

USEFUL INFORMATION

PASSPORTS / VISAS

All visitors to Thailand must have a valid passport, but visas for most nationalities do not have to be obtained in advance for a stay of up to 30 days. Such passengers should have an onward ticket with a confirmed reservation. For stays of longer than 30 days visas must be obtained from Thai Consulates abroad.

HEALTH

It is no longer necessary to produce certificates of vaccination against smallpox or cholera on entering Thailand.

CUSTOMS

Goods permitted to be brought in duty free include 200 cigarettes, one liter of wine or spirits. The usual restriction on weapons, drugs etc. apply.

CURRENCY

Cash over US\$2,000.00 must be declared on arrival, but a visitor can freely bring in any amount in travelers cheques. Thai currency is the Baht with a value of US\$1 = 34.00 Baht.

CREDIT CARDS

Most international credit cards are widely accepted in the major tourist areas (such as Bangkok, Pattaya, Chiang Mai, and Phuket), but to much less extent else-where.

WEATHER

Most of Thailand has three distinct seasons. The hot season spanning March through May, The rainy season from June through October and The winter from November through February

The hot season brings temperatures between 30 °c and 40 °c, and during the monsoon season the temperatures are lower but the humidity is generally higher. The cool season is the most pleasant for exploring, but temperatures in the north can drop to 8 °c and one will need warmer clothing.

CLOTHING

Visitors should dress for a tropical climate with light clothing and comfortable shoes. A hat is a good idea.

LANGUAGE

Thai is the national language, with its own written form and regional variations in dialect. In the major tourist areas English is widely understood.

ELECTRICITY

Thailand operates on 220 volt, 50 cycle AC power, but most hotels will provide adapters.

WATER

Visitors should not drink tap water, hotels and restaurants provide bottled water.

BUSINESS HOURS

Government offices: most are opened Monday through Friday 8.30 am to 4.30 pm, with a noon to 1.00 pm lunch break.

Banks: Monday through Friday 9.30 am to 3.30 pm.

Retail stores: There is no fixed rule, but the larger department stores open around 10.00am and close around 9.00 pm

Smaller stores and markets open earlier and close later.

TIPPING

Hotels and restaurants generally add a 10 percent service charge, so additional tipping is optional



**REUNION
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Welcome to Thailand



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