

HUA HIN GUIDE



Hua Hin is one of the most well-known seaside towns lying on the west side of the Gulf of Thailand. It is noted for its traditional fishing port, splendid sandy beach, exciting water sports, golf, seafood restaurants, and Thai arts & handicraft.

You may enjoy walking through the quiet windy streets of a friendly coastal village or sample the fresh seafood in any restaurant overlooking the sea. Hua Hin is definitely an amazing place not to be missed!

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How to Get to Hua Hin

From Suvarnabhumi Airport

■ Taxi



Proceed to the taxi counter, level 2 at the Arrival Hall near entrance 3, 4, 7 and 8. Taxi Fare: Airport surcharge of THB 50 plus amount on meter and expressway fees.

From Bangkok

■ Southern Bus Station

It is also known as Sai Tai Taling Chan; located on the Thonburi side of Chao Phraya River. There will be air-conditioned bus every 40 minutes between 5am to 11pm. The whole journey takes approximately 3 hours (depends on traffic).

■ Van

This service runs between Victory Monument, Bangkok (near BTS Station) and Tesco Lotus Express (near Phetchakasem Road, Hua Hin). The trip from Bangkok to Hua Hin is approximately 2 ½ hours.

■ Train



Hua Lamphong Train Station situated at the southern end of the Pathum Wan district. The journey takes 4 hours or more to Hua Hin. Fares differ according to the type of train you choose to take.

Weather



Hua Hin is situated in one of the driest provinces in Thailand. It is ruled by 3 different categories of season as below:

■ Hot – March to June

It is unpleasantly hot during days and nights where the temperature can go up to 40°C.

■ Rainy – July to October

It is warm for the days and occasionally cooler at nights. Rain will not happen everyday and if it does; only for about 10-20 minutes. The average temperature is around 25°C to 30°C.

■ Cool – November to February

The climate is tropical and humid most of the time; with little if no rain. Temperatures can reach an average of 26°C.

Getting around Hua Hin

■ Songthaew Service

It is the cheapest way to travel around the city; described as a remodeled pickup truck. It is convenient for travel from one beach to another. The terminal is located at main market; operates in fixed routes.



■ Motorcycle Taxi

Although it might not be very safe, it is much easier to bargain with the motorcycle taxi drivers. They will wear colorful vests and wait for you around the clock.

■ Tuk-Tuk

It is a motorized 3 wheeled traditional form of transportation. Tuk-tuk here is bigger and able to pick up 4-6 persons. Bargaining is a must.



■ Bicycle / Car / Motorbike Rental

You may rent a bicycle to travel around Hua Hin; 30 baht per hour and 150 baht for the day. On the other hand, 200baht per day is charged for motorbike while car rental fee depends on the rental office charges.

■ Tricycle

Also known as "Samlor". It is mainly for tourist; prices must be agreed upon before. Tricycle service can be found next to the train station or any tourist attractions.



Places of Interest

■ Khao San Roi Yot National Park

A national landmark, located between Panburi and Kuiburi, it is surrounded by mangroves and other exotic wild life with numerous caves. Activities are also provided for the adventurous sole to venture and enjoy the surroundings of the park.

■ Panee Butterfly Garden

A butterfly garden, with a vast collection of attractive butterflies; located at the Petchkasem Beach Road. Nature lovers will especially enjoy this opportunity to commune with nature.



■ **Kaeng Krachan National Park**



It is the largest national park in Thailand covering an area of 2,915 sq kms; located northwest of Hua Hin. It is composed of 2 major watersheds, a large evergreen forest, numerous caves, mountains and stunning scenery. You may observe the wild life of more than 40 species of mammals as well!

■ **Klai Kangwon Palace**



A gracious palace built beside Hua Hin Beach with Spanish style. The name of this palace refers to "Far from Worries". Breathtaking architecture, the royal residences is surrounded by beautiful and majestically created gardens with all kinds of unique plants and objects d'art. It opens daily from 9 am - 4 pm.

■ **Elephant Village**

Situated a few kilometers west of Hua Hin and on the way to Pala-U waterfall. One can enjoy the moment of having these majestic mammals give you a lift and at the same time bathing at the pond. You may also offer fruits to these magnificent creatures after the ride. It opens daily from 8am to 6pm.

■ **Thai Boxing (Muay Thai)**

There are 2 places where you may watch Thai boxing, Grand Sports Arena in front of Grand Hotel (Sunday & Thursday night), Mr. Chop Rawee's Thai Boxing Garden located on Poonsuk Road (Tuesday & Friday). Both shows start from 9pm until 11.30pm (5 matches every night).



■ **Sea Pine Tree Garden**

If you love the beach, come down to Suan Son Pradiphat (Sea Pine Tree Garden) to get away from your hectic life and enjoy the peacefulness of this beach. It is situated 8km south of Hua Hin on Highway 4. Sit back under the shade of a pine tree, enjoy the breeze and listen to the waves lapping against the shore.

■ **Hua Hin Beach**



Hua Hin white sandy beaches stretches along the Cha Am Coast and North of Hua Hin. Its white sandy beaches and beautiful scenery will fascinate anyone who is a beach lover. Activities such as jogging, sun bathing, horse riding, kite boarding and other kinds of water sports are available here!

■ **Pala-U Waterfall**



Part of the Kaeng Krachan National Park this waterfall is not to be missed. Have a picnic with your family while taking in the

fresh mountain air and wonderful atmosphere. The adventurous can opt for a ride through the jungle on the back of an elephant.

■ **Wat Huay Mongkol**



It is situated 272m high, up the mountain which will lead you to see the scenic view of Khao Takiab (Chopstick Mountain). Situated at the top, is a "Monkey" temple filled with friendly monkeys. There is a 20m high Buddha statue can be seen facing the sea upon approaching the hill from the beach.

■ **Wat Yai Suwannaram**

Situated 1 km. east of the city hall it is one of the most important and sacred temples in town. There are 300-year-old mythical angel paintings located inside the temple shrine. It's entirely built in teakwood and decorated with amazing carving work with gold gilt of Bangkok design. This temple is instantly recognizable the by the imposing statue of a monk.

■ **Khao Takiab**

Also known as "Chopstick Mountain" it is a small mountain to the south of downtown Hua Hin which offers fabulous views of the city. There is an imposing statue of Lord Buddha at the foot of the hill and a temple



(Wat Khao Lad) at the top.

■ **Maruekhathaiyawan Palace**

Known as "The Palace of Love and Hope", it is build of golden teak and comprises of three two-storied wooden pavilions which face the sea. Operating hours are from 8am - 4pm. It is located at Petchkasem Road.

Shopping

■ **Hua Hin Arts & Crafts Center**

It houses a collection of contemporary works of many Thai artists, from scultures, paintings, and handicrafts to antique furniture. Art lovers may enjoy shopping or even looking at the fine and incredible arts here; located in a typical old-style house at Naepkhehat Road.

■ **Night Market**

The most popular night market in Hua hin is located in the center of the town. Discover all sorts of Thai food, arts, handicrafts, clothes, desserts, souvenirs and much more from here. It opens daily from around 6pm until late night.

■ **Hua Hin Market Village**



It is the first large shopping complex in Hua Hin; situated on Petchkasem road. You may purchase a wide array of fashion and branded clothes, jewelleryes, mobile phone, cameras, cosmetics and so on. There is also a food court, a bowling alley and Major Cineplex on the top floor.

Dining & Entertainment

■ Orchids Restaurant

A fusion blend of East meet West cuisine come together in this traditional yet modern restaurant. Decorated in wood, with stained glasses and tropical plants, there is a feel of homely welcome here; located at 110/1 Naresdamri Road; operates from 6pm to 10pm.

■ Taj Mahal Restaurant

Craving for northern Indian dishes? Join this restaurant that serves traditional Indian curry in a delightfully decorated large salon; located on Naresdamri Road (another sister restaurant - Chom Sin Road).

■ Coco 51 Restaurant

Enjoy outdoor dining, overlooking the sea, magnificent beverages and fine dining food; all comes in one small package



here. The warm interior of the restaurant exuding earth tone and warm lighting brings relaxation. Their wide variation of food will woo your appetite; located on Prachuabkirikhan.

■ Monsoon Restaurant and Bar

It is a colonial traditional Thai house with furniture & decoration depicting authentic Vietnam style restaurant with a twist of modern and classical arrangement; situated on Naresdamri Road. Their menu has great variety from anything from seafood to meat to vegetarian.

■ Chom Talay Restaurant



A beautiful restaurant located on the beach front at the Regent Chalet. You will definitely be able to enjoy both extravaganza Thai and Western dishes here. It will be the ideal place for you to enjoy your food in the same time enjoys the beach view. It operates from 6.30am to 10.30pm.

■ Seaside Restaurant

Imagine yourself indulging on the finest Thai cuisine, overlooking the seashore where you can feel the sea breeze caressing your face; antique tables with shells as decoration and live bands harmonize the romantic ambiance here!

Calendar

■ February – Chinese New Year

There will be celebration with elaborate ceremonies by the people in Thailand. You will be able to catch sight of stunning fireworks and traditional Chinese new year performances especially the lion and dragon dances.

■ March – Kite Festival

It is an annual event with a range of contests, games, and activities all involving kites. Join the sporting events & vendors' profusion of goods during this festival. There are kite demonstrations from the four regions of Thailand.

■ April – Songkran

It is also known as Thai New Year. The youngsters will sprinkle water over elders' hands to show respect to them. There will also be vivid parades, customary ceremonies, and lots of fun.

■ June – Hua Hin Jazz Festival

This event provides you an opportunity to enjoy jazz on the beach. It takes place on the stages set on the beach each evening. There will be world class jazz musicians from Thailand and all over the world.

■ August – Golf Festival

It takes place here as it plays hosts to a golfing extravaganza. You can play golf at the participating courses for 800 Baht a round everyday except Sunday when organized tournaments will be held. Don't miss the great prizes at the tournaments.

■ November – Loy Krathong



It is a celebration that gives thanks to the water spirit who has given a life.

During the full moon, you may participate by floating "krathongs" in a canal or river.

Things to Know



- Thai people greet each other using the term "Sawasdee" along with both palms and hands united to form a *wai*. The *wai* is equivalent to the Western handshake.
- Always show your respect toward the King and members of the Royal Family, monks and elders, as well as all religious statues.
- Thailand is famous for cheap and nice goods; however you may still need to bargain especially in tourist areas.
- Everyday at 8am and 6pm the National Anthem is played in a show of patriotism, and as a sign of respect all Thais will come to a standstill.

Currency

Thai Baht (THB) is used in the country with the below exchange rates (approximate only)

1 EUR =44.80THB	1 SGD =23.15THB
1 USD =34.96THB	1 JPY =0.28 THB
1 AUD =22.23THB	1 GBP =50.83THB

Please visit www.xe.com/ucc for updated daily rates.

Important Information

- Language : Thai and English
- Electricity : 220 Volts
- Religion : Buddhist (90%)
- Area Code : +66 (Thailand)
- City Code : 032 (Hua Hin)
- Time Zone : UTC/GMT +7

Emergency Calls

- Tourist Police: 1155
- Police : 191
- Ambulance : 0 32 532 576
- Information : 0 32 602 019