

Now we are at the third module of the Thailand E-Learning Program. This module explains about the popular destinations of Southern of Thailand which include Phuket, Phang-Nga, Krabi, Koh Samui and Trang. This will help you provide your customers with detailed information about distances and transportation, where to go, things to do, new updates and suggested itineraries ideas, so your customers will be fully prepared and most satisfied.

## Course Process

### Part 1

Phuket

### Part 2

Phang-Nga

### Part 3

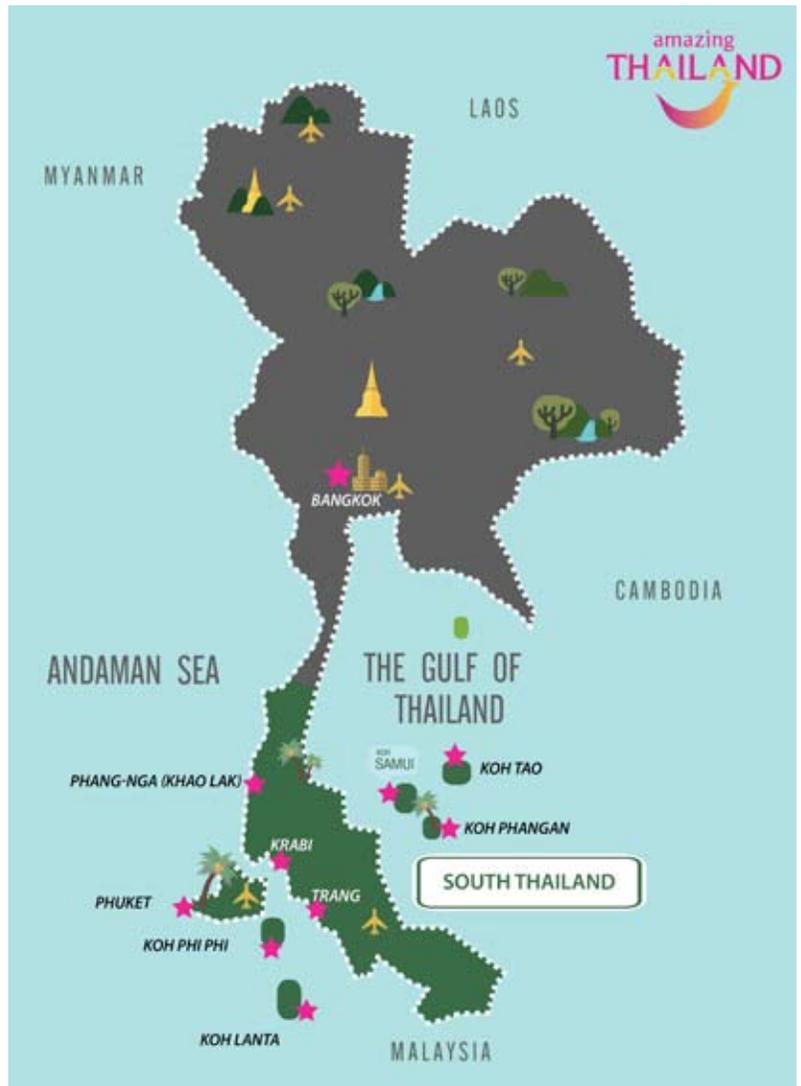
Krabi

### Part 4

Koh Samui

### Part 5

Trang



Thailand is well renowned for unspoilt white sandy beaches, crystal clear blue waters and exotic remote Islands. Travelling to the beautiful coastline of Andaman side and Thai Gulf side where the popular cities are located like Phuket, Krabi, Koh Samui and Trang are the admirable routes for sea lovers.

**Due to its fantabulous locations many Films and productions shoots in Thailand- Baaghi, Baar Baar Dekho, House Full 2, Ready, Student of the Year, Entertainment, Kaho naa, Pyaar Hai, Hangover 2 among many more from Bollywood, Hollywood, Tollywood...**

## Phuket

It is both an island and a province, the largest in Thailand and the size of Singapore, located on the south west coast of Thailand in the Andaman Sea and connected to the mainland by the Sarasin Bridge. It is Thailand's premier beach resort destination.

Dubbed as the "Pearl of the Andaman sea", Phuket Island is famous for its pristine white sand, rocky peninsula, limestone cliffs, tranquil broad bays and tropical forests. It is a dream destination where there are endless activities; beautiful beaches, underwater world, gastronomic delights, colourful nightlights and cultural heritage.

It is a very popular destination for Honeymoon, Weddings and Celebrations, Family, Golf because of its beautiful natural resources, luxurious accommodations and modern shopping centres as well as new amusement Fun Park.

## Things to do

### • Beaches & Bays

**Hat Patong:** Phuket's most developed beach offers numerous leisure, sporting, shopping and recreational options along its 3 kilometer-long crescent bay. Patong is equally well known for its vibrant nightlife.

**Hat Karon & Kata:** Impressive and peaceful beaches. They are well-known for swimming, snorkelling, windsurfing and sunbathing.

**Hat Kamala:** The fine stretch of sandy beach where the northern end is suitable for swimming and is partly shaded by casuarinas.



### • Temples and Southern Thai Lifestyles

**Wat Chalong:** It is the largest and most visited Phuket's temple.

**Phuket Thai Hua Museum:** The 74-year old Sino-Portuguese architecture displays photos and video media which tell the history of Chinese people in Phuket.

**Ban Bang Rong Community:** The muslim community is rewarded for Outstanding Community Based Tourism Attraction.



## • Family Leisure

**Phuket Aquarium:** Phuket Aquarium is the only public aquarium in the wider region. It is recognised as a major destination on Phuket Island for both foreign and local tourists.

**Phuket Bird Park:** It is located on 12 acres of land. Phuket Bird Park is the only privately owned park, with amazing bird species from Asia, Africa and South America.

**Splash Jungle Waterpark:** Phuket's wettest wildest water park" providing gallons of excitement for the whole family!

**Up Sidedown House:** Phuket's quirkiest and funniest



## • Walk-Shop-Chill

**Khao Rang:** This provides a pleasant view of the town, also a park and series of hillside sculptural tableaux.

**The Old Town Phuket:** The compact provincial capital serves mainly as a commercial and shopping centre although traces of the old Sino-Portuguese architecture give Phuket a distinctive character.

**Central Festival Phuket & Jung Ceylon:** Enjoy a world-class shopping, dining and wholesome entertainment through out the year at two top leading department stores.



- **Cultural Show and Night Life**

**Wondrous Thai Cultural Show:** It is a large-scale night time amusement centre depicting Thai cultural traditions mixed with the latest modern technology. The famous entertainments are Phuket Fantasea and Siam Niramit.

**Bangla Road Nightlife at Patong Beach:** The islands main nightlife area.

**Wondrous Thai Cultural Show: Phuket Fantasea and Siam Niramit**

It is a large-scale night time amusement centre depicting Thai cultural traditions mixed with the latest modern technology.



- **Activities**

**Islands Hopping:** Day trips to Phang-Nga bay ( North east of Phuket ) or spend a day or two on Phi Phi Islands.

**Adventures and sports:** Flying Hanuman, Jungle Bungy Jump or Thai boxing at patong beach.

### How to get there

**By AIR:** 1.20hrs flight from Bangkok. Daily flights of Bangkok Airways, Thai Airways, Nok Air and Air Asia

**By Train:** Bangkok to Surat Thani by train and then to Phuket by bus.

**By Bus/car:** About 13 hours.



## Phang-Nga



Phang Nga province is blessed with a variety of outstanding natural attractions including the stunning Phang Nga Bay, the idyllic Surin and Similan Islands, the sandy coast of Khao Lak which is one of best wedding and honeymoon destinations for Indian market.

It has become a popular tourist destination but still retains its natural and unspoilt appeal. Whilst Phuket province to the south has become one of the top beach destinations in the world and attracts millions of visitors every year, Phang Nga has maintained a more tranquil feel. Phuket has lots of development, facilities and tourist attractions but also has crowd, traffic and hassle. Phang Nga has few man made holiday attractions but maintains a relaxed natural charm.

## Things to do

- **Islands and natures**

**Islands and natures Ao Phang-nga National Park:** Thailand's second marine national park where most of the area is sea water and islands of limestone mountains of different shapes and beauty. It is also the home of mangrove forest and a breeding area of marine animals.

**Mu Ko Similan National Park:** Similan is a small archipelago in the Andaman Sea comprising a total of 9 islands. It offers ideal spots for both snorkelling and scuba diving where coral reefs as well as rare and colorful fish are to be admired.

**Ko Panyi:** Inside Ao Phang-nga National park, it is a small island with 200 houses. Most of dwellers are Thai Muslims earning their living by fishing and selling souvenirs and food to visitors.

**Khao Phing Kan:** The scenery behind Khao Ping Kan is very picturesque with Khao Tapu, otherwise known as "James Bond Island" in the background, which looks like a nail. It is ideal for climbing.



**Khao Lak Seaside:** It has lovely beaches along The Andaman Sea coastline in Phang Nga province, set against the backdrop of jungle Cover Mountains. It is one of the most unique and attractive clusters of islands in the world.

## Highlights of Khao Lak:

- Quiet, upscale, family-friendly.
- Ideal for Weddings & Celebrations and honeymoons.
- Most of the hotels have Indian chefs or they serve Indian food on demand.
- Khao Lak promises you secluded coastal resorts, family –friendly nighttime environment, scenic beauty and plenty of fauna.

### Do you know :

- Phang- Nga is only 1 hour far from Phuket international airport. It is an ideal place for relaxation in quite and natural atmosphere.
- Phang –Nga is considered as adventures and ecotourism . You can find plenty of water activities such as Kayaking, Snorkeling, Diving Tour, Island hoping, Khao Nayak, White Water Rafting, Bamboo Rafting, Liveaboard, Phiphi Island, Little Amazon, Elephant Trekking, etc.

### How to get there

**By Air:** The nearest airport to Phan Nga is Phuket. From Phuket, visitors can take a bus, rent a car, or take a taxi (around THB 1200) to Phang Nga, around 90 kilometres away.

**By Rail:** Visitors can get to Phang Nga by getting off at the Surat Thani Railway Station and then transferring to a bus for another two hours. For more information call Bangkok's Hua Lumphong Railway Station at tel. 1690, 0 2223 7010, 0 2223 7020 or visit [www.railway.co.th](http://www.railway.co.th)

**By Bus:** Daily bus services from Bangkok to Phang Nga. Travelling time is around 12 hours. For more information call the Southern Bus Terminal at tel. 0 2435 1199-200 or the Phang Nga Bus Terminal at tel: 0 7641 2300, 0 7641 2014 or visit [www.transport.co.th](http://www.transport.co.th) By bus/car : About 13 hours from Bangkok

## Krabi



Krabi is one of Southern Thailand's most attractive provinces. It is rich in sunshine, beautiful with crystal clear water and mesmerizing with its long stretches of sandy beaches and limestone pinnacles. It has fascinating coral reefs, numerous large and small islands and verdant forests with caves and waterfalls. With easy accessibility by road and air, Krabi is fast becoming a popular destination for both local and international tourists and is regarded as one of Thailand's dream destinations.

## Things to do

- **Unseen Highlights**

**Talay Waek:** One of the most picturesque tourist spots in Thailand. The sea is slowly disconnected by white sand. The limestone beach will appear and dramatically connect the two islands at low tide. Best time to experience this unseen is five days before and after the full moon from December to the beginning of May.

**Phi Phi Islands:** Travellers regard these islands as the most beautiful tropical islands of the world. The islands are also famous for the shooting of the movie "The Beach" featuring Leonardo Di Caprio. Phi Phi Islands are located just 40 km away from both Krabi and Phuket.

**Ao Nang:** Situated some 20 km from town, Ao Nang's white sandy beach stretches to the foot of a prominent limestone range. Beach front accommodation is available including diving, rental boats and kayaking.

**Hat Rai Le:** South of Ao Nang Beach, is located a tranquil world of Hat Rai Le “West” where you’ll find broad sandy beaches, soaring limestone cliffs, caves, hidden lagoon and quiet ambience. Just across the peninsula, there is a mud flat, especially during low tide. Now, it is a hotspot for rock and cliff climbing lovers.



**Susan Hoi or Fossil Shells Beach:** Just 17 km from town, the Shell cemetery was once a large freshwater swamp, home to a kind of snails that lived and died here around 40 million years ago. Now, it is considered as perfectly preserved fossilized shells.

**Than Bok Khorani National Park:** There are several natural ponds of emerald water in a shady forested area here. Other attractions are several caves in limestone mountains, verdant mangrove forests and beautiful islands which can be reached only by boat. Camping can be done here.

**Krabi Town:** Krabi Town is charming and welcoming for those interested in genuine Thai culture and warm hospitality as well as the local handicrafts and souvenirs: turtle-dove cages, toei panan mats made of pandanus leaves and dried seafoods.

**Hot Spring Water:** In the south of Krabi Province in Klong Thom district are nature’s own hot-tub Jacuzzis. The water here comes from thermal springs, originating deep underground in ancient volcanic chambers.

**Four Islands Tours:** Just off the coast of Krabi at Ao Nang, the Four Islands are the most convenient, easiest and cheapest way to get a true idea of what tropical island is all about. The Four Krabi Islands are Koh Gai (shaped like a chicken), Koh Tub, Koh Mawr and Poda.



- **Activities**

**Ka Yak at Ao Thalane:** Kayaking through to the water way and get in to the secret lagoon and canyon. During the tour on the mangrove forest you will see plenty of wildlife includes birds' reptiles and mammals in the muddy shallow waters.

**Snorkelling and Diving:** Dive shops provide mask, snorkel and fins for hire at a very reasonable price per day. You could enjoy water activities at almost every beach spots of Krabi.

**Rock Climbing:** Every year thousands of climbers come to Krabi to challenge themselves on the famous limestone karts and most agree that it is well worth the trip.

**Biking:** Mountain bike can be found around Ao Nang. The terrain is spectacular and this is a great and healthy way to take in the most captivating scenery.



- **Entertainment**

**PAKA Show Park:** A spectacular dance and light show, interpreting the traditional Thai folk tales of the Kinnaree (half bird and half woman figures) combined with the southern dance of Manora. You can enjoy the seafood buffet before immersing yourself in the folklore and legends of Southern Thailand with a spectacular light and sound experience.

- **Learning Thai southern Life**

**Klonglu:** One can experience the local way of life by participating in early morning fishing, model long-tail boat making or batik cloth production and enjoy the beautiful mangrove nature or nearby islands the next day.



## How to get there

**By AIR:** 1.20 hr. flight from Bangkok. Thai Airways International operates daily flights.

**By Train:** Bangkok to Trang or Surat Thani by train and then to Krabi by bus. Website: [www.railway.co.th](http://www.railway.co.th)

**By Bus/car:** About 12 hours. Website: [www.transport.co.th](http://www.transport.co.th)

## Koh Samui



Koh Samui is Thailand's second most popular island destination after Phuket (1 hour flight) south of Bangkok. Samui is the largest in an archipelago of more than 80 islands that includes the Ang Thong National Marine Park. While Samui is small enough to be circumnavigated in just a couple of hours by motorbike or car, the island features such a variety of beaches and activities that it would be impossible to experience everything in a single visit.

## Things to do:

- **Islands**

**Muko Anghong National Marine Park:** Just 35 km west of Koh Samui, this is a pristine archipelago of 42 islands in the Gulf of Thailand which fits everyone's image of a tropical paradise with huge limestone rocks covered in virgin rainforest. Muko Anghong Park is a protected area of exotic wildlife and sea creature.

**Koh Pha Ngan:** It is a mountainous island ringed by secluded bays that offer ideal getaways. There are banks, post office, supermarket and shops selling beach equipment and souvenirs. The most famous beach is Hat Rin, famous for full moon parties.

**Koh Tao:** The picturesque jungle-topped island has the busy vibe of Samui mixed with the laid-back nature of Pha-Ngan. But Kao Tao has its wildcard that others don't: easy-to-get-to, and diverse diving right off its shores.



## • Beaches and nature

**Hat Chaweng:** Situated on Samui's east coast, this is the island's longest and most beautiful beach, a 6 km strip of powder soft sand fronted with crystal-clear water. It is a centre for most types of water sports. Behind Hat chaweng, there are plenty of shops.

**Hat Lamai:** Just south of Hat Chaweng, the playful waters of Hat Lamai always attract surfers as they run a little deeper than any other beaches in Koh Samui.

**Namtok Na Muang:** It is considered as the most picturesque waterfall in Koh Samui. There are two levels to this attractive site. The nearest one to the road has about a 20 metre drop and fresh pool. A steeper side road leads to the higher level which is more impressive.



## • Shopping

**Shopping at Na Thon:** This is the island's main town and port, situated on the west coast and is constantly bustling with visitors arriving and departing. This is the place to go shopping for beach gear, extending visas or just watch the happenings from a street café.

**Bophut Fisherman's Village Walking Street:** This sightseeing takes place every Friday and is one of the biggest markets in Samui. There are shops selling fresh sea foods, gifts and much more. Also it includes numerous restaurants, shops, local landmarks and cultural attractions

## • Shows

**Monkey Shows:** The monkey's famed ability as coconut collectors once formed the basis of Samui's economy. During the performance, all their skills are shown to ludicrous effect.

**Samui Butterfly Garden:** Set on a gentle slope in the southeast corner of the island, the garden contains a wide range of bright and unusual flowers. Hundreds of butterflies are flying in the air. There are also a display of insects, moths and beehives.

## • Activities recommended

- Visit Angthong National Marine Park – Day Trip
- Safari Tour by 4WD – Depart Chaweng Beach
- Elephant Trekking in the island centre
- Beach and Water Sports Activities
- Fishing Trips
- Day trip (or overnight) to Koh Tao Island to snorkel and dive
- Chaweng Beach Nightlife
- Yachting

## How to get there

**By flight:** From Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi (BKK) airport to Koh Samui (USM) airport and travel 30 minutes by boat. A cheaper, but farther option, is Surat Thani (URT) airport with a combined bus and boat pass – a three and a half hour trip from the airport to Koh Pha ngan.

**By bus:** The best option is to take the Government Bus from Bangkok to the Na Thon ferry piers. Tickets can be purchased at Sai Tai Taling Chan (southern) government bus terminal in Bangkok.

**By boat:** Options are from Koh Samui, or from Surat Thani via Koh Samui. Boats depart hourly from Surat Thani's Donsak Pier to Na Thon Pier on Koh Samui.



## Trang



With an abundance of blissful attractions mixed with cultural heritage, Trang Province is truly a fascinating tourist destination with numerous jungles, mountains, waterfalls, and beaches. Trang is a magnificent coastal province with a long, beautiful shoreline that stretches 199 km along the Andaman Sea. The province consists of an archipelago in the Andaman Sea with over 46 Islands.

Similar in topography to neighboring Krabi, Trang features idyllic islands with breathtaking karst formations and unspoiled beaches, making it the hot new destination for those looking for less developed yet beautiful Thai beaches and islands.

- **Islands**

**Koh Muk and Tham Morakot (Emerald Cave):** Perfect for nature lovers, Koh Muk owns a great spot for swimming and diving to see beautiful corals found around the island. Hidden inside is a lagoon featuring emerald-like color of water.

**Koh Kradan:** Probably the best-known and the most beautiful island in Trang. It is blessed with large, powdery white beaches, emerald-colored water and shallow-water corals. It was chosen as the place to hold under-water wedding ceremonies.

**Koh Chuek and Koh Mah:** Excellent for dive sites as the areas are filled with colorful soft corals and sea anemone, fish or different species of clown fish.

**Koh Libong:** Part of the Libong Archipelago Wildlife Reserve, Koh Libong is home to many beautiful capes and pristine beaches. During the low tide, visitors can walk across the beach from Chu Hoi Cape to Koh Tup where sea birds and mangrove birds migrated to. It is also a location of Muslim fisherman's village.



- **Natures**

**Khao Kob Cave:** A large cave is separated into several smaller chambers inside with ceilings of beautiful limestone and stalagmites hanging from above and water trickling throughout its ground. Visitors can do boating from 8am-5pm.

**Thep Taro Palace:** It is surrounded by auspicious and scented 'Juang' trees. For every visitor who walk through the nine bellies of the dragon, they will get extra good luck and love.

**Ton Te Waterfall:** From Ban That Mountain range, the waterfall drops 320 metres down to the rocks, creating an interesting landscape and beautiful scenes. Flower lovers will be happy to find a wide range of tropical flowers around the area.

- **Family Leisure :**

**Peninsular Botanical Garden:** Strolling along the 175 metres of raised canopy walkway, 18 metres above the ground at the Peninsular Botanical Gardens provides a great opportunity for studying the treetops and taking the remarkable photographs.



**Riding a Frog-Headed Tuk Tuk:** Grab a frog-headed Tuk Tuk which is a symbol of Trang for over 55 years. It transport people to admire the city of Trang which includes shrine, sino-portugese building, Christian church and Dugong roundabout.

- **Culinary Tours and Festivals :**

**Local dishes:** Trang is well known for food. Try Dim Sum with the coffee for your breakfast at any local restaurant or consume aromatic Roasted Pork early morning to make your mouth flavor all day long. Don't miss Lampura cake for your daytime dessert.

**The Vegetarian Festival:** For a life-enriching experience, come and witness or participate in Vegetarian Festival, you will be able to feel the wholesomeness that is present all around.

**Under Water Wedding:** Taking part in this world-renowned event, you can experience the most memorable wedding where you and your loved one can share the special moment with other couples. This event takes place on the second week of February.



## How to get there

**By Air:** Nok Air has daily direct flights between Bangkok and Trang Province; travelling times is 1.10 hours. For more information, call 1318 or 0 2900 9955 or visit the airline's website at [www.nokair.com](http://www.nokair.com)

**By Rail:** From Bangkok, rapid and express trains depart from Bangkok's Hua Lumphong Railway Station to Trang daily. For more information, call 1690, 0 2223 7010, 0 2223 7020 or calling Trang Station at tel. 0 7521 8012, or visit [www.railway.co.th](http://www.railway.co.th)

**By Bus:** From Bangkok, air-conditioned buses depart from the Southern Bus Terminal in Bangkok to Trang every day. The trip takes 12 hours. For more information, please call 0 2435 1199-200 or Trang Bus Terminal at tel. 0 7521 8718

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