Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday

Note: Itinerary Subject to Change.

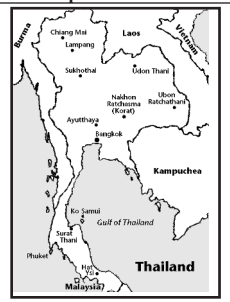
Tentative Itinerary
Trip 2018-19 Trip B (18 days in Thailand)
Thailand Travel Adventures
North & Central Thailand
January 4 – 21, 2019

Through the entire trip, we'll feast on wonderful Thai meals three times daily! – plus countless snacks!

January 2019 →

				3 Travel Day Arrive Bangkok	**4 Bangkok –** Sightsee the magnificent Wat Phra Kaew (Temple of the Emerald Buddha) and the Grand Palace. Lunch along the Chaophraya River, then visit the National Museum, and if time permits, the exquisite Marble Temple (Wat Benjamabhophit). Dine on superb Thai cuisine at a fine neighborhood restaurant!	**5 Bangkok –** Explore the bustling market of Chinatown and enjoy a scrumptious dim sum brunch. Sightsee Wat Traimitr with the impressive 5 1/2-ton solid Gold Buddha. Canal tour on a longtail boat, stopping at temples, the Royal Barge Museum and a community known for its gorgeous, hand-crafted traditional bronzeware.
6 Bangkok to Ayuthaya – Leave Bangkok early for Damnoen Saduak floating market in Ratchaburi – explore quiet canals and be part of the hustle-bustle of a lively market afloat on boats. Visit Nakhon Pathom's huge Buddhist shrine dating back to the 5th century. In Ayuthaya, sightsee Wat Na Phra Mane and the awesome ruins of Wat Chaiwatanaram.	**7 Ayuthaya to Sukhotai –** Explore the impressive remains of a glorious period in Thai history prior to the Bangkok era and a UNESCO World Heritage site – Wat Yai Chaimongkol, Wat Mongkolbhophit, Wat Phra Sisanphet, Wat Lokayasutharam, Wat Mahathat. On to Sukhothai.	**8 Sukhothai –** Walk the atmospheric ruins of Thailand's first capital (a UNESCO World Heritage site) dating back nearly 800 years. Sightsee Wat Mahathat, Wat Si Sawai, Wat Sa Si, Wat Si Chum. In nearby Si Satchanalai, visit a textile museum, shop for local handicrafts, and explore a quiet weaving village to experience its traditional way of life.	**9 Sukhothai to Mae Sa–** After a noodle shop breakfast, walk Sukhothai's bustling market, sampling local treats from street vendors. Continue our journey northward, stopping by an ancient temple and sacred pilgrimage site (Wat Phra That Lampang Luang) with elegant Lanna-style architecture and a history that predates Thailand's.	**10 Mae Sa –** Meander up the hills to a Hmong hilltribe village. Learn their culture and how they've benefited from our beloved late King's Royal projects. Sightsee lovely Queen Sirikit Garden. Afternoon leisure time at our charming resort amidst gardens and cascading streams. Evening cultural exchange with the Hmong.	**11 Mae Sa to Mae Hong Son –** Travel via Mae Sariang. Drive through picturesque canyon country lined with terraced fields and teak forests, stopping at scenic viewpoints along the way. Visit a renowned weaving center and a Karen hilltribe co-op textile center. In MHS, we'll stay at a secluded nature resort by a forest preserve.	**12 Mae Hong Son –** Refreshing morning market walk – mingle with hilltribe traders and their colorful wild produce and sample tasty snacks from friendly vendors. Walk around the quiet town, visiting Shan "Burmese"-style temples. Lunch on delicious local delicacies. Free afternoon to enjoy the solitude of our eco-resort.
13 Mae Hong Son – After breakfast, we'll take a lovely drive to Fish Cave Park, followed by a visit to Pha Seua waterfall. Then, we'll take a scenic ride on a longtail boat up-river to the border post with Myanmar and have a fabulous lunch in town. Optional afternoon hike in the forest preserve near our resort for those interested.	**14 Mae Hong Son –** Tour the beautiful mountainous country of MHS. Take a rice paddy walk in a lovely valley and meet local farmers. Visit Pang Tong Palace and Royal Agricultural Station, a hilltribe village, and a Chinese refugee settlement near the border. Beautiful views and scrumptious Yunnan Chinese banquet-style luncheon!	**15 Mae Hong Son to Pai–** Drive through breathtaking country (foothills of the Himalayas) – one of Thailand's most spectacular drives! Stop by a small Lisu hilltribe village for a walk and explore the extensive caves of Tham Lod near Soppong – raft down the stream flowing through the caves. Stay at a lovely garden inn outside Pai town.	**16 Pai to Chiang Mai –** Drive down lush mountain country into Chiang Mai valley, land of the old Lanna kingdom, stopping at viewpoints along the way. Visit 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!	**17 Chiang Mai –** Graze our way through lively Worarot market; shop for dried Thai herbs, mushrooms, spices, and cookware to take home. Tour the handicraft centers for which the North is known; see how traditional crafts are made, including silk, mulberry paper, silver, ceramics, lacquerware... More time at the Night Bazaar or get a massage.	**18 Chiang Mai –** Walk & feast our way through the bustling Friday Halal market, sampling tasty ethnic Shan treats. Then sightsee historical temples in the "old city:" Wat Phra Singh, Wat Chiang Man, Wat Phra That Chedi Luang. Free afternoon to explore the city; or pamper yourself with a multi-hour spa treatment!	**19 Chiang Mai –** Take an excursion west of Chiang Mai to visit the hilltop temple of Wat Phra That Doi Kham and explore the nearby Royal Flora Park with an exquisite Royal Pavilion dedicated to our late King and a gorgeous orchid garden. In the afternoon, visit an impressive museum with the most amazing wood carvings.
20 Chiang Mai – "Pilgrimage" to Wat Phra That Doi Suthep – the North's most revered temple on a mountain-top overlooking the city. Visit the old temple of Wat Jet Yod, then lunch on delectable northern specialties at a favorite Chiang Mai restaurant! Walk off our big lunch on the quiet grounds of tranquil Wat Umong Forest Monastery.	**21 Chiang Mai to Bangkok –** Return to Bangkok by air, arriving around mid-day. Eat our way through the city's finest and most colorful fresh food market, with top quality fruits and irresistible snacks. Shop for organic herbal products to take home. Farewell party & Feast! (with live traditional music and dance performance).	**22** Travel Day Depart Bangkok				

Kasma Loha-unchit
Thailand Travel Adventures
105 Echo Ave.
Oakland, California 94611
Phone: (510) 655-8900
kasma@thaifoodandtravel.com
www.thaifoodandtravel.com



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