amazing THAILAND

Discover Thailand's Highlights

E-NEWS

VIBRANT • EXOTIC • CULTURAL

OCTOBER 2026 • ISSUE



TAT KL

Sawasdee to All Readers!

Thank you for reading the e-newsletter of the Tourism Authority of Thailand, Kuala Lumpur. We bring you the highlights of Amazing Thailand.
Happy Reading!

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TAT KL E-News October 20206 Issue



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SPECIAL *Highlights*

Loy Krathong 2026: Celebrate Thailand's Timeless Tradition



Loy Krathong Festival is one of Thailand's most beautiful and enchanting cultural celebrations, usually held on the full moon night of the 12th lunar month, around November. During the festival, people gather along rivers, canals and lakes to float small decorated "krathong", traditionally made from banana leaves, flowers, candles and incense.

The celebration represents gratitude to the water, respect for nature, and the symbolic release of worries and misfortunes. Across Thailand, visitors can enjoy illuminated waterways, traditional performances, cultural activities, and festive events, making Loy Krathong a memorable experience of Thai culture and hospitality.

This year – 2026, the celebration falls on November 24. Find your way to Thailand during this celebration to be immersed in the light of gratitude.

SPECIAL *Highlights*

Loy Krathong 2026: Celebrate Thailand's Timeless Tradition



Major places to experience the festival include:

Sukhothai – One of Thailand's most iconic Loy Krathong destinations. The Loy Krathong, Burning Candles and Playing with Fire Festival 2026 is scheduled for 15–24 November 2026 at Sukhothai Historical Park, featuring illuminated ancient monuments, cultural performances and historical shows.

Chiang Mai – Celebrated alongside the northern Thai Yi Peng Festival, with Lanna lantern decorations, cultural performances, and krathong floating along the Ping River. City celebrations are reported for 23–25 November 2026, while organised Yi Peng mass lantern events are scheduled for 24–25 November.

Sukhothai – One of Thailand's most iconic Loy Krathong destinations. The Loy Krathong, Burning Bangkok – Loy Krathong celebrations are traditionally held at riverside locations along the Chao Phraya River, public parks and waterfront attractions.

Ayutthaya – The historic city is another popular setting, particularly around the Ayutthaya Historical Park and riverside areas. In 2025, the programme featured the Maha Loi Krathong @ Ayutthaya celebration, although the detailed 2026 programme is still awaiting confirmation.
Tak – Famous for its distinctive Loi Krathong Sai tradition, where numerous small illuminated krathongs create a glowing chain along the Ping River.

Other destinations – Loy Krathong is celebrated throughout Thailand, including Phuket, Krabi, Hat Yai/Songkhla, Pattaya, Chiang Rai, and many provincial towns, usually around rivers, lakes, beaches, and community areas.

Follow us for more updates!

FESTIVAL & *Events*



October Event and Calendar





October continues to bring a diverse of cultural, spiritual, and international events across Thailand, with festivals and activities continuing in many destinations across Thailand. Highlights include the American Fair, Sattha The Power of Faith, Bun Sart Duean Sip: HOME I COMING, and the San Don Ta Festival: Ancestor Worship Ceremony 2026. Together with many other events nationwide, these celebrations showcase Thailand's cultural heritage and community spirit while offering visitors opportunities to enjoy various experiences.







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FESTIVAL & *Events*

TAT illuminates VIJIT Thailand 2026 across three distinctive regions



The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) is staging VIJIT Thailand 2026 in Lamphun, Trang and Roi Et from 25 September to 18 October, with an expanded regional format shaped around each destination's identity. Light & Sound, projection illumination, 3D mapping, drone displays, and cultural performances reinterpret local heritage, nature, and culture while extending evening activity, encouraging regional travel, and generating income for local businesses and communities. Lamphun, Trang and Roi Et reinterpret distinctive regional identities through immersive cultural performances and creative technology.

VIJIT Thailand 2026 presents 10 curated installations or experience points in each destination;

VIJIT @LAMPHUN runs from 25 September to 4 October, from 17.00 to 24.00 hrs., across Lamphun Old Town. Under the concept "The Eternal Kingdom of Hariphunchai", 10 illuminated locations connect its history, Buddhist heritage, faith, and architecture through contemporary light art, multimedia, and cultural performances.

VIJIT @TRANG runs from 2 to 11 October, 17.00 to 22.00 hrs, at Chaloem Phrakiat 95 Public Park in Mueang Trang. Under a "Trang Lights Alive" theme, the lakeside park features 10 illuminated experiences that draw on Trang's natural environment, local symbols, and multicultural character.

VIJIT @Roi Et Illumination runs from 9 to 18 October, from 17.00 to 24.00 Hrs., at Bueng Phlan Chai. Its 10 installations explore faith, beliefs, and Isan cultural identity through illumination, mapping, lasers, mist, LED displays, and sound, with an opening-night fireworks display at 19.30 Hrs. on 9 October.

Peek INTO THAILAND

The Charms of the North

Places to Go: Chiang Mai



- Chiang Mai Night Safari
- Doi Inthanon
- Chiang Mai Night Bazaar
- Café hopping

Places to Go: Chiang Rai

- White Temple, Blue Temple and the Black House
- Singha Park
- Golden Triangle
- Phu Chi Fa
- Mae Fah Luang Garden



Places to Go: Mae Hong Son



- Pai
- Ban Rak Thai
- Pang Ung

Peek INTO THAILAND

The Charms of the North

Places to Go: Sukhothai



- UNESCO Word Heritage Site Historical Park

Places to Go: Lampang

- Wat Chaloem Phra Kiat
- Chae Son National Park



Activities to Do: Enjoy Flower



Forget Japan, enjoy Sakura and many other flowers in Northern Thailand during the cool season. See the Sakura's in Doi Ang Khang in Chiang Mai, enjoy the covered hills full of Bua Thong in Mae Hong Son and many different flower farms in the North.

Peek INTO THAILAND

The Charms of the North

Activities to Do: Hunting for a Sea of Mist



Northern Thailand landscapes offer many places to experience the sea of mist or called Talay Mok, especially during the cool season. Enjoy the spectacular view from Doi Inthanon in Chiang Mai, Phu Chi Fa in Chiang Rai and also Ban Rak Thai in Mae Hong Son to name a few.

Activities to Do: Hiking & Trekking

Northern Thailand have many hilly landscapes and forests to trek and hike. The cooling weather in the end of the year makes the experience much more enjoyable. A hike up Thailand's highest peak, Doi Inthanon would be a highlight.



Activities to Do: Loy Krathong & Yi Peng



There isn't a more prominent place to enjoy the Loy Krathong Festival than in Northern Thailand. Enjoy it together with the lantern festival in Chiang Mai or even visit the historical birthplace in Sukhothai.

Peek INTO THAILAND

The Charms of the North

Activities to Do: Soaking in Hot Springs



Cooling wind on the face & warm water on the body, nothing is more relaxing feeling than that. Enjoy soaking hot springs in Pai or in Lampang at the Chae Son National Park.

What To Eat: Khao Soi

A representative dish of Northern Thailand, it is an aromatic, creamy coconut-curry egg noodle soup topped with crunchy deep-fried noodles and typically served with tender chicken drumsticks or braised beef.



What To Eat: Sai Oua (Northern Thai Sausage)



A grilled pork sausage packed with minced lemongrass, kaffir lime leaves, galangal, shallots, and red chili paste. It is incredibly fragrant, intensely flavorful, and has a pleasant, lingering kick of heat. Some places in Northern Thailand make it with chicken and beef as well.

Peek INTO THAILAND

The Charms of the North

What To Eat: Coffee & Tea



As replacement crops for opium poppy cultivation, the region's high altitudes, cool mountain climates, and rich volcanic soil create perfect microclimates for cultivating premium Arabica coffee beans and unique tea varieties.

What To Eat: Khantoke

A centuries-old Northern Thai dining tradition. The word itself refers to a small, low, round pedestal tray or table—traditionally made of teakwood, bamboo, or rattan—used by the Lanna people to serve family-style meals.



NEWS & *Announcements*

Thailand introduces new 30-day and 15-day visa exemption rules from 15 September



The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) advises foreign visitors that new 30-day and 15-day visa exemption categories, together with updated Visa on Arrival eligibility, will take effect on 15 September 2026. The new framework will replace Thailand's 60-day visa exemption measure, which will end on the same date.

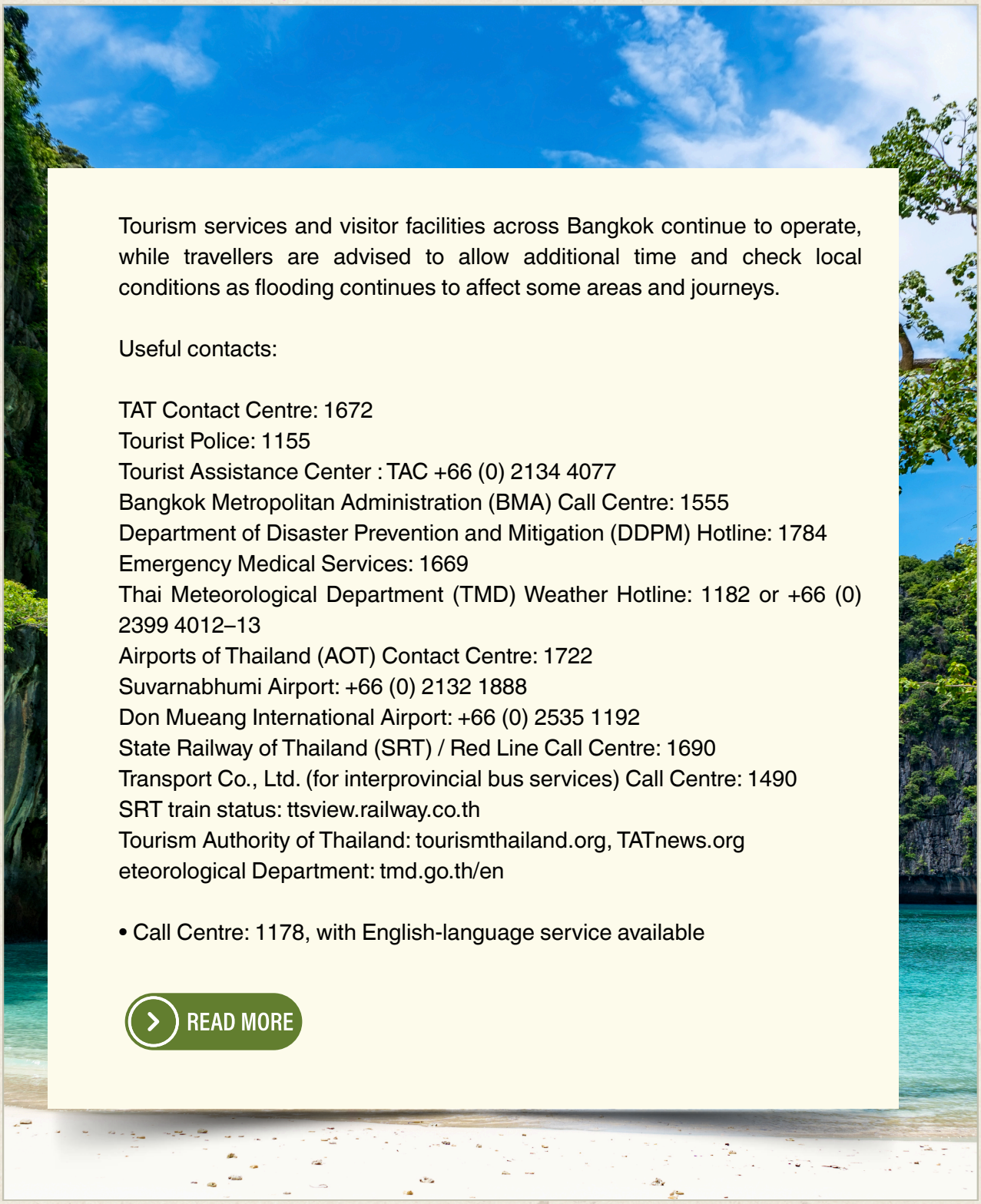
The related Ministry of Interior announcements were published in the Royal Gazette on 31 August 2026. Royal Gazette publication confirms the end of the 60-day visa exemption and sets out updated 30-day and 15-day stay periods and Visa on Arrival eligibility.

Under the new framework, holders of passports or travel documents from 60 countries and territories will be eligible for visa exemption for tourism, with a permitted stay of up to 30 days.

READ MORE

NEWS & *Announcements*

Weather and travel conditions in Bangkok and surrounding areas – Visitor information



Tourism services and visitor facilities across Bangkok continue to operate, while travellers are advised to allow additional time and check local conditions as flooding continues to affect some areas and journeys.

Useful contacts:

TAT Contact Centre: 1672
Tourist Police: 1155
Tourist Assistance Center : TAC +66 (0) 2134 4077
Bangkok Metropolitan Administration (BMA) Call Centre: 1555
Department of Disaster Prevention and Mitigation (DDPM) Hotline: 1784
Emergency Medical Services: 1669
Thai Meteorological Department (TMD) Weather Hotline: 1182 or +66 (0) 2399 4012–13
Airports of Thailand (AOT) Contact Centre: 1722
Suvarnabhumi Airport: +66 (0) 2132 1888
Don Mueang International Airport: +66 (0) 2535 1192
State Railway of Thailand (SRT) / Red Line Call Centre: 1690
Transport Co., Ltd. (for interprovincial bus services) Call Centre: 1490
SRT train status: ttsview.railway.co.th
Tourism Authority of Thailand: tourismthailand.org, TATnews.org
eteorological Department: tmd.go.th/en

• Call Centre: 1178, with English-language service available

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NEWS & *Announcements*

Thailand introduces enhanced baggage screening procedures: information for air travellers





The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) advises passengers departing from airports in Thailand with checked baggage on or after 16 October 2026 to check the latest information from their airline, departure airport, and the Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT), especially rules regarding prohibited items and checked baggage requirements. CAAT announces revised security measures for checked baggage at airports in Thailand, effective 16 October 2026.

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AMAZING *Deals*

Reimagined Sathorn Vista, Bangkok – Marriott Executive Apartments

Located in the central financial business district, Sathorn Vista, Bangkok – Marriott Executive Apartments, were designed for guests who value space and privacy. Sathorn Vista offers newly renovated one- to three-bedroom apartments ranging from 65–165 sqm in the heart of the Sathorn/Silom CBD.

The spacious residential-style accommodation is particularly suitable not only for leisure travelers and families, but also for business travelers and guests looking for longer stays in Bangkok. Easy access with a convenient walking distance from both Chong Nonsi BTS Station and Lumpini MRT Station.

Classic Room





3-Bedroom

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Timeless Thai Wellness Experience

Founded in 2001, Divana was created by two visionary leaders with a belief that true wellbeing begins from within. The journey began with the opening of the first Divana Spa in Sukhumvit, Bangkok, envisioned as an "Oasis of Healing in the Heart of the City." Divana was among the first to introduce luxury Thai spa experiences that preserved authentic Thai identity while meeting global standards.

Divana offers a refined luxury Thai spa experience rooted in authentic healing traditions, nature-inspired aromatherapy, and modern wellness rituals, trusted by travellers seeking the best spa in Bangkok and premium spa destinations across Thailand.

Enjoy an instant 10% discount when you book and pay online. Relax at Divana and take the feeling home.

4-Hand Theraphy





Aurora of Ayothaya

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