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Northern Thailand – Golden Triangle

Tour ID: I

Northern Thailand tour through the jungle covered North into the infamous Golden Triangle. The name comes from the meeting of Thailand, Laos and Myanmar here.

11 days | 10 nights | 8 stages from 40 to 105 km | 44 – 65 miles,
Total distance = 635 km | 395 miles | 1 day of rest in Chiang Rai



Chiang Mai – the Rose of the North is located about 700 km (450 miles) northwest of Bangkok and is surrounded by jungle-covered mountains that rise up to 1500 m (5000 feet). In Northern Thailand, a Mediterranean climate prevails, resulting in an outstanding richness of vegetation. Several unique species of orchids and roses can be found here, as well as strawberries and numerous tropical fruits. It is Thailand's second city, and features over one hundred temples and pagodas within a delightful walled old town. This ancient trading stronghold is considered the centre of many sophisticated arts & crafts including woodcarving, silk weaving, embroidery, silver jewellery, furniture, pottery, and many more. In its world-famous night market, these objects d'art are displayed on the streets after sunset. Chiang Mai is an ideal starting point for our biking tour across the fascinating Northern Thailand.



1st day

Chiang Mai

Individual arrival and transfer to the hotel, where we will meet and spend the next two nights. In the evening we will gather for a welcome and orientation in the hotel. You will receive all information regarding the tour and learn some interesting trivia about our host country. We will also hand out the Siam Bike Tours jerseys to all participants. We follow on with a dinner together, during which we will have the opportunity to get to know one another.

2nd day

Sightseeing Chiang Mai

1st stage Chiang Mai – Chiang Mai = 40 km / 25 miles, flat warm up stage

In the morning, we take a trip in our minibus to the justly famous temple Doi Suthep, which perches at 1050 m (3,500 ft) above sea level. 290 steps up the dragon staircase take you to the main entrance and to its centre, where the holy pagoda contains Buddhist relics. In the afternoon we can choose to visit various arts & craft workshops that will give you an insight into the manufacture of silk, paper umbrellas and varnish. Later in the afternoon the bikes will be set up and adjusted. We start to a short warm up stage along the Mae Ping river. You may use the rest of the evening to visit the night market or simply enjoy the idyllic old town's charm and exotic ambiance. **B**

3rd day

2nd stage, Chiang Mai - Chiang Dao = 93 km / 58 miles, 500 m / 1,640 ft. ascent

With a short ride through the city we say good-bye to Chiang Mai. An undulating ride takes us through the jungle covered mountains to Chiang Dao. Here springs the source of the Maenam Ping, the biggest river in the Chiang Mai province. The nearby Doi Chiang Dao catches our eyes, as it stands at an impressive 7,135 feet above sea level, making it the third highest mountain in Thailand. Nearby is the famous Dao cave (Tham Chiang Dao), which you can explore in the afternoon. **B | L**

4th day

3rd stage: Chiang Dao - Thaton = 102 km / 63 miles, 610 m / 2,001 ft. ascent

We carry on along the undulating road through the jungle covered mountains to Thaton, with some steeper climbs and small hamlets along the way. Ban Thaton is a little village in the very north of the Chiang Mai province, bordering Myanmar. In the afternoon we enjoy a long tail boat cruise on the Maekok river. **B | L**

5th day

4th stage: Thaton - Mae Chan = 72 Km / 45 miles, 785 m / 2,575 ft. ascent

This stage leads us through a hilly landscape surrounded by rice paddies. We ride through little fruit orchards and idyllic hamlets. Outside of Mae Chan, a small road leads us to a hill where the Katiliya Mountain Resort & Spa located like an oasis in the middle of the forest, offering a breath-taking view. The pure luxury of this estate will make this an unforgettable hotel for us all - "where luxury meets nature". **B**

6th day

5th stage, Mae Chan - Golden Triangle = 70 km / 43 miles, 140 m / 459 ft. ascent

Today we ride into the little border town of Mae Sai "The northern most town of Thailand", which borders Myanmar. This flat stage of our tour leads us to the infamous golden triangle. The name "Golden Triangle" derives from the triangular shape formed by the three countries: Myanmar (Burma), Thailand and Laos. A river cruise along the banks of the Golden Triangle on the Mekong River excited us in the afternoon. **B | L**



7th day

6th stage: Golden Triangle - Chiang Rai = 70 km / 43 miles, flat

For the first few miles, we pedal along the Mekong river towards Chiang Saen. We then turn and ride in the direction of Chiang Rai, passing an ocean of rice paddies along the way. Chiang Rai is the northern most provincial capital of Thailand. It is located 730 km / 454 miles north of Bangkok. The town is nestled in the midst of a splendid mountain range within the Golden Triangle. It lies to the right of the Maekok River, a tributary to the mighty Mekong River. We stay here for the following two nights in the luxury Le Meridien – Chiang Rai resort, and enjoy the magnificent estate. **B | L**

8th day

Rest day in Chiang Rai

The Le Meridien is the only 5 Star Resort in Chiang Rai province, and offers its guest's rooms that are both luxurious and stylish. The resort is located on a huge estate directly on the Maekok riverbank and only a few minutes' drive away from Chiang Rai. There are a multitude of activities on offer, including spa therapy, refreshing and cooling off in the beautiful pool, or simply enjoying the beauty of the place. The hotel also offers trips to the surrounding attractions on request. We leave you to explore the fascinating region of Chiang Rai at your own pace. **B**

9th day

7th stage: Chiang Rai - Phayao = 105 km / 65 miles, 315 m / 1,033 ft. ascent

Today's stage is basically flat with a few undulating parts. We ride past countless rice paddies and through traditional hamlets. The city of Phayao is located in the mountainous landscape, on the banks of a 4-mile-long and 2.5 mile wide Kwan Phayao Lake. We spend the night directly on the beautiful lake promenade. **B | L**



10th day – Mae Kachan Hot Spring & Geyser

8th stage: Phayao - Chiang Mai = 83 km / 52 miles, 1,100 m / 3,608 ft. ascent




















Bus transfer to the hotel 70 km / 44 miles

Today we enjoy another exciting stage, with a few longer, but not steeper ascents. We roll through the beautiful hills and forests. As we pedal through traditional villages, friendly locals greet us. In Mae Kachan we get off the bike and relax our legs in the thermal spring. After lunch, the bus brings us to Chiang Mai, where we can look forward to spending the night in the already well-known hotel. While enjoying our final dinner together (not included), we raise a toast to the fantastic tour, and reflect on our experiences and impressions of the stunning country. **B | L**





11th day - Departure day

Individual journey back home or extension as one chooses

Included services

-  All overnight accommodation includes breakfast – **B**
-  **All meals during the stages – L**
-  Coffee breaks including ice coffee, or hot coffee, or tea
-  Isotonic drinks, coke, water and fruits provided on all stages
-  English-speaking tour guide
-  Team jersey
-  Team back pack
-  Team wallet
-  0.75 l drinking bottle
-  Isotonic drinks and fruits provided on all stages
-  Trip to Doi Suthep and Handicraft tour
-  Cave tour Chiang Dao
-  River cruise Thaton and Golden Triangle
-  Escort bus with luggage trailer, passengers possible
-  National Park fees
-  Repair service
-  Additional insurance throughout duration of tour
-  Pictures for download
-  **Royal Service** (first-class all-round service. We collect your helmets and shoes, fill up your bottles, serve you with refreshing towels and maintain your bike.....)

Not included services (rates in Thai Baht per taxi)

-  Bike rentals (**A large selection of rental bikes is available**)
-  Transfer to Hotel Chiang Mai, appr. THB 200
-  Optional tip for the staff
-  All other meals