

Bangkok Travel Guide

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CURRENCY

Our currency is 'Baht'. Normally, we spend around 100-200 Baht for each meal. Shops in department store usually receive credit card. However some shops in the other shopping center, such as MBK, Jatujak market, or Platinum may not receive it. So you need to prepare enough cash during your travel.

BANK NOTE AND COIN

We have 20, 50, 100, 500, and 1000 Baht bank note which is easily notice by its color.

- 20 Baht : Green
- 50 Baht : Blue
- 100 Baht : Red
- 500 Baht : Violet
- 1000 Baht : Grey

For coins, there are 6 types 10 Baht, 5 Baht, 2 Baht, 1 Baht, 50 Sa-tang, and 25 Satang. Normally, you'll get only Baht coins. Sa-tang is used in some supermarket or pharmacy. (1 Baht = 100 Sa-tang)

MONEY EXCHANGE

You can find the best rate just opposite our venue. You can check the exchange rate from <http://www.superrichthailand.com/> or <http://www.superrich1965.com/> (The two links are from two different shop but they are on the same street, just the opposite side.

Google maps [link](#).

WEATHER

We have 3 Seasons in Thailand which are hot, very hot and god da_n hot. ^^"

Opps... Sorry. Actually, we have rainy season, winter and summer. It'll be rainy season during Grand Prix so you guys should bring any possible medicine or allergy with you. Yes, umbrella, too.

But mostly daytime Bangkok is HOT – except when we are in the venue ^O^

Climate data for Bangkok (1961–1990)													
Month	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Year
Record high °C (°F)	35.7 (96.3)	36.6 (97.9)	37.8 (100)	40.0 (104)	39.5 (103.1)	37.7 (99.9)	37.8 (100)	37.0 (98.6)	36.0 (96.8)	35.3 (95.5)	35.1 (95.2)	35.2 (95.4)	40 (104)
Average high °C (°F)	32.0 (89.6)	32.7 (90.9)	33.7 (92.7)	34.9 (94.8)	34.0 (93.2)	33.1 (91.6)	32.7 (90.9)	32.5 (90.5)	32.3 (90.1)	32.0 (89.6)	31.6 (88.9)	31.3 (88.3)	32.7 (90.9)
Daily mean °C (°F)	25.9 (78.6)	27.4 (81.3)	28.7 (83.7)	29.7 (85.5)	29.2 (84.6)	28.7 (83.7)	28.3 (82.9)	28.1 (82.6)	27.8 (82)	27.6 (81.7)	26.9 (80.4)	25.6 (78.1)	27.8 (82)
Average low °C (°F)	21.0 (69.8)	23.3 (73.9)	24.9 (76.8)	26.1 (79)	25.6 (78.1)	25.4 (77.7)	25.0 (77)	24.9 (76.8)	24.6 (76.3)	24.3 (75.7)	23.1 (73.6)	20.8 (69.4)	24.1 (75.4)
Record low °C (°F)	11.5 (52.7)	14.9 (58.8)	15.7 (60.3)	19.9 (67.8)	21.1 (70)	21.7 (71.1)	22.2 (72)	21.2 (70.2)	21.7 (71.1)	18.3 (64.9)	14.2 (57.6)	10.5 (50.9)	10.5 (50.9)
Rainfall mm (inches)	9.1 (0.358)	29.9 (1.177)	28.6 (1.126)	64.7 (2.547)	220.4 (8.677)	149.3 (5.878)	154.5 (6.083)	196.7 (7.744)	344.2 (13.551)	241.6 (9.512)	48.1 (1.894)	9.7 (0.382)	1,496.8 (58.929)
Avg. rainy days (≥ 1 mm)	1	3	3	6	16	16	18	20	21	17	6	1	128
Mean monthly sunshine hours	272.8	251.4	269.7	258.0	217.0	177.0	170.5	161.2	156.0	198.4	234.0	263.5	2,629.5

Source #1: Thai Meteorological Department^[28]

Source #2: Hong Kong Observatory (daily mean, sunshine),^[29] NOAA (extremes)^[30]

Credit : Climate data from Wikipedia

LANGUAGE AND COMMUNICATION

Thai language is hard for foreigner to pronounce, but not that hard. Here is a basic guide. Don't be worry. ^^"

Most Thai people understand English word but don't speak well. So, speak slowly when communicate with them. Ending your sentence with Krub or Ka (meaning as 'sir' in english) makes your conversation more polite. 'Krub' is for Male to say and 'Ka' is for Female.

Ex. Thank you, sir -> Kob-Kun-Mak-Krub (for Male)

WORDS FOR DAILY LIFE

English	Thai pronunciation	Thai
Hello	Sa-Wat-dee	สวัสดี
Thank You (very much)	Kob-Kun-(Mak)	ขอบคุณ (มาก)
No problem	Mai-Pen-Rai	ไม่เป็นไร
Go to ____	Pai-____	ไป____
This	Aun-Nee	อันนี้
That	Aun-NuN	อันนั้น
____ Street	Tha-Non ____	ถนน____
Hot	RoN	ร้อน
Cold	YeN	เย็น
How much (does it cost)?	(Ra-Ka)-Tou-Rai	(ราคา) เท่าไหร่
Toilet	Hong-Nam	ห้องน้ำ
Faster	Lew-Lew	เร็วๆ
Slower	Cha-Cha	ช้าๆ

NUMBER

Number	Thai pronunciation	Thai
1	Nueng	หนึ่ง
2	Song	สอง
3	Sam	สาม
4	Se	สี่
5	Ha	ห้า
6	Hok	หก
7	Jed	เจ็ด
8	Padd	แปด
9	Kaw	เก้า
10	Sipp	สิบ
11	Sipp-Ed	สิบเอ็ด
12	Sipp-Song	สิบสอง
20	Yi-Sipp	ยี่สิบ
30	Sam-Sipp	สามสิบ
100	(Nueng)-Roi	(หนึ่ง)ร้อย
200	Song-Roi	สองร้อย
1,000	(Nueng)-Pan	(หนึ่ง)พัน
10,000	(Nueng)-Meun	(หนึ่ง)หมื่น

RECOMMENDED DISHES

ผัดไทย - Pad Thai

(Thin rice noodles fried with tofu, vegetable, egg and peanuts)



แกงเขียวหวานไก่ - Kang Keaw Wan Kai

(Chicken green curry)



ต้มข่าไก่ - Tom Kha Kai

(Soup with chicken, galanga root and coconut)



ต้มยำกุ้ง - Tom Yam Goong

(Prawn and lemon grass soup with mushrooms)



พะแนง - Panaeng

(Savory curry with chicken/beef)



หมูสะเต๊ะ - Moo Sa-Te

(Grilled Pork Sticks with Turmeric)



ส้มตำ - Som Tam

(Spicy green papaya salad)



ไก่ผัดเม็ดมะม่วงหิมพานต์ - Gai Pad Met Mamuang

(Chicken fried with cashew nuts)



TRANSPORTATION



For more information please contact Customer Relations Center Tel : 0 2624 5200 or www.bangkokmetro.co.th

Credit: <http://www.bangkokmetro.co.th>

MRT

Subway train that cross over a lot of places in Bangkok. You can change to BTS on Asoke station or Chatuchak Park station.

The operating hour is 6am until midnight. For more information please visit

<http://www.bangkokmetro.co.th/>

BTS

BTS is skytrain which passes through business area of Bangkok. The service starts from 6am – midnight. You can find more information from <http://www.bts.co.th>

TAXI

The most popular way to travel around Bangkok for tourist, but the traffic may annoy you. Just don't forget to ask the driver to turn on meter or else you'll get unreasonable price.

Some taxi drivers do not speak English so if you want to take a taxi, it's better to write a place in Thai and show it to the driver.

TUK-TUK (TRI-CYCLE TAXI)

It's a travel experience to ride on a tuk-tuk (kind of adventurous). It carries only 2-3 persons at a time. Nowadays tuk-tuk is not cheap transportation anymore. Price depends on distance and traffic. However, the reasonable price should not exceed 100 Baht for 2-3 Km. The most important thing when talking to the driver is to bargain.



GOOGLE MAP GUIDE

<https://maps.google.co.th/maps/ms?msid=204792272941507558896.0004da7f2f713b9428bb4&msa=0&ll=13.729625,100.536366&spn=0.006582,0.002784>

I list and address all things that I think may useful for you guy in this 'Map'. I will try to update as much as possible till very end.

If you guys want to go some way special, you may request to me direct or leave message to our Local Judge. I will try my best.

MISCELLANEOUS

Electricity 220V, 50Hz

Time zone GMT +7

Country code +66

VENUE INFORMATION

GRAND PRIX

Central World LIVE

8th Floor, Zone A – Atrium, Ratchaprasong Intersection, Patumwan, Bangkok, Thailand 10330

Central World (CTW) is a famous shopping centre in Bangkok. You can find a lot of shops here, including restaurants, clothing, sportswear, shoes, bank, electricity, musical instruments, or even furniture.

You can go there by BTS. It's between Siam station and Chitlom station. You can take the exit from either way. If you exit at Siam station, on one side is Siam Paragon, another shopping centre. On the other side is Siam Square, another shopping place where teenagers like to gather together.

JUDGE CONFERENCE

Big Magic, [Esplanade Cineplex](#)

4th Floor, Unit 409, 99 Ratchadapisek Road, Kwaeng Din Daeng, Khet Dindaeng, Bangkok, Thailand 10400

Esplanade Cineplex is a shopping centre in Ratchada area. The easiest way to come here is by MRT. Just exit at Thailand Cultural Centre station and take exit 3. After you walk up the stairs turn around and you'll see the mall.

JUDGE HOTEL

Dream Hotel Bangkok

10 Sukhumvit Soi 15, Klong Toey Nua Wattana, Bangkok 10110, Thailand

The most convenient way to go there from Don Meung airport (DMK) is to take taxi. If you land at Suvarnabhumi airport, you have choice between take taxi or take Airport rail link then transfer to BTS at Phaya Thai Station. (For more detail about Airport rail link, please see <http://www.srtet.co.th/en/index.html>)

Laem Chareon Seafood (300-1000 THB)

Laem Chareon has a branch in Central World 4th Floor. It provides a variety of seafood dishes at reasonable price. You probably want to try its 'Fried Snapper with Sweet Fish Sauce (ปลากระพงทอดราดน้ำปลา – Pla Krapong Tod Rad Nampla),' and it is generally a good idea to bring some friends so that you can share dishes.

Somboon Seafood (300-800 THB)

Somboon claims that it has 'the Original Fried Curry Crab.' It's that same kind of restaurants as Laem Chareon. There is branch in Chamchuri Square, right next to Samyan MRT station.

<http://www.somboonseafood.com/ourmenu.html>

Kab Kao Kab Pla (250-500 THB)

Located on 6th floor of Central World you can find this Thai Fusion restaurant. The owner is the same with iBerry ice-cream, which arguably has the best varieties of fruit sorbets in Bangkok. If available, santol sorbet is highly recommended.

See Fah (200-500 THB)

You can find a branch of this Thai and Chinese restaurant on 6th floor of Central World. It's a pretty old franchise, starting its first branch in 1936.

<http://www.seefah.com/products/seefah-restaurant/foods/specialties>

Ging Kalpapreuk (250-500 THB)

You can find Ging Kalpapreuk on 6th floor of Central World. It has a selection of Thai dishes at a relatively affordable price.

**Ban Khunying (200-500 THB)**

This restaurant offers Thai Fusion dishes. It is quite popular among college students. It has a branch in Terminal 21 (Asok BTS) and Siam Center (Siam BTS).

<http://www.manager.co.th/CelebOnline/ViewNews.aspx?NewsID=9540000078337>

Terminal 21 Food Court (50-150 THB)

Terminal 21 is located right next to Asok BTS station. It has a number of famous Thai restaurants in its food court offering a meal at relatively economic price.

After You Café (200-400 THB)

This café has a really long line most of time. You probably have to wait an hour or so during rush hour. Nonetheless, it is among the best dessert places in Bangkok. Try their Shibuya Honey Toast. There is branch in Siam Paragon Ground Floor.

<http://www.afteryoudessertcafe.com/product.php?id=42>

Maidreamin (400-800 THB)

Thailand recently has a branch of Maidreamin opened up in Gateway Mall (Ekkamai BTS). It's typical maid café. It is quite an interesting choice for those who don't really want to go all the way to Japan to experience one.

Nara (300-600 THB)

Nara is one among the best franchise restaurants. There is a branch on 6th Floor of Central World.

Khun Churn Vegetarian (300-500 THB)

If you wonder what Thai vegetarian dishes would be like, try Khun Churn. It has a branch in Bangkok Mediplex (Ekkamai BTS).

**Fuji and Zen (depends on what you order)**

Fuji and Zen is a well-known Japanese Restaurant.

Saboten (300 – 400THB)

Saboten is a Japanese tonkatsu restaurant. It offers food in set and you can request more rice, tea and cabbage slice. Review is [here](#).

Bar-B-Q Plaza

Bar-B-Q Plaza is a grill restaurant (not buffet sorry). The meat are prepare in a ready to eat shape. The topping is also very special, too.

BUFFET

Judges eat a lot. I heard it many times. So, maybe you guys prefer buffet. There are plenty of great buffet in Bangkok. I would recommend the place that easy to access for you guys.

Oishi Grand Buffet: 750 - 1000THB

Oishi Grand Buffet is International – Japanese buffet that offer you a lot of food. The restaurant is at 2nd floor of Siam Discovery. You can walk from venue like 10-15 minute

Sizzler Salad Buffet: 300 THB or more

Sizzler is a stake and salad buffet. (Stake is not buffet) The price is different depend on which menu you choose. The drink has soft drink refill for around 60 THB. If you like veggie or feel you want to eat veggie, you may try here.

Mo mo paradise: 500 – 750 THB

Mo mo paradise is a very good all-you-can-eat hot pot buffet. Even you just walk pass the restaurant, you will smell the soup and feel you want to try it once. The buffet price also includes drink but only the most expensive menu will include desert.

MK Gold: 425/475 THB

MK Gold is one of my favourite Suki buffet. You can see review [here](#) instead of let me explain you. However, this buffet only available on weekdays (11-5pm 425THB and 5pm-8pm 475THB). Drink and desert also included.

Tokusen: 330-550 THB

Tokusen is another favourite grill buffet of mine in mall. Review is [here](#). Buffet also includes drink, desert and fruit.

King Kong: 500THB

Similar to Tokusen, King Kong is another yakiniku buffet with more options of food (definitely because it's more expensive). You can see a review [here](#). Anyway, you have to walk 8-15 minute from venue. It's close to BTS Chitlom station and only 5 minutes' walk from the station. The restaurant is [here](#).

MTG SHOP

BIG MAGIC TOURNAMENT CENTER

Do you know Zack? This is his shop. We will run a seminar here, too.

How to go there: Take MRT to Thailand Cultural Station. Take an Exit No.3 and turn around when you out from the MRT. You will see an Esplanade Shopping Mall. Take an escalator (or elevator if you can find ☺) to 4th floor. Its not hard to find it at 4th floor, you know.

MJ SPORTS CARDS AND OTHER SHOPS AT MRT JATUJAK

If you want to see combo shop like 4 shops at once then you should go here. MJ Sportcard Shop locates at MRT Chatuchak. Inside MRT, there is a shopping area called metro mall. In MRT Chatuchak you can find not only MJ Sport card but there are other card shop – iPlayCard, Nexus, Magic Night Life and Kitty Card. The last two shops might not open every day.

MY MAGIC

Do you want to draft? Ok maybe you want to draft after the GP finish. So, just go to MyMagic. This shop is mostly dedicate to draft and always have draft like 1-2 pods every day!

How to go there: Take BTS to Victory Monument station and walk to Century Movie Plaza. MyMagic shop locate at basement floor closed to the stair. There are 2 stairs at basement floor. If you can find the shop, maybe it's just the other side.

ATTRACTION

WAT PHRA KAEW AND THE GRAND PALACE (วัดพระแก้ว) *DAYTIME ONLY*



The revered Emerald Buddha. A 26-inch-high (66-centimeter-high) image actually carved from solid jade, is housed within the now disused royal palace. It is Traditional Thai architecture at its finest.

Tip: The dress code, banning bare shoulders, sandals, and shorts or short skirts, is strictly enforced. Don't believe the unscrupulous gem hawkers who will tell you that the palace is shut.

- Website : www.palace.thai.net
- How to get there :
 - TAXI : ask for 'Wat-Phra-Kaew' (วัดพระแก้ว)
 - Boat : from Where you are, (I assume you all @ GP Venue)
 - Take a boat from : 'Phra-Too-Num' Station
 - Go to 'Pan-Phah-Lee-Lad' Station
 - From here you may walk or Call 'CAB'

CHA-TU-CHAK BAZAAR (สวนจตุจักร) *ONLY WEEKEND, 10AM – 8PM*

"If you're here on the weekend it's a must, but prepare to be exhausted."—Mason Florence, founder and publisher, Bangkok 101 magazine. With 15,000 stalls and stores, the Weekend Market (known locally as "JJ") is a vast, sauna-like retail extravaganza. Open weekends only.

- How to get there : BTS @ Mo-Chit Station

YAO-WA-RAD (CHINA TOWN; เยาวราช)

Buzzing Chinatown is packed with restaurants, street stalls, centuries-old markets, gold vendors, and some of Bangkok's best street food. Combine a trip with a visit to Wat Trai-Mit and the Golden Buddha.

Tip: Find the "thieves" market and the Sikh temple and climb to the top for fantastic late afternoon views over the district and Chao Phraya River.

If you want to go, I recommended being there after 18:00. (Lot of food and people will come here)

- How to get there :
 - MRT : go to 'Hua-Lam-Plong' Station. From here, you may take a walk about 10-15mins to there or call 'CAB'
 - TAXI : ask for 'Tha-Non-You-Wa-Rat' or You may ask for Chinatown.

SILOM ROAD (NIGHT SHOPPING STREET)

It's good for who people who want to buy cheap and Night-Seeing ^^". This street have lot of food, stuff, souvenir, cloths and night bar for who love night life... ^^"

- How to get there :
 - BTS : go to 'Sa-La-Dang' Station
 - MRT : go to 'Si-Lom' Station

SIAM NIRAMIT

Siam Niramit is a one of the largest stage productions in the world, performing the art and culture of Thailand. The attractions also include outdoor replication of villages from the four regions of Thailand, traditional Thai massage, elephant riding and feed, as well as souvenir shops. For more information, please look at: <http://www.siamniramit.com/index.php>

AMPHAWA FLOATING MARKET

The canal-side way of life in Amphawa takes place along the waterfront walkways of Amphawa Canal, a small tributary of the Mae Khlong River. Every weekend Thais flock to the Amphawa Floating Market, as big queues emerge along the canal's bridges and walkways. While commercially developed, the old wooden houses and shopfronts retain some of their original charm.

Most visitors come to Amphawa on a day-trip from Bangkok. You can take the fast van direct to Damernsdauk and get off at Amphawa from Victory Monument under the express way, but a bus from the Southern Bus Terminal might be a safer option but you have to take the bus to Smoot Songkhram first and switch onto a songthaew or bus heading for Amphawa. Ask the locals, as buses are only signed in Thai and songthaews don't have any signs at all. The ride will take about 15 minutes and it is obvious where to get off.

Amphawa is immensely popular among Thai visitors from Bangkok, so expect all the hotels to be sold out in weekends. If you really want a room during this time, it is absolutely necessary to book at least a week in advance. If you haven't done this and still want to stay over, you might want to try one of the so-called "homestays" in and around the floating market. Or you can visit as a day trip from Bangkok, as most people do.

Source: <http://wikitravel.org/en/Amphawa>

MALLS IN VENUE AREA

Our venue area is very centre of the city. It's a huge area that you can walk around.

- **MBK (Ma Boon Krong)** is a shopping mall with variety of merchandise for sell.
- **Siam Discovery and Siam Paragon** is the next shopping building that you can find a good cuisine as well as something to shopping.
- **Siam Square** is the opposite of Siam Discovery and Siam Paragon. It's an open area that many Thai teen and adult likely to hanging around. There are a lot of chic stuff for sale (beware, no cheap)
- **Central world (CTW)** is our venue. We have two malls in here, Zen and Isetan.
- **Platinum Fashionmall** is a department store that totally dedicated to clothing. You can find cheap clothes here.
- **Pantip Plaza** is the last stop of this area. You can find computer and IT stuffs here.

How to go there: walk distant from venue

MASSAGE

The massage and spa center in hotels or plazas almost all have good quality, although come with high price. So, don't be afraid to walk inside these, you would be appreciating in their service.

HEALTH LAND SPA

This spa has many branches, and all of them have their good standard quality. The recommended course is Thai massage (500 Bt/2hr). If you buy a package (10 courses of Thai massages), it will be 400 Bt/2hr (you must ask the reception about this package then share these 10 coupons with other people).