

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

Note: Itinerary
Subject to Change



Tentative Itinerary
Thailand Travel Adventures
2015–16 Trip A – 26 days (in Thailand)
North, Central & South Thailand
Nov. 23 to Dec. 18, 2015



Kasma Loha-unchit
Thailand Travel Adventures
P. O. Box 21165
Oakland, California 94620
Phone: (510) 655-8900
kasma@earthlink.net
www.thaifoodandtravel.com

← **November**

<p>22</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Travel Day</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Arrive Bangkok</p>	<p>23 Bangkok –</p> <p>Sightsee the magnificent Wat Phra Kaew (Temple of the Emerald Buddha) and the adjoining Grand Palace, beautiful Wat Benjamabpho (the Marble Temple) and the Queen's exquisite Support Museum of fine arts and crafts. Dine on superb Thai cuisine!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">December →</p>	<p>24 Bangkok to Ayuthaya –</p> <p>Leave Bangkok early for Damnoen Saduak floating market in Rajburi – explore quiet canals and be part of the hustle-bustle of a lively market afloat on boats. Visit Nakhon Pathom's enormous Buddhist shrine dating back to the 5th century and walk the temple fair. Sample delicious kao laam (sticky rice in bamboo).</p>	<p>25 Ayuthaya to Sukhothai –</p> <p>Explore the awesome remains of a glorious period in Thai history prior to the Bangkok era</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Wat Na Phramen Wat Chaiwatanaram, Wat Yai Chaimongkol, Wat Mongkolbophit, Wat Phra Srisanphet, Wat Lokayasutharam Wat Mahathat.</p> <p>On to Sukhothai.</p>	<p>26 Sukhothai –</p> <p>Walk the atmospheric ruins of Thailand's first capital (UNESCO World Heritage site) dating back 700+ years: Wat Mahathat, Wat Sri Sawai, Wat Sra Sri, Wat Sri Chum. In nearby Si Satchanalai, visit a textile museum and a model farming village where some of the area's softest handwoven cotton textiles are produced.</p>	<p>27 Sukhothai to Mae Sa –</p> <p>After a hearty noodle breakfast, walk Sukhothai's bustling market, sampling local treats from street vendors. Continue our journey northward, stopping by a very sacred, ancient temple in Lampang with elegant Lanna-style architecture and a history that predates Thailand's.</p>	<p>28 Mae Sa –</p> <p>Meander up the Mae Sa hills to visit a Hmong hilltribe village. Learn their culture and how they've benefited from our beloved King's Royal projects. Leisure time in the afternoon to enjoy our charming resort, set amidst lush gardens and cascading streams. Treat yourself to a healing massage in an idyllic setting.</p>
<p>29 Mae Sa to Mae Hong Son</p> <p>Travel via Mae Sariang, stopping first at Pada's house and weaving center which produces exquisite natural-dyed, handwoven textiles. Drive through picturesque mountain country lined with terraced fields and teak forests. Visit a Karen hilltribe co-op textile center. In MHS, we'll stay at a secluded lodge near a forest preserve.</p>	<p>30 Mae Hong Son –</p> <p>Refreshing morning market walk – mingle with hilltribe and Shan traders and their colorful wild produce and sample tasty snacks from friendly vendors. Walk around the small town, visiting Shan "Burmese"-style temples. Lunch on delicious local delicacies. Free afternoon to enjoy our peaceful, nature resort.</p>	<p>1 Mae Hong Son –</p> <p>Trek through wooded areas on elephant back along the scenic Pai river, then take a longtail boat ride to the quiet border post just 1/4 kilometers from Myanmar. Lunch in town and shop for local crafts and Burmese artifacts. Free afternoon – get a Thai massage, or take an optional hike in the forest preserve near our resort.</p>	<p>2 Mae Hong Son –</p> <p>Tour the beautiful mountainous country of Mae Hong Son, taking a rice field walk in a lovely valley and visiting thundering Pha Seu waterfall, a hilltribe village and a Chinese refugee settlement near the border where we'll do tea tasting and feast on a scrumptious Yunnan Chinese lunch!</p>	<p>3 Mae Hong Son to Pai –</p> <p>Drive through breathtaking country (foothills of the Himalayas) – one of Thailand's most spectacular drives! Stop by a colorful Lisu hilltribe village for a walk and explore the extensive caves of Tham Lod near Soppong – raft down the stream flowing through the caves. Overnight stay at a garden inn outside Pai town.</p>	<p>4 Pai to Chiang Mai –</p> <p>Drive down lush mountain country into the valley of Chiang Mai, land of the old Lanna kingdom. Visit an orchid and butterfly farm and shop at Mengrai Kilns, known for their gorgeous celadon ceramics – an age-old craft of the North. Dine on tasty northern cuisine, then walk the North's largest Night Bazaar.</p>	<p>5 Chiang Mai –</p> <p>Graze our way through lively Worarat market; shop for dried herbs, spices and cookware. Tour the handicraft centers the North is known for; see how traditional crafts are made: hand-woven silks/cottons (tailoring services available), hand-made mulberry paper, traditional hand-painted parasols, lacquerware, ceramics, silver crafts, etc.</p>
<p>6 Chiang Mai –</p> <p>Sightsee two important historical temples in the "old city": Wat Phra Singh, Wat Chiang Man. Then drive west of the city to see the King's Royal Pavilion and walk the extensive grounds with themed gardens. After lunch, we'll explore an impressive wood-carving museum with a huge collection of exquisite teak carvings.</p>	<p>7 Chiang Mai –</p> <p>"Pilgrimage" to Wat Phra That Doi Suthep – the North's most revered temple on mountain-top overlooking the city. Visit old Wat Jet Yod, then lunch on delectable northern specialties at a favorite Chiang Mai restaurant! Stroll the tranquil grounds of Wat Umong Forest Monastery. Last night to walk the Night Bazaar.</p>	<p>8 Chiang Mai to Bangkok –</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Free Morning</p> <p>Explore more markets, temples, shops and whatever else you wish on your own, or relax with a traditional Thai healing massage.</p> <p>Afternoon flight to Bangkok</p>	<p>9 Bangkok –</p> <p>Breakfast in and walk the bustling alley market of Chinatown. Sightsee Wat Traimit with the awesome 5 1/2-ton gold Buddha and explore the fascinating canals across the Chaophraya River from Bangkok. Observe the simple, unfettered ways of living along the canals, visiting serene temples and the Royal Barge Museum.</p>	<p>10 Bangkok to Chumpon</p> <p>Drive down the long, narrow peninsula to the southern part of the country. Stop by Hua Hin for an exciting market walk and "Squidville" in Pranburi where thousands of squid dry on a maze of racks along the beach for a scrumptious seafood feast. Stay in a small family-run beachside resort on the gulf coast.</p>	<p>11 Chumpon to Khao Sok</p> <p>Continuing south, sightsee the ancient Buddhist site of Wat Phra Borom That Chaiya; visit the cotton and silk weaving village nearby. After a seafood lunch on the gulf coast, head west toward Khao Sok National Park, where we'll take a boating tour of a magical lake surrounded by spectacular limestone karsts.</p>	<p>12 Khao Sok to Krabi –</p> <p>Drive through scenic country punctuated by dramatic limestone karsts. Stop by Than Bokarane for a walk through a verdant rainforest park, graced by soothing cascades and emerald pools. In Krabi, we'll stay at a beachside resort with lovely views of the beautiful coast. Fine southern dining at a favorite restaurant!</p>
<p>13 Krabi Coast</p> <p>Explore Krabi province's magnificent coastline with enormous limestone cliffs, immense caves, idyllic islands, and dazzling white and golden sand beaches. Swim, sun, snorkel, beachcomb and enjoy the beauty of the Andaman seacoast – in particular, two enchanting islands with lively coral reefs.</p>	<p>14 Krabi Coast –</p> <p>Day trip to the captivating islands of Phi Phi Marine Nat'l Park, flanked by towering limestone cliffs, ringed by picturesque bays, lagoons & gorgeous white-sand beaches, and surrounded by extensive reefs, home to millions of fish and delightful coral gardens. If permitted, visit Viking Cave (featured in Nat'l Geographic).</p>	<p>15 Krabi Coast –</p> <p>Last day to enjoy the Andaman seacoast. Boat down the peninsula to beautiful Phi Phi Nang beach and learn the legend of the Sea Princess. Then boat out to tall twin karsts in the middle of the sea to snorkel their seawall and the abundant nooks and crannies around the coral rocks – home to colorful fishes and myriad other marine life.</p>	<p>16 To Krabi Town –</p> <p>Leave our beachside resort and head inland to soak in the refreshing natural pools of an unusual waterfall hot spring in a forest preserve. Walk a lovely nature trail through lowland forests to a spring-fed crystal pool for a swim. Shop for handpainted batiks, then check into a boutique hotel in Krabi town.</p>	<p>17 Krabi Town–</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Free Day</p> <p>Explore the town on your own from our centrally located hotel with plenty of attractions within walking distance, including the bustling morning market, a tranquil temple, the scenic riverfront, shops and coffee shops, the colorful afternoon and evening market and Thai massage places.</p>	<p>18 Krabi to Bangkok –</p> <p>Following breakfast, we'll return to Bangkok by air, arriving in the capital city around mid-day. Walk and graze our way through a vibrant open-air fresh food and fruit market. Shop for packaged Thai snacks and natural herbal products to take home.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Farewell Party & Feast!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Travel Day</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Depart Bangkok</p>