

506/199 ซ.รามคำแหง 39 (เทพลีลา 1) แขวงวังทองหลาง เขตวังทองหลาง กรุงเทพฯ 10310

Tel: (662) 158-9203-8 Fax: (662) 158-9209 www.thewatourism.com

World Heritage Tour

TAT.11/4268

Thailand > Central & Lower North of Thailand > Inbound Tour > World

Heritage Tour

Package Tour Code: TW043

Destination: Central & Lower North of Thailand

Start City: Ayuttaya

Activity: Sightseeing, Leisure **Duration**: 4 Days 3 Nights

Available Period : Start Price : - Bahts







Includes:

Our package tour prices are inclusive of

- Private air-conditioned van or coach transport and services of an English speaking guide
- · Admission fees to the places mentioned above
- Meals as described (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- Boat fees
- Accommodation in shared twin rooms at hotels mentioned above or similar
- Surcharges for festive seasons and festive gala dinners



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Excludes:

- Surcharges for other language guides
- International or domestic airfares
- Personal expenses such as laundry, phone calls, beverages, travel insurance
- Surcharges for festive seasons and festive gala dinners

Please Note:

Small deviations in the tour program are sometimes necessary, depending on road and weather conditions and availability of rooms.

Note: Child rate: 30% discount for child 2-11 years(2A/1C)

Tour Itinerary:

Day 1 Bangkok - Ayuttaya

- Meet your private guide at the lobby of your hotel and depart to Bang Pa In. Visit the former summer palace of Thai royalties, **Bang Pa In Palace.**
- Then continue to Ayutthaya by motorized long-tail boat. Disembark at Wat Panan Choeng.
- Continue by van to visit Wat Yai Chaimongkol.
- After lunch, visit some of the outstanding historical sites, such as Wat

Chaiwatthanaram, Wat Phra Si Sanpeth, and Wat Phra Mahathat. Also included is a visit to the interesting Boat Museum.

• **Dinner** and overnight at KANTARY AYUTTHAYA HOTEL.

The sights: **Wat Panan Choeng**: Overlooking the river on the opposite bank from the main city, Wat Phanan Choeng was founded shortly before the establishment of Ayutthaya as the Kingdoms capital. Its main building enshrines a huge, seated Buddha image, that is 57 feet tall an object of particular devotion to Thais of Chinese origin. This principal image called Phrachao Phananchoeng was built of stucco in the attitude of subduing evil in 1325.



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Wat Yai Chaimongkol: The monastery was built in 1900 by King U-thong who granted the temple with the name Wat Pa Kaew. The present name was given granted to the temple by King Naresuan to commemorate a battle fought against the Crown Prince of Burma in 1592. His momentous victory a single-handed combat on the elephant back brought independence to Ayutthaya after 15 years as a Burmese dependent. Within the complex is a huge image of a reclining Buddha in brick and stucco. The chedi is bell-shaped, about 60 meters high, constructed on a mound of raised ground (15 X 32.4 X 32.4 m.) with steps going up to the Buddhist image placed midway to the top. The chedi itself now has a distinct tilt, but still can be entered via the stairs. The Ubosoth or ordination hall is windowless but ventilated by pierced holes stretching down the roof on both walls. Also situated in the compound is King Naresuans statue, which is highly revered by Thais.

Wat Chaiwatthanaram: Built in 1630 by King Prasat Thong to honor his mother, Wat Chai Wattanaram was conceived as a replica of the Angkor temple. A Royal monastery, the temples unique feature is a huge prang which is surrounded by smaller prangs. This symbolizes Mount Meru, the abode of the heavenly gods.

Wat Phra Si Sanpeth: In 1491, Wat Phra Si Sanphet was located inside the compound of the Grand Palace-the foundations of which are still visible-and served as the royal chapel, as Wat Phra Kaeo does in Bangkok. This Wang Lung Palace (Royal Palace) was built by King U-Thong upon the founding of the city. Used as a residential palace, it became a monastery in the reign of King Ramathibodi I. When King Borom Trai Lokanat commanded the construction of new living quarters, this residential palace was transformed into a temple, and the establishment of Wat Phra Si Sanphet. In Ayutthaya's heyday, this was the largest temple in the city. The



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three main chedis which have been restored contain the ashes of three Ayutthaya kings.

Wat Phra Mahathat: The temple is believed to be one of Ayutthaya's oldest temples, possibly built by King Boromaraja I (1370-88). Its central prang, of which only the base remains, once rose to a height of 165 feet. Traces of the original stucco decorations can still be seen on some of the surrounding chedis. Thai Boat Museum: The museum is located at the residence of its founder, Mr. Phaithun Khaomala, a renowned Thai boat modeler and former boat builder. Inspired by their beauty and relationship to the lives of Thai people, Mr. Phaithun dedicated a part of his residence to preserving what he holds to be fine examples of the country's treasured traditions. On display are a wide range of models from his large and exquisite collection, made in teak. Included in the collection are more than 100 models boats delicately made by hand. They range from Thai and Chinese junks to other traditional Thai boats and ocean liners. Among the most impressive items in the collection are models of Thailand's famous Royal Barges.

Day 2 Ayutthaya - Khamphengphet - Sukhothai

- Breakfast at the hotel.
- Depart for **Khampheng Phet** (290 km). Visit **Khampheng Phet National Museum**(closed on MON & TUE) or **the Khampheng Phet Province Museum.** Tour Khampheng Phet Historical Park (Aranyik & Khampheng Phet area).
- Upon arrival in **Sukhothai**, visit **Wat Si Chum**, and then continue on back-roads local style on an ox-cart, passing rice fields and rural homes to **Wat Chang Lom**.
- **Dinner** and overnight at THE SUKHOTHAI TREASURE RESORT or similar.

The sights: **Khampheng Phet National Museum (closed on MON & TUE):**: houses ancient objects and other antique arts articles from various eras found in the provincial town. These include sculptured and earthen designs, heads of Buddha statues, traditional celadon products,



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sculptures of demons and celestial and human beings used to decorate Chedi bases or Vihans.

Khampheng Phet Province Museum: houses exhibitions on the local history with replicas of the city, lifestyle and urban and hill tribal customs and traditions. It also displays the development of Kampheng Phet votive tablets and other resources.

Wat Chang Rop: A large temple situated on a high hill. The base is adorned with 68 halfelephants between which are Bhoti-shaped designs. There are also traces of demon and female dancers figures remaining.

Wat Phra Si Ariyabot, also known as Wat Yuen, houses Buddha statues in four postureswalking, sitting, standing and reclining in the Sukhothai artistic style. Today only the statue in the standing posture still remains.

Wat Phra Kaew: A large royal temple in town centre near a site believed to have been a palace. The temple itself was used on important city events and had no monks in residence. Major features include the principal chedi with lion-adorned base and a round chedi with elephant-adorned base. There are also other chedis of different bases and remains of several chapels. Its boundary is marked off by laterite walls.

Wat Si Chum (Sukhothai): The impressive mondop houses a massive Buddha almost touching the ground with an incredibly tapered set of fingers. The image is 11m across the waist and the walls of the mondop are three metres thick.

Wat Chang Lom (Sukhothai): A bell-shaped chedi of Ceylonese influence standing as the



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centre. The chedi is situated on a 3-tiered square base with a platform decorated with a row of elephants.

Day 3 Sukhothai

- Breakfast at the hotel. Spend the morning touring the **Sukhothai Historical Park** on bicycle (if you do not wish to ride a bicycle, our van will take you to the various sites instead).
- Lunch at local restaurant.
- In the afternoon, visit **Sangkhalok Museum** and if you wish, continue sightseeing of the sites in **the historical park (Wat Saphan Hin, Wat Chetupon).** Alternatively, spend the remainder of the afternoon relaxing at your resort spool and garden.
- Dinner and overnight at THE SUKHOTHAI TREASURE RESORT or similar.

The sights: Sukhothai Historical Park: The city wall is located in the centre of the historical park and surrounded by earthen ramparts. The city has a rectangular shape with 1,300 metres width and 1,800 metres long. The walls contain four main gates. A stone inscription mentions that King Ramkhamhaeng set up a bell at one of the gates. If his subjects needed help, they would ring the bell and the King would come out to settle disputes and dispense justice. The Royal Palace: The royal palace lies in the centre of the town and covers an area of 160,000 square metres. This area is surrounded by a moat and contains two main compounds; the royal building and the sanctuary in the palace. In the royal compound exist the ruins of the royal building called Noen Phrasat. Here, the famous stone inscription of King Ramkhamhaeng was found by King Mongkut (Rama IV) in the 19th century together with a piece of the stone throne called Manangkhasila-at. King Ramhamhaeng set up the throne in the midst of a sugar-palm grove where, at his request, a monk preached on Buddhist Sabbath days and the King conducted the affairs of state on other days. This throne was later installed in Bangkok Temple of the Emerald Buddha.



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Wat Mahathat: Sukhothai largest temple with a customary main chedi in lotus-bud shape and a ruined viharn. At the base of the chedi stands Buddhist disciples in adoration, and on the pedestal are seated Buddha images. In front of this reliquary is a large viharn formerly containing a remarkable seated bronze Buddha image of the Sukhothai style, which was cast and installed by King Lithai of Sukhothai in 1362. At the end of the 18th century, the image was removed to the Viharn Luang of Wat Suthat in Bangkok by the order of King Rama I and has since been named Phra Si Sakaya Muni. In front of the large viharn is another smaller viharn which was probably built during the Ayutthaya period. Its main Buddha image (8 metres high) was installed inside a separate building. On the south stands a pedestal of a large chedi built up in steps, the lowest platform is adorned with beautiful stucco figures of demons, elephants and lions with angles riding on their backs. Mural painting adorns this chedi.

Wat Si Sawai: Situated among magnificent scenery southwest of Wat Mahathat is Wat Si Sawai. Three prangs (pagodas) are surrounded by a laterite wall. Inside the wall, the viharn in the west, built of laterite, is separated from the main prang which was constructed in the Lop Buri or Hindu-style, but the other also constructed beside the prangs are Buddhist viharns. The Crown Prince of that time who later become King Rama VI found a trace of the Hindu sculpture Sayomphu, the greatest Hindu God in this sanctuary. In his opinion, this ruin was once a Hindu shrine, but was later converted into a Buddhist monastery.

Sangkhalok Museum: Sangkhalok is the name of ceramic wares produced in the old city of Sukhothai. The museum displays the collection of Sangkhalok and ceramic wares produced some 700 years ago in the Lanna Kingdom (now the northern region of Thailand).

Wat Saphan Hin: Situated on a hill 200 metres high. A pathway of slate slabs leads to the



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sanctuary yard. Climbing the hill requires good physical strength and suitable footwear! During the rainy season, the rocks might become too slippery and dangerous to climb uphill.

Day 4 Sukhothai - Si Satchanalai - Bangkok

- Breakfast at the resort.
- Excursion to Si Satchanalai Historical Park and Celadon Kiln Site Study and Conservation Centre.
- Lunchat Gaeng Luang Restaurant.
- Return to Sukhothai airport for a late afternoon flight back to Bangkok (airfare is not included in package price).

The sights: Si Satchanalai Historical Park: The ancient town, formerly called Muang Chaliang, was named Si Satchanalai during the reign of Phra Ruang when a new administrative centre was established to replace Chaliang. Ruins of 134 monuments have been discovered within the park. Khao Phanom Phloeng Temple is a hilltop temple within the old town of Si Satchanalai. A laterite chedi in the centre, a large viharn or image hall in front, and a small sanctuary behind all lie in ruins. Some laterite pillars and a damaged Buddhas image constructed of laterite slabs and coated with mortar are seen. Khao Suwan Khiri Temple is also a hilltop temple situated 200 metres away from Phanom Phloeng Hill. A huge bell-shaped chedi on a 5-tiered base marks the centre of the temple. Ruins of a viharn and chedi, and fragments of huge stucco figures lie scattered on the ground. The similarity between some figures here and those at Wat Chang Lom in the old town of Sukhothai leads to the belief that it was King Ramkhamhaeng the Great of the Sukhothai Kingdom who had this temple constructed. Chang Lom Temple is an important monument within the old town of Si Satchanalai. A huge bell-shaped chedi supported by 39 elephants, with 4 of them at 4 cardinal points elaborately decorated, marks the centre of the temple. Above the chedis base, there are niches enshrining



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images of the Buddha subduing Mara. Chedi Chet Thaeo Temple is one of the most beautiful temples in Sukhothai Province. Chedis of different artistic styles and influence were built within the area of this temple. Mural paintings, seriously damaged, are still to be seen in some chedis. Nang Phaya Temple is famous for its delicate stucco reliefs on the remains of the northwestern wall of the 7 roomed viharn or image hall. The pillars of this viharn are decorated with unglazed ceramic designs. The central laterite chedi is surrounded by lampposts and accessible by a set of narrow stairs. Suan Kaeo Utthayan Noi Temple is the only temple within the old town of Si Satchanalai with a brick building in front. The ruins of this temple consist of a whole laterite image hall with a laterite roof.

Celadon Kiln Site Study and Conservation Centre,located at Ban Ko Noi, some 4 kilometres to the north of Si Satchanalai. More than 500 kilns have been excavated up to now. Numerous celadon wares in perfect condition as well as pot have been discovered. The kiln is oval in shape with a curved roof and is 7-8 metres wide.

Remark: Small deviations in the tour program are sometimes necessary, depending on road or traffic or time conditions or land operators. Should there be any change without prior notice from the tour, clients cannot be claimed as a reason to be deducted from package tour price from our company