

Snakehead Explorer (8 days)

Private Tour


Tour Facts

Tour Code – FITHSX
Class of Tour – Standard
Minimum Number – 1
Maximum Number – 4 (fishing)
Activity – Fishing
Activity Level – Medium
Accommodation – 2 nights in 3-star hotels, 5 nights in floating teakwood house
Transport – Air-conditioned bus/minibus/car
Meals – 7 Breakfasts (B), 5 Lunch (L) and 5 Dinners (D)

NB: Availability is limited for this tour so please check before booking and book early to be safe. Prices and itineraries available for non-anglers on request

Basic Itinerary

Day	Activity
1	Arrive in Bangkok
2	Transfer to Si Nakharin Reservoir, visit Kanchanaburi
3	Si Nakharin - full day fishing
4	Si Nakharin - full day fishing
5	Si Nakharin - full day fishing
6	Si Nakharin - full day fishing
7	Si Nakharin - half day fishing, transfer back to Bangkok
8	Bangkok - free time. Transfer to airport for flight home

Private and Tailor-made Tours

Private Departures:

Please contact us first to check availability and that your required departure date fits the fishing boat schedules.

Tailor-made Tours:

This tour can also be used as a base for a private tailor-made itinerary, to be run on any dates. You can make adjustments as per your own requirements (for example, adding extra days, slightly shortening the tour, adding extra sightseeing etc.).

Options:

On all of the above types of tour, we offer various different options, which can be added to the tour. These options are listed within the itinerary below, and then in detail at the end of this factsheet and also on our website. Some options (normally that include a flight) should be pre-booked, but paid for in Bangkok.

Detailed Itinerary

Extra Days Option

Day 1 Arrive in Bangkok

You arrive at Bangkok airport where we greet you and transfer you to your hotel. Your Thailand Uncovered rep welcomes you and provides you with some useful tips for exploring the area.

Overnight at hotel in Bangkok

Day 2 Transfer to Si Nakharin reservoir, via Kanchanaburi

Early this morning we make the 5-hour drive to Si Nakharin reservoir, stopping at Kanchanaburi en-route. Kanchanaburi is a small town made famous as the site of the bridge on the River Kwai. Here you are free to visit the local museum and what remains of the original bridge, built by POWs during the Second World War, or maybe even take a ride on the death railway. From here we continue on to the reservoir, arriving early afternoon.

Overnight at reservoir in teakwood house (B D)

Day 3 to 6 Fishing at Si Nakharin Reservoir

Today and for the next 2 days we spend fishing this beautiful reservoir. We use high powered speedboat to easily and quickly get to and from the best fishing spots.

A true angler's paradise, Si Nakharin – which is located in the jungle of

Kanchanaburi province - is the largest (100 kms long) and wildest reservoir to be found in Thailand. This body of water offers excellent lure fishing for all snakehead species and jungle perch, as well as bottom fishing for various Thai fish species of interest. The reservoir's Giant Snakehead (*Channa micropeltes*) population is big, and numerous catches by our clients have been well over the 5 kg mark, the biggest catches being weighted on certified scales at 6.00 kg.

At the end of each day you can relax in your comfortable floating house, eating traditional Thai food, drinking cool beers and watching the sun go down over serene jungle views

Overnight at hotel in Bangkok (4 x B 4 x L 4 x D)

Day 7 Half-day fishing at Si Nakharin, return to Bangkok

After a half-day fishing at the reservoir we drive back to Bangkok, where the evening is free for you to relax and enjoy Bangkok by night.

Overnight at hotel in Bangkok (B L)

Day 8 Tour ends

Your day is free until we transfer you to the airport in time for your flight home. (B)

Extra Days Option

Options

- Booking and Paying for Options:

All options should ideally be booked in advance, when booking the tour. You can also add extra options to your tour, after you have made your booking, and during the tour itself, subject to availability at the time.

To comply with ATOL regulations, some options including internal flights where we don't issue the tickets here in the UK, are to be booked in advance, but purchased from, and paid for to, our agent in Bangkok. (IATA License No. 35/3/00440) Credit Cards, traveller's cheques or cash are accepted in Bangkok for these payments at the start of the tour. A receipt will be provided in Bangkok to show the flight & payment details.

Extra Days

These are available on request in Bangkok before and after the tour starts and finishes. If you'd like to add extra days into the time at Si Nakharin, then please request a tailor-made tour.

The price includes a night in the hotel, breakfast, all taxes and transfers.

Book in advance. Pay in advance

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Single Room Supplement

If you are a single traveller, then we do need to add a single supplement charge. This guarantees you a single room in the Bangkok hotel. You can also choose to book a single supplement if you require a room on your own.

If you are travelling in an odd numbered party (i.e. 3 people, 5 people etc.), then we may be able to offer triple rooms in Bangkok if required. Please contact us for details.

Note: Couples will always be given a private double room, and triple/family rooms are available on request in Bangkok.

Included in the Price of the Tour

- Accommodation
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary
- All transfers, including 24-hour airport transfer service
- Tours & Guides as indicated on the itinerary
- Entrance fees to all sites mentioned in the itinerary
- Fishing licence
- Speedboats
- All Transport

Not Included in the Price of the Tour

- International airfares
- Visa costs
- Meals not indicated in the itinerary
- Drinks, snacks, tips, and other personal expenses
- Travel Insurance – please see the policies available on our website
- Fishing tackle
- Any items not mentioned above

Accommodation

Our Standard tours use good quality hotels (approx. 3-4 star) in which all rooms have air-conditioning and en-suite bathrooms. At Si Nakharin reservoir you will be staying in comfortably appointed, teakwood, floating house, with fan and private bathroom

Hotels used on this tour:

Bangkok – Royal Benja Hotel (***)

At certain times of the year or where circumstances dictate we may need to use different hotels from the ones listed above. In this event alternative hotels will always be of a similar standard.

Please see our website for more current details of the hotels that would be used on the tour.

Si Nakharin Reservoir

At Si Nakharin reservoir you stay at a small fishing village resort which consists of a collection of simple bungalows floating on pontoons made of silky smooth teak, lovely to walk on in bare feet. In windy weather, the pontoons may be moved around during the day into more comfortable locations, and it's possible to come home every night to find your pontoon has disappeared over to the other side of the village. You will have a simple, clean room with electric light and a floor fan, a foam mattress with sheets and pillows, and an adjoining washroom/toilet, with cold water. In this climate, life is mainly lived in the open, so your bungalow has a large covered veranda where you can sit and enjoy a drink and a chat, or snooze in a hammock. Meals at are organized by our guides and are taken as a group in the floating open air restaurant. The food here is sensational, Thai of course, absolutely fresh, and will consist of dishes such as chicken with cashew nuts, wild boar, wild deer, tempura prawns with vegetables and of course the famous Tom Yum soup. Think Chinese food but a little lighter and spicier, and you have the idea. Western and local beers and soft drinks are available and cheap. You'll get back from fishing, wash and change, drink a beer and a Thai feast will be waiting on the table.

Transport

The transport used on this tour includes private AC cars or minibuses.

Transfers

The tour includes both your airport arrival and departure transfers (24-hour service), and all other transfers.

After customs and immigration formalities you will be met by our representative, and after introductions, they will take you straight to your hotel (full details will be provided after booking).

Entrance Fees

The tour price includes entrance fees to all the tourist sites mentioned in the itinerary. Camera and video fees may be applied at some of the sites, and these are not included in the price.

Fishing Licence

Your fishing licence is included in the cost of the tour, and will be obtained on your behalf by your guide when you arrive.

Tackle Required

The technique for Snakeheads & Jungle Perch is casting the lure in zones where you think the fish could be waiting for its prey, like you would spin for pike at home, casting to submerged trees, weed beds, small channels and so on. The snakehead is a fish that loves living on the bottom, but it is attracted by surface vibration and sounds; so every imitation of fish, frog or mouse presented on the surface, is the perfect lure for this predator fish.

Rods: Bait casting or spinning rods 6'2" - 7' - medium/heavy or heavy action

Casting Reels: Should possess fast retrieve and have capacity to handle 30/40 lb braided line.

Braided Line: Big size Snakeheads make light work of monofilament line. Braided line is a must. Your braided line should be of 30 to 40 lb strength.

Hooks & Split Rings: The strongest stainless treble hooks and split rings are highly recommended.

Top Water Lures: The best top water lures for those predator species are handmade in Thailand by local Snakehead specialists. By experience, the T.Surf and the Addy lures are the very best. These lures are imitations of frogs, mice and small fish. Snakeheads are attracted by surface vibration and sounds so propellers of various sizes are added in front of the

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lure. We have been trying various models of foreign top water lures through the years but they don't work too well on the Shado. Except for the Luhr-Jensen company "woodchoppers" (medium size model for the Peacock Bass) and poppers (9cm Rapala skitter pop or Yozuri) that can be also very effective.

Rapalas: Rapala 11 FT MAG (fire tiger) and J 13 FT (fire tiger) are my all time favourite lures but all the models can be real "killers".

Spoons: Due to their heavy metal construction, spoons can be cast for long distances. And with a fast retrieve they make Jungle Perch strike more ferociously (silver shiny things are best). Snakeheads eventually go for them too.

Tour Leaders/Guides

For this tour we provide fully trained, local English-speaking Thai guides to act as your tour leader.

Our local reps in all the towns and cities en-route are also at your service.

To help support the local people and economy, and because we know it works best for you, our policy at Thailand Uncovered is to use only local guides and tour leaders for this tour. Please check our website for further details.

Whilst fishing you will be looked after by one of our local professional guides who will escort you throughout your fishing adventure. These guides have all been guiding for many years and their experience of the lake is second to none. They will always provide you with help and advice on what works best and how to maximise you chase of catching that once in a lifetime fish.

Dates & Prices

Our small group departure dates are listed on our website and on a separate dates & prices sheet (available on request).

We can also run the set tour privately for you on any other dates, or customise it to make a tailor-made tour to fit your personal requirements. Please contact us for help creating the right tour for you.

Tipping

While an accepted part of the culture and customs in Thailand, tipping is always optional, and any amounts paid should reflect excellent service.

It is normal and accepted for people to tip differently, and you should not feel under any pressure to tip any particular amount.

We are often asked for advice on common amounts however, and suggest that up to 10% of the tour price would be a suitable budget for this tour.

Health

For up to the minute health information & vaccination requirements for Thailand we recommend that you contact your GP or a travel clinic (1st Contact have a travel clinic with free advice tel. 0800 0393073). General vaccination recommendations for Thailand include Tetanus, Diphtheria, Hepatitis A, Polio and Typhoid.

Note: The trekking area in this tour is not considered to be a malarial risk (the only endemic area is close to the border with Myanmar), and there have been no reported cases of malaria among tourist.

Country Guide

For an in-depth overview of Thailand, please checkout the country guide pages on our website.

Visas

British, European, and many other nationalities do not require a visa for travel to Thailand for stays of 30 days or less. If you are staying longer then visas are required. For further information on your visa requirements, please contact us or checkout the visa pages on our website.



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