

## Classic Thailand - West Coast - ATNW

14 days: Bangkok to Bangkok

### What's Included

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- Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group
- Wat Pho visit
- Klong riverboat tour
- Erawan Falls and Bridge on the River Kwai visit (Kanchanaburi)
- Thai-Burma Railway Centre and Allied War Cemetery visit
- Temple ruins tour (Ayutthaya)
- Doi Suthep temple visit (Chiang Mai)
- Internal Flights
- Beach barbecue (Ko Lanta)
- Half-day snorkelling boat trip through the Trang Islands (Ko Ngai)
- Free time on spectacular beaches
- 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 February 16th, 2023 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.

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#### Day 1 Bangkok

Arrive at any time.

#### **Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group**

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.

#### **Accommodation**

**Hotel Royal Bangkok @ Chinatown (or similar)**

Hotel

#### Day 2 Bangkok/Kanchanaburi

Enjoy a klong boat tour of Bangkok including a visit to Wat Pho. Travel to Kanchanaburi and head to your floating raft house accommodation.

#### **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 – Kanchanaburi 2h-3h 130km

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

#### **Overnight Rafthouse Excursion**

Kanchanaburi

Enjoy a unique experience aboard a floating raft house on the famous River Kwai.

#### **Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner**

#### **Accommodation**

#### **Pung-Waan Resort (or similar)**

Resort

### **Day 3 Kanchanaburi**

Enjoy a day of sightseeing at Erawan Falls and the Bridge on the River Kwai.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Kanchanaburi – Nam Tok Erawan 1h-2h

Enjoy a short drive to view the beautiful Erawan Waterfalls. (1-2 hours per direction)

#### **Erawan Waterfalls**

Nam Tok Erawan

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.

#### **Bridge on the River Kwai Visit**

Kanchanaburi

Take in a piece of World War II history on this visit. We're sure you've seen or at least heard of the famous movie "Bridge on the River Kwai." Well, now you can tour the real thing. It's massive, majestic, and imposing, offering fabulous views of the river below.

#### **Meals included: Breakfast**

#### **Accommodation**

#### **Good Times Resort (or similar)**

Hotel

### **Day 4 Kanchanaburi to Ayutthaya to Chiang Mai**

Explore the Allied War Cemetery and the Thai-Burmese Railway Centre to learn more about the area's history. Travel to Ayutthaya and visit the historical sites of the old capital city. In the evening board an overnight train to Chiang Mai.

#### **Thai/Burma Railway Centre and Allied War Cemetery Visit**

Kanchanaburi

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.

#### **Temple Ruins Tour**

Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya

Visit the ruins of Ayutthaya, which served as Thailand's capital from the 14th to 18th centuries, when it ranked as one of the most magnificent cities in the world. Located 86km (53 mi) north of Bangkok, the ruins of this UNESCO World Heritage Site include stunning pagodas and Buddha images.

#### **Basic Overnight Train (beds)**

Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya – Chiang Mai 12h

Experience overnight travel like a local. Sit back and get some well-earned (and likely much-needed) rest en route to your next stop.

#### **Meals included: Breakfast**

### **Day 5 Chiang Mai**

Arrive in Chiang Mai and explore the city. Visit Doi Suthep in the afternoon.

Chiang Mai is a vibrant city with heaps to see and do. Famous for its night market and cooking classes, it's a feat to fit it all in. Experience the flavours and scents of traditional northern Thai cuisine by pre-booking the Northern Thai Cooking Class.

### **Chiang Mai Old Town Orientation Walk**

Chiang Mai

Walk the inner Old Town of Chiang Mai with your CEO who will point out the basic landmarks and points of interest.

### **Chiang Mai Street Food Crawl**

Chiang Mai

After the orientation walk enjoy a street food crawl of local vendors in Chiang Mai. Sample different cuisines from food stalls and open yourself up to new flavours.

### **Free Time**

Chiang Mai

Use free time here to make the most of your time in Chiang Mai.

### **Private Vehicle**

Chiang Mai – Doi Suthep 45m

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

### **Private Vehicle**

Doi Suthep – Chiang Mai

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.

### **Optional Activities - Day 5**

#### **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.

### **Northern Thai Cooking Class**

Chiang Mai

Channel your inner chef with a home-style Thai cooking class. Take a trip to the market with your teacher and learn about regional flavours as you pick out fresh ingredients. Head back to the cozy kitchen for a hands-on lesson in whipping up delicious local favourites like hot and sour soup, green curry, and sticky rice.

### **Half-Day Chiang Mai Cycling Tour**

Chiang Mai

1300THB per person

This half-day ride takes you on a memorable tour of the countryside's most interesting sights. Go beyond the city to see Buddhist temples, local markets and organic farms. Just off the beaten track, you'll get a sense of how the locals live and see Chiang Mai from a totally different view.

### **Accommodation**

#### **Chiang Mai Gate Hotel (or similar)**

Hotel

### **Day 6 Chiang Mai**

Take a full free day to relax or explore the countryside of northern Thailand.

Chiang Mai is a vibrant city with heaps to see and do. Famous for its night market, it's a feat to fit it all in. Experience the flavours and scents of traditional northern Thai cuisine by pre-booking the Northern Thai Cooking Class.

### **Free Time**

Chiang Mai Morning

Use free time here to make the most of your time in Chiang Mai.

### **Optional Activities - Day 6**

### **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.

### **Northern Thai Cooking Class**

Chiang Mai

Channel your inner chef with a home-style Thai cooking class. Take a trip to the market with your teacher and learn about regional flavours as you pick out fresh ingredients. Head back to the cozy kitchen for a hands-on lesson in whipping up delicious local favourites like hot and sour soup, green curry, and sticky rice.

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**Meals included: Breakfast**

**Accommodation**

**Chiang Mai Gate Hotel (or similar)**

Hotel

### **Day 7 Chiang Mai/Bangkok**

Enjoy a free morning in Chiang Mai, then fly to Bangkok to enjoy a night out in the city.

#### **Plane**

Chiang Mai – Bangkok 1h30m

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

**Meals included: Breakfast**

**Accommodation**

**Hotel Royal Bangkok @ Chinatown (or similar)**

Hotel

### **Day 8 Bangkok/Ko Ngai**

Fly to Trang and board a ferry to tiny Ko Ngai, a pristine paradise. Opt to relax or snorkel in the waters of these beautiful beaches.

#### **Plane**

Bangkok – Trang 1h30m

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

#### **Private Vehicle**

Trang 45m

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

#### **Ferry**

Trang – Ko Ngai 1h

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

#### **Free Time**

Ko Ngai Afternoon

Get out and explore the tranquil beaches in the area.

**Meals included: Breakfast**

**Accommodation**

**Koh Ngai Resort (or similar)**

Resort

### **Day 9 Ko Ngai**

Enjoy an included snorkelling trip to nearby Ko Chueak and experience the amazing Emerald Cave of Ko Mook.

### **Trang Islands Snorkelling Tour**

Ko Ngai

Get to know the local marine life with this included snorkelling tour around the unspoilt Trang Islands. Hop over to Ko Chueak to experience the idyllic waters, admire scenic Ko Kradan, and explore the amazing Emerald Cave of Ko Mook.

**Meals included: Breakfast**  
**Accommodation**  
**Koh Ngai Resort (or similar)**  
Resort

### **Day 10 Ko Ngai/Ko Lanta**

Take a public speedboat/ferry or longtail boat to the secluded island of Ko Lanta. Enjoy some free time before a beach barbecue this evening.

#### **Ferry**

Ko Ngai – Ko Lanta 1h

Get to the next spot on your route aboard a convenient and efficient ferry boat.

#### **Free Time**

Ko Lanta

Opt to relax, or get out and explore.

**Meals included: Breakfast | Dinner**  
**Accommodation**  
**Andaman Lanta Resort (or similar)**  
Hotel

### **Day 11 Ko Lanta**

Spend the day on Ko Lanta. Opt for a day trip to nearby Ko Rok.

Opt for a day trip to nearby Ko Rok where you can snorkel at Ko Rok's national park, trek to a view point and enjoy a picnic lunch.

#### **Free Time**

Ko Lanta

Explore all this place has to offer.

#### **Optional Activities - Day 11**

##### **Ko Rok Day Trip**

Ko Lanta – Ko Rok

Head to Ko Rok for the day. Opt to snorkel in Ko Rok's national park, trek to a view point and enjoy a picnic lunch.

**Meals included: Breakfast**  
**Accommodation**  
**Andaman Lanta Resort (or similar)**  
Hotel

### **Day 12 Ko Lanta/Ao Nang**

Transfer to Ao Nang in Krabi. Enjoy free time exploring the small town or relaxing on its beautiful beaches.

#### **Private Vehicle**

Ko Lanta – Ao Nang 2h15m-3h

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

#### **Free Time**

Ao Nang Half Day

Set out to explore your beautiful surroundings.

#### **Optional Activities - Day 12**

##### **Kayaking**

Ao Nang

Head out to enjoy the scenery from sea level. Get a little exercise in this tropical paradise.

##### **Snorkelling**

Ao Nang

Grab a mask and snorkel and get to know the local marine life.

**Meals included: Breakfast**  
**Accommodation**  
**Deevana Krabi Resort (or similar)**  
Hotel

## Day 13 Ao Nang

Spend a free day in the area. This area boasts plenty of activities such as kayaking, snorkelling, jungle trekking, or whitewater rafting. Opt to visit Railay Beach, or head out on a snorkelling trip.

Discover the idyllic beaches of the Phi Phi islands by pre-booking the Phi Phi Island Tour by Speed Boat extra.

### Free Time

Ao Nang Full Day

Get out and explore.

### Optional Activities - Day 13

#### Kayaking

Ao Nang

Head out to enjoy the scenery from sea level. Get a little exercise in this tropical paradise.

#### Snorkelling

Ao Nang

Grab a mask and snorkel and get to know the local marine life.

### Phi Phi Island Tour By Speed Boat

Ao Nang

Traverse the Phi Phi Archipelago to discover idyllic beaches and sparkling turquoise waters. Stop to snorkel at Loh Samah Bay and see the wildlife at Monkey Beach. From the boat, view the iconic Maya Bay, made famous by the Leonardo DiCaprio film, The Beach. Stop at the glittering lagoon, Pileh Bay. Secluded by limestone cliffs rising majestically from the water, this hidden paradise is the perfect spot for swimming and exploring. Once you've built up an appetite, head to the lively Phi Phi Don for a buffet lunch, catching a glimpse of Viking Cave en route. End the day in the picturesque setting of Bamboo Island, where you can opt to snorkel or relax on the white sands.

Please note that this tour does not include the National Park fee which is required by law to be paid directly to the park ranger.

### Meals included: Breakfast

### Accommodation

### Deevana Krabi Resort (or similar)

Hotel

## Day 14 Ao Nang/Bangkok

This morning transfer to Krabi airport for a flight back to Bangkok. Tour ends on arrival. Please book any onward international travel to be no earlier than 15:00.

### Private Vehicle

Ao Nang – Krabi Airport 30m

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

### Plane

Krabi Airport – Suvarnabhumi Airport 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.

### Meals included: Breakfast

## What's Included

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Your Welcome Moment: Welcome Moment - Meet Your CEO and Group. Wat Pho visit. Klong riverboat tour. Erawan Falls and Bridge on the River Kwai visit (Kanchanaburi). Thai-Burma Railway Centre and Allied War Cemetery visit. Temple ruins tour (Ayutthaya). Doi Suthep temple visit (Chiang Mai). Internal Flights. Beach barbecue (Ko Lanta). Half-day snorkelling boat trip through the Trang Islands (Ko Ngai). Free time on spectacular beaches. All transport between destinations and to/from included activities.

## Highlights

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Climb up the seven-tiered Erawan Waterfalls, Explore ancient ruins in the old capital city of Ayutthaya, Trek through rainforest trails in Ko Ngai, Relax on deserted beaches, See stunning limestone karsts in Ao Nang

## Itinerary Disclaimer

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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.

## Important Notes

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### COMBO TRIP

Please note that this tour combines with other G Adventures tours. As such, the staff and some travel companions on your tour may have previously been traveling together with G Adventures, prior to Day 1 of your tour. Likewise, some staff and travel companions may be continuing together on another G Adventures tour, after your trip concludes.

### WEIGHT RESTRICTION

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.

### ACCOMMODATION NOTE:

Please be aware that properties we stay in with only two stories may not have elevators installed and climbing the stairs with your luggage will be necessary.

## Group Leader Description

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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 traveling 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.

## Group Size Notes

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Max 16, Avg 12.

## Meals Included

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12 breakfasts, 2 dinners

## Meals

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Eating is a big part of traveling. G Adventures understands the importance of breakfast to start your day, we strive to include a basic breakfast wherever possible. This will typically include toast, coffee and tea, however this may vary depending on the city. Should breakfast not be included, your CEO can suggest some local options.

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.

For all trips please refer to the meals included and budget information for included meals and meal budgets.

## Transport

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Train, air-con bus/minivan, walking, plane, long tail boat, ferry.

## About our Transportation

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As the popularity of train travel in Thailand continues to grow domestically, some of the routes used on this tour do not have sufficient space during local public holidays, including New Year's, Songkran, etc. During these times of the year, alternative transport may be arranged for one or more of the train journeys on this tour.

## Solo Travellers

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We believe solo 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 solo travellers on these itineraries must pay the single trip price.

## Accommodation

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Hotels/guesthouses (11 nts), rafterhouse (1 nt), sleeper train (1 nt).

## Rooming and "My Own Room" Exceptions

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Please note that if you have booked the "My Own Room" option for this tour, you will receive your own single accommodation for all night stops, with the following exceptions: Night 5 (overnight train)

## About Accommodation

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A variety of styles of hotels/guest houses are used on this trip. In many instances they might not be like what you are used to back home as service and efficiency can vary. In some areas we stay in simple local guest houses in stunning locations - rooms are small and simple and there may only be shared toilet facilities and showers.

## Joining Instructions

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

When arriving at Suvarnabhumi Airport (pronounced 'su wan na poom') in Bangkok proceed to the Arrivals Hall where you can change money into Thai Baht. (You may be approached by nicely dressed, official looking touts offering an expensive limousine service to your hotel; ignore these offers.)

If you have paid in advance for an arrival transfer, a G Adventures representative will be at the airport to meet you (go to gate 4). If for any reason you are not met at the airport, please call our local support line. If you are unable to make contact for whatever reason, please make your way to the joining point hotel via taxi.

IMPORTANT NOTE (If you have NOT pre-booked an arrival transfer with G Adventures)  
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Directions to Hotel Royal Bangkok AT ChinaTown (OR Yaowarat). Please make sure to check your tour vouchers for correct start accommodation.

"You have two transport options; taxi or the Airport Train & MRT. All transportation is located on the 'ground' floor."

Taxi  
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The airport is located 30km's away from downtown Bangkok. Approach the taxi counters, advise them where you are going and they will write this information down for you along with the taxis registration details. Taxis should always use the meter and you are required to pay a 50 Baht airport surcharge on top of the metered fee plus any tollway fees (approx 75 -125 Baht depending on the route taken). Total journey will cost between 350 THB - 500 THB, depending on traffic and toll fees. The expressway is substantially faster, so tell the taxi driver to use the expressway, you can say either ""kuen ton-way"" (from 'tollway') or ""kuen taang duan"" in Thai (but most understand Tollway/expressway in English).



Train

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Directions to Hotel Royal Bangkok AT ChinaTown (OR Yaowarat):

If you are staying at the Hotel Royal Bangkok AT ChinaTown (OR Yaowarat), you can take the Airport Train. Board the express airport train at the City Air Terminal at a cost of 150 THB. Here you will ride all the way along to Makkasan Subway station where you will need to disembark and change to the MRT Blue line, boarding at Phetchaburi Station. From Petchaburi Station travel to Wat Mangkon station and follow the signs for Exit 1. Once out you're on Plaeng Nam Road, walk 3 minutes. The hotel is located on Yaowarat road.

Please note that day 1 is an arrival day and no activities have been planned on this day.

Upon arrival to your Joining Hotel (note that check-in time will be in the afternoon), look for a note or bulletin board in the reception with a note from your CEO. This note will give the details of your Welcome Meeting on day 1 (usually between 5pm and 7pm), where you will get a chance to meet your CEO and other travellers, as well as learn more about how the tour will run. If you don't see a note, please ask reception for details!

If you are arriving later and will miss the Welcome Meeting, your CEO will leave a note at reception for you with any information you may need, and with morning instructions for the next day.

## Arrival Complications

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We don't expect any problems, and nor should you, but if for any reason you are unable to commence your trip as scheduled, please refer to the emergency contact details provided in this dossier and contact us as soon as possible. If you have a pre-booked transfer, and you 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.

## Emergency Contact

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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 or flight cancellation within 48 hours of your scheduled arrival time, please call the emergency contact number to advise of your new arrival flight information. If you do not, we will not be able to rearrange your arrival transfer and you will need to make your own way to the starting hotel at your own expense. 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

From outside Thailand +66 92 338 9222

From within Thailand 092 338 9222

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 to Take

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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 10-15kg/22-30lb. Suitcases are not recommended for G Adventures trips! Most travelers carry a backpack or rolling bag of small to medium size (no XXL ones please!) as they need to fit under the beds when traveling on sleeper trains. You will also need a day pack/bag to carry water, cameras and other electronics like ipods and mobile phones. If your trip involves overnights in home-stays, villages or camping then you usually have the opportunity to rent sleeping bags if need be instead of bringing them with you.

## **Packing List**

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Health & Safety:

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

## **Laundry**

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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.

## **Spending Money**

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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.

## **Money Exchange**

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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!

## **Emergency Fund**

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Please also make sure you have access to at least an additional USD \$200 (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!

## **Departure Tax**

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Departure Tax is included in all International and Domestic tickets in China, Thailand and Vietnam.

## Tipping

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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.

## Optional Activities

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Chiang Mai

- Northern Thai Cooking Class
- Half-Day Chiang Mai Cycling Tour (1300THB per person)
- Street Food Walk at Chiang Mai Night Market

Ko Lanta

- Ko Rok Day Trip

Ao Nang

- Snorkelling
- Kayaking
- Phi Phi Island Tour By Speed Boat

## Health

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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.

You should consult your 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 CEO's 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 traveler 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.

## Safety and Security

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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 group leader has the authority to amend or cancel any part of the trip itinerary if it deemed necessary, due to safety concerns. Your Chief Experience Officer (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 and 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 judgement 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.

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. [Read more about travel safety](#) for ways to further enhance your personal safety while traveling.

## **Trip Specific Safety**

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We strongly recommend the use of a neck wallet or money belt while travelling, for the safe keeping of your passport, air tickets, 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.

## **A Couple of Rules**

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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 people in the sex trade 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 utilize the services of paid sex workers, in any capacity.

## **Travel Insurance**

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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 leader, who will take note of your insurance details. When selecting a travel insurance policy we require that at a minimum you are covered for medical expenses including emergency evacuation and repatriation. A minimum coverage of USD200,000 is required. G Adventures can provide you with the appropriate coverage. We strongly recommend that the policy also covers personal liability, cancellation, curtailment and loss of luggage and personal effects. Some tours include adventure activities that require extra coverage (e.g. crampon use); please review your itinerary and make sure that you are covered for all included activities. 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.

## **Planeterra Foundation - the non-profit partner of G Adventures**

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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.

## **Local Dress**

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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 villages, temples or mosques or other holy sites. In Pakistan we recommend a head scarf for women while walking around.

## Feedback

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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.

## Newsletter

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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.

## Minimum Age

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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.

## International Flights

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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.