

Thailand will wait for you!



SawasdeeKhrub!

Hope you all are safe and doing well.

On behalf of TAT, I am proud to inform you that Thailand has been ranked as the second best country in the world (out of 184 countries) for ongoing COVID-19 recovery as per W.H.O. Now that life is getting back to normal slowly, we look forward and hope for a better tomorrow.

This month we would like to promote Romance and Love in Amazing Thailand with a focus on one of the most beautiful and luxurious destinations in Thailand- Koh Samui.



Vachirachai Sirisumpan
Director -TAT New Delhi

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TAT Updates:

Situation Update in Thailand

The Royal Thai Government has approved the fifth phase for relaxing business and activity restrictions, effective from 1st July 2020. The green light for all remaining entertainment businesses and activities to resume normal operations from 1 July, 2020, in addition to those that have already been allowed earlier, include:

- Shopping malls, department stores, community malls, convention and exhibition facilities, can resume normal operating hours, but no later than 22.00 Hrs.
- Convenience stores, supermarkets and similar businesses can resume normal operating hours.
- Pubs, bars, karaoke bars can reopen until midnight, but sales promotional activities remain prohibited.
- The sale of food and beverages in restaurants, food parks and hotels, is allowed past midnight, but the sale of alcoholic beverages is not allowed outside of the specified hours (11.00-14.00 Hrs. and 17.00-midnight).
- Gaming and Internet cafes can resume normal operating hours, but services must be limited at specified hours.
- Bath-sauna-massage establishments can return to normal operating hours as specified by the law.
- All businesses and activities that resume normal operations must be subject to the government's disease control measures. Both the business operators and customers must follow the social distancing rules and must use the Thai Chana online platform when checking in and checking out.

Thailand has ranked second best in the world out of 184 countries for its ongoing COVID-19 recovery effort, according to a study produced by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and top-level organisations in Malaysia.

According to the spokesman for the Centre for COVID-19 Situation Administration, Thailand has not reported any local COVID-19 infections for the last one month.

Read more: <https://www.tatnews.org/2020/07/thailand-announces-fifth-phase-for-relaxing-of-restrictions-beginning-1-july/>

Thailand allows entry to several groups of foreigners from 1st July

The Tourism Authority of Thailand is pleased to share the latest announcement from the Civil Aviation Authority of Thailand (CAAT) that several groups of foreigners have been allowed entry into the kingdom from 1 July, 2020, onwards.

CAAT's "Notification on Conditions for International Flight Permit to Thailand" referred to its previous notifications issued since 3 April, 2020, imposing a temporary ban on all international flights entering Thailand for the prevention and control of the COVID – 19 pandemic.

Read more: <https://www.tatnews.org/2020/06/thailand-allows-entry-to-several-groups-of-foreigners-from-1-july/>

Thailand approves domestic tourism package worth 22.4 billion Baht

The Royal Thai Government today approved a domestic tourism stimulus package worth 22.4 billion Baht, proposed by the Ministry of Tourism and Sports and Ministry of Finance as part of the efforts to mitigate the impacts of the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) crisis and accelerate recovery in the travel and tourism sector.

The project is expected to stimulate two million domestic trips during 1 July – 31 October, 2020, and help generate income for accommodation establishments, airlines, tour companies, restaurants, and related businesses.

Read more: <https://www.tatnews.org/2020/06/thailand-approves-domestic-tourism-package-worth-22-4-billion-baht/>

Activities:

TAT New Delhi created Situation update video for Indian travelers in Hindi

With reference to Covid-19 pandemic, TAT created a situation update in Thailand in Hindi language, which was shared with travel agents and tour operators in Tier 2& Tier 3 Indian cities. This helped in informing about all the safety measures taken by the government and various tourism-related organizations/ products in Thailand and helped in re-gaining confidence in travelers for visiting Thailand in the near future.



https://drive.google.com/file/d/1g1CUVKH5DvROR_zJChV2RMCwSctU-mp/view

LIVE Interview of Thai Ambassador on News X Channel

TAT New Delhi organized a LIVE interview of Thai Ambassador to India H.E. MR. CHUTINTORN GONGSAKDI, on leading English news channel – News X , to talk about the Situation update in Thailand as well as tourism in Thailand post Covid -19 and steps being taken by the Thai Government to ensure safety for travelers. The news channel has a daily reach of about 560 million people.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UJsx7kbNNW8&t=979s>



TAT Director featured on Radio 104.8 Ishq FM

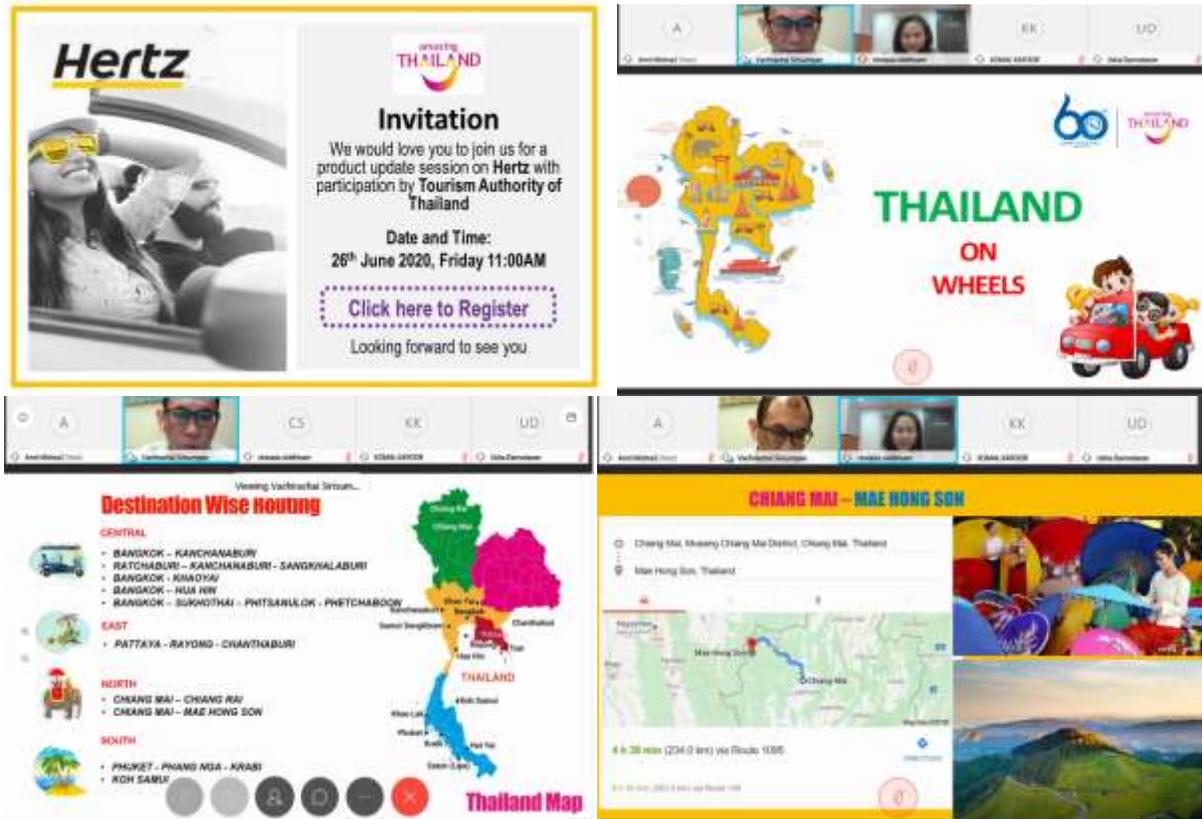
On 16th June 2020 TAT New Delhi -Director was featured on popular Radio Channel 104.8 Ishq FM to talk about #NewTomorrow. Mr Vachirachai Sirisumpan (Director-TAT New Delhi) focused on sustainable tourism as being the way forward and emphasized on the importance of being responsible and respectful tourists. He also welcomed Indian travellers to visit Thailand soon once the situation of Covid-19 improves.



https://www.facebook.com/TATNewDelhi/videos/953650145089531/?_tn=%2Cd%2CP-R&eid=ARDUBditqnaeygb2pOANVD8hZaGXdJiOG3WOXqZuKWNyeJ_PpDmbPMObKKcl0jEBAqQBR8TzWP4-HFva

TAT India organized a Webinar with Hertz Cars on Self Drive Holidays in Thailand

In efforts to promote Self drive holidays in Thailand, which would be a big travel choice in the post Covid time, TAT India along with car rental company- Hertz organised a webinar for Indian travel agents on 26th June 2020. TAT promoted popular driving routes in Thailand to the travel agents that they could further recommend to their clients.



Thai Food Promotion on with Gourmet Planet and Blue Elephant Restaurant

In order to keep Thailand at top the mind holiday destination for Indians at this time thru delicious Thai food, TAT along will the popular Blue Elephant Thai restaurant and Gourmet Planet conducted a LIVE Facebook cooking class, which will also be featured on Instagram, for the members of Gourmet Planet. GP Facebook page has over 68,000 members and Instagram page has over 6000 members.

Head Chef at Blue Elephant prepared three special Thai dishes for the participants which they could cook easily at home. The members also got an opportunity to interact with the chef via the live session and ask her any questions that they had regarding Thai food or the recipes. The

dishes demonstrated were as below. Post the cooking session many people cooked the Thai dishes in their homes and posted the same on their social media pages.

- North Eastern Laab Chicken Salad
- Jumbo Prawn and Crispy Fish Salad
- Seabass Tamarind Sauce



Social media Promotion with Conde Nast Traveler India

To encourage Indian travelers to travel to Thailand post COVID 19, TAT New Delhi started a digital media promotional campaign on Conde Nast Traveller India Instagram page.

CNT asked Instagrammers to invite 4 of their Instagram friends and tell them (CNT) why and who deserves a holiday to Thailand. Like gifting a Thai holiday to their friends

If their post is liked, one of their friends could be on the way to Thailand

Contest was promoted extensively through Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and the CNT newsletter and website.



5 Best Romantic Getaways in Amazing Thailand

Thailand is a dream destination if you're planning a honeymoon or just wanting a romantic getaway to an exotic location. Most couple love to visit Thailand for the beautiful beaches and enchanting islands, however for something a little more adventurous or different, there are plenty of other places in Thailand that are wonderfully romantic and also off the beaten path.

To create unforgettable memories with your loved ones, below are some of the highlights of the romantic places Thailand has to offer:

KOH SAMUI:

Thailand's most popular honeymoon and romance destination is Koh Samui. This large island in the Gulf of Siam has plenty of pretty beaches to choose from and the interior of the island is covered with coconut trees and soft, rolling hills. Koh Samui also boasts of stunning world class luxurious resorts that where couples can enjoy a paradise like holiday.

The island is part of the Anghong Marine National Park and is just a couple hours by boat from Ko Phangan and Ko Tao, so there are ample opportunities for exploration and activities, including kayaking, snorkelling, and diving that make up for fun activities on a special getaway.



KRABI:

Secluded Krabi is a little less popular than Samui and Phuket but no less beautiful or romantic. The dramatic cliffs, clear water and relative peace and quiet make this mainland beach destination a great place for couples.

Krabi is also very close to Phuket and the other islands in the Andaman Bay (including Phi Phi), so it's a great place to use as a base if you want to explore the rest of the region. Railay Beach, which is only accessible by boat, might just be the perfect place for a romantic getaway. One must explore the popular Island tours on the signature long tail boats.



PHUKET:

Phuket, Thailand's largest island, offers visitors just about any experience they could want, including romance and luxury. Although the big, popular beaches such as Patong and Kamala are fun, if you're looking for something romantic, opt for one of the smaller beaches either in the north or south part of the island. Surin Beach, Kata Beach, and Nai Hark Beach are all more peaceful and relaxed than elsewhere.



KHAO LAK:

When people think of honeymoons they typically think of untouched and secluded private beaches with beautiful resorts, away from the city's hustle-bustle. Khao Lak, just north of Phuket offers just that and that's why is considered a great honeymoon destination for couples. At just 90 minutes from the Phuket International Airport (HKT), the location is ideal for couples celebrating a special occasion.

Rustic yet luxurious, Khao Lak is a great destination for a romantic getaway. You can hike in gorgeous nature preserves, explore virgin islands, and stroll hand-in-hand on pristine beaches or enjoy a romantic beach dinner, that can be set up by your hotel/resort.



CHIANG MAI:

Ancient temples, charming boutiques, beautiful gardens and vibrant street life make the city of Chiang Mai a great romantic break for history and culture lovers and foodies.

If the great outdoors is more your speed during your Thailand honeymoon, the mountainous area surrounding Chiang Mai is lush and green and offers plenty of outdoor adventure including river rafting. Visitors to the Chiang Mai region typically head out on multi-day hikes, which often involve roughing it, but there are also exceptionally beautiful luxury resorts for those who want to indulge.



Destination of the month: Koh Samui

Ko Samui, Thailand's second largest island, lies in the Gulf of Thailand and is known for its palm-fringed and white sand beaches, coconut groves and dense, mountainous rainforest, plus luxury resorts and posh spas. The landmark 12m-tall golden Big Buddha statue at Wat Phra Yai Temple is located on a tiny island connected to Ko Samui by a causeway.



Koh Samui (Samui Island) is a cosmopolitan melting pot, attracting budget travellers staying for a month or two in simple beachside bungalows, to the wealthiest holidaymakers dropping in for a weekend at one of the many luxury resort or villa on the many white sand beaches of Koh Samui.

From the hustle and bustle of Chaweng Beach to the lively yet relaxed atmosphere of Lamai Beach to the timeless feel of Bophut's Fisherman's Village to the tropical beach paradise of Maenam, Koh Samui is unique among Thailand's islands in maintaining a broad appeal for everyone. This helps to give the distinctive relaxed atmosphere that sets it apart



Samui International Airport is a privately owned airport on the island of Koh Samui in Thailand. The airport is roughly 2 km north of the main city and largest resort centre on the island, Chaweng. It was built by Bangkok Airways.

Koh Samui: Did you know?

- Samui International Airport is often acclaimed as one of the coolest and best-looking airports in Thailand. It is privately owned and run by Bangkok Airways.
- Before the tourist era, Koh Samui relied on fishery and coconut plantation. The island used to get a nickname as “island of coconuts and monkeys”.
- Koh Samui is Thailand's third largest island (229 km²). Its length and width is approximately 25 km.

Must Do's in Koh Samui for travellers

Beautiful white sand beaches with crystal clear waters alongside luxurious hotels and resorts serve as a perfect destination for unwinding and having a great holiday. Some of the beaches also offer options for kitesurfing, sea kayaking, snorkeling, and scuba diving for couples who enjoy some thrilling experiences.

The popular Koh Samui beaches – Chaweng, Lamai, Bophut, and Lipa Noi – may be a little crowded, But the scenic views and the long coastline ensure some romantic time for the honeymooners. And then there are some pristine beaches in Koh Samui. These include Silver Beach, Choeng Mon, and Taling Ngam.

1. Visit the famous Big Budha
2. Enjoy a pampering spa session
3. Experience a Thai cooking class
4. See Awesome Scenery At Namuang Waterfall
5. Go on a 4WD Jungle Safari Tour
6. Take a trip to Anghong Marine Park





7. Get adventurous with scuba diving, snorkelling and other water activities
8. Experience a magical sunset cruise
9. Visit Bophut's Fisherman's village
10. Visit Koh Samui shooting range
11. Drive around Nathon Town -The town's main tourist attraction
12. Visit Ark bar, The Cliff, Green Mango for nightlife. See the fire show on the beach.
13. Visit Chaweng View Point – Lad Koh View Point
14. Visit Grandfather & Grandmother Rocks
15. Visit Koh Phangan or Koh Tao by boat/ferry





Answer the following on Destination Koh Samui: Winner gets a gift from TAT. (Please reply by 25th July on tat.directrep@gmail.com)

Q1. Which popular Bollywood movie shot a destination wedding scene in Koh Samui? Name the Resort where it was shot as well.

Ans:

Q2. Name the famous National Marine Park in Koh Samui.

Ans:

TAT Newsletter June 2020: Lucky winners of Chiang Mai Quiz

Ms Payal Bhanshali



Ms Sreerekha Reddy



Mr Srinivasa Prasath



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