

Now we are at the fourth module of the Thailand E-Learning Program. This module explains about the popular destinations of Northern Thailand, which include Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai and Lampang. This will help you provide the customers with detailed information about distances and transportation, where to go, things to do, new updates and suggested itineraries ideas, so that your customers will be fully prepared and most satisfied.

## Course Process

**Part 1**  
Chiang Mai

**Part 2**  
Chiang Rai

**Part 3**  
Lampang



## Chiang Mai

Chiang Mai (referred to as “**Rose of North**”) is situated in Northern Thailand, 700km (a 1hr flight) north of the capital city of Bangkok. As the second largest city in Thailand, it is one of the few places in the country where it is possible to experience both historical and modern Thai culture co-existing side by side.

Chiang Mai is rich in cultural experiences as the former capital of the Lanna Kingdom .Not only the natural beauty in Chiang Mai like mountains, hills, waterfalls, forest and garden fascinate the tourists, a number of activities like shopping, elephant riding and trekking

draw international tourists to discover Chiang Mai. The city is a destination for all categories of travellers; family, honeymoon & wedding, Golfer, MICE, budget and luxury.



## Things to do

- **Temples and Historical Sites**

**Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep:** It’s the city’s most famous and visible landmark. At its height at 3,520 feet above sea level, it commands an exhilarating view of the city and the surrounding countryside.

**Wat Pra Singh:** It is the perfect example of Northern Lanna temple where the revered Pra Singh Buddha image is kept.

**Wiang Kum Kam:** Here, you will discover the glory of ancient city dating back to 8th century. Uncovered by archaeologists are the ruined remains of some 20 ancient temples and other buildings. A house-led carriage tour is very unique and enjoyable.

- **Mountains & Gardens**

**Doi Inthanon National Park:** The 1,005 sq. km. park encompasses Thailand’s highest peak, which rises to 2,565 meters above sea level. It is rich in flora and fauna.

**Doi Ang Khang:** Often referred to as “Thailand’s Little Switzerland”, Doi Ang Khang is some 163 km.





North of Chiang Mai and offers breathtaking scenery and cool climate all year round.

**Queen Sirikit Botanic Garden:** It is Thailand's oldest and foremost botanic garden where an extensive collection of Thai and foreign plants laid out according to the species and climate.

**Royal Flora Ratchaphruek Garden:** Many rare plants are kept here. It is also served as a place where there is flower festival which attracts several tourists to appreciate the beauty of flowers and garden.

- **Family Leisure**

**Chiang Mai Day Zoo:** It is a large and well-managed zoo showcasing more than 200 species of Asian and African mammals and birds.

**Chiang Mai Night Safari:** Visitor enjoys a walking trail of up to 1.2 km.

**Elephant Life Experience:** Learn how elephants live and what their talents are.

**Hot Air Balloon:** It is the best way to see dawn rise over Chiang Mai and the Ping River Valley on the most wonderful Hot Air Balloon.

- **Adventure**

Zipline Canopy Tours are an unforgettable Southeast Asian adventure with locations near Chiang Mai, Bangkok, Pattaya, Siem Reap, Kho Pha Ngan.



- **Golf and Spa**

**Golf:** Enjoy playing golf with view of beautiful mountains.

**Spa and Wellness:** Chiang Mai is famous for various kinds of spa therapies, both resort spa and day spa throughout the city. It is blessed with an awesome climate and natural beauty. The famous spas are examples like Rarinjinda, Oasis spa, Chiwa spa, etc.

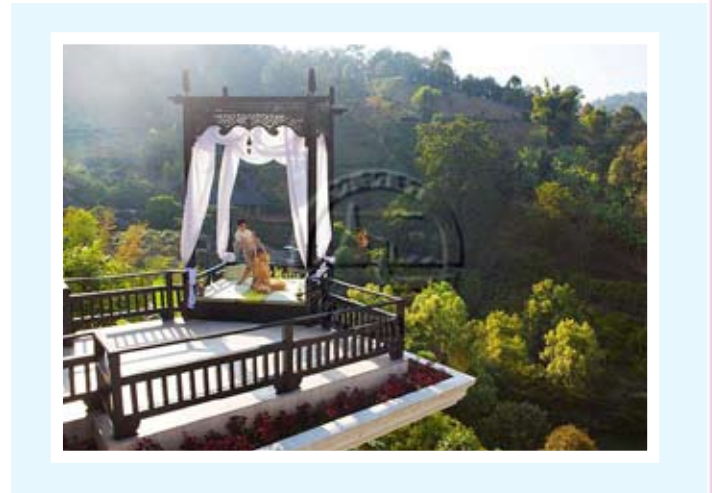
- **Shopping and Craft Centres**

**Chiang Mai Night Bazaar:** It is one of the city's main nighttime attractions. It is a shoppers' paradise, and nothing beats shopping for a bargain more than in the famous Chiang Mai Night Bazaar.

**Nimmanhemin Road:** Situated in the heart of Chiang Mai city, this is the most famous and trendy shopping street where you can find designer's product, handmade souvenirs and art galleries.

**Bo Sang Handicraft Village (San Kamphaeng):** The village showcases handcrafting of umbrellas and parasols, which is well known across the world.

**Baan Tawai:** Well known for its wood-carving handicrafts village, it delivers a variety of wood carvings and handicrafts decorative items.



- **Northern Thai Culinary**

**Khantoke Dinner at Old Chiang Mai Cultural Center:** Dine on authentic Northern Thai food, sample local delicacies and enjoy the atmosphere of Lanna Khantoke; a cultural show celebrating dancing styles.



## How to get there

**By Bus** - Both air-conditioned and non-air-conditioned buses to Chiang Mai leave Bangkok Bus Terminal on Kemphaeng Phet II Road daily, an overnight journey app 685km. Website: [www.transport.co.th](http://www.transport.co.th)

**By Train** - Visitors can view beautiful scenery through the route. Northern route is considered as most beautiful route of Thailand. Trains depart from Bangkok Railway Station to Chiang Mai daily. The trip takes about 11-12 hours for express trains. Website: [www.railway.co.th](http://www.railway.co.th)

**By Air**- 1hrs 10min flight; Thai Airways, Bangkok Airways, Thai AirAsia, and Nok Air, operate several flights daily between Bangkok and Chiang Mai.

## Chiang Rai



The quieter neighbour of Chiang Mai, Chiang Rai is a land of outstanding natural beauty, where visitors looking to avoid the hordes can visit remote hill tribes, spot exotic wildlife, and check out the golden triangle, the former center of the world's opium trade. It is famous for several royal projects.

Chiang Rai City remains a sleepy provincial town with a pleasant atmosphere. Compared to its sister town Chiang Mai, it has a more relaxed and down-to-earth feel, but is never short on historical and cultural attractions of its own. Today the city retains a strong Lanna identity, mostly through its impressive collection of temples, art, language, cuisine and music.

## Things to do

### • Temples and Museums

**Wat Rong Khun:** Known as the white temple, the magnificent place of worship is a dream of Thailand's noted artist, Chalermchai Kositpipat, who designed it and is supervising the construction of this beautiful white temple and its many statues of figures based on religious beliefs.

**Wat Phra That Doi Chom Thong:** The temple sits atop a hill above the north-west side of town, up a steep staircase of Kraisonrasit Road, offering a panoramic view of the town and Mae Kok Valley.

**Hall of Opium, Golden Triangle Park:** There are several sections to be explored and various exhibitions to be contemplated including the traceability of opium journey from 5,000 years ago; the impact of opium on society terms and the displays of photographs, etc.

**Oub Kham Museum:** The museum contains the extensive collection of valuable artefacts once belonging to affiliated with the Lanna kingdoms, encompassing Northern Thailand and some parts of Northeast Myanmar, Southwest China and Vietnam.



### • Natures

**Doi Tung:** It is the location of Rai Mae Fah Luang Art and Cultural Park, which is a centre of Lanna studies featuring beautiful Lanna architecture and valuable artefacts in order to conserve and promote Lanna heritage.

**Doi Tung Palace (PhraTamnakDoi Tung):** It was built to serve as a royal retreat for the late Princess Mother. The palace is designed in combination of Lanna and Swiss chalet styles. Besides, it is built on the purpose of honouring the royal family who ceases the opium cultivation.

**Doi Mae Salong:** Here, hills after hills are covered with the greenery of tea plantations. A touch of fog in the morning and a splash of sunlight in the evening make this area unforgettable one. It is also agricultural area of tea, vegetables and fruits.

**Phatang:** The most scenic view point of sunrise and sunset is located at the frontiers between Thailand and Laos. Besides, there are wild Himalayan Cherry blossoms during December-February of every year.



- **River and lake activities**

**Kok River:** The 130-km river is a major transportation artery from Chiang Mai province. A long-tailed boat can be hired to ferry visitors up and down the river. Visitors may stop by at an elephant camp, a hot spring, a riverside Lahu village, and the Buddha cave.

**Chiang Khong:** It is a small, peaceful district on the bank of the Mekong river opposite. Sightseeing trips by boat are available to view the scenery and lifestyles along the Mekhong River.

**The Golden Triangle:** A trip to Chiang Rai province would not be complete without seeing this spot. This famed border location where Thailand, Laos and Myanmar meet on the Mekong River. Boats can be hired to view the upstream scenery of the Golden Triangle and to travel downstream to Chiang Khong.



- **Highlights**

**Chiang Rai Flower Festivals:** This annual festival falls on the end of December to the beginning of January. It features various beautiful flowers such as Tulips, lilies, roses and orchids. Visitors will see the flower procession and flower contest.

**Chiang Rai City Tour:** Travellers who love wandering around the city, Chiang Rai offers great option to learn about the city's history and important spot of the town by tram and tricycle tour.

**Maesai:** Thailand's northern-most district, Maesai is bordered to Myanmar. Foreign visitors are allowed to cross over by presenting passport. Also, there is a local market here for shopping lovers.

**Elephant Experiences:** In particular the Four Seasons Tented Camp and Anantara Golden Triangle Elephant Camp.

**Singha Park:** It is one of the largest tea producers in Thailand. It is 6 kilometres from Chiang Rai town. There are many attractions in Singha Park such as 8km Bike Trail, Singha Park Rock Climbing Tower, Animal Attraction, Singha Park Zipline, cycling, farm tour.



- **How to get there**

**By Air:** Thai Airways and Thai AirAsia have daily flights connecting Bangkok with Chiang Rai. For more information, visit [www.thaiairways.com](http://www.thaiairways.com) or [www.airasia.com](http://www.airasia.com)

**By Rail:** Visitors must take a train to Lampang (9 hrs. from Bangkok) or Chiang Mai (11 hrs.) and then take a bus to Chiang Rai. For more details, call the State Railway of Thailand, 1690 (hotline), 0 2223 7010, or 0 2223 7020.

**By Bus:** From Bangkok, there are both air-conditioned and non-air-conditioned bus services from Bangkok's Northern Bus Terminal (Mo Chit 2) on Kamphaengphet 2 Road.



## Lampang



Lampang is rich in archaeological and architectural evidence which is influenced from civilisations of Hariphunchai, Lanna and Myanmar. Located 100 kms southeast of Chiangmai , this timeless city features unique horse drawn carriages, relaxing riverside bars and restaurants, a number of spectacular Buddhist temples, and a friendly, laid back local population.

## Things to do

- **Temples**

**Wat Si Rong Muang:** Ornated with elaborate woodcarving and plaster designs adorned with glass colored mosaics, the temple is influenced by Burmese religious architecture.

**Wat Phra Kaew Don Tao:** The historic temple was where the emerald Buddha was once enshrined.

**Wat Prathat Lampang Luang:** It is one of the finest examples of Lanna religious architecture in Northern region.



- **Culture and Museum**

**Kat Kongta:** During weekdays, visitors get to enjoy absorbing the charm of the ancient architecture, arts and culture that have been well-preserved.

**Mae Moh Mine:** A study center museum of Lignitemine.

- **Activities**

**Horse-drawn carriage:** A tour of Lampang old town on a horse-drawn carriage to old wooden houses and temples.

**Thai Elephant Conversation**

**Center:** It is one of the premier venues for visitors to learn about elephants and watch elephant demonstrations.

**Lampang Cycling Tour**

**Lanna Style Wedding:** Once in your lifetime, Thailand wedding destination in local Lanna style.

- **Special Events**

**Khantok Chang Fair :** Organized on the first Friday and Saturday of February at the Elephant Conservation Centre, the fair features an elephant show, while the elephants are treated to a feast of fruit and vegetables presented on a Tok, a traditional Lanna food tray.

**Songkran Festival :** Traditional Songkran Festival at Lampang

- **How to get there**

**By Air:** From Bangkok, around 1 hr by Thai Smiles, Bangkok Airways, Air Asia and Nok Airlines.

**By Rail:** Trains depart from Bangkok's Railway station to Lampang daily.

**By Bus:** From Bangkok, there are both air-conditioned and non-air-conditioned bus services from Bangkok's Northern Bus Terminal (Mo Chit 2) on Kamphaengphet 2 Road.

**By Car:** From Bangkok, take Highway 32 to Nakhon Sawan and then Highway 1 to Lampang via Kamphaeng Phet and Tak, a total distance of 599 kms.



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