

## Journey Idea to Thailand

16 Days



Prepared for  
Steppes Travel Clients

## QUICK REFERENCE ITINERARY

Day 1	Fly UK / Bangkok
Day 2	Bangkok
Day 3	Bangkok
Day 4	Fly Bangkok/Chiang Rai
Day 5	Chiang Rai
Day 6	Chiang Rai/Chiang Mai
Day 7	Chiang Mai
Day 8	Chiang Mai
Day 9	Fly Chiang Mai/Phuket/Khao Lak or Koh Samui
Day 10 - Day 14	Phuket, Khao Lak or Koh Samui
Day 15	Khao Lak,Phuket or Koh Samui / Bangkok
Day 16	Fly Bangkok / UK

# DETAILED TRIP ITINERARY

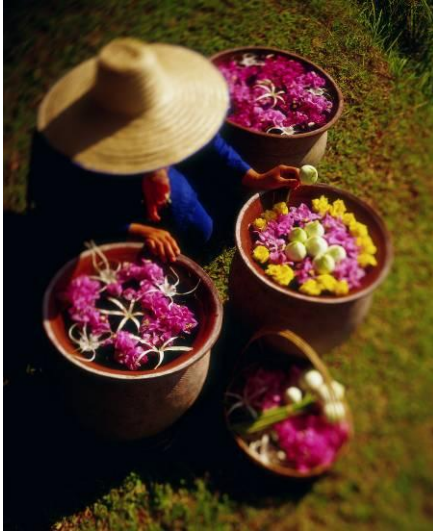
## Day 1

### UK / Bangkok

Depart the UK on a flight to Bangkok, a flight time of approximately 11.5 hours, flying overnight.

## Day 2

### Bangkok



You will be met upon arrival by the Steppes Travel representative at the airport and transferred to your hotel. All transfers are private (unless stated otherwise) and included in your trip, however it will not detail every transfer on this itinerary.

Bangkok has a feast of attractions to offer. The city is dotted with 400 glittering Buddhist temples of great beauty and fascination, magnificent palaces, classical dance extravaganzas, numerous shopping centres and traditional ways of life, especially along the "Venice of the East" timeless canals and the Chao Phraya River of the "River of Kings" winding through the city. It is worth taking a trip along its waters before exploring further into different canals to take a glimpse of old Bangkok.

Some of our favourite hotels include:-

- The Peninsula
- Banyan Tree
- The Oriental
- Shangri La
- Metropolitan

*Overnight at your chosen hotel on a bed & breakfast basis.*

## Day 3

### Bangkok



This interesting full day tour takes begins with the drive to the rural floating market of Damnoen Saduak situated 110 kms west of Bangkok. The tour includes a visit to Nakorn Pathom, to see 'Phra Pathom Chedi' which is the largest pagoda in Southeast Asia.

Firstly, you will travel by car to the Grand Palace, comprising the Funeral Palace, the Reception Palace, the Throne Hall, the Coronation Hall, the Royal Guest House, and the beautiful Emerald Buddha Temple (Wat Phra Kaew). For 150 years, Bangkok's Grand Palace was not only the home of the King and his court, but also the entire administrative seat of government. Within these walls lived the country's war ministry, state departments, and even the mint. Thai Kings ceased to live in the palace around the turn of the twentieth century, but the complex remains the seat of power and spiritual heart of the Thai kingdom.



Today will finish by joining a long tail boat through the klongs to see the family homes, temples and a way of life, which gives this city the name "Venice of the East".

*Overnight at your chosen hotel on a bed & breakfast basis.*

## Day 4

### Bangkok/Chiang Rai



This morning you will be driven to Bangkok's domestic terminal for your short flight to Chiang Rai.

A suggestion for your stay in Chiang Rai is the Four Seasons Tented Camp.

Reached by riverboat amid Thailand's exotic bamboo jungles, where three countries meet, a one-of-a-kind experience for active adults awaits. With just 15 tented accommodations - unique in Four Seasons luxury, right down to the hand-hammered copper bathtubs - this all-inclusive two night adventure covers every detail, from elephant mahout training to Mekong River excursions; from formal campfire dinners to riverside drinks in the stilt-top bar.

Included during your time at the Four Seasons Tented Camp is:

- All meals and drinks, including wine and spirits.
- One spa treatment per person per stay.
- Full programme of activities including half-day mahout training and Mekong River excursion.



An alternative to the Tented Camp in Chiang Rai is the Anantara [www.anantara.com](http://www.anantara.com).

*Overnight at your chosen hotel on a full board basis or bed & breakfast basis.*

## Day 5

### Chiang Rai

Full day at leisure to enjoy the facilities on offer or relax.

*Overnight at your chosen hotel on a full board basis or bed & breakfast basis.*

## Day 6

### Chiang Rai/Chiang Mai



Today you will be driven to Chiang Mai. This is a drive of about four hours but a good way to see more of this amazing country, with a stop for lunch enroute.

A few of our recommendations for Chiang Mai are:

The Chedi [www.chiangmai.bangkok.com/chedi](http://www.chiangmai.bangkok.com/chedi)

The Four Seasons [www.fourseasons.com](http://www.fourseasons.com)

Rachamankha Hotel [www.rachamankha.com](http://www.rachamankha.com)

*Overnight in your chosen hotel on a bed & breakfast basis.*

## Day 7 - Day 8

### Chiang Mai

Two days to spend at leisure in Chiang Mai or you may wish to organise some sightseeing during your stay here.

Sightseeing options include a city tour, full day visit to the elephant nature park, the Queen Sirikit Botanical Gardens and

local temples of interest.



The Queen Sirikit Botanical Garden is located 27 km NW of Chiang Mai, at the edge of Doi Suthep-Pui National Park. The gardens cover an area of about 1,000 ha and are home to a wide collection of plant species, exhibition greenhouses, garden and nature trails.

Established in 1995, the elephant nature park is home to over thirty rescued elephants. The park lies between Mae Taeng Valley, about an hour north of Chiang Mai. There is the opportunity to partake in the elephant's bath time as they are taken to the river for their favourite part of the day. Visitors are allowed to be as involved as they wish during this time. You can then spend some time on the feeding platform before enjoying lunch with the guides and park volunteers.

*Overnight in your chosen hotel on a bed & breakfast basis.*

## Day 9

### Chiang Mai / Phuket - Krabi or Koh Samui



Today depart Chiang Mai on your short flight to Phuket. Here are just a few of the resorts that you can choose from on the island of Phuket:

The Sarojin [www.sarojin.com](http://www.sarojin.com)  
The Chedi Phuket [www.chediphukethotel.com](http://www.chediphukethotel.com)  
Banyan Tree [www.banyantree.com](http://www.banyantree.com)  
Amanpuri [www.amanresorts.com](http://www.amanresorts.com)  
Anantara Phuket [www.phuket.anantara.com](http://www.phuket.anantara.com)

### Phi Phi Island

A speedboat or seaplane is on hand to whisk you away to one of these luxury resorts.

Phi Phi Island Village [www.ppisland.com](http://www.ppisland.com)  
Zeavola [www.zeavola.com](http://www.zeavola.com)

### Krabi

From Phuket, you can drive to Krabi or charter your own boat.

Tubkaak Krabi Boutique Resort [www.tubkaakresort.com](http://www.tubkaakresort.com)  
Nakamanda Resort & Spa [www.nakamanda.com](http://www.nakamanda.com)  
Pimalai Resort & Spa [www.pimalai.com](http://www.pimalai.com)

### Koh Samui

Should you travel to Koh Samui you will need to change planes in Bangkok. Below are three places we suggest, however there are others:

### Tongsai Bay

Tongsai Bay is a Thai style hotel with a wonderful view over the bay and one of the best beaches on the island. Cottages scatter the cliff and offer a wonderful spot to sit and relax. [www.tongsaiabay.co.th](http://www.tongsaiabay.co.th)





### **Evason Hideaway**

Located on the northern-most tip of Samui Island, the Evason Hideaway Samui comprises of a collection of villas set on the cape of Samrong Bay. Each private villa has panoramic views over the Gulf of Thailand and the nearby islands.

[www.sixsenses.com/Six-Senses-Hideaway-Samui](http://www.sixsenses.com/Six-Senses-Hideaway-Samui)

### **Napasai Koh Samui**

This is a small, boutique hotel owned and operated by the Eastern & Oriental Group, which therefore guarantees a high level of service and accommodation. Located on a small beach it offers peace and tranquillity in a remote part of the island. A very stylish property.

[www.pansea.com](http://www.pansea.com) (select Napasai Koh Samui)

*Overnight at your chosen resort on a bed & breakfast basis.*

**Day 10 - Day 14**

**Phuket, Krabi or Koh Samui**

Five days at the beach, to be spent at leisure.

*Overnight at your chosen resort on a bed & breakfast basis.*

**Day 15**

**Resort / Bangkok**

Transfer to the airport for your return flight to Bangkok. You may wish to stay overnight in Bangkok and return to the UK on a day flight.

**Day 16**

**Bangkok/UK**

Depart Bangkok on your return flight to the UK.

## TRIP PRICE

There are a variety of hotels and resorts to choose from; therefore this is a general price guide only.

**Price from £2,550.00 per person**

The rates quoted are subject to the availability of all services, currency fluctuations, written confirmation and Steppes Travels terms and conditions.

The price includes return flight from UK, local transport, airport-hotel transfers and tours on a private basis, accommodation and board, entrance charges to sites, parks and museums, sightseeing with English speaking guide (where mentioned). Accommodation is on a bed and breakfast basis or full board where mentioned.

The price excludes travel insurance, visas, single supplements (if applicable) and items of a personal nature, such as laundry, drinks, etc.

**Please note** that the above is only a suggested journey, allowing in-depth visits to the highlights of the country and the chance to explore the wide range of possibilities this fascinating country has to offer. We have a separate list of escorted tours and specialise in tailoring individual itineraries to your particular interests and requirements. This journey idea serves more as a general guide on what there is to see and do, as well as a guide on price.

### Why Travel with Steppes?

Steppes Travel was founded in 1989 with the objective of creating a travel company where service and knowledge are of the highest priority. We aim to design itineraries and include the highlights of any country, whilst taking travellers off the beaten track to see lesser known, interesting places not frequented by large numbers of tourists. We offer individuals the ability to travel safely in remote areas, with the knowledge that we have travelled there before.

### Financial Protection

Steppes Travel is a fully bonded tour operator that complies with the Civil Aviation Authority bonding conditions of the UK. This fully guarantees your money in the unlikely event of us going out of business before you start your holiday. Our ATOL number is 6945 and we have full insurance to cover the financial failure of an airline. In addition, all accommodation-only bookings (such as hotels, lodges and boats) which are not covered by the ATOL regulations are financially protected with all payments being held in a separate trust account until the date of departure. This is in accordance with the Package Travel Regulations Act 1992.

### Specialist Knowledge

We demand and employ only a very high calibre of staff. All of our specialists have a wealth of travel experience and have travelled, and continue to travel, extensively throughout their regions of specialisation. You can therefore rely on their first hand knowledge and expertise. Some have been with us for more than ten years. They will tell you about those intimate, friendly hotels and introduce you to our charismatic guides - those little extra qualities that make your holiday both unique and special.

### A Tailor-made Journey

After an initial discussion with you, one of our specialists will create a unique itinerary for your trip, designed around your own interests, preferred style of accommodation and the pace at which you like to travel. This will be fine tuned until you are completely satisfied with it. Throughout this whole process, you will be dealt with by the same specialist and you are welcome to call them at any time.

#### 24 hour Emergency Service

We have an emergency service so that we can be contacted 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

#### Recognition

More than 65% of our business is achieved through recommendations, referrals and repeat bookings. This, for us, is the highest endorsement we could have. In addition, our 20 years of experience in this specialist travel sector confirms our expertise.

Please contact the Steppes East team on 01285 651010 or visit our website [www.steppestravel.co.uk](http://www.steppestravel.co.uk) for further information.

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