

# PIONEER EXPEDITIONS

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Do something extraordinary.....

## Trekking & Rafting Adventure • Thailand 14 Days • 13 Nights • Various Dates • £1195

Remote, wild, and some of the last true jungles in Thailand will be the home of this trekking expedition. A true adventure in Thailand avoiding all the main tourist areas and one of the last effective wildernesses to be discovered.

We will spend time with mainly local Karen people, the main ethnic group in the area and originally from the Burmese lands. We trek through forests and rural areas with small hills, passing rivers and some villages along the way.

### Highlights

- Trek through some of the last **true remote jungles** in Thailand
- Visit the **bridge over the River Kwai**
- Visit some of the largest waterfalls in Thailand including the **Thi Lor Lay Waterfall**
- White water rafting
- Stay with local villagers

### Overview

Remote, wild, and some of the last true jungles in Thailand will be the home of this trekking trip. A true adventure in Thailand avoiding all the main tourist areas and possibly the last effective wilderness to be discovered.

We will spend time with mainly local Karen people, the main ethnic group in the area and originally from the Burmese lands. Trekking is through forests and rural areas with small hills, passing rivers and some villages along the way.

After a short stop at Kanchanaburi to visit the historical Bridge of the River Kwai, we stay overnight on tranquil floating river rafts. The next days bring us deep into the remote areas, trekking with local Karen guides from Sangklaburi to Umphang. We trek for 4 days passing rivers, sleeping in village houses or camping out in the wild and even get the opportunity to ride elephants.

Arriving at Umphang for a night, we then trek and raft to the largest waterfalls in Thailand, which are set in lush surroundings. We continue the trek with white water rafting and more falls, villages and wilderness before coming to Mae Sot town before heading back to Bangkok.

Facilities are basic except in the main towns but we can expect a real sense of accomplishment.



## Itinerary

### Day 1 - Bangkok

We will be met at the airport and transferred to our hotel for our briefing. Depending on time of arrival we have an optional longboat tour on the canal off the main Chao Phraya River.

**Hotel, Dinner**

### Day 2 - Kanchanaburi

This morning we set out to Kanchanaburi (approx 3 hours drive). We get to visit the WWII museum and walk over the infamous Bridge over the River Kwai, and take a short journey over the death railway. We then take our boat ride to the raft house, which will be our accommodation for this evening.

**Overnight on raft house, BLD**

### Day 3 - Kanchanaburi

We have a day of leisure today where we are left to our own devices. We will have opportunities to try out a bamboo raft, elephant riding, exploring caves or simply to watch the world go by.

**Overnight on raft house, BLD**

### Day 4 - Sangkhlaburi

Today we set off for the more remote area of Sangkhlaburi. Here we take a ride on a longtail boat to visit the famous temple, which is submerged underneath the water. It is possible to see the temple roof during the dry season when the water level is lower.

Tonight we stop at a guest house near the lake, and visit the local market during the evening.

**Overnight in guesthouse, BLD**

### Day 5 - Sanepong Village

We have an early start this morning in order to walk on the famous Mon bridge and visit of the Mon village. We leave the village after breakfast and transfer to Sanepong village where our trekking really starts. We head off into the lush jungle together with our Karen guide.

Approx. 5 hours (A hilly 6 kms)

**Overnight at local village, BLD**

### Day 6 - Thilaipa Village

Today we trek from Sanepong to Thilaipa Village.

Approx. 6 hrs walk

**Overnight at local village house or wild camp, BLD**

### Day 7 - Suria Village

Our destination today is the Suria village on the Suria river. Apart from trekking we will also get the opportunity to rest our tired legs whilst riding an elephant

**Overnight at local village house or wild camp, BLD**

### Day 8 - Umphang

We have a relatively easy 3 hours trekking this morning to meet our driver who will transfer us to Umphang. After checking into our rooms we are free to spend the rest of the afternoon at our leisure.

**Overnight lodge, BLD**

### Day 9 - Thi Lor Su Wild camp

We can leave our main luggage behind at our lodging's storage room. We walk down to the river and take the rafts for a 3 hour meander down the Mae Klong River. This is easy rafting on calm water, passing cliffs and waterfalls and hot springs.

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We then set off to the forestry camp on foot (approx. 2 ½ hrs (8kms). From here we can hike to the base of the Thi Lo Su waterfall just 45 mins away (1½ kms) where we can go swimming before heading back to the campsite.

**Wild camp, BLD**

## **Day 10 - Thi Lor Ley**

After breakfast, we walk along the Kong river (approx 2 hours / 5 kms) and set off on another rafting trip along the Klong river to Palatha village (2.5 hours). Following lunch near the village, we continue by raft to Thi Lor Lay Waterfall. On this part of the journey we see some grade 3 white water and pass through 10 rapids. After an exhilarating 4-5 hours, we set up camp near the falls in the jungle.

**Wild camp, BLD**

## **Day 11 - Sepa La village**

Today we set off through the jungle towards Sepala village. This 10km trek should take between 5- 6 hours, but we have the option of trekking or/and an elephant ride

**Wild camp, BLD**

## **Day 12 - Mae Sot**

We get to experience the Thai buses today as we head to Umphang and then Mae Sot by bus (4 hours, 160km)

**Hotel, BLD**

## **Day 13 - Bangkok**

This morning we can visit the town of Mae Sot and if time allows visit the Burmese market, before taking an internal flight to Bangkok

**Hotel, BLD**

## **Day 14 - Bangkok**

Expedition ends – transfer to airport. Or we can provide you with optional extensions

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## **INCLUSIONS**

- All sightseeing tours and transfer services as detailed in our itinerary,
- Hotel accommodation as specified,
- English speaking local guide,
- Meals as specified,

## **EXCLUSIONS**

- Services not mentioned in our itinerary
- Optional tour & sight seeing
- Transportation & transfers not mentioned in the itinerary
- Upgrade cost of accommodation
- Visa fees or landing fees
- All international airport tax
- Expenditure of a personal nature.
- Meals and drink that are not mentioned in the itinerary
- Travel insurance (cover against all cancellation costs, medical expenses, including repatriation, in the event of accident or illness)

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## **Expedition Schedule**

This expedition is open between November and March and July to September for group sizes of 2 - 10. If there are 2 or more of you, you can tell us when you want to go. We also have the following scheduled trips:

8 Nov 09 – 21 Nov 09  
31 Jan 10 – 13 Feb 10  
14 Mar 10 - 27 Mar 10  
8 Aug 10 – 21 Aug 10  
7 Nov 10 – 20 Nov 10