

costsaver.

Essential Thailand



\$1895.00 per person

● **12 Days / 11 Nights** ● **27 September 2024**



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Essential Thailand

12 DAYS
1 COUNTRY(IES)
\$1895.00 per person
TWIN SHARE

\$440.00 per person*Single Supplement Price

Highlights

Dining Summary

- 4 Dinner (D)
- 11 Breakfast (B)
- 5 Lunch (L)

Essentials

- Visit Wat Rong Khun - the White Temple
- Visit the Hall of Opium, take a boat trip along the Mekong River, visit a local market in Laos
- Visit the Night Market and the temples of Wat Phra Singh and Wat Chedi Luang
- Visit Sukhothai Historical Park
- Visit the Thailand-Burma Railway Museum, the War Cemetery, the infamous Death Railway and the Bridge on the River Kwai
- Visit Wat Pho, the Grand Palace and observe local life along the canals during a khlong tour





Essential Thailand

DAY 1

27 September 2024

Arrive Bangkok (3 Nights)

'Sawadee ka' and welcome to Thailand! Your trip will kick off in buzzy Bangkok, an urban wonder boasting all the soaring skyscrapers and glistening malls of any capital city, but with a distinctly Thai touch. Here you can see it all; orange robe-clad monks strolling the streets with smartphones in hand, while glowing temples and neon-lit bars co-exist peacefully side by side. After transferring to your hotel you'll meet up with your Travel Director to get a glimpse of what's to come on your Thailand value tour, then dinner tonight will have you sampling some of Thailand's tasty cuisine while you get to know your fellow travelers. Transfer Note: Passport information and flight details are required for complimentary transfers from Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK). Information is needed by final payment.

Meal(s):Dinner.

Hotel(s): Galleria 10

DAY 2

28 September 2024

Bangkok Sightseeing

Get ready for a full day of sightseeing in Bangkok. We'll show off Bangkok's best cultural and spiritual delights, starting at Wat Pho, Bangkok's most ancient temple. Set eyes on the hugely impressive Reclining Buddha, the largest in Thailand, before moving on to the Grand Palace, a former royal residence. The intricate architecture of this massive complex never ceases to amaze and be sure to see the jewel in its crown, the Temple of the Emerald Buddha. We'll make a pit stop for lunch at a local restaurant then board a private boat and take to the maze of canals (klongs) that snake through the city. Kick back and enjoy the ride as you pass by traditional stilted family homes and soak up the quiet river lifestyle of those who work and live on the water. Still keen for more? This afternoon, you can join our optional visit to Jim Thompson's House, an exquisite example of traditional Thai residential architecture, where you'll find an incredible collection of Asian art.

Meal(s):Breakfast, Lunch.

Hotel(s): Galleria 10

DAY 3

29 September 2024

Bangkok Free Day

Today is all yours to explore Bangkok your way and the adventures are limitless. Want to check out the markets? You can find flower species of every shape, colour and origin at the lively Pak Klong Talad (Bangkok flower market), while the charming streets of Chinatown are the perfect place to munch on street food and shop for jade. If you love architecture, you'll likely choose to join our trip to the ancient city of Ayutthaya, the former capital city of Thailand. We'll make a stop along the way at the stunning Bang Pa Summer Palace, then continue on to Ayutthaya, an archaeological hotbed of temples, monasteries and statues that offer a glimpse into the glory days of this ancient land. We'll head back to Bangkok on a cruise and enjoy a buffet lunch as you watch the local life go by along the banks of the Chao Phraya River.

Meal(s):Breakfast.

Hotel(s): Galleria 10

DAY 4

30 September 2024

Bangkok - Kanchanaburi (2 Nights)

It's goodbye Bangkok and hello Kanchanaburi town today, where we'll jump straight into the action with a visit to the Thailand-Burma Railway Museum, and the War Cemetery where over 6000 prisoners of war were laid to rest. Next up, we'll pause for lunch then see the infamously named Death Railway, before boarding a local train for a ride with a difference. Gorgeous views over the river and a journey across wooden viaducts will keep your camera busy, as will the next and final stop for today - the famous Bridge over the River Kwai. Our hotel is just a short distance from here, where we'll dine as a group this evening.

Meal(s):Breakfast, Dinner.

Hotel(s): Royal River Kwai Resort and Spa

DAY 5

01 October 2024

Kanchanaburi Free Day

With a completely free day today on your Thailand tour package, Kanchanaburi town is yours to explore your way. Those keen to take it easy can rest up at the hotel and take advantage of the spa facilities, or perhaps you'll take the opportunity to explore the town and its surroundings. Hoping to get out on the river? Our optional River Kwai Longtail Boat Cruise could be just what you're looking for. This adventure will begin with a visit to Hellfire Pass, a 500 metre long and 26 metre deep section of rock that was dug by Prisoners of War with nothing more than picks, rocks and their bare hands, to allow for the construction of Death Railway. From here you'll then travel on to the River Kwai and travel 30 minutes downstream by longtail boat to the River Kwai Jungle Rafts. Fuelling up on a yummy lunch, you'll then visit the Mon Tribal Village before continuing on downstream, where the coach will meet you and carry you back to the hotel.

Meal(s):Breakfast.

Hotel(s): Royal River Kwai Resort and Spa



Essential Thailand

DAY 6

02 October 2024

Kanchanaburi - Sukhothai (2 Nights)

We'll be up bright and early this morning to travel north to Sukhothai. The Thailand essentials just keep on coming and along the way we have a treat in store, with a visit to Bhutsaya Khiri Suvarnabhumi, or Rock Buddha. This impressive carving of a seated buddha, masterfully etched out of the hillside, was only finished in 2019 and is a true sight to behold. Stopping for a local lunch en route, we'll arrive into Sukhothai later this afternoon, then dinner tonight will be a group affair.

Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Hotel(s): Le Charme Sukhothai Historical Park Resort

DAY 7

03 October 2024

Sukhothai Sightseeing and Free Time

Being famed as the birthplace of Thai civilisation is a pretty big reputation to uphold, but Sukhothai does it with ease. Still historically significant to this day, we'll start our adventures today with a visit to the UNESCO listed Sukhothai Historical Park, where we'll get to explore the centuries old temples and palace ruins. History itch scratched, this afternoon will then be yours to explore as you wish. Hungry to learn more about Thai cuisine? Our optional cooking class is there for all the budding chefs amongst you. You'll start this foodie adventure by learning about the unique herbs and spices of Thailand courtesy of your host, then put the farm to table craze into action by using these ingredients to make a signature Thai dish, such as "Pad Pak Bung Fai Daeng". And the best part? You get to eat your tasty creation for dinner.

Meal(s): Breakfast.

Hotel(s): Le Charme Sukhothai Historical Park Resort

DAY 8

04 October 2024

Sukhothai - Chiang Rai (2 Nights)

The dramatic mountain beauty of Chiang Rai awaits us today, so we'll be up early to travel further north. Along the way, we'll make a stop at Khaw Phayao Lake, the largest freshwater lake in the North, before heading on to Wat Rong Khun, otherwise known as the White Temple. Unlike many Thai temples that are centuries old, Wat Rong Khun is unique in the fact that it was only built in 1977. The brainchild of artist Chalermchai Kositpipat, it's also one of the most recognisable temples in Thailand - you'll know it when you see it. Finally, we'll complete today's journey with a short drive to Chiang Rai, where we'll check in to our hotel and eat dinner tonight as a group.

Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner.

Hotel(s): Wiang Inn Hotel Chiang Rai

DAY 9

05 October 2024

Golden Triangle Sightseeing

Today is the day we journey to the heart of the Golden Triangle. This morning your first stop will be the self-proclaimed 'edutainment' Hall of Opium, a fascinating museum that reveals an incredible 5000 years of history. The state of the art exhibitions, harrowing recounts and even a tiny opium plantation all tell a vivid story of the conflicts, rituals and abuse that have all stemmed from opium, a trade that once ruled the Golden Triangle over the past century. Next up, we'll stop for lunch at a local restaurant, then hop on board a boat that will take you cruising along the mighty Mekong River to the exact spot where the borders of Thailand, Myanmar (Burma) and Laos collide. You'll have time to step out onto dry land in Laos and head into the Don Sao Island Markets where you can browse all the handicrafts and local snacks on offer. It's the only part of Laos that can be visited without a visa, so make the most of it before heading back to your hotel in Chiang Rai.

Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch.

Hotel(s): Wiang Inn Hotel Chiang Rai

DAY 10

06 October 2024

Chiang Rai - Chiang Mai (2 Nights)

Who's ready to dip their toes in some bubbling hot springs? We hope all of you, as our first stop today en route to Chiang Mai, are the lovely Mae Kajan Hot Springs. Feeling refreshed, we'll grab lunch in a local restaurant before travelling on to the laidback city of Chiang Mai. Sprawling in size but with a historic centre that has managed to retain the charm and pace of a low-key country town, Chiang Mai is also THE place for temple exploring. So, guess what we'll be doing this afternoon? You got it! We'll be exploring both Wat Phra Singh temple, which was built in 1345, and Wat Chedi Luang temple, a charming wooden creation famous for its huge Lanna style chedi. This evening, prepare to discover the charm of Chiang Mai by night as we head out to visit the city's iconic night markets.

Meal(s): Breakfast, Lunch.

Hotel(s): The Empress Chiang Mai



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DAY 11

07 October 2024

Chiang Mai Free Day

Your day your way is what today is all about, and with it being your last day, be sure to make the most of it. For those looking to get out of the city and into the tropical lush greenery that surrounds Chiang Mai on all sides, be sure to join our visit to Baan Tong Luang Village, located north of the city in a beautiful valley. This ecological village is the home of the Long Neck Karen hill tribe and you'll have the chance to learn about their ancient costumes, customs and rituals.

Meal(s): Breakfast.

Hotel(s): The Empress Chiang Mai

DAY 12

08 October 2024

Depart Chiang Mai

Your incredible journey through Thailand's cities, rivers, mountains, temples and markets has come to an end. You've encountered diverse cultures, tasted all kinds of Thai foods and experienced the warmth of Thai hospitality and we're sure you'll be leaving with the iconic Thai smile on your face!

Transferring to Chiang Mai International Airport, you'll catch your onward flight.

Transfer Note: Passport information and flight details are required for complimentary transfers to Chiang Mai International Airport (CNX). Information is needed by final payment.

Meal(s): Breakfast.

YOUR HOLIDAY ESSENTIALS

Whats Included

- An expert Travel Director and professional Driver.
- Cherry picked hotels, all tried and trusted
- Many meals and daily breakfasts included
- City orientation tours
- Audio Headsets provided throughout your holiday to enhance your included sightseeing experiences
- Luxury air-conditioned coach
- Variety of Optional Experiences



Terms & conditions

Terms & Conditions

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED: Airfares (unless otherwise stated), passports and applicable visa fees, charges imposed by third parties, laundry, phone calls, items of a personal nature, beverages, meals and sightseeing not detailed on the itinerary, excess baggage, travel insurance. Travel Insurance is highly recommended. Ask your Travel Advisor or Group Specialist for further details.
PRICE: The advertised price is in US dollars, per person twin share.
DEPOSIT: A non-refundable deposit of \$350.00 is due at time of booking.
FINAL PAYMENT: Required 90 days prior to the group's departure date. Final payment due dates are based on

trip type or region. See contract or brochure for details.

CANCELLATION FEES: In the event you have to cancel your booking, cancellation fees will apply. For full details of cancellation fees, contact your Travel Advisor or Group Specialist.

AMENDMENTS: Fees may apply to any change made to your booking once confirmed.

REFUNDS: No refund is available if cancellations occur after the trip has commenced or in respect of any sightseeing, accommodation, meals or any other services not utilized.

ITINERARY CHANGES & TRIP

CANCELLATION: Prices are based on costs, charges, tariffs, taxes, levies and exchange rates at the time of publication. In the event that such fluctuations affect the price to be paid for services, we reserve the right to adjust the price as necessary at any time. Costsaver reserves the right to vary itineraries should circumstances dictate, as well as cancel or reschedule any trip departure in accordance with operating

requirements, or circumstances beyond its control. The advertised trip requires minimum numbers to depart. Should these not be met, Costsaver reserves the right to alter or cancel arrangements.

PASSPORT AND VISAS: You must have a valid passport with 6 months validity from date of return. For Visa requirements, contact your Travel Advisor or Group Specialist.

HOTELS: The hotels listed in the itinerary are listed as a guide only and are subject to change.

PORTERAGE: for one suitcase is included in the trip price on arrival and departure from each trip hotel. Refer to <https://www.costsavertour.com/en-us/resources/website-terms-of-use> for details of luggage allowances.

TRANSFERS: Your Travel Advisor or Group Specialist can provide details of arrival and departure transfers.

DOCUMENTATION: Documentation will be emailed approximately 2 weeks prior to departure.

ADDITIONAL TERMS AND

CONDITIONS: apply to this special

departure. Full terms and conditions are available from Costsaver. Refer also to the Costsaver website at <https://www.costsavertour.com/en-us/resources/website-terms-of-use>.

FOR COSTSAVER SCHEDULED DEPARTURES ONLY DISCOUNTS AND TRAVEL

PROTECTION: You may be able to take advantage of special offers and Travel Protection as detailed in the Costsaver brochure or website on this trip. Please check with your Travel Advisor or Groups Specialist for applicable discounts. Note: the Travel Protection insurance plan will not cover any additional group discounts or benefits applied to the rest of the group.

ROOMING ARRANGEMENTS: All pricing is based on twin share accommodation. If a single room is required, the appropriate single supplement will need to be paid. Single rooms are subject to availability. Triple rooms may be available on request.