

THAILAND

Thailand, officially the Kingdom of Thailand (and formerly the Kingdom of Siam) , is a country located in Southeast Asia . To the west and northwest by Myanmar (formerly Burma or Myanmar), to the east and west with Laos and Cambodia; a small part of the south with Malaysia, and south by the Gulf of Thailand in the east and the west to the Andaman Sea . With an area of 513 115 km² , is one of the main tourist destinations in Southeast Asia , mainly due to the beaches of extraordinary beauty, its Buddhist temples of exquisite architecture and the number of ethnic groups that you can visit in the north.

Since the sixteenth century the European powers made contact with the Kingdom of Siam, but unlike the countries that are around, Thailand is the only Southeast Asian country that was not colonized by Europeans.

The Thai government today is a stable constitutional monarchy, but we should remember that in recent years has experienced political problems after, for example, the coup in 2006 and social unrest in the spring of 2010. It is a country of great contrasts, because while about 46% of the Thai population is engaged in agriculture, today Thailand is one of the strongest countries in Southeast Asia as export of technological products is concerned. Since 2005, it has one of the highest literacy rates in the Asian region.

The majority ethnic groups in the country are the Thai and Lao, but in the north we can find other ethnic groups. While the majority religion is Buddhism, we can also find Muslims, Christians, Hindus and animists. Thailand has no problems with its neighbors, except for a small dispute with Cambodia for years for control of a temple which is on the border of both countries. Apart from this, we should remember two serious problems in the country: child prostitution , and insurgent groups in the regions of Pattani , Yala and Narathiwat , which have carried out terrorist acts.

Before traveling to Thailand, you must consider the following:

Vaccination:

No compulsory vaccination to travel to Thailand , but there recommended vaccines such as Hepatitis A and B, typhoid and tetanus.

For more information, it is best to turn to your nearest international vaccination.

Visa:

Thai authorities allow the vast majority of citizens to enter its territory without a visa for a period of up to 30 days if the arrival is by air.

For stays longer than 30 days it is necessary to apply for a visa at the Embassy / Consulate of Thailand in the country of origin of the traveler. Upon entering the country , a permit of stay of 60 days is obtained. In the Immigration Office you can be requested after an extension for another 30 days. The maximum stay is 90 days in a period of 180 days.

- <http://www.thaiembassy.com/thailand/thailand-tourist-visa.php>

Weather:

Thailand is characterized by two distinct periods the year: the rainy season and the dry season. The rainy season extends from the months of June to October (when the monsoon arrives) and dry season the rest of the year, with March, April and May months when it's hot.

Overall it is a country with a tropical climate, so the temperatures are usually higher during the day and at night softer, and always with a high level of humidity. In the north, although not the rainy season, always seems to have rainfall throughout the year.

Currency:

Thailand's currency is the Bath ; currently circulating coins are 25 and 50 satang (such as cents) , and 1, 2 , 5 and 10 bath . As for tickets, about 20 , 50 , 100 , 500 and 1000 Bath . The best option is to travel with euros and change once you get there , either in the airport or at a money exchange in the city.

<http://www.xe.com/ucc/es/>