

# Siam Bike pedals north the long way

*Southern Thai-based Siam Bike Tours is adding programmes to Chiang Mai and Mae Hong Son in 2008.*

## Bo Luangtong

PHUKET-based Siam Bike Tours will be offering two new programmes starting late 2008 that focus on visits to northern Thai-

land starting at Bt45,600 for a 10-day trip excluding airfare.

Siam Bike Tours mainly operates programmes from Bangkok to southern Thai provinces such as Phuket and Samui Island. It also offers cycle routes, with full support, from Phuket to Ranong and Khao Sok National Park.

Most of the long-distance routes are ideal for road cyclists

training for amateur races or triathlons, who require varied terrain to build endurance.

Company owner, Martin Brot, says he will launch two new programmes to visit Chiang Mai and Mae Hong Son, so cyclo-tourists can visit different environments to what the company offers in southern provinces. The main targets are Europeans and Australian

enthusiasts or club riders.

The 10-day programme on the Chiang Mai-Mae Hong Son-Chiang Mai route costs Bt45,600 and includes a tough climb of Doi Inthanon, Thailand's highest mountain at 2,595 metres. The tour is set for 9 to 18 November 2008.

The easier Chiang Mai-Bangkok route begins in northern Thailand and crosses the central region finishing in Bangkok. Cyclists can visit historical cities along the way such Sukhothai, Kamphaeng Phet and Ayutthaya, on the UNESCO's world heritage list. This programme will operate from 21 November to 1 December 2008, for Bt50,400.

The two packages include accommodation with breakfast, full service and bike maintenance, English speaking guide and insurance. All tours will consist of groups with four to 16 participants.

Most cyclists joining a tour of this nature will bring their own cycles, but the company does provide cycles at an additional rental starting at Bt2,850 per week.

Most participants bring their own helmets and specialised



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shoes with cleats for the rides.

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