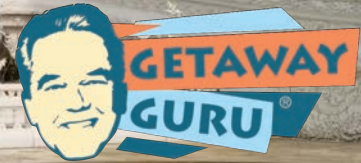
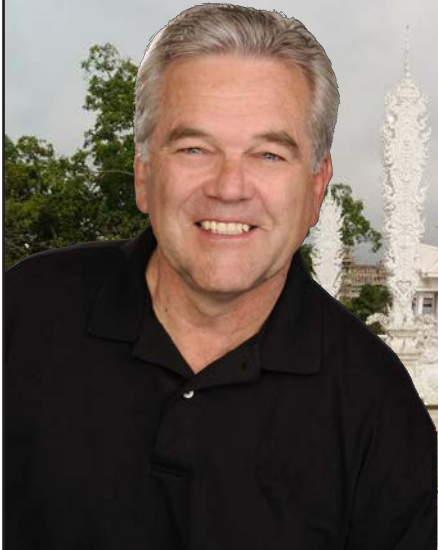


# 2025 THAILAND & THE LEGENDS OF SIAM



Travel with Getaway Guru® Larry Gelwix • January 3-16, 2025

## OPTIONAL POST-TOUR OF CAMBODIA: January 16-19, 2025

How does one describe “Legends of Siam?” Visions of ancient millennial temples, the timeless chants of Buddhist monks, flower markets, narrow canals and waterways, cuisine that bursts with flavor, shopping bargains galore, hill tribes clinging to traditional lifestyles, colorful costumes, and festivals, floating down a jungle river in a long-tail boat stopping at remote villages, a real-life setting that would be perfect for an Indiana Jones movie, and the “King and I,” all grace your imagination. You begin to realize this is no ordinary adventure. This is one of those extraordinary, life-changing experiences. This is an adventure for “travelers,” not for mere tourists.

Date	Daily Schedule
01/03 - Fri	USA - Bangkok, Thailand
01/05 - Sun	Arrive in Bangkok, Thailand
01/06 - Mon	Bangkok: Highlights of the City of Angels
01/07 - Tue	Bangkok
01/08 - Wed	Bangkok - Chiang Rai
01/09 - Thu	Chiang Rai & the Golden Triangle
01/10 - Fri	Chiang Rai - Chiang Mai
01/11 - Sat	Wat Doi Suthep
01/12 - Sun	Chiang Dao
01/13 - Mon	Chiang Mai - Phuket
01/14 - Tue	Phang Nga Bay
01/15 - Wed	Phuket
01/16 - Thu	Phuket - USA

**Price from \$2,996**  
per person/double occupancy  
12 Days/11 Nights)

**Optional Post Tour of Cambodia: January 16-19, 2025**

**MORRIS MURDOCK**

**ESCORTED TOURS**

Book online at [www.mmetours.com](http://www.mmetours.com)

Call Morris Columbus Travel:  
**(800) 888-6699**  
or Morris Murdock Escorted Tours:  
**(800) 809-9910**

Scan the  
QR code for a  
full detailed  
itinerary!



**Your Tour Host:**

**Larry Gelwix** is probably best known as the “Getaway Guru®” and host of the “Travel Show” radio broadcast on several radio stations. The weekly two-hour radio show highlights the best travel deals, lowest airline and cruise fares, and takes call-in questions from listeners. His professional travel career includes CEO of an airline, member of car rental, airline, and cruise line national advisory boards, co-owner and Executive Vice President of Morris Travel, and published travel writer of books and travel-related articles. Larry and his wife Cathy and I have five children and reside in Salt Lake.

**What is included?**

- First-class hotel accommodations/best available
- Thailand airfare Bangkok to Chiang Mai & Chiang Rai to Bangkok
- Services of expert local guides
- Admissions and entrance fees as per itinerary
- Meals as listed
- Bottled water is provided with included lunches and dinners
- Airport and hotel luggage portorage
- All group transfers and ground transportation as per itinerary
- All current & applicable Thailand hotel taxes and fees

**NOT included:**

- International air from your home city to Bangkok Round Trip (Group air TBD)
- Cambodia: international air Bangkok-Siem Reap & Phnom Penh-Bangkok (\$)
- Anything not specifically listed as included
- Tips and gratuities to local tour guides
- **Note:** your Morris Columbus Travel Professional agent will assist you with international airfare

**Pricing Options:**

- Double Occupancy \$2,996
- Single Occupancy \$3,769
- Triple Occupancy \$2,996

**Payment Terms:**

- \$500.00 deposit due at the time of booking
- Full payment due October 4, 2024
- \$75 CASH DISCOUNT per person (Credit card allowed on initial deposit only, all other payments by check or ACH to qualify)
- Refer to our Terms & Conditions

**\*\*Travel insurance is highly recommended. Consult your Morris Columbus Travel Professional for details**

**Call your Morris Columbus Travel advisor at (800) 888-6699** **MORRIS MURDOCK**  
**or Morris Murdock Escorted Tours at (800) 809-9910** **ESCORTED TOURS**  
**Book online at [www.mmetours.com](http://www.mmetours.com)**

**Tour ID #9225A03 • Tour Manager: Megan Shouse, phone#: (801) 483-6171, email: [mshouse@morrismurdock.com](mailto:mshouse@morrismurdock.com)**

### **Day 1: Friday, January 3, 2025**

*USA - Bangkok, Thailand*

Evening departure and fly west over the Pacific Ocean, crossing the International Date Line and “lose” a day (Sorry if January 4th is your birthday!)

**Meals: In-flight**

### **Day 2: Sunday, January 5, 2025**

*Arrive in Bangkok, Thailand*

Airport welcome by local hosts. Transfer to our hotel, perfectly situated in downtown Bangkok in close proximity to city attractions, nightlife, shopping, and restaurants. Balance of the morning and afternoon free. This evening after a restful afternoon we enjoy a dinner cruise on the Chao Phraya River to witness the temples and monuments illuminated at night. This is an exciting and memorable introduction to Bangkok.

**Meals: Dinner, In-flight**



### **Day 3: Monday, January 6, 2025**

*Bangkok: Highlights of the City of Angels*

After breakfast, we embark on an excursion to see the highlights of the city, passing through the narrow streets of Chinatown and past Pak Klong Talad, the colorful fresh flower market, to the historical roots of Bangkok. We continue on to one of the great Wonders of the World, the magnificent Royal Grand Palace and Wat Phra Kaew, a Royal Temple within the palace grounds, dating back to 1782 AD and the Chakri Dynasty. (In Thailand, wat is a Hindu or Buddhist temple and a source of spiritual enlightenment.) The main chapel houses the most revered religious icon in Thailand, the magnificent Emerald Buddha, cloaked in seasonal costumes of woven gold and jewels. We continue on a guided tour of the grounds, including the house occupied temporarily by Anna Leonowens,



the English school teacher depicted in the 1951 Rodgers and Hammerstein Broadway musical, “The King and I,” starring Yul Brynner, and more recently by Jodie Foster in “Anna & The King.” One of the most impressive monuments along the river is Wat Arun, also known as the Temple of Dawn. We will enjoy lunch at one of Larry’s favorite Bangkok restaurants, the Supatra River House located right on the Chao Phraya riverfront. This is just a great meal!

After lunch we depart in traditional Thai “long tail” boats and explore the city by water. Bangkok is the “Venice of the East” with more than 300 canals. We go where most tourists never go. We explore the residential canals (“klongs”) of the city where the common people live and work. It a sensory experience never to be forgotten.

**Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**

#### **Day 4: Tuesday, January 7, 2025**

##### *Bangkok*

Today is a free day to explore the many exciting areas of the city. It is easy to get around town, especially via Bangkok's water and land taxis, Sky Train - the elevated rail system, and modern subway systems. It is a perfect day for relaxing, shopping, and mixing with the locals. Optional tours are available to Ayutthaya and the Summer Palace of the Royal Family, jungle bicycling, cooking classes, Weekend Market, and more for you to enjoy.

**Meals: Breakfast**

#### **Day 5: Wednesday, January 8, 2025**

##### *Bangkok - Chiang Rai*

Morning flight to Chiang Rai. Our tour includes a visit to the famous Wat Rong Khun, better known to visitors as the "White Temple". The temple is a contemporary, unconventional art exhibit in the style of a Buddhist temple. The main building of the temple is reached by crossing a bridge over a small lake. In front of the bridge are outreaching hands symbolizing unrestrained desire. The bridge proclaims the way to happiness is by foregoing temptation, greed, and desire. After crossing the bridge, we arrive at the "Gate of Heaven," guarded by two creatures representing Death and Rahu, who decides the fate of the dead. After visiting this temple, we continue on to additional sites of Chiang Rai.

**Meals: Breakfast**

#### **Day 6: Thursday, January 9, 2025**

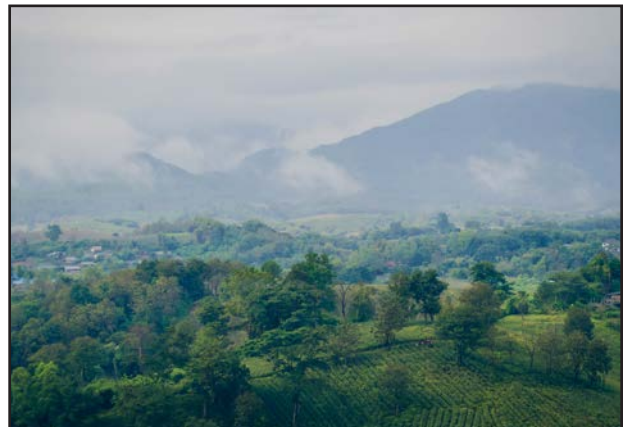
##### *Chiang Rai & the Golden Triangle*

After breakfast, we depart for the ancient Lanna capitol of Chiangsaen on the Mekong River. Lunch at an exciting local restaurant tucked away in the jungle (you will never forget today's jungle journey and lunch!) We then continue onward to Doi Tung Mountain, the beautiful Mae Fah Luang Botanical Gardens, and the Royal Villa. A walking tour of the interior is possible if members of the Royal Family are not in residence. The gardens remind visitors of the Bucharth Gardens in Victoria, BC. Chiang Rai has its own very popular night market just a block away from our hotel. **Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**

#### **Day 7: Friday, January 10, 2025**

##### *Chiang Rai - Chiang Mai*

We head northward through the increasingly hilly terrain. The surrounding mountains are actually the foothills of the Himalayas. Others drive to Chiang Mai but not us! We board long-tail boats for an exciting 2-1/2 hour ride up the scenic Kok River en route to Chiang Mai, stopping at a remote hill tribe village along



the way. We continue by motorcoach into the lush Chiang Dao Valley for lunch at a resort hidden and tucked away in the middle of the jungle. After lunch, we continue on through the jungle and mountains to Chiang Mai.

Once the capital of the ancient Lanna Kingdom, the city of Chiang Mai is more than 700 years old and you can see it everywhere with massive walls surrounding the city, five gates, and a moat. You will find the northern province distinctively different from Bangkok and central plains with unique cuisine, art and architecture, and a charming and friendly “laid back” lifestyle. Outside the city, rugged mountains covered with dense forests and jungle provide ample habitat for elephants, wild orchids, and remote hill tribe villages. Upon arrival in Chiang Mai, we transfer to our hotel located adjacent to the famous Chiang Mai Night Bazaar. **Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**

### **Day 8: Saturday, January 11, 2025**

#### *Wat Doi Suthep*

Today we explore the nearby national parks and forests and make our way to Wat Doi Suthep, a spectacular temple perched on the side of a mountain overlooking Chiang Mai and the Ping River Valley. (Wat Doi Suthep is the famous “gold temple.”) Our guide will relate the fascinating tale of how the temple site was selected and the superhuman effort that was involved in building the road leading up to it. You can climb the impressive 300-step naga staircase or use the funicular tram. This is a lively, working temple and a resident monk will give you a personal blessing if you like, then ring the temple bells three times for good luck. (Note from Larry: “Doi Suthep is my favorite wat [temple] in all of Thailand. It is a site not to be missed in your travels. It is also known as the “Gold Temple.” Words cannot describe it!”) We descend from the mountain, through the valleys, and back into Chiang Mai for a tour including major landmarks, temples, and shopping within the old city walls.



Chiang Mai is the handicraft capital of the Kingdom. This afternoon we visit Sankampaeng Road, home of traditional handicraft workshops and factories. Silk, cotton, hard-carved wood in all shapes and sizes, lacquerware, silversmiths, handmade paper, and umbrellas to name just a few of the shopping opportunities. For lunch, we visit a famous local restaurant for their Thai buffet featuring a delicious northern Thai specialty – khao soy – a savory chicken curry noodle soup, plus a wide variety of Thai and Western delicacies. The balance of the day is at leisure with plenty of shopping time. You will find “anything and everything” from inexpensive Thai souvenirs to silks, to food to jewelry to fine examples of traditional Thai workmanship and handicrafts. This will “blow you away!” Our hotel is perfectly located in the center of everything. **Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**

### **Day 9: Sunday, January 12, 2025**

#### *Chiang Dao*

Following breakfast, we venture into the mountains surrounding Chiang Mai. Our first stop is the Elephant Camp for an “up close and personal” demonstration of the strength, agility, and intelligence of these massive pachyderms, followed by an unforgettable elephant safari through the forest and along the river. We continue to venture deeper into the Chiang Dao Valley...literally in the middle of nowhere! We next visit the famous orchid and butterfly plantation. We return to Chiang Mai late afternoon with plenty of time for shopping. **Meals: Breakfast, Lunch**



### **Day 10: Monday, January 13, 2025**

#### *Chiang Mai - Phuket*

Late morning flight from Chiang Mai to the island of Phuket. We transfer from the airport to our resort. Phuket, the “Pearl of the South,” is widely known as the most beautiful of all the Thai islands. Phuket has a culture all of its own with a rich mixture of Thai and other Southeast Asia ethnicities. The island features the Andaman Sea and offers a varied terrain including powdery white sand beaches, limestone cliffs, forests, and tropical vegetation including microclimates throughout the island. Phuket is a bit of the Garden of Eden, South Pacific dreams, and Jurassic Park (without the dinosaurs). It really is a paradise never to be forgotten.

**Meals: Breakfast**



### **Day 11: Tuesday, January 14, 2025**

#### *Phang Nga Bay*

Early this afternoon we head north to the Phang Nga Bay. A distinctive feature of Phang Nga Bay is the sheer limestone cliffs that jut vertically out of the emerald green water. James Bond Island and Koh Panniyi are just two of the more famous spots in this bay. A leisurely afternoon cruise takes us through the dramatic limestone islands. The interior of these islands are hollow and this is where the fun begins. Our large cruising boat will stop at several islands. In pairs, we will board a kayak paddled by a local guide that will take us through a short exterior tunnel to the interior of the island which is hallowed and open to the sky. Tropical birds and monkeys inhabit many of these islands. (Larry’s note, “The Phang Nga Bay sea kayak is absolutely, positively my favorite excursion in all of Thailand. The guide does the paddling, you just sit back and take in the experience. It is sensory overload.”) This excursion is perfect for people of all ages. We return to Phuket in our large boat at sunset with a light dinner served onboard. This is an experience not to be missed and will be talked about forever! (Actual tour times will be set according to the tides.)

**Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

### **Day 12: Wednesday, January 15, 2025**

#### *Phuket*

Today is a free day to enjoy the white sand beaches, blue ocean waters, gentle trade winds, rainforests, jungle, shopping, and wonderful dining. The food...oh my gosh, the food! You may want to just relax or visit Patong City with its many restaurants, shopping areas, and nightlife. **Meals: Breakfast, Dinner**

### **Day 13: Thursday, January 16, 2025**

#### *Phuket - USA*

After breakfast, we transfer to the Phuket airport for our overseas flight back home. Crossing the International Date Line, we “gain” a day and arrive home this same day.

We hope you will join us and continue on to Cambodia and experience Siem Reap! **Meals: Breakfast**

### **OPTIONAL POST TOUR OF CAMBODIA: January 16-19, 2025**

#### *Siem Reap, Cambodia– Disembarkation/Flight Home*

January 16, 2025: Phuket – Siem Reap, Cambodia

January 17, 2025: Angkor Wat

January 18, 2025: Angkor Wat, Great Tonle Sap Lake, & Siem Reap

January 19, 2025: Siem Reap – USA

Post-Tour Price: \$1,095 per person (based on double occupancy) | Single Occupancy: TBD

## Introductory Terms and Conditions

*(Full Terms & Conditions available on our website and included with each booking)*

**HEALTH & HYGIENE, MOBILITY and CANCELLATION POLICIES:** By signing up for this or any of our tours, you are expressly agreeing to be bound by the TERMS & CONDITIONS contract that will be provided to you with your confirmation, specifically that you understand: i) All policies outlined therein regarding current health and hygiene requirements that may be required by the countries and locations visited; ii) The required mobility needed for the tour; and, iii) The Morris Murdock Escorted Tours cancellation policy may be more restrictive than a vendor or cruise line with which you are traveling.

**INTERNATIONAL TRIPS:** For all tours and cruises that include international air, a valid passport is required and must be valid for at least 6 months from the return date of the trip. Morris Murdock Escorted Tours must receive a copy of your passport information page by final payment date. Airlines have strict policies concerning name changes/corrections after tickets have been issued. If a name change/correction is required on your ticket, you will be required to cover the cost of any fees.

**TERMS AND CONDITIONS:** Morris Columbus/Morris Murdock Escorted Tours, ("Agent") gives notice that all services, reservations and arrangements for transportation, cruise, conveyance, hotel or lodging of any type, meals, sightseeing services, or any other activities made by Agent, are made by Agent as dual agent for the traveler/passenger and for the air carriers, hotels, sightseeing companies, transportation companies, cruise lines, and other companies (Suppliers) providing services for this program. As such, Agent shall not be liable for injury, damage, loss, accident, delay, or irregularity which may be occasioned either by reasons of defect in any vehicle or mode of transportation, through the acts, defaults, financial difficulty, bankruptcy, or omissions of the Supplier or person engaged in carrying out the arrangements of the trip or otherwise in connection therewith. Agent is not liable for delays and/or cancellations of services and resultant expenses or loss caused by acts of God, weather, disaster, government regulations, sickness or death, quarantine, strikes, war, terrorism, social or labor unrest, local laws, mechanical or construction difficulties, curtailment or disruption of transportation, abnormal conditions or other situations, actions, omissions or conditions outside Agent's control. Agent is not liable for loss of, or damage to, baggage or personal possessions. Agent and Supplier reserve the right to alter or cancel the itinerary or substitute services as conditions require or for the safety of traveler/passenger. Passengers must be in good health and able to care for their own needs. Please contact us regarding any health concerns you may have or if you need to bring any specialized medical equipment such as wheelchairs, oxygen tanks, C-Pap, etc. so that we can determine if Supplier can accommodate your equipment. Tour directors on the trip cannot be of assistance with such needs. We reserve the right to remove travelers/passengers from the group at their own expense if the care of or actions of a traveler/passenger become detrimental to the functioning of the tour. Payment of deposit(s) as outlined in this agreement shall be deemed consent to be bound by the terms and conditions of this agreement. Airline schedule changes, mechanical or weather delays may affect flight times. Your connecting flights and/or transportation to and from the tour start and end point, whether issued by Morris Columbus Travel/Morris Murdock Escorted Tours or on your own arrangement, may be affected. Morris Columbus Travel/Morris Murdock Escorted Tours is not responsible for misconnections, delays, and/or cancellations.

Call your Morris Columbus Travel advisor at (800) 888-6699  
or Morris Murdock Escorted Tours at (800) 809-9910

Book online at [www.mmetours.com](http://www.mmetours.com)

**MORRIS MURDOCK**  
—◆—  
**ESCORTED TOURS**