Mae Hong Son Holidays
261 Lamphun Rd. Tambol Watket, Muang District, Chiang Mai 50000 Thailand
Tel. +66 629476368, +66 882614727
Email: maehongsonholidays@gmail.com
Website: www.maehongsonholidays.com
Department of Tourism of Thailand license No. 22/00782

Private Van Charter with Driver 8 Days 7 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 Sightseeing: Wat Phra That Doi Suthep Temple / Wat Chedi Luang Temple / Sankampaeng and Borsang Handicraft Village
08:30 AM	Pick up from the hotel

Begin your exploration of Chiang Mai with a captivating journey to the Wat Phra That Doi Suthep temple, a profound religious and historical landmark that holds a special place in the hearts of many. Renowned as one of the most sacred temples in Thailand, this revered site is perched atop Doi Suthep Mountain, 14 kilometers west of Chiang Mai city, at an elevation of 1,053 meters above sea level. Established in 1429, this temple is not just a testament to the rich Thai Lanna art but also to the spiritual heritage of the region. To reach the temple, visitors can choose to embark on an enchanting ascent up a 306-step staircase, which is beautifully flanked by intricate serpent sculptures. For those preferring a more leisurely option, a funicular railway is available, offering a comfortable and picturesque ride to the temple complex. Within the temple grounds, you will encounter the Chiang Saen style pagoda, a significant structure that enshrines the sacred relics of Lord Buddha at its base. The temple's full name, "Praboromathat Doi Suthep Woravihan Temple," underscores its importance and grandeur. Apart from being a place of worship and pilgrimage for many, the temple also offers a breathtaking panoramic view of Chiang Mai city, making it a must-visit destination for both spiritual seekers and tourists alike.

Next, visit the Wat Chedi Luang Worawihan temple, centrally located in Chiang Mai city. This temple is one of the largest and oldest in the province, housing a grand pagoda that stands as a remarkable symbol of Lanna heritage, despite the damage it sustained from a significant earthquake in 1545. Known by various names, including Rajakudakan temple and Chotikaram temple, it was constructed during the reign of King Prachao Sanmuangma, the seventh king of the Mungrai dynasty. While the exact year of construction remains a mystery, it is believed to have been built around 1391. Over the centuries, Chedi Luang Temple has undergone numerous restoration efforts, and today, it spans an impressive 60 meters on each side, holding a prominent place among Chiang Mai's most significant pagodas.

Continue your exploration by visiting the vibrant San Kamphaeng district, famed for its silk and cotton weaving. Located 13 kilometers east of Chiang Mai city, this district is a treasure trove for those seeking high-quality yet affordable silk and cotton products, making it an ideal spot for purchasing unique souvenirs for loved ones. Visitors can observe the intricate weaving process at local factories, gaining a deeper insight into the art of silk production. In addition to textiles, San Kamphaeng boasts a wide array of factories and souvenir shops, offering a diverse range of items such as wood carvings, silverware, lacquerware, leather goods, pottery, and other cotton products. Conclude your day by returning to Chiang Mai, where you can enjoy a comfortable overnight stay. Reflect on the rich cultural and historical experiences you've encountered throughout your journey.

DAY 03 Chiang Mai - Mae Hong Son: Doi Inthanon National Park / The Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon / Wachiratharn Waterfall / Royal Pagodas

08:30 AM Pick up from the hotel

Embark on a scenic journey from Chiang Mai to Mae Hong Son, traversing the breathtaking Doi Inthanon National Park. As you ascend the mountain, you'll be greeted by the vibrant tapestry of nature's beauty. One of the highlights of this journey is the Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon. This renowned research station is dedicated to studying and cultivating a wide range of plants and crops, including winter plants, flowers, ornamental plants, vegetables, and fruits. The station's meticulous research efforts play a crucial role in promoting sustainable agriculture and economic development in the region. Beyond its scientific significance, the Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon also serves as a visual feast. The colorful flower plots and lush vegetable gardens create a stunning spectacle that delights visitors of all ages. By supporting local communities and promoting sustainable practices, the station contributes to the preservation of the delicate ecosystem of Doi Inthanon National Park.

As you delve deeper into the heart of the park, prepare to be mesmerized by the awe-inspiring Wachirathan Waterfall. This magnificent, single-tiered cascade is widely considered one of Thailand's most breathtaking natural wonders. With water flowing year-round, the waterfall's powerful current cascades down a dramatic 70-meter drop, creating a thunderous spectacle. The sheer force of the falling water is both exhilarating and humbling. During the rainy season, the waterfall reaches its peak, with water levels surging and the landscape transformed into a lush, vibrant paradise. One of the most enchanting aspects of Wachirathan Waterfall is the breathtaking interplay of light and water. As sunlight filters through the mist, it refracts and reflects off the cascading water, creating a dazzling display of rainbows. This natural phenomenon adds an extra layer of magic to the already stunning waterfall, making it a truly unforgettable sight.

Your journey continues with a visit to 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 picturesque winter flower gardens and a variety of

plants. With cool weather prevailing throughout the year, visitors can relish breathtaking panoramic views, making this spot one of Chiang Mai's most remarkable viewpoints.

Exploring further, you will reach Doi Inthanon, Thailand's highest peak, towering at an altitude of 2,565 meters above sea level. This peak is part of the magnificent Thanon Thongchai Mountain range, which stretches across countries such as Nepal, Bhutan, and Myanmar, offering diverse climates and abundant forests. Visitors can immerse themselves in the enchanting ambiance of rainforests, pine forests, and mixed forests at different elevations. At the peak, panoramic vistas of remarkable beauty await, showcasing the allure of the surrounding landscapes. The cool weather, stunning scenery, and abundant forests make Doi Inthanon a truly captivating destination, drawing visitors from around the world. As you conclude your day, spend the night in Mae Hong Son, reflecting on the rich cultural and natural experiences that have made your journey truly unforgettable.

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
08:30 AM	Pick up from the hotel

Begin your exploration of Mae Hong Son with a tranquil boat ride along the picturesque Pai River, a journey that offers not only breathtaking views of the surrounding landscapes but also a glimpse into the serene and traditional lifestyles of the communities along the riverbanks. As the boat glides smoothly over the water, you'll be captivated by the lush greenery, rugged hills, and the peaceful rhythm of rural life that characterizes this region. Your journey continues to the Long-Necked Karen village, a community famous for its unique cultural identity. Here, you'll meet the women who wear distinctive brass rings around their necks, a tradition passed down through generations as a symbol of beauty and cultural pride. Strolling through the village, you'll witness their traditional way of life, from weaving intricate textiles to maintaining time-honored practices that have preserved their heritage in the face of modernization.

Pay homage at Wat Phra That Doi Kong Mu temple, a revered place of worship perched atop Kong Mu Mountain, the highest peak in Mae Hong Son. This temple comprises two pagodas of different sizes, constructed by Chong Thong Su, a Shan merchant, in 1860 and Phraya Singhanatracha, the first ruler of Mae Hong Son, in 1874. From the temple's hilltop, you'll be treated to awe-inspiring views of the surrounding town, embraced by majestic mountains and lush valleys. Explore Wat Chong Kham and Wat Chong Klang temples, both located near the expansive swamp. These ancient temples showcase splendid Burmese-style architecture and house revered Buddha images, including the notable Luang Paw To. Wat Chong Klang is particularly renowned for its remarkable collection of Burmese wood carving dolls and grand glass paintings depicting Buddhist history.

Next, marvel at the enchanting Su Tong Pe Bridge, a masterpiece of traditional Thai ingenuity and the longest bamboo bridge in the country. Stretching gracefully over verdant paddy fields and serene canals, this iconic bridge connects the Suan Tham Phusama Temple to the nearby village of Kung Mai Sak. As you walk across the bridge, take in the panoramic views of emerald-green fields, especially striking during

the rainy season when the landscape comes alive with vibrant hues. The bridge not only serves as a vital pathway for monks and villagers but also offers visitors an unforgettable experience, blending practicality with timeless beauty.

Continue your visit to the charming village of Baan Rak Thai, a picturesque community nestled near the border of Thailand and Myanmar. Originally settled by Yunnanese soldiers from the Chinese Nationalist 93rd Division, also known as the "Kuomintang," the village retains its unique cultural heritage. Surrounded by breathtaking mountain scenery, serene lakes, and vibrant greenery, Baan Rak Thai is a feast for the senses. Wander through its meticulously arranged tea plantations on the mountainsides and savor the flavors of authentic Yunnan cuisine. Don’t miss the chance to sample the renowned Chinese tea produced here, celebrated for its exceptional quality and flavor, making it a highlight of Mae Hong Son's culinary offerings.

Conclude your day at the serene Shan village, known locally as Baan Ruam Thai or Pang Oung. Often referred to as the "Switzerland of Thailand," this enchanting village is set amidst rugged mountain ranges and boasts a stunning reservoir surrounded by fragrant pine forests and colorful winter flowers. The cool climate, present year-round, enhances the village’s charm, while the sight of mist rising gently above the lake creates a magical atmosphere. Stroll along the reservoir’s edge, take in the vibrant blooms, and immerse yourself in the tranquility of this idyllic setting. As the day comes to an end, return to Mae Hong Son, where you’ll spend another restful night. Reflect on the rich tapestry of experiences you’ve encountered—stunning natural beauty, fascinating cultural traditions, and moments of serene reflection—all of which make Mae Hong Son a truly unforgettable destination.

DAY 05 Mae Hong Son – Pai: Fish Cave Forest Park / Tham Lod Cave / Lahu Hill Trbe Village / Doi Kiew Lom Viewpoint / Pai Walking Street

08:30 AM Pick up from the hotel

Embark on a scenic journey from Mae Hong Son to the charming town of Pai, with an array of captivating stops along the way. Your first destination is 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.

Continue your adventure with a visit to Tham Lod Cave, a site of both natural and archaeological significance. This massive limestone cave is traversed by the Lang River, which flows from one end to the other, creating a dramatic setting filled with intricate stalactites and stalagmites. As you explore, you’ll uncover tools and utensils estimated to be over 2,000 years old, providing a glimpse into the region’s ancient past. For an added thrill, try bamboo rafting through the cave’s interior, where the interplay of light and shadow reveals the intricate details of its geological formations. Alternatively, embark on a short trek through the surrounding wilderness to fully appreciate the area’s untouched beauty.

Next, delve into the cultural richness of the Lahu hill tribe village, where you’ll encounter a community with roots tracing back to Tibet and southwestern China. Over

centuries, the Lahu people have migrated to northern Thailand, settling in highland regions where they cultivate a simple, spiritually grounded way of life. The villagers engage in rice farming, corn cultivation, and livestock rearing, with hunting remaining a key part of their cultural heritage. Despite their unique language and traditions, the Lahu are known for their adaptability and warmth, welcoming visitors with open arms and a genuine sense of hospitality. A visit to their village offers a rare opportunity to learn about their enduring customs and share in their harmonious connection to the land.

As your journey progresses, make a stop at the breathtaking Doi Kiew Lom Viewpoint, a destination renowned for its ever-changing beauty. Early risers will be rewarded with a spectacular sunrise, as golden light pierces the horizon and a sea of mist blankets the valleys below, creating a surreal, dreamlike panorama. Throughout the day, the view evolves as the mist lifts, revealing endless mountain ridges stretching into the distance. By evening, the setting sun paints the sky in hues of orange, pink, and gold, offering a moment of pure tranquility. The viewpoint is adorned with vibrant flowers that bloom year-round, adding to its picturesque charm and making it a favorite spot for nature lovers and photographers alike.

Upon reaching Pai, immerse yourself in the lively atmosphere of the town's renowned walking street. This bustling thoroughfare, which comes alive from 5 p.m. to midnight, is a hub of activity where you can browse handmade products, jewelry, clothing, and an array of unique souvenirs. Treat your taste buds to a diverse culinary experience at the many Thai and international eateries lining the street, offering everything from traditional delicacies to global favorites. The vibrant energy of the walking street, coupled with its eclectic mix of offerings, creates a delightful way to end your day. Finally, settle in for the night in the picturesque town of Pai, where the blend of natural beauty, cultural richness, and a laid-back atmosphere promises a restful and memorable conclusion to your journey.

DAY 06 Pai – Chiang Rai: Santichon Chinese Village) / Yun Lai Viewpoint / Memorial Bridge / Pai Canyon / Hinoki Land / Chiang Rai Night Bazaar

08:30 AM Pick up from the hotel

Your journey in Pai continues with a visit to Santichon Village, a delightful community established by Yunnan Chinese migrants who settled in the region long ago. This charming village offers a unique glimpse into the Yunnan Chinese culture, as its residents have preserved their rich traditions, architecture, and way of life. Wander through the village to admire the distinctive Yunnan-style houses and decorations, and don't miss the chance to sample authentic Yunnan cuisine. Popular dishes include steamed buns, Yunnan fried rice, and traditional herbal teas, giving you a taste of this enduring cultural heritage. Just a short distance from Santichon Village lies the spectacular Yun Lai Viewpoint, a destination that promises breathtaking panoramas of Pai and its surrounding beauty. From this elevated vantage point, you'll be treated to sweeping views of lush paddy fields, rolling hills, and rugged mountain ranges. During winter and the rainy season, the area often transforms into a mystical scene as a sea of mist envelops the valley, creating a magical and serene atmosphere. Whether you visit at sunrise, when the first light breaks over the horizon, or later in the day, the experience is bound to be unforgettable.

After embracing the rich culture of Santichon Village, continue to visit Pai Canyon, also known as Kong Lan, an awe-inspiring natural wonder formed 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 ridge-like structures that stretch across an expansive area of over 3 acres. The surrounding mixed deciduous forest adds a lush tapestry of greenery, enhancing the scenic beauty of Pai Canyon. The narrow and steep trails beckon adventurous explorers to navigate along the ridges, providing 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 surrounds you.

From Pai Canyon, continue to the Memorial Bridge, a poignant reminder of the Second World War and Japan's presence in Thailand. Though replaced by a modern bridge, this historic structure endures as a symbol of the past. Walking along the bridge transports you back to an era of great tumult and change. The Memorial Bridge stands as a testament to the resilience and strength of those who lived through the war. It is a place where tourists can pay tribute to the past, reflect on sacrifices made, and honor the memories of those who crossed it during wartime. More than just a historical site, it is a place of contemplation and remembrance. The stories of bravery and perseverance are etched into its very structure, fostering a profound connection to history. The surrounding area, with its peaceful ambiance and scenic views, further enhances the contemplative mood, making it perfect for quiet reflection. While visiting Pai District, the Memorial Bridge serves as a poignant reminder of the town's historical significance and the enduring spirit of its people.

Bid farewell to Pai and make your way toward Chiang Rai, stopping en route at Hinoki Land, Thailand’s first and only Hinoki Wood Kingdom. This expansive 83-rai complex showcases the elegance of Japanese art, culture, and architecture in a tranquil setting. Begin your visit by passing under a grand red lantern arch inscribed with a Japanese blessing for good fortune, and walk through a striking tunnel of 88 paired torii gates. At the heart of Hinoki Land lies Hinoki Castle, a four-story structure built entirely of hinoki pine wood, a material revered in Japan for its sacred and noble qualities. Modeled after Kyoto’s Kinkakuji Castle, Hinoki Castle immerses visitors in traditional Japanese design, surrounded by stunning mountain and forest scenery. This serene retreat offers a unique cultural experience in the heart of Thailand.

As the day draws to a close, arrive in Chiang Rai and dive into the lively ambiance of the Chiang Rai Night Bazaar. This vibrant marketplace offers an enticing mix of local hill tribe handicrafts, clothing, accessories, and home goods. Stroll through the stalls to find unique souvenirs or enjoy delicious street food from the many vendors offering both Thai and international flavors. As you explore, soak in the Lanna cultural vibe through captivating folk performances and hill tribe dances on the bazaar’s stage. Conclude your day with an overnight stay in Chiang Rai, cherishing the memories of a day filled with cultural exploration, natural wonders, and the vibrant spirit of northern Thailand.

DAY 07 Chiang Rai – Chiang Mai: Wat Huay Pla Kang Temple / Wat Rong Khun White Temple / Singha Park Farm

08:30 AM Pick up from the hotel

Before bidding farewell to Chiang Rai and returning to Chiang Mai, begin your day with a visit to the awe-inspiring Wat Huay Pla Kang Temple, an extraordinary hilltop sanctuary that offers sweeping views of the surrounding landscape. This magnificent

temple is renowned for its blend of Chinese and Lanna architectural styles, evident in its distinctive nine-story, twelve-sided chedi with an elegant pointed design. The chedi, adorned with intricate red and gold detailing, features a grand staircase flanked by two majestic dragon sculptures that guide visitors to its entrance. Inside, the centerpiece is a breathtaking sandalwood statue of Guan Yin Bodhisattva, symbolizing compassion and forgiveness. Another highlight of the temple is the colossal 69-meter tall statue of Guan Yin Bodhisattva, towering over the temple grounds like a guardian of the region. Visitors can ascend this remarkable structure via an internal elevator to enjoy panoramic views of Chiang Rai, making this a truly memorable spiritual and visual experience.

Next, head to the expansive Singha Park Farm, an agricultural haven operated by Boon Rawd Brewery that showcases the natural beauty and agricultural wealth of Chiang Rai. Spanning over 3,000 acres, the park features rolling hills, a serene lake, and meticulously cultivated landscapes. Take a farm car tour through the lush 250-acre oolong tea plantation, where the rows of tea bushes stretch endlessly against the backdrop of verdant hills. Explore the fruit kingdoms, home to a variety of exotic fruits such as melons, strawberries, raspberries, and giant gooseberries, as well as vibrant vegetable and herb gardens. The dazzling flower fields in full bloom provide a picture-perfect setting, while African animals roaming the meadows add a surprising touch of safari charm. For the adventurous, Singha Park offers exciting activities like biking along scenic trails, simulated rock climbing, and high-altitude challenges, including the thrilling Zipline experience. Soar above tea plantations, flower fields, and treetops, taking in the breathtaking views from a unique perspective. Whether you're seeking relaxation or adrenaline, Singha Park Farm provides a delightful escape into Chiang Rai's natural and agricultural wonders.

Conclude your exploration with a visit to the iconic Wat Rong Khun, famously known as the White Temple. This architectural marvel, designed by the celebrated artist Professor Chalermchai Kositpipat, is a masterpiece that blends traditional Lanna influences with contemporary art. The temple's pure white exterior, adorned with shimmering glass inlays, symbolizes the purity of the Buddha. Crossing the ornate bridge to the main chapel, visitors are transported into a spiritual journey that portrays the path from worldly desires to enlightenment, with intricate sculptures and stucco designs depicting the realms of heaven and hell. Inside the temple, mesmerizing murals intertwine traditional Buddhist motifs with modern imagery, creating a striking visual narrative. The temple grounds also feature art galleries and stunning sculptures, each reflecting the visionary artistry of its creator. Wat Rong Khun stands as a national treasure and a must-visit landmark, offering an unforgettable cultural and artistic experience. Following your visit, embark on your journey back to Chiang Mai. Upon arrival, settle into your hotel and reflect on the extraordinary blend of spirituality, natural beauty, and cultural richness that you've encountered during your time in Chiang Rai.

DAY 08	Chiang Mai Departure
00:00	As your remarkable journey through Northern Thailand comes to a close, it is time to bid farewell. Our dedicated team will accompany you to Chiang Mai airport, ensuring a smooth and comfortable transition for your journey back home or to your next destination, and this is where our service ends.

Price:
● 42,000 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 1-2	Chiang Mai
Day 3-4	Mae Hong Son
Day 5	Pai
Day 6	Chiang Rai
Day 7	Chiang Mai