



Country Profile: Thailand

Thailand is a constitutional monarchy. Thailand adopted its current constitution following an August 19, 2007, referendum. Multi-party elections held on December 23, 2007, under the provisions of the new constitution resulted in the People's Power Party (PPP) winning a plurality of the seats in the lower house of Parliament and the formation of a coalition government. Most of the population is Buddhist and ethnically Thai. Standard Thai is the official language of Thailand and is spoken in every province, though many areas also have a local dialect. Most Thais working in the tourist industry and in businesses dealing with foreigners can speak at least rudimentary English. Thailand is a popular travel destination, and tourist facilities and services are available throughout the country. At many tourist attractions, including national parks, foreigners are charged admission fees up to ten times higher than those charged to Thais. Read the Department of State [Background Notes](#) on Thailand for additional information.

COUNTRY OVERVIEW



Country Name:	Thailand
Continent:	Asia
Capital City:	Bangkok
Boundary Countries:	Burma, Cambodia, Laos, Malaysia.
Recommended Hospitals in Capital:	<p>DIRECT PAYMENT: Aek Udon International Hospital (Amphur Muang), Bangkok 9 International Hospital, Bangkok Hospital (Bangkok, Pattaya, Phuket), Bangkok Nursing Hospital, Bumrungrad International Hospital (Bangkok), Chao Phya Hospital (Bangkok), Chiangmai Ram Hospital (Chiangmai), Kasemrad Hospital Prachachuen (Bangkok), Mission Hospital (Bangkok, Phuket), Muengpeth Thornburi Hospital (Petchaburi), Pakkred Vejchakarn Hospital (Nonthaburi), Phuket International Hospital, Samitivej Srinakarin Hospital & Samitivej Srinakarin Children's Hospital (Bangkok), Samitivej Sriracha Hospital (Chonburi), Samitivej Sukumvit Hospital (Bangkok), Theppanya Hospital (Chiangmai), Theptarin Hospital (Bangkok), Thonburi Hospital (Bangkok)</p> <p>REFERRAL: Bandon International Clinics & Hospitals (Koh Pha-Ngan, Koh Samui, Muang), Bangkok Hospital-Chanthaburi, Chureevej, Hat Yai, Prapadang, Ratchasima, Rayong, Samui, Trat (Chanthaburi, Roi-Et, Songkhla, Samutprakarn, Nakhon Ratchashima, Rayong, Koh Samui, Trat), International Clinic Koh Chang (Trat), International SOS Clinic- Bangkok, Ko Chang International Clinic (Ko Chang Trat), Krungdhon Hospital (Bangkok), Lanna Hospital (Chiangmai), McCormick Hospital (Chiangmai), Phyathai Hospitals- 1, 2, 3 (Bangkok), Phyathai Sriracha Hospital (Chonburi), Piyavate Hospital (Bangkok), Pratunam Polyclinic (Bangkok), Ramkhamhaeng Hospital (Bangkok), Saint Louis Hospital (Bangkok), Samui International Hospital (Koh Samui), Taksin Chantaburi Hospital (Chantaburi), Thai Nakin Hospital (Bangkok), Thammasat University Hospital (Pathumthani), Wattana International Clinic (Phuket), Wattanosoth Hospital (Bangkok)</p>
Main Cities:	Bangkok, Chiang Mai, Phuket, Hat Yai, Si Racha
Country Size:	514,000 sq km
Population:	65,493,296* (refer to mortality statistics)

COUNTRY GENERAL INFORMATION

Language:	Thai, English (secondary language of the elite), Ethnic and regional dialects.
Currency:	Baht (THB)
Predominant Religions:	Buddhist 94.6%, Muslim 4.6%, Christian 0.7%, Other 0.1%
National Holidays:	Birthday of King Phumiphon (Bhumibol), 5 December (1927)
Economic Status:	With a well-developed infrastructure, a free-enterprise economy, and generally pro-investment policies, Thailand appears to have fully recovered from the 1997-98 Asian Financial Crisis. The country was one of East Asia's best performers from 2002-04. Boosted by strong export growth, the Thai economy grew 4.5% in 2007. Bangkok has pursued preferential trade agreements with a variety of partners in an effort to boost exports and to maintain high growth. By 2007, the tourism sector had largely recovered from the major 2004 tsunami.
Security:	Royal Thai Army (RTA), Royal Thai Navy (RTN, includes Royal Thai Marine Corps), Royal Thai Air Force (Knogtap Agard Thai, RTAF).
US Presence:	U.S. Embassy Bangkok 95 Wireless Road Bangkok 10330, Thailand Phone: +66-2-205-4000 U.S. Consulate General Chiang Mai 387 Wichayanond Road Chiang Mai 50300, Thailand Phone.: +66-53-107-700
Major Airports:	<p>Airports: 106, Airports w/paved runways: 65</p> <p>Bangkok, International, Thailand, 222 Moo 10 Vibhavadi Rangsit Road, Srikan Don Muang, Bangkok 10210, THAILAND <i>Tel:</i> +66 (0)2 535-1111, +66 (0)2 535-1515 <i>Fax:</i> +66 (0)2 535-4061, +66 (0)2 535-1065, +66 (0)2 531-5559 <i>Email:</i> aotpr@airportthai.co.th <i>Website:</i> www.airportthai.co.th <i>Telex:</i> TH 87424/5 AIRHOTL</p> <p>Bangkok, Suvarnabhumi, Thailand, 999 Moo 7 Racha Thewa, Bangphli District, Samut Prakam 10540, THAILAND <i>Tel:</i> +66 (0)2 723-0000 <i>Fax:</i> +66 (0)2 723-0010 <i>Email:</i> nbia@bangkokairport.co.th <i>Website:</i> www.suvarnabhumiairport.com</p> <p>Chiang Mai Airport, Thailand, 60 Sanambin Road, Suthep District, Amphoe Muang, Changwat Chiang Mai 50200, THAILAND <i>Tel:</i> +66 (0)53 270222/33, +66 (0)53 203300/19 <i>Fax:</i> +66 (0)53 277284 <i>Email:</i> usa@airportthai.co.th <i>Website:</i> www.airportthai.co.th</p>

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