

IN SIAM DESTINATION GUIDE



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Thailand was known as Siam until 1939 and this name is still dominant in many forms, including an area in the Pathumwan district of Bangkok known as Siam Square – just a short walk from the Siam Kempinski Hotel Bangkok.



Things to See
in SIAM

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Things to See *in SIAM*

The Royal *Grand Palace* & *Emerald Buddha* *Temple*

This is a ‘must see’ attraction for all visitors to Bangkok. This royal compound embraces a remarkable collection of structures including Wat Phra Kaeo, the temple that houses the famous Emerald Buddha. Built in 1782, the Grand Palace was a royal residence for many generations and is still used for ceremonies and for accommodating Heads of State.

Dress code: Visitors must be properly dressed when entering the grounds of the Grand Palace. Men are required to wear shirts with sleeves and long trousers. Ladies must likewise cover their shoulders and wear full length skirts or dresses. Clothing for men and women may be hired for a nominal fee from the office at the main entrance to the compound.

Opening hours: Daily from 08:30 to 15:30 hrs

Admission fee: THB 500

Location: Na Phra Lan Road, Phra Borom Maha
Ratchawan, Bangkok



Wat Pho

Temple of Reclining Buddha

Wat Pho, situated close to the Grand Palace, is home to the Reclining Buddha. The temple, built during the reign of King Rama I, is considered to be a place of healing and was famous many centuries ago for its pharmacy and as Thailand's first university – both established by King Rama III. Traditional Thai and foot massages are available at the traditional medical school. Expect to pay a premium compared to massage shops elsewhere in the city. The Reclining Buddha measures 45 metres long by 15 metres high. The soles of the feet, inlaid with precious stones, denote the 108 signs of true faith. The statue's long earlobes signify noble birth and the lotus-bud configuration of the hand symbolises purity and beauty.

Opening hours: Daily from 08:30 - 17:00 hrs

Admission: THB 100

Location: 2 Sanamchai road, Pranakorn, Bangkok



Wat Arun Temple of Dawn

Wat Arun dates back to ancient battles between the former Siam and neighbouring Burma. Having fallen to the Burmese, Ayutthaya was reduced to rubble and ashes, but General Taksin and the remaining survivors vowed to march 'until the sun rose again' and to build a temple at that precise location. Wat Arun, the Temple of the Dawn, is that temple and was later the site of a royal palace and a private chapel. This temple steps provide stunning views as the sun sinks over the Chao Praya River. Access is easy by boat to the temple's jetty.

Opening hours: Daily 08:30 - 17:30 hrs

Admission: THB 100

Location: Arun Amarin road, Bangkok



Jim Thompson's House

Museum

Jim Thompson's three decades of dedication to the revival of Thai silk, then a dying art, changed the industry forever. After he disappeared in Malaysia's Cameron Highlands in 1967 but his legacy remains with the Jim Thomson brand synonymous with high quality Thai fabrics. The Jim Thompson House and Museum is a charming complex of six teak houses that contain priceless antiques and works of art. Tours are available in several languages.

Opening hours: Daily from 08:30 - 16:30 hrs

Admission: THB 150

Location: Soi Kasemsan 2, Rama I road, Bangkok



Erawan Shrine

The Erawan Shrine is one of the most popular places of prayer in Bangkok. This Brahman shrine sits proudly at Ratchaprasong, close to the BTS Sky Train network (Chidlom station) and many shopping malls. It's a fascinating experience with the clouds of incense, garlands of flowers and Thai performers displaying traditional dance moves. It was erected to appease works after many problems arose during the constriction of a nearby hotel.

Opening hours: Daily 06:00 - midnight

Location: Corner of Ploenchit and Ratchadamri roads





Shopping *in SIAM*

Siam Paragon

Siam Paragon is the popular shopping mall located next to the Siam Kempinski hotel with direct access via a connecting walkway. The complex houses international high-end fashion brands, aquarium, a 16-screen Cineplex, supermarket and restaurants offering Thai and international cuisine.

Opening hours: Daily from 10:00 - 22:00 hrs

Location: 991 Rama 1 road, Pathumwan, Bangkok

BTS: Siam station



Central World Plaza

Central World Plaza is another large complex offers that provides exciting shopping experiences with shops, restaurants, movie theatres, supermarket, beauty salons and much more.

Opening hours: Daily 10:00 - 22:00 hrs

Location: Ratchaprasong intersection

BTS: Chidlom & Siam stations



MBK

MBK is probably Bangkok's most legendary shopping mall. It's popular with both tourists and local residents because of the bargain prices. The eight floors contain some 2,000 shops that sell literally anything and everything from clothing, fashion accessories and leather products to luggage, furniture, computers, smart phones and IT accessories.

Opening hours: Daily 10.00 - 22.00 hrs

Location: Phayathai road, Bangkok

BTS: National Stadium station

Siam Square

Wander around Siam Square for up-and-coming Thai and Asian brands that offer a great mix of unusual designs at attractive prices. This is a popular chilling spot with students from nearby Chulalongkorn University. Visit in the late afternoon or early evening to catch the vibe of Siam Square.

Opening hours: Daily 10.00 to 22.00 hrs

Location: Rama 1 road, Bangkok

BTS: Siam Interchange station



Chatuchak *Weekend Market*

Chatuchak Weekend Market has reached landmark status as a must-visit place for tourists. Its sheer size and diverse collections of merchandise will bring any seasoned shoppers to their knees. This is a market where you can literally ‘shop until you drop’. The 35-acre site is home to more than 8,000 market stalls. On a typical weekend, more than 200,000 visitors come here to sift through the plethora of goods on offer. It’s sensible to wear comfortable footwear and lightweight clothing.

Opening hours: Weekends 09.00 - 18.00 hrs

Location: Kampanghet road, Bangkok

BTS: Mo Chit station

MRT: Kampan Phet station

Asiatique Riverfront

Night Market

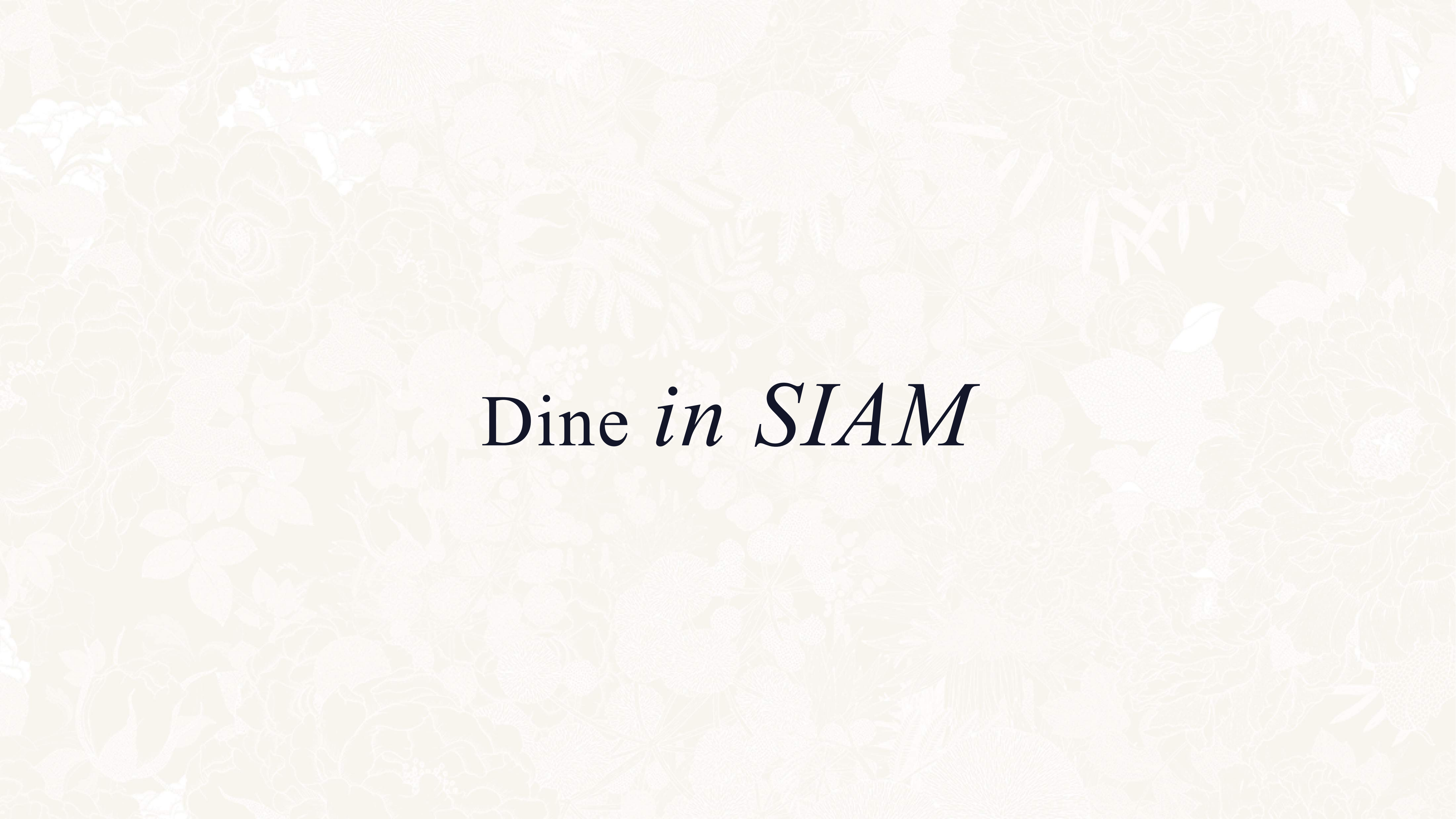
Asiatique combines successfully two of the most popular shopping experiences in the city: a night bazaar and a mall. Just a short (complimentary) boat ride from Sathorn pier Asiatique features more than 1,500 shops and a multitude of bars and restaurants housed in replica warehouse complex. Entertainment options include the Calypso cabaret.

Opening hours: Daily 17.00 - midnight

Location: Charoen Krung road Soi 72-74, Bangkok

BTS: Saphan Taksin station and then take the Asiatique shuttle boat





Dine *in SIAM*

Sra Bua by Kiin Kiin *Thai Restaurant*



Inspired by the award-winning Kiin Kiin restaurant in Copenhagen and its owner Henrik Yde Andersen this Michelin one star restaurant is famous for its modern interpretations of classic Thai dishes created from traditional recipes and authentic ingredients. Choose 'The Journey' menu to experience the outstanding culinary skills of Chef Chayawee and his team.

Classification: Fine dining

Opening hours: Lunch 12:00 - 15:00 hrs
Dinner 18:00 - 23:00 hrs

Prices: \$\$\$\$

Location: Siam Kempinski Hotel Bangkok, Rama I road



Saneh Jaan

Thai Restaurant

Thai dishes crafted from ancient recipes that once impressed the royal family are the draw here but don't discount the lovely setting, complete with vaulted ceilings and contemporary Thai touches. Dishes are a mix of classics and hard-to-find recipes such as hot and spicy soup, red curry with grilled pork, and sweet and sour coconut dip with crabmeat. For your dessert, try the khao moa rang - a rare creation made with young green rice grains.

Classification: Fine dining

Opening hours: Lunch 11:30 - 14:00 hrs

Dinner 18:00 - 22:00 hrs

Price: \$\$\$\$

Location: The Glasshouse at Sindhorn, Wireless road



Ma Maison

Thai Restaurant

Ma Maison is a modern venue that combines an elegant ambience with traditional Thai fayre. Situated on the sprawling lawns of the Nai Lert Park Heritage Home, this restaurant provides a luxurious experience and prides itself on its family recipes passed down from generation to generation. Don't be fooled by the French name. This restaurant devotes itself to sharing the recipes of the Nai Lert family. Signature dishes include pork crackling noodles and a rich chicken massaman.

Classification: Fine dining

Opening hours: Lunch 11:30 - 15:00 hrs / Dinner 18:00 - 22:00 hrs

Price: \$\$\$

Location: Nai Lert Park Heritage, Ploenchit Road



Wattana Panich *Beef Noodle*

To find one of the oldest beef stew restaurants in Bangkok, head to Ekkamai by taxi or BTS SkyTrain. This venue is famous for its stewed beef and noodles. Sukiyaki, stir-fried beef in oyster sauce, and garlic pork with rice are other popular dishes.

Classification: Street food

Opening hours: 09:30 - 20:00 hrs

Price: \$ (cash only)

Location: Ekkamai Soi 18-20, Sukhumvit 63 Road



Go-Ang *Chicken Rice*

This humble chicken and rice stall has drawn a devoted fan base of local and international foodies for more than 50 years. The aromatic rice is cooked with chicken oil and perfectly matches perfectly the flavour of the chicken.

Classification: Street food

Opening hours: Lunch 06:00 - 14:00 hrs / Dinner 17:00 - 02:00 hrs

Price: \$ (cash only)

Location: New Petchburi Road



Baan Pad Thai

Baan Phad Thai is named after one of Thailand's most popular dishes. The secret to its success is the combination of 18 to 20 ingredients used in making each dish. The organic, home made tofu and the fresh crab are also noteworthy at this restaurant where locals and tourists eat side by side.

Classification: Street food

Opening hours: 11:00 - 21.30 hrs

Price: \$ (cash only)

Location: 21-23 Soi Charoen Krung 44 Road



Happening *in SIAM*



Vegetarian Festival

14-23 October 2023

Vegetarian Festival known as Nine Emperor Gods Festival will be held from 14 – 23 October 2023, beginning from the eve to the ninth day of the ninth month of the Chinese lunar calendar. Widely celebrated all over Thailand, devotees will observe a vegetarian diet over this period as a form of body purification. The Taoist festival was brought into Thailand.

Bangkok Vegetarian Festival 2023

The festival is celebrated mostly in Bangkok's Chinatown, Yaowarat. Preparations will start as early as one week before the event where yellow banners and flags will be placed prominently in the area.

Shopping malls in Bangkok will hold food fairs throughout the festival, offering vegetarian and vegan dishes in a variety of international cuisines.

Venue: Yaowarat (China Town)

End of Buddhist Lent

29 October 2023

End of Buddhist Lent marks the end of the three-month Buddhist Lent period and the traditional end of the rainy season. The final day of the Buddhist Lent period falls on the full-moon day of the eleventh lunar moon and is known in most parts of Thailand as Awk Phansa, although there are some regional variations. According to Buddhist belief, the day commemorates when Buddha descended back to earth after spending three months in heaven, where he visited his mother. His return was greeted by his followers with gifts of food. Today, Thai Buddhists mark the event by visiting the wat and making merit. Different regions have their own way of marking the occasion, but it's common at this time of year to see organised long-boat races.

Robes Offering (Thod Kathin)

For a one-month period from the end of the Rains Retreat, new robes and offerings are made to the monkhood as part of a ceremony known as 'thod kathin.' Throughout Thailand, various thod kathin events and festivities are arranged, whilst in Bangkok, there is a royal ceremony usually held at Wat Arun (Temple of the Dawn).

Ok Phansa is one of the days in the year where there are restrictions in place on alcohol sales.

Venue: Major Temple in Nationwide





Loy Krathong Festival of Light

27 November 2023

Celebrated nationwide, Loy Krathong is probably Thailand's most beautiful and enchanting festival. The word loy means to float, whilst krathong are small rafts or baskets. Traditionally made from banana leaves or the bark of a banana tree, the krathongs usually contain a candle, incense and flowers. The person who will be floating the krathong will often take a small clipping of their hair or fingernail, which will then be added to the krathong together with some coins. The candle and incense are then lit and a wish is made before the krathong is placed on the nearest stretch of water. It is believed that the krathong carries away bad luck and signals a fresh start.

The festival has evolved to include music concerts and beauty pageants and is another great excuse for a party. Falling during the school holidays, Loy Krathong is also a family affair with parents often helping their children to make the krathongs.

Venue: The Chao Phraya River is the main focus for celebrations, with bridges and buildings decked out in bright lights for the occasion. Places such as Lumpini Park, with its lake, also draw a large crowd.

King Bhumibol Birthday Commemoration Day

Remembering the Father of the Nation

5 December 2023

5 December is a public holiday in Thailand in honour of the late king, His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej. The Thai monarch was born on December 5 and this date is also celebrated as Father's Day in recognition of a man who was fondly regarded as the 'Father of The Nation'. The formal name of the holiday translates in English to King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Birthday Anniversary. Depending on where you are in Thailand, there may be restrictions on alcohol sales on 5 December.

During his lifetime, the king's birthday on 5 December was a national day of celebration. Provinces throughout Thailand staged special events with fireworks, candle-lit ceremonies and music concerts. Commemorative events are likely to be more subdued in the years after the passing of the king, but 5 December will remain a day for the king's life and achievements to be celebrated. In Bangkok, it has been a tradition in December for Ratchadamnoen Avenue and the area around the Grand Palace to be beautifully illuminated with strings of lights and it is expected that this tradition will continue.

Venue: Nationwide





New Year's Eve

31 December 2023

Thailand doesn't just celebrate New Year once; it does so on three separate occasions. In common with the rest of the world, December 31 sees parties and fireworks at locations around Thailand as the clock strikes midnight and the New Year is ushered in. But that isn't the end of the New Year festivities in Thailand. The Chinese New Year, which usually falls in January or February, is also celebrated by many Thais. And then in April, there is the most eagerly anticipated holiday of the year, Songkran, the traditional Thai New Year.

Sawasdee Pii Mai: Happy New Year

If you're in Thailand at the end of December, you will hear people wishing each other 'Sawasdee Pii Mai.

New Year Countdown

New Year 'Countdown' events are hosted at venues around Thailand on New Year's Eve. The biggest, although not necessarily the best, is in Bangkok, with the area outside Central World taking centre stage. December 31 and January 1 are public holidays in Thailand and coincide with the peak of the high season. This means there is extra demand on transport and accommodation over the New Year period and it is advisable to book in advance. Expect popular tourist attractions around the country to be extra busy with a surge in domestic tourists in addition to the international visitors.

Venue: Central World and along the Chao Phraya River such as Icon Siam and Asiatique Riverfront

Art & Exhibition,
Live Shows & Concerts

4x Grammy-nominated hitmaker Charlie Puth announced he will be embarking on a 2023 tour. Produced by Live Nation Tero, including Charlie Puth Presents The “Charlie” Live Experience Bangkok which is to perform on 6 October 2023 at Impact Arena Muang Thong Thani.

ABOUT CHARLIE PUTH

Charlie Puth has proven to be one of the industry’s most consistent hitmakers and sought-after collaborators. Puth has amassed eight multi-platinum singles, four GRAMMY nominations, three Billboard Music Awards, a Critic’s Choice Award, and a Golden Globe nomination. His 2018 GRAMMY-nominated LP, Voicenotes, was RIAA Certified Gold only four days after its release and has logged over 5.6 billion streams worldwide.

Venue: Impact Arena

Date and Time: 6 October 2023 | 19:00

Ticket price: THB 7,000 VIP1 / 3,500 VIP | 6,000 / 5,500 / 4,500 /
3,800 / 2,800 / 1,800





Jay Chou, Mandopop Megastar, is back in Bangkok, Thailand with the Jay Chou Carnival World Tour to be staged at the Rajamangala National Stadium on 9 December 2023!

Led by the multi-hyphenate and his team, the Jay Chou Carnival World Tour dives into a joyful carnival theme with well-designed visual effects that will allow fans to embark on an auditory and visual fantasy journey. The megastar will perform up to 40 songs, including his well-loved classic hits and new songs. Jay Chou will also be showcasing his talent on the piano, guzheng and other instruments!

Jay Chou has a huge influence on the global music scene. In 2022, he ranked No. 9 on the IFPI Global Top 10 Artiste List and also won the top spot in IFPI Global Top 10 Album Sales List. His album "Greatest Works of Art" even set a record for a Chinese-language album on this list! The record is the pride and representative of the Chinese music scene.

Venue: Rajamangala Stadium

Date and Time: 9 December 2023 | 20:00



The tragic love triangle from Leo Tolstoy’s greatest novel, “Anna Karenina” gets heightened by an original, thrilling ballet production created by a leading ballet company from St. Petersburg, Eifman Ballet. The company was founded by multi-award-winning choreographer Boris Eifman, who is known around the world as a philosopher, a psychological artist and a genius.

Praised for its “breathtaking dancing” (Chicago Sun Times); “big, bold and spectacular, with lots of wide-legged lifts and a dramatic dance vocabulary” (Daily Express) and “athletic performance” (The Independent), this unique, brilliant and boundary-pushing ballet production has marvelled the audience on major stages across the United States and nearly every capital in Europe.

Venue: Thailand Cultural Center, Main Hall

Date and Time: 21 October 2023 at 19:00 | 22 October 2023 at 16:00

Ticket price: THB 4,500 / 4,000 / 3,500 / 2,700 / 1,800



In the main event, two of the most dangerous strikers on the planet will collide for the ONE Featherweight Muay Thai World Title.

Reigning divisional king Tawanchai PK Saenchai has left a path of destruction in his wake and is coming off a pair of jaw-dropping knockouts. But now, the Thai phenom will face his toughest challenge yet in #1 contender Superbon Singha Mawynn, who looks to finish another pound-for-pound great with his catastrophic head kicks and become a two-sport ONE World Champion.

The card also features two additional must-see World Title clashes. Former divisional king Thanh Le battles #3-ranked contender Ilya Freymanov for the ONE Interim Featherweight MMA World Title, while three-sport threat Danial Williams challenges undefeated ONE Strawweight Kickboxing World Champion Jonathan Di Bella for his gold.

Plus, ONE Flyweight Submission Grappling World Champion Mikey Musumeci collides with Japanese martial arts legend and former lightweight MMA king Shinya Aoki in an openweight submission grappling bout for the ages.

Venue: Lumpini Boxing Stadium (Ram Indra)

Date and Time: 7 October 2023 | 07:00

Ticket price: THB 3,750 / 2,400 / 1,200

ONE Championship makes its highly anticipated return to Bangkok in November with ONE Fight Night 16! See the world's best fighters in action as they electrify the Lumpinee Boxing Stadium across MMA, Muay Thai, kickboxing, and submission grappling. Mark your calendars and get your tickets now!

Venue: Lumpini Boxing Stadium (Ram Indra)

Date and Time: 4 November 2023 | 07:00

Ticket price: THB 3,750 / 2,400 / 1,200



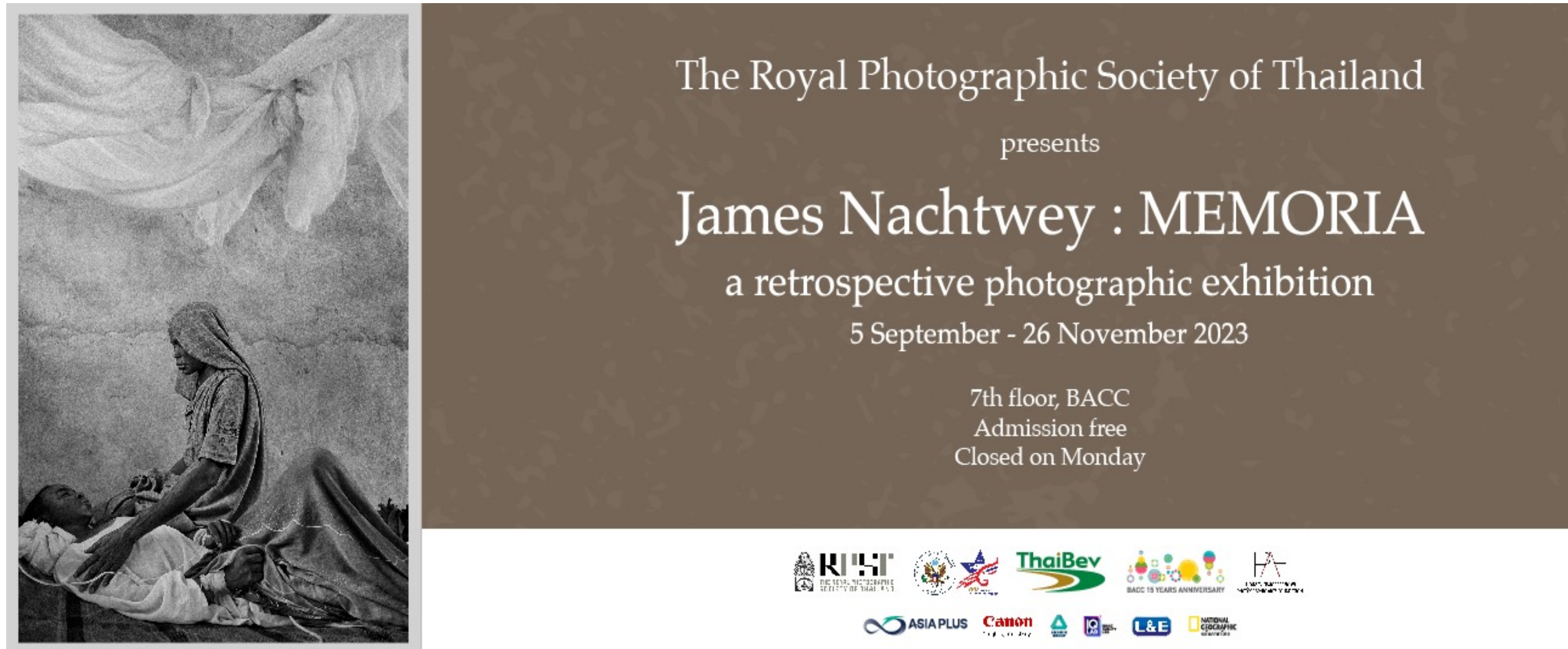


Womanifesto: Flowing Connections

Bangkok Art and Culture Centre, in collaboration with the artist-organisers of Womanifesto, presents “Womanifesto: Flowing Connections,” an exhibition presenting Womanifesto’s significant projects starting from the very first exhibition in 1997 up to the present. The exhibition features over 30 artists from Asian and other countries, and showcases works exhibited at previous events and works created more recently by some of the artists who have participated in Womanifesto over the years. Additionally, material from Womanifesto Archive, ‘WeMend’ – a workshop space with educational programs – and current and ongoing projects have been gathered making visible Womanifesto’s sustained development as an artist-led initiative since 1997. As one of the first feminist collectives of its kind to have emerged and developed from Southeast Asia, Womanifesto continues to be of historical significance to art in Thailand and internationally.

Venue: Bangkok Art and Culture Centre, Main Exhibition Gallery, Floor 8

Date and Time: Until 30 December 2023 | 10:00 - 20:00 (Closed on Monday)



Organised by The Royal Photographic Society of Thailand, in collaboration with the Bangkok Art and Culture Centre

Supported by the Photographic Arts Foundation with the support of the Embassy of the United States of America in Thailand.

About

Nachtwey is an extraordinary observer and an acute witness who has devoted his career to documenting some of the most crucial issues of contemporary history. James Nachtwey, an American war photographer and photojournalist, was born on March 14, 1948. He was raised in Massachusetts and studied political science and art history at Dartmouth College, from which he graduated in 1970.

Over the last 42 years, James Nachtwey has covered nearly every armed conflict in the world. He has had numerous solo exhibitions in places including the International Centre of Photography in New York, Maison Européenne de la Photographie in Paris, Palazzo Reale in Milan and Fotografiska in Stockholm and New York. However, this will be his first exhibition in Thailand and Asia Pacific.

Venue: Bangkok Art and Culture Centre, Main Exhibition Gallery, Floor 7

Date and Time: Until 30 December 2023 | 10:00-20:00 (Closed on Monday)

James

Nachtwey



Thai lacquer artwork is a combination of coloured powder and clear lacquer, overlapping several layers until it becomes a beautiful and unique painting. It has various techniques. “Parasitic Bouquet” are invading plants that live on other plants. Many species live to suck up water, minerals, or synthetic nutrients. The idiom “Parasitic Bouquet” means to hide and live with others without helping but waiting to gain benefits from others.

“The Figuration of Parasitic Bouquet” therefore means to hide without providing any benefit. Just waiting to take advantage of others.

Venue: Bangkok Art and Culture Centre, Floor 3., New Gen Space

Date and Time: 10 October - 5 November 2023 | 10:00 - 20:00 (Closed on Monday)



THANK YOU