



THE TUK TUK CLUB

THE BEST ONE DAY EXCURSION IN NORTHERN THAILAND?

The perfect day trip for anyone in Chiang Mai combining driving your very own Tuk Tuk, yes that's right, driving your very own Tuk Tuk!, seeing real rural life, walking with and bathing elephants and bamboo rafting. What more could you want from a day?

Inclusions:

- Transfers to and from Chiang Mai city – 07:45 at the meeting point (Chiang Mai Gate Hotel) or between 08:00 and 08:30 at your city centre hotel
- Your very own Tuk Tuk (up to 3 travellers per vehicle)
- Tuk Tuk driving training
- A real rural Thailand experience as you drive your Tuk Tuk through farming villages and hamlets
- A visit to a local elephant home where you'll learn about, feed and walk with the elephants and then help their mahouts bathe them in the local river. NOTE: No riding is allowed at this home
- Lunch at the elephant home
- Bamboo rafting along the local river
- Water throughout the day
- Passionate and professional tour guides looking after you every step of the way

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07:45

You can either meet the group at the Chiang Mai Gate Hotel at 07:45, or we will pick you up from your hotel between 08:00 and 08:30, (note – pick up's can only be provided for hotels inside the Chiang Mai 'middle ring road') and then transfer by minivan to our base for the day nestled in the Mae Wang valley.

09:30 (APPROX)

On arrival in Mae Wang, at around 09:30, our team will introduce you to your Tuk Tuks and begin your driving training. If you don't want to drive a Tuk Tuk, don't worry, you can enjoy the joys of nature's air-conditioning from the breeze in in the back.

NOTE: all drivers must be aged 18 or over and hold a valid manual driving license.

10:30AM (APPROX)

The Tuk Tuks are pretty easy to master and once everyone is feeling comfortable behind the wheel we'll head through tiny rural roads, snaking through farming villages and past rural Temples. One of our guides always drives the lead Tuk Tuk making sure that you don't lose your way and no-one is tempted to go too fast!



With frequent stops to explore and, importantly, make sure everyone has a good opportunity to drive, you'll get a great insight into real rural life in Northern Thailand. Something that's not as easy to come across as you'd think.

11:30AM (APPROX)

By late morning we'll arrive at the elephant home where you'll not only learn about the past, present and future of the Thai Elephant but also have the opportunity to interact with them.

Once you've been introduced to the elephants – who have been taken out of a life of trekking and can no relax and enjoy their time more naturally – you'll be able to help the mahouts feed them.

After you've fed the elephants it's time to sit down to a some hearty and filling Thai food, right next to the elephants giving you the opportunity to continue watching the elephants and seeing how they interact.

1:00PM (APPROX)

After lunch you'll walk with the mahouts and their elephants (NOTE: No elephant riding is allowed) through the local countryside to the river where you'll help the mahouts wash the elephants – a fantastic experience for you and the elephants!

3:00PM (APPROX)

Now it's time to enjoy some water activities of a different kind as you float lazily along the local river on a traditional bamboo raft. Don't worry, there are no rapids along the way, rather this is a great opportunity to see the local surroundings from a different angle and have a huge amount of fun negotiating the twists and turns of the river.

4:00PM (APPROX)

It's time to jump back into your Tuk Tuk and wind your way back down the valley enjoying your last moments behind the wheel of a real Thailand 'icon'. The road curves and sweeps gently down the valley and be sure to have your camera out to catch the surprise of the local community when they see you driving your very own Tuk Tuk!

4:45PM (APPROX)

On reaching The Tuk Tuk Club HQ you'll transfer back into a minivan and we'll take you back to your hotel, arriving around 6:00PM giving you plenty of time in the evening to reflect on the incredible day you've had and the fact that you're now a member of The Tuk Tuk Club!

6:00pm (APPROX)

Arrive back in Chiang Mai city

NOTE: Unfortunately the minimum age for travellers on this day trip is 7 years old.



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

What driving experience do I need?

- All travellers who wish to drive a Tuk Tuk **MUST** have a driving license from their own country (manual gear) and ideally an International License (particularly for those whose Driving License is not in English)
- No previous Tuk Tuk driving experience is necessary!

Can I book on my own / can I take a whole Tuk Tuk?

- We actively encourage solo travellers to book this trip – what better way to meet and make friends than sharing time behind the wheel of one of Thailand's most famous icons
- You can of course also book as a group of 3 and ensure that you have a Tuk Tuk to yourselves

Group size

- The maximum group size for each trip is 18 – 3 adventurers per Tuk Tuk.
- Each trip will consist of up to 7 Tuk Tuks - the lead vehicle driven by one of our professional guiding team

The Tuk Tuk's

- All the Tuk Tuk's are original, classic 'Bangkok style' Tuk Tuk's with the relevant registrations to allow them to be driven by the group on all the roads taken during the tour
- Whilst Tuk Tuk's are relatively simple to drive, training and experience is provided in the driver training session on arrival in Mae Wang
- All fuel is provided as part of the adventure
- No-one is forced to drive! There is space for 2 people comfortably on the back seats
- All travellers must ensure that they conform to local traffic laws and agree to abide by the driving rules of The Tuk Tuk Club – this is for everyone's safety.

What do I need to bring?

The most important thing to bring with you is a sense of **adventure!** After all you're going to be driving your very own Tuk Tuk and exploring the rural roads and lanes of Northern Thailand.

Clothing:

- We recommend lightweight cool clothes (shorts and t-shirts are perfect) for the trip. You may also like to bring an extra pair of shorts / t-shirt to change into after you've been bathing the elephants and rafting.
- Please wear trainers / sneakers for the driving / elephant experience
- We will provide towels to help you dry off after your rafting



Money

- Water is provided throughout the day but you might like to bring some money with you to cover other soft drinks / snacks you may like to buy along the way. 500THB per person should be more than adequate.