

ALEXANDER+ROBERTS®

ORIGINAL JOURNEYS SINCE 1947

Enhance Your Stay in Chiang Mai with Additional Privately Guided Sightseeing

Elephant Nature Park

Elephant Nature Park is a sanctuary for many rescued elephants, enabling them to live out their lives in their own social groups, roaming the pasture freely. This morning experience offers a unique opportunity to spend quality time at Elephant Nature Park Sanctuary, observing and being with the magnificent elephant herd. We prioritize creating a relaxed and immersive experience, allowing visitors to truly appreciate and learn from these incredible creatures. After arrival, you'll embark on a guided walk with our knowledgeable staff and the elephants, emphasizing a no-riding policy. We will take you to the river that skirts the park, where you can observe and learn about the elephants' habitat and history. Indulge in a healthy and diverse vegan buffet featuring a range of Asian and International dishes. *Daily 8:00 to 13:00*

Thai Cooking Class (Join-in)

Happening is cooking with your grandma! With this in mind, a new cooking course has been developed that gives an insight into authentic, home-made Thai food. Situated just 20 minutes from central Chiang Mai, Grandma's Home Cooking School is located in a small, charming village in Saraphi district. This idyllic destination also provides a rural farm life experience. Guests are picked up from respective hotels at 8.30 am for the morning session and 3.30 pm for the afternoon session. This fun activity starts with a visit to a local market to source exotic ingredients. The class starts with instruction into the preparation of rice, including the popular sticky rice version. It is then time to source vegetables, herbs and even free-range chicken eggs from an organic farm, followed by a soup and stir-fry session and a tasting. The lesson then proceeds to the creation of spicy curries – a mainstay of Thai cuisine and desserts, followed by another tasting. It is then time to head back to the city, with an arrival at around 2 pm. Enjoy cooking in a traditional Thai pavilion and even better – take your skills back home to cook for friends and family.

Daily 8:30 to 12:30 and 15:30 to 19:30 Please inform in advance of dietary restrictions.

Northern Thailand Self-Drive Tuk Tuk Adventure

For the perfect day trip for anyone in Chiang Mai who wants to witness authentic rural life, this tour ticks all the boxes. You will get up close and personal with elephants; try some bamboo rafting on a river; and drive your very own tuk-tuk. Fully insured and with the highest standards for quality and safety, this is the ultimate Northern Thailand adventure! Don't forget to bring your driving licence for your tuk-tuk tour. You will learn to drive these iconic three-wheeled vehicles upon arrival in the Mae Wang area. The tuk-tuks are surprisingly easy to master and once you're confident in your driving ability, we'll head out on narrow rural roads through farming villages in convoy. We visit an ethical elephant home where you will have the opportunity to interact with these incredible animals. We then float lazily along the river on a traditional bamboo raft until it's time to jump back into your tuk-tuk and wind your way back down the valley. *Daily 8:30 to 17:00.*

Studio Naenna Textiles

Escape to the tranquility of Studio Naenna Textiles that sits in the shade of Suthep mountain for an insight into weaving techniques used by the Karen ethnic minority. This workshop uses eco-friendly fabrics and here we learn more about regional natural dyes as we observe a natural dye

demonstration. This is followed by a Karen back-strap loom weaving demonstration and an introduction to Lao-Tai textiles that covers the different community styles and historical backgrounds. The sessions can be extended depending on individual interest. With the remainder of the time we can explore the two galleries which have a variety of high quality silk and cotton garments in western sizes for sale, plus another displaying exquisite interior design textiles, or antiques from a private collection.

Daily 09:00 to 12:00

Handicraft Villages

Admire skilled craftsmen at work with an exploration of vibrant San Khampaeng that takes us to various galleries and factories where household and decorative items are crafted, painted and displayed. Chiang Mai is the birthplace of these skills and we watch the production of popular items in workshops such as Thai silk, colourful paper parasols and observe teak wood being transformed into elegant furniture with the use of simple tools. These skills have been passed down generations and we also learn the art of marking Celadon ceramics with methods that date back to the Sukhothai period. We also learn the intricacies behind the marking of lacquerware and silverware and have plenty of time to shop during our tour.

Daily 08:30 to 13:00 or 13:30 to 17:00

Doi Inthanon National Park

Get at one with nature as we head to the country's highest mountain, Doi Inthanon, which enjoys a cool climate all-year round. This is a popular spot for bird-watching since it is home to nearly 400 bird species including mountain hawks and Eurasian woodcocks. Our exploration takes us to admire its towering waterfalls, local villages and flowering rhododendrons. We also visit the twin pagodas of Phra Mahathat Napha Methanidon and Phra Mahathat Naphaphon Phumisiri. Next, we continue to a Karen ethnic minority village and a local restaurant where we enjoy lunch. A short walk takes us to Wachirathan Waterfall before we head back to Chiang Mai. Time permitting, we also explore the holy relics in Chomthong.

Daily 08:30 to 17:00

Ancient Lanna History

Travel back in time to the Lanna Kingdom as we visit Wat Ton Kwen, a temple with one of the finest examples of classic Lanna architecture in northern Thailand. Then we enjoy a cooking lesson with a difference. We head south out of Chiang Mai to explore Wat Ton Kwen, before proceeding to Hang Dong for an incredible gastronomic experience with a local Ruankaew-Yanon family where we are welcomed into their home to experience a typical day in the life of a Thai in a real local neighborhood. We learn to cook traditional home-cooked recipes with regional flavors that are different from standard dishes offered in commercial cooking classes. We then get to savor our delicious home-cooked meal alongside the host family.

Daily 08:30 to 17:00