Bangkok Guide

Getting to the Hotel
From the airport, you may reach your hotel by any of the following:

- **Taxi**
  Proceed to the taxi counter, level 2 at the Arrivals Hall near entrances 3, 4, 7 and 8. Taxi Fare: Airport surcharge of THB 50 plus amount on meter and expressway fees.

- **Airport Link**
  Airport link operates from 6.00am to 12.00 midnight.

- **SA Express**
  SA Express provides transportation service from Makkasan Station to Suvarnabhumi Airport only within 15 minutes while SA City Line provides service between Phaya Thai Station which stops 6 stations along the way to Airport. SA City Line takes approximately 30 minutes of journey time.

- **Limousine**
  Make an advance booking with the hotel for THB 1,200 per way for a car or THB 1,600 per way for a van (Email: reservations@arcadiasuites.com)

- **Ferry and Public Boat**
  There are several modes of transportation available around the city:

  - **On foot**
    There are many things to see around hotel from street shopping, infinite and varied eateries to shopping malls.

  - **Tuk Tuk**
    Best known for its 'Sam Lor' - a motorized 3 wheeled traditional form of transportation, found readily around the city. Bargaining is a must.

  - **BTS and MRT**
    A clean and convenient mode of transportation in this busy metropolis, with both the skytrain and underground stations located along most major routes and tourist destinations. Ask for more details for the

Weather
Bangkok being a tropical city, the weather is generally warm throughout the year, with temperatures ranging from 25 to 35c.

- **March-May**
  April and May are relatively warmer than other periods of the year, with the temperature reaching its peak in April.

- **October – February**
  This is the most pleasant time of year, where temperatures range from 25-28c with light breezes and only the occasional shower.

- **June – September**
  A cooler time of year with some rain.

Getting around the city

Places of Interest

- **The Grand Palace**
  Past residence of the Kings of Thailand, a must see for every visitor. The palace is a mix of Traditional Thai and European architecture. Religious ornaments and statues fill the grounds of the Grand Palace.
Wat Pho

Or “Temple of the Reclining Buddha”, houses one of the largest reclining Buddha’s in the world at 46 meters long and 15 meters high.

Erawan Shrine

Visit one of the most popular places of worship (shrine) for Brahma and his elephant, Erawan. Traditional Thai dancing is shown from time to time.

The Ancient City (Ayuttaya)

A visit to the Ancient City makes an excellent, but exhausting, full day outing. The 320-acre outdoor museum is an architectural reflection of Thailand’s glorious past. Houses several ethnological displays of artifacts and antiques, including rural arts, ancient tools, evidence of the long-term survival of a native culture. Be sure to start early and allow yourself the better part of a day to see everything.

Dream World

With a day out at Dream World, you and the kids will get to experience this huge amusement park, and enjoy the exciting shows and rides like the Corkscrew, Bumper Cars, Rollercoaster, and more. If you have kids (and the time) definitely a place to take them.

China Town

Yaowarat – an explosion of color with bright neon signs written in Chinese and Thai lining the streets. Take a slow unhurried walk, and savour the sights and sounds of these pulsating neighborhoods.

Siam Ocean World

Located in the basement of the luxurious Siam Paragon shopping mall, Siam Ocean World is one of the largest aquariums in Southeast Asia featuring over 30,000 marine animals. It has become Thailand’s finest tourist attraction & centre for the youth to broaden their perspective.

Dream World

Visit one of the most popular places of worship (shrine) for Brahma and his elephant, Erawan. Traditional Thai dancing is shown from time to time.

The Ancient City (Ayuttaya)

A visit to the Ancient City makes an excellent, but exhausting, full day outing. The 320-acre outdoor museum is an architectural reflection of Thailand’s glorious past. Houses several ethnological displays of artifacts and antiques, including rural arts, ancient tools, evidence of the long-term survival of a native culture. Be sure to start early and allow yourself the better part of a day to see everything.

Chao Phraya Cruise

Cruise the largest river in Thailand to the accompaniment of music and fine food whilst taking in the Bangkok skyline.

Dusit Zoo

An attractive zoo with botanical gardens that continually improves. There is a children’s zoo, play area and paddleboats to provide fun for kids. The zoo is open every day from 8am until 6pm.

Elephant & Crocodile Farm

The farm has more than 30,000 crocodiles, & is the largest in Thailand. The popular crocodile wrestling shows & the elegant elephant shows are performed regularly. Opening hours: 8.30am - 5.30pm

Shopping and Malls

Chatuchak Market

The prime commodity is clothing, but almost everything is sold there, and it is well worth a visit. The size is 35 acres making it the biggest market in Bangkok and some argue the largest market in Asia.

Siam Ocean World

Located in the basement of the luxurious Siam Paragon shopping mall, Siam Ocean World is one of the largest aquariums in Southeast Asia featuring over 30,000 marine animals. It has become Thailand’s finest tourist attraction & centre for the youth to broaden their perspective.

Chatuchak Market

The prime commodity is clothing, but almost everything is sold there, and it is well worth a visit. The size is 35 acres making it the biggest market in Bangkok and some argue the largest market in Asia.

MBK

At eight stories high and 330 metres long, with more than 2,500 outlets using a total selling area of 89,000 sqm, this shopping mall used to be one of the largest malls in Asia when it was first opened in 1985.

Siam Paragon

Famous for its large ground floor food court and the Underwater World, the complex is one of the most popular malls, selling designer and semi-designer goods.

The Emporium

Located in the prestigious Phrom Phong area, the ultra-chic Emporium is especially popular with high-end and luxury products.

Central World

At 830,000 sqm, Central World is now officially the largest lifestyle shopping complex in Southeast Asia. It’s a lifestyle destination the likes of which Bangkok has never seen because it has everything you want in one place.
■ Platinum Mall
This "wholesale" mall on Petchaburi Road is much like an outdoor market, except for the air conditioning & clean bathrooms. With more than 1,300 shops, specializing in women's clothing and fashion accessories, you'll need at least four hours to get through the mall.

■ Terminal 21
Terminal 21 is a one floor one concept shopping mall. This concept is market streets of the world. It decorated a well-known city streets; such as Rome, Paris, Tokyo, London, Istanbul etc. This mall has the longest escalators in Thailand, up to 36 meters.

After Dark
■ Siam Niramit
Listed in the Guinness World of Records, Siam Niramit is a world class spectacular performance of Thai art and cultural Heritage with amazing state of the art special effects. Featuring over 150 performers with as many as 500 costumes, this captivating 80-minute extravaganza uncovers the history, customs and cultural treasures that have descended through centuries and which continue to fascinate Thailand’s visitors.

■ Calypso Cabaret
 Cabaret performance by ladyboys, their beauty will take your breath away.

■ Patpong / Silom
The infamous Patpong – not only lined with massage parlours and bars, it offers much by way of shopping with hundreds of street stalls lining the way. Silom is another area suited for bargain hunters.

■ Khao San Road
An endless number of bars and clubs at which to quench that thirst. The streets of Khao San are also lined with hundreds of small shops and street stalls.

Dining
■ Le Banyan Restaurant
The 70s picturesque house turned into a warm French restaurant is where you come for authentic food, not for posh atmosphere. You must be sure to order the special pressed duck, which is a dish Le Banyan is famous for. Location: 59, Sukhumvit Soi 8

■ Seafood Market
The Seafood Market & Restaurant seats over 1500 people and is a large destination spot in Bangkok with its famous tagline of "If It Swims, We Have It.??" The uniqueness of the restaurant lies in the fact you choose from a wide selection of 'live seafood' & have it cooked to your liking. Location: 89, Sukhumvit Soi 24

■ Bed Supper Club
Unique in design with its cylindrical shape, this club is always listed as one of Bangkok’s premiere hot spots. Don't miss this trendiest club in town. Location: Sukhumvit Soi 11

■ Nasir al-Masri
Nasir al-Masri offers the finest Arabian, Egyptian and Asian cuisine, as well as a comfortable arena for some sheesha smoking. Dishes like lamb, fish, and chicken stand out for their vibrant flavors. The specialty is grilled stuffed pigeon, which may sound unappetizing but promotes this delicacy to the hilt. Hey, you're on vacation; try something new. Location: Sukhumvit Soi 4

■ The Face Bar
Popular with Bangkok’s well-heeled set, The Face is an upscale joint that fuses three of Asia’s most distinct cultures to charming effect. Comprising three restaurants – Japanese, Indian and Thai, guests can enjoy their respective choice of cuisine in a classic Thai environment. Location: Sukhumvit Soi 38

■ Gianni Ristorante
One of the finest Italian Restaurant in Bangkok for over 10 years, Gianni Ristorante cuisine is based on 3 main principles; Mediterranean style, modernity & top quality raw ingredients. The décor of the restaurant is sophisticated, elegant, yet not formidable, with use of Mediterranean blues and a mural covering one wall of the restaurant, it fits any occasion. Location: 34/1 Soi Tonson, Ploenchit Road

Spas & Massages
■ Ananda Spa
Ananda comes from the Sanskrit word meaning 'Harmony'. A wide array of spa and beauty treatments await guests, ranging from massages, scrubs, bath therapies and Ananda Facial and hair treatments to provide that "perfect balance" to soothe away stress and fatigue. Location: Sukhumvit Soi 11

■ Mulberry Spa
Set amidst a quiet corner with lush orchards just a short drive from BTS Asoke Station, the unique classical features of the Chinese-Portuguese and Thai colonial influences from the Rattanakosin era, Mulberry Spa invites you to experience a unique atmosphere and the ultimate "Spa" experience.

■ Divana Spa Bangkok
The Divana spa is located in a two-storey Thai house surrounded by a huge botanical garden and swimming pool. With 17
treatment beds in 9 private couple treatment rooms with each room having its own unique design and all are fully equipped with steam, shower and bathtub. Offers a full range of very well priced treatments - massage, facial and body - all designed to relax and remove stresses of everyday life the spa. Open daily from 11:00 am - 1100 pm, with the last appointment at 9:00 pm.

The whole town will be beautiful with magnificent lights decoration along the main streets and Grand Palace.

September – International Boat Race
A world class, international event featuring participation from over 20 countries. A colorful and noisy spectacle, a day at the boat races is not to be missed.

November – Loy Krathong
A celebration that gives thanks to the water spirit who has given a life. During the full moon, you may participate by floating “krathongs” in a canal or river.

December – King’s Birthday
In December, the citizens of Bangkok come together to celebrate the birthday of their beloved King. Lights, large pictures, and flowers fill every street corner.

Things to Know
- Thai people greet each other using the term “Sawasdee” along with both palms and hands united to form a wai. The wai is equivalent to the Western handshake.
- Always show your respect toward the King and members of the Royal Family, monks and elders, as well as all religious statues.
- Thailand is famous for cheap and nice goods; however you may still need to bargain especially in tourist areas.
- Everyday at 8am and 6pm the National Anthem is played and as a sign of respect all Thais will come to a standstill.
- Don’t get a taxi without meter.

In and Out from Bangkok

Hua Lamphong Station
Main railway station in city which connects to the MRT (underground train). Built in 1916, over 130 trains pass through daily, carrying 60,000 passengers to various cities around the country. T: +66 (02) 621 701

Eastern Bus Terminal
Located on Sukhumvit Soi 40, (near BTS Ekkamai) it serves destinations in the Eastern part of Thailand, including popular Pattaya and Rayong. T: +66 (02) 391 2504

Northern/North Eastern Bus Terminal
Located on Kamphaeng Phet 2 Rd (near Chatuchak Market), it serves destinations in the North and North East of Thailand, including Chiangmai, Chiangrai and Korat. T: +66 (02) 936 2852-66

Southern Bus Terminal
Located on Borommarat Chonnani Road, (2 km from the Pinklao Bridge), it serves destinations in the South such as Hua Hin, Phuket as well as Western provinces like Nakhon Pathom and Ratchaburi. T: +66 (02) 391 2504

Suvarnabhumi International Airport
Meaning ‘Golden Land’, the Suvarnabhumi International Airport opened in 2006. The airport serves 45 million passengers yearly from all over the world. The International Airport Code is BKK.

Don Muang Domestic Airport
Opening in 1914, the Don Muang Airport was the International Airport until 2006 when the new airport opened. Currently, this airport serves local destinations.

Currency

Thai Baht (THB) is used in the country with the below exchange rates (approximate only)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Currency</th>
<th>THB</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 EUR</td>
<td>= 40.07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 SGD</td>
<td>= 25.14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 USD</td>
<td>= 30.71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 JPY</td>
<td>= 0.385</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 AUD</td>
<td>= 31.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 GBP</td>
<td>= 49.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please visit www.xe.com/ucc for updated daily rates.

Important Information

- Language : Thai and English
- Electricity : 220 Volts
- Religion : Buddhist (90%)
- Area Code : +66 (Thailand)
- City Code : 02 (Bangkok)
- Time Zone : UTC/GMT +7

Emergency Calls

- Tourist Police : 1555
- Police : 191
- Ambulance : 1646
- Information : 1133