



# Bangkok, Elephants and Beach for Families (BEBF)

## 9 Night Private Tour (with some shared services)

Discover the best of Thailand on a journey that blends vibrant city culture, sacred temples, lush rainforest, and idyllic island relaxation. Explore Bangkok's iconic landmarks and lively street-food scene, then connect with gentle giants during unforgettable elephant bathing and feeding experiences in Khao Sok. Cruise the emerald waters of Cheow Lan Lake, trek through ancient rainforest, and finish your trip unwinding on the tropical shores of Phuket - an ideal balance of adventure, nature, and local charm.

### Highlights:

- Explore Bangkok's most iconic landmarks, including the Grand Palace
- Experience an evening Foodie Walk and Culture Tour through vibrant Chinatown
- Stay amidst the lush rainforest of Khao Sok with a unique luxury "glamping" experience
- Elephant bathing and mud experience
- Enjoy panoramic viewpoints and visit the atmospheric Monkey Cave Temple
- Cruise the emerald waters of Cheow Lan Lake by long-tail boat, surrounded by towering limestone cliffs
- Walk through ancient rainforest trails and explore Pakarang (Coral) Cave by bamboo raft
- Elephant feeding experience
- Immerse yourself in the natural beauty and wildlife of Khao Sok during a guided jungle hike
- Unwind in Phuket with time at leisure to enjoy tropical island scenery

### What's included:

- Getting there: Return flights to Bangkok
- Transport: Return airport transfers, private ground transfers, flights from Bangkok to Sura Thani and Phuket to Bangkok
- Accommodation: 9 or 10 nights total duration (including 1 or 2 nights on return flights) – 8 nights in hotels: 2 night Bangkok, 3 nights Khao Sok, 2 nights Phuket, 1 night Bangkok
- Meals included: 8 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 2 dinners
- Experiences: Bangkok city tour, cultural street-food tour, Elephant bathing and mud experience, Cheow Lan lake day tour, Elephant feeding experience, jungle walk, cave exploring

### Not included:

- Any meals (other than the one mentioned in the itinerary), drinks, tips, expenses of personal nature.
- Early/late check-in/out service at hotels (surcharge if requested)
- Optional excursion/tours
- Travel insurance and visa
- Anything not mentioned in the "What's Included" column



# Full Itinerary

## Day 1: Overnight Flight

Board your overnight flight from the UK to Bangkok Airport (BKK).

## Day 2: Arrival in Bangkok

Welcome to Bangkok! After meeting your local guide, you'll transfer to your hotel. The rest of the day is yours to relax or begin discovering the city.

ACCOMMODATION: 5\* Valia Hotel, Bangkok or similar





## Day 3: Bangkok City Tour

After breakfast, set off with your guide to explore some of Bangkok's most treasured landmarks. Your morning begins at the Grand Palace, the ceremonial home of Thailand's royal family, followed by a visit to the beautiful Wat Phra Kaew, where the Emerald Buddha is enshrined. Continue on to Wat Pho to admire the impressive Reclining Buddha, before visiting Wat Traimit, famous for its magnificent Golden Buddha.

In the evening, set off on a guided Foodie Walk and Culture Tour through the lively streets around Wat Traimit and Chinatown. Sample a variety of local street-food favourites and discover the rich cultural influences that shape this neighbourhood. And if you're feeling brave, you can even try a traditional pig's organ soup - a true local specialty.

ACCOMMODATION: 5\* Valia Hotel, Bangkok or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast





## Day 4: Bangkok to Khao Sok with Elephant Bathing and Mud Experience

Enjoy a relaxed morning at your hotel before transferring to the airport for your flight to Surat Thani. On arrival, continue to your hotel surrounded by the lush landscapes of Khao Sok.

This afternoon, if conditions permit, take part in a responsible elephant bathing experience at a local sanctuary or eco-friendly camp dedicated to elephant welfare and conservation. Under the guidance of experienced mahouts, learn about the elephants' history, behaviour, and role in Thai culture. You'll have the opportunity to prepare food, feed the elephants, and accompany them to a river or mud area, where they enjoy a natural mud spa and refreshing bath - activities that support their health and wellbeing.

Afterwards, head to a scenic viewpoint for sweeping, panoramic views of Khao Sok National Park, followed by a visit to the atmospheric Monkey Cave Temple.



Later, check in to your Khao Sok resort and unwind amidst the tranquil greenery. In the evening, enjoy dinner and relax to the soothing sounds of the jungle as night falls. Khao Sok Boutique Hideaway offers a unique "glamping" experience just 5 kilometres from Khao Sok National Park. Nestled among lush mountains and swaying palm trees, the retreat blends natural beauty with elegant Thai-inspired décor, ensuring comfort without compromise.

Each luxury tent features air conditioning, a private bathroom, and a toilet, while the resort also boasts a refreshing outdoor swimming pool.

ACCOMMODATION: Khaosok Boutique Hideaway, Khao Sok or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, lunch, dinner



## Day 5: Khao Sok – Cheow Lan Lake Day Tour

Start your day with breakfast while soaking in the stunning mountain views.

Depart for Cheow Lan Lake, joining fellow guests on this unforgettable adventure. Upon arrival at the pier, board a long-tail boat and cruise across the turquoise waters of the lake, surrounded by towering limestone cliffs and lush rainforest.

Step onto the jungle trail for a short walk, where you can discover enchanting plants, flowers, butterflies, birds, squirrels, and even reptiles along the way. After the walk, board a bamboo raft to cross the vast 500-rai lake and visit Pakarang Cave, also known as Coral Cave. The stalagmites here resemble coral formations, giving the cave its name. Enjoy about 30 minutes exploring this fascinating cave - easy to access, but take care on the occasionally slippery floor.

Lunch is served at the floating raft restaurant, offering time to relax and take in the serene surroundings. In the afternoon, board the long-tail boat to return to the pier, completing your magical day on Cheow Lan Lake.

ACCOMMODATION: Khaosok Boutique Hideway, Khao Sok or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, lunch, dinner





## Day 6: Khao Sok – Jungle Hiking

Today, if conditions allow, enjoy a guided jungle hike in Khao Sok National Park with fellow guests. This ancient rainforest, over 160 million years old, is one of Thailand's hidden gems. Wander through the lush greenery and discover enchanting plants, vibrant flowers, butterflies, birds, squirrels, and other fascinating wildlife. The hike lasts approximately three hours and offers an immersive nature experience like no other.

Afterwards, enjoy lunch at a scenic mountain-view restaurant, taking in the tranquil surroundings. The afternoon is free to relax at your resort or enjoy the surrounding scenery at your own pace.

ACCOMMODATION: Khaosok Boutique Hideaway, Khao Sok or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast, lunch



## Day 7: Elephant Feeding and Travel to Phuket

This morning, meet your mahout (Kwan Chang), who will introduce you to the elephants' daily routines. Participate in a health check for your elephant before preparing nutritious food for your gentle companion. Enjoy a hands-on feeding experience using the food you have prepared.

Set off on a guided jungle walk alongside your elephant, followed by a fun and therapeutic mud spa experience. Help your elephant cool off with a refreshing bath, then take part in planting food crops that support the elephants' sustainable future. Afterwards, refresh yourself with a seasonal drink and light snack or fresh fruit.

Return to your hotel to check out, then transfer to Phuket. Spend the afternoon at leisure at your hotel in Phuket.

ACCOMMODATION: 5\* Ocean Front Beach Resort & Spa, Phuket or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast



## Day 8: Phuket – Free Day

Spend a leisurely day at your hotel in Phuket. Relax by the pool, enjoy the tropical surroundings, or simply unwind and soak up the island atmosphere at your own pace. Alternatively, you could explore the island's vibrant markets, or take a stroll along the famous Patong Beach.

ACCOMMODATION: 5\* Ocean Front Beach Resort & Spa, Phuket or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast



## Day 9: Phuket – Fly to Bangkok

Enjoy a leisurely morning at your hotel before being transferred to the airport for your flight to Bangkok.

Upon arrival in Bangkok, you'll be met and transferred to your hotel. The rest of the day is at your leisure - you might like to relax, explore the city, or enjoy some last-minute shopping before your journey home.

ACCOMMODATION: 5\* Ocean Front Beach Resort & Spa, Phuket or similar

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast



## Day 10: Departure from Bangkok

Spend your final day relaxing until check out, then transfer to the airport for your flight back to the UK. Depending on your flights you will arrive home today or the next day.

MEALS INCLUDED: Breakfast

## FAQs

### WHEN IS THE BEST TIME TO TRAVEL?

The best time to visit South-East Asia is November to April when it's dry and warm. Wet season and monsoonal rains fall from June to October.

### MALARIA

It is not common to get malaria, unless you are staying in the mountains or the jungle for a long time.

### DRESS CODES FOR SOME HISTORICAL SITES

Be mindful of local customs and wear suitable attire when visiting religious or cultural sites. This typically involves covering your shoulders and knees. Dress code guidelines are often displayed at the entrance to these places.

### WHO IS THIS TOUR SUITABLE FOR?

This tour is accessible to most people with an average level of fitness and normal mobility. Children can join with a minimum age of 4 years old.

### VISAS AND VACCINATIONS

UK passport holders do not need a visa to travel to Thailand for a stay less than 60 days. Please note that there are no mandatory vaccinations required to enter Thailand. However, we recommend consulting your GP or a travel health clinic before you travel to ensure your routine vaccinations are up to date and to receive any personalised health advice.

Please refer to the FCDO website for more information about entry requirements and vaccinations.

### KHAO SOK ACTIVITIES

All activities in Khao Sok are organised by the resort for all their guests and are subject to change due to weather and local conditions.