



# Road trip in Thailand

This road trip takes you on a journey through some of the most iconic places in the country, giving you a glimpse into the heart of the Kingdom. It is the perfect way to experience the best of Thailand. From the bustling cities to the beaches to the lush national parks. Embark on an unforgettable adventure!

# Program description

Embark on an unforgettable 21-day road trip across Thailand, exploring the country's most breathtaking destinations and immersing yourself in its vibrant culture. Begin your journey in Chiang Mai, where you'll connect with local hill tribes, learn about their unique traditions, and contribute to community support initiatives. Next, unwind in Phuket's idyllic beaches, bustling markets, and crystal-clear waters. Continue your adventure to the iconic Phi Phi Islands for snorkeling, kayaking, and enjoying pristine beaches.

Experience the charm of Railay Beach, known for its limestone cliffs and white sandshores. Dive into nature at Khao Sok National Park, where you'll stay in a floating bungalow on a serene lake, explore caves, and spot diverse wildlife. End your journey in Surat Thani, bringing home memories of adventure, cultural immersion, and relaxation.

This road trip offers a perfect blend of exploration, cultural engagement, and natural beauty, making it an ideal experience for adventurers and culture enthusiasts alike.

## **Program highlights:**

- Cultural Immersion in Chiang Mai: Visit hill tribes and engage in meaningful community support activities.
- Relaxation in Phuket: Unwind on the beach, explore local markets, and snorkel in crystal-clear waters.
- Iconic Phi Phi Islands: Kayak, snorkel, and relax on some of Thailand's most stunning beaches.
- Adventure at Railay Beach: Rock climb, hike, and soak in the beauty of limestone cliffs.
- Unique Stay at Khao Sok National Park: Sleep in a floating bungalow, kayak on the lake, and explore enchanting caves.
- Wildlife Encounters: Spot elephants, monkeys, and other wildlife in their natural habitat.
- Maya Bay Visit: Explore the famous beach featured in *The Beach*.

# Additional equipment

- Modest Attire: Clothes that cover shoulders and knees for visits to temples or cultural sites.
- Waterproof Jacket or Poncho
- Swimwear (for beach and water activities)
- Hat and Sunglasses
- Light Sweater or Jacket: For cooler mornings or evenings.
- Comfortable Shoes: Sneakers or walking shoes
- First-aid kit (medications, sunscreen, insect repellent, rehydration tablets)
- Toiletries (shampoo, soap, etc.)
- Day pack, small travel towel, reusable water bottle
- Moneybelt, locks for bags
- Personal entertainment (books, cards, music player)
- Daypack or small backpack (for excursions)
- Snacks (for long travel days)
- Waterproof bags to keep electronics safe.
- Power Bank, for charging devices on the go.
- Travel Pillow (for train or long bus rides)



# Schedule

## Day 1: Arrive in Bangkok and relax

- Arrive at Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK) and be transferred to your hostel in Bangkok. Check in to your hostel. Relax and get to know your fellow travelers.
- Meals: Dinner

## Day 2: Explore Bangkok and take an overnight train to Chiang Mai

- Have breakfast at your hostel.
- Attend an introduction session to learn more about your program itinerary.
- Explore Bangkok's famous temples, such as Wat Pho and Wat Arun. Wat Pho is home to the Reclining Buddha, one of the largest Buddha statues in the world. Be sure to dress respectfully when visiting this temple.
- Visit Chinatown and sample some of the delicious street food. Chinatown is a great place to find authentic Chinese food and souvenirs. Be sure to bargain when shopping here.
- Have a welcome dinner with your group.
- Take an overnight train to Chiang Mai.
- Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

## Day 3: Arrive in Chiang Mai and explore the old town and temples

- Arrive in Chiang Mai and check into your hostel in the city center.
- Leave your luggage and head out to explore the old town. Chiang Mai is a very walkable city, so you can easily get around on foot. However, there are also tuk-tuks and songthaews (shared taxis) available if you need them.
- Visit some of Chiang Mai's most famous temples, such as Wat Chedi Luang and Wat Phra Singh. Be sure to dress respectfully when visiting temples. This means covering your shoulders and knees.

# Schedule

- Take a walk through the Sunday Walking Street Market and browse the stalls selling souvenirs, handicrafts, and street food. The Sunday Walking Street Market is a great place to experience the local culture and try some of the delicious Thai street food. Be sure to bargain when shopping at the market.
- Have dinner at one of the many restaurants in the old town.
- Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

## **Day 4: Take a Muay Thai boxing lesson and relax at Nar Moh Market**

- Have breakfast at your hostel.
- Take a Muay Thai boxing lesson. Muay Thai is a traditional Thai martial art that is known for its powerful strikes and kicks. It is a great way to get exercise and learn about Thai culture. Be sure to wear comfortable clothing and shoes for your Muay Thai lesson.
- Relax in the afternoon and enjoy some free time.
- Have dinner at Nar Moh Market. This market is known for its delicious street food and lively atmosphere.
- Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

## **Day 5: Learn about Buddhism**

- Have an early breakfast at your accommodation
- Go to a local temple to offer food to the monks. This is a traditional Thai practice that is seen as a way to make merit and show respect for the monks.
- Attend a Buddhism introduction session to learn more about the religion's basic teachings and practices.
- Participate in a monk chat and meditation practice. This is a great opportunity to learn more about Buddhism from the monks and to experience meditation firsthand.
- Relax in the afternoon and enjoy some free time. You can visit one of Chiang Mai's many temples, go for a walk in the park, or simply relax at your accommodation.
- Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

# Schedule

## **Day 6: Go on a hill tribe trekking tour and learn about their culture**

- Have breakfast at your accommodation
- Set off on your hill tribe trekking tour.
- Trek through the jungle and visit hill tribe villages.
- Learn about the culture and traditions of the hill tribes.
- Participate in community support activities, such as teaching English to children or helping with village chores.
- Have a bonfire dinner and overnight stay at a hill tribe homestay.
- Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

## **Day 7: - Go trekking and bamboo rafting**

- Have breakfast at your homestay.
- Go trekking in the jungle.
- Go bamboo rafting on a river.
- Have lunch at a riverside restaurant.
- Return to Chiang Mai and check into your accommodation.
- Relax in the afternoon and enjoy some free time.
- Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

## **WEEK 2**

### **Day 8: Free Day and Night Market Visit**

- Have breakfast at your accommodation.
- Relax and enjoy some free time. You can visit one of Chiang Mai's many temples, go for a walk in the park, or simply relax at your accommodation.
- In the evening, visit the Sunday Night Market. This market is one of the largest and most popular markets in Chiang Mai. It is a great place to find souvenirs, handicrafts, and street food.
- Have dinner at one of the many food stalls at the market. Be sure to try some of the local dishes, such as khao soi, sai ua, and mango sticky rice.
- Meals: Breakfast only

# Schedule

## **Day 9-12 Community Engagement (Teaching/Kindergarten)**

- Have breakfast at your accommodation.
- Go to the placement where you will be teaching.
- Teach the children English and play games with them.
- Have lunch with the children.
- In the afternoon, work on your lesson plan for the next day.
- In the evening, relax and enjoy some free time.
- Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

## **Day 13: Community Engagement and Fly to Phuket**

- Have breakfast at your accommodation.
- Go to the placement and join the activities
- Say goodbye to the kids and staff at the placement
- Pack your bags and head to head to the airport for your flight to Phuket.
- Check in to your hostel in Phuket.
- Relax and enjoy the rest of the evening.
- Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

## **Day 14: Explore Phuket**

- Have breakfast at your hostel in Phuket.
- Visit Phuket Old Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Explore the narrow streets and alleyways, lined with Sino-Portuguese shophouses, temples, and mosques.
- Visit the Big Buddha, a 45-meter-tall white marble Buddha statue located on the Nakkerd Hill. The Big Buddha is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Phuket and offers stunning views of the island.
- Relax on one of Phuket's many beautiful beaches. Some of the most popular beaches include Patong Beach, Karon Beach, and Kata Beach.
- Visit a local night market, such as the Phuket Indy Night Market or the Chalong Night Market. Night markets are a great place to try Thai street food and buy souvenirs.
- Meals: Breakfast only

# Schedule

## WEEK 3

### Day 15: Phi Phi Islands

- Have breakfast at your hostel in Phuket.
- Take a ferry to Phi Phi Islands, a group of six islands located in the Andaman Sea.
- Check in to your hostel on Phi Phi Islands.
- Go snorkeling or kayaking in the crystal-clear waters of the Phi Phi Islands.
- Relax on one of the Phi Phi Islands' many beautiful beaches.
- Meals: Breakfast only

### Day 16: Railay Beach

- Have breakfast at your hostel on Phi Phi Islands.
- Take a longtail boat to Railay Beach, a beautiful peninsula located on the mainland of Krabi.
- Check in to your hostel at Railay Beach.
- Spend the day relaxing and snorkeling at Railay Beach.
- Meals: Breakfast only

### Day 17: Free Day at Phi Phi Islands

- Have breakfast at your hostel on Phi Phi Islands.
- Spend the day relaxing on the beach, swimming, snorkeling, or kayaking or enjoy a massage or spa treatment (optional activities).
- Watch the sunset from the beach.
- Meals: Breakfast only

### Day 18: Snorkeling at Maya Bay

- Have breakfast at your hostel on Phi Phi Islands.
- Take a boat tour to Maya Bay, a beautiful bay famous for its white sand beach and clear waters.
- Go snorkeling in the crystal-clear waters of Maya Bay.
- Relax on the beach or explore the surrounding area.

# Schedule

- Have lunch at one of the restaurants on the beach.
- Return to your hostel on Phi Phi Islands.
- Enjoy a relaxing evening on the island.
- Meals: Breakfast only

## Day 19: Surat Thani

- Have breakfast at your hostel on Phi Phi Islands.
- Take a ferry to Surat Thani, a province in southern Thailand.
- From Surat Thani, take a minivan or taxi to Khao Sok National Park.
- Check in to your floating bungalow on Khao Sok Lake.
- Go kayaking on the lake and explore the surrounding area.
- Relax in your floating bungalow and enjoy the beautiful scenery.
- Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

## Day 20: Khao Sok National Park

- Have breakfast at your floating bungalow restaurant.
- Explore the cave at Khao Sok National Park.
- Relax on your floating bungalow or go for a swim in the lake.
- Meals: Breakfast, lunch and dinner

## Day 21: Goodbye

- Have breakfast at your floating bungalow restaurant.
- Check out of your floating bungalow and head to your next destination.
- Meals: Breakfast only

*\*This schedule can be changed and/or amended depending on weather conditions, local conditions and unforeseen circumstances.*