

ESSENCE OF THAILAND WITH MARKESHA COLLINS

Featuring - Bangkok, Phuket

05 Mar, 2024 - 13 Mar, 2024

DURATION

7 Nights / 9 Days

GROUP SIZE

4 People

AIRPORT

ex New York

PRICE STARTING FROM

Twin Sharing Price - \$ 3,299.00

Single Supplement Price - \$ 699.00

OVERVIEW

Embark on an extraordinary expedition across Thailand, commencing in the exquisite haven of Phuket and culminating in the bustling urban hub of Bangkok. Commencing in Phuket, you'll be welcomed by the serene allure of Thailand's largest island. Unwind upon beaches fringed with palms, partake in snorkeling amidst crystalline waters, and immerse yourself in the island's relaxed ambiance. Venturing beyond the coast, delve into Phuket's lively local markets, savor genuine Thai cuisine, and uncover the fusion of tradition and modernity that defines the island. The journey progresses from Phuket to Bangkok, a city of juxtapositions where contemporary skyscrapers harmonize with intricate temples. Immerse yourself in the dynamic street markets, traverse bustling neighborhoods, and witness the profound reverence at esteemed sites like the Grand Palace and Wat Phra Kaew. Engage in the city's spirited nightlife, relish delectable street fare, and embrace the vibrant essence of urban Thailand.

ACCOMMODATION

CITY	HOTEL NAME	NO. OF NIGHTS
Phuket	Pullman Phuket Panwa Beach Resort	4 Nights
Bangkok	Rembrandt Hotel and Suites	3 Nights



INCLUSIONS

- ◆ 07 Night accommodation in TWN/DBL sharing basis at listed hotels or similar
- ◆ Daily Breakfast,
- ◆ City, temple, and Grand Palace tour in Bangkok
- ◆ Damnoen Saduak Floating Market, Maeklong Railway market tour in Bangkok
- ◆ Day trip to Phi Phi Island from Phuket
- ◆ Phuket City highlights and Hidden gems tour
- ◆ Transportation in a Deluxe Tourist Vehicle
- ◆ All sightseeing with admissions
- ◆ Services of English-speaking driver & guide
- ◆ **International return airfare ex-New York**
- ◆ All taxes and surcharges
- ◆ All local applicable taxes

EXCLUSIONS

- ◆ All other meals and other sightseeing or services
- ◆ Gratuities for meals, tourist guides, drivers
- ◆ Visa fees and Travel Insurance
- ◆ Personal expenses such as alcoholic and other beverages, telephone calls, and laundry
- ◆ Local city taxes if applicable to be paid directly at hotels upon check out
- ◆ Any other services or Items not mentioned above as included

ADD-ON

Optional Tour - Ethical Elephant Sanctuary

Optional Tour - Full-day Jamesbond Island tour by Longtail

Optional Tour - Phuket - ATV Adventure

Optional Tour - Evening Food and Tuk Tuk adventure

ITINERARY

DAY 1 Depart New York [-/-/]

Prepare yourself! You are leaving today for Phuket to start your exotic Essence of Thailand journey.

DAY 2 Phuket Arrival [-/-/]

Upon arrival in Phuket, claim your bags and proceed toward the arrival hall. Our representative will meet you and assist you with your transfer to the hotel. (Standard check-in time is 3:00 pm).

Check in at the hotel and catch up on your rest. You can unwind or tour the city throughout the remaining part of the day.

Overnight in Phuket

DAY 3 Phuket - Half day Phuket city tour [B/-/]

Enjoy your breakfast this morning. Later, meet your guide and begin by visiting the historical district. Don't be misled by the name! The old quarter of Phuket boasts vividly painted, century-old Sino-Portuguese residences that will transport you to another era. Roam through the streets, soak in the sights and sounds, and delve into Soi Romanee, one of the most renowned lanes in the ancient part of town.

Following this, we'll proceed to Chaithararam Temple, also known as Wat Chalong. This temple holds the distinction of being the largest and holiest in Phuket, as it contains a fragment of Buddha's bone. Meander through the temple, admiring the adorned walls and ceilings featuring mosaics depicting scenes from Buddha's life. Subsequently, we'll move on to Windmill Viewpoint and Promthep Cape to capture images of even more coastal vistas and breathtaking panoramas, commemorating the day's expedition. We'll also make a stop at Gems Gallery, which houses a wide array of precious stones and an intriguing aquarium display. The captivating 'Gems Gallery Ride' grants us insight into the process of gemstone extraction.

You will be dropped off at your hotel at the end of the tour. Enjoy a relaxed evening in Phuket with leisure time to unwind and explore at your own pace..

Overnight in Phuket

DAY 4 Phuket (Day free at leisure) [B/-/]

Enjoy your breakfast this morning. Savor the privilege of a day where your timetable knows no bounds, and your hours in Phuket are entirely within your control. You can opt to unwind on the sun-drenched shores, explore the bustling markets, embark on a gastronomic expedition through the rich tapestry of Thai cuisine, or take a tranquil saunter to absorb the mesmerizing vistas. The decision is entirely yours, or you might consider reserving one of our recommended add-ons to enhance your experience.

Add-on Ethical Elephant Sanctuary - USD 110 Per person on seat in coach basis

Embark on an enchanting encounter with elephants through a guided expedition to the Phuket Elephant Jungle Sanctuary, complete with inclusive pickup and drop-off services. Immerse yourself in the elephant's daily rituals as you engage in feeding and bathing them. Seize the chance to capture unforgettable snapshots alongside these magnificent creatures, forging a connection while enriching your understanding of their lives. Commence your day with a pickup from your lodging in an air-conditioned vehicle. Traverse picturesque landscapes during a scenic drive toward the Elephant Sanctuary. Upon arrival, be introduced to your English-speaking guide, who will provide insights into the elephants' world. Equipped with bananas and cane sugar, join your guide in traversing the sanctuary's grounds, discovering the elephants' natural presence in a secure, sustainable, and ethical environment. Your guide will regale you with anecdotes about the unique stories of each elephant. Engage with the elephants at your own pace, touching, feeding, capturing photographs, and interacting, all while acquiring knowledge about their behaviors and lifestyles. Once you've acquainted yourself with these gentle giants, partake in a delightful mud treatment, applying a rejuvenating cosmetic layer to their skin. Subsequently, accompany them to a nearby river, where you'll join them in a refreshing bath. Amidst playful water antics, assist in bathing, brushing, and enjoying the company of the

elephants. Post-cleansing, take memorable last photos, bidding farewell to your newfound companions before changing into dry attire.

Conclude the experience by relishing snacks and seasonal fresh fruits, providing a satisfying conclusion before your return journey to your hotel.

Add-on - Full-day Jamesbond Island tour by Longtail - USD 85 Per person on seat in coach basis

Embark on a captivating adventure tour from Phuket that offers both private and shared options, featuring canoeing and a longtail boat ride. Delight in local flavors, venture into Talu Cave, and pay a visit to James Bond Island, renowned for its stunning limestone karsts made famous by the 1974 James Bond movie, "The Man with the Golden Gun." Upon being collected from your Phuket hotel, your journey commences with a direct route to the day's initial destination, Wat Suwan Khuha, often referred to as the Monkey Cave due to the lively monkeys inhabiting the temple complex. Step into the cave temple, observe the sculptures and carvings and subsequently head towards the pier. Subsequently, embark on a longtail boat and cruise to the second destination, Panyee Island, renowned as the Floating Village. This island, elevated on stilts by local fishermen, has been inhabited since the 18th century. Engage in village exploration, gain insights into local life, and indulge in lunch at a village restaurant. Following a hearty meal of delectable local cuisine, reboard the boat to venture to Talu Cave. Revel in your free time for canoeing within the azure waters. Navigate the cave surroundings, characterized by magnificent stalactites, stalagmites, and uniquely shaped rock formations. Continuing on, arrive at the highlight of the day, James Bond Island. Pause at an ideal vantage point to behold the awe-inspiring 20-meter rock structure, a solitary cliff enveloped by turquoise waters and cliffs. Appreciate the indelible scenic beauty before commencing the return journey to Phuket.

Add-on : ATV Adventure - USD 90 Per person

Phuket extends far beyond its renowned white sandy beaches and the meeting of turquoise waters, which have rightfully earned it a place among the world's premier tourism destinations. This island boasts lush jungles that envelop it, and this two-hour expedition aboard an all-terrain vehicle introduces a fresh

perspective on its offerings. Our journey kicks off with a comprehensive safety briefing, ensuring our preparedness for the adventure ahead. We then embark on an exhilarating exploration along gravel and mud trails, providing the opportunity to witness insect-eating plants, rubber tapping, and Phuket's untouched beaches. Our trusty four-wheeled vehicle navigates routes that can prove a bit uneven at times, enhancing the thrill of the experience. As our forest expedition draws to a close, we're treated to revitalizing cold beverages and a selection of local seasonal fruits.

Overnight in Phuket

DAY 5 Phuket (Full day Phi Phi Island tour) [B/L/-]

Embark on an exhilarating speedboat excursion to the Phi Phi Islands, leaving the bustling crowds behind. Discover the iconic highlights of these stunning islands, from their untouched beaches to their captivating landscapes, and dive into the crystalline waters for invigorating swims and snorkeling experiences.

Commence your tour in the early hours to ensure arrival at the islands before the regular influx of visitors. Your first stop is the renowned Phi Phi Leh island, featuring the picturesque Maya Bay that gained fame through the Hollywood film "The Beach," as well as the Phi Phi Leh Lagoon. Here, take a leisurely dip in the refreshing waters of the lagoon, rejuvenating your spirits.

Continue your journey to Phi Phi Don, where you'll embark on a climb to reach the remarkable viewpoint. Relish the breathtaking panoramas from the island's summit, offering a glimpse of the charming town below.

Indulge in a delightful light breakfast, followed by a satisfying lunch later in the day, all while enjoying refreshing beverages aboard the speedboat.

Make the most of the opportunity to sightsee around the island, catching a glimpse of the Viking Cave and observing monkeys from the comfort of the boat. Revel in an extended snorkeling session, and as a final highlight, proceed to Bamboo Island. Here, relish a delightful picnic lunch on the beach, followed by ample time for sun-soaked relaxation and swimming.

Overnight in Phuket

DAY 6

Phuket - Bangkok - City Tour with Grand Palace
[B/L/-]

After enjoying your breakfast, complete the check-out process before being transferred to Phuket airport for your flight to Bangkok. Upon arrival in Bangkok, you'll be greeted by your guide and embark on a captivating exploration of the city.

Our journey in Bangkok starts with an exploration of the city's acclaimed Buddhist temples, where we'll be introduced to three of its most extraordinary and distinct sites. Our first destination is the opulent Wat Trimitr, situated at the terminus of bustling Yaowarat Road in vibrant Chinatown. Conveniently located near the Hua Lampong train station, this temple shelters a priceless treasure—the Golden Buddha. This monumental statue, weighing an impressive five and a half tons, stands as a stunning testament to human artistry and devotion.

Subsequently, we move on to Wat Po, Bangkok's largest temple complex. Here, a truly remarkable 46-meter-long reclining Buddha commands attention, accompanied by intricately adorned chedis. And, as an essential part of any temple expedition, we'll also pay a visit to the resplendent Grand Palace. This architectural masterpiece reflects the traditional Siamese court style, having once served as a royal residence. Within its ornate grounds, a multitude of structures each have distinct functions, including the Funeral Palace, Reception Palace, Throne Hall, Coronation Hall, Royal Guest House, and the renowned Emerald Buddha Temple.

After our insightful exploration of Bangkok, you'll be dropped off at your hotel. You're then welcome to spend the evening at your leisure, perhaps considering a visit to the night market for a bout of shopping or relaxation.

Overnight in Bangkok

DAY 7

Bangkok (Day free at leisure) [B/-/-]

You have a free day in Bangkok to spend as you, please. You can explore the city on your own or take part in any of the available activities and tours. You

could also spend the day at a beach, go shopping, or try some local cuisine, alternately pre-book one of our suggested Add-ons. Whatever you choose, make the most of your free day and enjoy your time in Dubai!

Add-on: Evening Food and Tuk Tuk adventure - USD 95 Per person

Immerse yourself in a delightful array of diverse Thai street delicacies during an exceptional evening tour guided by iconic tuk-tuks. Our gastronomic journey leads us through the captivating neighborhoods of Thonburi, Rattanakosin, and Chinatown, all aboard three-wheeled vehicles that establish a more intimate connection with the heart of the capital. As we zip down narrow lanes to eateries tucked away from the typical tourist path, this culinary exploration offers not only the pleasure of tasting but also a cultural odyssey. In addition to our culinary voyage, this pleasurable excursion encompasses a cultural voyage as well. As we traverse the historical quarter, we are treated to the sight of landmark sites aglow with illumination, a testament to the history that has shaped this vibrant city. Delving deeper, we gain insight into how the nation's provinces have contributed to and elevated Thai cuisine onto the global stage. Thonburi, situated along the western bank of the Chao Phraya River, briefly served as the capital in the 18th century following the invasion of Ayutthaya by Burmese forces. Rattanakosin stands as the embodiment of 18th and 19th-century Siam, home to the country's most significant structures, including the revered Grand Palace. The grandeur of Chinatown, the world's largest, unfolds as the sun sets, revealing its bustling evening scene, particularly vibrant with streetside eateries. This culinary escapade is designed to satiate your palate while enriching your cultural knowledge. For those with a preference for more sightseeing, we offer the 'Bangkok Night Lights Tuk-Tuk Tour,' a cultural exploration that illuminates the city's nighttime charm.

Add-on: Chao Phraya Dinner Cruise with transfers - USD 75 Per person (minimum 2 pax) person

Enjoy an evening dinner cruise on the Chao Phraya Princess, traveling along Bangkok's main waterway. Experience the magic of the illumination of the city's temples and other historic monuments. Check-in at Iconsiam shopping center and board a safe and comfortable cruiser to experience the Chao Phraya

River at night. Take in views of both banks of the river from the open-air upper deck. Soak up the atmosphere of the city's top landmarks and monuments illuminated at night, and tuck into an elegant gourmet buffet dinner of international fare, accompanied by light background music.

Overnight in Bangkok

DAY 8

Bangkok - Full day Maeklong Railway Market and Damnoen Saduak Floating Market tour [B/L/-]

Embark on a unique journey that grants you the opportunity to witness two renowned markets in a single-day trip from Bangkok. Experience the enchantment of Maeklong Railway Market, perched upon the railway tracks, and immerse yourself in the vibrant allure of Damnoen Saduak Floating Market, where vendors ply their trade from boats drifting along the canals.

Upon pickup, you will be transported to Maeklong Railway Market, also recognized as Talad Rom Hup or "Umbrella Pulldown Market." Nestled alongside the Maeklong Railway, this market, known for its abundant selection of fresh seafood, is among the largest of its kind in Thailand.

Our knowledgeable local guide will provide captivating insights into the market's operations and the array of products it offers. Witness the mesmerizing spectacle as market stalls and awnings are deftly retracted from the tracks whenever a train approaches, allowing the train to seamlessly traverse through the market.

Continuing our journey, we then proceed to the famed

Damnoen Saduak Floating Market, an iconic fixture in Thailand. To reach this market, a brief paddleboat ride is undertaken. Submerge yourself in the kaleidoscopic market scene, where affable vendors conduct their transactions directly from their boats. Take in the vibrant sights and lively sounds while treating yourself to local delights, such as mango sticky rice. Your guide will offer valuable recommendations to ensure you don't miss out on any highlights.

After a fulfilling exploration, return to Bangkok in time for the early afternoon, wrapping up a day filled with captivating market encounters.

The evening grants you a wonderful chance to relax and fully engage with the lively ambiance of Bangkok at your leisure. You have the option to explore some of the city's renowned markets, where you can peruse an assortment of crafts, textiles, and distinctive souvenirs. The night markets, in particular, create an enchanting fusion of shopping, dining, and entertainment, offering a glimpse into the city's bustling nightlife. Whether you choose to treat yourself to delectable Thai cuisine at a local eatery, unwind through a traditional Thai massage, or simply relish the allure of Bangkok's urban landscape, the evening serves as a canvas for you to shape as you desire.

Overnight in Bangkok

DAY 9

Bangkok Departure [B/-/-]

Your incredible essence of Thailand tour comes to an end today. Your tour concludes after breakfast this morning. You will be transported to the airport for your return flight at the appropriate time.

Payment Policy

Deposit: US\$ 2000 per person [Non-refundable / Non-transferrable]

Deposit Date: 30th Oct 2024

Full Balance: 5th Jan 2024

(Once the deposit is paid, the travelers can then pay any amount on any date. Travelers to ensure that the payment deadlines are met as above)

Insurance Policy

We encourage everyone who books a VOYAGES HUB TOURS package, regardless of age or tour choice, to obtain a travel protection plan. While you intend to take that once-in-a-lifetime trip, illness, family emergencies, and other factors can derail your best-laid plans.

[Please click here for a free quote or buy Online](#)

Cancellation Policy

- ◆ From the date of booking to 29th Oct 2023: \$2000 per person Non-Refundable / Non-transferrable Deposit + interruption insurance cost (if purchased)
- ◆ Cancellation made on or after 5th Jan 2024, a full cancellation fee will be applicable, **No refund is available.**

Note:

A person becoming single because of the roommate's cancellation must pay the single supplement

All payment cut-off dates are firm, and missing deadlines without approved extensions will result in cancellations without refunds being offered.

PLEASE NOTE

Voyages Hub reserves the right to levy a surcharge commensurate to the fuel increase at the time of operation of this movement.



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