

## CLASSIC JOURNEYS THAILAND & CAMBODIA

*BANGKOK – CHIANG RAI – CHIANG MAI – PHNOM PENH – SIEM REAP – KRABI*

15 Days / 14 Nights

### Day 01: Arrive Bangkok

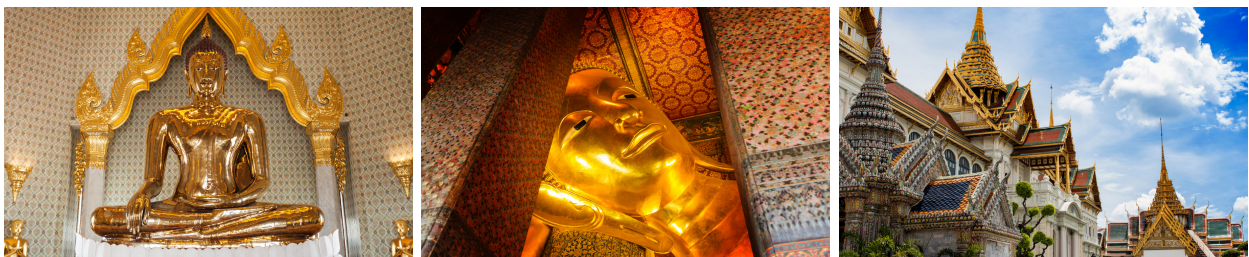
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Arrive at Bangkok airport, be welcomed by our representative, and be transferred to your hotel. Upon arrival at your hotel, check in to your room, and the rest of the day is free and available to customers.

Overnight at your selected hotel

### Day 02: Half Day Bangkok City Tour

(B/L)



Breakfast will be served at the hotel. Pick up from your hotel and transfer to visit Wat Traimit, the Temple of the Golden Buddha, which houses an impressive and solid 3-meter-high golden Buddha, weighing 5 ½ tons, carved in a wonderful "Sukhothai" style. Then we continue to Wat Pho, the Reclining Buddha Temple, from which you will need an extensive list of superlatives to give honorable justice to this great work of art and religious worship. It is, of the temples in Bangkok, the oldest and largest; inside, you can admire the largest Reclining Buddha in the whole collection of Buddha images in Thailand. It is also well known for being the first public education center. Then we will go to the Old Royal Palace, the former residence of the Thai Kings, built by King Rama I in 1782. The site has several buildings, among which the renowned Temple of the Emerald Buddha, also known as Wat Phra Kaew, stands out. In it, you can contemplate the famous Sculpture of Buddha, of 48.3 centimeters, made in a single piece of jade of emerald color, of incalculable value, and of great artistic beauty. This image of the Buddha has three "garments" that are changed at different times during the year. As for its antiquity, it is estimated that it was sculpted in southern China around the 15th century. Thais believe that praying in front of this image brings good luck. Other important visits within the enclosure are the 9 Towers and the Pantheon of the Kings; the proud golden domes; the inspired capitals; exotic murals on the walls; and impressive ceramic decorations. They are all simple words to describe the magnificence of the most prominent and important point of Bangkok—the great royal palace.

It can also be interesting to visit some of the cameras and interior rooms, such as the throne room, the official reception hall, and the coronation hall (closed on Saturdays, Sundays, public holidays, and special occasions), and then transfer to Riva Surya for lunch. Afterward, transfer back to your hotel with time to rest.

*Note: To carry out this visit, the ladies must wear a long skirt and a strapless shirt and the gentlemen wear long pants and a normal shirt, without strips.*

Overnight at your selected hotel

### Day 03: Bangkok – Chiang Rai

(B)



Breakfast will be served at the hotel. At the indicated time, transfer to the airport to take the flight to Chiang Rai (flight not included).

Arrive in Chiang Rai airport, welcomed by our English-speaking guide and drive by private air-conditioned vehicle to check in at hotel.

P.M.: Continue to visit the heart of the renowned golden triangle where the Ruak and Mekong Rivers meet. You can stand on a hilltop and enjoy views over Burma, Laos, Thailand and the mighty Mekong River. We will then drive to Mae Sai, Thailand's northernmost town near the Burma border. You can watch Thai and Burmese locals walking across the bridge separating the two countries. There are excellent opportunities to buy Burmese handicrafts at reasonable prices.

Overnight at your selected hotel

### Day 04: Chiang Rai – Chiang Mai

(B/L/D)



Breakfast will be served at the hotel.

After breakfast, transfer to the pier and take a boat trip along the Kok River. Also visit Karen Hill tribe village on the river bank (not Long Neck Karen). Cruise back and depart Chiang Rai and stop to admire the beauty of the Wat Rong Khun, or White Temple. Admire the beauty of the temple, which symbolizes the purity of Buddhism with its bright white color and ornaments that mirror through the Splendid Mountain scenery and tropical jungle for approximately 3–4 hours via the Wiang Pa Pao district to Chiang Mai and lunch at a local restaurant. After lunch, drive up to visit Doi Suthep, the most revered temple in the northern area. You will take the cable car to go up all the way. From the top, you will get a magnificent view over the Chiang Mai valley. Check in at the hotel and refreshment.

Tonight, we will be treated to the ceremonial North Thai dinner known as Kan Toke. Traditional dishes will be served while you watch elegant dancers perform a series of folk stories. Colorfully dressed, hill tribes will perform their own traditional dances after dinner.

Overnight at your selected hotel

## Day 05: Chiang Mai

(B/L)



Breakfast will be served at the hotel.

After breakfast, drive approximately 50 minutes north of Chiang Mai through a forest and local farming areas. Arrive at Kanta Elephant Sanctuary. Walk through and learn about the elephants, change into traditional clothing, and prepare fruits for our elephants. Meet the elephants. Feed, interact, and play with the elephants in a natural environment and get muddy as you learn about their behavior and history. Take photos with the elephants. Walk with and observe elephants when they are in a river for a bathe, and you have a chance to join them. Get some tea, coffee, and season fruit, then say goodbye to the elephants. Leave Kanta Elephant Sanctuary. Continue the drive to the orchid plantation, and a buffet lunch is served. Here, we will appreciate the unique beauty of this floral species. Further drive to visit the popular street of artisans where most traditional decorative objects are manufactured, from his famous hand-painted jewelry and gemstones, parasols and woodcarvings, silks and cotton, we will make a short stop on the way to visit the Tribe of the Giraffe women. Then transfer to Chiang Mai.

Overnight at your selected hotel

**Day 06: Depart Chiang Mai – Fly to Phnom Penh****(B)**

Breakfast will be served at the hotel. At the indicated time, transfer to the Chiang Mai airport to take the flight to Phnom Penh (flight not included).

*Suggestion flight FD xxx 15:40–17:05 connecting flight FD xxx 20:05–21:10 (flight price in supplement)*

Welcome to Phnom Penh. Upon arrival, you will be met at the airport by your guide. The guide will assist you in transferring to your hotel for check-in. Please note that the standard check-in time is 14:00.

Lunch & Dinner at own account

**PHNOM PENH**

Phnom Penh is Cambodia's busy capital; it sits where the Mekong and Tonlé Sap rivers meet. It was a hub for both the Khmer Empire and French colonialists. On its walkable riverfront, lined with parks, trendy restaurants, and bars, are the ornate Royal Palace, the Silver Pagoda, and the National Museum, which displays artifacts from around Cambodia. Despite its checkered past, PP is in the midst of rapid change and growth, although it continues to exude a sort of provincial charm and tranquility with French colonial mansions and tree-lined boulevards amidst monumental Angkorian architecture. Definitely eclectic and alluring, it's a capital worth seeing.

*Notice: Revealing clothes such as shorts and skirts above the knees and bare shoulders are prohibited in sacred places and temples. On religious Buddhist dates, the Top Tower (Level 3) of the Angkor Wat temple is closed.*

Overnight at your selected hotel

## Day 07: Phnom Penh

(B)



A discovery tour of Phnom Penh. At 8:00 a.m., you will be met by your driver and guide. Gain insight into the recent dark history of Cambodia at the Tuol Sleng Genocide Museum, a former school converted into a detention center during the Khmer Rouge. Visit the equally harrowing Killing Fields of Choeung Ek. These are tough visits, but important for learning about the country's history.

Afternoon, visit the Russian Market, the largest in Cambodia, where everything is sold, from carvings to jewelry, clothes, and souvenirs. Then came Wat Phnom, a beautiful hilltop temple with manicured gardens, followed by the Royal Palace and Silver Pagoda, named for the 5,000 silver tiles that cover the pagoda's floor, known for its collection of gold, silver, crystal, and bronze Buddha statues. Dinner on your own account

Lunch & Dinner at own account

Overnight at your selected hotel

## Day 08: Phnom Penh

(B)

In the morning, have breakfast; today is free and easy at your own leisure!

Lunch and dinner are on your own dime.

Overnight at your selected hotel

## Day 09: Phnom Penh – Siem Reap

(B)

Breakfast at the hotel.

Your driver will meet you at the hotel lobby and transfer you to the bus station or airport for departure to Siem Reap City. By bus, it takes approximately 6 hours, and by flight, it takes 1 hour. (flight not included).

Upon arrival at Siem Reap City, meet up with our guide and transfer to your hotel for check-in. Please note that the standard check-in time is 14:00.

Lunch and dinner on your own account

## SIEM REAP

Siem Reap is located in northwest Cambodia and is the closest city to the world-famous, must-see temples of Angkor. The provincial capital is also called Siem Reap and is located in the south of the province on the shores of Tonle Sap Lake, the greatest sweet water reserve in all of Southeast Asia. It's a laid-back, lovely place to stay while touring the temples and offers the best of both worlds between observing Cambodian life and enjoying the amenities of modern services and entertainment. Although the temples are the main 'draw' in this area, there is much more to experience by traveling a little further in this region.

Overnight at your selected hotel

### Day 10: Siem Reap

(B)



At 8:00 a.m., we'll pick you up from your hotel for the day's tour. Your first visit is the South Gate, with its huge statues depicting the churning of the ocean of milk. You will also see the ancient capital of Angkor Thom, built in the late 12th century, before we head onwards to Bayon Temple, which is unique for its 54 towers decorated with over 200 smiling faces of Avolokitesvara. Baphuon is like an artificial mountain that recently re-opened after years of restoration.

Following, you may visit the Royal Enclosure, the Elephants Terrace, and the Terrace of the Leper King. Then continue to the popular temple of Ta Prohm, which is the modern name of the temple at Angkor, built in the late 12th and early 13th centuries. However, it is probably more famous for being the location where they filmed the Tomb Raider movie.

Afternoon, we continue to the magnificent Angkor Wat Temple, Angkor Park's most revered temple and the largest religious monument in the world. Inside the temple, the walls are covered with stone carvings and bas-reliefs, which are absolutely breathtaking. Your guide will explain the stories in exquisite detail and provide you with ample time to explore the inner and outer grounds of the temple.

Lunch and dinner on your own account

Overnight at your selected hotel

### Day 11: Siem Reap

(B)



Your day of past and present begins with an 8:30 a.m. pick-up at your hotel. The first half of the day explores two highlight temples, Banteay Samre and Banteay Srei. Banteay Samre, built under Suryavarman II and Yasovarman II in the early 12th century, is a Hindu temple in the Angkor Wat style. We follow Banteay Samre with Banteay Srei, one of Angkor's most beautiful temples. Built largely of red sandstone, this gem of a temple boasts a pink color and some of the most exquisite depictions.

When it's time for a temple break, enjoy lunch (guest's own account).

Afternoon, free and easy at your own leisure!

Lunch and dinner on your own account

Overnight at your selected hotel

### Day 12: Siem Reap - Fly to Krabi

(B)

Enjoy your final breakfast at the hotel. Take a walk or get some last-minute souvenirs before you check out at midday. Your guide and driver will meet you to assist with luggage and take you to the airport for your departure flight to Krabi (flight not included).

Upon arrival at the Krabi airport, you will be welcomed by our representative, who is English-speaking, and you will be transferred to your hotel. Check in to your room, and the rest of the day is personal exploration.

Overnight at your selected hotel

Day 13: Krabi 4 Islands by Speed Boat with Picnic Lunch (Join- In)

(B/L)



Breakfast will be served at the hotel. Today exciting island-hopping to the tropical hot spots in the Krabi Sea: Phra Nang Cave, Tup Island, Chicken Island and Poda Island Swimming, snorkeling, sunbathing, exploring, and photography are the main activities to enjoy. Expect plenty of sun, a rich variety of corals and fish, crystal-clear waters, and white powdery-sand beaches lined with coconut palms. Fast and fun.

08:00–08:30 Pick up from the hotel + transfer to the pier.

09:00: Depart by speed boat, destination: Krabi 4 Islands.

**1st stop: Pranang Beach**

Secluded peninsula, inaccessible by car. Just a short walk away is a princess cave with a decorative spirit house. Free time for sunbathing, swimming, photography, and exploring.

**2nd stop: Tup Island**

Exotic Tropical Island is ideal for easy snorkeling and exploring on foot. If the tide is low, you can walk along the white, sandy causeway joining the neighboring island.

**3rd stop: Chicken Island**

Natural landmark, named after the shape of its unique limestone rock jutting out into the sea. Excellent snorkeling opportunities in warm, inviting waters rich in coral life.

**4th stop: Poda Island**

Stunning jewel of the Andaman Sea with both lowland, picturesque bamboo plantations and majestic, rocky cliffs, bordered by a long, beautiful beach. Lunch at the beach and a break.

14:00: Return to the pier + hotel transfer.

Overnight at your selected hotel



**Day 14: Krabi****(B)**

Breakfast at the hotel. Free day to take optional excursions or relax on the beach.

Overnight at your selected hotel

**Day 15: Depart Krabi****(B)**

Breakfast at the hotel. At the indicated time, a private transfer with a representative in English will be made to the airport to take the flight to your next destination.

End of Service.