

Thailand FAQ version .81 by Humphrey Cheung

<http://www.localthaifoodmeetup.com/>

How long of a vacation should I take?

One week is too short - it takes a few days to adjust to jet lag, you'll feel very rushed as you run around to tourist spots

Two weeks is much better - You can pretty much explore most of Bangkok without feeling rushed

One month is ideal if you want to travel to different parts of Thailand, plus throw in Singapore

More than one month - pick up a hobby or job to keep your sanity

A big chunk of your travel costs will be your plane ticket, so it makes sense to stay longer. If you think you can't do this, then you really need to read the Four Hour Work Week by Timothy Ferriss

Four Hour Workweek book - <http://www.fourhourworkweek.com/>

Getting to Thailand

The major airlines that go to Thailand (from LAX) are

- Thai Airways - direct and long flight
- EVA Air - change planes in Taipei, Evergreen Deluxe/Elite class gives you business class seats with economy food (approx \$300 - \$400 more than econ)
- China Air - change planes in Taipei, generally the cheapest fares, rough landings as the pilots are ex. Taiwanese fighter pilots
- Singapore Air - change planes in Singapore. Expensive, but great planes and service.
- Korean Air - change planes in Seoul
- Asiana Airlines - change planes in Seoul

Total flight time is approximately 17 hours

Airline Links

- Thai Airways - <http://www.thaiairways.com/>
- EVA - <http://www.evaair.com/html/b2c/english/>
- EVA Elite/Evergreen Deluxe - http://www.evaair.com/html/b2c/english/tips/Cabin_comfort/Cabin_comfort/Evergreen_deluxe_class.htm
- Singapore Air - www.singaporeair.com

Surviving the plane ride

Let's be real here... when you are stuck in a plane for 17 hours, life is gonna suck no matter what you do. However, there are some things that can lessen the pain.

- Get up and walk around every one to two hours
- Drink lots of water - after you pass security, buy the biggest bottle of water you can find
- Cabin air has low humidity so moisturize and use lip balm
- Take a baby aspirin before boarding the plane - this thins the blood so you don't get a leg clot

Surviving Long Plane rides reading -

<http://www.japanintercultural.com/en/blogs/default.aspx?blogid=26>

Useful things to bring for the plane ride

- Toothbrush and small bit of toothpaste - your mouth is gonna feel yucky after eating airline food
- Book or better yet a Kindle
- iPod with noise canceling headphones
- Earplugs
- Pen to fill out the immigration/customs forms
- Laptop - be careful in economy class as people sitting in front of you like to lean back their seats without looking

You lucky bastard!

Free upgrades

Three empty seats in a row (after 9/11)

Immigration

You must have at least six months left on your passport to enter Thailand. US citizens get an automatic and free 30-day visa upon arriving at the airport immigration counter. You can get 60-day, one-year and retirement visas at the Thai consulate in Hollywood. The consulate also has tourist information.

60-day tourist visas are currently free as the Thai government is encouraging tourism.

Thai Consulate Hollywood

611 North Larchmont Blvd. 2nd Floor

Los Angeles, CA 90004-1321

Monday through Friday 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM

www.thaiconsulatela.org

For extensive immigration information visit - www.thaivisa.com

Immigration counter at the airport

At the immigration counter in Thailand, the officer will sometimes ask you for your outbound ticket. This can be a airline ticket, e-ticket print out, train ticket, etc.

Immigration counter etiquette

1. If you're brave, wai!
2. Make sure all your forms are completed
3. Use both hands to hand the passport over.
4. Hand the passport so that the officer just has to open the cover with as little effort as possible

Customs - Just go through the NOTHING TO DECLARE LINE. You may be asked to put your luggage through an x-ray machine. They are checking for drugs, guns, liquor and cigarettes.

Visa Extensions in country

If you really like Thailand, you can extend your stay by 30 days in country by going to the Office of Immigration Bureau located on Soi Suan Plu, off South Sathorn Road, Bangkok 10120 , Tel (662) 287-3101-10. Be prepared to stand in line a few hours and this costs 1900 baht. Please note that you can only do this once per stay. If you need to extend it again, you have to exit and come back.

Tip! - If you are getting your passport or VISA pictures, pay a little bit extra to get 10 pictures developed. Keep these pictures in a ziplock bag and carry them to Thailand. If you feel the need to visit China, Vietnam, etc then you will have pictures available for their VISA applications

Transportation - Getting out of the airport

At the Airport - After exchanging some money, make a beeline out of the airport building. IGNORE ANYONE WITH A SIGN, UNIFORM OR SEMI-OFFICIAL PICTURE ID. After exiting the building, you'll see the taxi stand. Just tell the ladies where you want to go (you did print out the directions to your hotel right?) and you will be assigned a taxi driver.

Links

- Public Taxi Booth info - <http://travelhappy.info/bangkok/bangkok-airport-taxi-where-to-find-them-and-how-to-avoid-the-touts/>
- YouTube taxi dangers - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n52LVhREikg&feature=player_embedded
- Flyertalk Catching Taxi at the Airport mega thread- <http://www.flyertalk.com/forum/thailand/704912-catching-cab-bangkok-airport-discussion-thread.html>

Transportation around Bangkok

Skytrain and Subway - Bangkok has a very good mass transit system with both an elevated train and subway. The systems are independently operated, however there are two "common" stations.

The cabins can get quite cold and you'll get condensation on your eyeglasses and camera lenses as you exit the trains.

Tip #1 - Don't bother trying to figure out how much the fare will be to the next station. I've seen tourists spend 5 minutes deciding whether the fare is 25 cents or 50 cents - what a waste! Just walk up to the service window with a few hundred baht and buy a "stored value card" which is basically a pre-paid card. Trip fares will be deducted against the balance of this card.

City and transportation map links

- Skytrain map - http://www.bts.co.th/en/Image%20Event/Route_BTS.html
- MRT Map - <http://www.bangkokmetro.co.th/web/imgcontent/Image/091119-Routemap-in.jpg>
- <http://mappery.com/search.php?nearestto=25014> - Awesome maps
- Thailand railway fare info - <http://www.railway.co.th/English/FareRate.asp> - Railway station is Hua Lompong
- Thailand train info - <http://www.thailandbytrain.com/>

Domestic Airlines

Thailand has budget airlines (think the Thai version of Southwest) like Air Asia that can take you to Singapore, Chang Mai, Vietnam, etc. The fares are extremely low - example RT fare from Bangkok to Singapore recently was \$120.

Air Asia - www.airasia.com

Where to Stay

You have a wide variety of accommodations from backpacker hostels costing from 200 baht a night (about \$7) to the Oriental Hotel which is the consistently rated the best hotel in the world and costs megabucks.

It is perfectly acceptable to be a "backpacker" tourist. Backpackers try to save money by sleeping in cheap hotels and/or hostel and will often vacation for weeks or months at a time. Europeans and Australians are the most common backpackers. "Flashpackers" are rich backpackers who like to stay in upmarket hostels and hotels.

On your first trip, you may want to stay near downtown Bangkok or lower Sukhumvit. This way you will minimize travel times to the major tourist destinations.

TripAdvisor Summary Page - <http://www.tripadvisor.com/Hotels-q293916-c2-Bangkok-Hotels.html>

Bangkok Hostels and Hotels

Downtown

- www.urbanh.com - more of a hotel than hostel - 1080/night
- www.takeanaphotel.com - Take A Nap hostel - Single rooms 1000/night (include breakfast), dorms 350
- www.lubd.com/html - 4 Decho road, Silom area, dorm 550/night
- www.cozybangkok.com - 41/146-148SOI. SUNTHONPIMOL , RAMA 4 RD, aircon dorm 350/night
- www.hqhostel.com - Silom Soi 3 (Sala Daeng Station), 4 bd dorm - 730 6 bd - 630 dorm 8 bd dorm 530
- www.baandinso.com - too hard to get rates
- www.theoldcharm.blogspot.com - The Old Charm Guesthouse

Sukhumvit

- majesticsuites.com - Majestic Suites on Sukhumvit between Soi 3 and 4, Single Studio 1350/night, Superior 1450/night, includes breakfast. Studio is a bit small.
- www.soi1guesthouse.com - Soi 1 Guesthouse - Email for prices
- www.suk11.com - Hostel and hotel - single room 500/night - reviews on tripadvisor are a bit iffy
- www.baansukhumvit.com - Hotel - Baan Sukhumvit Soi18 and Soi 20
- www.hisukhumvit.com - Sukhumvit Soi 38 near Thong Lo BTS station- mix dorm 330/night, single rooms at 650/night
- www.the-wanderlust.com - Wanderlust Hotel - 12 bed dorms - email for prices
- www.refillnow.co.th - Sukhumvit Soi 71, pretty far from the skytrain

Upmarket Places

Dynasty Grande - Excellent value at 1800-2100 baht. Rooms and beds are comparable to the Westin/Sheraton. Free wifi in the lobby, wired Ethernet in the rooms

Majestic Grande - Wonderful place... ditto as above

JW Marriott - Maybe the greatest breakfast buffet in Asia, but it's around 2000 baht!

Westin Grande - NICE!!! Employees will rush to open doors and push elevator buttons for you. When you first arrive, the front doors will open and six people will bow to you (three on each side). I was lucky and "won" a few nights - at \$90/night - on a hotel room bidding site.

Long Term stays

Many hotels will cut you a deal if you stay for several days. For month long stays, the rates will go down even further. If you plan to stay for several months, an apartment makes more sense.

Bangkok Apartments

- <http://www.ajarn.com/help-and-guides/articles/the-ajarn.com-guide-to-renting-an-apartment/>
- <http://sathornsaintview.com/> - Grand Exec 13000 baht/mo, 750baht/mo internet, next to Surasak BTS
- <http://www.buplace.com/> - nice :) 14500/month add 6000 for serviced
- www.21livingplace.com - 14000/month
- River Court River Place - 8/1 Sukhumvit soi 41, 90% Japanese
- Citiresort - www.citiresort.com, Japanese oriented 23k/month, includes daily maid service
- <http://prakard.com/>
- thejimsplace.com - 8500/month, recommended by several English teachers

Bangkok Apartment Search pages

- www.mrroomfinder.com
- www.thaiapartment.com
- www.easyhomes.tv
- www.soidb.com
- <http://www.betterthangucci.com/>
- <http://www.thaivisa.com/forum/Thailand-Accommodation-Finding-Foru-f73.html>
- Craigslist has a Bangkok page, but be very careful
- In Bangkok, Bangkok Trader magazine

Pattaya Hotels Apartments

Hotels in Pattaya are generally cheaper than in Bangkok. Most hotels also have a very cheap monthly rate. Some as low as 9000 baht!

- www.secretspattaya.com/hotel - Secrets - Right on Walking Street, managed by British and Americans
- pattayabayresort.com- Pattaya Bay Resort - managed by an American monthly rates 15000 baht/month during low season
- Dancewatchers condo rentals - www.dancewatchers.com

Health - Heat physiology 101

As a Southern Californian, your body is probably not used to intense heat and humidity. Your body can take the Thailand heat without problems, but your brain is a different story. As your body heats up, hot blood flows up to your brain and if the brain gets hot enough it will send a panic signal to the rest of your body. This panic signal can make you feel miserable or nauseous. It can also make you collapse or worse.

Heat acclimation - <http://www.desertusa.com/roadtripblog/?p=246>

There are four ways of withstanding the heat

- Being in good shape - If you exercise often and aren't overweight, then you can take a bit more punishment than a sedentary person (sorry cubicle guys and gals)
- Acclimation - After several days, your body will get used to the heat.
- Staying hydrated - Drink lots of water! Bottled water is insanely cheap in Thailand. 50 cents for a huge container of water at 7-11.
- Wearing the correct clothes - See below

Quick ways of getting cool

- Run cool water over your wrists for a minute
- 7-11 bottled water - put on the back of your neck
- Head to the Mall!

Clothing and Gear

When walking around Thailand, I look like I just stepped out of an REI catalog. Thailand is hot, humid and sunny ... so you want to dress accordingly. Wear loose fitting cloths that wick moisture away from your body. Hats and sun glasses are also a necessity.

One essential piece of clothing is a cooling neck wrap. These are basically rolled-up bandannas with water-absorbing crystals. You soak the wrap in water and the crystals plump up in a few minutes. Then stick the thing in a fridge (NOT THE FREEZER) to get it extra cold. When you're ready to go out, tie the wrap around your neck so the crystals are on the back and sides of the neck.

The wrap acts as a miniature radiator that cools in two ways. First, the cold wrap is directly conducting heat away. Second, the phase change of evaporating water takes additional heat away from the wrap.

Clothing links

- Travel gear - <http://www.rei.com/>
- Moisture wicking under clothes - <http://www.underarmour.com/>
- Hot weather clothing - <http://www.exofficio.com/>
- Neck wraps - <http://sparklingearth.com/products.asp?category=100034>

Shopping

From silk scarves to custom tailored suits, Thailand is a shopping mecca.

Open Air Markets - negotiations are a MUST! Best tactic is to feign disinterest and just walk away.

- Pratunam - <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pratunam>
- Chatachuk Weekend Market - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chatuchak_Weekend_Market
- Patpong Night Market - watch your wallet, it's real crowded and there a lot of pickpockets
- Sidewalks

Megamalls - California malls suck compared to the ones in Thailand

- MBK - <http://www.mbk-center.co.th/th/>
- Siam Paragon - <http://www.siamparagon.co.th/>
- Central World - <http://www.centralworld.co.th>
- Emporium - Hi So! - <http://www.emporiumthailand.com/>
- Siam Square - www.siam-square.com - not really a mall, but an area of shops/restaurants south of Siam Paragon

Dangers

Touts - in progress

Any Thai person that walks up to you to start a conversation is up to no good.

Dishonest tailor shops will employ touts that promise fantastic deals for cheaply made suits. Don't shake hands with these people and don't waste your time going into their shops.

Taxi Drivers will often recommend a particular shop or venue because they receive a commission if you visit.

Thieves

Pickpocket

Eating in Thailand - Coming soon

- <http://bangkokstreetvendor.blogspot.com/>

Communications

Cell Phone - There are three mobile phone companies in Thailand DTAC (under the HAPPY brand), AIS and True.

DTAC has an awesome translation service that provides English/Thai translation. Just dial *1021 and tell the translator an english sentence and they will say it back in Thai. The only cost is the airtime used.

In Thailand, you purchase the phone at full price and then get a SIM card with a telephone number. Many stores will have a list of desirable phone numbers and the best ones may cost more money.

A mobile phone purchased in Thailand should work in many other Asian countries since the area uses GSM technology. You will have to buy another SIM card for that country.

The SIM card will have a limited number of minutes and you get more minutes by buying "top up" cards at any convenience store. Airtime is insanely cheap - about a baht or two per minute.

Receiving a call doesn't cost you money, only making a call will deduct minutes.

Jay Mart stores are in most of the Sky Train stations. These stores sell phones, SIM cards and refill cards. Most malls will have mobile phone sections (hell sometimes entire floors) where you can buy new and used phones. Prices range from 1000 baht for a basic/used phone to 15,000+ baht for the Nokia god phones.

Frequent travelers to Thailand will want to keep their phones. Then just buy a SIM card when you return.

Skype - Coming soon

Money

Current exchange rates -

<http://www.xe.com/ucc/convert.cgi?Amount=1&From=USD&To=THB>

Methods of getting money

1. ATM - Withdrawing your money from an ATM will hurt you! Many Thai banks will charge 150 baht for ATM withdrawals. In addition, your bank may charge a foreign exchange fee of 3% and/or \$3-\$12 PER WITHDRAWAL.

So lets say you have just landed at the airport and want to withdraw 5000 baht or approximately \$150. This will cost you the 150 baht bank surcharge plus 150 baht for the foreign exchange conversion.

For a list of banks that offer no foreign withdrawal fee ATM cards, go here

http://www.flyerguide.com/wiki/index.php/Credit/Debit/ATM_Cards_and_Foreign_Exchange

<http://www.flyertalk.com/forum/thailand/944322-fyi-150-baht-surcharge-atm-withdrawals-eff-april-17-a.html>

Bank of the Internet (no foreign exchange fee) - <http://www.bankofinternet.com>

Charles Schwab Check/brokerage account also has no fees, Schwab also will refund the 150 baht Thailand surcharge! - [schwab.com](http://www.schwab.com)

Most long term residents will open a Thai bank account and then wire transfer into that account. An ATM card with a Thai bank will not be charged any surcharge or foreign conversion fee (since your withdrawing Thai baht from a Thai baht denominated account).

2. Cash - Some exchange booths may not take \$100 bills because of the high counterfeit rate
3. Travelers Checks - Usually get the best exchange rates, however many exchange booths will charge a 25-30 baht convenience fee per check

Thailand is one of the few places in the world where travelers checks actually make sense. Many booths will have a limit on the number of checks cashed per visit. At some booths, I've only been able to cash four \$100 checks while other places I've been able to cash 10 \$100 checks.

4. Credit Card cash advance - Can be done at most exchange booths. Read your credit card fine print carefully for fees.
5. Western Union - Really expensive, but probably the only option if you lose all your ATM/credit cards

Important Precautions/Risk Mitigation - clean up

Road traffic and trains run opposite of the United States, so watch out before crossing the road!

Cars WILL NOT stop for pedestrians!

Don't disrespect the King!

Don't put all your eggs into one basket

Before you leave for Thailand, make two copies of your passport. Carry one copy with you and keep the real passport in the room safe.

Have more than one credit card/ATM machine.

Credit Card fraud protection

Call up your credit card company fraud hotline and tell them you will be going on vacation

Safety at exchange booths and ATMs

Be especially vigilant at these places, since it's expected that you will leave with lots of cash. As Americans, we don't flinch at exchanging or withdrawing 10,000 baht (\$300), but keep in mind that this is more than many Thai people make in a month! COUNT your money before leaving the exchange booth. If you are with a friend, have them stand face away from you. I've seen visiting sailors and marines form a circle around the person withdrawing money ... great idea if you have enough people.

Revolutions/Coups

Coups are as regular as the Olympics, but as a tourist coups really don't affect you. If you're adventuresome you can mingle in the crowd and take great pictures. You can get a feeling of what's happening on the Thaivisa news forums.

Important Holidays

Thais will use almost any reason to throw a party or have a holiday. Certain holidays are "dry" meaning no alcohol will be served and most bars will be closed.

April 15 - Songkran - Thai New Year aka the world's largest water fight

May 5 - Coronation Day

Late November - Loi Krathong - AWESOME festival for photographers/videographers. Floating fire lanterns in the air and water

Loi Krathong - <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AN7jhXIYEc8>

For Techies

If you want to blog about your trips, blogspot and wordpress offer free and easy to use blogs. You can also go completely geek and get your own web server and page.

www.blogspot.com
www.wordpress.com

Saving your files and pictures

While on the road, I save everything to Evernote (www.evernote.com) and dump sites (FTP sites on servers I control around the world). Evernote is free and allows you to save text notes and pictures to the web. You can also edit the notes on your computer and synchronize them to the Internet versions. The premium version costs \$45/year and allows you to upload 500 Megs a month.

Flickr is the standard for posting and storing pictures. The premium account allows more uploads and albums.

Dump sites

Many hosting providers offer virtual private servers (VPS) for \$15-\$20 a month. These are Windows or Linux servers inside a VMWare box. Set up FTP/SCP on this box and upload like crazy.

Techie links

Print out your travel photos, their metal prints are awesome, but expensive - www.bayphoto.com
Gun-stock camera stabilizer - www.bushhawk.com
Chest-rig camera carrier for crazies like me - <http://cottoncarrier.com/>

Internet speeds

The Internet will definitely be slower than the United States. There are two reasons for this. First, there are not too many fiber optic links going to/from Thailand. In addition, these links are of lower capacity. Secondly, most of the popular websites you visit are probably hosted in the United States, so your signal has to travel across the Pacific Ocean and back.

Tip - Before you leave for Thailand, open up all your programs and download the necessary updates. Do a Windows update and also update your virus/malware scanners. Since the Internet is slower in Thailand, you don't want a program update to kill your entire connection. You also may want to unsubscribe yourself from busy mailing lists.

Internet Cafes

Will cost somewhere between 1-2 baht per minute. Many cafes make money by selling drinks/food in addition to the Internet time.

Beware of keyloggers! The computers may have keystroke recorders installed. You can get around this with an Ironkey USB stick (expensive) or by asking to plug in your laptop to an Ethernet port.

Finding Wi-Fi

Paradoxically, the more expensive the hotel, the higher chance that Internet access will cost money. Many restaurants, pubs and coffee shops have free wi-fi for customers.

Wi-Fi is available at the airport - present your boarding pass at any airport information kiosk for username/password

Wi-Fi information and links

- <http://www.stickmanweekly.com/WiFi/BangkokFreeWirelessInternetWiFi.htm>
- <http://www.coffeeworld.com/index.asp>
- Sportsman Pub/Bar - <http://www.bangkokpoolbar.com/>
- The Londoner Pub Soi 33 - <http://www.the-londoner.com/> - many of the other bars/pubs on Soi also have free wireless :)
- Internet Cafe Safety - <http://www.ajarnforum.net/vb/computers-technology-and-the-internet-in-thailand/26708-do-internet-cafes-have-keyloggers.html>

Cool things to do

Chao Phraya river express boat, it costs 13 baht each way from Saphan Taksin to Nontaburi and takes an hour each way, no toilet or drinks

- Segway Tours - <http://www.segwaytourthailand.com/>
- Sky Bar - <http://www.lebua.com/bangkok/dining/sky-bar/>
- Vertigo Bar - On top of the Banyan Tree hotel - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ObqQveTI_w

Learning Thai

Free resources

- <http://www.thai-language.com/>
- <http://thaiarc.tu.ac.th/thai/introth.htm>
- Free PDF downloads - <http://womenlearnthai.com/index.php/thai-language-cheat-sheets/>

Chula University - Intensive Thai	www.arts.chula.ac.th/~asc/itp.html 25000 baht per 5 week course 100 hours per course, 10 AM to 3PM M-F, 1 hour lunch break Get access to sports facilities and can join clubs You get admissions letter after you pay (take this to immigration for a possible ED visa) Review - http://www.lonelyplanet.com/thorntree/thread.jspa?threadID=804351 Facilities - http://www.inter.chula.ac.th/inter/internationalstudents/facilities.htm
AUA	http://www.auathai.com/
Thammasat University	http://www.tu.ac.th/eng Western side of Bangkok, across the river
Ramkhamhaeng University	http://www.ru.ac.th/english/index.html School is on the eastern side of Bangkok http://www.ril.ru.ac.th/viewcourse.asp?id=193#th www.ram.edu
Chang Mai University	http://www.teflcmu.com/courses.php?course=ThaiLanguage 30000 baht per year
Walen School of Thai	http://www.thaiwalen.com/prices.php - 25000 baht for one year Thai visa mega thread about the school - http://www.thaivisa.com/forum/Callan-walen-Ed-Visa-t147028.html
Pro Language	http://www.prolanguage.co.th/courses/thai-courses/student-visa-services/ - 25000 baht for one year

Education Visa Note

Every three months, you will be required to go to the immigration office to renew your visa. This is done by paying 1900 baht AND passing a verbal Thai test with the officer. If the officer thinks you aren't learning anything, you will be denied a renewal.

Thailand Immigration Bureau Webpage - <http://www.immigration.go.th/nov2004/en/base.php>

Typing -

<http://stujay.blogspot.com/2006/11/thai-typing-key-to-hidden-world.html>

YouTube and other media

- <http://www.youtube.com/user/bononstage> - Learn Thai the Bon's Way
- <http://www.youtube.com/user/AnothaiDara>
- <http://www.thaicr.org/> - Thai Community Radio Podcasts
- <http://stujay.blogspot.com/>
- <http://www.youtube.com/user/stujaystujay>
- www.radiobangkok.net - also has Stuart Jay's Podcasts
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YonsCbwkBAE> - Bangkok airport landing
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2YarXygouC4> - Bangkok video 1
- <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FOODEPC-i38&feature=related> - Bangkok video 2

Streaming TV and Radio from Thailand

- <http://www.streamingthe.net/?c=Thailand&v=1> - directory of tv and radio stations
- http://delicast.com/radio/Thailand/Sunshine_Radio_Songkhla - streaming radio stations

Essential Links and Reading

- Official Thailand Tourism Webpage - <http://www.tourismthailand.org>
- US Embassy - <http://bangkok.usembassy.gov>
- Thai Blogs - Wealth of info! - <http://www.thai-blogs.com>
- Thaivisa News - <http://www.thaivisa.com/forum/Thailand-News-clippings-f18.html>
- Tom in Thailand Podcast - <http://tomofthailand.wordpress.com/>
- FlyerTalk - General Thailand Forums - <http://www.flyertalk.com/forum/thailand-624>