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**Chiang Mai – Bangkok (Ayutthaya)**

**Tour ID: F**

Cultural highlights from enchanting Northern Thailand through the fertile central plain. We visit the UNESCO World Heritage temples of Kamphaeng Phet, Sukhothai and Ayutthaya. Mainly flat route.

**12 days | 11 nights | 8 cycling stages from 75 to 128 km | Total 817 km**

**Rest day in Sukhothai**





**Chiang Mai - the Rose of the North** - is located about 700 km northwest of Bangkok and is surrounded by jungle-covered mountains, rising up to 1,500 masl. In Northern Thailand, a Mediterranean climate prevails, resulting in an astoundingly rich vegetation. Several unique species of orchids and roses can be found here, as well as strawberries and numerous tropical fruits. Chiang Mai hides treasures from almost seven centuries. It is Thailand's second city, and features over one hundred temples and pagodas within a delightful walled old town. Among its countless backstreets, travellers will discover restaurants featuring a distinctive local cuisine. 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 cycling tour to Ayutthaya.

## **Day 1**

### **Arrival Chiang Mai**

Individual arrival and transfer to the hotel where we will meet and spend the next three nights. It is located in the bohemian Nimmanhaemin district with its countless cafes, restaurants and shops. 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.

## **Day 2**

### **Sightseeing Chiang Mai**

In the morning, we take our bus up to the famous temple Doi Suthep, which perches 1,050 masl. 290 steps take you up the dragon staircase to the main entrance and to the temple's centre; the holy pagoda contains Buddhist relics. In the afternoon, we have the opportunity to visit various arts & craft workshops that will give you an insight into the manufacturing processes of silk, paper umbrellas and varnish. Later in the afternoon the bikes will be set up and adjusted. In the evening you may visit the night market or simply stroll through artsy Nimmanhaemin. **B incl.**



### **Day 3**

#### **1<sup>st</sup> stage, Chiang Mai – Lampang = 107 km**

After a short ride through the town, we bid farewell to Chiang Mai (300 masl). We ride along the meandering Mae Ping River before passing the city of Lamphun. After several easy ascents, we reach Lampang, our day's goal. On the way, we will visit an elephant training camp and watch the friendly animals at work. Lampang is well known for its colourfully decorated horse-drawn carriages, and for its white clay pottery. Our hotel is conveniently located in the city centre. **B | L incl.**

### **Day 4**

#### **2<sup>nd</sup> stage, Lampang – Phrae = 103 km**

This stage takes us through a jungle-clad mountain landscape. This stretch features plenty of minor climbs and rewards us with magnificent vistas of temples and stunning views of smaller villages. Phrae is one of the oldest cities in Thailand. It was founded in the 11th century as part of the Hariphunchai Kingdom of the Mon. **B | L incl.**

### **Day 5**

#### **3<sup>rd</sup> stage, Phrae – Uttaradit = 75 km**

We leave the provincial capital Phrae with its numerous old buildings, which were built in the typical teak construction Burmese. After a short climb with a very nice view we reach Uttaradit. **B | L incl.**

### **Day 6**

#### **4<sup>th</sup> stage: Uttaradit – Sukhothai, 112 km**

The remainder of our stages through to Ayutthaya will be pretty much completely flat. We'll ride on peaceful low-traffic back roads, passing vast rice paddies, temples and quaint villages to arrive at Sukhothai, a former capital of Ancient Thailand. Here, we can look forward to a well-deserved massage and the amenities of our modern hotel. **B | L incl.**



### **Day 7**

#### **Rest day in Sukhothai**

On our rest day, we have a visit to the Historical Park Sukhothai on the agenda. In 1987, it was reopened after ten years of restoration work and is considered one of the most important Buddhist landmarks in Asia, as well as being a UNESCO World Heritage site. It is a sprawling complex with 16 Buddhist temples, 4 Hindu shrines, ornamental ponds, ramparts and trenches over a 70 square kilometre area. We spend the rest of the day relaxing by the refreshing hotel pool. **B incl.**

### **Day 8**

#### **5<sup>th</sup> stage, Sukhothai – Kamphaeng Phet = 86 km**

Today, we pedal our bikes on historical soil across Kamphaeng Phet province. Its glory period was from the late Sukhothai to early Ayutthaya era. The archaeological sites in the city's historical park, both inside and outside the city's walls. **B | L incl.**

### **Day 9**

#### **6<sup>th</sup> stage, Kamphaeng Phet – Nakhon Sawan = 127 km**

Today's ride takes us through a very picturesque landscape. Plantations producing a variety of regional fruits border our route to Nakhon Sawan, considered as the gateway to Northern Thailand. Four major rivers flow through this province: Rivers Ping, Yom, Nan and the famous Chao Phraya, the latter of which flows through Bangkok and into the Gulf of Siam, marking -Thailand's traditional centre.

**B | L incl.**

### **Day 10**

#### **7<sup>th</sup> stage, Nakhon Sawan – Sing Buri = 128 km**

From our bikes we can observe farmers dressed in their typical round hats at work in the fields, cultivating rice. We roll past traditional villages and countless rice fields. We stay in a clean modest hotel on the outskirts of Sing Buri, a typical Thai town. **B | L incl.**

## Day 11: Final stage

### 8<sup>th</sup> Stage, Sing Buri – Ayutthaya = 79 km

Rice paddies, shrimp farms and fruit orchards line our way to Thailand's former capital Ayutthaya, which ruled historical Siam for four hundred years. UNESCO has designated it a World Heritage Site. Magnificent historical temples and ruins invite us for a visit. From our hotel, we have a wonderful view over the River Pasak. We can look forward to spending another night in a delightful hotel and enjoying a group dinner where we can toast to a great tour and reflect over and savour our experiences and accomplishments. **B** **incl.**

## Day 12

### Departure day and end of an exciting tour

If required, we can arrange a transfer to Bangkok City or to Bangkok Airport. The journey to both destinations takes about 1.5 hours. **B incl.**

### Included services

- All overnight accommodations with breakfast
- All meals mentioned: 10 x B = Breakfast | 6 x L = Lunch
- All coffee breaks: Iced coffee, delicious hot blended coffee beverages or tea
- Isotonic drinks, cola, water and fresh fruit on all stages
- German or English speaking tour guide
- Team jersey | Team backpack | Team wallet | Drinking bottle 0.75 l
- Accompanying van with possibility to ride along
- Trip to Doi Suthep and Handicraft tour
- Temple tour in Sukhothai and Ayutthaya
- Temple entry fees and National Park fees
- Repair service
- Additional insurance during the tour
- Photos for downloading
- **Full Service** (Bottle refills, refreshing towelettes, storage of helmets and shoes and much more...)

### Services NOT included

- Bike rental (we offer a large selection of [Canyon rental bikes](#))
- Transfer to Hotel Chiang Mai, appr. THB 200
- Alcoholic beverages
- Voluntary tips