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Sorry! There are no remaining departures for "North & South Thailand Highlights" (ATTH), [but here are some similar trips](#).



## **North & South Thailand Highlights**

15 days, Bangkok to Bangkok

Trip code ATTH

## What's included

- Your Journeys Highlight Moment: Traditional Thai Guesthouse & Home Dinner, Chiang Mai
- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
- Your Foodie Moment: Cooking Class, Chiang Mai
- Your Discover Moment: Bangkok
- Arrival transfer
- Entrance to Thai/Burma War Museum and cemetery
- Train journey on the 'Death Railway'
- Visit to Erawan National Park
- Entrance and guided tour at Ayutthaya Historical Park
- Dinner on a converted rice barge
- Visit a rural village with authentic khantoke dinner in a local family's home
- Thai cooking class with market visit
- Tour of Bangkok including boat tour of the Klong canals and Wat Phra Kaew temple
- Boat tour to Angthong Marine National Park including kayaking to Mae Koh and jungle trek to the green lagoon
- Boat trip to Maya Bay and surrounding islands
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and G Adventures. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

**VALIDITY:** Valid for all trips departing January 1st, 2015 and onwards

# Itinerary

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**NOTE:** Accommodations vary per departure and are subject to change until tour start date; they are not final and should be used as examples only. Travellers may login to the G Adventures App to view accommodations specific to their departure.

Day 1

## Bangkok

Arrive at any time. Arrival transfer included.

You are welcome to arrive at any time on day 1, but please note that hotel check-in time is 12 noon.



### Today's Activities

Airport Transfer

Bangkok - Suvarnabhumi Airport

45m-1h30m

Upon arrival at the airport, head to the arrival hall and door number 3 near the information counter. Look for a driver holding a G Adventures sign with your name, who'll take you to your hotel so you can check in and start exploring.

#### ACTIVITY

Your opportunity to meet your CEO and fellow travellers, and learn more about your tour. Opt to join the group for a local meal afterwards. Don't forget to see the notice in the lobby (or ask reception) for the official time and place to meet up with the group.

Day 2

## Bangkok/Kanchanaburi

Travel to Kanchanaburi, home to the 'Bridge on the River Kwai'. Take a train journey over the bridge.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Bangkok - Kanchanaburi

2h-3h

130km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Bridge on the River Kwai Visit

Kanchanaburi

1h45m-2h

Take in a piece of World War II history on this visit. You've seen or at least heard of the famous movie, "Bridge on the River Kwai" -- tour the real thing and take a train ride over the bridge. It's massive, majestic, and imposing, and offers fabulous views of the river below.

Day 3

## Kanchanaburi/Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya

Morning visit to Erawan National Park and waterfall then visit the Thai/Burma War Museum and War Cemetery. This afternoon, travel to Ayutthaya and enjoy dinner on a rice barge.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Erawan Waterfalls

Nam Tok Erawan

2h-3h

Visit one of the world's most beautiful waterfalls. Its seven tiers offer a unique experience at every climb, reaching up to 1,500m (4921 ft). Swim in the turquoise pools, snap photos from the top tier, and opt to hike in the jungle to spot monkeys.

Thai/Burma Railway Centre and Allied War Cemetery Visit

Kanchanaburi

1h30m-2h

Visit the Thai-Burmese Railway Museum to learn about the Death Railway's dark history, and the Allied War Cemetery where more than 6,000 prisoners are buried.

Private Vehicle

Kanchanaburi - Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya

2h

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Dinner Cruise

Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya

2h

Cruise down the river aboard a converted 1930s rice barge. Have a delicious Thai meal while taking in the incredible views of the city.

Day 4

## Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya/Chiang Mai

Explore the UNESCO World Heritage-listed Ayutthaya Historical Park, then return to Bangkok to catch a flight to Chiang Mai.

Explore the UNESCO World Heritage Listed Ayutthaya Historical Park. Ayuthaya served as Thailand's capital from the 14th to 18th centuries, when it ranked as one of the most magnificent cities in the world. Return to Bangkok to catch a flight to Chiang Mai.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Today's Activities

Ayutthaya Historical Park Guided Tour

Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya

3h-3h30m

Explore the ruins of Ayutthaya, a UNESCO World Heritage site. Ayuthaya served as Thailand's capital from the 14th to 18th centuries, when it ranked as one of the most magnificent cities in the world. Late in the 17th century its population reached one million, and foreign visitors wrote awestruck accounts of its size and splendour.

Private Vehicle

Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya - Bangkok

2h-3h30m

Hello again Bangkok! Travel back to the city and to the airport by private van.

Plane

Bangkok - Chiang Mai

1h30m

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Day 5

## Chiang Mai

Visit the market with a local chef to learn about traditional ingredients. Participate in a Thai cooking class and enjoy your creations for lunch. Visit the Doi Suthep Buddhist temple and listen to monks chanting at sunset. Opt to visit the bustling Chiang Mai night market.

Our hotel is located in the heart of Chiang Mai city, within 5 a minute walk of the famous night bazaar.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch

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### Today's Activities

Private Vehicle

Chiang Mai - Doi Suthep

45m

30km

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Doi Suthep Temple Visit

Doi Suthep - Chiang Mai

Visit Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, a golden Buddhist temple outside of Chiang Mai on the Mt Doi Suthep. Climb 300 steps to reach the temple and be rewarded with an unforgettable view. Admire the many Buddhist relics at this sacred temple and visit the white elephant shrine. Legend has it that the location of the temple was chosen after a white elephant carried a relic to the mountain and trumpeted three times before dying on the spot. Also, with a little luck, you may witness the chanting of the monks.

#### ACTIVITY

Pick out the best ingredients at a local market and learn how to make delicious Thai dishes.

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### Optional Activities - Day 5

Street Food Walk at Chiang Mai Night Market

Chiang Mai

Pick up a a souvenir at this shopper's paradise. Wander through the market to find music, food, and local artists selling handmade crafts.

Day 6

## Chiang Mai

Today, explore Chiang Mai with some free time. Savour authentic khantoke cuisine this evening.



### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner



### Today's Activities

Free Time

Chiang Mai

Opt to visit the local handicraft workshops, and the bustling Chiang Mai night market.

#### ACTIVITY

Enjoy a unique stay in a village just outside Chiang Mai at a traditional family-run guesthouse. Structured as a social enterprise, Joy's Guest House supports the Children's Shelter Foundation providing a home and education to 45 underprivileged children from the hill tribe villages of North Thailand and Burma. In addition to schooling, older students also have the opportunity to receive hands-on training at the guest house, preparing them for careers in hospitality and tourism industries. This evening, relax in the tranquil surroundings and sit down to an authentic Khantoke dinner - dishes typically include sticky rice, hang-le curry, and crispy pork with chilli paste. The next morning enjoy the pool and gardens or opt to take a yoga class or have a massage at the spa.



### Optional Activities - Day 6

Chiang Mai Cycling Tour

Chiang Mai

1500THB

10-13km

This Chiang Mai half-day ride takes you on a memorable tour of the countryside's most interesting sights. You'll go beyond the city to see local Buddhist temples, markets, organic farms, rice paddy fields and more. Get a sense of how the locals live, stop when you want for photos, and check out the nature along the city's main river, the Ping.

Street Food Walk at Chiang Mai Night Market

Chiang Mai

Pick up a souvenir at this shopper's paradise. Wander through the market to find music, food, and local artists selling handmade crafts.

Day 7

## Chiang Mai/Bangkok

Flight to bustling Bangkok for a klong riverboat tour and visit to Wat Po.

Board a longtail boat ride along the bustling Chao Phraya River and the quiet canals. Return to a more traditional way of life, far removed from Bangkok's modern skyscrapers, passing many beautiful landmarks on the riverside. Pay a visit to Wat Po temple.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Today's Activities

Plane

Chiang Mai - Bangkok

1h30m

Take a quick flight back to Bangkok.

Klong Riverboat Tour

Bangkok

Travel by longtail boat on the busy Chao Phraya River and through the small canals of western Bangkok's Thonburi district. Observe colourful scenes of everyday life along the river banks.

Wat Po Visit

Bangkok

This temple is known for its reclining Buddha, its feet covered with mother-of-pearl engravings of Buddhist symbols. Explore the large grounds and other compounds to see other Buddha figures, murals and the chedis that contain the ashes of Buddha. This is also the birthplace of traditional Thai massage.

Private Vehicle

Bangkok

Settle in and scan the scenery from the convenience of a private vehicle.

Day 8

## Bangkok

Enjoy a free day in bustling Bangkok. Opt to visit the dazzling Grand Palace, formerly the official residence of the Thai royal family, and gaze upon the sacred statue of the Emerald Buddha at Wat Phra Kaew. Browse the stunning collections of Thai art and artifacts at the Bangkok National Museum, including weaponry, ceramics, textiles, and musical instruments; or hop on a bike to explore the quieter side of the city, pedalling past hidden temples and lush parks.



### Meals included

Breakfast



### Optional Activities - Day 8

Bangkok Cycling Tour

Bangkok

35USD

Hop on a bike and explore the quieter side of busy Bangkok. Cycle through the city and see hidden temples and lush parks. Amazing street food vendors abound so be sure to stop for a bite and refuel.

National Museum Visit

Bangkok

200THB

See Thai artifacts on display from the Dvaravati, Srivijaya, Sukhothai and Ayutthaya periods as well as other Southeast Asian collections. Please note the cost of this optional activity does not include the entrance fee.

Grand Palace Visit

Bangkok

500THB

Visit the King's official residence (made up of many buildings, halls, lawns, gardens, and courtyards) on the banks of the Chao Phraya River and see the Temple of the Emerald Buddha. Please note the cost of this optional activity does not include the entrance fee.

Day 9

## Bangkok/Ko Samui

Catch a flight to the tropical island of Koh Samui. Settle in at the resort hotel and opt to relax on the beach or visit the town.

Lying off of Thailand's east coast in the Gulf of Thailand, Koh Samui offers everything you could possibly want in a beach retreat: white sandy beaches, coconut palms, fresh seafood and warm, clear waters.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Today's Activities

Plane

Suvarnabhumi Airport - Koh Samui Airport

1h

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Free Time

Ko Samui

Kick back and relax on the beach, or opt to explore the town.

Embark on a boat tour to Ang Thong Marine Park, including a kayak trip along Koh Mae Ko. Enjoy an easy jungle trek to the green lagoon.

We transfer by boat to Ang Thong Marine National Park and enjoy morning kayaking along the stunning coastline of Koh Mae Ko. After landing on the beach you can try an easy but magnificent climb through the dense tropical forest and narrow ravines taking you up to the Talai Nai, or 'Green Lagoon', with a spectacular island viewpoint.

Return to the boat and cruise through the stunning scenery of the park while a delicious buffet lunch is served. Continue on to Tai Plao Island in the north of the Park and explore ancient limestone caves and rock formations along the coast by kayak. After, you can choose to return to the boat and sunbathe or snorkel before returning to Koh Samui.



## Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch

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## Today's Activities

Ang Thong Marine National Park Boat Tour

Ko Samui

Relax on a boat and enjoy the stunning scenery of Ang Thong Marine National Park.

Kayak Trip

Ko Mae Ko

Get in a kayak and start paddling!

Green Lagoon Jungle Trek

Ko Samui

Enjoy an easy but, nevertheless, spectacular climb through the dense tropical forest and narrow ravines taking you up to the Talai Nai or "Green Lagoon", which offers stunning views. The water is a gorgeous shade of blue-green -- this is indeed a tropical paradise.

Day 11

## Ko Samui

Option to snorkel, enjoy a Thai massage, visit a spa, or take a jeep tour.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Today's Activities

Free Time

Ko Samui

Mingle with the fish and snorkel, enjoy a relaxing Thai massage, visit a spa, or hop in a jeep for a tour of this beautiful beach retreat.

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### Optional Activities - Day 11

Jeep Tour

Ko Samui

Hop in a jeep and enjoy the ride as you explore this lush island.

Massage

Lay back and soothe aching muscles with a famous local massage. Affordable and amazing, don't miss out.

Snorkelling

Ko Samui

Snorkel in the clear waters of Koh Tao and in Koh Nang Yuan. Angthong Marine Park is also an option.

Day 12

## Ko Samui/Krabi

Take a flight to a tropical paradise, Krabi. Settle in this evening, then enjoy dinner at a local restaurant.

Stay close to the beach and enjoy some of the most beautiful scenic views that have made southern Thailand so famous. In the evening, grab a cocktail and watch the sunset over the Andaman Sea. Your CEO will fill you in on all the other interesting options - such as sea kayaking - that are available in the area. This is the perfect place to get active or simply chill out and relax.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Dinner

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### Today's Activities

Plane

Ko Samui - Krabi

1h30m

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Free Time

Krabi

Enjoy some time being active by sea kayaking, or relax on the beach (with or without a cocktail...no judgement!).

Day 13

## Krabi

Enjoy a boat trip to Maya Bay and the surrounding islands, taking in some of the most stunning tropical vistas in Thailand. Visit Monkey Island, Koh Phi Phi, go snorkelling, and see the Viking Cave.

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### Meals included

Breakfast | Lunch

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### Today's Activities

Maya Bay Boat Trip

Krabi

Enjoy a boat trip to Maya Bay and the surrounding islands, including Monkey Island, where the monkeys have long fangs to crack open crab shells. We then go on to Koh Phi Phi, where the movie "The Beach" was filmed. Get to know the local marine life while snorkelling. Explore the amazing Viking Cave.

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### Optional Activities - Day 13

Full Day Snorkelling Excursion Phi Phi Island

Krabi

Set off by boat to the Phi Phi Islands for a full-day snorkelling and sightseeing excursion. The Phi Phi Archipelago consists of nine islands. Stop off at the backpacker haven of Phi Phi Don for shopping, exploring, or beach-lounging, and enjoy several stops for snorkelling throughout the day. Clear blue water with coral reefs and marine life await.

Kayaking

Krabi

Explore the stunning landscape of Krabi by kayak, a great way to see the caves and wildlife in the area.

Day 14

## Krabi

Opt to visit spas and relax, rent kayaks, or snorkel.

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### Meals included

Breakfast

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### Today's Activities

Free Time

Krabi

Relax at a spa, rent a kayak and stay active, or get to know the local marine life while snorkelling.

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### Optional Activities - Day 14

Massage

Lay back and soothe aching muscles with a famous local massage. Affordable and amazing, don't miss out.

Return to bustling Bangkok. The tour ends at the airport, please book onward travel after 3pm.

Today we return to bustling Bangkok; the tour ends at the airport in the mid-to-late afternoon.

Flight times can vary and are always based on availability. Please do not book any flights from Bangkok until after 3pm to ensure you have enough time to catch your flight.



## Meals included

Breakfast



## Today's Activities

Plane

Krabi - Bangkok

1h30m

Look! Up in the sky! It's a bird! It's a plane! It's... yup, it is a plane, actually.

Departure Day

Not ready to leave? Your CEO can help with travel arrangements to extend your adventure.

## What's included

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- Your Welcome Moment: Meet Your CEO and Group
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- Boat trip to Maya Bay and surrounding islands
- All transport between destinations and to/from included activities

## What are the main highlights of this trip?

Step back into history at the 'Bridge on the River Kwai', enjoy an authentic khantoke dinner in a local village, watch the sunset at the Temple of Doi Suthep, kayak along the stunning coastline of Koh Mae Ko, discover 'The Beach' at beautiful Maya Bay

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## Is there a disclaimer I should read before booking this trip?

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**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## **Is there an itinerary Disclaimer?**

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.

## **What important notes should I be aware of before the trip?**

### **COMBO TRIP**

Please note that this trip is part of a combination of multiple G Adventures tours. As such, the CEO, staff and/or particular vehicles operating your tour may change between tour segments. You may also expect some group members to join or leave the tour, between tour segments.

## **What is the group leader like?**

All G Adventures group trips are accompanied by one of our Chief Experience Officers (CEO). The aim of the CEO is to take the hassle out of your travels and to help you have the best trip possible. They will provide information on the places you are travelling through, offer suggestions for things to do and see, recommend great local eating venues and introduce you to our local friends. While not being guides in the traditional sense you can expect them to have a broad general knowledge of the countries visited on the trip, including historical, cultural, religious and social aspects. We also use local guides where we think more specific knowledge will add to the enjoyment of the places we are visiting- we think it's the best of both worlds.

## **How large will the group be?**

Max 16, Avg 12.

## **What meals are included in this trip?**

14 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 3 dinners

## **What are the meals like on this trip?**

Eating is a big part of traveling. Travelling with G Adventures you experience the vast array of wonderful food that is available out in the world. Generally meals are not included in the trip price when there is a choice of eating options, to give you the maximum flexibility in deciding where, what and with whom to eat. It also gives you more budgeting flexibility, though generally food is cheap. Our groups tend to eat together to enable you to taste a larger variety of dishes and enjoy each other's company. There is no obligation to do this though. Your CEO will be able to suggest favourite restaurants during your trip. Included breakfasts in some places may be asian style consisting of noodles or congee (rice porridge) or bread and eggs. Vegetarians will be able to find a range of different foods, although in some areas the choice maybe limited. For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

## **What are the modes of transportation on my trip?**

Private bus/minivan, tuk tuk, boat, train, plane, walking.

## **Are local flights included in the cost of the trip?**

All local flights are included in the cost of your tour unless otherwise noted. It is important that we have your passport information at the time of booking in order to process these tickets. Internal flight tickets are issued locally and will be given to you prior to the flight departure.

There may be a weight restriction for the internal flight on this tour. Each passenger is allowed to carry one checked bag with a maximum weight of 20 kg (44lbs). Additional bags or excess weight charges may apply. These charges are the responsibility of the passengers.

## **Is there an extra cost for travelling solo?**

We believe single travellers should not have to pay more to travel so our group trips are designed for shared accommodation and do not involve a single supplement. Single travellers joining group trips are paired in twin or multi-share accommodation with someone of the same sex for the duration of the trip. Some of our Independent trips are designed differently and single travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## **Where will we stay during the trip?**

Comfort hotels (14 nts).

## **Will I get my own room?**

Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single room for all night stops

## **What is the joining hotel?**

For details of your joining hotel please refer to your tour voucher, G Account, the G Adventures App or contact your travel agent.

## **What are the joining instructions?**

An arrival transfer is included with all Comfort-Class tours when you arrive on Day 1, or when you arrive up to three days prior to the tour, provided that you have booked your pre-accommodation through G Adventures in our joining hotel.

Due to customer experience and quality considerations, all services related to the tour must be continuous.

Please note that Day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned, so you may arrive at any time. Similarly the last day is a departure day in which no activities are planned.

To meet your arrival transfer go to the gate number 10 in the arrival hall near the airport information counter and look for a G Adventures sign with your name on it.

Your CEO will contact you at the hotel on Day 1 and make sure you are settled comfortably. If you arrive late, s/he will leave you a message detailing what time and where you should meet the next morning. Your CEO will organize a short meeting soon after arrival, during which you will meet other tour participants and receive information about general and specific aspects of the trip.

## **What happens if I experience problems when arriving?**

We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, as soon as possible please contact your starting point hotel, requesting that you speak to or leave a message for your CEO (if you are not on a group tour please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier). If you are unable to get in touch with your leader, please refer to our emergency contact details.

If you have pre-booked an airport transfer please meet your driver at gate number 10 of the airport, in the arrival hall. If for any reason you can not locate your driver please call the emergency transfer phone number at +66 (0) 800 562777.

If you have still have not made contact with our representative within 30 minutes of clearing customs and immigration, we recommend that you make your own way to the Starting Point hotel, following the Joining Instructions. Please apply to your travel agent on your return for a refund of the transfer cost if this occurs.

## Who should I contact in case of an emergency?

Should you need to contact us during a situation of dire need, it is best to first call either the G Adventures Local Representative (if one is listed below) or our G Adventures Local Office. If for any reason you do not receive an immediate answer, please leave a detailed message and contact information, so they may return your call and assist you as soon as possible.

### AIRPORT TRANSFER

If you have purchased an arrival through G Adventures or if an arrival transfer is included in the cost of your tour, please note that:

Your arrival transfer has been arranged based on flight information provided to us. If you are advised of a flight schedule change within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, we will do our best to rearrange your arrival transfer however we cannot guarantee this. If your arrival transfer does not arrive within 30 minutes after you have exited the arrivals area please take a taxi to your start point hotel.

If your call is specifically concerning Bangkok Airport Transfer complications please call our local G Adventures Transfer provider directly at: +66 86 321 0729 (086 321 0729 from within Thailand) or +66 82 450 2777 (082 450 2777 from within Thailand)

### EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

G Adventures Office Bangkok, Thailand (24/7)

From outside Thailand: +66 92 338 9222

From within Thailand: 092 338 9222

After hours emergency number

From outside Thailand: +66 87 049 6074

From within Thailand: 087 049 6074

If you are unable for any reason to contact our local office, please call the numbers listed below which will connect you directly with our Sales team who will happily assist you. Hours of operation by region can be found [here](#).

Toll-free, North America only: 1 888 800 4100

Calls from UK: 0344 272 0000

Calls from Germany: 0800 365 1000

Calls from Australia: 1 300 796 618

Calls from New Zealand: 0800 333 307

Outside North America, Australia, New Zealand, Germany and the UK: +1 416 260 0999

## What instructions should I follow at the finishing point?

This trip ends at the Bangkok airport mid-to-late afternoon on Day 15. Flight times can vary and are always based on availability. Please do not book any flights from Bangkok until after 3PM to ensure you have enough time to catch your forward flight. We also can arrange post-night accommodation in Bangkok - please speak to your agent for details.

## What should I take on my trip?

What you need to bring depends on the trip you have chosen and the countries or regions you are planning to visit. We suggest that you pack as lightly as possible as you are expected to carry your own luggage. As a rule we try not to have to walk more than 15-20 minutes with your bags which is why we recommend keeping the weight of your bags between 15kg/30lb. We recommend for G Adventures trips a backpack or rolling bag of small to medium size (no XXL ones please!) as they need to fit under the beds when travelling on sleeper trains. You will also need a day pack/bag to carry water, cameras and other electronics like ipods and mobile phones.

## What should be on my packing list?

### Health & Safety:

- Face masks (Clients will be only be required to wear a face mask where it is mandated by local regulations.)
- Hand sanitizer
- Pen (Please bring your own pen for filling out documents.)

## When can I do my laundry on this trip?

Laundry facilities are offered by some of our hotels for a charge. There will be times when you may want to or have to do your own laundry so we suggest you bring non-polluting/biodegradable soap.

## What the visas and entry requirements for my trip?

All countries require a valid passport (with a minimum 6 months validity). Contact your local embassy or consulate for the most up-to-date visa requirements, or see your travel agent. It is your own responsibility to have the correct travel documentation. Visa requirements for your trip will vary depending on where you are from and where you are going. We keep the following information up to date as far as possible, but rules do change and sometimes without warning. While we provide the following information in good faith, it is vital that you check the information yourself and understand that you are fully responsible for your own visa requirements.

Visa information specific to your destination and nationality can be found in our Important Pre-Departure Information page [here](#)

THAILAND - Most nationalities do not need a visa for Thailand for stays of 30 days or less but if you do they are available on arrival at Bangkok Airport. If staying in Thailand for more than 30 days, you will be required to obtain a tourist visa in advance. Only 15 day tourist visas are issued when entering Thailand overland.

## How much spending money do I need for my trip?

Every traveller is different and therefore spending money requirements will vary. Some travellers may drink more than others while other travellers like to purchase more souvenirs than most. Please consider your own spending habits when it comes to allowing for drinks, shopping and tipping. Please also remember the following specific recommendations when planning your trip.

## What should I know about currency, credit cards, and exchanging money while on this tour?

During this tour the local currency you will use is the Thai Baht. As currency exchange rates in South East Asia do fluctuate, we ask that you refer to the following website for the most up to date daily exchange rates: [www.xe.com](http://www.xe.com) for each of the above mentioned currencies. The best way to carry your money is in debit cards, withdrawing cash in local currencies from ATM machines. ATMs are found throughout South East Asia and will generally accept cards on the Visa and Mastercard networks. It is a great idea to travel with both a Visa and Mastercard if at all possible in case of loss or problems with one card, you will have a back up. Please note, your bank will charge a fee for overseas withdrawals. USD Cash is recommended for times when ATMs are not accessible. You should bring some cash with you for emergency situations (please refer to our trip dossier) but carrying only cash is a high safety risk. ATM card/s and some cash is the ideal mix. Travellers cheques can be tricky, timely and expensive to exchange. While we do not recommend that you bring them as your primary source of funds, it is great to have one or two cheques in case of emergency. Thomas Cook or American Express travellers' cheques in US currency are the easiest to exchange. Cash advances can also be made with some banks but are time consuming and tend to have high fees attached. Credit cards can be used at some upmarket restaurants, and at some larger stores if shopping for big items. If you are bringing US Dollars, please make sure that the notes are new and in good condition. Notes older than 2003, or with any tears or blemishes may not be accepted. Be fussy with your bank when buying cash!

## How much emergency money should I bring on this trip?

Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$250 (or equivalent) as an 'emergency' fund, to be used when circumstances outside our control (ex. a natural disaster) require a change to our planned route. This is a rare occurrence!

## Do I need to pay a departure tax?

Departure Tax is Included in all International and Domestic tickets.

## Should I be tipping on my trip?

It is customary in Asia to tip service providers such as waiters, at approximately 10%, depending on the service. Tipping is expected - though not compulsory - and shows an expression of satisfaction with the people who have assisted you on your tour. Although it may not be customary to you, it is of considerable significance to the people who will take care of you during your travels. There are several times during the trip where there is opportunity to tip the local guides or drivers we use. You may do this individually, or your CEO will offer to collect the money and tip as a group. Recommendations for tipping drivers and local guides would range from \$1.5-\$3.5 USD per person per day depending on the quality and length of the service; ask your CEO for specific recommendations based on the circumstances and culture. Also at the end of each trip if you felt your G Adventures CEO did an outstanding job, tipping is appreciated. The amount is entirely a personal preference, however as a guideline \$20-25 USD per person, per week can be used.

## What activities are optional on this trip?

### Chiang Mai

- Street Food Walk at Chiang Mai Night Market
- Chiang Mai Cycling Tour (1500THB per person)

### Bangkok

- Bangkok Cycling Tour (35USD per person)
- National Museum Visit (200THB per person)
- Grand Palace Visit (500THB per person)

### Ko Samui

- Jeep Tour
- Massage
- Snorkelling

### Krabi

- Full Day Snorkelling Excursion Phi Phi Island
- Kayaking

## **Are there any health considerations I should know before travelling?**

Please note inoculations may be required for the country visited. It is your responsibility to consult with your travel doctor for up to date medical travel information well before departure.

We recommend that you carry a First Aid kit and hand sanitizers / antibacterial wipes as well as any personal medical requirements. Please be aware that sometimes we are in remote areas and away from medical facilities, and for legal reasons our leaders are prohibited from administering any type of drug including headache tablets, antibiotics, etc. In Asia pharmacies tend to stock the same western drugs as you get at home but they are usually produced locally so please bring the full drug name with you when trying to purchase a prescription drug. When selecting your trip please carefully read the brochure and itinerary and assess your ability to cope with our style of travel. Please refer to the Physical and Culture Shock ratings for trip specific information. G Adventures reserves the right to exclude any traveller from all or part of a trip without refund if in the reasonable opinion of our CEO they are unable to complete the itinerary without undue risk to themselves and/or the rest of the group.

# What do I need to know to about safety and security on my trip?

Many national governments provide a regularly updated advice service on safety issues involved with international travel. We recommend that you check your government's advice for their latest travel information before departure. We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes, which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage. When travelling on a group trip, please note that your CEO has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it is deemed necessary due to safety concerns. Your CEO will accompany you on all included activities. During your trip you will have some free time to pursue your own interests, relax and take it easy or explore at your leisure. While your CEO will assist you with options available in a given location please note that any optional activities you undertake are not part of your itinerary, and we offer no representations about the safety of the activity or the standard of the operators running them. Please use your own good judgment when selecting an activity in your free time. Although the cities visited on tour are generally safe during the day, there can be risks to wandering throughout any major city at night. It is our recommendation to stay in small groups and to take taxis to and from restaurants, or during night time excursions.

Protests and Demonstrations- Protests and demonstrations, even those that are well intended, have the potential to turn violent with no warning. Counter protests can also turn violent. Action by security forces to disperse demonstrators and protesters may occur at any time. If you are in an area where demonstrators or protesters are gathering, avoid the temptation of staying for a good photo opportunity and leave the area immediately.

Water based activities have an element of danger and excitement built into them. We recommend only participating in water based activities when accompanied by a guide(s). We make every reasonable effort to ensure the fun and adventurous element of any water based activities (in countries with varying degrees of operating standards) have a balanced approach to safety. It is our policy not to allow our CEOs to make arrangements on your behalf for water based activities that are not accompanied by guide(s).

Swimming, including snorkeling, is always at your own risk.

We take all prudent measures in relation to your safety. For ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling, please visit:

[www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/](http://www.gadventures.com/travel-resources/safety/)

## What are the trip specific safety considerations?

We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, travellers' cheques, cash and other valuable items. Leave your valuable jewellery at home - you won't need it while travelling. Many of the hotels we use have safety deposit boxes which is the most secure way of storing your valuables. A lock is recommended for securing your luggage.

## What rules should I know before joining this trip?

Illegal drugs will not be tolerated on any trips. Possessing or using drugs not only contravenes the laws of the land but also puts the rest of the group at risk. Smoking marijuana and opium is a part of local culture in some parts of the world but is not acceptable for our travellers. Our philosophy of travel is one of respect towards everyone we encounter, and in particular the local people who make the world the special place it is. The exploitation of prostitutes is completely contrary to this philosophy. Our CEOs have the right to expel any member of the group if drugs are found in their possession or if they use prostitutes.

## Are there any things I should be aware of?

Please do not buy gems in Bangkok unless you know what you are doing. Even if genuine you should not expect to be able to sell them at home. If you fall victim to a gem scam, we are unable to assist you.

## Is travel insurance required for my trip?

Travel Insurance: Travel insurance is compulsory in order to participate on any of our trips. When travelling on a group trip, you will not be permitted to join the group until evidence of travel insurance has been sighted by your CEO, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy please bear in mind that all clients must have medical coverage and that we require a minimum coverage of USD 200,000 for repatriation and emergency rescue. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. If you have credit card insurance we require proof of purchase of the trip (a receipt of credit card statement) with a credit card in your name. Contact your bank for details of their participating insurer, the level of coverage and emergency contact telephone number.

## What is Planeterra?

Planeterra International Foundation is a non-profit organization committed to turning travel into impact by helping local communities earn an income from tourism. Planeterra connects underserved local communities to the benefits of tourism by developing and supporting small community-owned businesses. These businesses support Indigenous people, empower women, grant youth access to employment opportunities, and protect the environment. Planeterra also works to ensure these businesses have a thriving customer base by integrating their projects into G Adventures' itineraries globally.

G Adventures is Planeterra's largest corporate donor, covering all operating costs, so 100% of your donation will bring opportunity to people in need.

G Adventures Dollar-a-day Program - Make Every Day Count - Turn your travel into impact with [Planeterra Foundation](#).

Did you know? Most communities around the world do not benefit from tourism. Give back to the places you visit on your travels by creating opportunities for local people to earn an income, and protect the environment.

Make every day count by donating \$1/day for the length of your trip, and join us in empowering the communities you will visit when you travel. 100% of your donation goes directly to Planeterra projects.

## How should I dress to respect local customs during the tour?

In Asia the dress standard is more conservative than it is back home. When packing try to pick loose, lightweight, long clothing that will keep you cool in the usually hot and humid climate of Asian summers. In predominately Buddhist, Hindu and Muslim countries we ask that you dress respectfully and avoid very short shorts/skirts and singlets/tank-tops when visiting temples or mosques or other holy sites.

## How can I share feedback about my trip experience?

After your travels, we want to hear from you! Your feedback information is so important to us that we'll give you 5% off the price of your next G Adventures trip if your feedback is completed on-line within 30 days of finishing your trip. Your tour evaluation will be e-mailed to you 24 hours after the conclusion of your trip. If you do not receive the tour evaluation link in the days after your tour has finished, please drop us a line at [customersolutions@gadventures.com](mailto:customersolutions@gadventures.com) and we will send it on to you.

## Does G Adventures have an email newsletter I can subscribe to?

Our adventure travel e-newsletter is full of travel news, trip information, interesting stories and contests. To avoid missing out on special offers and updates from G Adventures, subscribe at [www.gadventures.com/newsletters/](http://www.gadventures.com/newsletters/)

Stay current on how our company invests in our global community through our foundation – Planeterra. Sign up for [Planeterra's monthly news](#) to learn more about how to give back and support the people and places we love to visit.

## How old must I be to join this trip?

You must be 18 to travel unaccompanied on a G Adventures tour. For minors travelling with a guardian over 21 years old, the minimum age is 12.

## Are international flights included in this trip?

No, international flights are generally not included in the price of your tour.

However, on some combo tours travelling between two different countries, international flights are included as part of the itinerary and price of the tour. Please speak to your GCO or booking agent for further details.

In addition, check-in times and baggage allowances/restrictions vary by airline and can change at any time. For the most up-to-date information for your flight, please contact your airline. We recommend checking in online in advance to avoid potential delays at the airport.

# What should LGBTQ+ travellers know about safety and travel considerations on this trip?

The safety and well-being of all of our travelers is a priority at G Adventures and that includes our travelers who identify as part of the LGBTQ+ community. We recognize that there are specific concerns and questions you may have about your adventure in terms of safety and security. We encourage you to visit our [LGBTQ+ page](#) for useful resources to ensure you feel safe and comfortable throughout the duration of your trip. The Equaldex tool linked on this page can be of particular help when deciding where you may want to visit next.

## Dossier Disclaimer

The information in this trip details document has been compiled with care and is provided in good faith. However it is subject to change, and does not form part of the contract between the client and the operator. The itinerary featured is correct at time of printing. It may differ slightly to the one in the brochure. Occasionally our itineraries change as we make improvements that stem from past travellers, comments and our own research. Sometimes it can be a small change like adding an extra meal along the itinerary. Sometimes the change may result in us altering the tour for the coming year. Ultimately, our goal is to provide you with the most rewarding experience. Please note that our brochure is usually released in November each year. If you have booked from the previous brochure you may find there have been some changes to the itinerary.

**VERY IMPORTANT:** Please ensure that you print a final copy of your Trip Details to review a couple of days prior to travel, in case there have been changes that affect your plans.

## Itinerary Disclaimer

While it is our intention to adhere to the route described below, there is a certain amount of flexibility built into the itinerary and on occasion it may be necessary, or desirable to make alterations. The itinerary is brief, as we never know exactly where our journey will take us. Due to our style of travel and the regions we visit, travel can be unpredictable. The Trip Details document is a general guide to the tour and region and any mention of specific destinations or wildlife is by no means a guarantee that they will be visited or encountered. Aboard expedition trips visits to research stations depend on final permission.

Additionally, any travel times listed are approximations only and subject to vary due to local circumstances.