



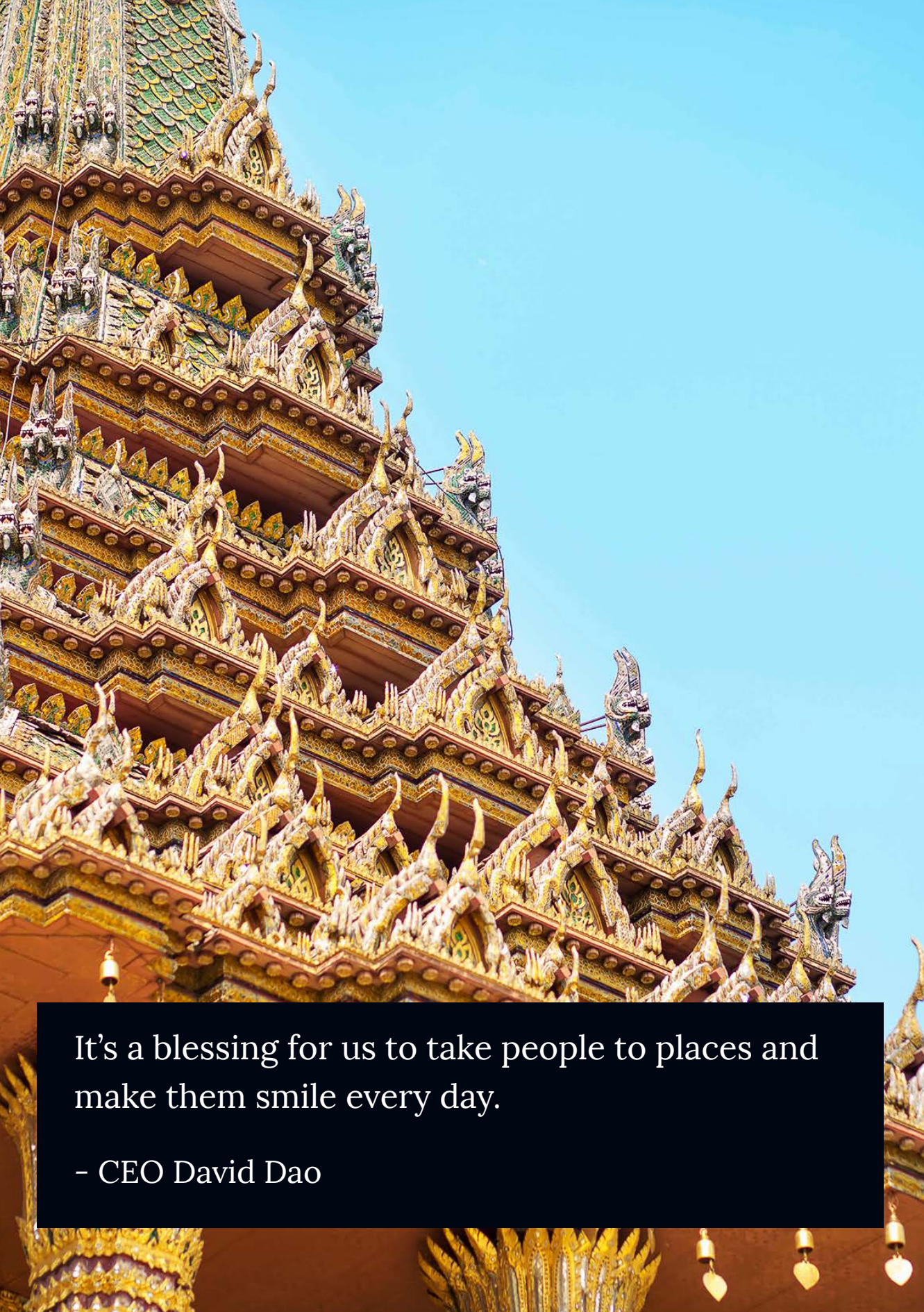
A Travel Guide to

THAILAND

THE ESSENTIAL THINGS



PLACES CUISINES CULTURE HACKS and MORE!



It's a blessing for us to take people to places and
make them smile every day.

- CEO David Dao

CONTENTS

THAILAND TRAVEL GUIDE

- 04 Overview
- 06 Experience
- 10 Insights
- 12 Food & Drink
- 13 Health & Safety
- 14 Culture
- 17 Travel Hacks



19 BOOKING FORM



EXPLORE ENJOY REPEAT



UNBEATABLE
PRICES



7-DAY
MONEY BACK



DEPARTURE
GUARANTEE

Greetings from

Asia Vacation Group

Inspired by the passion of travelling and exploring the extraordinary, Asia Vacation Group travel agency was born in 2015 with the vision of delivering the ultimate travel experience to group and individuals around the world.

Guests Lover

Our dedicated services are with you all the way. Just sit back and relax.

Local Leaders

With more than 60 itineraries to 7 countries in Asia, we will take you the most beautiful corners of the land.

Responsible Travel

We implement only good ethic practices to protect the environment and historical wonders for mankind.

The accommodation was exemplary in the four hotels we stayed in and every tour was terrific with the highlight for me being the Saigon River dinner cruise. The food everywhere was fantastic. Thank you for arranging such a great holiday.

- Norm Avent
Asia Vacation Group Customer



THAILAND

Thailand is well-known as “The Land of Smiles”, offering stunning sceneries of tranquil villages, gorgeous beaches and glistening ancient pagodas along with the unique local culture. Crystal clear water in Phuket, extraordinary transgender shows in Pattaya, and a tremendous amount of street foods are just a few things that keep visitors from coming back to Thailand.





OVERVIEW

Quick Facts



POPULATION
69 mils (as of Feb, 2018)



CURRENCY
THB (Baht)



EXCHANGE RATE

	1 USD	1 AUD	1 Euro
to THB	31	22	35



LANGUAGE
Thai



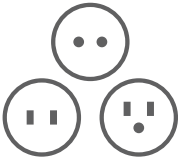
TIME ZONE
UTC +7 hours



ELECTRICITY
220V/50Hz
Plug type A, C & F

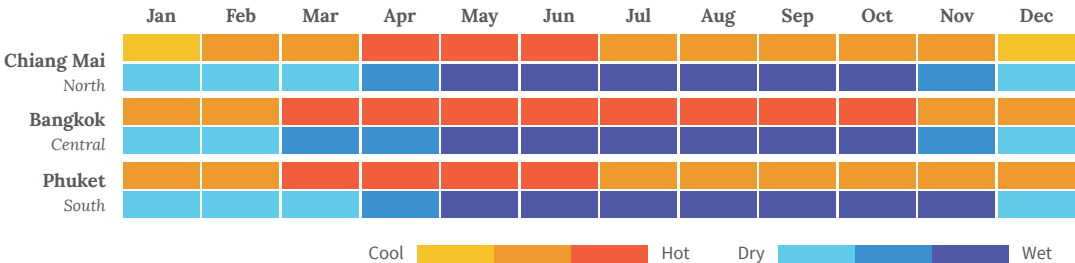


POPULAR INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS
Chiang Mai Airport (CNX), Chiang Mai
Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK), Bangkok
Phuket Airport (HKT), Phuket



Weather

Thailand generally has 3 seasons, dry season (March – May), rainy season (May – Oct), and cool season (Nov – Feb). The further south you go, the more heat you may expect.



WHERE TO GO



Chiang Rai

Considered as a land of Thailand's ancient values, this is home to spectacular mountainous scenes, Buddhist shrines, architectural ruins and tribal villages, offering a relaxed and peaceful atmosphere.



Chiang Mai

Located among the highest mountains in the north and referred to as the "Northern Capital", Chiang Mai is famous for the blend of the fascinating history and modern culture.



Ayutthaya

The Historic City of Ayutthaya is awarded UNESCO World Heritage Site for its splendour of archaeological ruins and temples. Its proximity to Bangkok makes it a popular day tour option.



Kanchanaburi

Kanchanaburi is one of Thailand's largest provinces, well-known for the breathtaking Erawan National Park, and the rich history of Death Railway as well as the Bridge over the River Kwai.



Bangkok

The capital of Thailand. Besides the hustle and bustle, Bangkok also offers a large number of sacred Buddhist temples and pagodas as well as a unique taste of Thai culture.



Pattaya

A multicultural beach city where you can find hundreds of recreational activities to amuse yourself such as risqué shows, ladyboys, nightclubs and vibrant walking streets, etc.



Phuket

As the largest island in Thailand, Phuket offers a string of upscale restaurants, elite resorts locating nearby the beach, along with a full choice of watersports for recreation purposes.

MYANMAR

LAOS

VIETNAM

CHIANG RAI

CHIANG MAI

AYUTTHAYA

KANCHANABURI

BANGKOK

PATTAYA

CAMBODIA

PHUKET

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

WANT MORE?

There are much more beautiful destinations not being mentioned here. Visit our website to explore the bigger Thailand.



WHAT

TO DO

01

Visit the magnificent Grand Palace

Considered as the symbol of Bangkok, the Grand Palace is always on top of the must-go list for any tourist. The premise is 2.35 million square feet and consists of 2 main zones, the Royal Residence and the Temple of the Emerald Buddha, where the precious Emerald Buddha is being housed.



02

Ride a Tuk-tuk

Small, no air-conditioner, yet very mobile and affordable. Tuk-tuk or auto rickshaw is considered to be the iconic means of transportation in Thailand, especially for tourists. You can find one literally anywhere. A Tuk-tuk may fit up to 4 people so it is super economical for travel groups. It is recommended to confirm the price prior to using services.

03

Float and shop

Markets on the water are very popular in this country. Located around Bangkok, there are 5 well-known floating markets including Damnoen Saduak (the most crowded), The Amphawa, Bang Nam Phueng, Khlong Lat Mayom and Taling Chan.





04

Watch the shows of transgenders

In Pattaya, there are shows performed by transgenders, demonstrating the beauty of their true self. Sometimes, you will see “girls” who are more beautiful than you’ve ever seen. You can choose either Tiffany Show or Alcazar Show for this exclusive experience.



05

Light up a “sky lantern”

The Loi Krathong festival is celebrated across the country during the full moon night of 12th Lunar month. The sky will be lit up brightly with lanterns, carrying wishes to heaven.



06

Get a Thai massage

Thai massage is not only famous in Thailand, but also around the world. During a session, your body will be compressed, pulled, stretched and rocked for extreme relaxation. Getting a massage may help your muscle and joint’s pain as well.

**Not recommended for pregnancy.

07

Eat insects

Street food in Thailand is enormous and insects are popular ones. It is quite easy to find a vendor on streets selling snacks made out of worms, mantis, and bugs. The insects are raised and processed carefully so it is safe to eat. High protein and crunchy tastes.



INSIGHTS

Getting a Visa

If a visitor intends to stay in Thailand for more than 30 days, he or she is recommended to apply for the visa at the closest Thai Embassy. In most cases, tourists only need the 30-day visa, in which can be apply in person at Thailand’s international airports or online.

Type	Standard Visa on Arrival	Electronic Visa on Arrival
What	The visa shall be applied and processed at the airport on arrival.	The visa shall be applied and processed online . On arrival at the airport, only the passport and the pre-approval letter is required to present.
Pros	Anyone can apply.	Save time at the airport.
Cons	Long queue at the airports.	Only residents from 28 countries are eligible. Refer to extranet.immigration.go.th/voaonline

Note: Visa fee is to paid at the airport and in Thai Baht currency only (2,000 THB).

Living Costs

	Low Range USD 40/day	Mid Range USD 40-120/day	High Range USD 120/day
 USD 10-15/night Hostels or dorms	USD 20-50/night Standard hotels	From USD 80/night Premium hotels	
 USD 0.5-0.7/ride Bus/MRT/BTS	USD 1/short ride Tuk-tuk USD 0.50-0.75/km Taxi	USD 0.5-0.75/ride Taxi	
 USD 1.5-2.5/meal Economical vendors	From USD 10/meal Decent restaurants	From USD 20/meal Premium restaurants	

Local Money

Local currency can be exchanged at the banks or authorized agencies.

Popular banks are Bangkok Bank, Kasikorn, Siam Commercial Bank (SCB), KrungThai and TMB.

Do not make any transaction at unauthorized shops. There’s a fine and the difference is not worth it.



MOVING AROUND

AIRLINES

Premium airlines are Thai Airways and Bangkok Airways.
Route BKK – HKT costs around ^{USD}100.

Economical airlines are Nok Air, Air Asia, and Thai Lion Air.
Route BKK – HKT costs around ^{USD}45.

BOAT & FERRY

For regions full of islands as in Phuket, speedboats and ferries are widely available at reasonable costs. Route Phuket – Koh Phi Phi costs about ^{USD}10.

Within urban areas like Bangkok, boat-taxi may be available for ^{USD}0.6/route.



TAXI

The average cost per short ride is about ^{USD}2. While most of Thailand's taxis have meters, some do not. In any case, make sure to confirm the price before using services.



TUK-TUK

Tuk-tuk offers great mobility, authentic local experiences and less expensive than a taxi while being able to carry multiple passengers. The average cost is around ^{USD}1/ride. Confirm the price before using services.



BANGKOK SUBWAY & SKYTRAIN

The Skytrain (BTS) is likely for tourists while the Subway (MRT) is more for local residents due to their designated stops. One-day passes for BTS and MRT respectively are ^{USD}4.5 and ^{USD}4. Both systems operate from 6 am to midnight every day.



BUS

Catching a bus is a bit tricky since not all stops have signs or stands. It typically costs less than a US dollar for a ride within the city. Most buses run from 5 am to 11 pm every day.



HUNGRY?

01 Thai Fried Noodles (Pad Thai)

Best place to get: Anywhere

A stir-fried noodles with the combination of peanuts, shrimps, tofu, bean sprouts, onions, peppers and noodles. This is considered as the national dish.



02 Spicy Shrimp Soup (Tom Yam Goong)

Best place to get: Anywhere

A popular Thai spicy and hot soup, made of lime leaves, lemongrass, fresh Thai chillies and shallots, shrimps and mushrooms.



03 Spicy Green Papaya Salad (Som Tam)

Best place to get: Bangkok

A dish made by mixing chopped green papaya with carrots, peanuts, tomatoes, chillies, fresh lime juice and fish sauce.



04 Green Curry Chicken (Geng Kheaw Wan Gai)

Best place to get: Bangkok

Green Curry is not extremely spicy as Red Curry. The main ingredients include chillies (of course), coconut milk, basil, coriander and served with Thai rice.

05 Thai Iced Tea (Cha Yen)

Best place to get: Anywhere

A common drink that is recognized worldwide by all ages. It is brewed with tea leaves and mixed with condensed milk for milky and sweet flavors.



STAY HEALTHY

Generally, healthcare in Thailand is good with world class international standard hospitals in big cities. Most doctors are specialists and they can speak English. The most common health issues when travelling in Thailand include diarrhea, road accidents, and insect bites. In an emergency, you must quickly get transferred to the nearest medical centres for treatment and advice. We highly recommend that all travellers should purchase travel insurance for peace of mind.



EMERGENCY DIAL

191
POLICE

199
FIRE

1554
MEDIC



STAY CONNECTED

For data only, a 4G SIM card can be from USD8 for 3Gb of data, valid for 15 days (AIS).

For voice/data, it is from USD14 for 30 minutes of voice and 3GB of data (DTAC).

Popular Network Providers are AIS, DTAC, and True Move H.

STAY SAFE

Pickpockets and snatch theft: To avoid becoming a victim, only carry small cash amounts, do not put your purse or wallet in the back pockets and stay cautious when entering crowded areas.

Scam: Thai people are nice but not all the offers on the streets are ideal. If you get involved in a scam, report immediately to the local authority.

CULTURE

FESTIVAL



> Loy Krathong Festival

November - Multiple locations

Loy Krathong Festival, also called Lantern Festival is celebrated annually for 3 days from the full moon of the 12th month in the Thai lunar calendar, aimed to show respect to the Goddess of Water. Usually, Loy Krathong is held most impressively in Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Ayutthaya and Sukhothai. During these days, both the rivers and the sky are illuminated by thousands of sparkling lanterns.

> Songkran Water Festival

April - Nationwide

The most popular festive water celebration, marking the beginning of a new year, usually celebrated from 13th-15th April. During this festival, people will splash water on each other, Thai people believe that the wetter you get, the luckier you are in New Year.



> Phi Ta Khon

July - Dan Sai

Phi Ta Khon or Ghost Festival originated from a legend of a party which was so fun that both the living and the death wanted to attend. People will wear colourful costumes and masks while parading the streets. The festival lasts for 3 days and occurs on the 6th full moon of a lunar year.

ETIQUETTES



Stay local. Stay right

#1

Greet with a Wai, pressing your palms together and bowl slightly.

#2

Remove your shoes before entering someone's home.

#3

When dining, if you are full, leave a few bits of food on your dish.

#4

Dress properly when going inside temples and sacred places. Shoulders and knees must be covered.

#5

Do not use your feet to point or touch objects and people. It is disrespectful to do so.

#6

Avoid touching your opposite sex, especially in public.

#7

Avoid loud voice, hot temper or criticize anyone in public.

#8

Smile for thank you, apology, or just being friendly.

#9

Do not judge or make inappropriate jokes to others. "Face" is a big deal in society.

#10

Bring a gift when visiting someone's home. The host will really appreciate it. Who does not?



TRAVEL AGENCY

Employed by Asia travel experts, Asia Vacation Group understands deeply WHERE to go, WHAT to do, and HOW to take your holiday to the fullest



Best Prices



7-day Money Back



100% Departure Guarantee

Our tours typically include



Flights



Accommodation



Selective Meals



Transportation



Sightseeing



Tour Guides

**Prices are on per person twin share basis and subject to change without notice.*



13 Day Thailand Tour & Phu Ket Beach Break

Tour Code WTL13

Bangkok, Kamphaeng Phet, Chiang Mai, Sukhothai, and Phuket



18 Day Southeast Asia Tour

Tour Code ASEAN-18

Bangkok, Kanchanaburi, Hanoi, Halong Bay, Hoi An, Saigon, Siem Reap, and Phnom Penh



13 Day Luxury Thailand Tour with Beach Break

Tour Code ATLB-13

Bangkok, Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai(3N), and Phuket Island

TRAVEL HACKS

the CHECKLIST for PACKING

You don't need to pack your whole apartment into your luggage...

Documents

- Passport with at least 6 months expiry date.
- Visa documents.
- E-tickets or printed ticket.
- Hotel list.
- Tour itinerary.

Clothes

- Tshirts, shorts.
- Swimsuit.
- Jackets.
- Hat or cap.

Electronics

- Chargers.
- Electrical adapter and converter.
- Camera kit, including batteries and memory cards.
- Phone, earphones.

Medicines

- Cold/Flu, Diarrhea, Pain Relief,
- Allergy.
- Prescription drug with label and doses description.
- Sunscreen and insect spray.



Money

- Foreign currency in cash.
- Credit card (Mastercard or Visa are more widely accepted).

Packing Gears

- 1 check-in luggage (up to 20/30kg).
- 1 carry-on luggage (up to 7kg).
- 1 small travel bag/backpack.

Shoes

- Comfortable walking shoes.
- Sandals.

Accessories

- Sunglasses.
- Umbrella.
- Hat or cap.

Toiletries

- Toothbrush and toothpaste.
- Soap/shower gel.
- Feminine product.
- Hand sanitizer or wet wipe.

TRAVEL HACKS

ON THE GO

SURVIVAL TIPS



CROSSING THE STREETS

Thailand traffic may get overwhelming for tourists.

Rule 1: Cross with a local (if possible).

Rule 2: Do NOT wait for the street to be empty. It just doesn't happen.

Rule 3: Do NOT go backward.

Rule 4: Traffic will not stop for you. Don't rush.

TALK LOCAL

Some common Thai phrases that may come in handy.

English	Thai
Hello	Sa-wa-di-kha
Thank you	khop khun
Sorry	Khor thoad khrup
Yes	Chai
No	Mai



BARGAIN

Prices are made to be haggled and bargaining is an art.

Rule#1: Only perform this technique at street vendors or similar.

Rule#2: Do not use this move if the price is too low already.

Rule#3: Start bidding at 50% of the offer received and work your way up.

Rule#4: If 50% works, walk away immediately. It can be much lower.

Rule#5: Just walk away...

Have fun shopping! 😊



BOOKING FORM

Please fill in the form below and kindly send them to our office. Our address is on the last page of this guide.

SECTION 1: TRIP DETAILS

1. Which tour do you want to book?

.....

2. Preferred room type

Twin Double Triple

3. Where will you depart from?

Sydney Melbourne Brisbane
 Adelaide Canberra Perth
 Auckland Other (Please specify below)

.....

4. Would you like to purchase travel insurance

Yes No

5. Preferred Flight Class

Economy Premium Economy
 Business First Class

6. When do you want to travel

..... (dd/mm/yyyy)

7. Number of passengers

.....

8. Add-on Tours (Please name all of them)

.....

.....

.....

9. Special Request (transport, accommodation, etc)

.....

.....

.....

* Final price will vary based on your selections. But don't worry, you are still having the best rates possible

SECTION 2: LEAD PASSENGER

10. First Name

11. Middle Name

12. Last Name

13. Street Address 1

14. City

15. State

16. Postal Code

17. Street Address 2

18. Country

19. Nationality

20. Email Address

21. Phone Number

SECTION 3: OTHER INFORMATION

22. Would you like to hear about our latest offers and promotions? Yes No

Terms & Agreement (Please read carefully)

If submitted by one party only, I confirm that I am authorized to sign on behalf of all passengers listed on this booking form. All parties have read, understood and agree to abide by the terms, booking conditions and responsibilities.

Your signature

Today's Date:...../...../.....



BOOKING CONDITIONS

Reservation & Deposit

Tour prices are subject to availability of tour, airlines, special economy class fare and specific airfare class availability. All services are subject to availability.

Typically, a deposit (from \$199 per passenger) is required within three (3) days of receiving confirmation that the company is holding space for you. Actual amount of deposit may vary depending on tours. *Note that Private Tours and Tailor-Made Tours require a 30% deposit.* Passenger names must be provided exactly as per passport, including middle names, at the time of deposit/booking. Any spelling corrections made after a deposit is paid must be sent in writing and will incur additional fees, including any ticket reissue fees. Asia Vacation Group reserves the right to correct any errors in rates quoted or calculated, or any commissions made at any time during your booking. Any verbal quote given is an indication only of the final price and is subject to confirmation in writing.

Amenments & Extra Fees

The following fees will apply:

- Amendments to confirmed and deposited itineraries outside of 30 days prior to departure where the value of the booking is decreased: \$50 per change for admin fee.
- Transferring between tours (within 75 days): See "Cancellation by Customer" for applicable fees and details.
- Reissue of airline tickets: From \$100 per person.
- Once a booking is confirmed, name transfers may incur additional charges.

Cancellation by Customers

All cancellations must be made in writing to Asia Vacation Group and will be subject to the following cancellation charges from the date the written cancellation is received:

- If airline and rail tickets are issued, up to 100% of the airfare and rail fare surcharged.
- If your booking is made with the Budget airlines, up to 100% of package tour.
- If customer wants to change the travel dates and visa issued,

up to 100% of visa fee.

- More than 75 days prior to departure: loss of deposit plus any administration fees
- Between 74 and 59 days prior to departure: 25% of total cost
- Between 58 and 46 days prior to departure: 50% of total cost
- 45 days or less prior to departure: 100% of total cost
- Any "No Show": 100% of total cost

In the event of a cancellation any refunds will be less administration fees and any applicable amendment fees. Asia Vacation Group will endeavour to recover as much as possible from suppliers to pass on to the customer. Regrettably cancellation charges and fees cannot be waived. There can be no exceptions. No refund will be made for any unused portions of the holiday after the departure date. Please note that employees of any overseas company or staff of Asia Vacation Group outside Australia are not authorised to give any guarantees or agreements to customers in respect of refunds or any other matters.

Cancellation by the Company

Asia Vacation Group reserves the right to cancel or vary a tour prior to departure due to insufficient numbers. In such an event, alternative guaranteed travel dates will be offered. Should these options not be acceptable Asia Vacation Group will refund the full price paid, less visa cost. If a tour is cancelled or varied prior to departure due to unforeseeable circumstances such as, but not restricted to, severe weather conditions or force majeure, Asia Vacation Group will refund all monies prior to departure less visa cost, fuel surcharge and any other cancellation fees levied by airlines and other third parties. Unforeseeable circumstances such as force majeure, adverse weather, flight rescheduling, hotel overbooking and faults with transportation or road conditions may also have an effect on the tour itinerary after the commencement date. Any decision made in respect of tour services by independent operators to re-route or amend the itinerary due to any of the above or similar circumstances

is at the discretion of the tour service provider and Asia Vacation Group will not be liable for any claim whatsoever arising from such events.

Responsibilities

Asia Vacation Group acts as a coordinator for all persons taking these tours in the making of all arrangements for transportation, sightseeing and hotel accommodation. The Company does not own, manage, control or operate any transportation vehicle, any hotel or restaurant or any other supplier of services. All receipts and tickets are issued subject to the terms and conditions specified by the supplier and all services are subject to the laws of the country where the services are provided. The Company acts only as an agent for the owners, contractors and suppliers of transportation and/or other related travel services provided and assumes no responsibility for the loss, theft or damage to baggage or property or for any injury, illness or death or for any damages or claims whatsoever caused arising directly or indirectly from accidents, loss, theft or damage to person or property, delays, transport failure, strikes, wars and uprisings or acts of God etc. over which the Company has no control. We strongly urge all customers to undertake a high level of personal responsibility in order to ensure that possessions, equipment and personal documents are closely monitored and protected at all times.

Privacy

We are collecting your personal information so that we can process your booking. We will also keep you up to date with other Asia Vacation Group's offers and product information that may be of interest to you if you have consented to this. You can opt out of receiving information at any time if you choose to do so. Any personal information you provide will be managed in accordance with Asia Vacation Group's privacy policy.



We are living in a connected world.



AUSTRALIA HEADQUARTERS

ABN 74 608 656 800
Suite 902, 11 Queens Road, Melbourne VIC 3004
Toll free: 1800 22 93 39
Outside Australia: +61 3 9988 3029
support@asiavacationgroup.com.au
www.asiavacationgroup.com.au

NEW ZEALAND OFFICE

NZBN 9429046951151
Level 1, 2 Heather Street, Parnell, Auckland 1502
Hotline: 0800 49 1987
Outside New Zealand: +64 212 49 1987
sales@asiavacationgroup.co.nz
www.asiavacationgroup.co.nz

You
NEVER
have to travel
ALONE

