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Nature & Cultural Journeys
for the Discerning Traveler

THE ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STUDENTS TEXAS A&M

CORDIALLY INVITE ALUMNI & FRIENDS
ON AN ADVENTURE TO

THAILAND

FEBRUARY 7 TO 18, 2016



YOUR ITINERARY

DAYS 1/2/3~SATURDAY/SUNDAY/MONDAY ~ FEBRUARY 6/7/8 HOUSTON ~BANGKOK

Your journey begins as you board your flight in Houston. Crossing the international dateline, you'll arrive in Bangkok on Day 3, where you will be welcomed by your Classic Escapes guide and transferred to your hotel. (Meals Aloft)

En route you will have your first taste of this frantic and steamy tropical city that offers surprises at every turn. Gleaming skyscrapers, glittering temples, colorful street markets, sophisticated shopping malls, bustling nightlife, and vibrancy reflect the incredible economic growth of the last few years. A booming, modern capital, Bangkok still manages to retain its unique Siamese heritage in its wonderful food, culture, exotic architecture, Buddhist tolerance and Thai hospitality. The new "Skytrain," a symbol of Bangkok's rapid development, provides not only a convenient way to get around the main areas, but also some great views over a capital in constant change.

Montien Riverside Hotel welcomes guests to a tranquil oasis on Bangkok's legendary River of Kings, the Chao Phraya. This 27-story luxury hotel offers easy access to the city's shopping and business areas. All 462 guest rooms and suites are beautifully decorated and command panoramic views over the river. Facilities include six restaurants and bars offering a taste of gracious Thai hospitality.

Overnight at the MONTIEN RIVERSIDE HOTEL. (Meals Aloft)

<http://www.montien.com/riverside/>



DAY 4~TUESDAY~FEBRUARY 9

BANGKOK/THONBURI/EMERALD BUDDAH/JIM THOMPSON'S HOUSE



inside to see the Emerald Buddha, the displays of royal artifacts and memorabilia, and wall decorations.

Note: You will need to wear long pants and shoes which cover the heels to enter here. You must do this to pay respect to the Thai people.

After a leisurely breakfast, travel by boat through the remaining klongs, or canals, that have earned Bangkok the nickname "Venice of the East." Along the way, spot family homes built on stilts and glittering temples while observing the traditional way of life along the water. Stop to view Wat Arun (Temple of the Dawn), whose towering spire has become a symbol of the city.

Visit the Grand Palace, the most important center of Thai culture. The Palace was once the royal abode, but today is used mainly for ceremonial functions. Tourists are allowed



After having lunch at the Supatra River House restaurant, you'll make your way to a quiet street in the center of the city to find the Jim Thompson House and Silk Shop. Working first for the American CIA, Thompson became an authority on an art, assembling a collection that attracted scholars from all over the world. He gained worldwide recognition for his success in rebuilding the silk industry, for generating international demand for Thai silk and for generally contributing to the growth of the industry. The house is a work of art in itself and one of Bangkok's landmarks



This evening, enjoy dinner, accompanied by Thai classical music and dancing. Once performed in the inner-court only for royalty, every hand gesture has a significant meaning. In the background, expert musicians demonstrate their considerable skills with ancient instruments exclusively designed for Thai classical music. You will be amazed by the grace and beauty of the dancers as they elegantly perform stories from classical Thai literature and folk-tales. The exquisitely crafted traditional costumes adorned with jewels provide the perfect photo opportunity.

Overnight at the MONTIEN RIVERSIDE HOTEL. (B,L,D)

DAY 5~WEDNESDAY~FEBRUARY 10

CHAO PHRAYA RIVER/AYUTTHAYA

After breakfast, transfer to the River City Pier, where you will board the Grand Pearl (8:30 am) for a trip along the Chao Phraya River, the River of King. Sit back, relax and enjoy this unique way to take in sights including the Grand Palace and the Temple of Dawn. Lunch is served on board prior to disembarking. Arrive Nonthaburi at Wat Chonglom Pier, and transfer by private vehicle to the north of Bangkok, and onto the ancient city of Ayutthaya, the former capital of Siam. Enjoy the balance of your day at leisure.



Your hotel for the evening is the Kantary Hotel. Centrally located among the ancient ruins of Ayutthaya, Kantary Hotel features air conditioned rooms decorated in contemporary Asian style. The spacious rooms feature balconies and internet access, and there is a state of the art fitness center with a sauna and steam room.

Overnight at KANTARY HOTEL. (B, L, D). <http://www.kantarycollection.com/kantaryhotel-ayutthaya/>

DAY 6~THURSDAY~FEBRUARY 11

AYUTTHAYA ~ KHAO YAI NATIONAL PARK

Explore the ruins of Ayutthaya, a UNESCO World Heritage Site – the once magnificent capital of the Thais, praised by foreign emissaries as the finest city they had ever seen. Surrounded by rivers and a canal, it flourished under 33 Siamese kings from 1350 until the Burmese destroyed it in 1767. Enjoy lunch at the PB Valley Khao Yai Winery on your way to Khao Yai National Park.

Resume your drive to Khao Yai, considered one of the best preserved national park tracts of evergreen forest in all of Indochina and noted for its larger forest birds and spanning four provinces. Khao Yai National Park has a variety of terrains



from deciduous forest to savannah and houses some 3,000 species of plant. Wildlife in the park is as varied as its terrain and it is home to more than 70 mammal species including elephants, white handed gibbon, gaur, Asiatic black bear and wild dog, and a major bird population –over 350 species–including a wide variety of hornbills. The entire area is criss-crossed by hiking trails, ranging in length from one to five miles. There are also many waterfalls, the tallest and most spectacular of which is Haew Narok at 260-ft.

Your luxury hotel is one of the newest in the area with an open architecture which merges perfectly with nature. The 115 guestrooms and suites provide fabulous views of the verdant hills of the national park and have balconies from which to absorb the fragrant air of the area. With a complimentary minibar and all amenities, the rooms offer all comforts of home. Light and modern in style, with wooden furnishings, an enormous picture window and a balcony, the Botanica Studio has a choice of views including mountains, the valley, and the resort gardens and pool.

Tempo restaurant fronting the mountain serves up a variety of delectable international and Thai cuisines, light snacks, irresistible desserts, fruit juices, and a full drinks list including world wines.

Overnight at the BOTANICA KHAO YAI (*Botanica Studio*). (B,L,D) <http://www.botanicakhaoyai.com>



DAY 7~FRIDAY~FEBRUARY 12

KHAO YAI NATIONAL PARK

Explore the forested hills, rivers and waterfalls of Thailand's oldest and most revered national park. Search for several species of hornbills that abound in Khao Yai and some of the other 350 bird species that include trogons, laughing thrushes, barbets and Siamese Firebacks. Although elusive and difficult to spot, wildlife in the park is as varied as its terrain and home to more than 70 mammal species, including elephant, white-handed gibbon and Asiatic black bear. As the sun sets look for the Great Eared Nightjar and Brown Boobook, plus visit a bat cave to see thousands of bats as they emerge into the night.

Overnight at BOTANICA KHAO YAI. (B,L,D)



DAY 8~SATURDAY~FEBRUARY 13

BANGKOK~CHIANG RAI

After breakfast, transfer to the Bangkok airport for your flight to Chiang Rai. Upon arrival, continue to the infamous Golden Triangle, known for centuries as the center of the opium trade. Here, the illicit crops have long since been replaced by the small tourist village of Sob Ruak and the only opium found is in the Golden Triangle museums.

An exciting long-tail boat ride along the Mekong River follows with spectacular views of the Laotian countryside. Enjoy lunch and a visit to a local opium museum. Drive to Mae Sai, the northernmost point of Thailand, and one of the few official land crossings between Thailand and Burma. Observe border life and enjoy some fantastic shopping opportunities in the local shops selling Burmese lacquer ware, precious gems and jade.



Embrace tranquility and mother-nature at your hillside boutique spa just outside of Mae Chan. Breathtaking views are had from each of the 34 rooms with all of the furnishings indigenously made of bamboo, from the tables and chairs, to the door handles and light fixtures and even the clothing hangers and soap dishes. Each room is void of a television and alarm clock allowing the environment to be your alarm clock and entertainment as you awaken to the sound of birds singing and an incredible view of the sun rising over the horizon. A small pool and restaurant with panoramic views complete this exotic oasis.

Overnight at PHU CHAISAI MOUNTAIN RESORT & SPA. (B, L, D)

<http://www.phu-chaisai.com/>

DAY 8~SUNDAY~FEBRUARY 14

CHIANG RAI

For many visitors to Thailand, their trips to the small mountain villages in the north of the country remain one of their most unforgettable experiences. Surrounded by great natural beauty, these special destinations have enriched the lives of countless visitors who have gone home having experienced these ancient cultures.

Originating in different parts of Southeast Asia, mostly southern China, and resisting persecution by other cultures, they have migrated into Thailand in a quest for freedom and security. There are six large minority ethnic groups in the north of Thailand, in addition to several smaller communities. Each tribe has its own unique characteristics and identity, which are expressed through and reflected in its diverse cultures, distinctive costumes, and ornaments, musical instruments, weaving products, weapons, and its selection of location for setting up a village, etc. Of these, the two most prominent hill tribes are the Lisu and Akha.

Extroverts, cheerful and friendly people, the Lisu have an unquenchable spirit. They are enterprising and adaptable, smart and self-confident. Although happy



to integrate with the dominant Thai community, they retain their customs. The women wear brightly colored costumes, consisting of a blue or green parti-colored knee length tunic, split up the sides to the waist, with a wide black belt and blue or green pants. Long hair is tied at the back. Sleeves, shoulders, and cuffs are heavily embroidered with narrow, horizontal bands of blue, red, and yellow. As they are closely related to the Chinese they share the Chinese New Year which is also their biggest and most elaborate festival of the year. At the festival dazzling displays of wealth are worn, including waistcoats and belts of intricately fashioned silver and hats with multi-colored pom-poms and streamers. Men wear green, pink or yellow baggy pants and a blue jacket opening vertically.

The Akha people are famous for their very exotic and beautiful costumes, and can be seen in many towns in northern Thailand selling their unique handicrafts. They are not known for their shyness, and one can easily find oneself engaged in an animated bargaining session with these gregarious salespeople.

Today, visit the Hill Tribe Villages and enjoy an Akha cultural and lifestyle show at Lojas Village. Learn about the women wearing the famous brass rings around their necks at the Karen Long Neck Village, the elaborate, colorful dresses of the Lisu at Ban Bangjars and the only Hill Tribe to have a written language, the Yao at Ban Pong Takham.

Overnight at PHU CHAISAI MOUNTAIN RESORT & SPA. (B,L,D)

DAY 9~MONDAY~FEBRUARY 15

CHIANG RAI~CHIANG MAI

After breakfast, transfer from Chiang Rai to Chiang Mai, stopping at Doi Suthep along the way to visit the Wat Prathat Doi Suthep. The peak is named after the hermit Sudeva, who lived on the mountain's slopes for many years. The temple is 600 years old. After the drive up the mountain's winding road, the final climb to the site is via a magnificent Napa (dragon-headed serpent) staircase of 306 steps. Inside the cloisters is an intriguing copper-plated chedi topped by a five-tier gold umbrella which contains partial relics of Buddha. On a clear day, there are incomparable views over the city from the grounds of the temple. Before returning to Chiang Mai, walk to the nearby Jade Factory for some shopping.



Late this afternoon return to Chiang Mai where the remainder of your day is at leisure. We suggest enjoying dinner at one of the many local restaurants and if you're up to it, after dinner you have the option of visit the Night Bazaar – while many of the shops sell the usual tourist trinkets, there are also dozens of textile booths, adding up to an emporium of textiles from all over the region. Return to the hotel by "Tuk Tuk" which your guide can help you arrange at a cost of less than a dollar.

Your home for the next two nights is the Empress Hotel, located in the heart of Chiang Mai. Here you will find comfortable accommodations with amenities that include individual climate controls, wireless internet and three dining options with local cuisine.

Overnight at the EMPRESS HOTEL CHIANG MAI. (B,L,D)

http://www.empresshotels.com/empress_hotel.html

DAY 10~TUESDAY~FEBRUARY 16

CHIANG MAI ~LAMPANG

After breakfast drive to Lampang to visit the Elephant Hospital and Conservation Centre run by Mr. Richard Lair, Thailand's leading elephant expert. Experts there will speak to you about the modern pressures on the enormous pachyderms. 150 years ago Thailand had only 6 million people and was almost entirely covered by forest. Today there are more than 60 million people and only 20 percent of the country is covered by forest. Due to these massive changes in the country's setting the elephants cannot be released back into the wild. They will likely start crop raiding, and in the process injuring people and in turn people will start injuring them, so it's just too dangerous. Used primarily for logging in the past, unemployed elephants represent a big problem. Many end up in Bangkok on the city streets giving rides in order to earn their keep...not a terribly healthy environment.

This conservation center is working on these issues. A single elephant in the wild needs about 8,000 acres to survive, and there is little choice but to keep more than half the country's stock in captivity.

Watch the elephants demonstrate their logging and painting skills, and even their musical talents. Everyone will enjoy face to face meetings with the elephants however if you feed the elephants bananas and sugar cane you will receive a great thrill! You will have a chance to get a chance to practice driving an elephant, visit the hospital which gives free care to all elephants, and take a saddle-back ride through the forest.

Venture into the heart of Lampang, a city famous for its blue and white pottery. Take advantage of one their famous horse carriage rides to view some of the finest Burmese Temples in Thailand. Also found in the vicinity of Lampang is one of the most well preserved examples of northern Thai architecture, Wat Prathat Lampang Luang. Several large Bodhi trees surround the compound and it features an Emerald Buddha House and a small Phra Kaew Don Tao image wearing a gold necklace and standing on a gold base, though it may be difficult to see. Enjoy lunch before continuing on to Lamphun.



Lamphun is the oldest continuously inhabited city in Thailand, dating back to 663 AD. Though the city is legendary for its beautiful women, Lamphun is perhaps best known for Wat Phrathat Hariphunchai, one of the most striking temples in all of Thailand, and after which Wat Prathat Doi Suthep is modeled.

Overnight at EMPRESS HOTEL CHANG MAI. (B,L,D)

DAY 11~WEDNESDAY~FEBRUARY 17

CHIANG MAI~COOKING CLASS~WOOD CARVING AT BAN TAWAI~BANGKOK/EN ROUTE

Today you will learn to bring back the taste of Thailand long after your trip is over by going a Thai cooking school where you will prepare and eat a simple and delicious Thai meal. The Chiang Mai Thai Cookery School was established in 1993 and is a family business run by Sompon and Elizabeth Nabnian. They offer daily courses taught by Sompon who is an experienced Thai chef and who speaks excellent English. They will teach you the secrets of Thai cooking at our home in a relaxed atmosphere.



The Chiang Mai Thai Cookery School offers you a choice of 5 different courses. Each course has been designed as a one day course so that you will learn the main techniques for cooking Thai food whichever course you attend. The courses that they offer are completely hands on which means that you will prepare and cook all the dishes by yourself. The teachers have an extensive knowledge of Thai ingredients and cooking methods which they take pleasure in sharing with their students every day.

Afterwards, visit a major center of wood-carving, antique wood, basketry and earthenware in Ban Tawai.

In the late afternoon, transfer to the Chang Mai airport, where you'll connect to your flight, bound for Houston via Singapore.

DAY 12~THURSDAY~ FEBRUARY 18

HOUSTON

In the early afternoon, your flight will arrive in Houston, bringing incredible memories of wonderful ancient ruins and incredible people. (Meals Aloft)



4-DAY OPTIONAL POST-EXTENSION TO SIEM REAP AND ANGKOR WAT



DAY 11~WEDNESDAY~FEBRUARY 17

CHIANG MAI/BANGKOK/SIEM REAP

You have some leisure time to explore more of Chiang Mai or just relax at your hotel before boarding your flight to Siem Reap, via Bangkok, where you embark on a new adventure. Upon arrival you will be met and escorted to your small boutique hotel.

Your home for the next three nights offers unrivaled comfort and authentic rustic charm. The verdant gardens flanking Angkor Village are immediately striking. Beautiful shades of lush greens in pleasing stands are punctuated with clusters of crimson ginger flowers, white lilies and clutches of orchids. Large trees front the cottage style room pavilions screen balconies and terraces, cocooning rooms in a lush, hushed privacy. In the early morning and evenings the chorus of frogs and geckos is proof of the thriving environment. When the birdsong starts with the sunrise within the jungle-picturesque gardens, it is hard not to feel perfectly relaxed and miles from an



urban lifestyle. The staff is very welcoming. The pool is small but picturesque in a lush courtyard at the rear. The Auberge de Temples Restaurant is on a small island in the central pond and serves fine French and Khmer cuisines. The hotel's Apsara Theater Restaurant, just outside the gate, has Khmer-style banquet dining and performances of Khmer Apsara dancing nightly. Rooms are rustic with high bamboo ceilings, wood beams, built-in cabinetry, comfortable beds, and decorative touches like traditional Khmer shadow puppets and statuary. The central lobby is a series of platforms and private sitting areas, a good place to rest after a day at the temples. The restaurant offers refined Indochinese cuisine to tempt your palate.

Overnight at ANGKOR VILLAGE RESORT. (B)

DAY 12~THURSDAY~FEBRUARY 18

SIEM REAP/ANGKOR THOM & ANGKOR WAT

This morning, begin your exploration of the Angkor complex with the magnificent and monumental Angkor Thom, the last capital of the Khmers, surrounded by a quadrangle of defensive walls totaling over seven miles. Awaiting within, you will find the stunning Bayon temple - a 12th century masterpiece with over 200 bas-relief 'faces' peering out from its walls. The afternoon is filled with the sights and sounds of the temples of Thommanon, Chao Say Tevoda and Ta Keo. See how the roots of the giant fig and kapok trees have spread like tentacles throughout the 12th century Ta Prohm temple, which has been left largely in its natural state since its "re-discovery" by French explorers.

This afternoon, visit Angkor Wat, the largest temple in the world conceived by Suryavarman II and generally believed to have been his funeral temple. The temple is the epitome of the high classical style of Khmer architecture. It has become a symbol of Cambodia, appearing on its national flag, and it is the country's prime attraction for visitors. Angkor Wat combines two basic plans of Khmer temple architecture: the temple mountain and the later galleried temples. It is designed to represent Mount Meru, home of the gods in Hindu mythology. Within a moat and an outer wall 2.2 miles long are three rectangular galleries, each raised above the next. At the center of the temple stands a quincunx of towers. Unlike most Angkorian temples, Angkor Wat is orientated to the west; scholars are divided as to the significance of this. As well as for the grandeur and harmony of the architecture, the temple is admired for its extensive bas-reliefs and for the numerous devas adorning its walls. Since the decline of the Khmer Watch the exotic colors of the sun set over its galleries this evening.

Overnight at ANGKOR VILLAGE RESORT. (B,L)

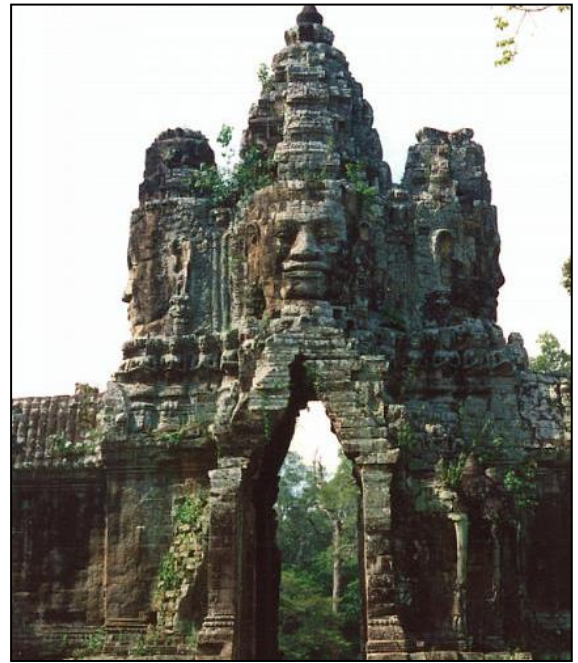
DAY 13~FRIDAY~ FEBRUARY 19

SIEM REAP/TONLE SAP LAKE/FLOATING VILLAGE/LES ARTISAN D'ANGKOR

After breakfast, board a small shaded boat to traverse the largest fresh water lake in South East Asia, Tonle Sap Lake. Navigate between floating homes and small fish farms to experience a centuries-old way of life and culture.

Return to Siem Reap and visit a development project that teaches young adults stone and wood carving skills, as well as lacquer application. Les Artisans d' Angkor is a heartwarming reminder that progress in Cambodia can go hand in hand with traditional crafts.

Overnights at ANGKOR VILLAGE RESORT. (B,L)



Schedules, accommodations and prices are accurate at the time of writing. They are subject to change.

CLASSIC
Escapes

DAY 14~SATURDAY~FEBRUARY 20

SIEM REAP/ EN ROUTE

Spend the day exploring Siem Reap town where you will have some time at leisure to shop in the local markets. This afternoon, return to Siem Reap's airport and board your international flight back to the United States.

DAY 15~SUNDAY~ FEBRUARY 21

HOUSTON

Early this morning, your flight lands in Singapore, connecting with a flight back to the USA, where you'll arrive with incredible memories of wonderful ancient ruins and incredible people. (Meals Aloft)



INCLUSIONS

- Flight between Bangkok and Chiang Rai; Chiang Mai and Bangkok. Air within Cambodia (Bangkok/Siem Reap) as specified in the itinerary.
- Superior accommodations throughout at hotels and lodges listed in the itinerary, or similar.
- Breakfasts daily, all other meals as indicated in itinerary.
- University escort will accompany the group with 15 travelers on the main program and 10 travelers on the extension.
- All touring via air-conditioned motorcoach.
- All applicable hotel gratuities and taxes.
- All park, reserves, and attractions entry fees.
- Complimentary baggage tags and passport wallet.

EXCLUSIONS

- International Airfare from Houston including departure taxes and fuel surcharges (quoted separately).
- All tips to driver/guides and naturalist
- Passport and visa fees and service charges for obtaining visas. U.S. citizens DO require a visa for Cambodia and can obtain it upon arrival at the airport (approximately US\$20.) No visas are required for Thailand.
- Excess baggage charges levied by airlines.
- Meals and beverages, other than specified.
- Laundry and other items of a personal nature.
- Personal and baggage insurance.
- Cost for anything not specifically mentioned in the listing above.

Please Note That The Itinerary Sequence Is Correct At The Time Of Writing,
But Is Subject To Change.

CLASSIC ESCAPES CONSERVATION FUND

In keeping with our mission to provide exciting, educational, and fun-filled experiences that nurture and directly support the diverse wildlife and cultures we visit around the world, Classic Escapes has established the Classic Escapes Conservation Fund to ensure that a percentage of all profits go to support conservation and wildlife researchers performing their critical work in the field. Project support has included environmental education efforts in India and Bhutan, wild dog and cheetah conservation in Botswana, Kenya and Namibia, and global Earth Day education via school internet programs. By traveling with Classic Escapes, you are supporting travel as a tool for building the mutual respect, awareness and understanding that are vital to preserving this planet for future generations.

THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT THAILAND AND CAMBODIA

Participants:

- Must be able to climb in and out of, as well as move around in confined quarters within minibuses, boats and motor coaches unassisted. People need to be willing to rotate seats.
- Must be able to tolerate nature walks at an easy pace on uneven terrain, sometimes uphill, for three or four hours at a time.
- Should generally be in good health and prepared to travel in locations without medical facilities.

In general, this trip requires:

- Flexibility and good humor - unexpected changes and/or glitches will occur. True adventure in travel can sometimes be accompanied by unexpected changes in conditions, itineraries and occasionally your accommodations.
- A spirit of adventure, curiosity, and flexibility
- Interest in and willingness to appreciate a destination with overall good infrastructure but with at times rustic accommodations and adventure activities. That being said, some locations are nestled in absolute luxury where pampering is the norm.

Air Schedules

Choosing the best possible air arrangements for our travelers is always a challenge. We work with many airlines that offer the best level of service, routings and value for our programs. While there may indeed be more direct routings available with another airline, the cost of these flights may not be within the budget that allows us to give you the best value possible. If you prefer to purchase your own international air, please feel free to choose the "land only" rate for this program. **The start and end city for the land only program Bangkok. The extension returns from Siem Reap, Cambodia.**

Upon registration, you must provide your full legal name as it appears on your passport. In the event an airline ticket is issued with incorrect information you have provided, you will be responsible for charges associated with reissuing the ticket.



YOUR JOURNEY AT A GLANCE

INCLUDING: BANGKOK, AYUTTHAYA, KHAO YAI NATIONAL PARK, CHIANG RAI, GOLDEN TRIANGLE, CHIANG MAI, LAMPANG, LAMPHUN. EXTENSION INCLUDES SIEM REAP, CAMBODIA, ANGKOR THOM, ANGKOR WAT & TONLE SAP LAKE

SPONSORING ORGANIZATION ASSOCIATION OF FORMER STUDENTS TEXAS A&M

ESCORTED BY: ENRICHMENT LECTURER FROM TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

DATES: FEBRUARY 6 TO 18, 2016

<u>COSTS:</u> BASED DOUBLE OCCUPANCY	MAIN PROGRAM BASED ON 15 TRAVELERS	POST EXTENSION BASED ON 10 TRAVELERS
LAND ONLY COST & ALL INTERNAL AIR	\$4,495 PER PERSON	\$1,895 PER PERSON
SINGLE ROOM SUPPLEMENT	\$795 PER PERSON	\$595 PER PERSON
ECONOMY AIR FROM HOUSTON, INCLUDING ESTIMATED DEPARTURE TAXES AND FUEL SURCHARGES (CURRENTLY, SUBJECT TO CHANGE)**	\$1,990 PER PERSON	N/A

*SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: RATE IS VALID FOR FIRST TWO SINGLE ROOMS BOOKED. IF MORE THAN TWO SINGLE ROOMS, ADDITIONAL SUPPLEMENT MAY APPLY. SINGLES ARE ASSIGNED ON A FIRST COME/FIRST SERVE BASIS.

ALL INTERNATIONAL AIRFARES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND BASED ON MINIMUM OF 10 TRAVELERS. TAXES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE UNTIL TICKETED. IF LESS THAN 10 TRAVELERS, THE FARE WILL INCREASE & SUPPLEMENTAL COSTS WILL BE GIVEN TO THE TRAVELERS PRIOR TO ISSUING THE TICKETS, APPROXIMATELY TWO MONTHS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE. . **NOTE THAT THE SPECIAL RATES NEGOTIATED BY CLASSIC ESCAPES ARE NOT UPGRADABLE.

DEPARTURE CITY: HOUSTON

(OTHER DEPARTURE CITIES AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST)



CONDITIONS OF TRAVEL:

REGISTRATION

HOW TO BOOK: Fill out the reservation form below and send it to Texas A & M Traveling Aggies- 505 George Bush Drive, College Station, Texas 77840. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form and deposit, we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. You may consider your booking confirmed when you receive a confirmation notice and invoice from us.

PAYMENTS

DEPOSIT: A deposit of \$750 per person for the main program and \$250 for the extension must be submitted at the time of booking. Deposits may be paid by check or charged to American Express, MasterCard, Visa or Discover.

FINAL PAYMENT: Final payment is due 95 days (**November 3, 2015**) before departure – you will receive a final invoice. Final payment is payable by check or money order **ONLY**.

RATES: Rates are based on the minimum number of guests outlined in this document, plus airfare costs, currency exchange rates and other factors and are subject to change. Though it is rare for Classic Escapes to make a price adjustment after promotion of an itinerary, we do reserve the right to assess a surcharge if the minimum is not met, or if increases are forced upon us by airlines or other partners or because of changes in currency exchange rates.

NOT INCLUDED: Cost of passport and visa fees, and service charges for obtaining visa fees; excess baggage charges levied by airlines; laundry and other items of a personal nature; optional personal, optional travel insurance policy; cost for anything not specifically included in listing above.

SINGLE SUPPLEMENT: The quoted rate is valid for the first two single rooms booked and on a first-come, first-served basis. If more than two single rooms are needed, an additional supplement will apply. Single accommodations are not guaranteed, but will be provided at additional cost if available (see reservation form for cost.) The single room supplement pays for privacy, not better accommodations. For passengers who are traveling alone and wish to share a room with another tour member, we will do our best to provide a roommate. However, if this is not possible, you will be required to pay the single room supplement prior to your departure from the USA.

GRATUITIES AND TAXES: Gratuities for baggage handling, service charges and taxes imposed by hotels, and entrance fees to all points of interest as outlined in the itinerary are included. U.S. and foreign airport taxes are included in air costs. Tips to drivers and naturalist are **NOT** included.

CANCELLATIONS, DEVIATIONS & CHANGES

TRAVEL INSURANCE: We recommend travel insurance. Travel insurance can provide financial reimbursement should the unexpected occur.

CANCELLATION POLICY: Cancellations are only effective on receipt of written notification. The following per person fees are applicable on this tour:

- Up to 95 days prior to departure, less \$250 handling fee.
- 94-75 days prior to departure, deposit is forfeited.
- 74-60 days prior to departure, less 50% of tour cost on both the main trip and either extension.
- Less than 60 days prior to departure, no refund is possible.

These cancellation fees are also in addition to any fees imposed by airlines.

CHANGE FEES: Once you reserve your tour, changes are possible subject to availability of air or land space at the time of request. Should there be any change fees imposed by airlines or ground operators, or additional costs incurred due to availability of any space, this cost will be invoiced to you.

SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS: We would be happy to make additional travel plans for you, including specially arranged pre- or post-tour extensions different than those that may be offered in conjunction with this tour. A service charge of \$150 per person (over and above the cost of the services required) will be assessed.

DOCUMENTS

PASSPORT & VISAS: The onus is upon the guest to ensure that passports and visas are valid for the countries visited and for the applicable time period, as outlined by the U.S. Department of State (travel.state.gov) or by the passport holder's country. Classic Escapes, their staff and their agents cannot be held liable for any visas, etc. not held by the guests, nor for the cost of obtaining visas.

PRE-DEPARTURE INFORMATION: Upon receipt of your registration and deposit, we will send a pre-departure packet to you. This packet contains all the information you need to prepare for your tour, including the complete itinerary, packing checklist, required documents, etc.

FINAL DOCUMENTS: Final documents and tickets will be sent to you approximately two weeks prior to departure, provided all monies have been paid in full.

TRANSPORTATION

OPTIONAL AIR TRANSPORTATION: Roundtrip, economy-class flights via **SINGAPORE AIRLINES** and/or other IATAN carriers are between HOUSTON, and the destination city noted in the itinerary. Rates are based on special promotional fares; cancellation fees apply once tickets are issued. Departures from other cities in the USA are possible at additional cost; inquire at the time of reservation. Please note that these promotional fares are subject to 10 passengers traveling together on the same airline routing and itinerary. If this minimum is not met, the special group rates are not applicable and it might become necessary to issue instant purchase tickets earlier than when final payment is due in order to take advantage of airfares that are similar to the group rates. Should this occur, you will be contacted with the details.

AIRLINE SEATING: For **SINGAPORE AIRLINES**, we request seats together for the group. All planes are non-smoking. We can request a seating preference on your behalf, however requested seats cannot be guaranteed. Requests should be made in writing no later than 60 days prior to departure. Bulkhead and/or emergency row seats can only be requested at airport check-in on the day of departure. Boarding passes will only be issued at the airport on the day of departure. You may inquire about seat changes during check in, based on availability and is at the sole discretion of airport staff.

FREQUENT FLYER MILEAGE: As mentioned, we work primarily with **SINGAPORE AIRLINES**. For a list of the airline's partners, visit <http://www.singaporeair.com>. Obtain frequent flyer mileage on any of these carriers. Present your frequent flyer card for all flight check-ins and keep the boarding passes until you receive a statement with the mileage credit

TRANSFERS: Roundtrip airport transfers are included in the tour for guests arriving on group flights. If travelers make their own air arrangements, they will be subject to extra transfer fees.

TRIP DETAILS

ACCOMMODATIONS: You will marvel at the wonderful accommodations provided throughout your tour. All rooms have private bathroom facilities and air conditioning and/or fans. All rates are based on double occupancy. Most rooms are twin-bedded, but king-size beds are occasionally available and should be requested in advance. Accommodations listed in this itinerary are correct at time of writing, but on rare occasions may be substituted for a different property of comparable quality.

MEALS: All meals as specified in the itinerary. Please notify us if you have special dietary needs or requests, and we will do our best to accommodate.

INOCULATIONS: When it comes to vaccination and disease prevention, we suggest that travelers first review information provided by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (www.cdc.gov/travel) and then review those details with their personal physicians.

WATER: It is always advisable to drink bottled and/or filtered water when traveling overseas. Safe drinking water will be provided to travelers free of charge in the vehicles and during meals.

BAGGAGE: On average, international flights from the USA allow two pieces of checked luggage, each not exceeding 50 pounds; however we always recommend that you check your airline's policy just before departure, as luggage limitations are always subject to change. Despite this weight allowance, we always suggest guests travel light. Also soft-sided duffel bags are ideal for this tour, as they stow best in vehicles and airplanes with limited space.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

RESPONSIBILITIES: Neither Classic Escapes (the Company) nor any person or agent acting for, through or on behalf of the Company shall be liable for any loss or damage whatsoever arising from any cause whatsoever and without restricting the generality of the foregoing shall particularly not be responsible for loss or damage arising from any errors or omissions contained in its brochure or other literature, loss or damage caused by delays, sickness, theft, injury or death. In addition the Company shall have the right at any time at its discretion to cancel any trip or the remainder thereof or make any alteration in route, accommodation, price or other details and, in the event of any trip being rendered impossible, illegal or inadvisable by weather, strike, war, government or interference or any other cause whatsoever, the extra expenses incurred as a result thereof shall be the responsibility of the passenger. The Company may at its discretion and without liability or cost to itself at any time cancel or terminate the guest's booking and in particular without limiting the generality of the foregoing it shall be entitled to do so in the event of the illness or the illegal or incompatible behavior of the guest, who shall in such circumstances not be entitled to any refund.

PHOTOGRAPHY: The Company reserves the right without further notice to make use of any photograph or film taken on the tour by our photographers without payment or permission. We guarantee that no photographs of a compromising nature will be used.

CHANGES TO SCHEDULES: Although every effort is made to adhere to schedules it should be borne in mind that the Company reserves the right and in fact is obliged to occasionally change routes and hotels as dictated by changing conditions.

REFUNDS: While the Company uses its best endeavors to ensure that all anticipated accommodation is available as planned, there shall be no claim of any nature whatsoever against the Company for a refund either in the whole or part, if any accommodation or excursion is unavailable and a reasonable alternative is not found. If the guest is unable to use any service provided in the itinerary, then there are no refunds due.

AIRLINE CLAUSE: The airlines concerned are not to be held liable for any act, omission or event during the time the passengers are not on board their planes or conveyance. The passengers' tickets in use by the airline or by other carriers concerned when issued shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of these tickets and/or passengers.

DELAYS: We cannot be held liable for any delays or additional costs incurred as a result of airlines not running to schedule. If one of our guides is unable to take a trip due to illness, etc. we reserve the right to substitute with another guide. This agreement is made subject to and shall be governed by and construed according to the laws of the country in which the trip takes place. Classic Escapes act merely as an agent for the operating companies. To the best of our knowledge the itinerary is correct at the time of printing. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies or changes that may occur after printing.

CONSENT: The payment of the deposit OR any other partial payment for a reservation on a trip constitutes consent by all guests covered by that payment to all provisions of the conditions and general information contained in this brochure whether the guest has signed the booking form or not. The terms, under which you agree to take this trip, cannot be changed or amended except in writing signed by an authorized director of the Company.

INSURANCE: It is a condition of booking that the sole responsibility lies with the guest to ensure that they carry the correct comprehensive travel and medical insurance to cover themselves, as well as any dependents/traveling companions for the duration of their trip. This insurance should include cover in respect of, but not limited to, the following eventualities: cancellation or curtailment of the program, emergency evacuation expenses, medical expenses, repatriation expenses, damage/theft/loss of personal baggage, money and goods. Classic Escapes, including their representatives, employees and agents will take no responsibility for any costs, losses incurred or suffered by the guest, or guest's dependents or traveling companions, with regards to, but not limited to, any of the above mentioned eventualities. Guests will be charged directly by the relevant service providers for any emergency services they may require, and may find themselves in a position unable to access such services should they not be carrying the relevant insurance cover. Information will be sent to you from the Association of Former Students Texas A&M Travel office upon receipt of reservation form.



HELP US GO GREEN

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Dear Traveler,

In an effort to help protect our planet, Classic Escapes has begun the transition of becoming paperless. We need your help getting there!

Did you know?

Recycling one ton of paper saves 20 trees, 7,000 gallons of water, three cubic yards of landfill space, 60 pounds of air pollutants, and saves enough energy to power the average home for six months...

Please indicate in the chart below whether or not you prefer to receive paperless correspondence from us – all you need to do is put a check under the “green” symbol for yes or a check under the “NO” for no.

Simply fax to 718-204-4726 or email your responses to reservations@classicescapes.com!

You Will Receive The Following Items For Your Program:	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	NO
Welcome Letter	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Preliminary Materials – prelude packet and invoice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Reminder Invoice with balance due	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Paid-in-Full Invoice	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Final Documents – species list, journal and final booklet	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Your Name: _____

Email Address: _____

Trip Tour Code: 16ASL0206/TexasA&M

Together we can make the world a better place!

Thank you for your support,

CLASSIC
Escapes

RESERVATION FORM:

TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY ~ ICONIC THAILAND

16ASL0206/TEXAS&M

Enclosed is my deposit for \$ _____ (\$750 per person, plus \$250 for the extension) to hold _____ place(s) on the Iconic Thailand Tour departing on February 6, 2016. Cost is \$4,495 per person, double occupancy, land only. Additional international air from Houston is \$1,990, including departure taxes & fuel surcharges. (Currently - subject to change)

Final payment due date is: November 3, 2015

Please make check payable to CLASSIC ESCAPES and mail it to: Texas A & M Traveling Aggies- 505 George Bush Drive, College Station, Texas 77840 OR Charge deposit to: MasterCard Visa American Express Discover

Deposits can be made by credit card; however, all final payments are required to be made by check or money order only.

A copy of your passport must accompany this form to confirm reservation. Upon receipt of your signed reservation form, passport copy and deposit we will, subject to availability, reserve your spot on the tour. Passport must be valid for at least 6 months after the return of your trip and have four consecutive blank pages in the visa section.

1) NAME (As appears on passport): Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____ Date of Birth (M/D/Y) ____ / ____ / ____

Passport No. _____ Green Card No. _____ Expiration Date _____ Nationality _____

2) NAME (As appears on passport): Mr. Mrs. Ms. _____ Date of Birth (M/D/Y) ____ / ____ / ____

Passport No. _____ Green Card No. _____ Expiration Date _____ Nationality _____

NAME FOR NAME BADGE IF DIFFERENT FROM ABOVE: 1) _____ 2) _____

STREET ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONES: HOME: () _____ OFFICE: () _____ MOBILE: () _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____ FAX: () _____

- I certify that I have not recently been treated for, nor am I aware of any physical or other condition or liability that would create a hazard to myself or the other members of this tour.
- The two of us above are sharing a room and, where possible, would like a room with: ONE TWO Beds (Make one selection only)
- I am sharing with _____ (form sent separately)
- I need assistance in securing a roommate. I understand if the University or the tour operator cannot locate one for me by final payment date, I agree to pay the additional single. I prefer to share with: Smoker Non-smoker
- I desire single accommodations, if available, and will pay the single supplement additional cost of:
 \$795 for the main trip \$595 for the Cambodia post extension
- I/We wish to participate in the optional extension(s) at an additional per person cost of:
 \$1,895 for the Cambodia post extension, including the flight between Bangkok and Siem Reap

- Please make my/our round trip air reservations on the group flights from Washington, D.C. via Emirates Airlines.
- Please make domestic round-trip air reservations for me from my home city: _____ to connect with the group flights and let me know the additional cost.

Please send me information on air upgrades for: Business/First Class (only one class - business/first - exists)

Airline Seating Preference Aisle Window Frequent Flier # _____

***We can request a seating preference on your behalf, however this is only a request and NOT guaranteed, as some seating assignments may be airport check-in only. Requests should be made in writing no later than 60 days prior to departure. Bulkhead and/or emergency row seats can only be requested at airport check-in on the day of departure. Also note that even if we do obtain your preferred seat, it is not guaranteed that the seat will be provided during check-in as there might be equipment changes that nullify our selection.*

- I/We will be arranging our own international flights and will supply our itinerary closer to departure.

All rates quoted are based on tariffs and value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of April 6, 2015, and are subject to change. Cancellation penalties are applicable as outlined on Conditions of Travel. **WE STRONGLY RECOMMEND THAT YOU OBTAIN TRAVEL INSURANCE. RESERVATIONS ARE ACCEPTED SUBJECT TO TOUR CONDITIONS AND WILL BE CONFIRMED ONLY IF ACCOMPANIED BY COMPLETED FORM SIGNED BY THE TOUR PARTICIPANT(S).**

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

SIGNATURE: _____ DATE: _____

Texas A & M Traveling Aggies
505 George Bush Drive,
College Station, Texas 77840

(We recommend that you keep a copy of your selections as noted above for your future reference)



TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY~ THAILAND
FEBRUARY 6, 2016

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT AUTHORIZATION

Please Note: If you wish to charge your deposit to Visa, MasterCard, American Express or Discover, this authorization form MUST be completed and returned to us along with your reservation form before we can process your application.

I authorize (**Classic Escapes Inc.**) to charge my VISA/MASTERCARD/DISCOVER/AMEX listed below:

Name appearing on credit card _____

Card number _____ Expiration date _____

Card Verification Number* _____ Card Type _____

Billing address of credit card _____

Amount of transaction _____

Services rendered/Items purchased _____

Phone number _____

Signature _____ Date _____

***How To Locate Your Card Verification Number:**

(Visa, MasterCard, Discover: Locate the credit card number on the back of the card above the signature box. Enter the 3 digit number which follows the credit card number. **American Express:** Enter the 4 digit number found directly above and to the right of the credit card number.)

I understand that all rates quoted on this tour I'm making a payment on are based on tariffs and value of foreign currencies in relation to the U.S. dollar in effect as of April 6, 2015 and are subject to change. Refund of deposit is made if cancellation is received in writing up to 95 days prior to departure, less \$250 per person handling fee. Thereafter, refund is made less any cancellation charges levied, based on the following schedule:

- * Up to 95 days prior to departure, less \$250 handling fee.
- * 94-75 days prior to departure, deposit is forfeited.
- * 74-60 days prior to departure, less 50% of tour cost on both the main trip and either extension.
- * Less than 60 days prior to departure, no refund is possible.

These cancellation fees are also in addition to any imposed by airlines.

PLEASE NOTE: At times, our bank requires photocopy of credit card (both sides) and driver's license or document showing signature of cardholder, in order to process the charge. While it is not required at this time that you include these materials with your deposit, if our bank requests it, we will contact you for these copies.