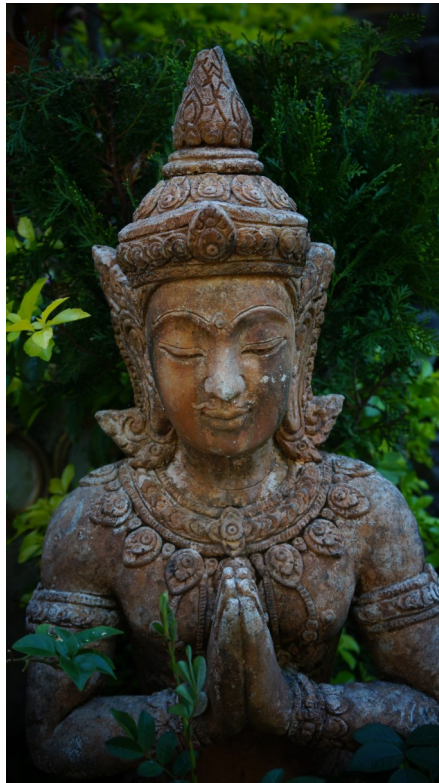


Thailand Tour

The Land of Smiles: Jan. 23-Feb. 6, 2019

With optional 4 night 5 day trip to Phuket: Feb. 6-10.2019



The land of smiles: Spend 15 days exploring a diverse itinerary in Northern Thailand: the northern region around Chiang Mai and Mae Sa, a few days in the ancient Siamese Capital of Sukhothai and ending the trip with 3 nights in Bangkok. Our tour includes visits to humanitarian organizations in Thailand, learning how these worthwhile projects are making a difference to children, refugees and families. We'll visit an Elephant Refuge, Hill Tribes of indigenous people where we'll spend one night with families there. We'll learn Thai cooking and visit the House of the Weaver, as well as some sessions in Buddhist meditation. We'll visit temples, markets, and bike riding or walking around the ancient sites and ruins of Sukhothai. We'll visit a floating market in Bangkok and the Palaces and main sites of Bangkok. We'll also set time aside throughout the trip for free time and personal exploration. We'll have time for a Thai massage everyday if you wish and together as a group spend some time reflecting on the experience with some sessions on poetry and reflective writing with our leader and poet, Ray McGinnis. Flip the page for a detailed itinerary.

All-inclusive in country costs are **\$3495** Canadian shared accommodation and an additional **\$500** for single accommodation. (includes GST). This includes accommodation, meals, guides, courses, in country shuttles, taxi's, one in country flight, tips, and donations to all the organizations we will visit, transfers to hotel on arrival. Not included: spending money, alcohol and water other than at meals, passports, transfers to airport on departure on either Feb. 6 or 10, and immunizations. The flight costs to Thailand are your own responsibility; however, we will let you know which flight we recommend. You will fly into Chiang Mai, arriving on January 23rd and fly out of Bangkok, departing on either Feb. 6 or Feb. 10 (Phuket Tour), or make your own plans to continue the journey. This tour requires a minimum of 10 participants to run and is designed for those aged 18 and up. You are welcome to stay longer or arrive earlier and travel on your own as you wish. We can give you advice on the best places to go.

Registration deadline: December 1, 2018.

This will be Ray and Doris' third guided trip to Thailand with World Pilgrim. Doris is the founder of World Pilgrim Education and has been leading Pilgrimages like this one since 1997 to countries like Cuba, Guatemala, Europe and India. Ray has travelled to Thailand a number of times and is eager to share this love of this special country with others. He is a poet, a published author and a teacher of writing and poetry worldwide. World Pilgrim has been building up networks of friends in countries like India, Guatemala, Cuba and Thailand, where they work to create meaningful travel that makes a difference to the communities visited and for the travellers themselves. Please be in touch as you ponder whether this journey is for you.

Add on a trip to Phuket: 4 nights and 5 days on the beautiful island of Phuket for some time to relax, enjoy the beach and water, and have some time for personal and group explorations. Includes flight from Bangkok to Phuket return, 4 nights delux accommodation with breakfast, and your guides organizing optional daily activities. Lunch and Dinners are your own responsibility and excursions you may wish to take that have a cost. **Cost: \$695 Canadian for shared accommodation and \$975 for single accommodation (prices include GST)**



For application forms and questions about the tour please contact our Thailand Guides:

Doris at worldpilgrims@gmail.com 604.341.2724 or Ray at rmcgin@shaw.ca 604.408.4457

Thailand Tour Itinerary:

- Day 1:
Jan. 23

CHIANG MAI: Group arrival in Chiang Mai, Airport pickups, Settle in, lunch, walk and rest 5:00 pm Orientation. Walk around Chiang Mai 6:15 pm gather for Evening orientation and dinner in Old City, Overnight is Chiang Mai
- Day 2:
Jan. 24

CHIANG MAI: 8:00 am Breakfast 9:00 am Visit Studio Naenna for weaving demonstration and tie-dye workshop 1:00 pm Lunch visit to: Thai Freedom House. After lunch visit Doi Suthep Temple and view over the city. Dinner. Overnight in Chiang Mai
- Day 3:
Jan. 25

CHIANG MAI: 7:30 am Breakfast. Day at the Thai Farm Cooking School www.thaifarmcooking.net. Lunch at school. 4:00 pm Back to hotel 6:00 p.m. Monk chanting at Wat Pan Tao (beside Wat Chedi Luang) Overnight in Chiang Mai
- Day 4:
Jan. 26

MAE SA: 8:00 am Breakfast 9:00 am departure for Home-stay in Mae Sa. Pack your overnight bag! (we will keep our rooms at the hotel in Chiang Mai) Spend the evening and have dinner with families in the village. Overnight with families in small groups.
- Day 5:
Jan. 27

MAE SA: Morning breakfast with Home-stay and afternoon program in Mae Sa. On way back to Chaing Mai. Stop at Hot Springs. 5:00 p.m. Travel back to Chiang Mai for dinner. Visit Sunday Walking Street. Overnight in Chiang Mai.
- Day 6:
Jan. 28

CHAING MAI: Breakfast. Morning: Visit the Chiang Mai Women’s Prison Massage Centre. Wat visits: Wat Chai Phra Kiat & Wat Thung Yu. Lunch at the Chiang Mai Women’s Prison Café, walk back to Hotel. Free afternoon or trip Silk Factory, Umbrella Factory, Jewellery Factory. 6:30 pm Dinner Overnight in Chiang Mai.
- Day 7:
Jan. 29

7:00 am Breakfast 8:00 am pickup to Visit Elephant Nature Park, lunch included Return to Chiang Mai by 5:30 p.m. Overnight in Chiang Mai.
- Day 8:
Jan. 30

REFUGEE CAMP: Overnight trip with the Branch Foundation to visit Koung Jor refugee camp and overnight in foundation’s guesthouse. 4 hour drive. Visit the Solar Project, Weaving Project and other projects. Volunteer at an English Class at the Camp for the monks. Overnight at guesthouse. Pack your overnight bag (we can leave our main luggage at the hotel in Chiang Mai)
- Day 9:
Jan. 31

Breakfast. Return from Refugee Camp Trip. Rest. Dinner. Overnight in Chiang Mai.
- Day 10:
Feb. 1

CHIANG MAI – SUKOTHAI Breakfast. Win Tour Bus from Chiang Mai to Sukhothai (5 hours) Some exploring and dinner.
- Day 11:
Feb. 2

SUKOTHAI: Day in ancient Siamese capitol of Sukhothai. Cycling to ancient sites & museum
- Day 12:
Feb. 3

SUKOTHAI – BANGKOK: Fly from Sukhothai to Bangkok in the afternoon. Settle in, dinner and freetime.
- Day 13:
Feb. 4

BANGKOK: Breakfast. Visit What Pho (home of the reclining Buddha) Flower Market and other Bangkok attractions. Afternoon visit to Wat Takien Floating Market in Non thaburi, north of Bangkok by taking a boat ride up the Chao Phraya River from downtown Bangkok.
- Day 14:
Feb. 5

BANGKOK: Wat Phra Kaew and Grand Palace (two of Bangkok’s most visited attractions). Freetime.... Closing celebration
- Day 15:
Feb. 6

DEPARTURE DAY OR OPTIONAL BEACH TIME IN PHUKET, FLIGHT FROM BANGKOK TO PHUKET.
- Day 15-19:
Feb 6-10

Optional Beach Island Holiday in Phuket. Breakfast included. Spontaneous activities, group or solo options, lunch and dinner on your own cost, however we will still share time as a group.
- Day 20:
Feb. 10

Departure from Phuket for Bangkok.

