

# EXPLORE!

## TRIP NOTES



### Indulge Itinerary Version (TMTH3)

TRIP DURATION  
**12**  
DAYS



View type: itinerary

Trip Code: TMTH3

### Trip Essentials

**Accommodation:**

**Included Meals:** 9 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 0 dinners

**Transport:**

**Countries:**



# Tailormade Thailand - Rainforest and Coast

## Suitability

We've given each of our tours a comfort rating and a tour pace, walking or cycling grade to give you a general idea about the level of activity on each tour and the standard of accommodation you will be staying in at the end of your day's adventure.

Often you'll stay in different styles of accommodation during your tour; so we make an average rating across the entire tour. For more information on where you'll stay each night, please refer to the day by day tour itinerary.

## Your trip itinerary

### Tour itinerary notes

While our intention is to adhere to the day-by-day itinerary as printed below, a degree of flexibility is built in. Overnight stops may vary from those suggested.

### Your Tour Leader

A Tour Leader is an integral part of any Explore tour and your tour will be led by one of our experienced tour leaders who have been handpicked and expertly trained. We believe that our Tour Leaders are the key to the success of our tours; they are passionate travellers who are bursting with first-hand local knowledge which they love to share. Your tour Leader will also take care of all the planning and organisation throughout your journey. Their passionate approach will make this tour fun and inspiring, bringing the destination to life whether you're travelling alone or with others.

## DAY 1 Overnight flight to Thailand

Depart the UK on your overnight flight to Bangkok.

## Why Book this trip?

Although the climate varies within the country, Thailand is a good year round destination. For the bulk of the country the months from November to April offer pleasantly cool, dry conditions making it perfect for travel. On the southern peninsula the climate differs between the east and west coast. East coast beaches receive their warmest temperatures during our summer months, whilst the west coast enjoys their warm, dry conditions during our winter and spring.



 **Included Meals:** None

## DAY 2 Arrive in Bangkok

Upon arrival in Bangkok, you will be transferred to your hotel and have free time to relax and explore this afternoon.

 **Included Meals:** None

## DAY 3 Bangkok city tour by long-tail boat

Today you have a tour of Thailand's capital, including a visit to the Grand Palace and Temple of the Emerald Buddha. This large complex is home to over 100 ornate and colourful stupas and temples; the King still resides in the adjoining palace. You'll then continue to Wat Pho and visit the huge 16th century Reclining Buddha. Part of the temple compound is a Thai Traditional Massage School, the first temple teaching massage, and you'll have the opportunity to have a short visit. Your tour continues through the local market to the Chao Phya River, where you have a long-tail boat trip, the perfect way to relax and see everyday life along the riverbanks.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

## DAY 4 Overnight train to Surat Thani

This morning is free to explore the city a little further. You may wish to ask your Tailormade Regional Specialist to arrange a visit to Jim Thompson's House. The beautiful teak buildings are home to the textile designer's huge collection of south-east Asian art. Or why not take the sky train to Bangkok's huge Chatuchak Weekend market, where over 15,000 stalls sell everything from clothes to home ware, food to tribal handicrafts and much more. This evening board your overnight train for your journey south to Surat Thani.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 5 Khao Sok National Park

You arrive into Surat Thani early this morning and head inland to Khao Sok National Park. A three-hour walk takes you through the jungle, to hidden waterfalls and refreshing swimming spots. You'll then meet your elephant and enjoy a ride deeper into the jungle. Spend the evening relaxing at your lodge, listening to the jungle sounds and looking out for bats and fireflies.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 6 Khao Sok National Park

Today is yours to discover Khao Sok National Park. First, you'll head off by long-tail boat to enjoy tranquil Chiew Lan Lake, surrounded by mountains. Next, continue to your jungle rafterhouse, from where you can get close to nature by exploring by sea kayak in the coves around your accommodation.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast, Lunch

## DAY 7 Continue to Krabi

Departing the jungle this morning you will be driven to Krabi on the southern coast where limestone karsts jut from the mangroves, and secluded coves hide pristine beaches. This afternoon has been left free for you to explore at your leisure.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 8 Krabi

Today is a free day to relax and enjoy your idyllic surroundings, whether it's the golden beaches, swimming pool or a delicious seafood barbecue for lunch.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 9 Sea kayaking

Today is at leisure, you may choose to explore the mangrove forests, lagoons and islands around Krabi from your kayak. Alternatively ask your Tailormade Regional Specialist to book a day trip to Koh Phi Phi where you can swim with colourful fish at Lohsamah and Monkey Bay, snorkel among coral gardens and laze on white sand beaches at Maya Bay.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 10 Krabi and Bangkok

Enjoy your last moments at the beach, before flying back to Bangkok.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 11 Fly to the UK

This morning is free for you to do some last minute sightseeing and souvenir shopping before transferring to the airport for your flight to the UK.

 **Included Meals:** Breakfast

## DAY 12 Arrive UK

Your flight arrives back in the UK this morning.

 **Included Meals:** None

## Accommodation and Meals

### Food & Drink

Included meals: 9 breakfasts, 2 lunches, 0 dinners included in the price of this trip. Please be prepared to pay for non-included meals. Please note that costs for drinks and meals can vary depending on location.

## Budgeting for your Trip

You will need some extra money to cover meals and drinks not included in the trip price, any optional sightseeing, souvenirs and items of a personal nature such as laundry.

## Why Choose Explore

We've been creating award-winning pioneering adventure holidays for over 30 years, earning the trust of thousands of delighted customers, who feel safe in our hands. Our tour leaders have expert local knowledge and our tours are designed to take you off the beaten track to see the most exotic, inspiring and dramatic places in the world.

- With over 30 years' experience, we are passionate about what we do.
- Pioneering small group adventures, self-guided, private journeys & tailor-made holidays.
- Award winning tour leaders who you can trust.
- Responsible travel is and always has been one of the driving principles of Explore.

Our adventure holidays are full of exciting things to see and do, exploring in small groups travelling by bus, boat, plane, rickshaw, camel, or any number of unusual forms of transport. Often you will stay in family run hotels and village houses and enjoy authentic local cuisine. In this way, it's easy to discover the true heart of the people and the place you travel to – and make some new friends along the way. Each tour is uniquely different, so please feel free to browse through our tours to see what may whet your appetite.

### Cool Earth

Explore are proud to support Cool Earth in their effort to reduce global carbon dioxide levels through the prevention of deforestation in the South America rainforest. Cool Earth focus on areas in immediate danger of deforestation, supporting local communities to be forest guardians. To date 350,000 acres of rainforest has been protected. Saving rainforest also protects rare animals and plants,

allows local forest communities to maintain their way of life, and protects a major source of oxygen and fresh water. When you travel on an Explore holiday we make a donation to Cool Earth that exceeds the impact of our customers flights each year.

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### **Earth Matters**

We are passionate about sustainable travel and work hard to create tours where your holiday delivers real benefits to the local communities. We minimise our impact by travelling in small groups, respecting local cultures, reducing waste and offsetting 100% of the CO2 from our flights.

When you travel with Explore, you are directly contributing to local economies and helping empower the people you meet. We currently support a range of charities and good causes, including: Toilet Twinning (helping to flush away poverty), Lone Buffalo Foundation (a community project based in Laos providing creative skills for young people) and have recently supported women's cooperatives in Borneo and Morocco. We are a member of Tourism Concern's Ethical Tour Operator Group ([www.tourismconcern.org.uk](http://www.tourismconcern.org.uk)) and support their campaign for fair and ethical tourism. We also care passionately about the world's wildlife and actively support and promote the Born Free Organisation and Mahouts Elephant Foundation.

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## **Booking Your Holiday**

### **Peace of mind - book with confidence**

You can book your Explore holiday with confidence, as all monies paid to us for your trip are fully protected. Explore is a fully bonded tour operator licensed by the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and by ABTOT.

The air holiday packages (Tours including flights) that we advertise are ATOL protected, since we hold an Air Travel Organiser's Licence granted by the Civil Aviation Authority. Our ATOL number is ATOL 2595. In addition, As a member of the Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT), Explore has provided a bond to meet the requirements of the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992. Please note that packages booked outside the UK are only protected when purchased directly with Explore.

### **Reserving your place**

To reserve your place on this tour you will need to check availability on the Explore website or through our dedicated call centre based in the UK where you can. Our tours can fill up quickly so you are advised to book as early as possible. If your chosen date is 'Available' or 'Guaranteed' we will be able to provisionally hold you a space for up to 48 hours.

For Self-Guided holidays and Private Journeys simply choose your date of travel and let us know so we can confirm all ground services.

The easiest way to confirm your booking is through our website. When you are ready to book, we normally require a 10% non-refundable deposit, but for some holidays this may be more to cover such items as permit fees, internal flights or other non-refundable services. If your travel starts within 60 days of booking, full payment will be required at the time of booking

### **100% No Surcharge Guarantee**

The price paid for our holidays is no longer subject to change. Once booked and confirmed we will guarantee the price you pay will not increase, whatever the circumstances. You will not be approached to pay fuel surcharges unlike the vast majority of other adventure tour operators. The price guarantee applies to all new bookings departing between 1st January 2016 and 31st December 2017.

### **Trip Itinerary Versions**

Itinerary details may vary depending on departure date and alternative itineraries for this tour may exist. Please refer to the dates and prices page on our website to check which itinerary operates on each departure date.

Please ensure that you have an up-to-date copy of these tour notes immediately before you travel, as from time to time our itineraries may be amended, either for operational reasons or in response to feedback from customers. You will be informed of any major changes to your tour but small changes may just be added to these tour notes.

Please note: 3 itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing in 3. 4/ itinerary versions are applicable to tours departing from 1st January to 31st December 4.

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