



**0208 819 1111**

## **Bangkok & River Kwai Cruise**

6 Nights/7 Days

### **Tour Highlights:-**

- Visit the tallest stupa in the world
- Cruise on the RV River Kwai
- Experience the truly moving Donrak War Cemetery
- Discover the JEATH War Museum
- Tour through the largest cave in Kanchanaburi
- Admire the Bridge over the River Kwai

**From £2269 Price per person**

### **Overview:**

This tour combines a stay in Bangkok to explore all that the city has to offer with a cruise on board the RV River Kwai. Here you have an opportunity to see the Death Railway and the Bridge over the River Kwai, which was built by POW's in adverse conditions. The bridge is a major historical landmark with beautiful, wellkept surroundings. You will also be astounded by the physical attraction of the River Kwai, with its backdrop of breathtakingly beautiful mountains and valleys. As well as scenic sights of the river, step back in time and immerse yourself in history when you visit the JEATH war museum, dedicated to the POW's who constructed the death railway, and the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery, the burial of those POW's who sacrificed their lives. Prepare to learn all about Thai culture and traditions on this adventure filled with memorability and importance, telling a truly moving story.

### **Itinerary:**

#### **Day 1: London**

Today your journey begins as you depart London Heathrow on your Thai Airways flight.

#### **Day 2: Bangkok**

Upon your arrival in Bangkok, check in to the cosmopolitan Bangkok Cha-da Hotel.

Today is at your leisure, so you may choose to relax at the hotel's spa, which offers a variety of western and Thai treatments. You can also unwind by the fabulous rooftop pool and witness scenic city views from the sundeck. The Bangkok Cha-da also has a 24-hour restaurant and bar serving Thai food, international dishes, tasty drinks and cocktails, as well as many cakes and snacks, so you won't go hungry or thirsty here.

Located right in the centre of Bangkok, the Cha-Da hotel has easy access to the transport links and the MRT station. Therefore, you can explore parts of the city if you wish and perhaps even do some shopping. Alternatively, you can check with us about optional tours in Bangkok.

### **Day 3: Bangkok–Kanchanaburi–Ban Kao (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)**

Between 6:00 and 7:00am, you will be picked up from your hotel and be driven by coach to Kanchanaburi. En route, we will stop over at Phra Pathom Chedi, the tallest stupa in the world, which is situated right in the centre of an enormous central square. When you approach the site from the North Gate, you are welcomed with exquisite marble stairs which then follow onto to a golden Buddha statue.

Afterwards, you will visit the Khao Noi Cave Temple, which is a well-known location for meditation and relaxation. Tham Khao Noi also means 'Temple of the Small Cave'. You will also be stopping at the Tiger Cave Temple, a religious site for local monks that consists of many natural caves. Thereafter, continue on to visit the JEATH War Museum, home to many impressive shrines and statues, and also the Wat Tham Khaopoon, a Buddhist temple where locals come to pray.

At noon, you will climb on board the RV River Kwai and enjoy some lunch. The afternoon is at your leisure, so you can explore or take a stroll around some local areas for some cultural insight. Later return to the boat and continue up river to the Wang Pla Moo Bridge.

Dinner and overnight stay is included on board.

### **Day 4: Ban Kao-Sai Yok (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)**

After breakfast, you will cruise on, passing the Kwai Noi River, stopping at the Prasat Muang Singh Historical Park, nicknamed as 'Lion City' and Khmer Kingdom. This historical park is considered to be one of the best religious structures in Thailand with its Khmer-style architecture dating back to the Lopburi period. Then continue your journey by road to the Tha Kilen Train Station and catch a train to the Krasae Cave. After you return on the cruise boat, you can enjoy some lunch and leisure time. Later dinner will be served and you can enjoy another overnight stay.

### **Day 5: Sai Yok-Sai Yok Yai-Ban Hin Dad (Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner)**

After your breakfast, walk up the hill to visit the Kaeng Lawa Cave, the largest cave in Kanchanaburi. Surrounded by complete wilderness and mountains, this cave is situated close to the river Kwai Noi. Keep an eye out for the Khun Kitti bat here - the smallest bat in the world. Very popular in this area of Thailand, so make sure you have your camera ready to catch those unusual snapshots!

After this fantastic experience you will return on board where the cruise will continue on to Ban Haad Ngiu. When you arrive here, catch a coach to Hell Fire Pass, which is considered as the most appealing war memorial in Kanchanaburi.

Afterwards, climb back on board the cruiser at Kaeng Pa Lorm. Have lunch on board and spend another afternoon at leisure. Visit a boarding school built under the patronage of H.R.H. Crown Princess Sirindhorn for refugee children nearby the bank. The evening will include a farewell dinner for you to relish. This will be your last overnight stay on board, so make the most of it!

### **Day 6: Sai Yok-Sai Yok Yai-Ban Hin Dad (Breakfast & Lunch)**

This morning will start bright and early and consists of offering food to monks at a local temple. Thereafter, you will enjoy breakfast on board, and then head back to Kanchanaburi by coach.

Upon your arrival, you will visit the Thailand-Burma Railway Centre Museum, where you will receive both an educational and touching experience. A visit to Donrak War Cemetery is also included. This is a truly moving site that has almost 7,000 Prisoner of War graves laid out amongst the immaculate gardens. Your final visit will be to the legendary bridge over the River Kwai.

Afterwards, have lunch at the local restaurant and make your journey back to Bangkok (arrival time around



18.00pm). Check in to the modern chic 4 star Furama Silom Bangkok hotel for your overnight stay.

#### **Day 7: Depart Back to London**

Check out of your hotel in the morning, and travel to the airport for your flight back to London.

#### **Please Note:**

Ask us about optional extensions to Pattaya, Cha am, Hua Hin or additional nights in Bangkok.

#### **Inclusions:**

- Economy flights on Thai Airways London-Bangkok-London
- 1 night pre tour and 1 night post tour accomodation in Bangkok as specified
- Accommodation in air-conditioned cabin on RV River Kwai
- Meals as specified, coffee & tea and drinking water
- Entrance fees
- Transfers & sightseeing with English speaking guide

#### **Exclusions:**

- Expenditure of a personal nature i.e. telephone calls, laundry, mini bar, other meals and beverages as well other services that are not mentioned in itinerary

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