



3 Day / 2 Night Tuk Tuk and Hill Tribe Adventure in Chiang Mai

The perfect 3 Day adventure for all visitors travelling to the North of Thailand – mountains, Hill Tribes, jungle cooking, trekking, off-the-beaten track destinations and, of course, the thrill of driving your very own Tuk Tuk



Start dates – 2 per month

Inclusions:

- Your very own Tuk Tuk (up to 3 travellers per vehicle)
- Transfers to and from Chiang Mai city (meeting point and drop off point is the Chiang Mai Gate Hotel)
- Driving training
- Fantastic local guide with you every step of the way
- 1 night simple tented accommodation in a mountain hill tribe village
- 1 night accommodation in a rural lodge – twin share, en-suite, wi-fi
- Time living in a Karen Hill Tribe village
- Karen jungle cooking class
- Trekking near Doi Inthanon National park
- All meals and water throughout the adventure
- Travel stories to beat everyone else's!

ITINERARY:

Day 1: TRAINING, TEMPLES AND HILL TRIBE VILLAGES

We'll pick you up at **8:00am** from the CHIANG MAI GATE HOTEL in Chiang Mai city and transfer you to our training base in the lovely Mae Wang valley around 1 hour from the city.

On arrival at our 'base camp' in Mae Wang at around 09:00 we'll introduce you immediately to your Tuk Tuk and crack on with the drive training. This all takes place 'off road' and is a thorough session giving all participants the time to get used to these wonderful vehicles and master all the controls.

We then head off down winding rural lanes passing through small farming communities (think classic SE Asia photo ops) and up to a remote meditation Temple.



After a simple but hearty local Thai lunch we then we along the back roads up into the mountains towards our overnight destination of a remote Karen Hill Tribe village. We're camping here tonight in the fields (don't worry – there are showers and toilets available) to get a real Hill Tribe experience.

In the evening we'll learn how to cook jungle style with an open fire and lessons from our Karen hosts before spending the night under the stars – a real Thai adventure!



Inclusions:

- Transfer from Chiang Mai Gate Hotel to our 'base camp'
- Full Tuk Tuk orientation and training
- Lunch and Dinner (jungle cooking class included!)
- Overnight camping in a remote Karen Hill Tribe village

Day 2: MOUNTAINS AND MORE HILL TRIBE VILLAGES

After breakfast we'll explore the local area and forest around the village before getting back into the Tuk Tuks and heading further into the foothills of Doi Inthanon, Thailand's highest mountain. With lots of stops to explore and relax this is a fantastic journey through spectacular mountain scenery and a real insight into this part of the world.

We'll stop for a late lunch at a small roadside restaurant – the real deal in terms of local Thai country fare – and then head on to Ban Mae Khlang Luang, our overnight base.

Our overnight accommodation is in another Karen village surrounded by mountains and rice terraces and is the perfect setting for the second night of the adventure. Once we've checked in we'll explore the village and see how the community live – and get to sample some of the best, freshest coffee around!

In the evening we'll have a traditional Thai style BBQ in the rice fields, great fun and a real Thailand tradition.



Inclusions:

- Tuk Tuks and all related costs
- Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner
- Twin share accommodation in the hill tribe village – this is relatively simple accommodation but is still en-suite with hot water and wi-fi. The rooms are fan-cooled only but air-conditioning is not needed this high in the mountains

Day 3: TREKKING, WATERFALLS AND BACK TO CHIANG MAI CITY

We head off this morning to explore the forests around the village in the foothills of Doi Inthanon. The trek is *'only'* around 4-5 KM but takes us through fantastic forests and eventually to a series of stunning waterfalls. We'll have lunch at the foot of the largest waterfall and there's plenty of time to swim in the pool at the foot of the falls.

After lunch we trek downhill out of the forest and back to the hill-tribe village.

It's then time to say goodbye to your trusty Tuk Tuk and transfer back to Chiang Mai city by private minivan. We'll arrive back at Chiang Mai Gate Hotel around 4:30pm



Inclusions:

- Breakfast and Lunch
- Trekking through the forest
- Transfer back to Chiang Mai City by private minivan



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

By its very nature this trip is an 'adventure' – when it's hot....it's hot, when it's wet....it's wet and when it's cold....it's cold (and it does get cold in the mountains between November and February). And as with any trip of this nature there is some inherent risk which must be accepted by all travellers – without a small amount of risk there is no adventure! However, all routes and roads have been extensively researched (in Tuk Tuks of course), there is plenty of training and practice of driving before we hit the windy roads heading up into the mountains and the guides will always set a sensible pace for the conditions for each different day.

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 an International Driving Permit (**IDP**)
- No previous Tuk Tuk driving experience is necessary!

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

- This experience is perfect for solo travellers, couples or groups of friends (or even adventurous families).
- Each Tuk Tuk can seat a maximum of 3 adults

Group size

- The minimum group size for this adventure is 2 people, the maximum is 9

The Tuk Tuks

- All the Tuk Tuks are original, classic 'Bangkok style' Tuk Tuks with the relevant registrations to allow them to be driven by the group on all the roads taken during the tour
- Whilst Tuk Tuks are relatively simple to drive, training and experience is provided in the driver training session
- 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
- Simple mechanical training will be given on Days 1 and 2 and how to care for your Tuk Tuk sessions will take place. In addition, our team are on hand to assist in the event of any mechanical issues.
- 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.

Accommodation

The accommodation on this trip is intentionally adventurous to really allow you to experience the Hill Tribes and their way of life. Night 1 is in tents (showers and 'western style' toilet facilities are available)



Night 2 is in a simple rural lodge in a small village. Wooden cabins with twin / double beds, en-suite bathroom and wi-fi all with fantastic terraces overlooking the rice fields and forest.



What do I need to bring? How much will I spend?

The most important thing to pack is a sense of **adventure** and a sense of **humour**!

Clothing:

- Obviously this is up to you but we recommend trainers (or similar) for driving days (not flip flops / sandals) and comfortable shorts / t-shirts / long sleeved t-shirt for driving days (that you don't mind getting dirty and grimy!)
- NOTE – the mountains can be quite chilly in the winter (November through February) and warm clothes for the evening (jeans / jumper / jacket) are highly recommended!
- The trek doesn't require walking boots although its paths can be muddy and slippery in the rainy season (approximately July through to late October)
- Sunglasses

Spending money



- All food and water is included throughout the trip as are all activities. All you need to budget for are any soft – drinks and alcoholic drinks you might want. £50 is more than enough even for the thirstiest adventurer!