

## Mae Hong Son Holidays

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Department of Tourism of Thailand license No. 22/00782

Van Rental Package 9 Days 8 Nights

## DAY 01 Chiang Mai Arrival

O0:00 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: Wat Phrathad Doi Suthep Temple / Wat Chedi Luang Temple / Sankampaeng and Borsang Handicraft Village

08:30 AM. Pick up from the hotel

Embarking on a mesmerizing journey through Chiang Mai's most significant and breathtaking landmarks awaits you. First on the list is the iconic Wat Phra That Doi Suthep Temple, nestled atop Doi Suthep Mountain. A symbol of profound spirituality and revered as one of Northern Thailand's holiest sites, this temple dates back to 1383 and is believed to house a sacred relic of Lord Buddha. Locals and visitors alike seek blessings and tranquility here, making it an essential pilgrimage destination. To reach the temple, visitors can opt for an enchanting ascent of a 306-step staircase, flanked by magnificent serpent sculptures. For a more leisurely option, funicular railway offers a comfortable and picturesque ride to the temple complex. The architectural brilliance of Wat Phra That Doi Suthep seamlessly blends Lanna and traditional Thai styles, adorned with intricate golden decorations, ornate wooden carvings, and striking pagodas. The main attraction, a revered chedi housing the sacred relic, is said to emanate great spiritual power. From the temple's vantage point, the sweeping panoramic views of Chiang Mai city and its surrounding countryside are breathtaking.

Next on your itinerary is the historical Wat Chedi Luang Worawihan temple, situated at the heart of Chiang Mai city. As one of the province's largest and oldest temples, it boasts a grand pagoda within its premises. While the pagoda's peak was damaged during a powerful earthquake in 1545, it remains a cherished symbol of Lanna heritage. This ancient temple, also known as Rajakudakan and Chotikaram temple, was constructed during the reign of King Prachao Sanmuangma of the Mungrai dynasty around 1391. The temple's restoration efforts have spanned several eras, resulting in its current impressive size of 60 meters on each side, making it one of Chiang Mai's most significant pagodas.

In the San Kamphaeng district, you'll encounter the renowned silk and cotton weaving industry. A must-visit for tourists, this district is celebrated for its high-quality and reasonably priced silk and cotton products, perfect as souvenirs for loved ones. Tourists can also witness the silk weaving process and silk production at one of the many silk factories in the area. Alongside this, numerous factories and souvenir shops offer an array of exquisite items, such as wood carvings, silverware, lacquerware, leather goods, pottery, and cotton products, giving visitors a wide selection of choices for memorable keepsakes. Conclude your day by spending a restful night in the charming city of Chiang Mai, savoring the memories of your enriching journey exploring its cultural and spiritual gems.

DAY 03 Chiang Mai - Lampang: Thai Elephant Conservation Center / Wat Chaloem Phra Kiat Phrachomklao Rachanusorn / Horse Carriage Riding

08:30 AM. Pick up from the hotel

Your journey begins in Chiang Mai, where you embark on a captivating adventure to the heart of Lampang province. Your first stop is the esteemed Thai Elephant Conservation Center, nestled within the lush Ban Thung Kwian village. Here, witness the gentle giants and learn about their care and rehabilitation. Witness the dedicated efforts of the center as they treat sick elephants, ensuring their wellbeing. Beyond witnessing their care, the center offers a unique opportunity to immerse yourself in elephant-related activities. Experience the thrill of an elephant show, learn the intricacies of elephant care and control, and even participate in the heartwarming act of bathing these magnificent creatures.

As your journey continues, you'll find yourself in the Chae Hom district, where you'll visit the breathtaking "Wat Chaloem Phra Kiat Phrachomklao Rachanusorn," also known as "Wat Phra Bat Phu Pha Daeng." Regarded as a heavenly haven by many, the temple's pavilion and pagoda grace the summit of a mountain, perched at an altitude of almost 1,000 meters above sea level. Reaching this summit is an adventure in itself. A 30-minute trek, approximately 1 kilometer long, winds through the lush forest, offering stunning glimpses of nature along the way. The path, though challenging with its steep inclines and occasional stairs, rewards you with captivating views of the surrounding landscape. Upon reaching the summit, you'll be greeted by more than 10 magnificent pagodas, each a testament to the faith and dedication of monks and villagers over many years. These structures, along with the breathtaking panoramic vista stretching before you, create a truly unforgettable experience.

As the day nears its end, you'll embark on a charming horse-drawn carriage ride through the streets of Lampang city. This ride offers a unique perspective on the local way of life, allowing you to witness the historical remnants of Lampang's economic prosperity. Admire the ancient buildings lining the streets, remnants of a bygone era. Though once the primary mode of transportation for locals, the horse carriage now serves as a symbol of Lampang's heritage. Witnessing these carriages, though primarily used for tourism today, is a testament to Lampang's commitment to preserving its rich history and traditions. As the evening sets in, settle into your accommodations in Lampang, reflecting on the day's captivating experiences and anticipating the adventures that lie ahead.

# DAY 04 Lampang - Sukhothai: Si Satchanalai Historical Park / Sukhothai Historical Park

## 08:30 AM. Pick up from the hotel.

Your journey takes you to Sukhothai, the ancient capital of Thailand, where you'll be transported back in time to a bygone era. Bathed in rich history and cultural heritage, Sukhothai offers a unique blend of ancient ruins, natural beauty, and a simple traditional way of life. Your exploration begins in Si Satchanalai District, where the imposing Si Satchanalai Historical Park awaits. This UNESCO World Heritage Site, nestled amidst lush greenery, boasts a remarkable collection of archaeological sites spanning centuries. The park's vast area of 45 square kilometers houses 215 archaeological sites, whispering

tales of civilizations past. Among the highlights are the majestic laterite structures, including Wat Chang Lom Temple, Wat Chedi Chet Thaeo Temple, and Wat Nang Phaya Temple. These architectural marvels, along with 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, stand as testaments to the artistic prowess of the ancient Siamese people. Si Satchanalai's historical charm is further enhanced by its idyllic setting. Tucked away amidst a serene forest, the park offers a peaceful escape from the hustle and bustle of modern life, allowing you to truly connect with the past.

Continuing your journey, you'll arrive at Mueang Sukhothai District, home to the renowned Sukhothai Historical Park. This UNESCO World Heritage Site, encompassing an area of 70 square kilometers, served as the first capital of Thailand between the 18th and 20th Buddhist centuries. Immerse yourself in the remnants of a glorious era as you explore the park's numerous historical landmarks. Witness the imposing Wat Mahathat Temple, the magnificent Wat Chana Songkhram Temple, the serene Wat Traphang Ngoen Temple, and the awe-inspiring Wat Sri Sawai Temple. Each structure speaks volumes about the architectural brilliance and cultural refinement of the Sukhothai Kingdom. Beyond the city walls, another 70 archaeological sites await discovery, including the enigmatic Wat Si Chum Temple. As you wander through these ancient ruins, you'll gain a deeper understanding of Sukhothai's significant contributions to Thai art, language, and urban planning. As evening descends, retire to your accommodations in Sukhothai, carrying with you the indelible memories of your journey through ancient Thailand. The echoes of history will continue to resonate long after you depart, leaving you with a newfound appreciation for the rich heritage of this captivating land.

DAY 05 Sukhothai - Phrae: Wat Pong Sunan Temple / Khum Wongburi Museum / Khum Chao Luang / Phae Mueang Phi Forest Park

08:30 AM. Pick up from the hotel.

Your journey continues to Phrae, the gateway to the Lanna Kingdom and a captivating city brimming with history, natural wonders, and cultural treasures. Upon arrival in Mueang Phrae District, prepare to be enchanted by a series of fascinating attractions. Begin your exploration at Wat Pong Sunan, a temple renowned for its serene atmosphere and dazzling golden reclining Buddha. Marvel at the intricate details of the 108 Phra That Chedi Wiharn Kaew, a white temple adorned with 108 pagodas. Look closer and

be amazed by the optical illusion created by the surrounding plexiglass balls, reflecting the pagodas in a mesmerizing upside-down image. Inside the viharn, you'll encounter the majestic "Phra Saraswadee Prathanpon" Buddha image and captivating murals depicting the Buddha's life and zodiac signs.

Embark on a journey through time at Khum Wong Buri, a magnificent pink ancient Thai house that stands as a testament to the architectural brilliance of the past. Built over a century ago, this two-story golden teakwood house exhibits a captivating blend of Thai-Lanna and European styles. Explore the intricate wood carvings, delicate stencil patterns, and traditional craftsmanship that make this house a true masterpiece. Discover fascinating artifacts and ancient treasures within its walls, including furniture, tableware, weapons, and Buddha images from various eras. Next, visit Khum Chao Luang, another architectural marvel dating back over a century. Built by the last ruler of Phrae, this two-story brick and mortar building boasts a unique combination of Thai Lanna and European architecture. Witness the exquisite fretwork and intricate carvings adorning the exterior, and be captivated by the spaciousness and grandeur of the interior. Explore the 72 windows and doors, the distinctive "Mai Pan Kled" roof, and the beautifully crafted porch, each element contributing to the building's undeniable charm.

As your day draws to a close, venture into the heart of Phae Mueang Phi Forest Park. This natural wonder will leave you awestruck with its otherworldly beauty. Witness the remarkable geological formations, where sandstone and soil have been sculpted by nature into an array of fascinating shapes and structures. Hike along the nature trail and immerse yourself in the serene forest atmosphere, appreciating the delicate balance between human history and the natural world. As you spend the night in Phrae, let your mind wander through the rich history and natural beauty you've encountered. Each attraction you've visited has offered a glimpse into the unique character of Phrae, leaving you with memories that will last a lifetime.

DAY 06 Phrae - Chiang Rai: Kwan Phayao Lake / Wat Rong Khun Temple (White Temple) / Singha Park Farm / Wat Rong Suea Ten temple (Blue Temple) / Chiang Rai Night Bazaar

08:30 AM. Pick up from the hotel

Your journey continues as you depart from Phrae Province and make your way towards Chiang Rai. Along the way, prepare to be mesmerized by the breathtaking beauty of Kwan Phayao Lake. This crescent-shaped lake, surrounded by lush mountain ranges, is a true natural paradise. As the largest freshwater lake in the north and the fourth largest in Thailand, it serves as a vital fishing area and breeding ground for diverse species.

Next, enter the enchanting world of Wat Rong Khun, also known as the White Temple. This architectural marvel, designed and built by renowned artist Chalermchai Kositpipat, is a masterpiece of contemporary religious art. The pure white chapel, adorned with intricate glass and stucco patterns, resembles a castle straight out of a fairytale. As you cross the bridge leading to the chapel, be prepared to encounter the hidden puzzles of religious precepts through captivating sculptures depicting heaven and hell. Inside, the temple boasts stunning artwork and galleries, alongside exquisite sculptures that leave visitors in awe.

Immerse yourself in the natural bounty of Singha Park Farm, an agricultural wonderland spanning over 3,000 acres. This vast estate, owned by Boon Rawd Brewery, offers a unique blend of agricultural activities and nature exploration. Journey through rolling green hills, admire the vast expanse of the lake, and witness the impressive 250-acre green oolong tea plantation. Be amazed by colorful fruit kingdoms, such as the melon, strawberry, raspberry, and giant gooseberry fields, and delight in the vibrant vegetable and herb gardens. Let the beauty of the blooming flower fields captivate your senses, and experience the joy of feeding the friendly African animals in the green fields.

Continue your exploration at Wat Rong Suea Ten, also known as the Blue Temple. This captivating temple, designed by renowned folk artist Puttha Kabkaew, is widely considered one of the most beautiful and architecturally stunning temples in Chiang Rai. The vihara, or the assembly hall, is a masterpiece of applied art, featuring a dominant blue and gold color scheme that creates a breathtaking visual impact. Inside, the temple houses the revered Phra Buddha Ratchamongkol Bodi Tri Lokanath, a Buddha image containing relics on its head, offering a place of prayer and reflection for visitors.

As your day draws to a close, immerse yourself in the vibrant atmosphere of the Chiang Rai Night Bazaar. This famed shopping destination attracts visitors from all over

the world, offering a diverse selection of local products and hill tribe handicrafts. From clothing and accessories to home furnishings and souvenirs, the night bazaar caters to every taste and budget. Indulge in the delicious array of food and beverage options, and be captivated by the stage performances showcasing traditional Lanna dances and music from various hill tribes. Let the lively atmosphere of the night bazaar be the perfect ending to your captivating day in Chiang Rai. As you spend the night in Chiang Rai, let the memories of the day's extraordinary experiences wash over you, leaving an indelible mark on your heart and mind.

DAY 07 Chiang Rai Sightseeing: Doi Tung Palace and Mae Fah Luang Garden / Mae Sai / Golden Triangle / Mekong River Cruise

08:00 AM. Pick up from the hotel.

Your journey in Chiang Rai continues with a visit to Mae Fah Luang District, where you'll be enchanted by the breathtaking beauty of Doi Tung Palace and Mae Fah Luang Garden. These iconic landmarks, popular with tourists throughout the year, offer a vibrant tapestry of natural beauty and cultural heritage. Step into the serene atmosphere of Mae Fah Luang Garden, where meticulously planted flowers in a kaleidoscope of colors create a mesmerizing spectacle. Each season brings a new floral display, ensuring a unique and unforgettable experience for every visitor. As you stroll through the gardens, admire the meticulous landscaping and the exquisite Lanna-style architecture of Doi Tung Palace, adding a touch of grandeur to the natural surroundings.

Next, travel to Mae Sai District, Thailand's northernmost district, where the border with Myanmar is marked by the majestic Mae Sai River. Witness the bustling activity at the Mae Sai Market, a vibrant hub for trade and cultural exchange between Thailand and Myanmar. This iconic border market, known as the largest shopping district in northern Thailand, offers a treasure trove of local goods, souvenirs, and exotic wares at surprisingly affordable prices.

Continue your journey to the Golden Triangle, a historic point where the borders of Thailand, Myanmar, and Laos converge. Learn about the region's fascinating past, once notorious for opium cultivation and the illegal drug trade. Step into the present and witness the transformation of the Golden Triangle, now a peaceful haven for cultural exchange and tourism. Embark on a scenic cruise along the majestic Mekong River, one of the

world's most important waterways. As you glide along the calm waters, admire the breathtaking natural beauty of the surrounding landscapes and witness the daily lives of people living along the riverbanks. This immersive experience provides a unique opportunity to appreciate the cultural and economic significance of the Mekong River, which nourishes the lives of millions across Southeast Asia.

Spend your final night in Chiang Rai, reflecting on the extraordinary experiences and captivating sights you encountered. As you prepare to depart, carry with you a treasure trove of memories that will forever remind you of the magic and beauty of northern Thailand.

DAY 08 Chiang Rai - Chiang Mai: Wat Huay Pla Kang Temple / Doi Mae Salong / Akha hill tribe Village / Wat Tha Ton Temple / Hinoki Land

08:00 AM. Pick up from the hotel.

Your journey continues with a visit to Wat Huay Pla Kang, another architectural gem in Chiang Rai. Nestled atop a hill, this temple offers breathtaking panoramic views. The highlight of the temple is its nine-story, twelve-sided chedi, a unique structure adorned with intricate Chinese and Lanna-style artwork. The red roof and two majestic dragon statues flanking the staircase add to the grandeur of the chedi. Inside, the sandalwood statue of Goddess Guan Yin Bodhisattva welcomes visitors with her blessing. Additionally, the white chapel and the towering 69-meter-tall Guan Yin Bodhisattva statue, accessible by elevator, provide stunning vantage points to admire the surrounding landscape.

Next, venture to Doi Mae Salong, renowned for its rolling hills carpeted with lush tea plantations. Immerse yourself in the serenity of the natural landscape and witness the meticulous care taken by the local farmers. This picturesque area was once home to Chinese Yunnan immigrants who arrived in Thailand decades ago. Their legacy is evident in the village's architecture and the thriving tea industry. As you wander through the village, savor the tranquil atmosphere and discover the remnants of Chinese culture, reminiscent of a village in Southern China.

Delve into the captivating world of the Akha hill tribe, whose villages are nestled amidst breathtaking natural scenery. Learn about their fascinating culture, traditions, and way of life that have been shaped by

their migration from Southern China to Myanmar and finally to Thailand almost a century ago. Their vibrant villages, scattered across various districts of Chiang Rai Province, are usually located at high altitudes, offering breathtaking views. Witness the traditional architecture of their houses, built with thatched roofs and bamboo walls, and appreciate their vibrant culture through their colorful clothing adorned with eye-catching silverware and beads.

Continue your journey to Ban Tha Ton, a border village nestled amidst mountains and with a lazy river flowing through its heart. This charming village boasts a cool climate year-round, creating a peaceful atmosphere. Be captivated by the stunning scenery and experience the unique cultural tapestry woven by the diverse hill tribes living in the area. Visit Wat Tha Ton, a temple perched on a hillside offering breathtaking panoramic views. Witness the nine layers of the temple, each featuring a sacred religious site, with the central peak housing the "Phra Chedi Kaew." From each vantage point, admire the picturesque village of Ban Tha Ton, the surrounding mountains, and the Mae Ai district.

Your exploration culminates at Hinoki Land, the first and only hinoki wood kingdom in Thailand. This unique attraction, spread across 83 rai, transports you to Japan through its meticulously crafted architecture immersive atmosphere. Step through the large red lantern arch and witness the awe-inspiring tunnel lined with 88 pairs of torii gates leading to the magnificent Hinoki Castle. This four-story castle, inspired by Kinkakuji Castle in Kyoto, was built entirely from hinoki pine wood, revered as the "noble pine" in Japan. At Hinoki Land, lose yourself in the serene beauty of the Japaneseinspired landscape, surrounded by mountains and forests, as you experience the essence of Japanese culture and architecture. As your journey reaches Chiang Mai in the evening, transfer to your hotel and settle in for the night. Let the memories of the day's cultural encounters and breathtaking landscapes linger, enriching your understanding of northern Thailand's unique charm.

## DAY 09 Chiang Mai Departure

O0:00 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:

• 49,500 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 Chiang Mai. Please also provide the details of your flight to Chiang Mai, such as the name of the airline, flight number, arrival date and time, and 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.