

BANGKOK

amazing
THAILAND
Amazing Value

Bangkok was founded in 1782 by the first monarch of the present Chakri dynasty. It is now the country's spiritual, cultural, diplomatic, commercial and educational hub. It covers an area of more than 1,500 square kilometers, and it is home to approximately ten million people or more than 10% of the country's population.



Over the last few decades, Thailand's capital city, Bangkok, has changed into a modern, exciting and sophisticated city. It offers to visitors not only the cosmopolitan amenities they would expect from other big cities, but also a unique treasure trove of cultural attractions.

Bangkok gives visitors the opportunity to experience fascinating glimpse of Thailand's gentle culture amidst the bustle of a great and dynamic metropolis.

For tourists, Bangkok has a feast of attractions. The city is dotted with 400 glittering Buddhist temples of great beauty and fascination, magnificent palaces, classical dance extravaganzas, numerous shopping centers, and traditional ways of life, especially along the "Venice of the East" timeless canals and the Chao Phraya River or "River of Kings" winding through the city. It is worth taking a trip along its waters before exploring further into different canals to take a glimpse of old Bangkok.

MUST SEE

Temples

Bangkok's temples are a unique part of the capital's heart and soul. A visit here would not be complete without seeing at least three of them ie The Grand Palace, Temple of Dawn (Wat Arun) and Wat Pho. The architecture is awe-inspiring and the glittering decorations like no other.

Dream World

It is a beautiful land designed in classic style and decorated with European style plaza, miniature land of the major world legends and exciting playing machines. This amusement park is situated on km. 7 of Rangsit-Ongkharak Road, a 10 minute drive from Don Muang Airport.

Safari World

It is located at Km. 9, Ram Indra Road, Min Buri, covers an area of some 170 acres and is divided into 2 parts. The first, the Safari Park, houses a large variety of animals like zebra, deer, giraffe, birds, tigers, lions, bears, etc. In natural habitat, visitors can drive their own cars or have a good look from one of the

Safari World's air-conditioned coaches. The second, the marine park, exhibits marine and some rare animals. Visitors can enjoy performance by trained animals like dolphins, birds, seals and monkeys.

Siam Ocean World

A new attraction in downtown Bangkok. Open in December 2005, Siam Ocean World is the largest aquarium in Southeast Asia.

Siam Niramit

Siam Niramit is a world-class performance of Thailand's arts and cultural heritage. Set in the heart of Bangkok affording convenient access by MRT subway and major thoroughfares, this must-see spectacular is performed on the gigantic stage now listed in the Guinness World Records, featuring over 150 performers with as many as 500 costumes.

Siam Park

It is a huge water park on the outskirts of Bangkok and this is a good family day trip. There are plenty of food stalls selling delicious Thai snacks.



Shopping

Shopping in Bangkok is an experience to thrill and delight the most discerning of shoppers-whatver it is you're looking for. Markets vary from the busy mazes like Pratunam, Phahurat and Chatuchak Weekend Market to the more sophisticated (and cooler) night market at Suan Lum Night Bazaar. Floating markets are Taling Chan Market, Bang Ku Wiang Market and Tha Kha. Some of the main shopping malls are The Emporium on Sukhumvit Road, Central Chidlom and the adjacent Gaysorn, Siam Discovery Centre, Siam Paragon, Siam Square, MBK and CentralWorld.



GETTING AROUND

BTS SKYTRAINS

The routes connect Bangkok's leading hotels and major shopping areas such as Siam Square, Silom, Ratchaprasong and Chatuchak Weekend Market. The fare ranges from 10 - 40 baht according to the distance. For more information, visit www.bts.co.th.

SUBWAY (METRO)

Connects many of the top tourist attractions with the accommodation areas, markets and the business district. The fare ranges from 14 to 36 baht. The trains run from 6 a.m. to midnight daily.

For more information, visit www.bangkokmetro.co.th

BUS

Minimum fare-7 baht to most destinations within metropolitan Bangkok. Air-conditioned buses have minimum and maximum fares - 10 and 22 baht, respectively. Visit www.bmta.co.th for more information on Bangkok's public buses.

TAXI

Charge-minimum of 35 baht for the first 3 kilometers and approximately 5 baht per kilometer thereafter.

TUK - TUKS

Similar to Indian 3 wheeler autos. Popular for short distances. Fare must be bargained in advance. Minimum fare, for journey of up to 3 kilometers, is approximately 30 baht.

BOAT

Taxis that are even more unusual, though equally convenient, are the river taxis that ply the Chao Phraya River. Some are just cross river ferries, but others serve the many landing stages on both banks and cover a route that goes up as far as the adjacent province of Nonthaburi.

FOR ACCOMMODATION information, please log on to :
<http://tourismthailand.org/accommodation/bangkok-10-1.html>

Important Phone Nos : Tourist Service Centre : 1672
Tourist Police : 1155

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