

The Lost Passport

BANGKOK

local insights



Welcome to Bangkok,

The second largest city in Southeast Asia and capital of Thailand.

Although I never imagined it before I moved there, Bangkok became my home for 5 years. In this time, I explored so many great destinations, which I have documented here in detail for you.

With a population tipping 10 million, Bangkok truly is a city that never sleeps. You can find food stalls opening in the early hours of the morning, a rush hour that goes from 7am to 10am, then another rush hour from 5pm to 10pm.

As night approaches, the city really comes to life with restaurants, bars, street vendors and so much more.

Whether you want to make a day trip to a floating market, go shopping for the best bargains, or try to real authentic foods, you will find it all in here.

This guide contains over 50 local destinations right in Bangkok. There are also loads of great day trips to make in the surrounding areas.

You will never go bored in Bangkok, and you will certainly think twice about making it a pass-through pit stop.

Cheers,

Josh Shephard

[The Lost Passport](#)

(Version 3.0)

Contents

Transport in Bangkok.....	7
▪ BTS Skytrain	7
▪ MRT Underground.....	7
▪ Airport Link	7
▪ Buses	9
▪ Motorbike Taxis	9
▪ Taxi	9
Accommodation in Bangkok.....	10
▪ Ibis Styles, Phrakanong	10
▪ 12 th Avenue Hotel, Nana.....	10
▪ Cazz Hostel, Phrakanong	11
▪ NapPark Hostel, Khao Sarn Road	11
▪ The Yard Hostel, Ari	11
Outdoors.....	12
▪ Bang Krachao.....	13
▪ Koh Kret	13
▪ Street Art in Chinatown.....	14
▪ Phrakanong Canal Boat Ride	15
▪ Thonburi Canal Boat Ride	16
▪ Safari Park Open Zoo	16
▪ Cooking School	17
▪ Chinatown (Yaowarat)	18
▪ Muay Thai Boxing (Lumpinee Stadium)	18
▪ Sathorn Unique Tower (Ghost Tower)	19
▪ Aeroplane Graveyard	19
▪ Jim Thompson House.....	20

▪ Artist's House (Baan Silapin)	20
Markets	21
▪ Chatuchak Weekend Market	22
▪ Damnoen Saduak Floating Market	22
▪ Bang Nam Pheung Floating Market	23
▪ Khlong Lat Mayom Floating Market	23
▪ Amphawa Floating Market	24
▪ Wang Lang Market	24
▪ Khlong Teoi Fresh Market	25
▪ Or Tor Kor Fresh Market	25
▪ Maeklong Railway Market	26
▪ Pak Khlong Flower Market	27
▪ Asiatique	27
Night Markets	28
▪ Rot Fai Srinakarin	29
▪ Rot Fai Ratchada	29
▪ W District	30
Sports	31
▪ Taco Lake Wake Park	32
▪ Surfing at Flow House	32
Shopping	33
▪ Siam Paragon	34
▪ CentralWorld	34
▪ EmQuartier	34
▪ Siam Discovery	35
▪ Pantip Plaza	35
▪ Terminal 21	35
▪ MBK	36

▪ Platinum Fashion Mall	36
▪ Mega Bang Na.....	36
Parks	37
▪ Sri Nakhon Khuean Khan Park.....	38
▪ Chatuchak Rotfai Park.....	38
▪ Benjakitti Park	38
▪ Benjasiri Park	38
▪ Lumpini Park	39
▪ Buddhamonthon Park.....	39
Temples.....	40
▪ Wat Phra Kaew (Grand Palace).....	41
▪ Wat Arun	41
▪ Wat Pho (the reclining Buddha)	42
▪ Erawan Shrine.....	42
Suburbs	43
Sukhumvit Road.....	44
Siam.....	44
Phrom Pong (Sukhumvit 39)	44
Thong Lor (Sukhumvit 55).....	44
Ekkamai (Sukhumvit 63)	45
Onnut (Sukhumvit 77)	45
Paya Thai / Ratchatewi	46
Silom.....	46
Ari (Pahonyothin 7)	47
Nightlife.....	48
▪ Old Dirty	48
▪ Soul Bar.....	Error! Bookmark not defined.
▪ Skytrain Jazz Bar.....	48

BANGKOK Travel Guide

- Wanderlust Rooftop Bar48
- Lan Lom49
- Brick Bar.....49
- Saxophone Bar.....50
- Tak Su Ra50
- Heap.....51
- CoCo Walk51
- Amazing Food.....52
 - Onnut Fresh Market.....52
 - Pa Yak Boat Noodles, Victory Monument52
 - Best Beef, Onnut52
 - Jay Fai, Phra Nakhon53
 - Khao Moo Deng, Victory Monument53
 - Mango Sticky Rice, Thong Lor.....53
 - Chinese-Thai Style, Chulalongkorn54
- City Escapes.....55
 - Ayutthaya56
 - Koh Larn.....57
 - Kanchanaburi57

Transport in Bangkok

The vast amount of transport options in Bangkok may seem completely overwhelming, so here I'm giving you a quick crash course.

▪ **BTS Skytrain**

There are two BTS Skytrain lines across Bangkok which both meet at Siam Station in the centre of the city. The first is the Sukhumvit line which runs from Mo Chit to Samrong. The second is the Silom line which runs from National Stadium to Bang Wa.

Trains run frequently every 5 to 10 minutes depending on the time of day. During peak hours (8am to 9.30am and 6pm to 7pm) the trains can be very full, and it is not uncommon to wait for 3 or 4 trains to pass before getting on. The busiest stations are Siam and Asoke.

The last train runs at about 11.50pm, after this the gates to the BTS Stations will be locked.

▪ **MRT Underground**

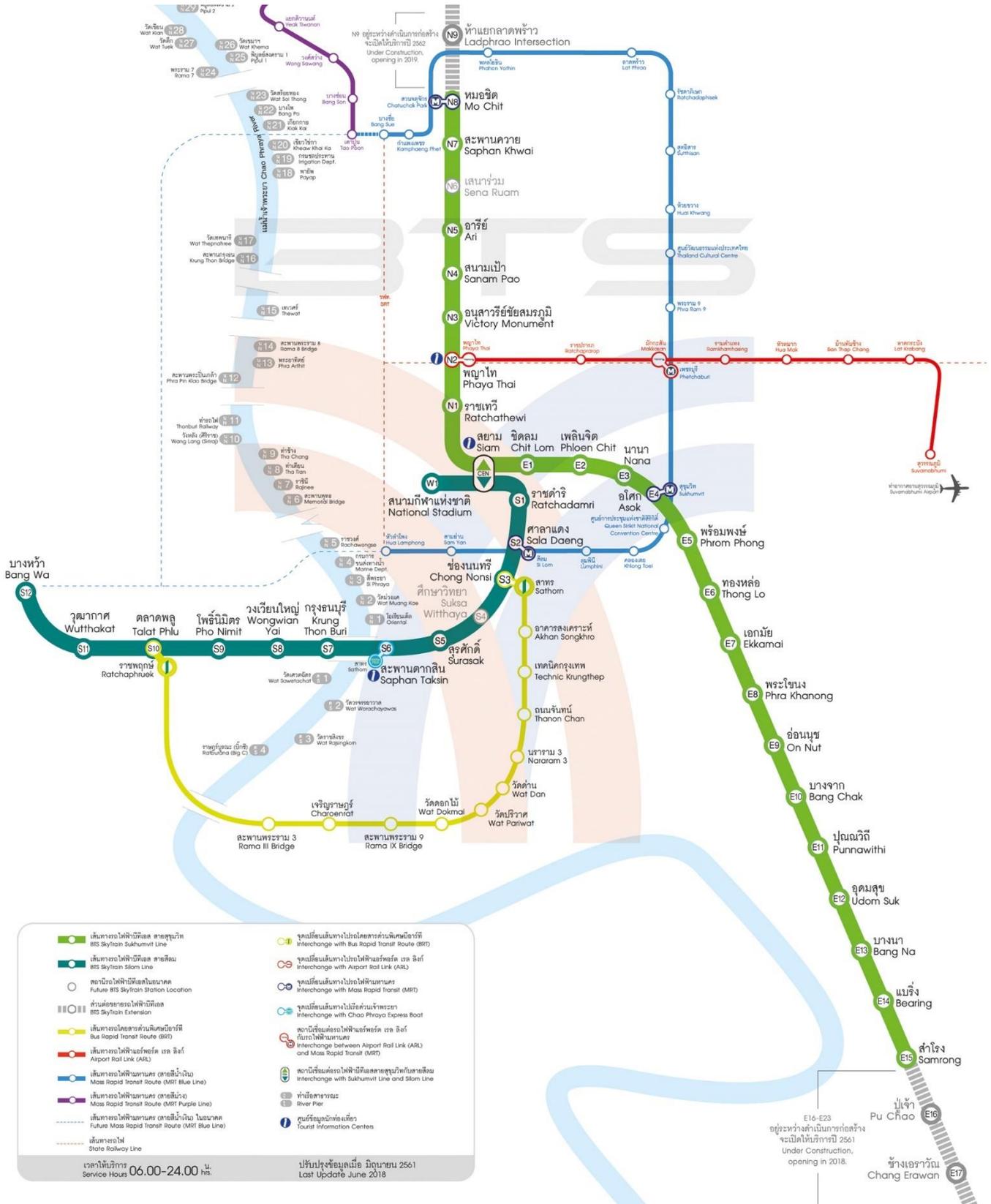
There is one MRT Underground line running from Bang Sue to Hua Lampong. The MRT line intersects with the BTS Skytrain at Mo Chit, Asoke, and Sala Daeng.

▪ **Airport Link**

The airport link is another above ground train line, yet a separate company from the BTS Skytrain. The Airport Link connects Bangkok city center with a lot of the outer eastern suburbs like Hua Mak and Ramkamhaeng, and finally the international airport at Suvarnabhumi.

There is one line running from Paya Thai (city end) to Suvarnabhumi Airport. A trip from the city to the airport takes about 30 minutes. The airport link intersects with the BTS Skytrain at Paya Thai, and the MRT Underground at Phetchaburi.

BANGKOK Travel Guide



▪ Buses

Local buses are old, slow, hot and overcrowded. Most are not airconditioned, and they move so slow in the traffic that you won't even get a breeze to cool you down. During my five years in Bangkok I took a local bus once and will never take one again. For your sanity, I suggest you don't either.

Intercity buses are much more comfortable and commonly have air conditioning. These buses require you to pre-book a ticket before you travel. In peak times such as public holidays it is quite common for buses to be fully booked out. Intercity bus terminals include:

Ekkamai ([location](#)) – buses heading south east

Sai Tai Mai ([location](#)) – buses heading south and west

Sai Tai Kao ([location](#)) – buses heading south and west

Mo Chit ([location](#)) – Buses heading north

▪ Motorbike Taxis

There are motorbike taxi stands located all over Bangkok, commonly at BTS Skytran and MRT Underground Stations. The riders will take you to a local destination for a low fare ranging from 20 THB to 50 THB.

Motorbike taxis are best for travel to destinations less than 1km away. Any further and you are either better of hopping in a taxi or taking the BTS or MRT a little further if possible.

▪ Taxi

Taxis in Bangkok are a cheap method of transport. Insist that your driver use a meter instead of a flat rate as it will always be cheaper. You should also agree whether or not to use the expressway (*tang duan*) from the start of the journey. You will have to pay the expressway tolls in addition to the taxi meter, however it generally works out cheaper than sitting in traffic for the extra hour.

Accommodation in Bangkok

There's definitely no shortage of hostels, hotels and guesthouses to choose from in Bangkok. Don't get stuck with a terrible hotel wishing you'd made a better decision. Here are a few of my personal favourites:

Mid-Range

- **Ibis Styles, Phrakanong**

Ibis Styles is a fresh new hotel by Accor, located in the lively lower Sukhumvit suburb of Phrakanong. The hotel has a buffet breakfast and outdoor pool located on level 7 overlooking the BTS Skytrain line.

You will find an authentic suburban Bangkok lifestyle just a short walk across the river towards Onnut. Less than a 5 minute walk in the other direction you will also find the huge W-District Night Market, definitely one of the best food markets in Bangkok.

[Book it now](#) (from USD 35 per night)

- **12th Avenue Hotel, Nana**

If you want to be located closer to the city centre, then 12th Avenue Hotel is a great choice. This hotel is quite central, and a little more luxury, so the price is a bit higher.

You'll love the outdoor pool with jacuzzi seats. The tall palm tree surrounding the pool will make you feel like you're already down on the islands.

[Book it now](#) (from USD 60 per night)

Budget

▪ Cazz Hostel, Phrakanong

Not near the Khao Sarn Road backpacking district, but surrounded by an authentic suburban Bangkok vibe. Lots of my top destinations in Bangkok are located in the area surrounding this hostel. It's also a very short walk to Phrakanong BTS Station.

[Book it now](#) (from USD 6 per night)

▪ NapPark Hostel, Khao Sarn Road

For those that want to be right in the middle of the Khao Sarn Road backpacking district. This funky, top rated hostel will put you in the right place to meet loads of other travellers. Works well if you're a solo traveller.

[Book it now](#) (from USD 8 per night)

▪ The Yard Hostel, Ari

Ari is Bangkok's trendy hipster neighbourhood with loads of great coffee shops, restaurants and bars. Expect a more laid-back atmosphere than the backpacker mecca at Khao Sarn Road. Right out the front of The Yard Hostel you will find the small burger store "Paper, Butter and the Burger." These are by far the best burgers in all of Bangkok.

[Book it now](#) (from USD 13 per night)

Outdoors



▪ Bang Krachao

There is a little slice of nature nestled in the heart of Bangkok, surrounded by the mighty Chao Praya River. Bang Krachao provides Bangkok a breath of fresh air and therefore commonly called the Lungs of Bangkok.

This green oasis has managed to withstand Bangkok's rapid development. Forget traffic jams, here you can hire a bicycle for just 70 THB and explore. Where skyscrapers typically stand, you will find small community farms and home restaurants with traditional eats.

Be sure to drop into the Bang Nam Peung Floating market on weekends and the Sri Nakhon Khuean Khan Park on any day of the week. I've included more information about both of these later in this guide.

For an unforgettable experience, try staying a overnight in a treehouse with a view of the Chao Praya River at the [Bangkok Treehouse](#). This is the most unique hotel in Bangkok, one you have to see to believe. Even if you don't stay there, I'd suggest visiting during the day.

When: Bang Krachao is open 24 hours, 7 days a week. Any day is a good time to visit. The Bang Nam Peung Floating Market is only open on weekends from early morning to about 3pm.

Get there: cross the Chao Praya River via a short ferry ride. A one-way ticket costs just 4 THB (\$0.10). Ferries crossing to Bang Krachao depart from Bangna ([location](#)), Klong Toei and Chong Nongs ([location](#)).

▪ Koh Kret

Koh Kret is one of the most relaxing places to hang in outer Bangkok. Imagine a slow village life, the cool breeze sitting by the Chao Praya River, and no cars.

Choose to explore the 5km island circuit by foot or by bicycle. When you are too tired to walk just call out to an orange vested motorbike taxi. They will pick you up for just 30 THB.

The north east of Koh Kret is a local market, which is loaded with hand made pottery and traditional Thai sweets. Veer down a back alley to discover the houses where this pottery is made. This is going straight to the source.

After a long day, you have to stop by the local Koh Kret Brewery (Chit Beer) for some tasty microbrews. Brews are on tap and change on a weekly basis, so there is always something new.

When: Koh Kret is open 7 days a week. Any day is a good time to visit. The market and microbrewery are open on weekends.

Get there:

- **Boat:** The most interesting way to get to Koh Kret from Bangkok is by boat on the Chao Praya River. Take the Chao Praya Express from Saphan Taksin pier up to Nonthaburi. The journey takes about 1 hour.

From Nonthaburi pier, you can take a smaller longtail boat to Koh Kret. Be warned that these boats are often overpriced and a sucker for tourists. The better option is to get a taxi from Nonthaburi pier to Koh Kret costing less than 100 THB (USD 3).

- **Taxi:** This is the quickest option for getting to Koh Kret and best for returning home after a long day out. A taxi takes about 30-45 minutes and costs about 300 THB. Tip: ask the taxi driver to use the elevated expressway (*tang duwan*) to avoid the terrible Bangkok traffic.
- **Bus:** Bus routes 104 and 166 will also get you from Bangkok to Koh Kret. Local Bangkok buses are cheap but expect a slow, hot and cramped ride. Take the bus if you want to save money, but I have warned you.

▪ Street Art in Chinatown

There is a secret trail of street art clustered around Bangkok's old town, most of which was created during 2016's Buk Ruk Art Festival.

The art trail roughly follows the Chao Praya River. It will take you through discreet alleyways with a look into Bangkok's local lifestyle.

You can find the art works at the following locations:

- Saphan Taksin Station
- Charoen Krung Soi 28
- Charoen Krung Soi 32

- Charoen Krung Soi 30
- Decho Road
- Surawong Road (Thanon Surawong)

When: All day, every day. Avoid rainy days.

Cost: Free

Get there: take the BTS skytrain to Saphan Taksin then head down to the pier to begin your journey.

▪ Phrakanong Canal Boat Ride

For a real local vibe with no tourists, you have to venture into suburban Bangkok. Phrakanong and further down Sukhumvit Road is where local thrives.

What better way to experience local Bangkok than to jump on board a local transport route. The longtail boat.

Longtail boats are long wooden boats with huge outboard motors. The canals manage to avoid the heavily congested streets and therefore these boats are still frequently used.

Longtail boats depart from a discreet little pier below Sukhumvit Road just before Sukhumvit Soi 77 (Onnut). The boat makes its way down Phrakanong Canal for 7 km until it reaches Srinakarin Road. On this route, you will pass by riverside communities, inner city jungle, and further along to Bangkok's Muslim district.

When: Every day

Cost: 10 THB

Get there: take the BTS skytrain to Phrakanong then walk along Sukhumvit Road towards Onnut. Where the main bridge crosses the river, veer left and head down to the river near to the footbridge.

▪ Thonburi Canal Boat Ride

For another great canal adventure, you have to heads out to Thonburi's Khlong Lat Mayom Floating Market in North West Bangkok. More on the floating market later in this guide.

Thonburi has the longest network of canals still exiting in Bangkok. There are kilometers and kilometers of canals to explore.

The community out here is still very orientated around the canals so expect to see small riverside shops, stilt houses, and plenty of locals commuting around by boat.

So many of the houses out here have boat parking spaces instead of car spaces!

There are two alternate boat rides available; one takes you to a Thai temple, the other takes you to a traditional wooden Thai house. I recommend the wooden Thai house.

When: Weekends

Cost: 100 THB

Get there: take the BTS skytrain to Bang Wa, then take a taxi to the Khlong Lat Mayom floating market. From the market, you can walk a short distance across the road to the north where there are boat tour operators departing every half hour or so.

▪ Safari Park Open Zoo

Safari Park is the most impressive zoo I have visited in Asia. It is nothing like what you would typically expect from Asia, a continent which exploits animal tourism.

This zoo is mega and contains a huge open park for a variety of animals including lions and tigers!

You can actually drive you own car through here, though most visitors opt for the tour bus. Follow the signs, and definitely do not get out of the car in the Lion zone.

When: Safari Park is open 7 days a week from 9am to 5pm

Cost: 1000 THB per person

Get there: the Safari Park is located in outer Bangkok, an area where public transport options are limited. The best way to get here is by taxi, which will cost about 300 THB from the city and 500 THB on the way back. Taxi drivers will be sneaky. Remember, as the driver to go by the meter.

▪ **Cooking School**

Do you love all that Thai food you have been eating? Learn how to cook all these dishes like a real local.

There is an abundance of cooking schools in Bangkok now made even more accessible with the new service on www.Cookly.me. Cookly allows you to join a small group cooking school in the house of a local. Some courses will even take you to the local market where you can choose all your fresh ingredients.

Check it out and choose a cooking school that suits you. There are plenty of reviews, and a description of what each school offers so you can pick the best fit.

When / Where: Various

Cost: \$40+ per person

▪ Chinatown (Yaowarat)

In two words, foodie heaven.

By day, Chinatown is a bustling market, by night it is a street food delight. Explore the smaller streets branching off Yaowarat Road to discover the best food stalls.

Try loads of infusion Chinese-Thai dishes served up on sizzling hot plates such as sukiyaki. Afterwards be sure to carry on along the main roads where you will find plenty of brightly colored Thai deserts.

Some deserts are great, others are questionable, but it is really a lucky dip. Do not freak out when they serve it with ice, you really will not get sick.

When: head to Chinatown after 7pm when the food comes to life

Cost: dishes 50-150 THB each

Get there: taxi costs about 100 THB from the city of Khao Sarn Road

▪ Muay Thai Boxing (Lumpinee Stadium)

Muay Thai Boxing is Thailand's national sport, and Lumpinee is the national stadium where all the big fights happen. There are no fake or acted moves here, all fights are real and many broadcast on national TV.

Despite the name, the stadium is no longer located in Lumpini but in northern Bangkok in the suburb of Bang Khen.

When: boxing matches are held on Tuesday, Friday and Saturday nights.

Cost: ring side tickets 2000 THB, 2nd grade seats 1500 THB

Get there: until the new Bang Khen BTS station is complete the best way of getting here is by taxi. A one way trip costs about 300 THB including expressway tolls.

▪ Sathorn Unique Tower (Ghost Tower)

The Sathorn Unique tower, also called the Ghost Tower, is one of the iconic destinations in Bangkok for the intrepid traveler.

The Ghost Tower was to be Bangkok's most luxury hotel. Funds ran out during the 1997 financial crisis and construction stopped. These days the Ghost Tower offers an inner city adventure where parkour videos are filmed, and intrepid travelers enjoy amazing views over the skyline.

Entry to the building is trespassing and therefore considered illegal. However, plenty of visitors find their way around this by offering the guards a few hundred Thai Baht, though you did not get the advice from me.

When: best to head there during the day

Cost: free, but budget some money for the guards

Get there: take the BTS skytrain to Saphan Taksin, and then walk just up the road

▪ Aeroplane Graveyard

The aeroplane graveyard is another one of those uniquely Bangkok destinations. It is home to five-abandoned aeroplanes; one huge double decker and four small planes.

You can spend about one to two hours exploring the aeroplane shells while getting some unique photos of your travels. It is best to wear closed shoes when visiting to avoid cutting yourself on any sharp exposed metal. Safety-first people.

The aeroplane graveyard is located in an eastern Bangkok suburb called Ramkhamhaeng.

When: visit during the day

Cost: 300 THB per person

Get there: take the Airport Link to Hua Mak Station and then take a short taxi ride

▪ Jim Thompson House

The Jim Thompson house is an elegant teak wood house consisting of six buildings. It was constructed in 1959 from houses which Jim Thompson, an early western silk exporter, had collected up river around Ayutthaya.

The house is now situated right by the center of Bangkok near to National Stadium BTS station. While very near to the city center, it actually feels a lot further away. The house is located down the end of a long alley way by the banks of the Saen Saeb Canal.

When: open daily from 9am to 6pm

Cost: 100 THB per person

Get there: take the Airport Link to Hua Mak Station and then take a short taxi ride

▪ Artist's House (Baan Silapin)

The Artists House is a throwback to the old Bangkok life by the river. This traditional house is over 200 years old and is located right next to the canal down a quiet winding alleyway.

Near to the Artists House, there are a few home-style Thai restaurants where you can try traditional Thai dishes like Tom Yum soup, some spicy curries and grilled meats.

There is a puppet show held at 2pm most days, except Wednesdays. The show lasts for about 15 minutes.

When: open daily from 9am to 6pm

Cost: entry is free

Get there: take BTS to Wongwian Yai Station and from there get on a motorbike taxi to Charoen Santiwong Soi 3. Next you have to walk to the end of the alley until you reach the canal.

A photograph of a yellow and blue train engine on tracks. The engine is on the left, and a market stall is on the right. The stall is covered with a grey tarp and has various items on display, including fresh produce in blue baskets. A person is standing near the stall. The word "Markets" is written in a white, cursive font across the center of the image.

Markets

▪ Chatuchak Weekend Market

This is the biggest and most extensive market in the Bangkok area. The Chatujak weekend market offers all types of Thai handcrafts, souvenirs, artworks and food. There are plenty of restaurants here and a few nice bars scattered around the place.

Tip: find the bar Viva 8 for some great electronic beats by local and international DJs, and enjoy some of the massive paella they offer!

When: the market is only open on weekends. Stall are open from the morning and start closing by around 4pm.

Cost: entry is free

Get there: take the BTS skytrain Mo Chit, or the MRT underground to Chatuchak. Walk through Chatuchak Park and you'll reach the market on the other side.

▪ Damnoen Saduak Floating Market

This is probably the most well-known floating market in the region. The market is based along the Damnoen Saduak Canal which at 32km long is the longest canal in Thailand.

The Damnoen Saduak floating market is tuned for tourism so it feels like it has lost its authentic charm. If you are looking for something more traditional try check out the Amphawa or Khlong Lat Mayom floating markets.

When: the market is open weekends in the morning from about 7am. The market closes by 4pm so get there early.

Cost: entry is free

Get there: the best way to get here is by minivan departing from Mo Chit BTS. Tickets cost about 150 THB per person one way.

▪ Bang Nam Pheung Floating Market

This is one of Bangkok's best-kept secrets. Nestled right in the heart of Bangkok on the island of bang Krachao is the small floating market called Bang Nam Pheung. Despite the name, this market is not actually floating on the water, but built alongside the small canals which wind their way across the island.

When: the market is open on weekends in the morning. Stalls start closing around 3pm, so arrive early.

Cost: entry is free

▪ Khlong Lat Mayom Floating Market

The Khlong Lat Mayom Floating Market is located in the far northwest of Bangkok in the Taling Chan District.

This is Bangkok's most authentic floating market. The crowd is mostly local with only a few expats in the mix.

First off you have to explore the market for a huge selection of Thai foods and deserts, many of which you probably will not come across in the city.

After lunch walk along the small canals and see the slow Bangkok lifestyle. Yes that is right, a slow Bangkok lifestyle!

When you have gone as far as you can by foot, be sure to jump on board a longtail boats for a canal tour. The tour lasts about one hour. You will have the option of visiting a temple of a traditional Thai teak wood house.

When: Weekends

Cost: 100 THB

Get there: take the BTS skytrain to Bang Wa and then take a taxi to the Khlong Lat Mayom floating market.

▪ Amphawa Floating Market

The Amphawa Floating Market is located about 90 minutes southwest of Bangkok. This is one of the largest floating markets in Bangkok's surrounding areas and mostly visited by Thai tourists.

On arrival walk along the bank of the Mae Khlong River where you can find an assortment of seafood barbecue shops on small wooden boats. Find yourself a seat along the boardwalk to tuck in for lunch.

After lunch explore the area by foot, or jump on board a longtail boat for a tour of the surrounding area.

If you stay until night it is also well worth checking out the fireflies' tour. On a good night, you will be able to see bushes light up almost like Christmas trees!

When: Weekends from lunch onwards.

Cost: entry is free. Boat tours cost about 100 THB per person.

Get there: take the minivan from the Southern Bus Terminal (Sai Tai Kao) to the Amphawa Floating Market ([tickets and timetable](#))

Tip: combine this into a day trip with the Maeklong Railway Market.

▪ Wang Lang Market

This is one of those local style market hidden in Bangkok. One that foreigners want to find, yet so often miss. The Wang Lung market is located along the banks of the Cha Praya River, across the road from the Siriraj Hospital.

The market weaves its way through small cramped alleyways where street vendors offer all sorts of food from grilled meats to traditional Thai desserts.

Wander deeper inside the market to find yet another hidden market filled with factory seconds clothing.

When: open daily from 10am to 4pm

Cost: entry is free

Get there: take the ferry from Saphan Taksin to Wang Lung Pier

▪ Khlong Teoi Fresh Market

This is where Bangkok's restaurants get their fresh daily produce. Fruit, vegetables, chickens, fish, herbs and spices. If you can think of it, it is probably here.

Exploring the Khlong Teoi Fresh Market is not for the faint hearted. Expected to walk through small alleyways where blood pools from freshly killed animals. Nor is it uncommon to see a fish flapping its way helplessly down the path trying to escape the inevitable fate.

A visit to this market will open your eyes as to how food really gets to your plate in this city.

When: all day, every day

Cost: free

Get there: walk from Queen Sirikit MRT station

▪ Or Tor Kor Fresh Market

The Or Tor Kor Fresh market is the upper class version of the Khlong Teoi Fresh Market. Here you will find a huge assortment of fresh fruits, vegetables and spices for sale. The market is clean, orderly, and frequented by Bangkok's richer population.

Be sure to try out some of the tasty Pomelo while you visit. This huge grapefruit like fruit will leave you craving for more.

When: open daily from 6am to 7pm

Cost: free

Get there: walk from Mo Chit BTS station

▪ Maeklong Railway Market

The Maeklong Railway Market is a small authentic market set on the railway tracks just outside of Maeklong Railway Station.

When there are no trains around you can easily forget this is actually an operating railway line.

One minute there is a bustling market under umbrellas with stalls scattered everywhere. The next minute a train passes right through the middle of it all, only to turn back into a market a few minutes later. Now that's something to write home about.

When: the market is open and trains arrive 7 days per week.

Cost: entry is free

Get there:

- **Minivan (recommended):** departs Bangkok's Southern Bus Terminal (Sai Tai Mai) and the Northern Bus Terminal (near to Mo Chit BTS). The trip takes about 90 minutes ([tickets and timetable](#)).

Note: do not go to Victory Monument, services have stopped since 2016.

- **Taxi:** a driver for the whole day costs about 2,000 THB, which is economical with a group of four. The driver can also take you to the Damnoen Saduak or Ampawha Floating Markets for the same fare.
- **Train:** getting to the railway market takes about 3 hours in total, one way. You have to catch the train from Wongwian Yai Station then get off at Mahachai Station. Next, cross the river to Tha Chalom Pier and catch the train at Ban Laem Station heading for the Maeklong Railway market.

▪ Pak Khlong Flower Market

The Pak Khlong Flower Market is located along the eastern side of the Chao Praya River. This is where Bangkok's massive hotel industry sources their flowers.

As you get close to the market, there are loads of street vendors selling all sorts of flowers. Inside the huge warehouse-like building, there will be flowers for about as far as you can see.

When: open daily from 6am to 7pm. For the liveliest action head early in the morning.

Cost: free

Get there: walk from Mo Chit BTS station

▪ Asiatique

Asiatique is more of an open-air shopping center than a grungy market, but still technically a market. Foreign tourists mostly visit this place. There are plenty of typical Thai souvenirs for sale along with a range of nice riverside restaurants.

Do not expect a cultural experience here, but you will get a nice afternoon enjoying an outdoor meal by the Chao Praya River.

When: open daily from 10am to 6pm. Restaurants and bars are open until late.

Cost: free

Get there: take the ferry across the Chao Praya River from Saphan Taksin pier.



Night Markets

▪ Rot Fai Srinakarin

If you are a fan of vintage cars, unusual antiques and hipster bars with live Thai bands, then this is the place for you.

The road leading into the market is crammed with fun looking bars and small restaurants, however do not stop here because this place is big. As you wander further into the market you will discover a huge assortment of Thai foods, clothing stalls and well restored vintage cars and motorbikes.

When: open Thursday to Sunday night every week. The market is officially open until midnight but some bars kick on much later, almost until the sun rises.

Cost: entry is free

Get there: the market is located just behind Paradise Park shopping center Taxi is the best way to get here, as there is limited public transport in this area of Bangkok. A taxi from Onnut or Prakanong BTS should cost around £2.30. Remember to go by the meter, not a flat rate

▪ Rot Fai Ratchada

This market is from the creators of the Rot Fai Srinakarin Market; however, the Rot Fai Ratchada Market hosts an entirely different vibe.

Get yourself ready for a huge range of food vendors, perhaps one of the largest and most diverse in Bangkok.

After you have finished dinner be sure to head over to the section of bars. Here you will find a huge line of bars stacked two levels tall with all sorts of live music playing. Out the front, there are hundreds of motorbikes for the petrol head fans to awe at.

When: open Thursday to Sunday night every week. The market is officially open until midnight but some bars kick on much later, almost until the sun rises.

Cost: entry is free

Get there: the market is located just behind Esplanade shopping center. Take the MRT to Ratchada station then follow the young crowd walking there.

▪ W District

One of the best places to get international food in Bangkok, and enjoy a great night out with music and cheap beer.

W District is a great open-air food market hidden down behind Phra Kanong BTS Station. You will find all sorts of international food you've been craving from home including; kebabs, pizza, Indian curries, chicken burgers, sushi, and of course loads of great Thai food too.

You will find a fun crowd of Bangkok expats mixed with Thai locals. It's a really easy place to meet people and start up a conversation.

When: open every night from 5pm to late.

Cost: entry is free

Get there: the market is located behind the Skywalk Condominium, just a 100-meter walk from Phra Kanong BTS Station.



Sports

▪ Taco Lake Wake Park

Taco Lake Wake Park is Bangkok's most popular wakeboarding park. You do not actually wakeboard behind a boat but along an overhead cable system.

The lake is set up with a few jumps, boxes and rails where you can boast your skills. Newbies will often face plant in the water rather than get too far around.

When you are all worn out after a few hours of wakeboarding, or attempting to, chill out with a cold Chang Beer in hand and watch the pros get the job done.

Taco Lake Wake Park is located about 20km from BangNa down the Bang Na Trat Highway.

When: open daily from midday to 10pm

Cost: 400 THB per person + equipment hire

Get there: take the BTS Skytrain to Bang Na station and then take a taxi direct to Taco Lake Wake Park. The taxi should cost about 300 THB one way.

▪ Surfing at Flow House

Do you want to try surfing in Bangkok? It is possible at Bangkok's Flow House located in Phrom Pong. Though the wave is man-made it is still plenty of fun and a great way to cool down during one of those hot and sticky summer days.

When: open daily from 11am to 10pm

Cost: 750 THB per hour

Get there: take the BTS Skytrain to Phrom Pong station and then walk down Sukhumvit Soi 24 for about 800 meters before turning left down Soi Athakravi.

အိမ်ထောင်စု

190

Shopping

▪ Siam Paragon

This is a huge shopping center for everything from Thai food to luxury goods. There is the Ocean World Aquarium in the below ground level, and a huge cinema complex on the top floor.

Get there: Siam Paragon is located right next to Siam BTS station.

Must see: the Lamborghini shop.

▪ CentralWorld

Another huge shopping center which sells just about everything. CentralWorld is actually a chain of shopping centers around Thailand, but this one in Siam is one of the biggest.

CentralWorld Siam has one of the biggest food courts in all of Bangkok's shopping centers. Grab a food card, top up 200THB and that will literally get you more than all you can eat.

Get there: CentralWorld is located right next to Siam BTS station.

Must see: the huge food court on the top level

▪ EmQuartier

This is the shopping center for luxury goods. Find all the top fashion brands in here. Note: due to a high luxury goods import tax in Thailand you will find that many of these goods are actually cheaper back in your home country.

Get there: EmQuartier is located right next to Phrom Pong BTS station.

Must see: the indoor spiral jungle from level 3 up, and the glass floor on level 7 looking straight back down to the ground floor.

▪ Siam Discovery

This is one of the latest additions to Bangkok's ever-growing shopping center scene. Siam Discovery is a quirky shopping center filled with independent clothing brands, and small restaurants with 'designer deserts' which locals love to take Instagram shots of.

Get there: Siam Discovery is located just up the road from Siam BTS station. It is best to walk.

▪ Pantip Plaza

This is where you go to get all your computer parts and every bit of software you can imagine. Pantip Plaza is levels of computer madness and you'll struggle to find cheaper prices anywhere in Thailand.

Get there: take the BTS to Ratchatewi station then walk north before taking a right onto Phetchaburi Road. Walk for another 750 meters and Pantip Plaza will be on your right hand side.

Tourist trap: beware of the motorbike taxis who sit just outside, they will charge more than double the standard going rate.

▪ Terminal 21

This shopping center consists of different themed levels, offering a huge selection of clothing at moderate prices. The ground floor has most of the major clothing brands, however head to the upper levels for independent local made clothing. You will be able to find a t-shirt from, 150THB or a pair of decent chinos from about 500THB.

There is a huge food court on one of the top levels with loads of great food at an affordable price. For 150THB you will be able to buy more food than you can eat.

Get there: Terminal 21 is located right next to Asoke BTS station. Cross the bridge right into the shopping center. Note that it opens at 11am.

▪ MBK

This is paradise for all your electronic requirements. Cameras, phones and computers galore. Beware that many of the phones here can be fake or dodgy repairs design to rip off tourists. You will also be able to find plenty of typical and tacky Thai souvenirs and fake branded clothing that looks like the real deal.

Get there: MBK is located right next to National Stadium BTS station.

▪ Platinum Fashion Mall

This is your must-visit clothing destination. Platinum shopping center spans across two buildings; one for men's clothing, one for women's. You will not find big name brands here, but many smaller local brands with decent quality materials. Expect to pick up shirts for as low as \$5 and chinos from \$10.

Get there: take the BTS skytrain to Ploen Chit station and then walk about 600m up Ratchadamri Road. Once you cross the canal the shopping center is just on your left.

▪ Mega Bang Na

If you happen to be moving to Bangkok then Mega Bang Na is your destination for all homewares to get your landing pad sorted. There is a huge IKEA and a range of other furniture shops here.

Mega Bang Na is a bit out of the way for most tourists. I only recommend going out here if you need to pick up homewares, or live around the area.

Get there: take the BTS Skytrain to Udom Suk Station, then either hop in a taxi or the Mega Bang Na Shuttle bus. The shopping center is about 10km from the BTS station.

Parks



▪ **Sri Nakhon Khuean Khan Park**

This is my favorite park in Bangkok. The Sri Nakhon Khuean Park covers a huge 2.5km² including a wetland park and a jungle-cycling trail. The best thing about this park is that hardly anyone knows about it, and there is no traffic allowed inside.

▪ **Chatuchak Rotfai Park**

The Chatujak Park is located right next to the weekend market; you will actually walk through this park if coming from Mo Chit BTS station.

Many tourists do not know, but if you continue north through the park it will merge into the much larger Rotfai Park. Here you can hire a bicycle for just 70 THB for the day and explore the huge parklands.

▪ **Benjakitti Park**

The Benjakitti Park is located just between Asoke BTS station and Queen Sirikit Convention Center MRT station. The park offers a huge lake where you can go for an early morning run or just relax in the afternoon.

▪ **Benjasiri Park**

Benjasiri Park is located right next to Phrom Phong BTS station and is a great place to relax after exploring the EmQuartier and Emporium shopping centers. If you are looking to keep fit on your travels try dropping by the outdoor gym. Equipment is basic, but it is totally free!

▪ **Lumpini Park**

This is probably the most iconic and most visited park in Bangkok. Lumpini park is located right between Sala Daeng and Ratchadamri BTS skytrain stations. It is an easy walk from either station. Lumpini Park offers a nice 2.5km running track surrounding the lakes inside the park grounds.

▪ **Buddhamonthon Park**

If you have a bit more time on your hand then why not head to Bangkok's outer western suburbs. Here you will discover the huge Buddhamonthon Park. This park covers a huge 3.5km² and is entirely surrounded by a 50m wide canal.

The image shows the interior of a highly ornate temple. The walls and ceiling are covered in intricate, colorful patterns, primarily in shades of gold, blue, and green. The architecture features multiple levels of decorative moldings and a central doorway with a diamond-patterned screen. The overall style is characteristic of traditional Southeast Asian temple art.

Temples

▪ Wat Phra Kaew (Grand Palace)

Wat Phra Kaew is located in the grounds of the Grand Palace which has been the home of the Thai Royal Family for 150 years.

Wat Phra Kaew was originally built back in 1782. Inside the temple is intricately decorated with traditional Thai architecture. It is definitely worth spending at least an hour in here.

Tourist trap: it is common for mafia tour operators to stand outside the entrance and tell you the Grand Palace is closed for the day. They will then offer you an expensive Tuk Tuk city tour. Ignore them and continue on to the entrance.

When: open daily from 8.30am to 3.30pm

Cost: entry is 500 THB per person

Get there: take the boat from Saphan Taksin to Tha Tien Pier

▪ Wat Arun

Wat Arun is commonly referred to as the temple of dawn. It is one of the most iconic destinations to visit in Bangkok and located right next to the Chao Praya River.

Wat Arun is different to many other temples as it consists of a number of intricately decorated spires (prangs). You can climb up the 70m tall middle prang for a great view over the Chao Praya River.

The temple was originally built back in 1768. It was restored and extended with the middle prang by King Rama III between 1824 and 1851.

When: open daily from 8.30am to 5.30pm

Cost: entry is 100 THB

Get there: take the boat from Saphan Taksin pier to Wat Arun Pier

▪ **Wat Pho (the reclining Buddha)**

Wat Pho is famously known for the 15-meter-tall, 46 meter long golden Buddha. This is a must-visit destination for all travelers to Bangkok.

Wat Pho is located just across the river from Wat Arun, and a short walking distance from Wat Phra Kaew. It is best to combine these three destinations into one temple packed day trip.

When: open daily from 8am to 5pm

Cost: entry is 100 THB

Get there: take the boat from Saphan Taksin to Tha Tien Pier

▪ **Erawan Shrine**

The Erawan shrine is a monument to the Hindu God Brahma, the origins of the Buddhist religion.

The shrine was built in 1956 to rid the bad karma that was affecting the construction of the then government owned Erawan Hotel. These days the shrine attracts hundreds of thousands of visitors wishing for the fortunes to be blessed.

Offerings are made here in the form of flowers, incense sticks and donations for the dancing performers.

Remember to dress as you would when visiting a temple. Shoulders and knees covered.

When: open daily from 9am to 6pm

Cost: free

Get there: take the BTS skytrain to Chit Lom Station and then walk 300 meters up the road towards Siam. The Erawan Shrine will be on your left.



Suburbs

Sukhumvit Road

Siam – this is the central suburb of Bangkok filled with shopping centers, elevated walkways and terrible traffic. Most people head to Siam to visit the huge shopping centers such as Central World, Siam Paragon, or take a short walk down the road to MBK.

If you are visiting Siam it is best to do so by BTS Skytrain. The traffic on the road is always terribly slow.

Phrom Pong (Sukhumvit 39) – the next suburb just outside of the city center. Phrom Pong is a mix between high-class residential buildings, office towers and elaborate shopping centers.

Either side of the BTS Skytrain station there is a shopping center. Emquariter to the north, and Emporium to the south. Both are filled with a range of luxury goods where the high society Thais love hanging out.

Outside of the shopping centers, Phrom Pong is influenced by the Japanese expat community. There are some great Japanese restaurants about, try Kitchen Niigata for a real authentic vibe.

Explore the small alley Sukhumvit 33/1 for some surprisingly good Irish Pubs such as Robin Hoods and The Royal Oak. Venture down Sukhumvit 45 to the Sing Sing Theatre, one of the coolest nightlife spots in Bangkok.

Thong Lor (Sukhumvit 55) – this is the rich end of town where the high society Thais such as politicians, movie actors, and musicians hang out. Take a short walk down the street and you'll soon realize that Lamborghinis and Ferraris are about as common as nice bars, restaurants and nightclubs.

Thong Lor has some great nightlife worth exploring. Drop into speak easy bars along Sukhumvit 55 such as Bad Motel, Iron Fairies, Seenspace and 12x12. For lively party vibe try out DEMO and Muse down Ekkamai Soi 5, an alley which leads off to the left off Thong Lor.

On the southern side of Sukhumvit Road, Thong Lor was previously famous for its huge range of street food along Sukhumvit 38. Much of Bangkok's street food was shut down in 2016 by the government, however you will still find many of these street vendors tucked away in a small market on the right-hand side of the alley.

Ekkamai (Sukhumvit 63) – this is another suburban Japanese takeover. Ekkamai is loaded with great Japanese restaurants such as the sushi buffet at Kuroda. This is some of the best bang for buck Japanese you can get in the whole city.

The shopping center right beside Ekkamai BTS Station is filled with two floors of amazing Japanese food. If you are looking for a great feed, just venture in and walk around.

Down the road, there are a few smaller local bars such as Thay or Parking Toys, where you can kick back listening to some live music and share a bottle of Thai whiskey from just 300 THB.

Phra Kanong (Sukhumvit 71) – the start of the real suburban Bangkok along the southern end of Sukhumvit BTS line. Look out for W-District just behind the BTS station. This is one of the best open air night markets in town, with loads of western and Thai food on offer.

After dinner head up to the top level of the Sky Walk Residences to Cielo Sky Bar for one of the best views of town.

Head further down Sukhumvit 71 and you will end up in proper suburban Bangkok with small noodles stores and Isan restaurants in shophouses all along the road.

Onnut (Sukhumvit 77) – this is the suburban expat takeover. Onnut has quickly developed from being rice paddies at the end of the BTS line to a high-rise expat focused area.

Hidden down Sukhumvit 77 Soi 1 there is a small fresh market where you can pick up plates of hot food from just 30 THB and find a huge range of fresh fruit. Further down by Soi 18 there is a huge range of cheap eats street food. Look out for the famous rice porridge dish down here called *Khaow Tom*.

Onnut is one of the best places in Bangkok to go for a foot massage. Walk down the small but lively alleyway Sukhumvit 77/1 where you will find lots of shophouses offering a 1hr foot massage from just 100THB.

Across on the southern end of Sukhumvit Road, you have to try out Best Beef BBQ. For just 150THB you will get an all you can eat buffet of meat and vegetables for two hours. Watch out for the promotions where you can upgrade that to an all you can drink for another 150THB.

Venture down Onnut Soi 1 (now called Habito Road) cross the canal and visit the small Habito Mall. You will find good food and coffee in a quiet, relaxing setting by the river.

Paya Thai / Ratchatewi – this is the crossover point between the Airport Express and BTS line. There have been plenty of boutique hostels pop up in this neighborhood recently such as; Sleep Lab and The Posh Hostel

Check out Coco Walk next to Ratchatewi BTS station for a huge selection of laid back, live music pubs. This area is frequented by university students and has a much more relaxed and local vibe than upper Sukhumvit.

The back alleys around the west of Paya Thai is one of Bangkok's largest Muslim communities. Here you will appreciate how multicultural Bangkok actually is with its subcultures. Try out some of the great Biryani rice in the area!

Silom – this area has been mostly known for 'Pat Pong,' the sex tourism district. However, things are changing. Silom is becoming a hipper area with small bars and international cuisine restaurants opening up in the back streets.

Be sure to check out restaurants such as Smokin' Pug for a great western meal and good cocktails.

Ari (Pahonyothin 7) – this is Bangkok’s northern end equivalent of Thong Lor. Ari is loaded with great restaurants and bars ranging in price from cheap to quite expensive.

Have a Walk down Soi Ari (Phahon Yothin Soi 7) for plenty of Thai restaurants, street food vendors and small bars.

Nightlife

▪ **Old Dirty**

Despite the name, Old Dirty is neither old nor dirty. In fact, it is a new live music venue on Soi Aqua in the trendy Ari neighborhood. The bars consist of two levels. The ground floor and outdoor seating is a great place to watch live bands playing on weekends. Head up the spiral staircase to level 2 to enjoy a game of pool with some friends.

Old Dirty has live music on weekends from 8pm onwards. There are occasional shows during the weeknights. Check out their Facebook page for more information on live music events.

Location: [490/21 Phahonyothin Rd, สามเสนใน พญาไท Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10400, Thailand](#)

▪ **Skytrain Jazz Bar**

Skytrain Jazz Bar is an easily accessible, yet discreet rooftop bar. Skytrain Jazz has cheap drinks, good city views, and great music. There is also a basic menu of Thai foods available, in case you have not been able to find street food anywhere else. What more could you want?

Skytrain Jazz Bar is located up a dark dingy staircase on the 4th and 5th floors of a multipurpose building right by Victory Monument BTS. Although you might feel a bit lost halfway up, just continue until you reach the rooftop.

Location: [46 Rang Nam Alley, Khwaeng Thanon Phaya Thai, Khet Ratchathewi, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10400, Thailand](#)

▪ **Wanderlust Rooftop Bar**

Wanderlust is another discreet rooftop bar in Bangkok. The bar is accessed via a lift at the back of a sushi shop down Thong Lor (Sukhumvit 55) Soi 13. Don't let the

sushi shop downstairs fool you, there is nothing Japanese about the rooftop bar, perhaps apart from an Asahi on tap.

Wanderlust is one of my favorite live music bars on Sukhumvit Road, so I really suggest checking it out.

Wanderlust Rooftop Bar is open 7 nights a week from 6pm. There are live music acoustic nights on weekends. A great way to chill out in a trendy part of Bangkok at a decent price. Check out their Facebook page for more info on events.

Location: [Thong Lo 13 Alley, Khwaeng Khlong Tan Nuea, Khet Watthana, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10110, Thailand](#)

▪ Lan Lom

Lan Lom is a typical suburban Bangkok beer garden. This is a huge open plan bar with loads of great Thai dishes available. Lan Lom has incredibly cheap beers from 100THB for a large bottle. Do it Thai style and buy a few beers with a bucket of ice cubes to throw in your glass. Alternatively, go for the 3L tower of beer which is cooled by an inner ice stack.

This live music bar on Sukhumvit is located in the neighborhood of Udom Suk (Sukhumvit 103). Lan Lom is open 7 nights a week from 5.30pm to 1.30am, with live bands playing Thai music.

Location: [940/160, 940/160 ซอย สุขุมวิท 103, Bang Na, Bangkok 10260, Thailand](#)

▪ Brick Bar

Brick Bar is one of the more popular live music bars in Bangkok with the backpacker crowd. This is a huge double story venue located midway down Khao Sarn Road. Brick Bar has local Thai bands playing live Rock and Ska with a really lively atmosphere.

Brick Bar is open every night of the week from 7pm to 1.30am. Bands usually play on stage between 8pm-8.30pm, 10pm-10.30pm and midnight-1.30am.

Location: [265 ชั้นล่าง โรงแรม บัดดี้ ลอด ัจ ย แขวง ตลาด ยอด, Khaosan Rd, Talat Yot, Phra Nakhon, Bangkok 10200, Thailand](#)

▪ Saxophone Bar

Saxophone Bar is one of the most well known live music bars in Bangkok. This venue, which has been open since 1987, specializes in Jazz and Blues. There is a range of western and Thai beers and food available here. Expect to pay a bit more than the other live music bars mentioned in this article.

Saxophone Bar has a mixed crowd of tourists, expats, and locals. The crowd changes every night. The bar is open 7 nights a week with the first live shows starting at 7.30pm and ending around 1.30am. Saxophone Bar is located right at Victory Monument Station, a short walk from Skytrain Jazz Bar.

Location: [3/8 ซอย ราชวิถี 11 Phayathai Rd, Thanon Phaya Thai, Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400, Thailand](#)

▪ Tak Su Ra

Tuk Su Ra is one of my favorite live music bars in Bangkok. There are actually two of these venues in Bangkok, both with a similar vibe. Tuk Su Ra is a small style Thai beer garden with a mainly local crowd, though there are quite a few expats about too.

The food and drinks at Tak Su Ra are about as cheap as you can get in Bangkok, and they are amazing. Try the Larb Moo Tot (deep fried minced pork) or the En Kor Gai Tot (deep fried chicken knuckles) for a get Bangkok style beer snack.

Tak Sura is open every night from 6pm until 2am, however, it is common for the bar to stay open considerably later.

Location (RCA Venue): [พระราม 9 ซอย 26 Khwaeng Bang Kapi, Khet Huai Khwang, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10310, Thailand](#)

Location (Ratchatewi venue): [334/1 Phayathai Rd, Khwaeng Thanon Phetchaburi, Khet Ratchathewi, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10400, Thailand](#)

There was also a Tak Su Ra on Sukhumvit 63 (Ekkamai) which has recently been renamed to STAY. The venue and atmosphere are still very Tak Su Ra like, and well worth a visit.

▪ **Heap**

Like Tak Sura, there are multiple Heap venues around Bangkok. My favorite is the Victory Monument venue, location given below.

Heap mainly sees a local Thai crowd, however, there are also expats which frequently visit. The bar offers a wide range of local and European beers and the food menu is huge. I definitely recommend having dinner here.

Music at Heap is a mix of both Thai and western songs. Whatever is playing, you will love this bar. Both bars are open 7 nights per week from 6pm until 1am.

Location (Victory Monument): [449/2, Ratchawithi Rd, Thung Phaya Thai, Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400, Thailand](#)

▪ **CoCo Walk**

Keeping one of my favorite live music venues for last. CoCo Walk is an alleyway right of Ratchatewi BTS Station packed with live music bars. There are at least eight bars and restaurants in this lively space. Popular bars here include; Retro Bar, Guts Bar, Chilling House and Skate Café.

The music at CoCo Walk is mostly local bands playing and mix of Thai and western cover songs. The bards will also play songs upon request.

CoCo Walk is open 7 nights per week from 4pm until 1am, though bars are commonly open later than 1am if you are after a late night out.

Location: [Thanon Phetchaburi, Thanon Phet Buri, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10400](#)

Amazing Food

There is a mega selection of food right across Bangkok, and it is no secret that I'm a fanatic. Here are a few of my favorite places to grab a bite to eat in Bangkok:

▪ **Onnut Fresh Market**

If you want to try street food style in a clean market environment, then the Onnut Fresh Market is the place to go. There is some incredibly tasty (and cheap) food from early in the morning to just after lunch. I'd say it is one of my favorite places in all of Bangkok to go for breakfast.

Try the *Khao Karm Moo* (slow stewed pig's leg on rice) for about 40 THB. Finish breakfast off with a Thai Iced Tea or Iced Coffee for just 9 THB.

Location: [On Nut Rd, Khwaeng Phra Khanong Nuea, Khet Watthana, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10110](#)

▪ **Pa Yak Boat Noodles, Victory Monument**

Where else in Thailand can you get a bowl of noodles from just 10 THB? Boat noodles served in pig's blood soup are a classic Bangkok style dish. You'll probably eat four or five bowls to get full, but it's still a great deal!

Location: [สามเสนในอนุสาวรีย์ชัยสมรภูมิ ถนนพหลโยธิน พญาไท กรุงเทพฯ Khwaeng Samsen Nai, Khet Phaya Thai, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10400](#)

▪ **Best Beef, Onnut**

Probably the best value for money Thai BBQ in Bangkok. For just 400 THB per person you'll get all you can eat BBQ and all you can drink beers. No time limits. Drunk and full for under \$20? Can't go wrong.

Location: [1490, 2 Sukhumvit Rd, Khwaeng Phra Khanong, Khet Khlong Toei, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10110](#)

▪ Jay Fai, Phra Nakhon

Claimed to be the best omlette in the world. Jay Fai was made famous after receiving a Michelin Star in 2018. The restaurant is located in a shop house in Phra Nakhon (Bangkok's Old City). You'd best book in advance or be prepared to wait a long time to be served as the shop is very busy these days!

Location: [327 Maha Chai Rd, Khwaeng Samran Rat, Khet Phra Nakhon, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10200](#)

▪ Khao Moo Deng, Victory Monument

The signature dishes at this shophouse right off Victory Monument are Khao moo Deng (red pork on rice) and Khao Moo Op (slow roasted pork on rice). They're absolutely amazing. It is best to arrive before 7pm as both dishes can be completely sold out later in the night.

Location: [438/30 Ratchawithi Rd, Khwaeng Thanon Phaya Thai, Khet Ratchathewi, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10400](#)

▪ Mango Sticky Rice, Thong Lor

A small shophouse called Maewaree is located near the corner of Sukhumvit Road and Sukhumvit 55 (Thong Lor). This shop serves up some of the best Mango Sticky Rice you will find in all of Bangkok. Mangoes are shipped down from Chiang Rai in the north, and the sticky rice is cooked to perfection. Try it once and you'll eat it almost every night.

Location: [1 ซอย สุขุมวิท 55 Khwaeng Khlong Tan Nuea, Khet Watthana, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10110](#)

▪ Chinese-Thai Style, Chulalongkorn

Jeh O Chula has recently hit the big time local news receiving a Michelin Star for its Tom Yum Mama Noodles. While this may be the signature dish, the shop also serves up loads of amazing Chinese-Thai style foods with Khao Tom (rice soup) instead of the standard boiled rice as a side.

Location: [113 ซอย จรัลเมือง Khwaeng Rong Muang, Khet Pathum Wan, Krung Thep Maha Nakhon 10330](#)

City Escapes



So you want to escape the madness of Bangkok but are short on time... No worries, we have a few quick day trips planned out for you already.

Whether you want ancient temples, sun soaked beaches, or jungle adventures there is a destination here for you!

▪ Ayutthaya

If you are searching for a look into the history of Thailand then be sure to head just 90 minutes north of Bangkok to Ayutthaya.

Ayutthaya was formerly the ancient capital city of Thailand. Once upon a time, it was actually the largest city in the world!

Over the years, it suffered multiple attacks from the invading Burmese armies. Ayutthaya was eventually abandoned for many years,

These days Ayutthaya is a historical city scattered with ancient temples.

Ayutthaya is a functional city, which means the temples do not have a theme park like vibe to them. Some temples are ancient and crumbling, others have undergone multiple stages of repair and preservation.

With so many temples on offer, where do you start? Try out the following:

- Wat Ratchaburana
- Wat Phra Matathat
- Wat Phra Si Sanphet

When: Ayutthaya is a city, it is open every day all day. However, most temples are open between 8am and 5pm.

Cost: typical entry fee to a temple is 50 to 100 THB

Get there: take a minivan from Mo Chit Bus Terminal to Ayutthaya Old City ([tickets and timetable](#)).

▪ Koh Larn

You do not have to go all the way to the South of Thailand to get to an island. Koh Laan is located two hours away off the coast of Pattaya.

Koh Laan is not the clear ocean paradise you imagine from my article on Koh Lipe and Koh Kood. However, it is still a nice quick escape to the ocean if you are limited on time.

To make the most of the island, try hiring a small motorbike for the day. You will be able to explore a few different beaches which are mostly located on the western side of the island. The nicest beach is probably Haad Sai Kaew (White Sand Beach).

When: all day, every day

Cost: typical entry fee to a temple is 50 to 100 THB

Get there: take a minivan from Ekkamai Bus Terminal in Bangkok to Pattaya. From there you will have to take a ferry from South Pattaya to Koh Laan. Total trip takes about 2.5 hours one way.

▪ Kanchanaburi

Kanchanaburi is located about 2.5 hours northwest of Bangkok. It home to iconic attractions including the Bridge on the River Kwai, Hellfire Pass and the Erawan National Park.

While it is possible to cram everything into a single one-day tour package from Bangkok, you are much better off staying at least one night in Kanchanaburi.

There are plenty of accommodation options available in town, but you are best off venturing out a little further. You will find loads of small guesthouses located along Kwai for well under USD 100 per night.

Try hiring a motorbike in Kanchanaburi for the ultimate freedom of exploring the surrounding attractions.

Get there: take a minivan from Mo Chit bus terminal or Khao Sarn Road in Bangkok to Kanchanaburi ([tickets and timetable](#)). It is also possible to get a minivan direct from Bangkok to the Erawan National Park ([tickets and timetable](#)).