

# Thailand Savor the Land of Smiles

A feast for the senses that will leave you wanting to come back for seconds.

## highlights

**Wildlife and Conservation.** Bathe elephants at the sustainable and ethically managed Elephant Nature Park. Snorkel and explore the hidden lagoons and other protected natural beauties in the Andaman Sea. Together, your family will experience the breathtaking natural splendor of Thailand.

**Spiritual Practice.** Thailand is a majority Buddhist country and you will see the grandeur of Buddhist temples and learn about how traditional Buddhist practices infuse daily life in Thailand—from Spirit Houses to monkhood you'll see the full range of influence.

**Cultural Exploration.** From national sports like sepak takraw—handless volleyball—and muay thai—Thai kickboxing—to the spicy and sweet flavors of their dishes, Thailand takes everything your family may be familiar with and turns it on its ear.

## at a glance

**Thailand turned up to II.** Hit the ground running with a showstopper of an evening at Bangkok's unique Thai-German beer hall/cabaret, Tawandang.

**Rival Royals.** In Chiang Rai and Chiang Mai, you'll explore the contours of the Lanna Kingdom. Once separate kingdoms, Lanna joined with Siam in the late 18th century to stand against the Burmese, and the area still bears distinct cultural differences from their counterparts across the rest of Thailand.

**Eye-to-eye.** Just outside of Chiang Mai, you'll get up close and personal with Asia's biggest mammals and Thailand's classic powerhouses of rural agriculture the Asian Elephant. You'll spend the day volunteering at this animal sanctuary and have a locally sourced sustainable lunch trunk to trunk with these great beasts.

**Sunset Dinner and Snorkeling in the Andaman Sea.** In one of the most picturesque settings on the globe you'll float between limestone islands and white powder beaches while dining on pad thai and curries.

**People-to-people.** In Bangkok, you'll spend a half day volunteering with a local Buddhist monastery. At some point in his life, each Thai male is expected to serve time as a monk and many monasteries act as schools for young men and boys who do not have anywhere else to turn. You'll give the opportunity to practice English to these monks and share across cultures to these young men and get to know more about the culture and spiritual practice of Thailand's largest religion.

## details

- 9 days, 8 nights in 4-star boutique hotels and resorts.
- Dedicated expert guides and private transportation throughout the trip.
- Comprehensive briefing packet for each participant, including destination information, logistical and contact information, reading list, and packing list.



“Every single detail was planned out and far exceeded our expectations.”

