



Mae Hong Son Holidays

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Department of Tourism of Thailand license No. 22/00782

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### Van Rental Package 9 Days 8 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 and 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

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, a 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.

A visit to Chiang Mai wouldn't be complete without experiencing the grandeur of Wat Chedi Luang Worawihan. Located in the heart of the city, this ancient temple stands as a testament to the rich history and cultural heritage of the Lanna Kingdom. The temple's most striking feature is its massive chedi, or pagoda, which once soared to impressive heights. Although the top portion was tragically destroyed by a powerful earthquake in 1545, the remaining structure still evokes a sense of awe and wonder. Despite the damage, the chedi remains one of the largest and most significant pagodas in northern Thailand. Constructed during the reign of King Prachao Sanmuangma of the Mungrai dynasty around 1391, Wat Chedi Luang Worawihan has undergone several restoration efforts throughout the centuries. The temple complex, which includes various halls, viharns, and chedis, is a stunning example of Lanna architecture. As you explore the temple grounds, you'll be captivated by the intricate details of the carvings and the serene atmosphere. Whether you're a history buff or

simply seeking a tranquil retreat, Wat Chedi Luang Worawihan is a must-visit destination in Chiang Mai.

Explore the famous silk, cotton, wood carving, and silverware industries of San Kamphaeng district. This district, a must-visit for tourists, 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 production at one of the many silk factories in the area. Additionally, 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

Depart from Chiang Mai, venturing into the heart of Lampang Province, where a unique opportunity awaits at the esteemed Thai Elephant Conservation Center. Nestled within the lush Ban Thung Kwian village, this sanctuary offers a glimpse into the world of these majestic creatures and the dedicated efforts to preserve their well-being. Upon arrival, witness the gentle giants roaming freely amidst the verdant surroundings. Observe as they interact with their mahouts, forming a bond built on trust and respect. The center's dedicated team provides care and rehabilitation for injured and orphaned elephants, ensuring their health and happiness. Beyond witnessing their care, the center offers a range of immersive experiences that allow visitors to connect with these magnificent animals. Witness the thrilling elephant show, where the elephants demonstrate their intelligence and agility in a captivating performance. Learn about the intricacies of elephant care and control from experienced mahouts, gaining insight into their unique relationship with these gentle giants. For the adventurous, participate in the heartwarming act of bathing the elephants, providing them with a refreshing and rejuvenating experience. Feel the power of these gentle giants as you assist in scrubbing their thick skin and washing their long trunks. The Thai Elephant Conservation Center is more than just a tourist attraction; it's a sanctuary dedicated to the preservation of these endangered species. By visiting the center, you not only support their vital work but also gain a deeper appreciation for these magnificent creatures and the importance of their conservation.

As your journey continues, you will find yourself in the Chae Hom district, where you will 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 will 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 will 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.

Depart from Lampang to Sukhothai Province, 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 the 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.

Your journey continues as you 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.

Embark on a journey to the enchanting province of Phrae, known as the gateway to the Lanna Kingdom. This city, rich in history and culture, is surrounded by natural wonders. In Mueang Phrae District, you'll find unforgettable attractions that reflect the unique spirit of this charming region. Start at Wat Pong Sunan, a serene temple famous for its golden reclining Buddha. Marvel at the intricate 108 Phra That Chedi Wiharn Kaew, adorned with 108 pagodas. The surrounding plexiglass balls create a mesmerizing optical illusion, reflecting the pagodas upside down. Inside the viharn, you'll discover the majestic "Phra Saraswadee Prathanpon" Buddha image, a symbol of peace and wisdom. The walls are decorated with captivating murals depicting scenes from the Buddha's life and the zodiac signs, enhancing the temple's spiritual essence.

Step back in time at Khum Wong Buri, a stunning pink ancient Thai house built over a century ago. This two-story golden teakwood house blends Thai-Lanna and European styles, showcasing northern Thailand's rich cultural heritage. You'll be captivated by the pastel pink façade adorned with intricate wood carvings and stencil patterns, reflecting the meticulous craftsmanship of traditional Thai artisans. Inside, explore meticulously preserved interiors filled with fascinating artifacts and relics, including intricately designed furniture, elegant tableware, vintage photographs, and rare weapons. Admire Buddha images from various eras, representing the spiritual and artistic evolution of Thai culture. Each artifact offers a glimpse into the region's history, traditions, and lifestyle. With its peaceful ambiance and historical significance, Khum Wong Buri is a must-visit destination for history buffs and architecture enthusiasts alike.

Next, visit Khum Chao Luang, a magnificent two-story brick and mortar mansion built over a century ago by the last ruler of Phrae. This architectural marvel seamlessly blends Thai-Lanna and European styles. Its imposing exterior, adorned with exquisite fretwork and carvings, exudes elegance and sophistication. The distinctive "Mai Pan Kled" roof and beautifully crafted porch highlight the creators' ingenuity and artistic vision. Step inside and explore the spacious, meticulously designed interior, featuring 72 intricately carved windows and doors that flood the space with natural light. Ornate ceiling designs and elegantly crafted wooden staircases reflect the era's architectural trends. Khum Chao Luang holds significant historical importance, having served as a residence for the region's rulers and playing a crucial role in shaping Phrae's political and cultural landscape. Today, it stands as a cultural landmark, offering guided tours that provide fascinating insights into the house's history, the lives of its inhabitants, and the broader historical context of the region. Whether you're an architecture enthusiast or a history lover, Khum Chao Luang offers a deep dive into Phrae's rich heritage.

After exploring Khun Chao Luang, continue your journey to Phrae's natural wonders. Head to Phae Mueang Phi Forest Park, a geological marvel known as "Ghost City." Over centuries, wind and water erosion have sculpted sandstone and soil into a breathtaking array of pillars, cliffs, and mushroom-shaped formations, creating an ethereal environment. Hike along the park's nature trail to experience fascinating geological formations, lush vegetation, and tranquil spots for quiet reflection. The interplay between the rugged landscape and the surrounding forest highlights the balance between human history and wilderness. Phae Mueang Phi is also steeped in folklore, adding an air of mystique. As the day ends, reflect on Phrae's wonders while

settling into one of the city's charming accommodations. The warm hospitality of the locals will make you feel at home. Each attraction offers a unique perspective on Phrae's essence, leaving you with memories that will linger long after your journey.

**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 Province. 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. The serene ambiance and scenic views make it a perfect spot for relaxation and photography. Take a moment to enjoy a peaceful boat ride or simply savor the tranquility of the surroundings.

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. Don't miss the opportunity to explore the art exhibitions and shop for unique souvenirs created by the artist himself.

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. Don't forget to visit the farm's cafe for a refreshing cup of Singha's signature tea and indulge in some delicious local delicacies.

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. The tranquil atmosphere and intricate designs make it a must-visit destination for anyone seeking spiritual solace and artistic inspiration. Take your time to marvel at the detailed murals and sculptures that narrate the rich cultural and religious heritage of the region.



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 will 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, journey to Mae Sai District, Thailand's northernmost district, where the border with Myanmar is marked by the majestic Mae Sai River. This scenic river serves as a natural boundary and adds to the allure of the region. 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. The lively atmosphere is characterized by a maze of stalls selling everything from handmade crafts and traditional clothing to delicious street food and unique trinkets. Engage with the friendly local vendors and experience the cultural richness of this border town.

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.

08:00 AM

Pick up from the hotel.

As your exploration of Chiang Rai nears its end, a visit to Wat Huay Pla Kang awaits. Perched atop a hill, this stunning temple offers breathtaking panoramic views of the surrounding landscape. The temple's architectural marvel is its nine-story, twelve-sided chedi, a unique blend of Chinese and Lanna styles. Its vibrant red roof and two imposing dragon statues create a striking visual spectacle. Inside, the serene sandalwood statue of Goddess Guan Yin Bodhisattva welcomes visitors with her benevolent gaze. The white chapel and the towering 69-meter-tall Guan Yin Bodhisattva statue, accessible by elevator, provide additional vantage points to admire the breathtaking scenery.

The next destination takes you to the enchanting Doi Mae Salong, a region renowned for its picturesque tea plantations. As you ascend the winding roads, the landscape transforms into a patchwork of verdant tea fields, creating a serene and idyllic setting. The meticulous care and dedication of the local farmers are evident in the well-maintained plantations. This picturesque region has a fascinating history, having been settled by Chinese Yunnan immigrants decades ago. Their cultural influence is still visible in the village's architecture and the thriving tea industry. As you stroll through the village, you'll encounter remnants of Chinese culture, transporting you to a distant land. The tranquil atmosphere and the stunning natural beauty make Doi Mae Salong an unforgettable experience.

Embark on a journey to discover the captivating Akha hill tribe, whose villages are nestled amidst the breathtaking natural beauty of northern Thailand. These resilient people, hailing from Southern China, migrated to Myanmar and eventually found their home in Thailand nearly a century ago. Their vibrant culture, rich traditions, and unique way of life continue to thrive in the mountainous regions of Chiang Rai Province. The Akha villages, often perched at high altitudes, offer panoramic views of the surrounding landscapes. Marvel at their traditional architecture, characterized by thatched roofs and bamboo walls, which seamlessly blends with the natural environment. Their vibrant clothing, adorned with intricate silver ornaments and colorful beads, reflects their artistic flair and cultural identity.

Continue your exploration to Ban Tha Ton, a serene border village nestled amidst rolling hills and a gentle river. The cool, year-round climate creates a peaceful atmosphere, perfect for relaxation and cultural immersion. The diverse hill tribes residing in the area have woven a rich cultural tapestry, adding to the village's unique charm. Visit Wat Tha Ton, a temple perched on a hillside, offering breathtaking panoramic views of the surrounding landscape. The temple's nine layers, each housing a sacred religious site, are a testament to its spiritual significance. The central peak, home to the "Phra Chedi Kaew," is a focal point of reverence and admiration. From every vantage point, the picturesque village of Ban Tha Ton, the majestic mountains, and the serene Mae Ai district unfold before your eyes.

Your exploration culminates at Hinoki Land, the first and only hinoki wood kingdom in Thailand. This unique attraction, spread across 33 acres, transports you to Japan through its meticulously crafted architecture and 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 Japanese-inspired 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

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:

- 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.

### Difficulty Levels:

- **Easy** / Moderate / Challenging

### 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.