

# BANGKOK

2019 Annual Partner Summit

DISCOVER BANGKOK  
THAILAND

CENTREPOINT  
ALLIANCE

Partnering  
for growth

# DISCOVER BANGKOK

## Introduction

Bangkok, Thailand's capital, is a large city known for ornate shrines and vibrant street life. The boat-filled Chao Phraya River feeds its network of canals, flowing past the Rattanakosin royal district, home to opulent Grand Palace and its sacred Wat Phra Kaew Temple. Nearby is Wat Pho Temple with an enormous reclining Buddha and, on the opposite shore, Wat Arun Temple with its steep steps and Khmer-style spire. With so much of its daily life conducted on the street, there are few cities in the world that reward exploration as handsomely as Bangkok does. Cap off an extended boat trip with a visit to a hidden market. A stroll off Banglamphu's beaten track can lead to a conversation with a monk. Get lost in the tiny lanes of Chinatown and stumble upon a Chinese opera performance. Or after dark, let the BTS (Skytrain) escort you to Sukhumvit, where the local nightlife scene reveals a cosmopolitan and dynamic city.

## THE SIGHTS YOU CANNOT MISS

### Temple of Dawn (Wat Arun)

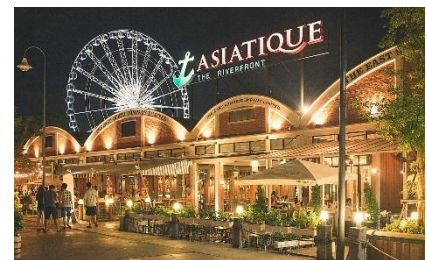


Wat Arun, locally known as Wat Chaeng, is situated on the west (Thonburi) bank of the Chao Phraya River. It is easily one of the most stunning temples in Bangkok, not only because of its riverside location, but also because the design is very different to the other temples you can visit in Bangkok. Wat Arun (or temple of the dawn) is partly made up of colourfully decorated spires and stands majestically over the water.

Opening Hours: Daily 08:30AM – 05:30PM Location: 158 Wang Doem Road, Wat Arun, Bang Kok Yai

### Asiatique The Riverfront

Back in the year 1884, during the reign of King Chulalongkorn That Asian countries are under threat of aggression from European powers with the far-sightedness of King Chulalongkorn has the initiative to raise Siam to reach the world's leading countries and decide to establish a relationship with Denmark, including this step is the construction of the port belonging to East Asia Boutique Company. Which is a business dedicated to the export of teak, with Mr. Hans Nille Anderson, Danish nationality Own a company



This port is a sign of the beginning of international trade. Between the Kingdom of Thailand and European countries And is the key to Siam's continued sovereignty and independence until today

Opening Hours: Daily 04:00PM – 12:00AM Location: 2194 Charoen Krung Road Wat Phraya Krai, Bang Kho

### Ananta Samakhom Throne Hall



The centerpiece of Bangkok's own Champs Elysees, this impressive two-storey white marble palace sits at the end of Dusit's long, wide Royal Plaza, a leafy ceremonial boulevard that's often the focus of regal pomp and ceremony during royal celebrations. Ordered by King Rama V in 1907 and finished in the reign of King Rama VI, its neo-classical Renaissance architecture - particularly its central dome - dominate the scene just as Italian architects Mario Tamango and Annibale Rigotti intended. Following the 1932 coup it housed the first Thai parliament, but today its ornate

interiors serve as a prestigious locale in which to court visiting dignitaries, hold state council meetings and royal occasions.

Opening Hours: Tuesday – Sun 09:30AM – 05:00PM Location: U-Thong Nai Road, Dusit. THB: 50

### Sea Life Ocean World Bangkok

More than just an underwater experience, SEA LIFE Bangkok Ocean World is home to a range of special activities. The choice is yours -- enjoyment and wonder await at every depth of the sea. And you will be impressed with the variety of ocean adventures they have to offer!



Opening Hours: Daily 10:00AM - 09:00 PM Location: B1-B2 Floor, Siam Paragon, 991 Rama 1 Road , Pathu. THB 1690 (child) – 1890 (adult).

### Grand Palace



If there is one must-see sight that no visit to Bangkok would be complete without, it's the dazzling, spectacular Grand Palace, undoubtedly the city's most famous landmark. Built in 1782 - and for 150 years the home of the Thai King, the Royal court and the administrative seat of government - the Grand Palace of Bangkok is a grand old dame indeed, that continues to have visitors in awe with its beautiful architecture and intricate detail, all of which is a proud salute to the creativity and craftsmanship of Thai people.

Within its walls were also the Thai war ministry, state departments, and even the mint. Today, the complex remains the spiritual heart of the Thai Kingdom.

Opening Hours: Daily 08:30AM - 3:30PM Location: Na Phra Lan Road, Phra Nakorn. THB 500. Please wear long pants and sleeved shirts / dresses.



## Wat Pho

Wat Pho (the Temple of the Reclining Buddha), is located behind the Temple of the Emerald Buddha and a must-do for any visitor in Bangkok. It's one of the largest temple complexes in the city and famed for its giant reclining Buddha that measures 46 metres long and is covered in gold leaf.



It's an easy ten-minute walk between here and the Grand Palace, and we recommend coming to Wat Pho second, because even though the golden Buddha here is just as popular many people don't take the time to wander around the rest of the complex so the experience tends to be far more relaxing. This is also a great place to get a traditional Thai massage. Wat Pho is often considered the leading school of massage in Thailand, so you really are in good hands here.

Opening Hours: Daily 08:00AM – 05:00PM Location: 2 Sanamchai Road, Grand Palace Subdistrict, Pranakorn District, Bangkok. THB 100

## EmQuartier



EmQuartier Bangkok opened in March 2015, and is part of The Mall Group's multi-billion-baht 'EM District' project to transform Phrom Phong into one of the biggest retail hubs of the city.

Expect to find a long list of designer brands at the new EmQuartier Bangkok, as well as a distinctly futuristic design with dozens of restaurants, offices, event halls and a cool atrium garden – complete with a waterfall.

Opening Hours: Daily 10:00AM – 10:00PM Location: 693 Sukhumvit Rd, Khlong Toei Nuea, Khet Watthana, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon

## Muang Kaew Golf Course

Conditioning is always top quality, established by the joint Western and Thai Managers to USGA standard. The greens of the latest Tiff-Eagle variety give smooth and fast putting surfaces.

The short game practice facilities feature two tiff eagle putting greens, chipping area and practice bunker. The course operates a small warm-up practice tee in the mornings and afternoons.



Location: 52 Moo 8 Bangna-Trad Highway KM 7.7 Bangkaew, Bangplee Samutprakarn 10540 Thailand

VISITOR		OTHER FEES	18 Holes	9 Holes
WEEKDAY (18H)	3,200 THB	CADDIE FEE	400 THB	200 THB
WEEKEND & PUBLIC HOLIDAY (18H)	4,200 THB	GOLF CART FEE	750 THB	400 THB

# THE BEST DINING OPTIONS

## **Goji Kitchen + Bar | International (*in house*)**

Delight your palate at Goji Kitchen & Bar, one of Bangkok's top Korean restaurants, serving sumptuous buffets and diverse a la carte dishes for breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Dress code: Casual

## **The Lobby Lounge | International (*in house*)**

Looking to wind down an exciting day in Bangkok or start your evening with a cocktail? The Lobby Lounge serves afternoon tea, specialty drinks, coffee and a light dining menu in a relaxed, sophisticated setting.

## **Pagoda Chinese Restaurant | Chinese (*in house*)**

Indulge in a five-star dining experience at Pagoda Chinese Restaurant, where our award-winning chef infuses beloved Cantonese recipes with contemporary flair.

Dress code: Casual

## **Bangkok Dining**

- **Le Du Restaurant | Modern Thai, 5.7km**
- **Bunker | American Cuisine, 6km**
- **Mezzaluna At Lebua Hotel | Haue Cuisine, 8.1km**

For more Bangkok restaurant recommendations [click here](#).

## **Akira Back Restaurant and Bar | Asian-Fusion (*in house*)**

Reservations required

Korean-born Chef Akira Back brings a sense of adventure and wonder to his culinary creations. Come see how this award-winning artist is redefining the Bangkok dining landscape at the only Akira Back restaurant in Thailand.

## **ABar | Asian – Fusion (*in house*)**

Reservations required

Overlooking Bangkok's bustling streets, ABar evokes the grandeur and flair of a bygone era. Boasting traditional dark wooden décor, comfortable wingback chairs and leather-bound books, this refined cocktail bar takes inspiration from the Victorian era. Head upstairs after dinner to ABar Rooftop, Cocktail lovers and social butterflies are invited to discover a stylish new al fresco bar with panoramic skyline views. Visit ABar Rooftop, an inviting, open-air lounge that showcases one of the most impressive gin collections in Bangkok.

## GETTING AROUND

Yes, Bangkok's traffic is notorious - with good reason. It's very easy to get caught up in gridlock traffic any time of the day or night and waste a lot of valuable time in the process. However, with excellent and modern public transport systems in place, Bangkok is surprisingly easy to navigate your way around. The Skytrain (BTS) and underground (MRT) rail systems connect the main shopping, entertainment and business areas of the city, while river taxis and express boats can be used to explore many historic sites and attractions at the riverside. Taxis are cheap and appear on virtually every corner at almost any time. Tuk-tuks, once a big Bangkok attraction, are slowly disappearing in favour of more comfortable transport, but are still worth a ride at least once.

For more information on public transport [click here](#).

### Shopping

Shopping in Bangkok is an experience to thrill and delight the most discerning of shoppers - whatever it is you're looking for. From the gleaming chrome and towering size of modern, air-conditioned malls, to the hustle and bustle of its famously buzzing street markets, Bangkok has all kinds of places to blow your baht. With everything from antiques and the latest pair of trainers to designer jewellery available, Bangkok has an equally exhaustive, and potentially exhausting, variety of things to buy.

For more information on shopping in Bangkok please [click here](#).

## WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT VISITING BANGKOK

### Food/Cuisine

Bottled water is readily available and recommended. Street food in Bangkok provides convenient, delicious and cheap meals and it's one of the purest ways to get in touch with the local culture but can be a little intimidating for foreigners new to the city. That's why we put together this guide to street food in Bangkok, covering what you can expect, where to find the best bites and some handy translations for when pointing and smiling isn't sufficient. Street food is a quintessential part of the Bangkok experience. Wherever you go in the city, food stalls are plentiful and you will find a high concentration of them in busy areas. Some street vendors operate in groups, especially in local markets, which means you can go to the same place every night and have a different choice of meal. Some even open around the clock.

### What to eat in Bangkok Streets

Bangkok street food comes in many guises. It might be a humble cart on the side of the road, it could be a collection of stalls in a local market or even a traditional shophouse that has tables spilling out onto the pavement. If you are worried about cleanliness our tip is to eat at busy places as the ingredients will be fresh. Often specialising in particular types of dishes, you should be able to work out the type of food a stall is selling by observing the ingredients and the way they're being prepared. Vendors can be seen busily stir frying in an ancient wok, pounding papaya, grilling meat skewers or boiling noodles. Some speak basic English but it's not guaranteed.

## Safety

Just like in any big city, you should be extra careful of your belongings when you're in a crowded area, such as a market or a space that attracts a lot of people. A good move is to place your backpack in front of you, and to avoid putting anything important inside the front pockets.

If you're wearing a bag, try placing it in front of you rather than on your side. If your bag is placed in front of you, it becomes harder for someone to grab.

Finally, if you don't need to carry much with you, consider opting for a fanny pack or money belt that you can wear underneath your clothing. And even when you're not in a crowded area, be aware of your surroundings, because crimes can happen anywhere.

## People

Thailand's nickname says enough! This country is all about its smiles and it is one of the pillars of The Thailand tourism industry. On the banana pancake trail, the most popular island-hopping route in Thailand, you will find some fierce Thai people dealing with annoying tourists every day and yes they are grumpy. But this does not mean you can generalize a whole country. Thailand is among the

friendliest nations around the world and they are always willing to help a stranger.

## Mobile Phones

If your phone has international roaming, you will be able to use it during your time in the country. Otherwise, a local SIM card is easily purchased.

## Tipping

Tipping is not customary in Thailand, there is absolutely no mandatory requirement to tip anyone, but small gratuities for great service are very much appreciated. Unlike some other parts of the world, you will never see a Thai service provider with his hand out waiting for a tip.

All public taxi rates are metered, and both Thais and local ex-pats commonly round up the fare (i.e. 51 baht fare rounded up to 60 baht). Most restaurants and hotels include a ten percent service charge in the bill. This surcharge already serves as a tip of sorts. It's combined and shared among all employees at the end of the month in addition to their monthly salary.

Tipping in hotels is not expected, but again is always appreciated, for instance 20 - 50 baht for the porter that carried your bags up to your room, or 20 baht left under your pillow for the cleaner

## What Should I Expect?

Bangkok is the capital of Thailand and its biggest city by far. It's a top tourist destination which is consistently ranked among the world's most visited cities. In fact, so popular and beloved is Bangkok that it was voted the "World's Best City" by Travel + Leisure magazine readers for four consecutive years.

Bangkok's myriad attractions make it appealing to a diverse demographic of tourists. There are plenty of markets and shopping malls like Chatuchak Market and Siam Square to keep you busy. Then spend the day exploring the Old City and its must-see sights like the Grand Royal Palace and Wat Pho. If good food is your thing, then you'll be pleased to know that CNN declared Bangkok as the world's best street food city. And don't let budget concerns scare you away either. You can thrive on Khaosan Road, the backpacking capital of the universe, for as little as USD 10-15 a day.

In short, Bangkok has something for everyone. It's an exciting, affordable city that's much more than your gateway into Thailand. For many travelers, it's the destination.