

BOOKING AVAILABLE NOW

# THAILAND QUEER TRIP

Dates:

26th Jan - 12th Feb 2026 (18 days)

Price

£1,579

Operator

The trip will be run by @gap360official, the UK's leading independent specialist travel company for 18-30s.





# Trip Highlights

- Help feed the elephants at an ethical elephant project
- Sleep on the water in a traditional Thai 'float-house' in Khao Sok National Park
- Go off-grid with a jungle trek and bamboo rafting in Northern Thailand
- Live the best beach life on the tropical island of Koh Samui
- Travel with other LGBTQ+ Backpacker community members!

## PHOTOS FROM OUR LAST QUEER THAILAND GROUP TRIP



# What is Included in the price

- 17 nights' accommodation
- Some meals (see accommodation & meal section)
- WhatsApp buddy list before you travel
- Airport transfer on arrival
- A local Thai guide
- Welcome drink & entrance fee at LGBTQ+ Bar
- Bangkok city boat tour
- In-country transport (inc. internal flight)
- Cookery class in Chiang Mai
- Chiang Mai night market tour
- Ethical elephant experience
- Bamboo rafting
- Koh Phi Phi viewpoint visit
- Phi Phi boat trip with snorkelling and kayaking
- Street food crawl
- Day trip to Railay Beach
- Bor Thor mangrove forests kayak trip
- Khao Sok night market
- Khao Sok entrance fee
- Khao Sok long-tail boat trip
- Khao Sok floating bungalows
- Ang Thong National Marine Park visit
- Farewell drink at The Pride Bar
- 24 hour emergency support



**WHATS NOT INCLUDED: INTERNATIONAL FLIGHTS, TRAVEL INSURANCE, VISAS (IF NEEDED), SOME MEALS, SNACKS AND DRINKS, OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES, RETURN AIRPORT TRANSFERS**



# Coming Solo?

Awesome! All Gap 360 trips are designed for travellers to meet and make new travel friends. A dedicated group leader will accompany you throughout the entire trip, ensuring everyone is mixing and having a fun time. Plus, Gap 360 will create a WhatsApp group a month before the trip so you can break the ice before you even arrive! On both our trips to Thailand and the Philippines, several travellers ended up getting matching tattoos - which really shows just how close you can expect to become by the end of the trip!



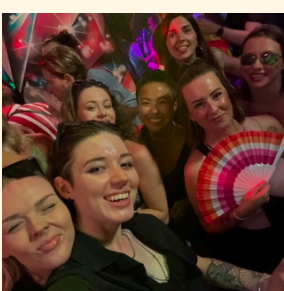
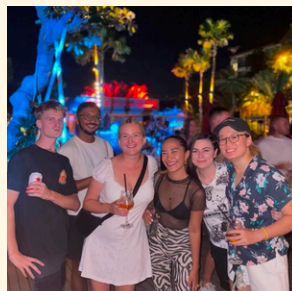
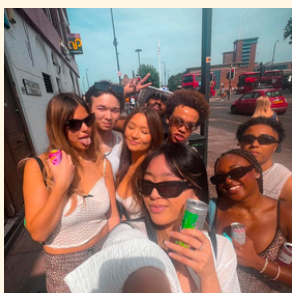
Tattoo time!





# Who is the trip open to?

LGBTQ+ Backpackers aged 18-35. Our insta gives a good glimpse into the kind of lovely people you can expect to be travelling with! (@lgbtq\_backpackers)





# Reviews

As all our trips are operated by trusted partners, we don't collect direct reviews ourselves. However, the reviews below were left on Gap 360's reviews.io profile specifically about our LGBTQ+ Backpackers Thailand Trip!

## Daisy ★★★★★

Solo travel is always an exciting yet intimidating prospect and sometimes, as someone who is a part of the LGBTQ community, it can feel more intimidating than exciting. That's why I was so excited to be able to go on a fully queer trip and I have never been so glad that I did. What a fantastic, vibrant and beautiful group of people I got to spend time with, all while discovering a new country. We really got to see the wide variety that Thailand has to offer: from beautiful beaches, expansive jungle and bustling cities. Throughout the trip, the organised experiences gave us the chance to become extremely close as a group and there really was something for everyone. There was also the chance for additional activities such as rock climbing. It is impossible to leave a review for this trip and not mention the incredible Mr Patrick. It's safe to say that we would have been lost without him and that he made this trip the best it could possibly be for all of us. Mr Patrick led us all through the experience with jokes, hugs and anti-sea sickness medications and we never were unsure about our next move. I cannot recommend him more highly as a guide and fully express what a wonderful person he is. Everyone in their life needs a Mr Patrick ❤️ thank you for making such an inclusive and safe trip possible for all of us.

## Jen ★★★★★

Wow - what an incredible experience! I haven't got a single bad word to say about this tour and our wonderful, caring and fun guide Patrick! From day one he helped bring our group together ready to see his country not with strangers, but with new friends. This activity packed tour was so well organised: I always felt safe, knew what our plan was and could easily ask for suggestions for our free time. Patrick put so much work into making our time together memorable and worry free, it really wouldn't have been anywhere near as good without him and I am so grateful for him! I couldn't recommend doing a Gap360 tour as part of the LGBTQ+ backpackers group enough! It was so special and I now have a group of queer people from all around the world that I can call family - I will definitely be doing it again!

## Anonymous ★★★★★

This trip was so fun! We did so many amazing things and I've met the best people! Our guide Mr. Patrick took so good care of us and made the trip the best it could've been:) I felt so safe as queer the whole time

## MJ ★★★★★

I had an incredible time on the LGBTQ Backpackers Thailand trip. Everything was very well organized and planned, and I loved the group activities we did as well as the freedom to go off and explore a bit on my own, which I had a great time doing. I loved the hill trek and the night in the jungle village as well. I do wish we could have spent more time in Bangkok and Chiang Mai, though- it would have been nice to get to explore the city and learn about the culture. As a vegan, I was amazed at how well gap360 accommodated my dietary needs for all of the included meals. I never found myself in a situation where I felt like there wasn't anything I could eat; and often, a separate vegan meal was prepared for me without even having to ask! Our tour guide Mr Patrick was an absolute delight. He did an amazing job and made the trip so fun. He helped us so much on the trip and it wouldn't have been the same without him!

## Ella ★★★★★

I had a fantastic 18 days in Thailand, exploring all of this country's beauty. I specially want to shout out our guide, Patrick, for expertly shepherding 22 of us around the whole country and taking us on the most fantastic excursions!

## Samantha ★★★★★

What a life changing experience. I had the absolute pleasure joining the LGBTQ+ backpackers trip and had the most heartwarming experience. This was my first time traveling solo which going with Gap360 allowed the comfort of traveling with a group alongside gaining the feel of backpacking. We saw the most beautiful locations with a mix between chilled beach time, adrenaline pumping activities and learning a lot about the culture! Highlights were definitely the elephant sanctuary and the hill village stay. I have come out of this trip with so many beautiful new friends and memories that I will cherish forever. I was very worried about going to Thailand with a peanut allergy but the tour provided safe meals and our amazing tour guide helped every step of the way with communicating and pointing me in the right direction of safe alternatives. We had the absolute delight of Mr Patrick's company on our tour. Patrick was the perfect tour guide for our LGBTQ+ tour. He has a strong knowledge of cultural history and had many suggestions for places/activities for us to do in each location during free time which were always welcomed. Mr Patrick deserves a full five stars. He is such an inspiration and joy to have met! For a diverse group who struggle to sometimes feel safe in different locations, Mr Patrick made us all feel safe every step of the way. Thank you Mr Patrick ❤️

## Aisling H ★★★★★

I was very nervous leading up the queer trip to Thailand but once I got there, I felt so at ease. Travelling around Thailand with a beautiful bunch of people was an unforgettable experience. I have made some lifelong friends and will always be grateful for this trip. Mr. Patrick was amazing. He knew everyone's names from the start and joined in on our fun when he was able to. His communication was excellent, we always knew what the plan was and timings etc, he was always there with the anti-sickness tablets too. Mr. Patrick was the perfect person to show a bunch of queers around Thailand. Would do it all again in a heartbeat.



# Post-Trip Chat Vibes

We believe there's no better way to get a sense of how incredible the trips are than by taking a sneak peek into the post-trip group chat messages!



From @saskf



From @jana\_o4



From @lifeofrachel\_x



From @danncannon



From @hfarris





The following  
information was  
provided by Gap  
360



# Day 1

## Trip Overview

Travel Thailand with other members of the "LGBTQ+ Backpackers" Facebook Group community on this incredible group adventure, exclusive to book on Gap 360! Kick off in Bangkok with temple visits and neon-lit nights on Khao San Road. Then head north where you'll get to know the eles at an awesome elephant project and spend two days trekking through hill tribe country. Southern Thailand is all about chilling out on sugar-white beaches, snorkelling, and partying under the stars on Koh Phi Phi and Samui, as well as an unforgettable night in a traditional floating bungalow in Khao Sok National Park. It's the ULTIMATE way to travel Thailand!

## Day 1: Arrive in Bangkok

Arrive in Bangkok Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK) where you'll be met and taken to your starting accommodation in the lively Khao San Road area. Khao San is a boisterous backpackers' Mecca with cafes and bars spilling out on to the street, clothes vendors, and street-food stalls. At night, the area transforms into a carnival of fun with pounding beats and fluorescent lighting.

There are no activities planned for today, apart from a welcome meeting this evening, so you can arrive whenever suits you best. Check in to your hostel and either chill out after your long flight or jump right into the crazy streets of Bangkok! Later, meet your guide and the rest of your group and learn all about the incredible adventures we've got in store for you, as well as getting the lowdown on Thailand's culture and customs from bartering to cultural no-nos (did you know it's illegal to step on Thai Baht because it features the King's face?!).

Then why not head out to Silom area, the famous street for the LGBTQ+ community to hangout. This evening we will experience the drag queen show by famous Thailand's Drag Race stars at The Stranger Bar, your first drink is included. What a way to start off the trip!



# Day 2 & 3

## Day 2: Bangkok Tour & night bus to Chiang Mai

You've got a full day to explore the 'City of Angels'. We'll begin with a long-tail boat ride down the city's waterways. It's a great way to get an insight into daily life in Bangkok as we glide past canal-side temples and local women selling fruit, noodles, and other delicacies. We'll stop at Wat Pho, home of the vast gold reclining Buddha, as well as Wat Arun, also known as the 'Temple of the Dawn', which shimmers with mother-of-pearl (entrance fees payable locally). If you want to see all of Bangkok's big hitters, there's also an optional visit to the impressive Grand Palace on offer.

Later, we'll transfer you to Bangkok bus station, where we'll board the overnight bus to Chiang Mai. You'll be super comfy with air-con, reclining seats and toilets on board. The main lights are dimmed so you can sleep, but there's a small light over your head if you want to read. The coach will usually make one stop at a service station if you want to use the toilets or pick up some snacks.

## Day 3: Elephant project

We'll arrive early in the cultural capital of Thailand. The city is an altogether more laid-back affair than Bangkok, with leafy streets, saffron robed monks, and more temples than you can shake a stick at! We aren't lingering long though as we've got some very special animals to meet today! We'll be picked up from the bus or train station and transferred to our amazing ethical elephant project in Mae Teang. Based next to the river, with beautiful mountain views, it's an incredible place. You'll help feed the eles, before feeding yourself with a delicious lunch! After, we'll walk with the elephants through the lush surrounding countryside, to a local river, where you'll bathe them in the cool water before leading them back home. We'll spend tonight in an authentic homestay within the local community. What an amazing day!





# Day 4

## About the elephant project

We've specifically chosen to work with this project, because of their ethical approach to working with elephants. The home is at the forefront of the movement in Thailand towards finding new, more positive ways to interact with these majestic beasts. Many of the elephants have been rescued from hard labour, circuses, and riding camps, and given a better life, in a safe, natural environment, where they can roam free. Visitors are not permitted to ride the elephants. Instead, you'll be involved in a more authentic experience, caring for the elephants, and living alongside them in a way that's beneficial to the animals.

## Day 4: Hill Trek and Chiang Mai

Experience Thailand's enchanting emerald paddies and panoramic hill terrain on our 2-hour hike through the rainforest. After making our way into the heart of the jungle, we'll hop onto a bamboo raft and drift down the river with gorgeous scenery all around. The rafts are made of several lengths of bamboo, lashed together, and propelled down the river gondola-style. You might get a little wet but it's all part of the fun and very refreshing!

After rafting we'll share a tasty lunch before transferring back to Chiang Mai. Speak to your guide for recommendations of local bars.

Please note: Bamboo rafting is dependent on weather conditions.



# Day 5 – 7

## Day 5: Thai Cooking Class

Today, we'll get our sizzle on at a cooking class, where you'll learn to make between three and five traditional Thai dishes, before eating what you've made for lunch! This evening, we'll go on a walking tour of the famous Chiang Mai night market. It's a bargain hunter's paradise with stalls full of jewellery, Asian clothing, traditional foods, handicrafts, trinkets and much more. Bartering is part of the fun and comes with a healthy dollop of banter, so don't accept the first price you're given! Refresh yourself after some hard haggling with a cold Singha beer and something tasty to eat.

## Day 6: Phuket

It's an early start today with a flight down south. We'll land in Phuket, Thailand's biggest island which truly has something for every type of traveller. Diverse beaches, exhilarating nightlife, sizzling street food and a vibrant Old Town... Name it, and Phuket has it! And on the West Coast of Phuket, you'll find Patong: Thailand's number one nightlife hotspot all year round. Can you guess what our plans are for tonight? Brace yourself for a wild night out because partying in Patong is legendary!

## Day 7: Koh Phi Phi

Enjoy a lazy morning in Phuket before we transfer to Koh Phi Phi, another sun-kissed Thai island! Famed for its golden stretches of sand where travellers stay out dancing until dawn, Phi Phi's party scene is in a league of its own! We're staying in the heart of the action, so it's easy to see and do it all: from beach bar crawls to swaying under the stars and catching one of Phi Phi's iconic fire shows! The next few days are going to be super magical and sociable, so if you're a light sleeper - don't forget some earplugs!





# Day 8 – 10

## Day 8: Phi Phi Viewpoint

Spend the next 3 days enjoying this gorgeous island. Phi Phi is breathtakingly beautiful with two scalloped white bays, azure waters, and a densely jungled interior. You've got plenty of time to stretch out on the sand, go snorkelling around the bay and pick up a few souvenirs in cute boutiques. Today we'll take a hike up to the best viewpoint to see the picturesque twin bays from above, before a night partying under the stars.

## Day 9: Phi Phi boat trip

We've got a super-fun adventure in store today, with a 5- hour boat trip around the bays. We'll stop at several great snorkelling points, enjoying the clear, turquoise water and the abundant marine life, as well as Shark Point, where you'll have the chance to see reef and black tip sharks (shark season is November to May but please bear in mind sighting cannot be guaranteed), Monkey Beach, where you'll have the opportunity to meet the cheeky residents, and the world-famous Maya Bay (AKA Leonardo's 'The Beach').

Tonight, check out the hostel's famous pool party as the shoreside sound systems crank up the music and the fire dancers come out to play. Indulge your inner party animal while you're here – what happens in Phi Phi, stays in Phi Phi!

## Day 10: Phi Phi to Ao Nang (Krabi)

Our journey continues today to the sun-kissed shores of Krabi. For the next few nights, we'll be staying at a lively beachside town called Ao Nang. When you're not exploring all the delicious street food and bustling nightlife, it's the perfect spot to do some island-hopping!



# Day 11-13

## Day 11: Krabi & Bor Thor Mangrove Forests

Today we'll travel to Bor Thor, the jump-off point for our amazing kayak trip. We'll set off along the backwaters, passing local fishermen, and make our way through heavy mangrove forests, teeming with wildlife. Keep your eyes peeled for herons, monkeys and much more as you glide through the water with no sound apart from the jungle backtrack and the slap of your paddle on the water. We'll also stop at a local cave where we'll see Neolithic paintings, thought to be around 3,000-years old! Discovered in the 1970s by local villagers, there are around 100 paintings which provide an amazing insight into Thailand's history. Enjoy some beach time back in Ao Nang this afternoon before freshening up at the hotel and hitting the Ao Nang strip.

## Day 12: Railay Beach

Let's make our way to Railay Beach (basically paradise!). Wander along the white sands whilst admiring the limestone cliffs before we tuck into some lunch. Use your free time to chill and relax on the beach or hike up to the Railay Beach Viewpoint. As sunset comes around, we will head back to Krabi.

## Day 13: Ao Nang to Khao Sok

Leave the beach behind for a couple of days with an early minibus transfer to Khao Sok, just outside Khao Sok National Park. We'll be spending the night in jungle-style accommodation set in lush, tropical gardens. Take a hike through your beautiful surroundings, or just kick back and enjoy the peaceful atmosphere.





# Day 14 & 15

## Day 14: Khao Sok National Park

Transfer by minibus this morning to Khao Sok National Park. The vast and beautiful area might not be on most travellers' Thai itinerary, but it ought to be! This unspoilt Eden is bursting at the seams with wildlife and filled with jaw-dropping scenery – limestone outcrops soar above thick jungle and lakes and rivers shine like jewels among them. Our home for the night is a Thai 'floathouse' – a traditional raft-built bungalow on Cheow Lan Lake! We'll travel to the floathouses by long-tail boat, arriving in time for a tasty lunch, after which you'll have some time to explore the pristine natural environment on foot before we head out again on a longtail for the afternoon. Enjoy a delicious dinner this evening with the gang, before the gently lapping waters of the lake rock you to sleep in your cosy bungalow.

## Day 15: Khao Sok to Koh Samui

Waking up on the lake is a magical experience, with the sounds of the jungle all around and the first sunrays lighting up the limestone mountains. For early birds, there's the option to join a sunrise boat safari to see some of the fascinating wildlife indigenous to Khao Sok. The park is home to boars, tapirs, gibbons, wild elephants, tigers, hundreds of bird species, and the elusive sun bear, so make sure you've got your camera! We'll be back in time for breakfast with the rest of the group and will have a couple of hours of free time before check-out, so relax by the lake or take a wander round the lush jungle surrounding your accommodation, before transferring to Koh Samui by boat. After checking into the hostel, you might want to chill for a bit because we are going out for a big one tonight in Chaweng! Chaweng is the beating heart of Samui's nightlife, and we'll be right in the thick of the action, including some time dancing under the stars at the famously wild Ark Bar.



# Day 16 – 18

## Day 16: Koh Samui

Enjoy a morning Samui at your own pace today. Whether that's a recovery beach day from a wild evening or exploring the local wonders. Finish off today with a cocktail in a rustic beach bar and a street food crawl at Chaweng Night Market Please note: the visit to Chaweng Night Market may take place on day 15.

## Day 17: Ang Thong Marine Park

Today's destination is basically heaven on Earth. Ang Thong is a beautiful marine park made up of the bluest water you've ever seen, and picturesque jungle topped islands. We'll spend our day kayaking round the islands, snorkelling over pristine reefs and snapping the most envy-inducing selfies! We'll head back to Samui with the salt in our hair and get ready for our last night out at The Pride Bar, where a farewell drink will be waiting for you!

Please note: As with all boat-based activities, the trip to Ang Thong is weather dependent and the marine park can be subject to closure by local authorities. The park closes each year during November. If we are unable to operate the day trip, we will provide an alternative activity.

## Day 18: Tour ends

Your adventure ends today. A return transfer to Bangkok is not included. The easiest way is to fly direct from Samui to Bangkok - our excellent flights team can help you book flights once your space is confirmed.

If you book this trip last minute, there's a small possibility you may be on a different coach and / or flight than the rest of your group for some of your transfers. Coaches run every 15 minutes so you will never be far behind.





# FAQS

**Will I get free time ?**

On this trip you will have some free time to explore on your own or with others in your group. During your free time, you decide how to spend your time. Some travellers like to go out in the evenings for a meal and then carry on the party but there is no expectation to do so. If you prefer to chill and wake up with a clear head, then there are plenty of great options too!

**How much money should I take?**

All accommodation, in-country transport and most excursions are included on this trip. However, you will need to pay for most meals, drinks, and any additional activities yourself. Thailand is a really affordable country, so depending on your personal spending habits, we recommend taking between £600 and £800 for this tour. That allows for a nice mix of optional activities and eating out. There are ways of keeping costs low. For example, Thai food from local restaurants and markets is much more affordable than Western food (see accommodation and meals section for more information). Please note, days 2-6 are spent in the North of Thailand, where costs tend to be much lower, and days 7-18 are on the Thai islands, which are more expensive, so you'll want to make sure you pace your spending.

**Is there a guide on this trip?**

Yes. Your guide will be with you throughout the trip and is a local Thai guide who knows the areas you'll be visiting inside out, and speak fluent English.

**Are flights included?**

International flights are not included in the trip price and you will have to book these yourself (our flights team can help with this). However, one internal flight is included between Chiang Mai and Phuket.

**Will I get a buddy list?**

Yes! You'll get a Whatsapp buddy list before you travel, so you can start connecting with the rest of your group before you go.

**How long are the included transfers?**

On this trip we take you to the best destinations in Thailand, but as a large country, travel times can sometimes be longer than you might be used to in the UK. Below is a list of approximate travel times between destinations.

- Bangkok airport to Khao San Road - up to 1 hour but on occasion more if peak travel time (e.g. Fridays)
- Bangkok to Chiang Mai - 8-10 hours (bus)
- Chiang Mai to Elephant Camp - 1 hour approx (minivan)
- Chiang Mai to Phi Phi - 6-9 hours (flight to Phuket, bus to ferry port, boat to Phi Phi)
- Phi Phi to Krabi - 1 hour approx (boat)
- Krabi to Khao Sok - 3-4 hours (bus)
- Khao Sok to Samui - 6-7 hours (bus and boat)

**Please note that all activities, inclusions and itineraries are subject to change.**



# Accommodation

## Arrival Info

Arrive in Bangkok Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK) where you'll be met and taken to your starting accommodation in the city. There are no activities planned for today, apart from a welcome meeting this evening, so arrive whenever suits you best. However, please note that airport transfers are only available between 6am and 10pm on day 1. If you arrive outside these hours, or at Bangkok's smaller airport (Don Muang), you will need to take a taxi to your hotel, which is very easy to arrange.

## Departure Info

Your trip ends on day 18 in Koh Samui. You can fly direct from Samui to Bangkok, and this is easy to arrange. Ask one of our flight team for more information. If you're staying on in Asia, we can also help with any onward travel.

## Accommodation

Accommodation is included for the full duration of the tour (17 nights). We've handpicked an incredible selection of accommodation, perfect for travellers looking for a sociable atmosphere. Most nights will be spent in hostels (usually 4-12 per room). All accommodation is mixed-gender, though some restrooms within the accommodation and during the trip may be not be. You'll also spend one night on an overnight bus from Bangkok to Chiang Mai, one night in rustic huts at an elephant camp, and an unforgettable evening in a floating lake house in Khao Sok National Park! Please note all accommodation is subject to change.

- **Bangkok: Samsen Street Hostel.** Luxurious, minimal hostel within striking distance of Khao San Road, and all the major attractions, with stylish dorms, a large outdoor pool, restaurant, and poolside outdoor cinema!
- **Chiang Mai: Elephant stay.** Accommodation at the elephant project in simple huts with dorm-style beds and mosquito nets.
- **Chiang Mai trek: Ban Phamon Jungle Hut.** Basic local accommodation in an authentic hill tribe village where we'll stay in a jungle hut with a local family
- **Chiang Mai: DeCharm Hotel.** Small hotel with restaurant and pool, close to Chiang Mai's party area.
- **Koh Phi Phi: Maiyada Resort.** Air-conditioned rooms with an incredible social atmosphere with a pool, a 1 minute walk from the beach!
- **Krabi: Pop In Hostel.** Brand new hostel with a funky design, massive communal area, and bar, just ten minutes' walk from the beach.
- **Khao Sok: Khao Sok Smiley Bungalows** (Stone Bungalows). Rustic accommodation set in lush, tropical grounds, close to Khao Sok National Park.
- **Khao Sok National Park: Smiley Bungalows** (Lake House). Family-owned floating bungalows with private bathrooms in the most incredible lake setting.
- **Koh Samui: SocialTel Chaweng Samui.** Lively party hotel with a pink theme, modern rooms, and a huge pool area.

Please note: In some of the hostels along the way, you may be asked to pay a security deposit of £15 - £20. This is standard practice across Thailand. This is fully refundable on departure, as long as there's no damage to your room.



# More Info

**Meals**

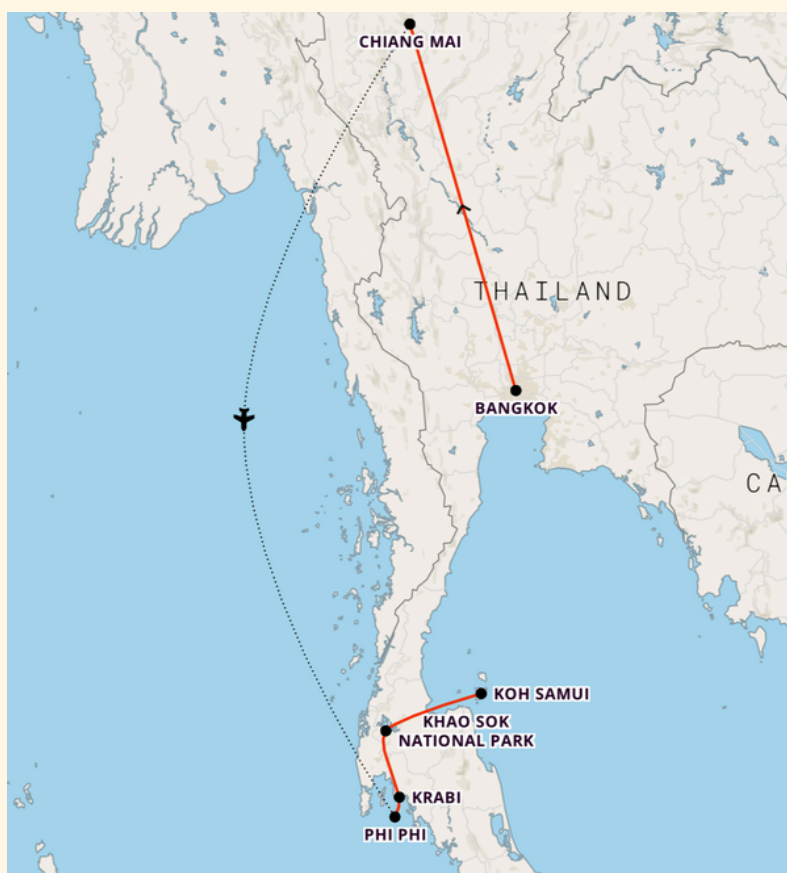
4 breakfasts, 6 lunches and 3 dinners are included.

**Minimum age & eligibility**

You must be at least 18 years old to join this trip. This trip is designed for 18-35 year olds. British passport holders arriving by land or air can enter Thailand for 60 days without a visa. Your passport must be valid for at least 6 months following your date of entry to Thailand. Entry is usually refused if you have a passport which is damaged or has pages missing. If you need to stay longer, it's possible to extend your stay once, for up to 30 days. If you plan to stay in Visa rules are subject to change and you should check the latest information with the embassy before you travel.

**Group Size**

Min 10, Max 24



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# Interested?

To secure your space you just need to pay a £49 non-refundable deposit (if you're paying via a payment plan) or £199 non-refundable deposit (if you want to pay the rest just 12 weeks before)

As this trip is operated by Gap 360, all terms and conditions are with them.

To book, please visit <https://lgbtqbackpackers.wixsite.com/travel/group-trips-1>

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