two giant statues, Guanyin - the Goddess of Mercy is one of them, will immediately capture your eye as we get closer.

Then, we move to Wat Phra Yai to pay homage to the big Buddha statue that sits in a Mara posture on the small rock off Koh Samui's northeastern corner.

This Big Buddha can be seen at a distance of several kilometres and is the first landmark visitors can see when arriving in Koh Samui by air.

The next stop is Eranda Spa, where we will enjoy a relaxing massage for the next hour before whisking off to Coco Tam's Beach Bar at the Fisherman Village. Coco Tam's is one of the fun and popular beach bars in Samui. Its beanbags on the beach, swing seats at the bar, cabanas, and palm trees, make it the ideal tropical relaxation spot.

Enjoy a cocktail, sit back and enjoy the sun fading for the day.

After sunset, we return to the hotel or stay for another round of drink(s)







## Paradise Calling

KOH TAN, KOH RAP

EXPLORATORY | ACTIVE

Depart : 0900 / Arrive : 1430

Today enjoy two of Thailand's most beautiful and secluded Islands, Koh Tan and Koh Rap, located to the south of Koh Samui. These traffic-free, unspoiled tropical islands are a world away from its bigger neighbour.

Koh Tan is locally known as coral island, a great spot for snorkelling, thanks to its coral reefs with an abundance of colorful, tropical fish just below the surface. Koh Rap is very tranquil and has only recently been opened to visitors. Combining both islands during this tour, will give you time to swim, snorkel and relax surrounded by tropical paradise and enjoy the true beauty of Thailand's Tropical Islands.

After breakfast, we transfer to the small fishing port of Thong Krut, the starting point for our 20- minutes long tail boat journey to Koh Tan. Our first stop is a well renowned snorkeling spot that is home to many exotic fish and other marine creatures.

Put on your provided snorkeling gear and slip into the warm, turquoise water to explore the beautiful underwater world.

Afterwards, we cruise to the small neighbour island of Koh Rap, enjoying the crystal clear water and white powder sand beaches while swimming and sunbathing.

A picnic lunch will be served at Koh Rap.

After lunch, you have time to enjoy kayaking along the coastline.

Return to Koh Samui after a relaxing day enjoying sea, sun and nature.

From Thong Krut pier we head back to the hotel.



KOH SAMUI  
THAILAND



**Above:**  
Snorkelling at Koh  
Tan  
**Below:** Koh Tan from  
the air

Click to hear your Travel Designer discuss the merits and attractions of this program.





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