

## Suggested Packing List – Thailand

*We recommend that you check the weather forecast prior to your departure so that you can pack accordingly.*

Average Temperatures	March – May (Summer)		
	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain mm
<b>BANGKOK</b>	26/33	HIGH	97
<b>CHIANG MAI</b>	21/34	HIGH	67
<b>CHIANG RAI</b>	17/35	HIGH	106
<b>PHUKET</b>	24/32	HIGH	180
Average Temperatures	June – October (Rainy)		
	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain mm
<b>BANGKOK</b>	25/32	VERY HIGH	206
<b>CHIANG MAI</b>	23/31	VERY HIGH	223
<b>CHIANG RAI</b>	21/32	VERY HIGH	235
<b>PHUKET</b>	24/30	HIGH	288
Average Temperatures	November – February (Winter)		
	Temp °C min/max	Humidity	Rain Mm
<b>BANGKOK</b>	22/31	HIGH	22
<b>CHIANG MAI</b>	16/29	MED	15
<b>CHIANG RAI</b>	13/29	HIGH	22
<b>PHUKET</b>	23/31	HIGH	78

Thailand's climate is tropical and humid for the majority of the country during most of the year. It is controlled by tropical monsoons that affect the northern and southern areas of Thailand differently.

The southern region of Thailand really has only two seasons – the wet and the dry. These seasons do not run at the same time on both the east and west side of the peninsular. On the west coast the southwest monsoon brings rain and often heavy storms from April through to October, whilst on the east coast the most rain falls between September and December. In southern Thailand the temperatures are fairly stable throughout the year.

In Northern Thailand the seasons are more clearly defined. November to February is the winter period with cooler temperatures. The temperatures in the far north can drop significantly during the evenings, making it very cold. Summer is from March through to the end of May and can be very hot and generally dryer. June to November is dominated by the southwest monsoon, during which time rainfall in the north is at its heaviest.

### **Example packing list:**

- ✓ Your travel documents and passport- including a photocopy of your passport in case it is lost or stolen while you are abroad. Keep one photocopy at home and take another photocopy on your trip with you.
- ✓ Main luggage and 'day bag' – a smaller bag to carry with you during the day.
- ✓ Luggage padlocks.
- ✓ Money belt to carry passport, cash, credit cards, airline tickets, etc.
- ✓ Comfortable trousers and shorts (or skirts for women).
- ✓ Shirts or tops of light cotton material.
- ✓ Smart casual clothes are suitable for evening banquets and shows, but are not compulsory.
- ✓ Walking shoes, sandals and socks – it is important to have sturdy and comfortable shoes for sightseeing every day.
- ✓ A water/windproof jacket and small umbrella.
- ✓ Light jumpers – great for layering.
- ✓ Sun protection – hat, sunscreen, sunglasses and lip balm.
- ✓ Swimming costume.
- ✓ Personal medical kit – please refer to *your Travel Guide*.
- ✓ Antibacterial wipes and or gel – to clean hands before eating.
- ✓ Some clothing covering the knees and shoulders for visits to religious sites. Women may find a 'modesty shawl' or sarong useful.
- ✓ Old pair of socks to wear when visiting temples.
- ✓ Small torch, conversion plug and spare batteries – batteries available to buy in Thailand tend to be unreliable.
- ✓ Camera and spare memory cards/film – memory cards are available to buy in Thailand, but quality can be questionable.
- ✓ Spare glasses/contact lenses – it is difficult to get any prescription lenses repaired or replaced in Thailand.
- ✓ Toilet paper – not all sightseeing public toilets will provide this.
- ✓ Snacks – tea/coffee bags, milk powder or sachets, muesli bars, instant soups or noodles, or anything else you can't live without!
- ✓ Home stay in Mae Kampong – 'Sleep sheet' or compact and lightweight sleeping bag – at remote accommodations linen is provided but possibly not up to Australian standard.
- ✓ Tracksuit/similar outfit of soft material is recommended for overnight train journeys as well as a small bath towel.

Please note, due to restrictions on your internal flights, your luggage allowance is 20kg for checked luggage and 5kg for hand luggage.

**\*\*Please note:** There is a strict dress code at the Grand Palace in Bangkok.

You must cover your knees and shoulders. Sandals or flip flops are not acceptable. Please ensure you have appropriate clothing for this visit. If you are unsure about the type of clothing you will need to wear on any day, please seek advice from your National Escort.