

DISCOVER THAILAND'S HIGHLIGHTS
SEPTEMBER 2026

E-NEWS



TOURISM AUTHORITY OF THAILAND
KUALA LUMPUR OFFICE

VIBRANT . EXOTIC . CULTURAL

WWW.TOURISMTHAILAND.MY

TAT KL E-Newsletter

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!

UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE LIST: WAT PHRA MAHATHAT WORAMAHAWIHAN



Great news for all Thais to celebrate with pride!

Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan in Nakhon Si Thammarat was officially inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List as a Cultural World Heritage Site on 25 July 2026.

This World Heritage inscription affirms the outstanding value of a civilisation, artistic tradition, and enduring faith that have flourished continuously for more than a thousand years. It also ensures that this precious cultural legacy will continue to be appreciated, celebrated, and safeguarded by the people of Thailand and by visitors from around the world for generations to come.

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Special Highlights

Thailand invites visitors to witness the Royal Barge Procession 2026 and rehearsals on Bangkok's Chao Phraya River

Visitors and members of the public are invited to witness the Royal Barge Procession 2026 and its rehearsals along the Chao Phraya River in Bangkok. From the first rehearsal on 17 August through to the Royal Kathin Ceremony on 6 November, these occasions offer a rare opportunity to observe one of Thailand's most historic royal traditions.

The Royal Barge Procession will take place on 6 November 2026 for the Royal Kathin Ceremony at Wat Arun Ratchawararam, as part of the celebrations on the auspicious occasion of Her Majesty Queen Suthida Bajrasudhabimalalakshana's fourth-cycle, or 48th, birthday anniversary on 3 June 2026. During the ceremony, His Majesty the King will present Kathin robes to Buddhist monks in Her Majesty's honour.

Twelve rehearsals from 17 August to 28 October lead to the Royal Kathin Ceremony on 6 November, offering visitors and the public multiple opportunities to witness this living royal heritage.



Special Highlights

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ROYAL BARGE PROCESSION 2026

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE



Mini Rehearsals
10 sessions



Full Rehearsals
2 sessions

AUGUST

17 August 2026

20 August 2026

27 August 2026

SEPTEMBER

3 September 2026

8 September 2026

17 September 2026

23 September 2026

OCTOBER

2 October 2026

8 October 2026

15 October 2026

Full-dress rehearsals
21 October 2026

Full-dress rehearsals
28 October 2026

ROYAL BARGE PROCESSION CEREMONY

Friday,
6 November
2026

VIEWING POINTS

The public can view the rehearsals and the ceremony at the designated areas along both sides of the Chao Phraya River, from Krung Thon Bridge to Wat Arun

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Festivals & Events



September brings a diverse selection of cultural, artistic, and musical experiences across Thailand. Highlights include Saneh Si San Sawankhalok and Colors of Thai Thai, celebrating local creativity and cultural identity. Visitors can explore “Muang Kao Lao Rueang Art” under the concept “Saneh Thai: Feel All the Feelings @ Ratchaburi”, while music lovers can enjoy the Feel All the Feelings @ Uthai Thani Music Festival 2026. The Music and Night at the Museum #5: Songkhla Motifs offers an engaging evening of music, heritage, and museum experiences, alongside many other events nationwide.



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Festivals & Events

✨ Bangkok Named Host for Ultra Thailand 2027: Southeast Asia's Debut for Ultra-Luxury Travel 💎



The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) has officially partnered with Private Luxury Events to host Ultra 2027 in Thailand, marking the prestigious event's first-ever edition in Asia.

 Date: 20-24 June 2027

 Venue: Four Seasons Hotel Bangkok at Chao Phraya River

This invitation-only event will bring together top-tier global buyers—including family offices, celebrity agents, and executive advisors—connecting Thailand's luxury travel sector with an influential network serving Ultra-High-Net-Worth Individuals (UHNWIs).

 Key Highlights:
Global Wealth Hub: Aligning with Knight Frank's projection of over 50% growth in Bangkok's UHNW population by 2030.

Redefining Thai Luxury: Highlighting "Healing is the New Luxury," centered around wellness, world-class gastronomy, arts, and the legendary warmth of nam jai (Thai hospitality).

High-Value Tourism: Unlocking new commercial opportunities for Thai tourism partners in the global luxury market.

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Peek Into Thailand

Dive Thailand: Discover a World Beneath the Waves



Thailand is one of Asia's most captivating diving destinations, offering crystal-clear waters, colourful coral reefs, dramatic underwater landscapes and an incredible diversity of marine life.

From the world-famous dive sites of the Andaman Sea to the warm tropical waters of the Gulf of Thailand, divers can encounter vibrant reef fish, sea turtles, majestic manta rays and, in season, magnificent whale sharks.

Whether you are taking your first underwater adventure or searching for an unforgettable dive expedition, Thailand offers experiences for every level—from relaxed coral gardens and shallow reefs to thrilling wrecks, pinnacles and deep-water sites.

With beautiful islands, professional dive centres and warm Thai hospitality, every dive becomes part of an extraordinary journey.

Thailand — where paradise above the water is only the beginning.

Diving into some of exciting site in Thailand;



Peek Into Thailand

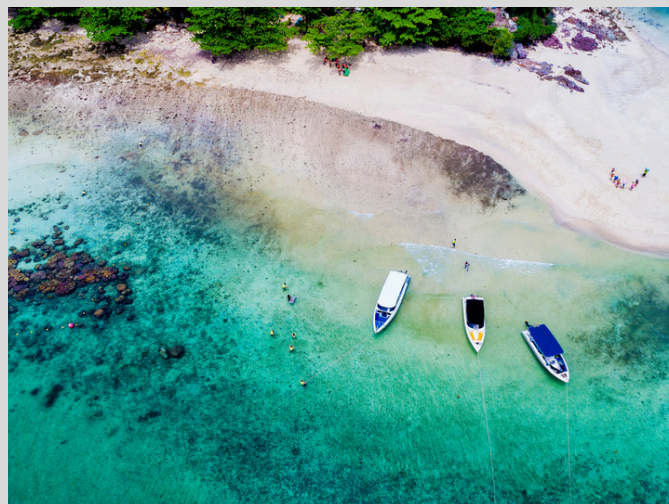
Chonburi & Pattaya

Diving close to the city. Located in the Eastern part of Thailand. One of Thailand's most accessible diving areas from Bangkok. Dive around Ko Rin, Ko Larn, Pattaya Islands and Samaesan, where divers can explore coral reefs, rocky formations and several fascinating shipwrecks. Ko Rin is particularly known for hard corals and rare purple soft corals.



Hin Phloeng (Flaming Rock)

Located in Rayong, Hin Phleong is a spectacular offshore pinnacle site consisting of large underwater rock formations. Highlights include hard and soft corals, sea fans, sea anemone gardens, barracuda, batfish and lionfish, with possible whale shark encounters. Its offshore location can also provide excellent visibility.



Ko Chang

Combines colourful tropical reefs with excellent wreck diving. The famous HTMS Chang has developed into an artificial reef filled with marine life, while nearby reef areas offer corals, tropical fish and relaxed diving away from busier destinations. Located in Trat with easy accessible from Bangkok.



Chumphon

Located on the upper southern Thailand, Chumphon is the gateway between mainland Thailand and the islands of the Gulf. Dive sites feature rocky pinnacles, coral reefs, large schools of fish and wrecks, including areas around Ko Ngam Noi and Ko Ngam Yai.



Peek Into Thailand

Ko Tao

One of Thailand's best-known diving islands and a major centre for learning to scuba dive. Popular sites include Chumphon Pinnacle, Southwest Pinnacle, Twins and White Rock, with coral gardens, barracuda, reef fish, turtles and occasional whale sharks. Ko Tao located in Suratthani, make it accessible from Hatyai or Songkhla.



South Andaman

South Andaman like Phuket, Krabi, Ko Lanta, Trang and Satun are famous for spectacular island scenery above and below the water. Key areas include Phi Phi, Ko Lanta, Ko Haa, Hin Daeng, Hin Muang and Ko Lipe. Expect dramatic walls, colourful soft corals, large schools of fish and opportunities to encounter manta rays and whale sharks.



North Andaman

Home to some of Thailand's most celebrated diving such as Phang Nga Province, extending north from Phuket/Khao Lak. The Similan Islands, Ko Bon, Ko Tachai, Surin Islands and Richelieu Rock feature granite formations, colourful reefs, sea fans and abundant marine life. Richelieu Rock is particularly renowned for its extraordinary biodiversity and encounters with large pelagic species.



Koh Losin

Located on the lower south of Thailand in offshore of Pattani, is one of Thailand's most remote diving adventures. This tiny rocky outcrop sits far offshore and is surrounded by healthy coral habitats and open-ocean marine life. Its remoteness makes it especially attractive to experienced divers seeking manta rays, whale sharks, sharks and large schools of pelagic fish.



Peek Into Thailand

Taste Thailand's South by Season with Southern MUST TASTE Thai Fruits



Exploring Southern Thailand by season through local fruit, GI produce and travel experiences across its 14 provinces. Southern Thailand may be best known for its beaches and islands, but its orchards reveal another side of the region. Through Southern MUST TASTE Thai Fruits, the Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) inspires travellers to plan their journeys around the fruits in season across the South's 14 provinces, pairing distinctive local fruits with orchard visits, community experiences, nature, culture and nearby attractions.

This approach also reflects TAT's Value over Volume focus on creating greater value from tourism. By bringing locally distinctive produce – particularly Geographical Indication (GI) products – into the travel experience, the initiative helps connect tourism more closely with growers, local businesses and communities, while encouraging travel beyond established destinations and throughout the year.

Peek Into Thailand

Taste Thailand's South by Season with Southern MUST TASTE Thai Fruits

Follow the fruit calendar

The Southern MUST TASTE Thai Fruits calendar provides a month-by-month guide to what is in season across the South. Availability varies by fruit and location, with the widest choice concentrated around the middle of the year. Travellers planning around a particular variety should check with the orchard or local tourism contact before travelling, as harvest periods can vary with local growing conditions.

Across the 14 provinces, the map highlights a remarkable range of local fruit:

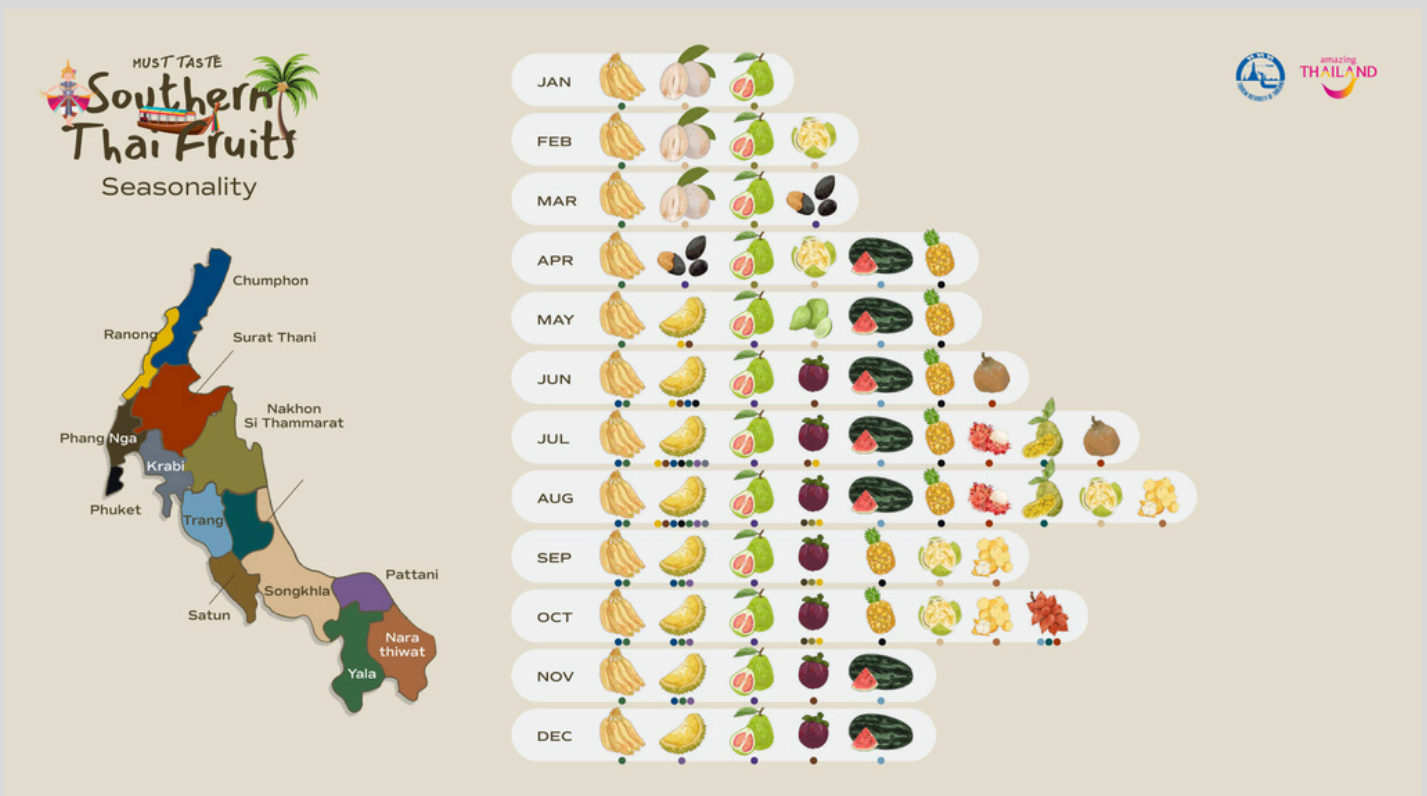
- **Chumphon:** Hom Thong Lamae Banana, Lady Finger Banana and Chumphon Durian
- **Surat Thani:** Nasan Rambutan, Nasan Salak, Khlong Noi Santol and Khlong Saeng Durian
- **Ranong:** Nai Wong Durian and Nai Wong Mangosteen
- **Phang Nga:** Salika Durian and Thip Phang Nga Mangosteen
- **Phuket:** Phuket Pineapple and Kamala Durian
- **Krabi:** Talay Hoi Durian
- **Nakhon Si Thammarat:** Pak Phanang Siam Ruby Pomelo, Khao Khiriwong Mangosteen and Ban Wang Hon Durian
- **Phatthalung:** Phatthalung Salak and Thong Liao Champedak
- **Trang:** Ko Sukon Watermelon
- **Satun:** Satun Champedak
- **Songkhla:** Chana Neck Orange, Songkhla Mini Mango, Khuan Lang Pomelo and Ko Yo Sapodilla
- **Pattani:** Yarang Velvet Tamarind, Yarang Puko Pomelo, Yarang Puang Mani Durian and Sai Khao Durian
- **Yala:** Yala Sadet Nam Durian, Bannang Sata Rock Banana and Musang King Durian
- **Narathiwat:** Tanyougmatt Longkong and Su-ngai Padi Mangosteen.

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Peek Into Thailand

Taste Thailand's South by Season with Southern MUST TASTE Thai Fruits



News & Announcements

Thailand entry reminder on proof of funds for foreign visitors

The Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT) reminds foreign visitors travelling to Thailand to keep evidence of sufficient funds ready for entry screening. This visitor information is a travel-preparation reminder and does not introduce a new measure. Visitors may be asked to show sufficient funds or equivalent documents during immigration screening.

The proof-of-funds requirement has been part of Thai immigration rules since 1980 under the Ministry of Interior announcement, with the current amounts updated under a later announcement in 2000. The requirement is also reflected in current guidance from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Royal Thai Embassies and Consulates-General. Immigration Bureau officers apply the requirement when assessing eligibility for entry.

The amounts listed under the relevant Ministry of Interior announcement are:

- Transit Visa and certain visa-exempt cases under immigration regulations: 10,000 Baht per person, or 20,000 Baht per family.
- Visa on Arrival: 10,000 Baht per person, or 20,000 Baht per family.
- Tourist Visa: 20,000 Baht per person, or 40,000 Baht per family.
- Non-Immigrant Visa: 20,000 Baht per person, or 40,000 Baht per family.

This requirement does not apply to children under 12. Travellers entering under a visa-exemption scheme should check the latest guidance for their nationality and place of departure before travelling, as published requirements may vary by entry category. Other entry requirements remain unchanged, including valid travel documents, visa or visa-exemption eligibility, permitted length of stay, accommodation details, and evidence of onward travel where required.

The final decision on entry into Thailand rests with Immigration Bureau officers at the entry checkpoint. Each assessment is made in accordance with applicable immigration laws and regulations.

For the latest requirements, travellers should check with the Immigration Bureau, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, or the Royal Thai Embassy or Consulate-General responsible for their place of application or departure.

Travellers may also contact the Immigration Bureau through the following channels:

- Website: <https://www.immigration.go.th/>
- Call Centre: 1178, with English-language service available

MORE INFO

Amazing Deals



Melia Phuket Mai Khao, the place where everything has soul

Meliá Hotels & Resorts stand out because of Spanish style, unique in hospitality and their passion for services. They believe that true passion and warmth create the perfect environment to make your stay become an experience of well-being and memorable.

The world of Meliá Hotels & Resorts, where everything has soul, where the positive energy and the small details that being taken care of each day, make things different.

Located in a protected natural oasis, the hotel is a beachfront retreat with exclusive villas designed to restore your sense of well-being and balance. Only 20 minutes by car from Phuket International Airport, our resort is in the idyllic area of Mai Khao, one of the few places on the island where turtles still nest.

Time to visit Phuket!

MORE INFO



Amazing Deals



Maple Hotel Bangkok

Some room for quick relaxation?

Maple Hotel is your welcoming retreat in the vibrant heart of Bang Na, Bangkok. With 487 well-appointed rooms and suites, just 20 minutes from Suvarnabhumi Airport and next to an MRT yellow line station, Maple Hotel Bangkok offer convenience and comfort. Immerse in local life, enjoy the pool, rejuvenating spa, and fitness facilities. Whether you're here for business or leisure, the Maple captures the true essence of Bangkok, promising an unforgettable experience in the city of smiles.

MORE INFO



Amazing Deals



Explore, Experience, Discover: My Beach Resort Phuket

Or something elegant and warm?

Cross Pattaya Pratamnak is a luxurious 5-star hotel located in Pratamnak Area, Pattaya. The hotel stands out with its stunning sea views and breathtaking sunsets, thanks to its elevated position overlooking Pattaya Bay.

The architecture and interior design are inspired by Colonial-style elegance, featuring soft, soothing color tones and premium materials that create a warm and inviting ambiance. The hotel offers full facilities and amenities for the most comfort and relaxation. Escape to My Beach Resort Phuket, a private beachfront resort in Phuket's stunning Cape Panwa.

Nestled on a tranquil and secluded bay with panoramic views and extraordinary sunsets that dazzle — release your inhibitions and live for the moment in a place where the rest of the world does not exist giving you the ultimate freedom.

Recognised by the Michelin Guide for six years in a row from 2019-2024, the boutique beachfront resort in Cape Panwa is modern and minimalist with extremely comfortable guest rooms, with earth tones and rustic touches to soothe the mind and warm the soul.

MORE INFO



Amazing Deals



A Pristine Luxury in Coconut Island Phuket-Barcelo Coconut Island

The 5-star Barcelo Coconut Island is a unique beach resort located on the pristine Coconut Island, a short distance from the east coast of Phuket. The atmosphere of this all-inclusive resort perfectly reflects the exotic and adventurous essence of Thailand, and guests will be enchanted by the warm and genuine hospitality provided by the team.

Discovered initially by shipwrecked explorers hundreds of years ago, Coconut Island has always retained its sense of mystery and adventure and all of the elements of the hotel are designed to reflect this.

Coconut Island is perfectly set in a tranquil heaven Phang Nga Bay, the incredible gateway to Thailand's most stunning beaches, islands and distinguished scenery.

Book yours now!



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