

# Mae Hong Son Holidays

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Department of Tourism of Thailand license No. 22/00782

# Northern Thailand Package 10 Days 9 Nights

DAY 01 Chiang Mai Arrival / (Hotel)

00:00 After arriving at Chiang Mai Airport, you will be warmly welcomed and assisted

with your transfer to the hotel. Once you have checked in, the remainder of the day is at your leisure, allowing you to relax and enjoy your stay in Chiang Mai and take this

opportunity to explore the city at your own pace.

DAY 02 Chiang Mai Sightseeing: Baan Chang Elephant Park Sanctuary (No Riding) / Wat

Phra That Doi Suthep Temple (Hotel / Breakfast / Lunch)

Breakfast at the hotel

08:30 AM Pick up from the hotel.

Commence your day by departing from Chiang Mai and heading towards the Mae Taeng district to experience the wonders of Baan Chang Elephant Park Sanctuary. Along the way, delight in the breathtaking vistas of lush forests, majestic mountains, and diverse cultivation areas maintained by local farmers in Chiang Mai Province. Upon arriving at Baan Chang Elephant Park, you'll have the opportunity to immerse yourself in the culture by donning traditional mahout costumes. The park's staff will provide you with elephant food, such as plants and fruits, in preparation for the delightful experience of feeding these gentle giants. Expert guides and mahouts will regale you with fascinating insights into Thai elephants, their communication, care, and upbringing. Learn the art of interacting with these magnificent creatures, greeting them, and observing their natural behaviors and habits. Have a blast playing with the elephants and capturing cherished moments through photographs. You'll also join them on a leisurely walk to mud pits for refreshing mud spas, followed by a heartwarming bathing session.

Lunch at the restaurant.

Next, visit the revered Wat Phra That Doi Suthep Temple, an essential historical and cultural landmark, celebrated among the Thai people as one of Thailand's most sacred temples. Situated atop Doi Suthep mountain at an altitude of 1,053 meters above sea level, the temple holds profound religious and historical significance for Chiang Mai. Founded in 1383, reaching the temple involves ascending nearly 300 stairs, leading to the enshrined Chiang Saen style pagoda. Within the pagoda, sacred relics of Lord Buddha are enshrined, adding to the temple's spiritual allure. Known as "Praboromathat Doi Suthep Woravihan Temple," this sanctuary beautifully exemplifies Thai Lanna art alongside Chiang Mai city. It remains a cherished place of worship, drawing devotees and tourists alike seeking to pay their respects.

Additionally, the temple's surroundings offer a clear and breathtaking viewpoint of Chiang Mai city, making it an idyllic spot to behold the city's beauty. Conclude the day in Chiang Mai, where you will spend the night, reflecting on the remarkable experiences and treasured memories from your incredible journey.

**DAY 03** 

Chaing Mai - Chiang Rai: Wat Rong Khun Temple (White Temple) / Singha Park Farm / Wat Rong Suea Ten temple (Blue Temple) / Chiang Rai Night Bazaar (Hotel / Breakfast / Lunch)

Breakfast at the hotel.

08:30 AM Pick up from the hotel.

Embark on an enchanting journey from Chiang Mai province to Chiang Rai province, where you will be enthralled by the remarkable attractions awaiting you. First, visit the awe-inspiring Wat Rong Khun Temple, also known as the White Temple, an architectural masterpiece designed and built by the esteemed artist Professor Chalermchai Kositpipat. The temple's creation was inspired by a harmonious blend of spectacular art and Lanna culture. Adorned with stucco patterns decorated with glass and large wall paintings, the pure white chapel exudes the beauty of a heavenly castle with contemporary religious architecture. The bridge leading to the chapel features intricate sculptures depicting religious precepts, offering an intriguing puzzle of heaven and hell. Inside the chapel, a shiny silver mirror pattern adds to the splendor. Art galleries and exquisite sculptures further enrich the experience for curious tourists.

Next, indulge in the captivating allure of Singha Park Farm, an agricultural attraction owned by Boon Rawd Brewery. Spanning over 3,000 acres, this sprawling farm presents a captivating landscape of rolling hills, a vast lake, and meticulously maintained grounds. You can explore more than 250 acres of lush green oolong tea plantations, where the verdant fields stretch as far as the eye can see. Beyond the tea plantations, Singha Park boasts various fruit kingdoms, showcasing an abundant variety of melons, strawberries, raspberries, giant gooseberries, and an array of other succulent fruits. Take a leisurely stroll through the vegetable and herb gardens, encountering a diverse selection of plants cultivated with care. Marvel at the blooming flower fields that burst with vibrant colors and fragrances, providing a feast for the senses. Additionally, the park offers the unique opportunity to interact with African animals, including giraffes and zebras, amidst the lush greenery, making it an ideal destination for nature lovers.

Lunch at the restaurant.

Step into a world of vibrant colors and spiritual serenity at Wat Rong Suea Ten, also known as the Blue Temple. This contemporary masterpiece, designed by renowned Chiang Rai artist Puttha Kabkaew, is a visual feast for the eyes. Dominated by striking shades of blue and gold, the temple's intricate details and ornate decorations create a sense of awe and tranquility. Wander through the vihara, where the walls are adorned with mesmerizing murals depicting Buddhist mythology and folklore. Pay homage to the revered Phra Buddha Ratchamongkol Bodi Tri Lokanath statue, enshrined within the temple's sacred halls. Let the vibrant colors and unique architectural style of Wat Rong Suea Ten captivate your senses. As you explore this

stunning temple, you'll gain a deeper appreciation for the artistic expression and spiritual significance that define this modern masterpiece.

As evening falls, immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of the Chiang Rai Night Bazaar, a renowned shopping destination for both Thai and international tourists. Delight in hill tribe handicrafts, local products, clothing, accessories, and home furnishings. Savor a variety of delectable food and beverages while enjoying folk cultural activities presented in the captivating Lanna aesthetic. Experience the fascinating performances by numerous hill tribes, culminating in a delightful evening. Spend the night in Chiang Rai, cherishing the memories of a day filled with art, culture, nature, and authentic experiences.

DAY 04

Chiang Rai Sightseeing: Doi Tung Palace and Mae Fah Luang Garden / Mae Sai / Golden Triangle / Mekong River Cruise (Hotel / Breakfast / Lunch)

Breakfast at the hotel.

08:30 AM P

Pick up from the hotel.

Depart from Chiang Rai city to explore two of the region's most famous tourist attractions: the Doi Tung Royal Villa and the Mae Fah Luang Garden. Nestled at an elevation of 1,200 meters above sea level on Doi Tung Mountain in Mae Fah Luang District, the Doi Tung Royal Villa stands as a testament to architectural fusion and royal dedication. Built in 1987, this former residence of Her Royal Highness Princess Srinagarindra, the Princess Mother, harmoniously combines the charm of a Swiss chalet with the traditional aesthetics of Lanna design. Upon closer examination, you'll discover intricate wood carvings adorning the gables, eaves, and window frames—details handcrafted by skilled northern artisans. The construction of the Royal Villa was a cornerstone of the Princess Mother's visionary Doi Tung Development Project. This transformative initiative aimed to rehabilitate areas affected by deforestation and opium cultivation, replacing them with sustainable livelihoods for local hill tribes. Her unwayering commitment not only restored the environment but also empowered communities to thrive. Complementing the villa is the stunning Mae Fah Luang Garden, a vibrant botanical haven offering a kaleidoscope of colors and fragrances that shift with the seasons. Meticulously curated, the garden showcases nature's beauty through a diverse array of flowers and plants. Whether adorned with spring's soft pastels or autumn's fiery hues, the garden provides a tranquil escape and an ever-changing spectacle for visitors. A visit to the Doi Tung Royal Villa and Mae Fah Luang Garden offers more than picturesque scenery and architectural marvels—it provides profound insight into an important chapter of Thai history, royal philanthropy, and cultural heritage.

Venture further to Mae Sai District, Thailand's northernmost point, where the country shares a border with Myanmar. The Mae Sai River, a natural boundary, gently flows between the two nations, creating a unique and picturesque landscape. A bridge connects the two sides, offering a glimpse into Myanmar's culture and traditions. The heart of Mae Sai is its bustling border market, a vibrant hub of activity where Thai and Myanmar merchants gather to trade their wares. As you stroll through the market's winding alleys, you'll be greeted by a dazzling array of goods, from local handicrafts and fresh produce to electronic gadgets and exotic spices. The market is a sensory overload, with sights, sounds, and smells that will transport you to another world. You can haggle with vendors, sample local

delicacies, and even witness traditional crafts being made. It's a truly unique and unforgettable experience.

Lunch at the restaurant.

Continuing your adventure, visit the historical Golden Triangle, located in Sop Ruak Village, Chiang Saen District. Here, the Mekong River divides the borders of Thailand and Laos, while the Ruak River delineates the boundary between Thailand and Myanmar. This area was once a thriving opium cultivation region, leading to its renowned moniker, the "Golden Triangle," where black gold was traded for raw opium. In modern times, opium cultivation and trade have ceased, leaving behind intriguing legends. After learning about the region's past, pay homage to the majestic Golden Triangle Buddha, a monumental bronze statue adorned with topaz, beautifully enshrined along the Mekong River's shore.

Next, set sail on a captivating cruise along the majestic Mekong River, admiring the beauty of nature and the lifestyles of communities lining both sides of the river. This iconic river, originating from the Tibetan Plateau, meanders through China, Laos, Myanmar, and Thailand, enriching the lives of people along its course and fostering economic and cultural ties. Its journey culminates in the South China Sea in Vietnam, leaving an indelible mark on the regions it touches. As you glide along the serene waters, you'll be treated to picturesque landscapes, from lush green hills to charming riverside villages. The Mekong River is a lifeline for many communities, and you'll witness fishermen casting their nets, farmers tending to their crops, and children playing along the riverbanks. The cruise offers a unique perspective on the harmonious relationship between the river and the people who depend on it for their livelihoods. As the sun sets, spend the night in Chiang Rai, cherishing the memories of a day filled with exploration and cultural encounters.

**DAY 05** 

Chiang Rai – Ban Tha Ton: Wat Huay Pla Kang Temple / Doi Mae Salong / Akha hill tribe Village / Roi Jai Rak Project / Wat Tha Ton Temple (Hotel / Breakfast / Lunch)

Breakfast at the hotel.

08:00 AM Pick up from the hotel.

Embark on an extraordinary adventure to explore the captivating wonders of Chiang Rai, a province where rich cultural heritage and breathtaking natural beauty come together to create an unforgettable experience. Begin your journey with a visit to the magnificent Wat Huay Pla Kang Temple, a spiritual and architectural marvel perched atop a picturesque hill. This iconic temple is renowned for its 9-storey, 12-sided chedi, an exquisite blend of Chinese and Lanna architectural styles. The chedi's intricate details, featuring ornate carvings and a striking red roof flanked by majestic dragon sculptures, are a testament to the region's artistic heritage. Inside, visitors will find the revered Goddess Guan Yin Bodhisattva, intricately carved from large sandalwood, exuding a sense of peace and reverence. The temple grounds also feature the awe-inspiring 69-meter-tall statue of Guan Yin Bodhisattva, a colossal structure equivalent to a 25-storey building. Climb to the top of this statue, which doubles as an observation deck, for panoramic views of Chiang Rai's rolling hills and lush landscapes. The serene atmosphere and stunning vistas make this temple a must-visit destination for spiritual seekers and architecture enthusiasts alike.

Next, journey to the enchanting highlands of Doi Mae Salong, a region celebrated for its lush tea plantations and serene mountain vistas. As you ascend into the hills, you'll be greeted by terraced tea fields that stretch as far as the eye can see, painting the landscape in vibrant shades of green. These plantations are not only a feast for the eyes but also a testament to the agricultural prowess of the region. Doi Mae Salong is deeply rooted in history as the home of a Chinese Yunnan community, descendants of soldiers who sought refuge in Thailand after the Chinese Communist Revolution. Today, this community thrives in agriculture, cultivating premiumquality tea, fruits, and vegetables that have gained recognition across Thailand and beyond. Strolling through the village, you'll encounter traditional Yunnan-style houses, quaint tea shops, and bustling markets offering a glimpse into the daily life of this unique settlement. The tranquil ambiance, combined with the cultural richness of the area, evokes a sense of being transported to a remote village in southern China, making it a perfect retreat for relaxation and exploration.

#### Lunch at the restaurant.

Delve deeper into Chiang Rai's cultural tapestry with a visit to an Akha hill tribe village, nestled amidst stunning natural surroundings. The Akha people, originally from southern China, have a fascinating history of migration, first to northern Myanmar and eventually to northern Thailand over a century ago. Their villages are typically located on mountain ridges, with homes constructed from bamboo and thatched roofs, blending harmoniously with the environment. The Akha are known for their vibrant and colorful attire, featuring elaborate silver ornaments and multicolored beads that symbolize their cultural identity and pride. Their way of life revolves around subsistence farming, livestock rearing, and traditional crafts such as sewing and silverware making. As you explore their villages, take a moment to appreciate the breathtaking natural scenery that surrounds these communities. The combination of lush greenery, mist-covered mountains, and the Akha's warm hospitality creates an enriching cultural experience that lingers long after your visit.

Continue your journey to the serene Ban Huai San Village, nestled in the tranquil Mae Ai District. Here, immerse yourself in the inspiring Roi Jai Rak Project, an initiative spearheaded by the Mae Fah Luang Foundation to uplift and empower hill tribe communities. This heartwarming project aims to enhance the quality of life for local residents by fostering sustainable livelihoods through job creation and income generation. A visit to the Suan Roi Jai Rak garden plantation reveals an enchanting landscape of vibrant winter flowers and meticulously maintained vegetable plots, showcasing the community's dedication to sustainable agriculture. The plantation is a visual delight and a testament to the project's commitment to blending beauty with functionality. Wander through the lush gardens, breathe in the refreshing mountain air, and admire the thriving crops that are a source of pride for the local community. At the nearby Kad Luang Roi Jai Rak market, engage with the villagers as they present a delightful array of fresh produce, colorful flowers, and artisanal handicrafts. From fragrant herbs and ripe fruits to intricately woven textiles and handmade souvenirs, the market offers a chance to support the community while taking home a piece of their culture. The warm smiles and genuine hospitality of the locals make this experience even more memorable, providing a heartfelt connection to the people and their way of life.

As your journey continues, venture to the picturesque Ban Tha Ton Village, a charming border settlement in Chiang Mai Province, adjacent to Myanmar. Surrounded by majestic mountains and blessed with a cool climate throughout the year, Ban Tha Ton is a haven of natural beauty and cultural diversity. This quaint village invites visitors to delve into its rich traditions and harmonious blend of Thai and Burmese influences. A highlight of your visit is the majestic Wat Tha Ton temple, perched on a hillside overlooking the village. This unique temple features a stunning nine-layered base, symbolizing spiritual ascension, crowned by the gleaming Phra Boronmathat Ratchamangkalachan Samanchan, also known as Phra Chedi Kaew. The intricate architecture of the temple is as captivating as the sweeping views it offers. From its elevated vantage point, you can marvel at panoramic vistas of Ban Tha Ton Village, the surrounding lush greenery, and the tranquil Mae Ai District. As the sun sets, the temple takes on a magical glow, creating a serene atmosphere that lingers long after your visit.

Conclude your day by resting for the night in Ban Tha Ton, a village that effortlessly blends natural splendor with cultural richness. Reflect on the day's adventures, from the spiritual grandeur of Wat Huay Pla Kang to the tranquil beauty of Doi Mae Salong and the vibrant traditions of the Akha hill tribe, the community-driven innovation at Ban Huai San Village, and the spiritual serenity and breathtaking landscapes of Ban Tha Ton. The memories of this enriching journey will remain etched in your heart, a tribute to the beauty and resilience of northern Thailand's people and landscapes.

DAY 06 Ban Tha Ton - Pai: Hinoki Land / Wat Ban Den Temple / Mork Fah Waterfall / Pong Dued Hot Spring / Pai Walking Street (Hotel / Breakfast / Lunch)

Breakfast at the hotel.

08:30 AM Pick up from the hotel.

Embark on a captivating journey through the cultural and natural wonders of Chiang Mai Province, a destination that seamlessly blends rich traditions with breathtaking landscapes. Begin your adventure at the extraordinary Hinoki Land, a unique attraction and Thailand's first and only Hinoki wood kingdom, offering a window into the elegance of Japanese art, culture, and architecture. Spread across an expansive 83 rai (approximately 33 acres), Hinoki Land immerses visitors in an authentic Japanese ambiance. As you step through the towering red lantern arch, you are greeted by an enchanting pathway adorned with 88 pairs of torii gates, symbolizing the transition from the mundane to the sacred. This vibrant procession leads to the centerpiece of the estate, the majestic four-story Hinoki Castle, constructed entirely from premium Hinoki pine wood, renowned for its fragrant aroma and durability. The design of the castle, inspired by Kyoto's iconic Kinkakuji (Golden Pavilion), exudes timeless beauty and elegance. The castle's interiors are equally captivating, featuring intricately carved details and serene spaces for meditation and reflection. As you wander the castle and its surroundings, you'll be embraced by panoramic views of lush mountains, tranquil forests, and picturesque landscapes that evoke a sense of peace and harmony. Hinoki Land is not just a place; it's an experience that transports you to the heart of Japan while nestled in the natural splendor of northern Thailand.

Next, venture to the serene and spiritually uplifting Wat Ban Den Temple, also known as Wat Den Sari Sri Muang Kaen, a masterpiece of Thai Lanna architecture. Perched on a hill surrounded by the verdant countryside, this temple complex is a treasure trove of exquisite structures that reflect the artistic heritage of the region. As you explore, you'll encounter a range of architectural wonders, including the ubosot (ordination hall), adorned with intricate carvings, the elegant tripitaka hall for sacred texts, the towering drum tower, and the revered Inthakin pole sanctuary. The Lanna cubicle golden teak building stands as a testament to traditional craftsmanship, while the intricate pagoda glistens under the sunlight, offering a magnificent sight that inspires awe. Each structure, meticulously designed and adorned, feels like a piece of art brought to life, making Wat Ban Den a destination that speaks to both the soul and the senses.

Continue your journey into nature with a visit to the enchanting Mork Fah Waterfall, located in the pristine Doi Suthep-Pui National Park in Mae Taeng District. Although not the tallest in the region, this single-tiered waterfall holds a charm that captivates visitors year-round. Originating from dense forest streams, the waterfall cascades gracefully over rocky cliffs into a sparkling pool below, surrounded by lush greenery. The sight of sunlight reflecting off the falling waters often creates a magical rainbow effect, adding an ethereal quality to the already picturesque scene. During the autumn season, the area transforms as vibrant foliage frames the waterfall, creating a warm and inviting atmosphere that draws nature lovers and photographers alike. The gentle roar of the falling water, the cool mist in the air, and the tranquil surroundings make Mork Fah Waterfall an idyllic retreat into nature's embrace.

#### Lunch at the restaurant.

Unwind and rejuvenate at the tranquil Pong Dueat Hot Springs, a natural marvel tucked away in a lush jungle setting. Known for its impressive geyser-like formations, this hot spring is a unique destination where nature's raw power meets serenity. The underground water reaches an astonishing temperature of 170-200 degrees Celsius, creating a mesmerizing display of rising steam. On the surface, the water cools slightly to 90-100 degrees Celsius, accompanied by the distinct and earthy aroma of sulfur, a hallmark of geothermal activity. Take a leisurely stroll along the 1.5 km circular nature trail that meanders through the surrounding forest. This well-maintained path offers an immersive experience, with towering trees, vibrant ferns, and moss-covered rocks creating a serene ambiance. Along the way, informative signboards provide insights into the local flora, adding an educational element to your walk. The soothing sounds of the jungle and the rhythmic bubbling of the hot springs make this a perfect spot to reconnect with nature and rejuvenate your mind and body.

From Pong Dueat, embark on a scenic journey to the charming Pai District, traveling along the historic World War II road. This winding route, surrounded by breathtaking mountain vistas, offers glimpses of northern Thailand's rugged beauty and is an adventure in itself. As you approach Pai, the landscape transforms into a picturesque valley, setting the stage for the district's unique charm. In Pai, embrace the laid-back local lifestyle by exploring the vibrant Pai Walking Street, a lively hub of activity and culture. This bustling market street, open from 5 pm to midnight, is a treasure trove of handmade products, clothing, jewelry, baskets, and one-of-a-kind

souvenirs crafted by local artisans. The energy of the street is infectious, with vendors displaying their wares and performers adding a touch of entertainment to the vibrant atmosphere. Indulge in the culinary delights of Pai as you wander through the walking street, where an array of Thai and international restaurants offer mouthwatering dishes to suit every palate. Whether you're savoring the bold flavors of local Thai cuisine, enjoying a plate of freshly made pasta, or sampling street food favorites like grilled skewers and mango sticky rice, Pai's food scene is a gastronomic adventure in itself. As the evening unfolds, the walking street comes alive with lights, music, and the hum of cheerful conversations, making it the perfect spot to relax and soak in the town's unique charm. After a night of exploring, settle into your accommodations in Pai, where the cozy and tranquil setting allows you to recharge your energy.

**DAY 07** 

Pai - Mae Hong Son: Santichon Village / Doi Kiew Lom Viewpoint / Tham Lod Cave / Lahu Hill Tribe Village (Ban Jabo Village) (Hotel / Breakfast / Lunch)

Breakfast at the hotel

08:30 AM Pick up from the hotel.

Explore the enchanting Santichon village, a captivating settlement belonging to Yunnan Chinese immigrants who found their home here long ago. Immerse yourself in the timeless cultures, traditions, and ways of life that have remained unchanged over the years. Wander through the village's unique Yunnan Chinese-style houses, adorned with traditional decorations, while savoring the serene surroundings. Not far from Santichon village lies the breathtaking Yun Lai viewpoint, offering panoramic vistas of Pai city nestled amidst lush paddy fields and a majestic, rugged mountain range. Witness the magical sea of mist enveloping Pai and the mountains, painting a stunning scene during both winter and the rainy season.

Continue your journey to the renowned Doi Kiew Lom Viewpoint, a scenic spot nestled between Pang Mapha and Pai districts. This breathtaking vantage point offers a mesmerizing panorama that changes with the seasons and the time of day. In the early morning, witness the awe-inspiring sunrise as the first rays of sunlight illuminate the horizon. A sea of mist blankets the valleys below, creating a truly magical scene. As the day progresses, the fog gradually dissipates, revealing a stunning vista of intricately lined mountains stretching as far as the eye can see. In the evening, the setting sun casts a warm, golden glow on the distant clouds, painting the sky with vibrant hues. The interplay of light and shadow creates a breathtaking spectacle that is sure to leave you mesmerized. Beyond the stunning views, Doi Kiew Lom Viewpoint is also adorned with a variety of colorful flowers that bloom throughout the year. This natural beauty, combined with the panoramic vistas, makes it a must-visit destination for nature lovers and photographers alike.

Venture further to the historic Tham Lod Cave, one of the most significant archaeological sites in the region. The cave features a flowing stream known as "Lang" that traverses from one end to the other, creating a mesmerizing underground world adorned with stalactites and stalagmites. The cave's interior showcases a variety of early age antique tools and utensils, believed to be over 2,000 years old, offering a glimpse into ancient human history and cultural practices. Aside from admiring the cave's magnificent splendor, visitors have the opportunity to partake in other exciting activities, such as bamboo rafting inside the cave. The enchanting

journey on the bamboo raft takes travelers through the dark waters, allowing them to appreciate the unique cave formations from a different perspective. Furthermore, short treks around the cave offer an opportunity to explore the surrounding natural beauty, embracing the tranquility of the lush landscapes that envelop the area.

Lunch at the restaurant.

After lunch, the journey continues to a Lahu hill tribe village. The Lahu people have ancestral origins in Tibet and have gradually migrated to different regions over time. They have settled in northern Thailand for hundreds of years, bringing with them their unique lifestyle and culture. The Lahu prefer to build their villages on high land and lead a simple, close-knit way of life. Agriculture, particularly rice farming and corn planting, is their primary occupation, and they are skilled hunters as well. The Lahu people are known for their friendliness and warm hospitality, eagerly welcoming foreign tourists with open arms. This presents an excellent opportunity for you to immerse yourselves in the Lahu culture, learn about their customs and traditions, and witness their way of life firsthand. Embark on the next leg of your journey to Mae Hong Son, savoring the mesmerizing landscapes along the way. Upon arrival, settle into your hotel and enjoy a restful overnight stay in Mae Hong Son, brimming with anticipation for the wonders that await you.

**DAY 08** 

Mae Hong Son Sightseeing: Wat Phra That Doi Kong Mu Temple / Wat Chong Kham — Chong Klang Temples / Su Tong Pae Bamboo Bridge / Ban Ruam Thai (Pang Oung) / Ban Rak Thai village (Hotel / Breakfast / Lunch)

Breakfast at the hotel.

08:30 AM Pick up from the hotel.

Start your Mae Hong Son exploration by paying your respects at Wat Phra That Doi Kong Mu Temple, a revered temple perched atop Kong Mu Mountain. This sacred site, considered the most important place of worship in Mae Hong Son, comprises two magnificent pagodas. The larger pagoda, built in 1860 by Chong Thong Su, a Shan merchant, stands proudly alongside the smaller one, constructed in 1874 by Phraya Singhanatracha, the first ruler of Mae Hong Son. As you ascend the hilltop, be captivated by the breathtaking panorama of the town, nestled amidst majestic mountains and verdant valleys. Next, visit Wat Chong Kham and Wat Chong Klang temples, located side-by-side on the banks of a large swamp. These ancient temples, adorned with exquisite Burmese-style architecture, house the revered Buddha image known as Luang Paw To. In Wat Chong Klang, marvel at the intricate Burmese wood carvings and the captivating glass paintings depicting Buddhist history.

Next, venture to the Su Tong Pe Bridge, Thailand's longest bamboo bridge and a testament to local ingenuity and tradition. Stretching gracefully across lush paddy fields and tranquil canals, this remarkable structure connects Suan Tham Phusama Temple with the quaint Kung Mai Sak Village, offering both practicality and beauty. The bridge's charm is especially striking during the rainy season, when the surrounding fields are a vibrant green, or in winter, when golden grains shimmer under the sunlight. Framed by majestic mountains, the picturesque landscape enhances the bridge's timeless elegance, making it a favored spot for photography and quiet reflection. As you walk along the gently swaying bamboo planks, the rhythmic sounds of nature surround you, from rustling leaves to the soft murmurs of

flowing water. The experience immerses you in the tranquil beauty of Mae Hong Son's countryside, offering a unique perspective of the lush fields and serene waterways.

Continue your journey to the charming village of Ban Rak Thai, nestled amidst stunning mountain scenery. This picturesque settlement reflects its rich Yunnanese heritage, brought by former members of the Chinese Nationalist 93rd Division who fled to this remote area in the 20th century. Their cultural traditions and culinary expertise have shaped the village's identity, creating a unique cultural enclave. Ban Rak Thai's idyllic setting, with serene lakes, vibrant foliage, and misty mountains, offers a truly magical atmosphere. Stroll through narrow lanes lined with traditional Yunnanese architecture, adorned with intricate carvings and colorful details. The daily rhythms of village life blend ancient traditions with modern touches, offering a glimpse into this cultural haven. A highlight of your visit is indulging in authentic Yunnanese cuisine. Renowned for its premium Chinese tea, the village invites you to savor a cup of this aromatic brew alongside other traditional delicacies, completing your immersion in its rich heritage.

Lunch at the restaurant.

Next, discover the tranquil atmosphere of the Shan village, also known as Baan Ruam Thai or Pang Oung. Nestled amidst a rugged mountain range, this idyllic village has earned the moniker "Switzerland of Thailand" due to its breathtaking reservoir and picturesque landscape. The reservoir, a shimmering jewel set against the backdrop of pine-clad mountains, is a major draw for visitors. During the rainy or winter seasons, a captivating fog often shrouds the water, creating a mystical and ethereal atmosphere. The cool, crisp climate throughout the year makes Pang Oung an ideal escape for those seeking tranquility and natural beauty. As you wander through the village, you'll be greeted by the fresh mountain air and the serene ambiance that permeates the surroundings. The colorful winter flowers that adorn the landscape add a vibrant touch to the picturesque scenery. Whether you're exploring the winding paths, admiring the stunning reservoir views, or simply relaxing in a cozy café, Pang Oung offers a peaceful retreat from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. Take a leisurely stroll around the village to fully absorb its serene beauty. The lush surroundings and tranquil setting make it a perfect place to unwind and reflect on your journey. Engage with the friendly locals to learn more about their way of life and the village's history. The combination of natural beauty and cultural richness in Pang Oung will leave you with unforgettable memories and a deep appreciation for this hidden gem in northern Thailand. Conclude your day in Mae Hong Son, where you can bask in the beauty of the surroundings and spend a peaceful night.

**DAY 09** 

Mae Hong Son – Chiang Mai: Doi Inthanon National Park / Royal Pagodas / The Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon / Wachiratharn Waterfall (Hotel / Breakfast / Lunch)

Breakfast at the hotel.

08:00 AM Pick up from the hotel.

Embark on a captivating journey from Mae Hong Son to Chiang Mai, a route filled with awe-inspiring landscapes, rich cultural encounters, and natural wonders. Bid farewell to the serene town of Mae Hong Son and prepare for a thrilling drive up the winding roads of Doi Inthanon National Park. Your first destination is Doi Inthanon, Thailand's highest peak, soaring to 2,565 meters above sea level. Part of the Thanon Thongchai Mountain range, which extends from the Himalayas, this iconic peak offers diverse climates and ecosystems, making it a paradise for nature lovers. The journey to the summit is a feast for the senses. As you ascend, landscapes transform from lush rainforests to serene pine groves and mixed forests, each teeming with rare flora and fauna. Birdwatchers will revel in the park's status as a top birding destination, home to numerous endemic and migratory species. Reaching the summit is both awe-inspiring and refreshing. Cool, misty weather and sweeping views of the surrounding mountains create a serene and invigorating atmosphere. A memorial to King Inthawichayanon, a conservation pioneer and former ruler of Chiang Mai, highlights the park's cultural and ecological significance. Whether drawn by stunning vistas, diverse ecosystems, or cool mountain air, Doi Inthanon offers an unforgettable blend of natural beauty and cultural heritage, making it a must-visit for adventurers and nature enthusiasts alike.

As the journey continues, you will discover the architectural splendor of the Twin Royal Pagodas, Napamethanidol and Napapolpumisiri, perched atop a lofty hill within Doi Inthanon National Park. Phra Mahathat Napamethanidol was built to honor and pay homage to Phra Bat Somdet Phra Paraminthra Maha Bhumibol Adulyadej Rama IX during the auspicious celebration of His Majesty the King's fifth cycle birthday in 1987. Similarly, Phra Mahathat Naphaphonphumisiri was constructed as an offering to Her Majesty Queen Sirikit during the celebrations of Her Majesty the Queen's fifth cycle birthday in 1992. Surrounding the pagodas, vibrant winter flower gardens and various plants create a picturesque setting. With the consistently cool climate, this location offers breathtaking views and ranks among the most picturesque viewpoints in Chiang Mai.

### Lunch at the restaurant.

Continue the journey to the majestic Wachirathan Waterfall, a magnificent and towering single-tiered cascade that boasts unparalleled beauty, earning its reputation as one of Thailand's most stunning waterfalls with a continuous flow of water throughout the year. As the water gracefully descends into the basin below, the waterfall stands tall at an impressive height of 70 meters, leaving spectators in awe of its grandeur. During the rainy season, a delightful natural phenomenon occurs as water droplets glisten in the sunlight, creating mesmerizing rainbows that grace the surroundings of Wachirathan Waterfall. This enchanting display adds an extra touch of wonder and allure to the already breathtaking sight, making this waterfall an even more captivating destination for nature enthusiasts and visitors seeking a true sense of awe-inspiring beauty.

Immerse yourself in the enchanting beauty of vibrant flower plots and an array of vegetables and fruits at the Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon, a renowned research station dedicated to winter plants. The station conducts valuable research on various aspects, including flowers, ornamental plants, vegetables, fruits, and highland fisheries. This research is not only focused on advancing agricultural practices but also encompasses essential areas such as social development, forest watershed conservation, and the promotion of sustainable practices. Beyond its research endeavors, the Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon serves as a catalyst for positive change in the lives of hill tribe farmers residing in the surrounding villages. By

sharing research results and promoting fundamental development, the project empowers these farmers and enables them to generate income through sustainable agricultural practices. After indulging in the captivating displays of natural beauty and knowledge at the Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon, continue your journey to Chiang Mai, a city renowned for its rich cultural heritage and vibrant atmosphere. Upon reaching Chiang Mai, you will be warmly welcomed at the hotel, where you can relax and reminisce about your travels in the northern part of Thailand.

## DAY 10 Chiang Mai Departure / (Breakfast)

Breakfast at the hotel.

00:00

As your remarkable journey in Northern Thailand comes to an end, it is time to bid farewell. Our dedicated team will transfer you to Chiang Mai Airport to ensure that your return journey or onward travels to other destinations go smoothly, and this is where our service ends.

### **Prices:**

2 Persons 57,800 THB3 Persons 50,300 THB4 Persons 40,300 THB

• 5 Persons up 39,300 THB

• Price per person / In Thai baht / Private tour

# **Included:**

- English Speaking Guide
- Travel Accident insurance
- Admission fees as tour mentioned
- Tour and transfer as private air-con vehicle
- Meals as mentioned in the program (9 Breakfasts / 8 Lunches)
- Accommodations as mentioned based on twin sharing (9 Nights)
- For groups with an odd number of guests, one traveler will be accommodated in a single room at no additional cost.

### **Excluded:**

- Air Fare
- Personal expenses
- Meals are not mentioned in the program

### **Tour Difficulty Levels:**

• Easy / Moderate / Challenging

Hotels			
Date	City	Hotel Name	Room Type
Day 1-2	Chiang Mai	Duangtawan Hotel Chiang Mai	Deluxe
Day 3-4	Chiang Rai	Nak Nakara Hotel	Deluxe
Day 5	Ban Tha Ton	Maekok River Village Resort	Deluxe
Day 6	Pai	The Quarter Hotel	Deluxe
Day 7-8	Mae Hong Son	The Imperial Mae Hong Son Resort	Deluxe
Day 9	Chiang Mai	Duangtawan Hotel Chiang Mai	Deluxe

### **Accommodation Included Throughout Your Journey:**

Please note that this tour package thoughtfully includes accommodation for every night of your journey, starting from the very first day until the final evening. Guests can enjoy the convenience of having all lodging arrangements fully taken care of, ensuring a seamless travel experience without the need to worry about additional bookings. Each stay is selected to provide comfort and ease, allowing you to focus entirely on enjoying the destinations, activities, and cultural encounters along the way. By covering all nights' accommodation, we aim to give you peace of mind and the assurance that your trip will be both well-organized and worry-free..

### **No Hidden Costs:**

Aside from personal expenses and dinner, you will not incur any additional costs. We are committed to providing complete transparency and ensuring that the prices and services listed on our website or in the quotation letter are the final and all-inclusive prices for our valued customers. You can rest assured that there will be no hidden or extra charges added to the quoted price. Our goal is to offer a seamless and hassle-free booking experience, and we understand the importance of providing accurate and upfront pricing to our customers. We take pride in our integrity and customer-centric approach, and we want you to feel confident and assured when booking with us. Should you have any questions or concerns about the pricing or services offered, our dedicated team is always available to address any queries and provide you with the necessary information.