Mae Hong Son Holidays
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Department of Tourism of Thailand license No. 22/00782

Private Van Charter with Driver 6 Days 5 Nights

DAY 01	Chiang Mai Arrival
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. Take this opportunity to explore the city at your own pace.
DAY 02	Chiang Mai – Pai: Santichon Chinese Village / Yun Lai Viewpoint / Wat Phra That Mae Yen Templ / Memorial Bridgee / Pai Canyon / Khokuso Bamboo Bridge / Pai Walking Street
08:30 AM	Pick up from the hotel.

Embark on a journey to Pai District along a historic World War II road that winds through steep, twisting paths, with alternating uphill and downhill stretches. This journey is more than just a transition; it’s an adventure in itself, offering travelers breathtaking mountain views and stunning scenery with every twist and turn. The dramatic landscape presents a visual feast, featuring lush greenery and towering peaks that seem to touch the sky. Upon reaching Pai—a quaint town nestled among mountains blanketed by dense forests—you’ll check in at your hotel before setting out to explore the many attractions the district has to offer. Known for its laid-back atmosphere, artistic vibe, and beautiful natural surroundings, Pai is the perfect base for your adventures.

Begin your exploration with a visit to Santichon Village, a cultural gem that is home to the Yunnan Chinese community who emigrated from China generations ago. Despite the passage of time, the village has successfully preserved its distinctive Yunnanese culture, traditions, and way of life. This is reflected in its architecture, decorations, and overall ambiance, which transport you to a different era and place. Walking through the village, you can see traditional Yunnan-style houses, taste authentic Yunnan cuisine, and perhaps even participate in local crafts and activities. Just a short distance away lies the Yun Lai Viewpoint, a must-visit spot that offers panoramic views of Pai’s breathtaking landscape. Surrounded by lush paddy fields and rugged mountains, the viewpoint is especially enchanting during the winter and rainy seasons when a sea of mist blankets the area, creating a surreal and magical scene.

Next, explore Wat Phra That Mae Yen Temple, a serene and spiritually enriching site perched atop a high hill in Mae Yen Village. This temple, known locally as the "Temple on the Hill," offers a sanctuary of peace and tranquility, far removed from the hustle and bustle of everyday life. From this elevated vantage point, you'll be

treated to sweeping, panoramic views of Pai City, beautifully framed by the distant, majestic mountain ranges. The scene from here is nothing short of breathtaking, especially at sunrise and sunset. During these magical hours, the sunlight bathes the horizon in a golden glow, casting a warm, ethereal light over the landscape. The play of light and shadow creates a mesmerizing effect, transforming the scenery into a living painting that will leave you in awe. The tranquil atmosphere of the temple, combined with these stunning vistas, creates an unforgettable spectacle that leaves a lasting impression on all who visit.

After immersing yourself in the spiritual serenity of the temple, head to the Memorial Bridge, a historic structure with significant ties to World War II. Originally constructed by the Japanese military to transport troops and supplies into Myanmar, this bridge holds a mirror to the history of the famous Kwai River Bridge. Standing as a testament to a tumultuous past, the Memorial Bridge is more than just a piece of infrastructure; it is a symbol of resilience and a reminder of the region's complex history. The original structure has weathered the passage of time and the ravages of war, yet it remains intact and has become a popular attraction for visitors. Walking across the bridge, you can almost feel the weight of history beneath your feet. The bridge itself offers picturesque views of the surrounding river and lush greenery, making it a perfect spot for reflection and photography. Visitors often come to take photos, capturing the blend of historical significance and scenic beauty.

Continue your journey with a visit to the Merit Bridge, locally known as "Khokuso." This charming bamboo bridge, gracefully winding through the landscape, was constructed by villagers to connect Pambok Village with Huai Khai Khiri Temple. The bridge serves a dual purpose: enabling monks to collect alms in the morning without disturbing the villagers’ crops and providing a convenient route for both locals and tourists to reach the temple. As you stroll along the bridge, immerse yourself in the tranquil surroundings, with views of lush forests, majestic mountains, and vibrant rice fields that create a serene and picturesque atmosphere. The gentle sway of the bamboo underfoot and the soothing sounds of nature enhance the sense of peace and connection to the natural world.

Before the day ends, make your way to Pai Canyon, also known as Kong Lan, an awe-inspiring natural wonder shaped by centuries of soil subsidence and erosion caused by wind and rain. As you approach, the landscape transforms into a dramatic tableau of deep trenches, towering cliff-like formations, and long, winding ridges stretching across an expansive area of over three acres. The surrounding mixed deciduous forest adds a lush tapestry of greenery, enhancing the canyon's scenic beauty. The narrow, steep trails beckon adventurous explorers to navigate along the ridges, offering stunning panoramic views of the villages and farms below, set against the picturesque backdrop of majestic mountains. As you hike these trails, the sense of adventure is palpable, with every turn revealing a new perspective of the natural splendor that envelops you.

Finally, spend your evening exploring Pai’s vibrant walking street. This bustling hub comes alive with stalls offering an array of handmade products, from clothing and jewelry to baskets and unique souvenirs. Savor the diverse culinary delights, ranging from authentic Thai dishes to international cuisines, at the many restaurants and food vendors lining the street. Open from 5 PM until midnight, the walking street provides a lively and colorful atmosphere perfect for a leisurely stroll. Conclude your day by

returning to your accommodation, reflecting on the memorable experiences and scenic wonders of Pai.

DAY 03 Pai – Mae Hong Son: Doi Kiew Lom Viewpoint / Tham Lod Cave / Lahu Hill Tribe Village / Fish Cave Forest Park

08:30 AM Pick up from the hotel.

Embark on a journey from Pai to Pang Ma Pha District, where adventure and natural wonders await. Begin by visiting 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.

Continue your exploration with a visit to Tham Lod Cave, an extraordinary archaeological site that has stood the test of time. The cave is blessed with a flowing stream known as "Lang," which meanders from end to end, creating a magnificent cave adorned with stalactites and stalagmites. These natural formations, sculpted by millennia of water erosion, create a breathtaking underground landscape. This wondrous cave has unearthed antique tools, utensils, and paintings on the cave walls dating back over 2,000 years, offering a glimpse into the lives of the region's ancient inhabitants. The cave's historical significance and natural beauty make it a must-visit destination. In addition to marveling at nature's grandeur, visitors can partake in exciting activities such as bamboo rafting inside the cave, which allows you to navigate the underground river and see the cave from a unique perspective. For the more adventurous, short treks around the cave's vicinity offer an opportunity to explore the surrounding forest and discover its diverse flora and fauna.

Next, visit Ban Jabo, a Lahu hill tribe village. The Lahu people originally hail from Tibet and settled in the southwest of China. Over time, they gradually migrated southward, with some eventually finding their home in the northeast of Myanmar. Hundreds of years ago, they established communities in the northern region of Thailand. The Lahu people prefer to build their villages in highland areas, leading a simple way of life rooted in their spirit worship traditions. Agriculture, including rice farming and corn cultivation, is their primary occupation, along with animal husbandry. The Lahu are also renowned as skilled hunters. Despite cultural and linguistic differences, the Lahu people are known for their warmth and welcoming nature, embracing visitors from all walks of life with open arms. Conclude your day by visiting Tham Pla Forest Park, a serene oasis surrounded by babbling brooks, cool forested hills, and a rich variety of plant life. This tranquil park is home to a unique natural feature—a hollow cave with a small pond nestled within its rocky walls. The pond, measuring 2 meters wide and 1.5 meters deep, teems with freshwater fish,

including the fascinating Pla Mung or Pla Khang, members of the carp family. The calm ambiance and lush surroundings make it an ideal spot to reconnect with nature. Spend a restful night in Mae Hong Son, reflecting on the enriching experiences of the day.

DAY 04 Mae Hong Son Sightseeing: Pai River cruise / Long Neck Karen Village / Wat Phra That Doi Kong Mu Temple / Wat Chong Kham and Wat Chong Klang Temples / Ban Rak Thai Chinese Village / Ban Ruam Thai Shan Village (Pang Oung) / Su Tong Pae Bamboo Bridge

08:00 AM Pick up from the hotel.

Embark on a scenic boat tour along the Pai River. As you glide along the calm waters, let the mesmerizing beauty of the surrounding landscapes unfold before you. The lush greenery, punctuated by vibrant bursts of wildflowers, paints a stunning tableau. Witness the simple way of life of the local people, who continue to live in harmony with nature, and immerse yourself in the tranquil atmosphere that envelops the river. Your journey continues to the Long-Necked Karen village, where you will encounter a unique cultural tradition. Meet the women adorned with brass rings around their necks, a testament to their enduring cultural heritage. These rings, worn from a young age, gradually increase in number, elongating the necks and creating a distinctive appearance. The village, with its rustic charm and rich cultural history, offers a glimpse into a way of life that has been preserved through generations. Engage with the villagers, learn about their traditions, and gain a deeper understanding of their customs and beliefs.

Continue your exploration with a visit to the revered Wat Phra That Doi Kong Mu Temple, perched atop Kong Mu Mountain. This temple is the most significant place of worship in Mae Hong Son. It comprises two pagodas of different sizes, with the larger one built by Chong Thong Su, a Shan merchant, in 1860 and the smaller one by Phraya Singhanatracha, the first ruler of Mae Hong Son, in 1874. From the hilltop, relish in the stunning natural beauty that surrounds the town, with its majestic mountains and picturesque valleys. Discover the neighboring Wat Chong Kham and Wat Chong Klang temples, both situated near a vast swamp. These ancient temples showcase exquisite Burmese-style architecture and house the revered Buddha image, Luang Paw To. Wat Chong Klang is particularly known for its impressive collection of Burmese woodcarving dolls and large glass paintings depicting Buddhist history.

Marvel at the Su Tong Pe Bridge, Thailand's longest bamboo bridge. Stretching over 500 meters, it connects Suan Tham Phusama Temple with Kung Mai Sak village. This locally crafted bamboo marvel offers panoramic views of rice paddies and serene canals, reflecting the ingenuity of local artisans. The bridge is particularly enchanting during the rainy and winter season, when golden rice fields, lush greenery, and distant mountains create a breathtaking backdrop. Farmers working in the fields add a touch of rural charm, while the gentle sway of bamboo and rustling leaves create a tranquil ambiance. Each season brings its own beauty: earthy tones in the dry season and shimmering golden fields under clear skies in winter. No matter the time of year, the Su Tong Pae Bridge promises a unique and unforgettable experience.

Explore 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.

Experience the serene and tranquil atmosphere of the Shan village known as "Baan Ruam Thai" or Pang Oung. Nestled amidst a rugged mountain range, the village boasts a spectacular reservoir often referred to as the "Switzerland of Thailand." Surrounded by pine forests and adorned with colorful winter flowers, the village's charm is heightened by the cool weather that persists throughout the year. The sight of the pine forest lining the expansive reservoir, embraced by the majestic mountains, coupled with the ethereal fog that hovers above the lake, and the vibrant array of flowers, all serve as a constant draw for visitors throughout the year. Conclude your day by spending a peaceful night in Mae Hong Son, cherishing the tranquility of this captivating destination.

DAY 05 Mae Hong Son - Chiang Mai: Doi Inthanon National Park / Royal Pagodas / The Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon / Wachiratharn Waterfall

08:00 AM Pick up from the hotel.

Embark on a scenic journey from Mae Hong Son to Doi Inthanon National Park. This breathtaking destination is famous for its stunning natural beauty and diverse ecosystem. As you wind your way up the mountain roads, you'll be rewarded with panoramic views of lush valleys and towering peaks. The journey itself is an adventure, with each twist and turn revealing new vistas of the breathtaking landscape. Along the way, you may encounter quaint villages, cascading waterfalls, and vibrant wildflowers, adding to the allure of the journey. Doi Inthanon, the highest peak in Thailand, stands at an impressive altitude of 2,565 meters above sea level. This majestic mountain is part of the Thanon Thongchai Mountain range, which stretches across several countries in Southeast Asia. The park's diverse climate and rich forest cover support a variety of ecosystems, ranging from tropical rainforests to temperate pine forests. Upon reaching the summit, you'll be greeted by breathtaking panoramic views of the surrounding landscape. The cool, refreshing climate throughout the year makes Doi Inthanon a popular destination for nature enthusiasts and adventure seekers alike.

Admire the architectural magnificence of the Twin Royal Pagodas, Napamethanidol and Napapolpumisiri, perched atop a high 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 5th 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 5th cycle birthday in 1992. The pagodas are surrounded by meticulously landscaped winter flower gardens and a

variety of plants. The park’s consistently cool weather provides the perfect backdrop for these structures, offering visitors spectacular panoramic views that are considered among the most beautiful viewpoints in Chiang Mai.

Next, you will be captivated by the beauty of Wachirathan Waterfall, one of Thailand’s most awe-inspiring natural wonders. Nestled in the heart of Doi Inthanon National Park, this 70-meter-high cascade offers a mesmerizing spectacle that never fails to enchant its visitors. The waterfall flows robustly year-round, ensuring a dazzling display no matter when you visit. During the rainy season, the scene becomes even more magical, with vibrant rainbows frequently arching across the mist-filled air, adding a fairytale-like quality to the setting. The water tumbles dramatically down the rugged cliff, generating a refreshing mist that cools the surrounding air—a perfect retreat on warm days. The ambiance around Wachirathan Waterfall is both serene and invigorating, enhanced by the lush green forest that envelops it. Towering trees, vibrant ferns, and a diverse array of tropical plants form a living tapestry of natural beauty, making it a truly enchanting destination.

Immerse yourself in the vibrant beauty of colorful flower fields and explore a variety of vegetables and fruits at the Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon. This research station plays a crucial role in promoting sustainable agriculture and supporting local communities. The station focuses on cultivating a wide variety of plants, including flowers, vegetables, and fruits, many of which are adapted to the region's unique climate and soil conditions. By conducting research and developing innovative farming techniques, the station helps farmers increase their yields and improve their livelihoods. Additionally, the station offers educational programs and workshops to teach farmers about sustainable practices, such as organic farming and water conservation. The station's efforts contribute to the preservation of the region's natural resources and the well-being of its people. The Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon is a fascinating place to learn about the challenges and opportunities of farming in a mountainous region. Visitors can see a variety of crops being grown, as well as learn about the research being conducted to improve agricultural practices. After your visit to Doi Inthanon National Park, continue your journey to the vibrant city of Chiang Mai. Upon arrival, you will be transferred to your hotel, where you can enjoy a comfortable overnight stay while reflecting on the incredible natural wonders and cultural discoveries of the day.

DAY 06	Chiang Mai Departure
00:00	Conclude your trip by transferring to Chiang Mai Airport. This marks the end of our services.

Price:
- 29,000 Thai baht

Included:
- 1 Van + Fuel + Driver
- English speaking guide
- Travel accident insurance
- Accommodation and meals for guide and driver

Excluded:

- Meals
- Accommodations
- Expenses during the trip

Note:

- Passenger limit, not more than 9 seats for each van.

Difficulty Levels:

- Easy / Moderate / Challenging

Overnight	
Date	City
Day 1	Chiang Mai
Day 2	Pai
Day 3-4	Mae Hong Son
Day 5	Chiang Mai