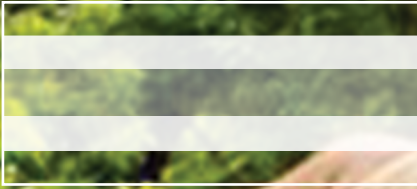


THAILAND

AN OVERVIEW OF GIVE'S VOLUNTEER INITIATIVES AND ADVENTURE ACTIVITIES • 2017 EDITION



COUNTRY FACTS

- Population: 67 million people
- 97% of people practice Buddhism
- Thailand is a Constitutional Monarchy and the Royal Family is highly revered amongst the population.
- Thailand's forests have declined by 43% over the past 40 years
- Although there were 100,000 elephants in Thailand a century ago, the population of elephants in the wild has dropped to an estimated 2,000



GIVE's Thailand Immersion Program allows you to live and work alongside local villagers in **colorful hill-tribe communities**. From organic farming to reforestation projects, much of your project work is focused on conserving the natural environment that local people and wildlife rely on to survive.

The trip culminates with a **bamboo-rafting journey** down the Mae Tang River, stopping along the way to take part in our **Elephant Reintroduction Program!** Thailand is the perfect introduction to this fascinating region of the world; take it one step further by joining GIVE's Laos Experience after your trip!

1 CHIANG MAI
2 MUANG KHONG

OPENING DOORS

Our education program partners with three schools in the Muang Khong region, allowing volunteers to work alongside GIVE education coordinators & Thai teachers to deliver conversational English lessons, as well as technical permaculture education to primary & middle school students.



SUSPENSION BRIDGE

GIVE Volunteers partnered with skilled laborers to restore and fortify a **suspension bridge** that is used to access rice paddies. The bridge can now support heavy machinery and has greatly **increased the land's agricultural efficiency**.

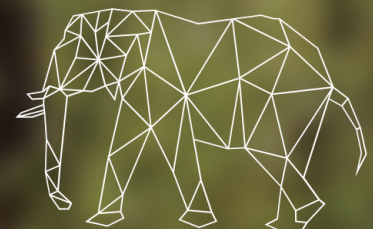


— LEAP OF FAITH —

Jump out of your comfort zone and go **bungee jumping** during your Thai adventure!

PROTECTING THE ASIAN ELEPHANT

Many wildlife species have been **pushed to near extinction** as their habitats are clear-cut for commercial logging and agriculture. The Asian Elephant stands at the front lines of this battle and **you will have the opportunity to support them**. From performing basic health checks to bathing the elephants in the river, you will have multiple opportunities to help **protect this majestic creature**.



THAILAND EXCURSION

THAI TRIP LENGTH: 14 DAYS
COST: \$1,895.00

DAY 1

Trip Commencement: Group arrives in Chiang Mai. After a warm welcome and orientation from your GIVE guides, the evening is free to explore the city, **try out some amazing Thai cuisine** and get to know your fellow volunteers!



DAY 2

Check out the **ancient temple ruins** of Wat Chedi Luang to learn about the history of Chiang Mai, Thai culture and the basic principles of Buddhism. From there it's a 4-hour journey into the jungles of Chiang Dao National Park towards **our home for the next week - the hill-tribe villages of Muang Khong!**



DAYS 3 - 9

After breakfast, we'll begin work on our **English education, sustainable agriculture, and reforestation projects**. Volunteer until lunchtime and then break for a couple hours before returning to the project site for the rest of the afternoon. In the late afternoon, we'll head out on a variety of **adventure and cultural immersion activities** before dinner: Thai cooking and language lessons, hiking to mountain top viewpoints, learning to make local handicrafts, trekking through limestone caves, helping farmers prepare their rice paddies, playing sports with locals and exploring nearby villages.



DAY 10

Strap in for a **4x4 adventure through the jungle** on your way to the Karen hill-tribe of Ba Kao Lam, home to our Elephant Reintroduction Program. That afternoon we'll learn how to make bamboo rafts with our local guides!

DAYS 11 - 12

Spend 2 days directly interacting with the most revered creatures in SE Asia - the Asian elephants. Support this incredible species by working alongside their mahouts (elephant guardians) to track elephants through the jungle, perform basic health checks, bathe elephants in the river, prepare nutritious snacks to feed the elephants, and directly support elephant conservation in Asia. On day 12 we will embark on a **bamboo rafting journey** down the Mai Tang River to the Lahu village of Pong Ngan. There we'll celebrate one final night in the jungle, sharing a barbecue dinner with the locals and learning traditional dances around the bonfire!

DAY 13

Our bamboo-rafting journey culminates with the fastest rapids and best views yet. Strap in and enjoy the ride or grab a pole and help steer us towards our final adventure in Thailand... **A 50 meter bungee jump!**



DAY 14

Trip End: All good things must come to an end. Soak up your last few hours in Chiang Mai before heading home OR **add-on GIVE's Laos Excursion** to round out your SE Asia adventure!

WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- ALL ACCOMMODATIONS AND TRANSPORTATION THROUGHOUT THAILAND
- ALL MEALS THROUGHOUT YOUR TRIP, EXCEPT FOR DAY 14
- DRINKING WATER 24/7
- ALL PROJECT MATERIALS, GUIDANCE AND FACILITATION
- ALL ADVENTURE & CULTURAL IMMERSION ACTIVITIES

WHAT'S NOT INCLUDED?

- FLIGHTS TO/FROM THAILAND AND ALL OTHER TAXES, TICKET FEES, AND ANY COUNTRY ENTRY AND DEPARTURE TAXES.
- MEDICAL AND TRAVEL INSURANCE
- PASSPORT AND VISA (SPECIFIC TO HOST COUNTRY)
- VACCINATIONS (SPECIFIC TO HOST COUNTRY)

SE ASIA PACKAGE: THAILAND & LAOS

TRIP LENGTH: 27 DAYS
COST: \$3,290 (SAVE \$500)

- Before heading home, complete your SE Asia journey by joining GIVE's Laos Experience.
- In Laos you will work to protect Asiatic Black Bears, meditate with Buddhist monks, support remote communities, summit limestone peaks and zip-line through the jungle canopy.
- Come see for yourself why Laos is the best-kept secret in SE Asia!



MUANG KHONG SUSPENSION BRIDGE

For GIVE's first project in Muang Khong, local leaders shared their plans to restore and fortify a suspension bridge that is used to access 10 acres of fertile farmland. They hoped to replace decaying bamboo with treated lumber in order to eliminate the need for frequent maintenance and make the bridge strong enough to support oxen and heavy machinery.

Since harvesting timber is illegal in the protected forests surrounding Muang Khong, locals gained permission from the Forestry Department to decommission dead trees in the region and had skilled laborers process the lumber. GIVE Volunteers then worked alongside locals to mount the wooden planks onto steel suspension cables to complete the project.

With rice cultivation being the primary source of income and nutrition in Muang Khong, the increased agricultural efficiency provided by this bridge will continue to benefit the community for years to come.



GLOBAL CITIZEN IN ACTION: NINA POWELL

After my first GIVE trip to Tanzania back in 2013, I knew that traveling and learning about different cultures was something I truly loved and that making a difference while doing so was even more rewarding. When I volunteered with GIVE again in Thailand in 2015, the same passion and excitement resonated all over again. Upon returning home, I knew that I had to find a career path that allowed me to explore, learn and travel while giving back to others."

I am now serving as a Peace Corps Volunteer in the Philippines, teaching fundamental English to elementary students. If not for my experiences with GIVE, I don't think that I would've realized my passion and potential for impacting the developing world.



LOCAL IMPACT: PEE BIA

Pee Bia is a Lisu tribeswoman from our host community of Muang Khong. In Lisu culture, producing native clothes and handicrafts is a proud tradition passed down from mother to daughter and Pee Bia has become the most skilled seamstress in her village. In the past, she had to sell her crafts at larger markets more than 100 kilometers away, but the presence of GIVE volunteers in recent years has inspired her to expand her business closer to home.



Pee Bia has started producing Thailand's iconic Elephant Pants, a consistent favorite among travelers, and selling them to GIVE volunteers that pass through her village. The dramatic increase in sales has empowered her to open her own shop, where she'll be able to work closer to home while still earning a sufficient income to support her family. This is a prime example of the market-driven opportunities GIVE strives to create in our host communities!