

7-Day Bangkok Itinerary

Grand Palace, Floating Markets & Ayutthaya's Ruins

Bangkok rewards travelers who slow down: gilded temple spires rise a few blocks from rooftop bars, longtail boats still cut through the old khlong canals faster than taxis, and the street food scene is good enough that Bangkok has topped global street-food rankings for years running. This loop covers the essential temple trio — the Grand Palace, Wat Pho, and Wat Arun — a day trip out to the Damnoen Saduak floating market and Maeklong's umbrella-pulling railway market, and a full day among the ruined 14th-century capital at Ayutthaya, all built around one riverside hotel so you never have to repack.

DURATION

7 Days

BEST TIME TO GO

November – February

cool, dry season, less humidity

FROM

\$650 USD / person

for 2 people, excl. flights

Day 1

Arrive in Bangkok, Riverside Check-In

Land at Suvarnabhumi Airport and settle into a riverside hotel on the Chao Phraya before an easy first evening at a riverfront night market.

Private Transfer — Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK) to Hotel

~1 hour · \$18–41 USD one-way per group (up to 2 passengers)

An air-conditioned car with a driver waiting at arrivals, flight monitored so a delay doesn't strand you — the fastest way into the city after a long flight.

Booked via GetYourGuide · [getyourguide.com](https://www.getyourguide.com)

Check-In — Riva Surya Bangkok

From \$85–130 USD / night, for 2 people

A riverside boutique hotel on the Chao Phraya in the old-town Phra Athit area, with a pool overlooking the water and its own boat pier — an easy base for temple-hopping and an easy walk to the Khao San Road area.

Riva Surya Bangkok · +66 2 633 5000 · [rivasuryabangkok.com](https://www.rivasuryabangkok.com)

Evening — Asiatique The Riverfront

Free entry · Est. \$15–25 USD / person for dinner

A free hotel-arranged shuttle boat runs down the Chao Phraya to this converted riverside warehouse district of stalls, restaurants, and a giant Ferris wheel — an easy, low-effort first night.

Day 2 The Grand Palace, Wat Pho & Wat Arun

Bangkok's essential temple trio in one day, connected by a short cross-river ferry, followed by a street-food walk through Chinatown.

Grand Palace & Wat Phra Kaew (Temple of the Emerald Buddha)

~2–2.5 hours · 500 THB (~\$14 USD) / person

The former royal residence and Thailand's most sacred temple, gleaming with gold spires and mosaic-tiled halls. Shoulders and knees must be covered — go early, before the tour-bus crowds and the midday heat.

Tickets sold on-site only, Na Phra Lan Road gate — ignore touts outside claiming it's closed.

Wat Pho (Temple of the Reclining Buddha)

~1–1.5 hours · 300 THB (~\$8.50 USD) / person

Home to a 46-metre gold-plated reclining Buddha and the birthplace of traditional Thai massage — a 30-minute massage on-site runs about 300 THB (~\$8.50 USD) if you want to book one before heading to the river.

Cross-River Ferry & Wat Arun (Temple of Dawn)

~15 minutes by ferry · Ferry ~10 THB, Wat Arun 200 THB (~\$6 USD) / person

The Chao Phraya cross-river ferry from Tha Tien pier drops you almost at the foot of Wat Arun's porcelain-encrusted central prang — climb partway up for river views, best around sunset.

Evening — Yaowarat (Chinatown) Street Food Walk

Self-guided · Est. \$10–20 USD / person

On your own — Bangkok's Chinatown lights up after dark with stalls grilling seafood, wok-tossed noodles, and mango sticky rice along Yaowarat Road.

Overnight — Riva Surya Bangkok

From \$85–130 USD / night, for 2 people

Second night at the same hotel — no need to pack up.

Riva Surya Bangkok · +66 2 633 5000 · rivasuryabangkok.com

Day 3 Floating Markets & the Umbrella-Pulling Railway

A full day out of the city to two of Thailand's most photographed markets, about 90 minutes southwest of Bangkok.

Damnoen Saduak Floating Market & Maeklong Railway Market Day Tour

~8–9 hours round-trip · \$24–30 USD / person

A guided day trip to Thailand's best-known floating market, where vendors paddle wooden boats stacked with fruit and noodle bowls, followed by Maeklong Railway Market — stallholders famously pull their awnings and produce back from the tracks as a train rolls straight through the market, several times a day.

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Dinner Back in Bangkok

Est. \$15–25 USD / person

On your own — the tour returns to the city by early evening, leaving time for dinner near the hotel or one more pass through a night market.

Overnight — Riva Surya Bangkok

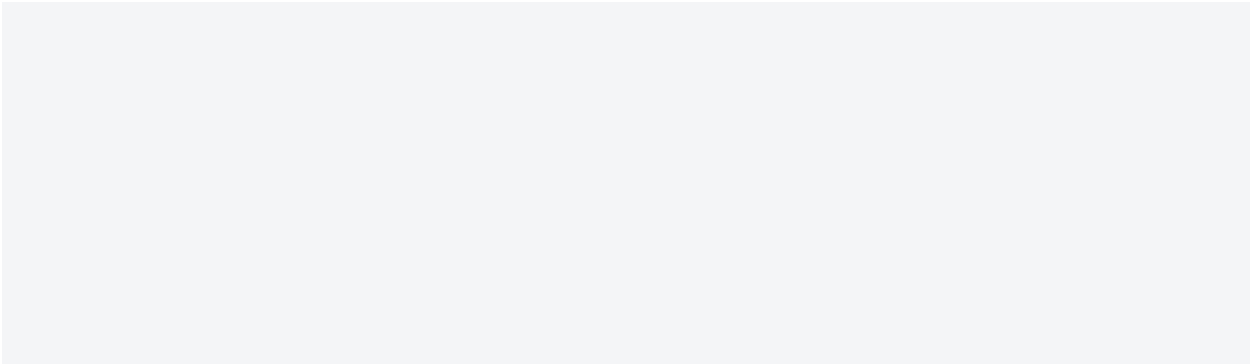
From \$85–130 USD / night, for 2 people

Third night at the same hotel.

Riva Surya Bangkok · +66 2 633 5000 · rivasuryabangkok.com

Day 4 Ayutthaya's Ruined Capital

A full day north to the crumbling 14th-century capital of the Ayutthaya Kingdom, once one of the largest cities in the world.



Day 6 Markets, Lumpini Park & Muay Thai Under the Lights

A slower morning at a local market, a break in the city's largest downtown park, then a night of live Muay Thai at one of the world's oldest boxing stadiums.

Or Tor Kor Market

~1.5–2 hours, self-guided · Free entry

A gourmet market rated among the best in Asia, open daily (unlike the sprawling weekend-only Chatuchak Market next door) — come hungry for tropical fruit, grilled seafood, and Thai desserts.

Lumpini Park

~1 hour, self-guided · Free

Bangkok's answer to Central Park, with a lake, monitor lizards sunning on the paths, and outdoor aerobics classes most evenings — a good spot to decompress before the fights.

Muay Thai at Rajadamnern Stadium

~3 hours, doors 3:00 PM · Tickets from 1,000 THB (~\$28 USD) / person

The world's oldest permanent Muay Thai stadium, hosting live fight cards under bright lights with a rowdy crowd — book a second-class or ringside seat in advance for the best view of the ring.

Rajadamnern Stadium · +66 90 899 3136 · rajadamnern.com

Overnight — Riva Surya Bangkok

From \$85–130 USD / night, for 2 people

Sixth and final night at the same hotel.

Riva Surya Bangkok · +66 2 633 5000 · rivasuryabangkok.com

Day 7 Free Morning & Departure

One last Thai massage or a final pass through the markets before the transfer back to the airport.

Free Morning — Massage or Last-Minute Shopping

Self-guided · Est. \$10–25 USD for a 1-hour massage

Spend the morning at your own pace — a farewell Thai massage near the hotel, or a last stop at Siam Paragon or the MBK Center for souvenirs before checkout.

Private Transfer — Hotel to Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK)

~1 hour · \$18–41 USD one-way per group (up to 2 passengers)

Build in buffer time before an international flight — Bangkok traffic can add 20–30 minutes on a bad day, especially leaving during the evening rush.

Booked via GetYourGuide · getyourguide.com

Prices are per-person estimates in USD for 2026 travel and will vary by season and booking window. Confirm current rates and availability directly with each operator before booking. © I-Journey