



Thailand Grand Slam

Bangkok, Ayutthaya, Chiang Rai & Phuket/Krabi

A sophisticated approach to big city life,
mystical mountain adventures
and beautiful beaches





Background



This legendary 13-day adventure starts with a few days in Bangkok for some insider treats in the bustling city, enjoying everything from canal trips to famous sites such as the Grand Palace, and wonderful meals and drinks in curious corners. Next it's off to the ancient capital and World Heritage Site of Ayutthaya for a bike journey through stone ruins. From here we're off to the kingdom's northernmost province, Chiang Rai, to completely shift gears. Here, we'll pedal mountain bikes, hike some spectacular hills, kayak remote rivers and learn how to talk to elephants. Add a capstone at one Thailand's top beaches and you've got the ultimate Thailand adventure.

This multi-activity outing has been designed as a smooth, exciting and total-quality Siamese experience. Prepare to be hosted!

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Day 1: Welcome to Bangkok!



We'll be waiting when your plane touches down, brush off the airline pretzel crumbs and welcome you to 'The Land of Smiles'. You'll be whisked to your home away from home and introduced to your surroundings. Upon check-in you'll receive your personalized 'Adventure Kit', containing a custom-designed 'Adventure Handbook', lots of neat tidbits and your complimentary mobile phone if needed. The phone is yours for your entire journey. Sit back, relax, enjoy a swim and get ready for the adventure of a lifetime.

Meals: -

Accommodation: The Majestic Grand or upgrade to The Siam Hotel

Day 2: Bangkok Multi-Transport Adventure



Prepare to be hosted! As one of the world's great mega-cities, Bangkok is best seen from an insider's perspective. 'The City of Angels' is the largest city in Southeast Asia and one of the most chaotically-planned. Bangkok can be confusing to navigate, leaving many visitors exhausted with their experience. With this in mind, we've found a way to do justice to the capital.

Using the elevated Skytrain rapid transit system, canal boat, motorcycle taxi, three-wheeled tuk-tuk, and longtail boat to see more in one day than most folks see in three. The only question is what you'll enjoy more – the sites or getting to them!

Meals: Lunch

Accommodation: The Majestic Grand or upgrade to The Siam Hotel

Day 3: Bangkok Headlights Adventure



Enjoy the day relaxing by the pool or exploring on your own and get ready for tonight's main event – Headlights. This is your chance to experience 'One Night in Bangkok'. We'll walk through various interesting neighbourhoods, enjoy some great local food, a cocktail in a strange place, and visit some market areas and historical districts. The best way to do this is using a variety of local transportation in order to be spontaneous and efficient. The evening winds up at either one of the famous red-light market districts or at a riverside rooftop bar for a wonderful illuminated view of Wat Arun (Temple of Dawn), or even the Bohemian backpacker community of Khao San Road, depending on your hotel location and interests by that point in the evening.

The trip can be customized to suit your interests (such as more markets, less red-light, or more culture, less glitz, etc.)

Meals: *D (local dinner or a series of snacks around town)*

Accommodation: *The Majestic Grand or upgrade to The Siam Hotel*

Day 4: Explore Ancient Ayutthaya, Fly to Chiang Rai



The Siamese capital of Ayutthaya was the crowning glory of the kingdom from 1350-1767. Preserved in history, Ayutthaya remains a magnificent site to be seen.

We'll jump on bicycles to explore the prime sites. Along the way we'll enjoy an authentic 'Isaan' (northeastern Thai) lunch and fill you in on lots of nifty facts. This intimate exploration of Ayutthaya gives you an appreciation for the city's significance to the Thai people.

After exploring we'll bring you to the airport to catch an early evening flight to Chiang Rai. The kingdom's northernmost province deserves intimate exploration. From hilltribe villages, mountain vistas, the mighty Mekong River, life along the Myanmar and Laotian borders, delectable food and charming accommodations, you'll absorb the very essence of northern Thailand.

Here you'll check into the gorgeous 'Legend Resort & Spa', set on the banks of the Mae Kok River.

Meals: L

Accommodation: The Legend Resort and Spa

Day 5: Bikes, Boats, Villages & Caves



After a great breakfast in Chiang Rai we'll head out to a cave temple on the outskirts of town where we'll find our mountain bikes waiting patiently for us. After checking out the temple inside the cave, we'll cycle up the Kok river through fertile farmland and creaking bamboo stands to a riverside hilltribe settlement surrounded by limestone mountains. After a light lunch we'll continue on for an epic day in the saddle. If you're up for more cycling, we'll navigate small back roads leading out of the village, up and over some medium-grade mountains, passing by Ahka and Lisu villages. When we've had enough biking, we'll place our bikes on a private longtail boat and head back down river to Chiang Rai town and our resort.

After some afternoon rest at the resort, we'll head out for a northern feast and the night markets.

Riding: 25-50 km, sealed road, dirt road, manageable hills

Note: non-cyclists can enjoy all of today's activities by private van transport

Meals: B, L, D

Accommodation: The Legend Resort & Spa

Day 6: Doi Mae Salong “Chinatown”



Today, we'll drive up to Doi Mae Salong for some tea tasting and a bit of easy hiking through tea terraced plantations and local villages.

Doi Mae Salong, one of the Kingdom's most stunning destinations. This dramatic mountain region was settled first by indigenous hilltribe groups such as the Akha and Lahu peoples, and more recently by Chinese settlers who fled the Communist Revolution in China in 1949. Once opium country, Doi Mae Salong is now home to Thailand's premier Oolong tea production. We'll arrive early enough for a nice nature hike through terraced tea and rice plantations, taking in hilltribe villages and rolling mountains around the Doi Mae Salong area.

After lunch, transfer to the Anantara Golden Triangle.

Enjoy the hotel's facilities at leisure.

Meals: B, L

Accommodation: Anantara Golden Triangle

Days 7-8: Enjoy the Golden Triangle



Enjoy your package inclusions at Anantara Golden Triangle... full program of elephant activities, Golden Triangle Excursion, Hall of Opium visit, one spa treatment etc.

Note: Meals and activities are included in the Anantara's Discovery Package

- Accommodation
- Breakfast following morning at Sala Mae Nam A La Carte
- Dinner (evening of arrival) at restaurant of your choice
- A la Carte Lunch following day at Sala Mae Nam Restaurant
- Beverages (non alcoholic, house wines, house beer and house spirits and select cocktails)
- In room Minibar and Internet Access throughout resort
- Ticket to Opium Museum (one time per person per stay)
- One Activity (per person) for each night stayed. Choice of:
 1. *Spa Treatment*
 2. *Elephant and Mahout Training or Walking with Giants*
 3. *Golden Triangle Discovery Excursion*
 4. *Spice Spoons Cooking Class*

Meals: B, L, D

Accommodation: Anantara Golden Triangle

Day 9: Return to Chiang Rai, Fly Back to Bangkok



From here we'll shuttle to Chiang Rai and catch an afternoon flight to Bangkok then it's onwards to a beach destination of your choice. You'll arrive in the early evening, allowing you to wake up tomorrow and hit the ocean!

Meals: Meal: B, L

Day 10 - 13 : Bring on the Beach!



This is where you get to really unwind and do your own thing. Depending on your preference, we'll send you to one of two beach destinations, unescorted, with all the details taken care of.

Either enjoy the luxuries Phuket has to offer with great restaurants and water excursions or get further away from it all on the amazing white sand beaches of Krabi. Whichever you choose, there's plenty of sun, sand and sea on offer for your pleasure. Enjoy your days at leisure by exploring what the resort and island has to offer.

Meals: B, daily

PRICE:

**Approx. \$245 US/person/day
(minimum 4 persons)**

Upgrade Option

Virtually all of our trips are modifiable, and there's no reason you can't enjoy the same activities by going 5-star. During your three nights in Bangkok, enjoy The Siam hotel.

Things you may wish to add to your adventure

Extra nights before your adventure begins or a post-trip night in Bangkok. How about chartering a boat for a daytrip around Phang Nga Bay?

The Smiling Albino Service Difference



We understand implicitly that a perfect adventure is much more than nice hotels, great meals and hassle-free logistics. For a travel experience to be perfect, all pieces must work together like a symphony. It is the fine details which our guests appreciate most, like cold face towels after a hike, electrolyte beverages for your day cycling, and wine uncorked when the moment is right. From local maps to bottled water and colorful anecdotes on the areas we visit, a Smiling Albino adventure is a thorough, intimately hosted experience. You'll be treated with executive care during your Smiling Albino adventure.

We look forward to hosting you!

The Team at Smiling Albino
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"See a different part of the world, differently."
