

Siem Reap, Bangkok & Chiang Mai

Day 1 SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA. Welcome to Siem Reap, your base for exploring the temples of Angkor. Constructed between the 9th and 13th centuries, the temples are unmatched among the world's ancient ruins. Your hotel room is available for mid-afternoon check-in.

Day 2 SIEM REAP. Your PRIVATE GUIDED TOUR starts at the best preserved of all the temples—ANGKOR WAT, honoring the Hindu god Vishnu. Next stop is ANGKOR THOM to see BAYON TEMPLE. One of the few Buddhist temples in Angkor, it features some 200 striking faces carved in 54 towers. Enjoy the afternoon at leisure. (B,L)

Day 3 SIEM REAP. This morning, explore more of the Angkor temple complex on a PRIVATE GUIDED TOUR. Visit BANTEAY SREI, a unique, small temple built from red sandstone and dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva. Then, on to TA PROHM, which has been left relatively untouched, unlike many other temples. Here, the jungle surrounds you, and tree roots grow over and through the ruins. The afternoon is at your leisure. (B)

Day 4 SIEM REAP–BANGKOK, THAILAND. Today, fly to Bangkok, Thailand's capital city. (B)

Day 5 BANGKOK. Today's PRIVATE GUIDED TOUR starts with a BOAT RIDE through the klongs, Bangkok's canals. Next, stop at Wat Arun, the TEMPLE OF THE DAWN, whose 260-foot-tall spire has become identified with Bangkok. Continue on to the GRAND PALACE, comprised of the Funeral Palace, the Reception Palace, the Throne Hall, the Coronation Hall, the Royal Guest House, and the TEMPLE OF THE EMERALD BUDDHA. Also visit the TEMPLE OF THE RECLINING BUDDHA, the oldest and largest Buddhist temple in Bangkok. It houses more than 1,000 Buddha images, including the 49-foot-high and 151-foot-long massive Reclining Buddha. (B,L)

Day 6 BANGKOK. Enjoy a full day at leisure to explore on your own. Your Local Host can help with suggestions to help maximize your time. (B)

Day 7 BANGKOK–CHIANG MAI. Today, fly to Chiang Mai, Thailand's second-largest city. (B)

Day 8 CHIANG MAI. Today, your PRIVATE GUIDED TOUR begins with a visit to WAT PHRA SINGH with its famous Buddha image, and WAT DOI SUTHEP, a temple tucked away in the mountains. For the final ascent to the temple, you can take a tram car or walk up the Naga (dragon-headed serpent) staircase, with more than 300 steps. On a clear day, you will enjoy spectacular views of Chiang Mai. The remainder of the day is at your leisure. (B)

Day 9 CHIANG MAI. Today, take a PRIVATE GUIDED EXCURSION outside the city to visit the LISU HILL TRIBE. Take a short WALKING TOUR through the village and garden, and view the Ton Lung Temple. Then, visit the house of a Lisu shaman to learn about the way of life and traditions of the local people. Return to Chiang Mai where the remainder of the day is at your leisure. (B,L)

Day 10 CHIANG MAI. Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning. (B)