SIGNATURE JOURNEY

Discover Corps

Unforgettable Vacations With Purpose

FAMILY TRAVEL ASSOCIATION MEMBER

THAILAND: THE ELEPHANT EXPERIENCE

Help Care for Rescued and Vulnerable Elephants in the Valleys of Northern Thailand

MOMENTS THAT MATTER:

- Explore the rich culture of the northern Thai city of Chiang Mai
- Volunteer with rescued elephants and stay at a sanctuary
- Live the life of a mahout as you walk, care for and feed the elephants
- Explore Wat Phra That Doi Sutep, a magnificent temple dating back to the 1300s
- Visit a fascinating organization making eco-conscious art from elephant dung

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TRIP AT A GLANCE

CHIANG MAI

Day 1 - Arrive in Chiang Mai and meet your Discover Corps group.

Day 2 - Explore Chiang Mai on a walking tour and experience an interactive Thai cooking class.

Day 3 - Venture to Doi Inthanon National Park home to Thailand's tallest mountain.

Day 4 - Visit the Elephant Parade House and a fascinating organization making eco-conscious art from elephant dung.

Day 5 - Visit the countryside outside Chiang Mai and the Buddhist temple Wat Doi Suthep. Meet a nearby hilltribe community.

MAE TANG

Day 6 - Travel to the Elephant Sanctuary to meet the elephants and mahouts.

Day 7 - Help care for the elephants as you walk, feed, and look after them.

Day 8 - Continue your interactions with the elephants at the sanctuary.

CHIANG MAI

Day 9 - Return from the Elephant Sanctuary. Visit a women's empowerment project and a local market.

Day 10 - Transfer to the airport to return home or continue your travel on an optional extension.

OPTIONAL EXTENSIONS:

- **Phuket & Koh Phi Phi**
- **Bangkok**
- **Angkor Wat**

SIGNATURE JOURNEY

THAILAND: THE ELEPHANT EXPERIENCE

OUR PURPOSE

Help care for elephants at an elephant sanctuary, living the life of a mahout and helping to protect Thailand's vulnerable population of these magnificent creatures. Explore the ancient temples and buzzing markets of Chiang Mai, and the unspoiled beauty of the northern Thai countryside.

Elephants are one of the most iconic symbols of Thai wildlife, and play an important role in their culture and folklore. However, the population is facing threats from poaching, habitat loss, and the unethical use of elephants in trade and tourism. At Changland Elephant Sanctuary, rescued elephants are cared for by expert mahouts, who you'll work alongside and learn from. You'll immerse yourself in the life of a mahout, rising early to walk with the elephants, collecting grass for their meals, and feeding them. Along the way, you'll learn about these beautiful, intelligent creatures, and gain a deeper respect and appreciation for their relationship with humans.

In addition to our interactions at the elephant sanctuary, we'll delve into the ancient history and culture of Chiang Mai, exploring beautiful monasteries and savoring Thai cuisine at food markets. We'll also venture into the beautiful countryside of Northern Thailand, experiencing the jungle in an unforgettable way as we visit Doi Inthanon National Park.

HIGHLIGHTS

CHIANG MAI

The largest city in northern Thailand, Chiang Mai is steeped in history and culture. You'll explore the city's historic old town on a walking tour, taking in historic Buddhist temples and bustling street markets. The immaculate Wat Phra Singh is Chiang Mai's most sacred temple, while Talat Pratu is the best place to come to savor Thailand's famous street food.

WAT PHRA THAT DOI SUTHEP

Overlooking Chiang Mai from its position high in the green hills outside the city is Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, a magnificent Buddhist temple and monastery dating back to the 1300s – although judging by its gleaming golden stupas, it could have been built yesterday. Legend has it that the site for the temple was chosen when a white elephant carried a relic here, believed to be one of the Buddha's shoulder bones.

ELEPHANT PARADE HOUSE

Founded in 2006, Elephant Parade is an internationally renowned organization that creates uniquely decorated elephant statues aimed at promoting elephant conservation. These life-sized statues are designed by artists and celebrities which then tour major cities across the globe. You'll have the unique opportunity to meet the team and design your own mini baby elephant statue - a special keepsake to remind you of your time with these amazing creatures.

CHANGLAND ELEPHANT SANCTUARY

The bulk of your elephant adventures will take place at the Changland Elephant Sanctuary, where you'll spend several days working with mahouts (elephant handlers) to care for Thailand's elephant population. Roll up your sleeves and dive into life with the elephants, taking them for their morning walks, collecting grass to prepare their meals, and feeding them.

ITINERARY

DAY 1: Arrive and Meet Your Discover Corps Group

Arriving in Thailand, you'll be met at the airport by your Discover Corps guide and taken to the hotel, where you'll meet our group for the trip. We'll enjoy a local dinner at the Sunday Night Market and outline the plans for the next ten days as we get to know each other. (D)

DAY 2: Take a Walking Tour of Chiang Mai and Experience an Interactive Thai Cooking Class

This morning we'll take a walking city tour of Chiang Mai, visiting local temples, trying new food at an outdoor market and simply taking in the sights and sounds of this northern Thai city. After lunch, we'll exercise our creative juices with an interactive Thai cooking class with a chef, learning how to make the most important Thai dishes. (B,L,D)

DAY 3: Visit Majestic Doi Inthanon National Park

Enjoy a relaxing morning before setting out to Doi Inthanon National Park. Known as "the roof of Thailand", this sprawling park is home to the highest peak in the country, remote villages and cascading waterfalls. Return to Chiang Mai in the evening for dinner together. (B,L,D)

DAY 4: Visit the Elephant Parade House and Experience Art Inspired by Elephants

Start the day with a visit to an organization reusing elephant poo to make eco-conscious art and paper products. It sounds funny but this organization is on a mission to recycle waste and raise awareness about elephant welfare. Take a crack at making your own "poo paper" products and see these artisans in action.

After lunch, visit the Elephant Parade House, which is creating a global movement through painted baby elephant statues. The life-size statues are exhibited in international cities and raise awareness about elephant conservation. Travelers will also have the opportunity to paint their own "mini" baby elephant! (B,L,D)

DAY 5: Head into the Countryside and Visit Wat Phra That Doi Suthep

Heading into the green hills around Chiang Mai we'll visit Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, an ornate Buddhist temple which offers breathtaking views. Next we'll explore the lush botanical gardens of Doi Pui and visit a local market, getting a sense of the traditions of the Hmong, the ethnic hill tribe community that inhabits the area. (B,L,D)

DAY 6: Live the Life of a Mahout at the Elephant Sanctuary

Over the next two days, we'll experience the life of a mahout, rising early to feed the elephants, compost their poop, and collect grass for their food. Set in its own valley about 1.5 hours from the city, drive through stunning mountain landscapes to reach Changland Elephant Sanctuary, a place where elephants often roam free and forage in the nearby forests. Throughout the day, spend your time walking with the elephants through the mountains and learning from their caretakers. (B,L,D)

DAY 7: Continue to Care for the Elephants

Start your day with an early morning walk with the elephants, accompanying these gentle giants through the lush valley they call home. You will also experience the life of a mahout - harvest food for the elephants, learn about sustainable agriculture, compost with elephant poop, and make herbal medicine balls to feed to the elephants that need it. (B,L,D)

DAY 8: Spend a Final Day Caring for the Elephants

Today sees our final day caring for the elephants. After morning walking, we'll continue to collect grass for food and feed the elephants, soaking in our last moments with these magnificent creatures. (B,L,D)

DAY 9: Visit the Wildflower Home & Explore a Traditional Market

Today, head back to Chiang Mai to make a special visit to the Wildflower Home, a women's empowerment project. This will be an insightful opportunity to learn ways they are protecting women & the local communities. After lunch, experience a guided local market visit, a must for any visit to Southeast Asia! In the evening, enjoy a candlelit river cruise and relaxing farewell dinner on board. (B,L,D)

DAY 10: Return Home

Today sees the end of your Thai adventure, and we'll return you to the airport for your flight home. If you're not ready to depart just yet, continue on to our Koh Phi Phi, Angkor Wat or Bangkok Extension, discussed on the next page.(B)

STANDARD / RUSTIC LODGING

Over the course of the journey across Northern Thailand, stay in two unique locations. The first five nights will be spent in a delightful boutique hotel in Chiang Mai. Relax by the hotel's tropical pool or take the short walk into town to explore the markets and small shops that line the streets. Head into the hills surrounding Chiang Mai to the elephant sanctuary for the next three nights. Spend the evenings in a basic lodge at the sanctuary and enjoy the fresh mountain air of the valley floor. Descend back into the city for the last night at the same villas we stayed at the beginning of the journey.

Please note that the exact properties are subject to change.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: PHUKET & KOH PHI PHI

DAY 10: Evening Tour of Phuket and Summit of Rang Hill

Arrive by plane in the beach side city of Phuket and enjoy a relaxing free day to explore nearby markets, local cuisine, or a drink by the pool. In the evening, experience a unique evening tour of the city's historic quarters. Marvel at the mix of old and new buildings, learn about the history of the people, and drive up to the summit of Rang Hill for sweeping views of Phuket by night. Wind down with a traditional Thai dinner amidst terraced gardens. (D)

DAY 11: Travel by Speed Boat to Koh Phi Phi Island

Watch the lush mountainside disappear as you boat 1.5 hours to the island of Koh Phi Phi (the journey is as great as the destination!). Experience a free night on the island where you'll find plenty of restaurants, beautiful lookout points, and local performances. (B)

DAY 12: Explore Koh Phi Phi Island

Today is a free day to enjoy the beautiful Koh Phi Phi. Your 4.5 star resort offers plenty of options to relax by the pool or sign up for an excursion such as kayaking, snorkeling, or boating to other nearby islands. The choice is up to you! (B)

Day 13: Return Home

Today sees the end of your Thailand adventure, and we'll say our goodbyes before your speedboat back to Phuket for your flight home. (B)

EXTENSION LODGING

In Phuket, relax by one of the two outdoor swimming pools (poolside bars included!), enjoy complimentary wifi, a 24-hour fitness center, and let your kids loose at the children's pool in a 4.5 star hotel.

In Koh Phi Phi, your 4.5-star resort will have you falling asleep to the sounds of the ocean in spacious, secluded bungalows. Just steps to the crystal Andaman Sea, enjoy a half-mile stretch of private white sand beaches.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: BANGKOK

DAY 10: Sail Up the Chao Phraya River to Wat Arun and Wat Pho

After an afternoon relaxing, shopping, or swimming in the rooftop pool of your hotel, start your first evening with a stunning trip up the Chao Phraya River before enjoying dinner overlooking the glistening Wat Arun temple. After sunset, stroll the peaceful temple grounds of Wat Pho before hopping in a tuk tuk through the city's historic quarter. Visit Pak Klong Talad, one of the country's largest fresh markets, before settling in for the evening. (D)

DAY 11: Visit a Family-Run Workshop and the Famous Grand Palace

Day two introduces you to a more local side of Bangkok with a ride on the city's Skytrain – mimicking the commute of many during rush hour. Hop on a public boat and enjoy views of the city skyline as you pass by houses balanced on stilts along the rivers edge. Stop at the iconic Grand Palace along the way, and visit a family-run workshop that produce monks' alms bowls and begin to better understand life in the region. Rarely used by tourists, you'll end your night gliding through the city's canals before a traditional Thai meal on the riverfront. (B,L,D)

DAY 12: Experience a Traditional Floating Market

Stop at a local railway station where a bustling country market has sprouted up along the tracks. As a train pulls into the station, witness the vendors quickly clearing their stalls off the railway. Then, after the train departs, watch them set up shop and resume business as usual.

From here, continue to the famous Damnoen Saduak Floating Market and purchase your souvenirs as you float through the stalls on the water. Leave the hustle and bustle for a quiet paddle boat ride nearby before heading back to your hotel for airport transfer back home. (B)

EXTENSION LODGING

We've hand chosen one of Central Bangkok's finest 4-star boutique hotels for your stay in the city. This modern hotel is located in the heart of all the action and puts you at the front door of one of Asia's greatest city. The salt-water rooftop pool and fitness center offer stunning views of Bangkok, making it easy to relax after your long trip and just before your Bangkok adventure begins.

OPTIONAL EXTENSION: ANGKOR WAT

DAY 10: Arrive in Siem Reap

Arrive later in the afternoon by flight to Siem Reap. Meet your new guide and settle into your accommodations. Tonight, enjoy a traditional Cambodian dinner before a relaxing evening as we prepare for the adventures ahead. (D)

DAY 11: Catch the Sunrise over Angkor Wat and Visit Other Nearby Temples

Start early to experience the sunrise over Cambodia's five iconic towers, including Angkor Wat. On this full day of exploring, start by visiting Bayon, the temple at the center of Angkor Thom city. Because we'll get there early, you will miss the crows and be able to start by exploring the upper platform where the temple's iconic face-towers are located. You will then continue to Ta Prohm, the temple made famous by Angelina Jolie in Tomb Raider, and gaze at the gorgeous trees and vines growing atop the temple wall.

The final stop of the day is the incredible Angkor Wat. As you journey through this sprawling temple, it is easy to see why it has become the symbol of Cambodia. A 12th century structure that took 30 years to build, the temple is full of carvings and beauty that you won't soon forget. (B,L)

DAYS 12 & 13: Travel to Banteay Srei, Experience a Blessing Ceremony, and Visit a Path-breaking Organization

Start your morning with a visit to the "pretty" temple of Banteay Srei, also known as the Citadel of the Women. This remains the best preserved temple in Cambodia and is the only temple build of pink sandstone. We then head to a local pagoda where a monk will perform a private blessing ceremony before an opportunity to mingle with local communities to learn more about their everyday life. After lunch, visit APOPO, a locally-run organization that is working to remove landmines buried in the countryside. On your final night, Enjoy an evening of culture at Phare Cambodian Circus Show, setup by refugees of the Khmer Rouge era as a way to promote the arts and traditional Khmer culture. The following day, we'll transfer to the airport for our flight home. (Day 11: B,D / Day 12: B)

EXTENSION LODGING

Base yourself in the heart of the Cultural Quarter at Treeline Urban Resort, a gorgeous 4-star hotel complete with a spa, restaurant, pool, fitness center, air conditioning, and more to make you feel comfortable and right at home. A truly luxurious stay to end your Southeast Asia adventure.

THAILAND: THE ELEPHANT EXPERIENCE

SIGNATURE JOURNEY

10 DAYS / 9 NIGHTS

PRICING

PWC EMPLOYEE: $3,695
PLUS ONE (17 & Older): $2,956
CHILD (16 & Younger): $1,848

ANGKOR WAT EXTENSION	ADULT: $1,495	CHILD: $1,395
BANGKOK EXTENSION	ADULT: $1,295	CHILD: $1,195
PHUKET & KOH PHI PHI EXTENSION	ADULT: $1,495	CHILD: $1,395

The above prices reflect the price of double occupancy. Single Room Supplement is $695, $550 for Phuket, $250 for Bangkok $295 for Angkor Wat. If you are a solo traveler and would like us to match you with a roommate of the same gender, please book as double occupancy. Child prices apply to those 16 years younger at the time of travel sharing a room with an adult.

SEE PwC PORTAL FOR CURRENT LIST OF DEPARTURE DATES

RECOMMENDED FOR

- Adults & children ages 8+
- Travelers who are comfortable with MODERATE physical activity

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 9 breakfasts, 8 lunches & 9 dinners
- 3 nights lodging at the elephant sanctuary
- Transportation in private vehicles
- An immersive itinerary including behind-the-scenes visits to local organizations
- Discover Corps guide that is there to support, guide, and inform you throughout the trip
- All scheduled activities and excursions
- $50,000 emergency medical evacuation insurance
- Trip literature and pre-departure support from Discover Corps
- 24-hour Discover Corps emergency hotline while traveling

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED

- Tips for the Discover Corps Guide and Driver
- International airfare
- Alcoholic beverages
- Extensions: flight supplements (See "Pricing" section)

RESERVE YOUR TRIP TODAY

Trips are limited to 16 travelers and do fill. Reserving a trip with Discover Corps is easy. Simply visit the PwC Portal and fill out the online registration form utilizing your voucher at checkout. If you have any questions or would like to speak to a Travel Specialist, call/text us at (619)-878-3686 or e-mail us at pwc@discovercorps.com

CUSTOM / PRIVATE GROUPS

Have a group of 6 or more? We can operate a trip for your group. We'll make it easy and turnkey for your group to have an incredible experience.

RETURNING ALUMNI?

We like to reward those who travel with us again and again. Enjoy a $250 discount off our trip if you are a returning Discover Corps traveler.

PAYMENT PLANS

Discover Corps offers monthly payment plan options for all of our trips. Contact us anytime, before or after booking, to sign up for a monthly payment plan or with any questions:

Although unlikely, prices, dates, and accommodations subject to change with a 60 day notice from Discover Corps.

Our Mission

Discover Corps' mission is to inspire travelers to become advocates for our planet's natural wonders, cultural treasures, and local communities through immersive and sustainable travel experiences.

Certified B Corporation

OUR DESTINATIONS

- ALASKA
- AUSTRALIA
- BALI
- BAJA
- COSTA RICA
- GREECE
- GUATEMALA
- KENYA
- MOROCCO
- OAXACA
- PERU
- SOUTH AFRICA
- TANZANIA
- THAILAND
- VIETNAM

FAMILY FRIENDLY ~ SMALL GROUPS ~ POSITIVE LOCAL IMPACT ~ DISTINCTIVE LODGING ~ HANDPICKED GUIDES

Discover Corps

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