



THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE YOU GO
THAILAND

(Jan 2019 updated)

Thank you for choosing RITZ TOURS!!!

PLEASE FIND ENCLOSED THE FOLLOWING TOUR DOCUMENTS:

1. US domestic (if applicable) and international airline ticket copies
2. Your Flight Schedule
3. Day-by-Day Itinerary with Hotel Information and Emergency Contact Phone Numbers
4. Vouchers (if applicable)
5. Ritz Tours Badge
6. Luggage Tag
7. A Copy of "Thailand Trips - Things to Know Before You Go"
8. Travel Insurance Policy (if applicable)

Upon arrival in Thailand, please go through Customs and Immigration on your own. After exiting the Custom area, please look for Ritz Tours representative who will be holding a sign with "Ritz Tours". Please make sure that you wear your Ritz Tours badge for easy identification.

AN IMPORTANT NOTE ON TIPPING:

Please note that gratuities are not included in your tour cost. They are customary, and their purpose is to encourage and reward quality service. Our tour conductors, local guide, drivers, hotel porters and other service personnel do their utmost to make your trip smooth and pleasant. Gratuities are a way of showing your appreciation and also constitute a large part of their monthly income. However, tips are NEVER mandatory.

Ritz Tours suggests tipping in the following manner (expressed in US dollars):

- \$10 per person per day (except free day) – to be distributed between driver & guide

Most restaurants will add a 10% service charge to the bill, but if not, a 10% tip is customary. Tipping is not customary in any of the four countries but loose change is happily accepted.

Again, thank you for choosing Ritz Tours as your partner-in-travel. We are confident that your trip will be happy and rewarding. If you need further information, please contact your travel agent or Ritz Tours.

We wish you have a very pleasant journey, Bon Voyage !

Travel Documentation:

U.S. Passport must be valid for at least 6 months on the return date of your trip. No visa required for stay up to 30 days in Thailand. For non-U.S. citizen, please check with the Thailand Tourism Board for requirement.

Electrical Requirement:

Electrical outlets are rated at 220 volts, 50 cycles per second so a converter is needed to operate a normal 110-volt American appliance. Electrical appliances will also require an adapter that can change the shape of the plug prongs.

Shopping:

Although local guides will be happy to assist you with any shopping requirements, Ritz Tours does not assume responsibility for any items purchased at shops while on tour. You are never required to purchase any items while on tour and thus must be responsible for your own purchases. Any after sales correspondence must be between the passenger and the shop in question.

Baggage:

Cathay Pacific Baggage allowance:

First class, Business class and Economy class:
Maximum weight 50lbs per bag
Maximum number of checked bags: Two
Maximum Dimensions per bag: 158cm (62in) length + height + width
Infant ticket holder maximum number of checked bags is ONE, maximum dimensions per bag: 115cm (45in).

Thailand domestic airlines:

Bangkok- Chiang Rai, Chiang Mai – Bangkok
The baggage allowance is 20kg (44lbs) per person.

DO NOT pack medicine, valuables and other personal necessities in checked luggage. Keep them in your carry on bag.

Health & Medical Matter:

No vaccinations are required for your trip with the exception of anyone traveling from or via an infected area. Due to the length of the trip and local traveling conditions, it is advised that you consult your doctor for existing medical / dental conditions before departure. If you are taking prescription medicine, please pack (in your hand luggage) sufficient quantity for the duration of the trip. It may also be useful to

bring aspirin, over-the-counter medicine for flu, indigestion, motion sickness, etc. In case of illness during the trip, please immediately notify your tour conductor and local guide for assistance. You can also contact the Center for Disease Control (C.D.C.) 404-639-3534 for updated information.

Currency:

As of Jan 2019, the following exchange rate applies:
1.00 USD=32.00 THB,

Clothing:

Clothes should be light and loose; natural fibers or blends are best. Sunglasses are essential; light hats are advisable. Shorts are taboo for men and women at temples and mosques. Shoes must be removed upon entering temple buildings, so non-laced shoes (but not sandals without back straps) are best. Winter nights in the North can be chilly and a sweater will be welcome in the evenings and early mornings. Choose light clothes for Phuket's balmy weather. Many visitors save luggage space by buying inexpensive vacation clothes after arriving in Thailand, leaving them behind when they return home.

Climate & Weather:

Thailand's tropical climate is hot and humid, but there are regional and seasonal temperature variations.

Bangkok enjoys three seasons: Hot (March to mid-June; 27-35 C i.e. 80-95 F), Rainy (June to October; 24-32 C i.e. 75-90 F), and Cool (Nov. to Feb; 18-32 C i.e. 65-90 F), although the humidity is considerably lower.

Chiang Mai & Chiang Rai in the far North is somewhat cooler with winter temperatures ranging between 13 and 28 C (56 and 83 F); in rare instances, temperatures in the hills can drop as low as 2 C (36 F). As in Bangkok, the heaviest rains fall in September and city streets often flood in October and early November.

Seasons: (may vary by up to one month):

Cool: Oct-Feb
Hot: Mar-Apr
Rainy: May-Sep

Useful Thai Phrases

Yes	Chái
No	Mái cháí
Thank you	Khàp khun
No, thank you	Mái ao khàp khun
Hello	Sawàt dii
How are you?	Sabai dee rue?
I'm fine	Sabàay dee
Excuse me	Khãw thòht
Please	Karuna
When?	Mêu-arai?
Today	Wan níí
Tomorrow	Phrûng níí
I do not understand	Mái Khào jai
How old are you?	Ah yoo thao rai?
I like you!	Phom chawp koon
I cannot speak Thai	Poot passat Thai mai dai
Can speak a little Thai	Poot passat Thai nit noy
No smoking/don't smoke	Haam soop buree