



## Packing for Thailand

Thailand has a hot climate and high humidity. (Winter 20 C, Rainy 30C., Summer 35-40 C.) The humidity depends on the region and location. For example, the North is cooler than any other region and has less humidity because it is under the Himalayan region. The South of Thailand is hot and humid and has more humidity because it is near the equator. As a result, all environments from the ground level to the altitude of 1,800 m. have many types of mosquitoes and many types of bees and insects that like to suck the sweat from the human body.

**Clothes :** Therefore, you should wear long-sleeved shirts, long pants, and socks made of light fabric that can wick away moisture and air. Jeans are not recommended

In big cities such as Bangkok, Phuket, Chiang Mai, the weather is very hot. You can wear short-sleeved shirts and short pants.

**Rain jacket** should be prepared during May to November. However, some years there are rainstorms in January, but it is very rare.

### **Jackets and windbreakers**

Should be brought between December and February for use on all mountaintops in the North. In some national parks in the Central region, such as Kaeng Krachan, Khao Yai, which are 900 mls., the weather will be cold only in the morning.

**Laundry :** The tour program will choose to stay at a hotel that provides laundry service and will stay in the same place for two to three days, alternating between stay one night so that you can send your laundry. The price in Thailand is quite cheaper (5 - 13 THB./item) to send your laundry to a 3-star hotel than to a 4-6 star hotel.(20 - 45 THB./item)

**Walking Shoes :** You should prepare two types of shoes. The first type is waterproof for trekking or sport shoes. You can choose low top or high top shoes. The second is casual shoes or sandal.

In Thailand, You can wear them in the car during long trips or walk in the hotel or use them to walk into shopping malls, temples, museums, bars, coffee shops, almost all types of restaurants from 1 to 6 stars (some hotels do not provide slippers in the room or charge money).

**Swim Gear and Training Gear :** Large hotels will have swimming pools and fitness room. Some of our tour programs will have swimming pools. You should bring your swimming suit for tours that require bird watching on the Similan Islands in Phang Nga Province (look for Nicobar Pigeon) or for your private vacation at a hotel with a swimming pool or a hotel by



the sea, such as Phuket or Krabi. However, it is not necessary for normal tours because bird watching and bird photography tours usually take a full day. You go to watch birds early in the morning and return to the hotel in the early evening, leaving you with little time to swim.

However, for those who need to maintain their fitness by swimming, muscle training it may be necessary.

**eSim & Sim card for tourists :** SIM cards or eSIMs can be purchased at the airport, mobile operator stores, convenience stores, or online from global providers. Popular options include AIS (the best), TrueMoveH.

**Where to buy:**

- **Airports:** Kiosks at Suvarnabhumi (BKK) and Don Mueang (DMK) airports offer SIM cards upon arrival., Phuket (HKT), Krabi (KTB)
- **Mobile Stores:** Find official stores of AIS and TrueMove H across Thailand.
- **Convenience Stores :** 7-Eleven and FamilyMart outlets sell prepaid SIM cards.
- **Online:** Order eSIMs in advance from providers like Airalo or Klook.

**How much should I buy?** I recommend buying at least 300 baht for five days. If you use it often, Wi-Fi is available at the hotel. You may not have to pay much for the internet.

**Free Wi-Fi :** All the hotels we provide you with have free Wi-Fi and when you go outside, most restaurants and cafes have free Wi-Fi too. If you need to use it, you can ask your guide to share his mobile hotspot with you.

**Credit Card :** Cash is the most popular payment method in Thailand, but all types of credit cards are accepted by most stores or stores with many branches, such as department stores, 7-11 convenience stores, large restaurants, and shops that accept many brands of credit cards.

**Common types of credit cards in Thailand**

- **VISA :** VISA credit cards are popular and widely used in Thailand.
- **Mastercard :** Mastercard credit cards are also popular and widely used.
- **JCB :** JCB credit cards are also popular in Thailand, especially among Japanese tourists.
- **American Express :** American Express credit cards can be used in Thailand only in large hotels (5-6 stars), but most stores do not accept.

**Credit card acceptance channels**

- **EDC machines :** Most stores have EDC machines for swiping credit cards to pay.
- **ATM machines :** ATMs are available almost everywhere in Thailand, mostly in front of 7-11 convenience stores and all gas stations. However, there will be a fee for international money transfers and exchange rate changes in the baht.



**Caution:** There are still hacking incidents of card swiping machines in Thailand. There are still some problems, but not many. Most of them are foreign criminals, more than domestic. Be careful when considering where you swipe your card. Therefore, you should have the phone number of the bank, the company that owns the card, to contact to block in case of emergency.

**Thai Baht Cash (THB):** Our program tours often stop at 7-Eleven convenience stores. All tour prices do not include alcoholic beverages, so you should bring cash to spend on essentials or snacks and drinks during the day. You should exchange baht to use at least 300 baht per day. Compare the cost of living in Thailand. A typical single dish that Thai people eat per meal will cost 60-100 baht, beverage 15-25 baht, beer bottles 60-100 baht, Lay's potato chips size 105 g./bag 45 baht, Magnum ice cream almond nuts 65 g. 50 baht

**Tips :** In Thailand, tipping or giving extra money to service providers is not required or strictly customary. Although there is no official tipping practice, tour guides, drivers and other service providers are expected to give you a small amount depending on how satisfied you are with their service.

Other situations where you should consider a tip that is not included in the tour price

- **Restaurants and restaurants :** Most restaurants will include a service charge on the bill, usually around 10%. If there is no service charge or if you are particularly pleased with the service, you may want to leave a small tip.
- **Hotels :** You may want to tip bellboy, housekeepers, or other service personnel who provide special assistance.
- **Other services :** For example, taxi drivers, spa and beauty salon staff, shuttle drivers, or other service providers you have been impressed with.

**In addition to the above in preparing for your trip to Thailand, there are also these things you should and should not bring.**

**Essentials :** Binoculars, Camera, Mobile Phone, +Merlin ID app+ eBird app, Portable Phone Charger, Passport, Travel Documents, Hat, Earplugs, Handkerchief, Deodorant, Lip Balm, Toothpaste, Lotions sunscreen, Sunglasses, Insect repellent.

**Non-Essentials :** Telescope, Bird Guide & Mammal guide Book, iPad, Tripod, Hide Tent, Torch, Umbrellas, Towel, Shampoo, Soap, Hair Dryer , Adapter Plug, Reusable water bottle, First Aid Kit, Water Bottle.