



## Mae Hong Son Holidays

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Department of Tourism of Thailand license No. 22/00782

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### Van Rental Package 11 Days 10 Nights

#### DAY 01 Mae Hong Son Arrival

00:00 After arriving at Mae Hong Son 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 Mae Hong Son and take this opportunity to explore the city at your own pace.

#### DAY 02 Mae Hong Son Sightseeing: Long Neck Karen Village / Wat Phra That Doi Kong Mu Temple / Wat Chong Kham and Wat Chong Klang Temples / Su Tong Pe Bamboo Bridge / Ban Rak Thai Chinese Village / Hmong Shan Pa-O Hill Tribe Villages

08:30AM. Pick up from the hotel

Embark on a captivating journey from Mae Hong Son city to Huai Suea Tao village, where you will encounter the fascinating Padong or Long Neck Karen Hill tribe. Having migrated from Myanmar to settle in Thailand, the Padong people have preserved a unique tradition of adorning their necks with coiled gold rings. Commencing between the ages of 5 and 9, this practice was initially exclusive to Padong women born on Wednesdays and full moon days but later extended to all Padong women. The solid brass hoops, skillfully bending around the neck like coiled springs, symbolize beauty, status, class, and position within the tribe. Wearing these rings also signifies the importance of marriage. The distinct dress of Padong women, coupled with ancient stories explaining the tradition, sets them apart from other hill tribes in Myanmar.

Continue your exploration with a visit to Wat Phra That Doi Kong Mu temple, the paramount place of worship in Mae Hong Son, situated atop Kong Mu Mountain. The temple boasts two pagodas of varying sizes, constructed in 1860 and 1874 by Chong Thong Su and Phraya Singhanatracha, respectively. From this vantage point, take in the breathtaking natural panorama of the town, surrounded by mountains and valleys. Explore the nearby Wat Chong Kham

and Wat Chong Klang temples, both featuring beautiful Burmese-style structures and housing the revered Buddha image (Luang Paw To). Wat Chong Klang showcases numerous Burmese wood carving dolls and large glass paintings depicting Buddhist history.

Journey to the Su Tong Pae Bridge, Thailand's longest bamboo bridge, connecting Suan Tham Phusama Temple and Kung Mai Sak village. This remarkable bridge traverses paddy fields and canals, offering a picturesque route for monks and villagers. The bridge's classic beauty is particularly enchanting during the rainy season, with verdant fields, and in winter, when golden grains shimmer in the sunlight against the backdrop of surrounding mountains. Visit Baan Rak Thai village, nestled near the Thailand-Myanmar border, known for its Yunnan heritage. Once home to the Chinese Nationalist 93rd division or "Kuomintang," this village showcases stunning mountain scenery, beautiful lakes, and vibrant shrubbery. Marvel at the picturesque green tea farmland gracefully curving along the mountainside. Indulge in delicious Yunnan cuisine and savor Chinese tea, celebrated as the finest in Mae Hong Son province.

Continue your expedition to Ban Huai Makhuea Som, where you can immerse yourself in the rich lifestyle and culture of the Hmong, Shan, and Pa-O tribes coexisting harmoniously in the same village. Originally inhabited solely by the Hmong tribe, the dynamics of this community have evolved due to frequent tribal migrations along the Thai-Myanmar border, prompted by unrest in Myanmar. While the Hmong tribe was the initial inhabitant, the Pa-O and Shan tribes later migrated to live alongside the Hmong community. Despite distinct cultural traditions, these three tribes have established a peaceful coexistence. Engaging primarily in agriculture and animal husbandry, their farming endeavors focus on cultivating crops such as cabbage, tomatoes, rice, and beans. The majority of their produce finds its way to city markets. Nestled on the hillsides amidst lush forests and stunning natural surroundings, the villages exude a tranquil charm. The uncomplicated way of life, coupled with the unique cultural practices and beautiful traditions of each tribe, creates an enchanting atmosphere. Visitors are warmly welcomed by the friendly locals, leaving an indelible impression on those who journey through. These vivid experiences of simplicity, cultural diversity, and hospitality are sure to be etched in your memory forever. Conclude your day by returning to the warm embrace of Mae Hong Son, where a restful night awaits before your next adventure unfolds.

DAY 03 Mae Hong Son - Pang Mapha: Tham Lod Cave / Lahu Hill Tribe Village / Lisu Hill Tribe Village

08:30AM. Pick up from the hotel

Embark on a captivating journey from Mae Hong Son to Pang Mapha District, where an array of cultural and natural wonders await exploration. Begin your day by visiting the Tham Lod Cave, an archaeological marvel renowned for its ancient artifacts and stunning formations. As the "Lang" stream flows through the cave, it creates a mesmerizing environment adorned with stalactites and stalagmites. Within this subterranean world, you can marvel at antique tools and utensils, estimated to be over 2,000 years old. Beyond the awe-inspiring splendor of nature, engage in exciting activities such as bamboo rafting within the cave and embarking on a short trek around its periphery.

Next, venture into the world of the Lahu hill tribe village. Originating from Tibet, the Lahu gradually migrated through China and Myanmar before settling in the north of Thailand centuries ago. Their villages, perched on elevated terrain, reflect a preference for a tranquil life steeped in spiritual beliefs. Embracing simplicity, the Lahu people primarily engage in agriculture, cultivating rice and corn, alongside animal husbandry and hunting. Known for their adaptability and warm hospitality, the Lahu tribe welcomes foreign visitors with open arms, creating a memorable experience for all.

Continue your journey towards the Lisu Hill Tribe village, tracing their origins from the Mae Kong River and Salween River in China. Over the past century, they have migrated through Myanmar and found a home in the north of Thailand. The Lisu's economic activities revolve around agriculture, including crop cultivation and livestock raising. Renowned for their expertise in sewing, embroidery, and silverware craftsmanship, the Lisu people exhibit vibrant and eye-catching traditional attire, especially in the women's dress. Their simple yet colorful traditions, coupled with a friendly and helpful demeanor, leave a lasting impression on visitors. Conclude the day by returning to Mae Hong Son, transferring to the hotel, and settling in for a restful overnight stay. The memories of this enriching journey through cultural diversity and natural beauty will surely linger.

DAY 04 Mae Hong Son - Mae Sariang: Ban Huai Hom Karen Hill Tribe Village / Ban La-ub Lawa Hill Tribe Village

08:30AM. Pick up from the hotel

Embark on a captivating journey from Mae Hong Son to Mae La Noi district, where the cultural tapestry of Karen and

Lawa hill tribe villages unfolds against a backdrop of stunning natural beauty. Begin your exploration at Huai Hom village, an embrace of nature nestled amidst steep mountains. The village, a headwaters and stream resource, enjoys a cool climate year-round, showcasing beautiful landscapes in every season. Primarily engaged in agriculture, the villagers cultivate farms and livestock, including the cultivation of various vegetables, fruits, and the prized Arabica coffee. Renowned for its high-quality and flavorful coffee, Huai Hom is also celebrated for its weaving craftsmanship using natural cotton, calico, and sheep's wool. The local wisdom of weaving from sheep's wool involves natural dyed threads, creating unique and intricate patterns. Huai Hom's residents impress visitors not only with their artisanal skills but also with their simple lifestyle, distinct culture, traditional attire, language, tribal activities, and the warm and friendly smiles that characterize their hospitality.

Continue your journey to Ban La-ub village, home to the Lawa hill tribe. Along the way, savor the breathtaking scenery that unfolds on both sides of the road, offering a visual feast of nature's grandeur. Perched on a high mountain, Ban La-ub village is surrounded by stunning landscapes. The Lawa people, with their distinct dress and language, have inhabited the north of Thailand for generations. Their belief system combines spirit worship with other religious influences, contributing to their unique cultural identity. Engaged in farming, vegetable and fruit cultivation, as well as livestock activities, the Lawa are particularly known for their skill in crafting silver ornaments. A visit to Ban La-ub promises warm welcomes, friendly interactions, adherence to tradition, and awe-inspiring vistas, leaving an indelible impression on every visitor. Conclude your day by staying overnight in Mae Sariang, where the rich cultural encounters and natural wonders of the Karen and Lawa hill tribes will linger in your memory.

DAY 05 Mae Sariang - Chiang Mai: Ob Luang National Park / Doi Inthanon National Park / Twin Royal Pagodas / Wachirathan Waterfall

08:30AM. Pick up from the hotel

Embark on a picturesque journey from Mae Sariang to Hot District, exploring the enchanting natural wonders of Ob Luang National Park in Chiang Mai Province. Geographically characterized by a narrow and steep mountain gorge, Ob Luang boasts a turbulent river flowing through the gorge, creating a roaring sound that reverberates through the area. A bridge connects the narrow valleys, allowing

tourists to witness the breathtaking scenery of Ob Luang and immerse themselves in its beauty.

Continuing your expedition, head to Chom Thong District to visit Doi Inthanon, Thailand's highest peak standing at an impressive 2,565 meters above sea level. As part of the Thanon Thongchai Mountain range stretching from the Himalayas, Doi Inthanon showcases a diverse range of climates and forests. From rain forests to pine forests and mixed forests at different altitudes, visitors can experience the richness of nature. The peak offers panoramic views of stunning landscapes, attracting visitors from around the world with its cool weather and abundant natural beauty.

Explore the architectural splendor of the Twin Royal Pagodas, Napamethanidol and Napapolpumisiri, situated atop a high hill in Doi Inthanon National Park. Created by the Air Force in collaboration with the people of Thailand, these pagodas were built to commemorate the 60th anniversary of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej Rama 9 in 1987 and to honor Her Majesty Queen Sirikit on her 5th anniversary in 1992. The surrounding landscape is adorned with winter flower gardens and a variety of plants, providing a serene atmosphere. The cool climate year-round enhances the experience, making it one of the most beautiful viewpoints in Chiang Mai.

Visit Wachirathan Waterfall, a towering single-tiered waterfall renowned for its outstanding beauty. Flowing throughout the year, the waterfall reaches a height of 70 meters, and during the rainy season, water droplets create frequent rainbows, adding to the allure of Wachirathan Waterfall. This natural phenomenon enhances the beauty of the waterfall, creating a truly magical experience. Conclude your journey in Chiang Mai, where you will be transferred to your hotel for a restful overnight stay. The diverse landscapes, cultural richness, and natural marvels encountered along the way promise an unforgettable adventure.

DAY 06 Chiang Mai Sightseeing: Wat Phrathad Doi Suthep Temple / Wat Chedi Luang Temple / Sankampaeng and Borsang Handicraft Village

08:30AM. Pick up from the hotel

Embark on a captivating exploration of Chiang Mai, where ancient temples, vibrant culture, and exquisite craftsmanship intertwine. Ascend the sacred slopes of Doi Suthep to reach Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, a temple revered for its historical significance and breathtaking views. Climb the 300 steps, each one imbued with a sense of

pilgrimage, and be rewarded with the majestic Mon-style pagoda enshrining Lord Buddha's relics. Immerse yourself in the serene atmosphere as you explore the temple grounds, adorned with exquisite Lanna art. Witness the devotion of Thai people who come to pay homage at this sacred site, considered one of the most important temples in Thailand. From the panoramic viewpoint, let your gaze sweep across the verdant tapestry of Chiang Mai, a testament to the temple's role as a beacon of faith and cultural heritage.

Step back in time at Wat Chedi Luang, a once-grand temple that still exudes an aura of grandeur and historical significance. Witness the imposing Chedi Luang pagoda, a testament to the Lanna architectural style, though its top remains unfinished due to a devastating earthquake. Explore the temple grounds, imagining the bustling monastic life that once thrived here. Learn about the reign of King Prachao Sanmuangma, the seventh king of the Mongrai dynasty, who initiated the temple's construction in the 14th century.

Journey to San Kamphaeng, a district renowned for its exquisite silk and cotton weaving traditions. Immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere as you witness the age-old techniques passed down through generations, from silkworm raising to intricate weaving patterns. Visit a silk factory to witness the entire process firsthand, from the delicate threads to the finished masterpiece. Marvel at the skill and artistry of the weavers, who create breathtaking textiles that are both beautiful and functional. Browse the numerous shops and souvenir stalls, where you can find exquisite silk scarves, garments, and home decor, perfect keepsakes to remember your Chiang Mai adventure. Conclude your day with an overnight stay in the charming city of Chiang Mai. Reflect on the day's experiences, the spiritual tranquility of Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, the historical echoes of Wat Chedi Luang, and the artistic mastery of San Kamphaeng's silk weavers.

DAY 07      Chaing Mai - Chiang Rai: Wat Rong Khun Temple (White Temple) / Singha Park Farm / Wat Rong Suea Ten temple (Blue Temple) / Chiang Rai Night Bazaar

08:30AM.      Pick up from the hotel

Embark on a captivating journey from Chiang Mai to Chiang Rai, where architectural marvels, breathtaking landscapes, and vibrant culture await. Step into the ethereal beauty of Wat Rong Khun, also known as the White Temple. Designed by the renowned artist Chalermchai Kositpipat, this temple is a magnificent fusion of Lanna culture and contemporary art. Marvel at the shimmering white facade adorned with

intricate glass mosaics, reflecting the sunlight in a mesmerizing display. Explore the serene interiors, adorned with intriguing murals and exquisite sculptures. Cross the symbolic bridge, its path lined with sculptures depicting the cycle of life, before reaching the chapel, a masterpiece of modern Buddhist architecture. Let the harmony of art and faith wash over you as you contemplate the temple's profound message.

Immerse yourself in the verdant embrace of Singha Park Farm, an expansive agricultural haven nestled amidst rolling hills and a vast lake. Embark on a scenic farm car ride, traversing over 250 acres of lush green oolong tea plantations. Delight in the abundance of fruits, from juicy melons and sweet strawberries to exotic giant gooseberries. Explore the fragrant vegetable and herb gardens, and be captivated by the vibrant flower fields that paint the landscape with color. Witness the playful antics of African animals roaming freely in the green fields, and create lasting memories in this idyllic natural sanctuary.

Step into the mesmerizing world of Wat Rong Suea Ten, also known as the Blue Temple. Designed by Chiang Rai folk artist Puttha Kabkaew, this temple is a visual symphony of dominant blue and gold hues. Wander through the vihara, its walls adorned with ornate blue and gold decorations, creating a sense of awe and tranquility. Pay homage to the revered Phra Buddha Ratchamongkol Bodi Tri Lokanath statue, enshrined within the temple. Let the vibrant colors and intricate details of the temple's architecture captivate you, appreciating the unique artistic expression that defines this contemporary masterpiece.

Immerse yourself in the bustling energy of the Chiang Rai Night Bazaar, a haven for shopping and cultural discovery. Browse through the diverse array of stalls, offering everything from hill tribe handicrafts and local souvenirs to mouthwatering street food and refreshing beverages. Be captivated by the lively atmosphere, pulsating with the sounds of music and laughter. Witness the traditional Lanna-style performances and hill tribe cultural showcases, offering a glimpse into the region's rich heritage. Savor the authentic flavors of Northern Thai cuisine, indulging in spicy curries, fragrant noodles, and grilled meats. Conclude your evening with a treasured souvenir or a delightful memory, etched forever in your heart. Rest your head in a charming Chiang Rai hotel, reflecting on the day's enriching experiences. Let the beauty of art, the serenity of nature, and the vibrancy of culture linger in your memories as you dream of your next adventure.



DAY 08 Chiang Rai Sightseeing: Akha Hill Tribe Village / Doi Mae Salong Chinese Village / Doi Tung Palace and Mae Fah Luang Garden / Mae Sai

08:30AM. Pick up from the hotel

Embark on a captivating journey from Chiang Rai city to delve into the rich culture, traditions, and lifestyle of the Akha hill tribe, whose villages are nestled amidst breathtaking surroundings. Originally hailing from the southern regions of China, the Akha ethnic group migrated to the north of Myanmar before establishing their homes in the northern regions of Thailand nearly a century ago. Scattered across different districts of Chiang Rai Province, Akha villages are situated at elevations of approximately 1,000 meters above sea level, with houses featuring thatched roofs and bamboo walls. Engage with the Akha people, known for their agricultural practices, including crop planting and livestock, as well as household industries such as sewing, embroidery, and silverware crafting. Admire the brightly colored dresses and intricately adorned hats worn by Akha women, showcasing their unique tribal identity.

Next, venture to Doi Mae Salong, renowned for cultivating exceptional tea and offering breathtaking scenery. Originally a Chinese Yunnan village, Doi Mae Salong became a haven for Chinese immigrants escaping the communist regime in China. The terraced tea plantations provide a tranquil and picturesque setting, reminiscent of Chinese villages in the southern regions. Immerse yourself in the beauty of the landscape and the charming atmosphere surrounding the village. Continue your exploration with a visit to Doi Tung Palace and Mae Fah Luang Garden, popular attractions in Chiang Rai. The palace and garden captivate visitors with an array of meticulously planted flowers that change with the seasons. The artistic and Lanna-style architecture of Doi Tung Palace adds to the visual allure of the surroundings.

Proceed to Mae Sai District, Thailand's northernmost district, bordering Myanmar's Tachilek province. The Mae Sai River serves as the natural border, with a bridge connecting the two cities. Witness a glimpse of Myanmar from the Thai side and explore the bustling Mae Sai Market, a renowned border market attracting both Thai and Myanmar residents for unrestricted trade. Discover an array of products at affordable prices, from electrical appliances to local goods, herbs, wicker, dry food, and more. Return to Chiang Rai for an additional night, concluding your journey enriched with cultural experiences and the natural beauty of northern Thailand.



DAY 09 Chiang Rai - Phrae: Kwan Phayao Lake / Wat Pong Sunan Temple / Khum Vongburi Museum / Khum Chao Luang / (Ancient Thai House) / Phae Mueang Phi Forest Park

08:30AM. Pick up from the hotel

Embark on a fascinating journey from Chiang Rai province to Phrae province, a gateway to the historical Lanna Kingdom, where a wealth of temples, natural wonders, and museums await exploration. Making a delightful stop at Kwan Phayao Lake in Muang Phayao District. This crescent-shaped lake, surrounded by intricate mountain ranges, is the largest freshwater lake in the north and the fourth largest in Thailand. Serving as a vital freshwater fishing area, it boasts more than fifty species of freshwater fish and is a breeding ground for various fish species.

Upon reaching Mueang Phrae District, your first stop is Wat Pong Sunan. This temple boasts a large golden reclining Buddha, situated near an auspicious archway. Inside the ubosot, you'll find the revered Buddha image "Phra Chao Saen Suk," over 500 years old, housed within a pagoda containing relics of Lord Buddha. Noteworthy is the "Phra That Chedi Wiharn Kaew," a white temple with 108 pagodas encircled by a wall of 108 plexiglass balls. This unique feature allows visitors to marvel at the beautifully inverted reflection of the pagodas. Inside the viharn, a large Buddha image named "Phra Saraswadee Prathanpon" is enshrined, accompanied by murals depicting Buddha images in Phrae province and various zodiac years.

Your exploration continues with a visit to the ancient house, Khum Wong Buri, or Ban Wong Buri. This distinctive pink Thai-Lanna house, over a century old, was constructed in 1897 by Mae Chao Bua Tha, the first consort of Chao Luang Piriyaathepwong, the last ruler of Phrae. Crafted from golden teak wood, the house combines Thai-Lanna and European styles using traditional construction techniques. It features stenciled wood patterns popular during the reign of King Rama V, portraying a rich blend of artistic craftsmanship. The house showcases Chao Mae Bua Tha's room, the living room, and the bedroom, each filled with various antique items and artifacts, including ancient Buddha images and historical pictures narrating the house's story.

Proceed to Khum Chao Luang, another ancient house dating back to 1892, built by Chao Luang Piriyaathepwong. This two-story brick and mortar structure exhibits an impressive blend of Thai Lanna and European architectural styles. Supported by solid wood logs, the building stands gracefully adorned with fretwork and intricately carved

patterns. With 72 windows and doors, the structure showcases a Pan-Yah style roof with a rectangular porch and intricately carved fretwork patterns.

Conclude your day with a visit to Phae Mueang Phi, also known as the Ghost Pillars, a natural wonder in the form of soil and sandstone eroded into striking shapes. Designated as a forest park in 1981, Phae Mueang Phi offers a geological spectacle with cliffs and peculiarly shaped clay pillars. The park features a nature trail allowing tourists to explore the forest's geological features and gain a deeper understanding of this unique landscape. Savor the historical and natural wonders of Phrae before spending a restful night in this captivating province.

DAY 10 Phrae - Sukhothai: Sukhothai Historical Park / Si Satchanalai Historical Park

08:30AM. Pick up from the hotel

Embark on a journey from Phrae to Sukhothai, a city steeped in history and home to the renowned Sukhothai Historical Park, a UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site covering approximately 70 square kilometers. Serving as Thailand's first capital between the 18th and 20th Buddhist centuries, Sukhothai played a pivotal role in shaping the nation's political, economic, and cultural landscape. The park is a testament to the flourishing Thai culture during this period. Marvel at the intricate Sukhothai Buddhist sculptures, recognized as the epitome of beauty in Thai art. The park features numerous significant structures both inside and outside the city walls, including Wat Mahathat Temple, Wat Chana Songkhram Temple, Wat Traphang Ngoen Temple, Wat Sri Sawai Temple, Wat Si Chum Temple, and more. These ancient buildings and the large ancient Buddha image showcase the grandeur of Sukhothai's historical and cultural heritage.

Continue your historical exploration with a visit to Si Satchanalai Historical Park, another UNESCO World Cultural Heritage site located in Si Satchanalai District. Spanning over 45 square kilometers, this archaeological site boasts traces of settlements dating back to prehistoric times. The park features 215 archaeological sites, with prominent structures built from laterite. Notable temples include Wat Chang Lom Temple, Wat Chedi Chet Thaeo Temple, Wat Nang Phaya Temple, Wat Suwan Khiri Temple, Wat Phra Si Rattana Mahathat Temple, Wat Suan Kaew Yai Temple, Wat Suan Kaew Noi Temple, and the City Pillar Shrine. Si Satchanalai's remote location amidst the forest preserves its natural beauty and completeness of ancient sites, offering a

unique glimpse into Thailand's rich history. Conclude your day by returning to Sukhothai city, where you will be transferred to your hotel to enjoy a restful overnight stay. The historical and cultural richness of Sukhothai promises an immersive and unforgettable experience.

#### DAY 11 Sukhothai 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 Sukhothai 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:**

- 67,000 Thai baht

#### **Included:**

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

#### **Excluded:**

- Meals
- Accommodations
- Expenses during the trip

#### **Note:**

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

#### **Travel Accident Insurance:**

All tours and car rentals are covered by travel accident insurance. According to the regulations of the Department of Tourism of Thailand, every tourist who uses the services of a travel company in Thailand must be provided with travel accident insurance by that company. Therefore, if you book a tour or car rental with us, please provide us with a name list and personal details of all passengers, including their first name, last name, date of birth, age, gender, and nationality. We will send the name lists of all passengers to the insurance company at no additional cost.

#### **Booking Requirements:**

Please inform us of the car rental package programs you are interested in, along with the date you would like to start the trip, the number of passengers, and the name of the hotel you will be staying at in Mae Hong Son. Please also provide the details of your flight to Mae Hong Son, including the name of the airline, flight number, arrival date, and time. If applicable, include the flight details departing from Sukhothai, such as the name of the airline, flight number, departure date, and time. If you are traveling by bus or another mode of

transportation, please provide full details of the journey. This information will help us plan your itinerary perfectly and arrange transfers between airports, bus terminals, and hotels efficiently.