

## Suggested attractions & activities for Bangkok

The Thai capital, Bangkok, is a cosmopolitan metropolis that boasts a fascinating juxtaposition of ancient temples sitting alongside glittering high-rise modern buildings, lively markets, big shopping malls and food stalls as well as trendy cafes and restaurants.

Whether Bangkok is just your stopover city or your holiday destination, we guarantee you won't run out of places to see and activities to do. Options of accommodation in Bangkok range from luxury hotels/ serviced apartments in the city or along the river to boutique hotels and guesthouses in the old city.

### Recommended attractions for people who love culture and history

Bangkok is home to some of Thailand's most revered temples and national landmarks such as **the Grand Palace, the Temple of the Emerald Buddha (Wat Phra Kaew), the Temple of the Reclining Buddha (Wat Pho) and the Temple of Dawn (Wat Arun)**. These four attractions are not far from one another, so you can easily visit them all on the same day.



Wat Arun



Wat Phra Kaew & the Grand Palace

Wat Phra Kaew is the most famous landmark of Bangkok. On top of the elaborated glittering architecture, highlights here include Thailand's most valuable and sacred Buddha image - the Emerald Buddha, the beautiful mural painting on the inner walls of the Ubosot and the 6m high giant statues guarding the gates. The temple is located within the same complex as the Grand Palace.

Next to Wat Phra Kaew and the Grand Palace situated Wat Pho, home to the magnificent golden Reclining Buddha, measuring 46 metres' long. This temple is also famous for its 99 stupas, traditional Thai massage centre and meditation centre.

Situated on the opposite side of Chao Phraya River from Wat Pho is Wat Arun. Its 81 metres' tall Prang (tower) decorated with broken porcelain from China is another landmark of Bangkok.

Other suggested cultural attractions include **Jim Thompson's House, Museum Siam, Rattanakosin Exhibition Hall** and **National Museum**. For visitors with limited time, join one of the **hop on – hop off buses or boats** e.g. Siam Hop, Chao Phraya Tourist Boat, etc.

### Experience local transports

Despite the heavy traffic of central Bangkok, the city offers choices of public transports so there are usually ways to avoid it. We suggest **BTS Skytrain** and **MRT Metro** where possible as they are modern and they depart frequently. For those looking to experience something uniquely local, try **Tuk Tuk** and **long – tailed boat**.



Tuk Tuks at Yaowarat (Chinatown)



BTS Skytrain

### Shopping

Bangkok is widely known as one of Asia's best shopping destinations. The city offers several big shopping malls, such as **Icon Siam, Siam Paragon, Siam Square, Central World, Emquartier** and **Mega Bangna**, as well as markets, such as **Chatuchak Weekend Market, Asiatique the Riverfront Night Market, Rot Fai Night Market, Wang Lang Market**, etc.

### Dining & Night Out

In Bangkok, you can get **Michelin – starred food** and some of the best **street food** in the world. Examples of Michelin – starred Thai restaurants include Paste Bangkok, Bo.lan, R-Haan, Saneh Jaan, Le Du, Nahm and Jay Fai. Best places for street food include Phraeng Phuthorn Quarter, Bang Lampu Market, Chinatown (Yaowarat) and Wang Lang Market.

For nightlife, Bangkok offers options from fancy **rooftop bars** to **small bars**. Popular rooftop bars include Sky Bar at le Bua, Vertigo Bar at Banyan Tree, Park Society at Sofitel So, Red Sky at Centara Grand at Central World, etc. Popular areas for smaller bars include Soi Thonglor (e.g. Rabbit Hole, Iron Fairies, etc.), Khao San Road (e.g. Ad Here the

13<sup>th</sup>, Brick Bar, Bombay Blues, etc.) and Soi Nana in Yaowarat (e.g. Tep, Ba Hao, Teens of Thailand, etc.)



Pomelo Salad by Paste Bangkok



Rot Fai Night Market

If you don't know where to start, simply join one of the food tours which most of them would take small group of tourists to several places on a few hours' trip. Suggested operators include <https://www.bangkokfoodtours.com>, <https://www.takemetour.com>, <https://www.siamrisetravel.com>, <https://hivesters.com>, <https://www.blackricetravel.com>

### **Other suggested activities**

Other recommended activities for visitors to Bangkok include **cooking class**, **Thai massage**, **cycling tour** and **handicraft workshop**.