

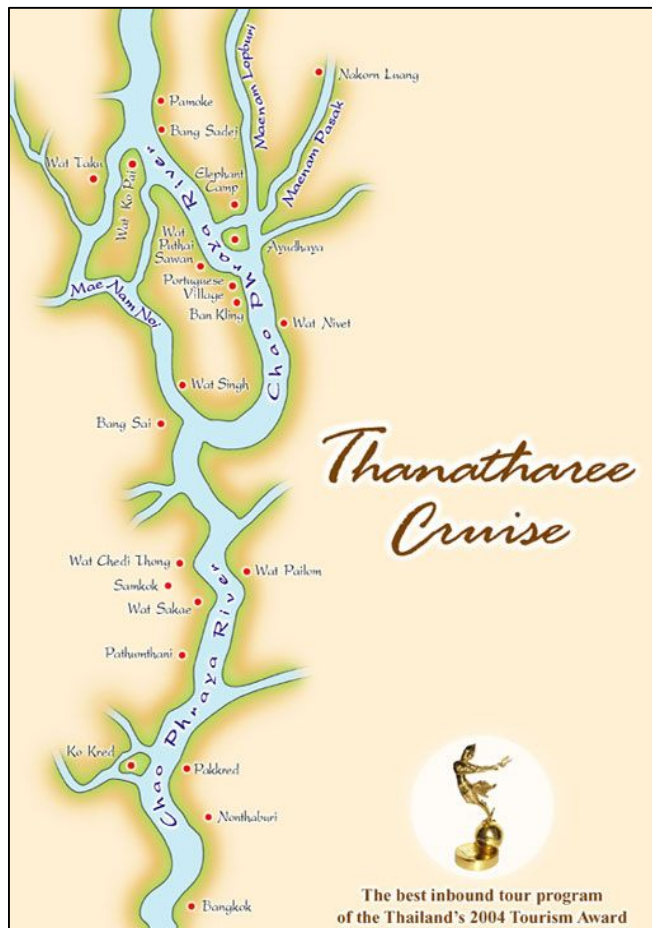
Footprint

Adventures

the way to go.....



Travel Itinerary



Chao Phraya Rice Barge Cruise

A unique opportunity to explore Thailand's rural heartland along the Chao Phraya River on board a traditional teak rice barge. Leave Bangkok behind as the river weaves through the Central Plains and discover a region of Thailand that is rarely visited by tourists.

The cruise passes through rich agricultural areas dotted with small towns and villages where life moves at a slower and more gentle pace. With bicycles on board frequent stops are made along the way to explore the countryside and observe the way of life and culture of the rural Thai people. There will be opportunities to see the traditional handicrafts still produced in these areas and meet with the local people, in a world far removed from the usual tourist haunts.

Our barge, named the "Thanatharee" or Treasure on the Water, is 21.1 metres in length and 5.9 metres in width. It provides simple but comfortable air-conditioned dormitory style accommodation with on-board shower and W.C.s. Maximum capacity is 12 passengers. The spacious upper deck has ample room to relax, enjoy a refreshing drink, read, play games or just watch the world drift gently by. There is also a sundeck for anyone wanting to work on their tans. Meals will be taken on board and everyone is welcome to help in their preparation and so learn something of the art of Thai cuisine. One can also accompany the cook to the local market to buy the day's ingredients.

The detailed itinerary of each departure is different but the same concept is well maintained - that is to give maximum opportunity for clients to relax on our wonderful rice barge, cycle to explore unknown villages, visit schools or local markets and shop for the day's dinner ingredients.

Day 1 (-/L/D)

Board our comfortable converted rice barge "Thanatharee". A cruise heads upriver to the unspoilt Maenam Noi, a small branch of the main Chao Phraya River, passing through rich agricultural areas dotted with small towns and villages where life moves at a slower and more gentle pace. With bicycles on board frequent stops are made along the way to explore the countryside and observe way of life and culture of the rural Thai people. There will be opportunities to see the traditional handicrafts still produced in these areas and meet with the local people, in a world far removed from the usual tourist haunts. Meals served on board. Coffee, tea and seasonal fruits are available at all times. Moore at a small village in the evening, and tie up for the night.

Day 2 (B/L/D)

An opportunity to give food to the monks on their morning alms round and then cycling to explore the villages with opportunities to talk to school kids, old folks or farmers then rejoin the barge for total relaxation. Those who wish to learn the secret of Thai cuisine are always welcome to join our crew for meal preparation. Overnight on board at another small village.

Day 3 (B/-/-)

There is time for a leisurely breakfast and a cycling ride this morning to explore local activities. Then

cruise along peaceful river branch to meet main Chao Phraya River with possibilities for more stops if time permits. Disembark and ready to depart for the next destination.

End of services.

- During the months, normally, around September-November it may not be possible to use the Maenam
- Noi in which case the itinerary will follow the main Chao Phraya River.
- The activities and schedule are subject to change without prior notice due to local conditions.
- For Cruise C, meal plan starts from dinner on day 1 to lunch on day 3.

Schedules: Guarantee departure for a minimum of 2 persons (year round)

Services included in the price:

- On board Thanatharee
- The barge provides air-conditioned multi-share accommodation for a maximum of 12 persons, the bedroom area being divided into two sections by a curtain. One common bathroom and one toilet are located on the main deck, a second toilet is on the upper deck. Please bring your own personal toiletries (towel and soap are provided).
- Full board during the cruise.
- All services and activities described in the itineraries.
- English-speaking assistance.

Services not included in the price:

- Soft drinks (except water) and alcoholic beverages.
- Meals not mentioned in the above itinerary.
- Tips for the crew.
- Personal expenses.

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Thanatharee Rice Barge

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The spacious upper deck has ample room to relax, enjoy a refreshing drink, read, play games or just watch the world drift gently by. There is also a sundeck for anyone wanting to work on their tans. Meals will be taken on board and everyone is welcome to help in their preparation and so learn something of the art of Thai cuisine. One can also accompany the cook to the local market to buy the day's ingredients.

Cruise schedules

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The cruise is guarantee departure for a minimum of 2 and maximum of 12 persons (year round)

Remark: In a rare case that there are more than 12 joining persons, the sleeping area for additional persons will be at the barge's common area (on the upper deck, space is available for a maximum of 4 persons). Mosquito nets, pillows and blankets are provided.

Inclusion

The tours are inclusive of full board and all services and activities described in the itineraries with English speaking-assistance.

Not including soft drinks (except water) and alcoholic beverages and other personal expenses.

What to bring:

- Personal toilet items.
(Towel and soap are provided.)
- Insect repellent.
- Sun protection cream and a hat
- Trousers or shorts suitable for cycling.
- Swimming gear.
- A sense of adventure.

Important notice

Barge trips in combination with other programs or sights in Ayudhaya are available, kindly check with us for full details.

For group charters only, some change to the embarkation or disembarkation points in order to fit in with the group's overall land arrangements may be possible – please enquire at the time of booking.

Trips recommended in combination with a rice barge cruise:

After the cruise ends in Ayudhaya

1. Continue the journey by taking the night train from Ayudhaya to Chiang Mai to join our "Trekking in Thailand" package.
2. Visit the famous Ayudhaya Historical Park, a World Heritage Site, and overnight in the modern town of Ayudhaya to explore the lively night market where lots of local foods are sold and see the beautiful illuminations of the Historical Park at night. In the morning return to Bangkok or continue up north, as preferred.

Before joining the cruise in Ayudhaya

1. Book our "Thailand Trekking" package then join our barge in Ayudhaya to finish trip in Bangkok.
2. Take a trip from Bangkok to Ayudhaya by booking our Ayudhaya day trip then join the barge in Ayudhaya

Important: Before you travel please check your **Tour Voucher** and **Arrival Information** for the latest joining instructions. This will be sent to you upon receipt of final payment. **All itineraries are subject to change without prior notice.**