

**PRICING  
START AT  
\$2249  
RT FROM LAX**



## **Thailand**

**Available Sep 2023 - May 2024**

### **Escorted Package Included**

- RT flights Los Angeles-Bangkok, Bangkok-Los Angeles; Other departure cities available.
- Intra-flight Chiang Mai-Bangkok
- 11 nights First Class accommodations
  - 4 nights Bangkok
  - 1 night Ayutthaya
  - 1 night Sukhothai
  - 2 nights Chiang Rai
  - 3 nights Chiang Mai
- All transfers included only with airfare purchase on package arrival & departure dates†
- Meals: 11 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 4 dinners
- Sightseeing per itinerary in modern air-conditioned motor coach
- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Comfortable wireless earphones for enhanced touring

### **Special Features**

- In Bangkok, visit serene Wat Po, home of the astonishing giant Reclining Buddha, over 150 feet long
- Visit Bang Pa-In Royal Palace, used as a summer palace by the Siamese royalty
- Marvel at Chai Wattanaram Temple, one of Ayutthaya's most impressive remaining monuments
- Explore historic Sukhothai, capital of the first Kingdom of Siam
- Visit the House of Opium and Golden Triangle
- Discover Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep Temple, the most sacred temple in Northern Thailand
- Authentic Thai dinner at Chiang Mai private home
- Several optional tours are available for your travel pleasure

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Travel With Serenity

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## **DAY 1 - Depart for Thailand**

**DAY 2 - Arrive in Bangkok.** Arrive in exotic Bangkok, Thailand's capital city; transfer to your hotel. The rest of the day is at leisure to rest, relax and acclimate to the new time zone

**DAY 3 - Bangkok City Tour.** Begin your day with a city and temple tour of Bangkok, a fascinating mix of ancient and modern. Drive through Chinatown and then on to the colorful Indian Market. Visit serene Wat Po, the oldest and largest temple in the city, with the astonishing giant Reclining Buddha, over 150 feet long and almost 50 feet high. Drive to Royal Avenue where most of the Government offices are located and the King's Palace. Later in the afternoon, attend an orientation meeting with your Tour Manager at approximately 5:00PM, followed by a light dinner with your fellow travelers

**DAY 4 - Full Day in Bangkok.** Today is yours to explore Bangkok independently. Or, take the optional tour to the elaborate 18th century Grand Palace, symbol and ceremonial heart of the kingdom, and to Wat Phra Kaew, (Temple of the Emerald Buddha), with its brightly colored buildings, golden spires and gorgeous mosaics. You'll see the distinct contrast in style between the Thai-inspired Wat Phra Kaew and the European design of the Grand Palace. In the afternoon, embark on the optional canal tour along the Chao Phraya River passing by Wat Arun and other iconic landmarks as well as a scenic view of local life along the river. Then travel on a tuk-tuk to dinner at a local restaurant before returning to your hotel

**DAY 5 - Flight to Chiang Mai, Dinner at Private Home.** Morning is at leisure before flying to Chiang Mai, ancient capital of the Lanna Kingdom. The afternoon is free for individual interests, before a unique experience tonight. Join a local Chiang Mai family for an authentic Thai dinner in their home. Enjoy a tour of the home, conversation about life in Chiang Mai and savor the great flavors of home-cooked food

**DAY 6 - Full Day in Chiang Mai.** Morning is free to explore Chiang Mai independently or, join the optional tour of the Queen Sirikit Botanic Garden, established in 1993, as the first botanical garden in Thailand. Stroll through the lush grounds covered with exotic types of trees, plants and flowers. After your visit, stop for lunch at a restaurant before returning to your hotel. In the afternoon, visit Sankampang Street, center of handicrafts, for on-site demonstrations on how the silk, lacquer, and silver wares are made.

Later, visit the world's largest gem factory, to watch while the gem stones are cut and set. Spend the rest of the day at leisure

**DAY 7 - Doi Suthep Temple.** Start today's morning tour with Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep, Northern Thailand's most sacred temple, containing a holy relic of Lord Buddha. Equally impressive is the mythological Naga (dragon-headed serpent) staircase, with 306 steps leading up to the temple grounds. Visit a local jade factory, followed by an afternoon at leisure, or pamper yourself with an optional Thai massage

**DAY 8 - Travel to Chiang Rai.** This morning, depart Chiang Mai and drive to scenic Chiang Rai, the northernmost province of Thailand. Spend the rest of the day at leisure. Or, join an afternoon optional excursion to Mae Chan, still inhabited by hill people, namely the Akha, Long Neck and Palong tribes. Visit one of the tribes to see their unique way of life and learn more about their culture

**DAY 9 - Mae Sai Border Town & Golden Triangle.** Travel to the border town of Mae Sai, at the tip of Thailand. At this border crossing, arrangements may be made to enter Myanmar. Ascend to the hilltop viewpoint to see the famous "Golden Triangle" of Southeast Asia - the meeting point of the borders of Thailand, Myanmar, and Laos. The locals call it "Sop Ruak", as this is also where the Mekong meets the Ruak River. Continue to the dramatic House of Opium at Golden Triangle, offering an informative exhibition on the history of opium which dates back almost 5000 years. This afternoon, enjoy a locally prepared lunch before embarking on a long tail boat ride along the banks of the Mekong River between Myanmar, Laos and Thailand where you will see local farmers and fishermen at their craft and learn more about how this river played a role in the opium trade. End the day with a stop at an old teak forest and view centuries old giant Teak trees before returning to Chiang Rai for the evening

**DAY 10, Tuesday - Travel to Sukhothai.** Travel southward to Sukhothai, birthplace of the Thai nation, founded in the 13th century by King Ramkhamhaeng. The country's first capital was established here in 1238 and lasted over two centuries. Sukhothai is world-famous for its over 100 historical sites and treasures, including some of the most beautiful Thai art and architecture in the country, created during the city's "golden era", between the 13th and 14th centuries. Remainder of the day to explore on your own

**DAY 11, Wednesday - Sukhothai Historical Park, Travel to Ayutthaya, Ayutthaya City Tour.** After breakfast visit the Old Town of Sukhothai with its impressive Historical Park, immaculately restored and set among leafy hills and peaceful lotus ponds, designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Marvel at the ancient Buddha figures, palaces, temples, and historical monuments and feel yourself drift back in time to a bygone era. Depart Sukhothai to Ayutthaya, the second Siamese capital after Sukhothai for over 400 years, once glorified as one of the largest cities in Southeast Asia. Ayutthaya Historical Park, designated a UNESCO World Heritage Site, lies in the center of the city. Here, you can see the ruins of the former capital and its remaining palaces, monasteries, and towers - one can envision the grandeur and splendor that was once the Kingdom of Ayutthaya. Continue to the Chai Wattanaram Temple, built by King Prasat Thong to honor his mother, conceived as a replica of the Angkor Temple

**DAY 12, Thursday - Travel to Bangkok.** Depart Ayutthaya this morning and drive to Bangkok. En route, visit Bang Pa-In Palace, a collection of beautiful buildings in various architectural styles, surrounded by a lake. Originally built by King Prasat Thong in 1632, Bang Pa-In served as the Royal Summer Palace for the Thai Kings. Arrive at your hotel and spend the remainder of the day at leisure to enjoy all of the delights of Bangkok on your own. Shop to your heart's content, amazing markets and restaurants

**DAY 13, Friday - Depart Thailand.** Transfer to the airport for your departure flight