



FAMILY ADVENTURE THAILAND 12 DAY SAMPLE ITINERARY

Photo by Judy Vos

The “Land of Smiles” has seen rapid expansion and an increasing influx of tourists over the past 20 years, resulting in many of the original popular tourist sites becoming overdeveloped and overcrowded. With each passing season, more and more resorts spring up and parts of the country have lost their authenticity, making it a different destination to the Thailand visited a number of years ago.

Fortunately, if you look hard enough, you can still find those hidden and unspoilt gems that are unique, spiritual and beautiful. This tour aims takes you from Bangkok to Chiang Mai with plenty of family fun in between.

HIGHLIGHTS

- Bangkok green jungle bicycle tour
- River Kwai and Hellfire Pass
- Saiyok waterfall and Lava cave
- Overnight train to Chiang Mai
- Indigenous village overnights
- Whitewater rafting
- Doi Inthanon National Park
- Markets and Thai cuisine



Photos by Judy Vos

DETAILED ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Bangkok

Upon your arrival at the airport, meet our representative who will be holding a sign with your surname. Enjoy a private transfer to your hotel. Rest of the day free to relax.

Day 2: Bangkok City Tour

Breakfast

This morning you will explore Bangkok's temples and landmarks. Highlights include the Grand Palace, Wat Phra Kaeo (Temple of the Emerald Buddha) and Wat Pho. If there is one must-see sight, without which no visit to Bangkok would be complete, it is the dazzling, spectacular Grand Palace, undoubtedly the city's most famous landmark.

For a little good luck, purchase a bowl of coins to drop into the 108 bronze bowls lining the length of the walls. Dropping the coins makes a lovely ringing sound and the money goes towards the monks' fund for renovating and preserving Wat Pho.

Built in 1782 - and for 150 years the home of the Thai King, the Royal court and the administrative seat of government, the Grand Palace of Bangkok continues to awe visitors with its beautiful architecture and intricate detail, all of which is a proud salute to the creativity and craftsmanship of the Thai people. Its walls once housed the Thai war ministry, state departments, and even the mint. Today, the complex remains the spiritual heart of the Thai Kingdom.



Photo by Judy Vos

Day 3: Bangkok Green Jungle by Bicycle Tour

Breakfast, Lunch

Bangkok Jungle Bike Tour is the ultimate experience for those who want to experience something totally different and unique in Bangkok - You will get to discover a hidden paradise in the heart of the city.



Photo by Discova

Breakfast, Lunch

Bangkok Jungle Bike Tour is the ultimate experience for those who want to experience something totally different and unique in Bangkok - You will get to discover a hidden paradise in the heart of the city. We start by picking you up at your Bangkok Hotel and transfer you to meet our guide who waits for you at the Khlong Toei Pier. Here you will board our longtail boat and make it across the Chao Phaya River over to Bangkok's Jungle, Bang Krajae. We'll do a fitting for your premium quality bicycle. You will quickly feel Bangkok Jungle in many ways is different from downtown - Everything is quieter, cooler, local, and very tranquil: a wilderness of lush green jungle, mangroves, gardens, and nature. It's a wonderful place to ride a bicycle and breathe the fresh air. Along the way, we go on the elevated jungle pathways through coconut plantations, canals, and local communities. We will stop in and visit the Sri Nakhon Khuean Khan Park, a small green oasis with trails, pavilions and lakes. You'll even have the opportunity to visit the Bangkok Tree House, and a beautiful statue of Lord Ganesh. Before heading back to the river and Bangkok city-side, we stop in to have a delicious Thai Lunch at a Local restaurant. The total distance for the bike tour is approx 12 kilometers, and the entire ride is a nice and easy.

Bangkok Jungle Bike Tour is a must-do tour for those who want to see and experience something very different and unique in Bangkok! Bike Tour Distance: ~12 km - Flat & Easy Route

Start Time: 9am **Duration:** 3 hours

Day 4: River Kwai and Hellfire Pass - Private TOUR



Photo by Discova

Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Just a three-hour drive from Bangkok lies a stark juxtaposition: the stunningly beautiful province of Kanchanaburi, marred by a dark history of sorrow and despair. After starting your tour in Bangkok, take a journey to the past on the historic "Death Railway," a legacy of World War II originally built by Allied Prisoners of War.

The railway, which runs across the famous Bridge over the River Kwai, is named for the thousands of prisoners who lost their lives while constructing this link between Thailand and Myanmar (Burma). Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant before visiting the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery, home to the remains of those who died during the railway's construction. Then, wrap up your tour with a visit to Hellfire Pass, a dramatic part of the railway that literally cut through a mountain. Walk down into the valley to see the cut in the rock from below, before exploring the Hellfire Pass Memorial Museum, which tells the stories of human suffering at the hands of this engineering feat.

Start Time: 7am **Duration:** 12 hours

Transfer to Hin Tok River Camp (with dinner)

Day 5: Saiyok Waterfall and Lava Cave

Breakfast

SaiYokNoi waterfall has been famous for a long time. The name means crumbled mountain, derived from the natural occurrence of the waterfall: eroded limestone cliffs became steps descending down in many levels to the foothills. Water comes from the top of the mountain flowing down small waterways and finally falls down to the 15m high limestone crag. Freely gliding water on slopes of the hill in the shade of the trees and reeds growing along the waterside, plus the cool breeze is breathtaking indeed. Continue your journey to the Lava Cave which is famous for its marvelous stalactites and a stalagmite awaiting your exploration.



Photo by Flickr, Prowpatareeya Tan

Day 6: Visit Mon Village

Breakfast

After your visit to Mon Village you will transfer to Bangkok Train Station for your overnight journey to Chiang Mai. 2nd Class Lower Berth One-Way Overnight Train.

Day 7: Chiang Mai City by Rickshaw – private tour



Photo by Discova

Breakfast

Join your tour guide at the Three Kings Monument for a rickshaw excursion, beginning with a safety briefing. Cruise on three wheels to Waroros Market, Chiang Mai's largest local market, offering a diverse array of products. During Thai festivals like Songkran and Loy Kratong, locals flock to Waroros Market for home decorations, clothes, and merry-making. The market boasts local food, desserts, and fruits. Continue the rickshaw journey to Wat Puak Tam, the brass ornament-making hub in Puak Tam community, renowned for brass craftsmanship. Discover the community's history and craft a brass ornament as a memento.

Resume the three-wheeled ride to Wat Srisuphan, also known as the Silver Temple, adorned with handcrafted silver decoration since 2008. Built in 1500 to serve a silversmith village, the temple features intricate silver carvings depicting Buddhist legends. The statues of Buddha within are also covered in silver. Explore the temple's interior with captivating silver decorations, mirrors, and vibrant colours. Due to Buddhist customs, women are restricted from entering the temple's interior. The surrounding area has numerous small silver studios for observing local artisans. Conclude the tour at the Three Kings Monument.

Trip Distance: 9 km.

Trail Condition: Easy on paved roads by rickshaw riding.

Fitness Level Requirement: All Levels.

Start Time: 8am **Duration:** 5 hours

This evening enjoy the Chiang Mai Night Bike Ride – Shared tour

Commence your evening tour at Discova Day Tour Shop at 17h30. Following a swift fitting and briefing, pedal in the sabai way (Thai for 'being chilled out') towards Chiang Mai's old city eastern gate, Tha Phae Gate. Cycle through the old city's quaint lanes, learning about its history as a trading hub at the beautifully restored gate.

Explore Wat Intakhin's serene 700-year-old white Buddha and the Three Kings Monument. Walk to Wat Lok Molee by the city moat, witnessing the illuminated stupa and ornate wooden prayer hall. Continue to Wat Chedi Luang, Chiang Mai's grandest monument, housing the City Pillar and auspicious trees. Conclude the tour with a food exploration at Chiang Mai Gate Market, selecting dishes to sample, and enjoying the night market atmosphere with your guide. Return to the meeting point, cycling back from the market. After the tour, explore more street food delicacies at the market.



Start Time: 5.45pm **Duration:** 4 hours

Photo by Discova

Day 8: Mae Kampong Village - Private Morning Tour

Breakfast, Lunch

Witness the old-age agricultural techniques and local customs still thriving today at Mae Kampong, a village where life revolves around tea production. Take part in the village's homestay project, too, promoting eco-tourism and helping villagers better understand the environmental impact of farming. Follow your friendly guide around the village before a walk through the forest, and then enjoy a farming demonstration by the locals. Afterwards, take time to relax and enjoy the breathtaking surrounding scenery of emerald hills dense with tea fields. Put your feet up and let the skilled village masseuses ease away any aches and pains - perfect preparation for an in-depth look at the process of fermenting tea.

Transfer to Lisu Lodge for a 2 day/1 night programme

Day 1: The lodge is located at a Lisu hilltribe village and you will be guided through the village by some of the locals before having dinner at the terrace of one of the wooden houses, where you will also be entertained by children from the local village who will perform some Lisu folklore. Built in traditional Lisu style with an eye for western comforts, the guest cottages overlook the lush fields and hills surrounding the valley. Each guest room has an en-suite bathroom. The cottages include electric fans (but no air con), a mosquito net, a universal power outlet at the headboard, 2 complimentary bottles of water, a hair dryer, hot water for showers, toiletries and slippers, towels and a shower cap. **Pack an overnight bag for tonight's homestay as your main luggage will be left in safe storage and collected tomorrow.**

Day 9: Lisu - Hmong

Breakfast, Dinner

Day 2: Enjoy breakfast from the lodge's organic farm.

Transfer to Hmong Hilltribe Lodge for overnight.

Enjoy a BBQ Dinner and Hmong Cultural Show.

Day 10: Whitewater Rafting Mae Teang Tour

Breakfast, Lunch

Join our professional team for a superb whitewater rafting adventure on the Mae Tang river. Experience a unique and unforgettable journey through winding gorges, lush jungles and magnificent terraced rice fields.

At our upstream camp, you can spend leisure time before lunch and continue fully outfitted with the helmets and the life jackets. After a brief instruction on paddling and river safety, you are off to the longest and best rafting trip on the Mae Tang River (10kms. 2 - 2.30 hours. with 14 rapids).

At the downstream camp, enjoy your refreshment before transfer to Chiang Mai



Photo by Discova

Start Time: 10.30am **Duration:** 7 hours

Day 11: Doi Inthanon National Park – Private tour



Photo by Discova

Breakfast, Lunch

Head to Thailand's highest mountain, exploring its summit and a nature trail amid the highland evergreen forest. The mild climate, with temperatures never exceeding 20°C, supports unique organisms adapted to this specific condition. Pay respects at the Lanna King Inthavichayanon site before proceeding to the Kiew Mae Pan trail.

Walk with a local guide, then descend to visit the Double Pagodas of King Rama IX and his Queen. Enjoy lunch at a local restaurant (Royal Project), followed by visits to the Royal Project and Wachiratharn waterfall. Return to hotel.

Note: Kiew Mae Pan trail is annually closed from May to Oct, with the Ban Mae Klang Luang trail as an alternative. Trail condition: Medium – some up and downhill. Not wheelchair-friendly. Fitness Level Requirement: All Levels.

Start Time: 7.30am **Duration:** 10 hours

Day 12: Departure

Breakfast

Meet our representative at the lobby of your hotel for private transfer to the airport. Pick-up time will be confirmed beforehand but is typically 2 hours before departure for domestic flights, and 3 hours for international.