

## NORTHERN THAILAND

5 days / 4 nights

1nt Phitsanuloke, 2nts Chiang Mai, 1nt Chiang Rai

**Day 1 (L/D)** Leave Bangkok in the morning and drive north to the ancient capital city of Ayuthaya with its ruins and extensive river network. Continue to Uthai Thani, a small town on the Sakaekrang River, rarely visited by foreign tourists where you will visit Wat Chantaram, an impressive temple with Crystal Hall and the Golden Grand Shrine. Lunch will be served in a local riverside restaurant. After lunch you will drive further north to Phitsanuloke, a major regional commercial centre, spread along the banks of the Nan River. Visit the much-venerated shrine of Wat Mahathat, which is home to Thailand's most beautiful Buddha image. Dinner will be served at the hotel. **Overnight:** Topland Hotel, Phitsanuloke

**Day 2 (B/L/D)** After breakfast you will visit Sukothai Historical Park to see the ruins of this ancient Capital of Thailand. Admire the beautiful standing Buddha statues as you explore the many ruined temples and monasteries. Lunch will be at a local restaurant and then afterwards on to Chiang Mai, 'The Rose of the North', with its rich cultural and agricultural heritage and is famous for the production of high quality handicrafts. In the evening you will have the chance to taste the northern dish called 'Khao Soy' at Just Khao Soy Restaurant. After dinner you can explore the Night Bazaar. **Overnight:** Empress Hotel, Chiang Mai

**Day 3 (B/L/D)** After breakfast you will drive up the mountains winding road of Doi Suthep, where you will change vehicles to travel the remainder of the journey by 'Songthaew', which is a pick-up utility truck with a covered area and two rows of seats in the back. You will travel along a rough dirt track to visit the White Hmong people in their village, with the possibility of visiting a school if in session. On the way back you will pay a visit to the hilltop temple of Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep, which offers you great views of Chiang Mai and the surrounding valley. Return to the city for lunch at a local restaurant before heading to the district of Sankampaeng, home of many of Chiang Mai's handicraft industries. Dinner will be served at the hotel. **Overnight:** Empress Hotel, Chiang Mai

**Day 4 (B/L/D)** After breakfast you will visit the Orchid Farm and one of the elephant camps where skilled 'mahouts' show how elephants have worked in the jungle for centuries, with the possibility for OPTIONAL elephant riding and river rafting on handmade bamboo rafts. You will then drive through beautiful mountain scenery to Chiang Rai via Wiang Pa Pao, with stop enroute for lunch. Dinner will be served at the hotel. **Overnight:** Wiang Inn Hotel, Chiang Rai

**Day 5 (B/L)** After breakfast you will drive to Mae Sai, Thailand's northernmost town on the Myanmar border. Walk around the bustling market where there are many handicrafts from Burma and imported goods from China. From Mae Sai you will travel to the renowned Golden Triangle where the Ruak and Mekong Rivers meet. Enjoy the views over Laos, Myanmar, Thailand and the Mekong River. OPTIONAL boat trip available. After lunch at a local restaurant you will proceed to Chiang Rai airport for your onward journey.

## THROUGH THE HILLS TO MAE HONG SON

3 days / 2 nights

**Day 1 (L/D)** From your hotel in Chiang Mai, drive along a winding road through spectacular jungle mountains, via the Pai Valley to Mae Hong Son Province. Stops along the way include an Orchid farm. Lunch will be provided before arriving at Mae Hong Son. You will also visit Fish Cave where large fresh water fish live in a mountainside pool. Dinner will be at the hotel. **Overnight:** Rooks Holiday Hotel, Mae Hong Son

**Day 2 (B/L/D)** After breakfast you will ride elephants through the jungle. Afterwards you will drive in a pickup mini truck through the jungle to visit the 'Long Neck' Karen Padaung Village. The Karen Padaung women wear numerous brass coils round their necks and legs. Lunch is included before taking a boat trip on Pai River, and then heading back to Mae Hong Son. Dinner will be at the hotel. **Overnight:** Rooks Holiday Hotel, Mae Hong Son

**Day 3 (B)** You will visit the early morning fresh market and witness traditional Buddhist offerings. Afterwards visit Burmese Temples on the lakeside, Wat Nong Jong Kam and Wat Jong Klang and drive up to Wat Phra Dhat Doi Kongmoo on the mountain-top with superb views of the town. You will then take a short midday flight from Mae Hong Son back to Chiang Mai. Here you will be transferred to your hotel in Chiang Mai or stay and connect to your onward flight.

**Prices include:** Accommodation at hotels listed or similar, meals as specified: B=breakfast, L=lunch, D=dinner, English speaking guide, air-conditioned vehicle, portage, service charges & tax (incl.VAT), pick up and drop off at Chiang Mai/Chiang Rai hotel.

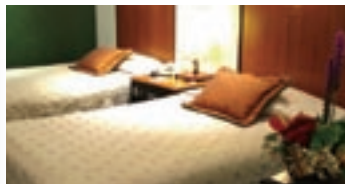
### TOUR PRICES:

| DEPARTURES     | GOLDEN TRIANGLE DISCOVERY | NORTHERN THAILAND | HILLS TO MAE HONG SON |
|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Jan - 31 Mar | 481                       | 376               | 309                   |
| 1 Apr - 31 Oct | 519                       | 417               | 343                   |
| 1 Nov - 31 Dec | 519                       | 417               | 343                   |

Prices are in £'s per person. Child prices and supplements for single travellers available on request.

### Royal Princess | Chiang Mai | 3★

Set in the heart of Chiang Mai, the Royal Princess is ideally situated for exploring the region's many attractions. The colourful Night Bazaar is just around the frontage of the hotel and the river and old city are within easy walking distance. This contemporary Thai hotel is the perfect base for local sightseeing or as a convenient base for your out-of-town excursions and discovering the area.



#### BONUS OFFERS

**FREE NIGHTS** Stay 4 pay 3, valid 1 May to 30 Sep 08.

**FAMILIES** Children under 12 stay free when sharing with 2 full paying adults. Maximum 1 child per room.

#### Facilities

Swimming pool • fitness centre • 2 restaurants, serving Chinese and Japanese cuisine • garden café, serving international food • lobby bar.

#### Accommodation

198 rooms. Superior rooms are air-conditioned and feature colour TV, hair dryer, coffee/tea making facilities and private safe. Deluxe rooms are more spacious and available at a supplement. Junior suites and 1 & 2 Bed Suites are also available.

#### Supplements

Deluxe room £9 per room per night. 3rd adult sharing £17 per night. Single supplement from £20 per night. Breakfast £8, half board £19, full board £28 per person per night. Children under 12 pay 50%. Compulsory gala meal supplement of £45 per adult and £39 per child for 24 Dec 08 and £54 per adult and £45 per child for 31 Dec 08.

#### Average Transfer Time

15 minutes.

| HOTEL CODE | ROOM TYPE | BOARD BASIS | NIGHTS      | LOW | MID | HIGH |
|------------|-----------|-------------|-------------|-----|-----|------|
| 017458     | Superior  | Room Only   | 3 nights    | 691 | 828 | 1033 |
|            |           |             | Extra night | 20  | 20  | 25   |

Prices are in £'s per person based on 2 adults sharing a room and are inclusive of flights with Qatar Airways and Bangkok Airways, airport taxes and transfers.