

Stay of 7 days and 6 nights similans cruises 2024/2025 1

Cruise trip to the Similans Islands 2024/2025



Cruise trip to Phuket in 2024/2025....

**Atmosphere, fun, pleasure and a guaranteed good
price.....**

Fish, whale sharks, manta rays,nemo....finally the dream.....

Happy

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Phuket Town:

General informations

The town of Phuket, Thailand, was founded a little over a century ago by Chinese and Malay merchants who came to exploit the surrounding tin mines, the nearby port of Phuket being more suited to receiving large ships than the traditional port of the city of Thalang. Despite the growing pains inherent in a booming city, and despite the massive fire that ravaged much of the city, Phuket Town grew and prospered to become the commercial, social, and political center from the island.

The early 20th century was a period of positive growth for Phuket. The exploitation of tin mines prospered, and the benevolent and very competent governor Rasada Korsimbi contributed to the diversification of the island's economy. This is how the capital city of Phuket began its modern expansion. It developed very quickly, its streets were lined with considerable buildings, and ships from



all over the world stopped at its bustling port.

Today, the main attractions of Phuket Town are the ancient Sino-Portuguese buildings, the Chinese and Thai temples with refined architecture, as well as the popular markets. Most of the buildings in the city center date from around a hundred years ago, during the first period of tin mining prosperity. Their architecture, which we call Sino-Portuguese, denotes a mixture of Chinese and Western influences. This style is also common to all the coastal mining regions of the Malay Peninsula. These characteristic buildings are longer than they are wide, and the entrance is decorated with finely crafted fancy lattices. You'll see some lovely examples on Dibuk Road, and if you wander around on foot you'll pass the most important of them: Phuket's Town Hall, the Provincial Court, and Bank Nakorn Luang. But the public building most representative of this architecture from the very beginning of the century in Phuket is the Government House. Movie buffs will certainly recognize "The American Embassy in Phnom Phen" from the film "The Killing Fields".

In recent years, Phuket has experienced considerable growth, but has managed to retain its original customs and traditions stemming from its multi-ethnic roots. The best way to appreciate an overview of Phuket Town is to hike to the top of Rang Hill, just north of town.

City walk: Visiting temples, shopping and art galleries

Stroll through the picturesque streets of Phuket Town. Don't miss visiting the Chinese and Thai temples and passing the colonial-style mansions. Stroll through Chinatown, let yourself be tempted by unusual souvenir gifts that you will find in some exceptional boutiques, or taste typical dishes in the many stalls that you will encounter along the way. But remember that this is not part of the usual tourist itinerary. As a result, many of these vendors, especially the fruit and food sellers, only understand Thai, so just give them big smiles. If you want to buy something, point politely, and they will show you three fingers for 30 baht, five for 50 baht, etc.

If you leave from Songthaew (Bus) station on Ranong Road, first take a few moments to observe the bustle of Thais in front of the stalls, their haggling, chattering, their way of flattering the shopkeepers. You will be assailed by the spectacle and spicy smells of the traditional Asian fruit market. You will certainly be tempted to wander through the maze of stalls selling all kinds of fresh fruits, vegetables, meats, spices, household items and clothing. You will undoubtedly see strange and exotic things there -- a multitude of colorful chili peppers, small burgundy-colored mounds of kapi (a kind of shrimp paste), betel nuts, garlic in many forms (macerated in vinegar, grilled), or even tamarind -- to name just a few. Many of these streetside stalls sell the traditional Phuket breakfast, Khanom chin -- rice noodles covered in a spicy preparation of minced fish curry, served with fresh vegetables.

Once satisfied, we suggest you use the plan below to follow the visit to Phuket which we detail below.



Phuket Town - Guided tour

Turn left and cross Ranong Road, you will pass "Thai Airways Office". Then take a look at the magnificent colonial building behind the surrounding wall. Continue on Ranong Rd towards the Thai Wat Nua temple. Just outside the temple, along the street, you will see several examples (here very old) of traditional wooden dormitories for monks.

At the next corner, cross over to get to Put Jaw Temple. This Chinese Taoist temple is the oldest in Phuket and is dedicated to "Goddess of Mercy". Built over 200 years ago, it was seriously damaged by fire, then renovated around 100 years ago. In the main hall stand statues of the goddess and her guardians.

A Chinese Temple Once past the surrounding wall, on the left is another Taoist temple, more recent and more decorated, the Jui Tui Temple. It is dedicated to Kiu Wong In, a vegetarian god. Followers leave offerings in front of the altar, such as cakes, oranges, pineapples. Two pieces of red wood taken from bamboo roots in the shape of half-mangoes are placed on the altar. They help you make decisions. Ask a question with a 'yes' or 'no' answer. Throw the wooden blocks into the air, and watch in which position they land on the ground. If both land on the same face, the answer is 'no'; if one is face up, the other face down, the answer is 'yes'. Don't forget to leave an offering on the altar, it will be used to maintain this holy place. The particular interest of this temple is the very beautiful sculptures of guardians on the monumental teak doors. Also look at the top of the wall on your left for photos of the temple during the various festivals. Many events take place there in the fall during the Vegetarian Festival. In one of the small service buildings on the left is a sedan chair with its trolley, which will be decorated with the image of a god before being taken out and towed through the streets of Phuket during the Vegetarian Festival .

Leaving Put Jaw, return to your left onto Ranong Road. Go to the traffic light, then turn right, you will then be on Patiphat Road. One block later, turn right onto Krabi Road. 50 meters further on your left, on the other side of the street, you can see the Sanjao Sam San Chinese temple, set back from the street. Built in 1853, this holy place is dedicated to 'Goddess of the Sea', patroness of sailors. When a new boat is launched, this is where a blessing ceremony takes place. Intricately detailed sculptures are found there, and its ambiance is much more refined than at Put Jaw Temple.

Continue down Krabi Road. Still on the left, look at the immense courtyards in which splendid old colonial-style houses stand, built at the end of the 19th century by rubber and tin magnates. At the next corner, take a left onto Stool Road. Just before the next intersection (Dibuk Road) you will find the Phuket Sea Group, which sells several hundred different varieties of tropical fish. Across the street is the Silk Master, a huge store that sells silk items from all over Thailand, an essential stop for tour buses.

At the corner, turn right and walk down Dibuk Road. The houses on the right are Sino-Portuguese style, characterized by their tiled roof and thick cornices on the ridge and roof edges. These were built and inhabited by ancient Chinese families. Take a close look at the care put into the stunning entries. On the next corner there are two commercial buildings, two more examples of this style of architecture. At this intersection, you have a choice: if you want to see other old buildings of the same

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style, take the direction of Yaowarat Road a little further on your left, and you will see on the right, in a narrow alley, perhaps being the most splendid colonial house, a majestic two-story residence. Beyond, still on the right, there are small Chinese-style shops, then at the traffic light, another colonial house in a very pretty garden, and an even prettier one on the left side of the road. If you have chosen this route, retrace your steps onto Yaowarat Road and turn left onto Dibuk Road. If not, then you will have continued straight on Dibuk Road, and taken the time to visit the temple on the left, just after the gas station. Wat Mongkol Nimit is a Thai Buddhist temple, offering a style very distinctly different from the Chinese Taoist temples visited previously.

When leaving the temple, cross and take the street opposite. You will then find yourself in the heart of the old Chinatown, where you will not fail to try the traditional Chinese noodle soup. At the end of Soi Rammani, you exit onto Thalang Road, where shops and renovated Sino-Portuguese style buildings are concentrated. Hence the government's decision to name it the "Road of Culture". The Loft gallery, located at 36 Thalang Road (on the right when exiting Soi Rammani), is the newest of the growing number of galleries in this up-and-coming neighborhood. "The Loft" is primarily an interior design store, but is also an art gallery. You will discover magnificent artisanal products from Vietnam, Burma, Thai celadons (pale green porcelain typical of the region), and Chinese porcelain.

Continue down Thalang Road and turn left onto Yaowarat Road. A few steps to your left you will find the 88 Ancient Art gallery, which displays a wide variety of ceramics, including celadons from Vietnam, Chinese vases from the Ming era and Buddha statuettes from Cambodia from the Khmer Bayon period. This gallery's specialty is finding interesting and exotic handmade items. On the other side, at 51 Yaowarat Street, Ban Boran Textiles will welcome you and offer you fabrics from six different regions. Most come in rolls, others have been transformed into elegant pants, or very chic shirts and scarves. Many of these fabrics can only be found in the far-flung villages where they were made. At 39 Yaowarat Road, you will discover an impressive selection of art objects at the Ban Boran Antiques store. They import gold jewelry from South India, Buddha images from Sri Lanka and Burma, and silver objects from Pakistan and Egypt. During a recent visit, they were displaying a very old set of weights formerly used to weigh opium, an item that is very difficult to find, as well as some very old objects of Thai folk art. In the same block, at 27 Yaowarat Road, the Touch Wood Antique Furniture store sells old colonial furniture mainly from neighboring countries such as Burma, Laos and Vietnam. Most of the furniture appears to be Victorian or Edwardian, but there is plenty of teak or rattan on display.



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At the intersection, turn left onto Phang Nga Road and walk a few steps to reach Puk Shop, 7-9 Phang Nga Road. This venerable and ancient shop is an institution in Phuket, and a true treasure that all art lovers dream of. There is indeed an eclectic mix of very old Chinese and Thai ceramics, acquired decades ago from Phuket residents, as well as very ordinary items that can be found on the stall of any merchant. Many regular customers stop there as often as possible to find the rare object that only passes through for a short time. During our last visit, they had very rare Burmese manuscripts as well as exquisite Chinese ceremonial tunics, which certainly did not remain on display for long. You never know in advance what treasure you will unearth among all these riches. A little further down the street, at 68 Phang Nga Road, the Antique Arts boutique is another long-standing Phuket institution, seducing with its collections of Chinese porcelain, brass and lacquered wood. For almost a quarter of a century, the owners have been offering antique furniture, antiques and premium works of art, mainly imported from China. Frequent trips to the Hokkien region of China allow them to discover quality items in the style that their regular customers are looking for.

From there, go south one block to Ratsada Road. You are now a few blocks from the market roundabout where you started from. As you walk west on Ratsada Road towards the roundabout, you will pass two souvenir shops (one on each side of the street), selling local goods at prices that are generally more attractive than the corner shops. tourist. At the roundabout, look for a tuk-tuk (taxi), preferable for the rest of our visit. If you're feeling more adventurous, you can try a motorbike taxi, which will be quicker and cheaper.

If it's lunch time now, or if you're hungry, take a quick detour to enjoy a good meal at the top of Khao Rang Hill, which overlooks the city and offers a splendid panoramic view (photo at the top of the page) .

Then, to continue this little excursion, take a taxi to go to the Court, the "Phuket Provincial Court". This superb old building, a vestige of the past, is still in use. On the ground floor, take a look at the antique court room with its old wooden bench used by judges, a room unchanged since the last century. Back on the street, in the opposite corner on the other side of the vast lawn, is the "Provincial Hall", the center of many provincial offices. This elegant 90-year-old building is famous for its unique architecture, its 99 doors, and its history almost as old as that of Phuket Town. Movie buffs may recognize him, having served as a voice for the French Embassy in Phnom Penh, Cambodia, in the film "The Killing Fields."

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Phuket Tour

This new year, a special atmosphere is still attached...

Diving cruises,...

Diving outings, dreams and nocturnal activities galore...



The boat



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Cabin with private bathroom



Luxury cabin



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Shared cabin



[Details of the Similans Islands dive sites here](#)

The hotel or similar Phuket



If you are looking for an affordable yet pleasant place to stay during your diving trip to paradise, why not stay with us at our friendly modern Thai style guesthouse near the beach in Patong?

Hang out with other divers and enjoy our clean, modern facilities just steps from Patong Beach and the area's famous nightlife.

Ideal for one or two people or even small families, our guest rooms are air-conditioned with twin beds and each have an en-suite bathroom. The restaurant serves all day dining and serves Western breakfasts and Thai dishes. You are also welcome to relax in the swimming pool. See below for a full list of facilities.

Dive Resort Facilities

Pool and lounge

Andaman House Facilities and Services:



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- Swimming pool and solarium
- Laundry service
- Tour desk and transportation
- Car park
- 24 hour reception and security
- Car and motorbike rental

Room equipment

Twin room

All 25 superior rooms offer the expected services of:



- Air-conditioned
- En-suite bathroom (hot water)
- Direct telephone
- Mini bar
- Satellite television
- Internet (wireless LAN)
- Secure key card system

DAY 1 (01/16/25): WELCOME Transfer to Phuket airport and check-in at the hotel

- Bangkok Airport Taxi Transfer
- Plane transfer to Phuket
- Taxi transfer to the hotel
- Installation at the hotel.
- Free evening



DAY 2 (01/17/25): transfer to Kaolack

- Breakfast
- Free day and visit of Phuket
- Transfer to the port in Kaolack
- 8:30 p.m. General boat briefing



- 8:45 p.m. Distribution of cabins
- 9:00 p.m. Setting up the equipment
- 9:30 p.m. Dinner on board
- Road to the Similans Islands at night
- Free evening

DAY 3 (01/18/25): Diving

- Coffee and toast
- 1st dives "Similan Islands"
- Breakfast
- 2nd dives "Similan Islands"
- Lunch
- 3rd dives "Similan Islands"
- snack
- 4th dives "Night Dive - Similan Islands"
- Dinner
- Free evening



DAY 4 (01/19/25): diving

- Coffee and toast
- 1st dives "Similan Islands"
- Breakfast
- 2nd dives "Similan Islands or Koh Bon, West"
- Lunch
- 3rd dives "Koh Bon, West Ridge or Tachai Pinnacle"
- snack
- 4th dives "Tachai Pinnacle"
- Dinner
- Free evening



DAY 5 (01/20/25): diving

- Coffee and toast
- 1st dives "Surin Islands"
- Breakfast
- 2nd dives "Richelieu Rock"
- Lunch
- 3rd dives "Richelieu Rock"
- snack
- 4th dives "Richelieu Rock"
- Dinner
- Free evening



DAY 6 (01/21/25): Diving and return to Phuket



- Coffee and toast
- 1st dives "Koh Bon Pinnacle"
- Breakfast
- 2nd dives "Koh Bon, West Ridge"
- Lunch
- Return to Khaolack
- Transfer to hotel in Phuket
- Free evening

DAY 7 (01/22/25): transfer from Bangkok

- breakfast
- Transfer to Phuket Airport
- Plane transfer to Bangkok
- Taxi transfer in Pattaya
- End of our services



The price includes

- Everything indicated in the program
- Private service
- taxi transfer from pattaya to bangkok airport
- plane transfer Bangkok / Phuket / Bangkok
- taxi transfer from the airport to the hotel
- taxi transfer from the hotel to the port of Kaolack
- taxi transfer from Kaolack port to Phuket hotel
- taxi transfer from hotel to Phuket airport
- taxi transfer from Bangkok airport to Pattaya
- Entrance fees to the Similans National Parks
- 2 nights hotel in Phuket
- diving cruise in the Similans Islands 5 days / 4 days
- 14 liveaboard dives
- 1 day visit to Phuket
- soft drinks on board
- a French-speaking instructor
- the fun
- and more....and more

The price does not include

- Transfer from another airport
- Tips
- Miscellaneous costs
- Meals outside the program
- Insurance
- Diving equipment
- The drinks

For your reservation:

- 50% deposit to confirm your reservation
- The balance 30 days before the travel date.

Prices subject to variation depending on the course of the day.

PRICES & CONDITIONS

OUR PRICES INCLUDE

- Private tour - All services mentioned in the program - All visits and excursions mentioned in the program - All transfers and transport mentioned in the program - Transport provided by air-conditioned car or minibus (van) - Accommodation in a room double in hotels - All meals mentioned in the program - Assistance from local French-speaking guides

OUR PRICES DO NOT INCLUDE

- International flights - All services not mentioned in the program - Lunches and dinners not mentioned in the program
- Drinks
- Tips - Health insurance / repatriation / cancellation / baggage - All personal expenses - Entry visa for the Philippines

PLEASE NOTE

Possibility of price surcharges in certain hotels during holiday periods:
Christmas, New Year, Khmer New Year (April).
Contact us for these periods.

CONDITIONS AND METHOD OF PAYMENT

50% deposit upon reservation.

Balance one month before departure.

Any payment to be made by bank transfer or check (details will be communicated to you upon confirmation of your services).

CANCELLATION CONDITIONS

50% cancellation fee 90 days from departure.

100% cancellation fee 30 days before departure.

NOTES

- Offer subject to availability.
- Rooms available in hotels from 2:00 p.m.
- Rooms must be vacated by noon in hotels.
- Quotation based on 1 Euro equivalent to 40 Bahts. In the event of a variation of more than 3%, prices will be readjusted.

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Banking Details:

Kasikorn BANK

Account name: **Bruno Mahieu**

Account number: 4872020379

Bank: Kasikorn Bank Public Co Ltd.

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