**Thailand**

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Thailand is a country with diverse ethnic, religious and cultural. Thailand's official name. Kingdom of Thailand. It is a state located on the Indochina and Malay. In Southeast Asia. Bordering Laos and Cambodia to the east. To the south is the Gulf of Thailand and Malaysia. West to the Andaman Sea and Burma. And north to Burma and Laos. Sometimes the Mekong River. Governed by a parliamentary democracy. The central government in Bangkok. Thailand is the 50th largest in the world. With a population of 20 of the world's estimated 66 million people. Thailand has many famous tourism. Which generate income for the country. As with exports contributing significantly to the economic development. Thailand's economy is the 30th largest in the world. Thailand is divided into administrative districts into 3 parts. Central government, provincial government and local government.

**Economy**

Thailand has a mixed economy. Income from the industry, exports of goods and services, tourism, agriculture and natural resources. Rice is a major crop in the country. And is regarded as the country which is one of the world's exports.

The crops include rubber, vegetable and fruit variety. Include animals such as cattle, pigs, chickens, ducks and fish. Including fishing in the sea. Due to the abundance of crops throughout the year it is known as the world's food supply. And a food exporter in the world is #5.

**Communication**

Transportation in Thailand is mainly used for road transport is the main

the car and the motorcycle. Including the main highway in Thailand Paholyothin road, Sukhumvit road, Midtaparb road and Petkasem road. In addition, public transportation is served by various cities, including bus and rail systems. The system began to use mass transit and Metro. Include the taxi cab and bike hire. The tuk-tuk.

**Tourism**

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Tourism income countries amounts. Most tourists who come to Thailand for many reasons. Most of the tourists on the beach and relax. The major tourist attraction. Bangkok, Pattaya, southern Andaman sea, and Chiang Mai. Thailand is a country with one of the most diverse places. The whole point of snorkeling, beaches, hundreds of islands, many entertainment, historic sites, museums, hill tribe villages, gardens, flowers, birds and the wonderful, palaces, temples and a large number of world heritage. Thailand's festivals range from the fun to splash water festival Songkran. To the tradition of the legendary again. Many local festivals in Thailand have their own as well. Including the famous. "The Elephant" in Surin province.

**Foreign relations**

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The foreign relations of Thailand are handled by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand. Thailand participates fully in international and regional organizations. It is a [Major non-NATO ally](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Major_non-NATO_ally) and Priority Watch List [Special 301 Report](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Special_301_Report) of the United States. The country remains an active member of [ASEAN](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Association_of_Southeast_Asian_Nations) (Association of South East Asian Nations). Thailand has developed increasingly close ties with other ASEAN members—Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Brunei, Laos, Cambodia, Burma, and Vietnam—whose foreign and economic ministers hold annual meetings. Regional cooperation is progressing in economic, trade, banking, political, and cultural matters. In 2003, Thailand served as APEC host. Dr. Supachai Panitchpakdi, the former Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand, currently serves as Secretary-General of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD). In 2005 Thailand attended the inaugural East Asia Summit. In recent years, Thailand has taken an increasingly active role on the international stage. When East Timor gained independence from Indonesia, Thailand, for the first time in its history, contributed troops to the international peacekeeping effort. Its troops remain there today as part of a UN peacekeeping force. As part of its effort to increase international ties, Thailand has reached out to such regional organizations as the Organization of American States (OAS) and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE). Thailand has contributed troops to reconstruction efforts in Afghanistan and Iraq.

**Geography**

Thailand has an area of ​​about 513,115 square kilometers. Large is ranked 50th in the world and was ranked third in Southeast Asia. Associate of Indonesia (1,910,931 km 2) and Myanmar (676,578 km 2) and is similar in size to Spain (505,370 km 2) most.

Thailand has a diverse topography. Northern mountainous area is complex. The highest point in Thailand, Doi Inthanon at 2,565 meters above sea level. It also is covered by forests as important sources of the country. The northeast is a region of the Korat Plateau. Condition of the soil is relatively dry and not conducive to farming. The Mekong River is the main source of the country's agriculture. Production of the agricultural industry to harvest the output of both rivers and their branches. Gulf of Thailand, with an area of approximately 320,000 square kilometers. Accommodate the flow of water from the river. Considered as tourist attractions. The clear shallow waters along the southern coast of the Kra Isthmus and the Gulf of Thailand is also an industrial center of the country. It has a main port at Sattahip. This is a door that leads to other ports in Bangkok Southern tourist attractions which attract tourists. That tourists often visit. From Phuket, Krabi, Ranong, Phang Nga and Trang islands along the coast of the Andaman Sea.

Thailand's climate is tropical. Or Savannah. Average temperatures are 18-34 ° C and annual average rainfall of 1,500 mm can be divided into three seasons: the hot season from February to April is hot. Between May and October. Influenced by the southwest monsoon from the South China Sea and the tropical cyclone is rain season. In the month of November to mid-March. Countries is influenced by monsoon winds from the northeast China is winter season. The southern rainforest has weather. It is hot and humid all year round. It can be divided into two seasons. That is rainy season and hot East Coast. Summer from May to September. And west coasts. Summer is from November to April. Thailand has a rich biodiversity of flora and fauna are all good. As a firm foundation of productivity in the agricultural sector. The country has a wide variety of tropical fruits. Area, about 29% of the country is forested. Including rubber plantations and forest somewhere.

**Culture**

Thai culture has been shaped by many influences, including Indian, Lao, Burmese, Cambodian, and Chinese.

Its traditions incorporate a great deal of influence from India, China, Cambodia, and the rest of Southeast Asia. Thailand's national religion Theravada Buddhism is important to modern Thai identity. [Thai Buddhism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhism_in_Thailand) has evolved over time to include many regional beliefs originating from [Hinduism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hinduism), [animism](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Animism) as well as ancestor worship. The [official calendar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thai_solar_calendar) in Thailand is based on the Eastern version of the [Buddhist Era](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Buddhist_calendar), which is 543 years ahead of the [Gregorian (western) calendar](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gregorian_calendar). For example, the year AD 2012 is 2555 BE in Thailand.

Several different ethnic groups, many of which are marginalized, populate Thailand. Some of these groups overlap into [Burma](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Burma), Laos, [Cambodia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cambodia), and [Malaysia](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malaysia) and have mediated change between their traditional local culture, national Thai and global cultural influences. [Overseas Chinese](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Overseas_Chinese) also form a significant part of Thai society, particularly in and around Bangkok. Their successful integration into Thai society has allowed for this group to hold positions of economic and political power.

[Khon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khon) Show is the most stylised form of Thai performance.

The traditional Thai greeting, the [wai](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thai_greeting), is generally offered first by the younger of the two people meeting, with their hands pressed together, fingertips pointing upwards as the head is bowed to touch their face to the hands, usually coinciding with the spoken word "Sawasdee khrap" for male speakers, and "Sawasdee ka" for females. The elder then is to respond afterwards in the same way. Social status and position, such as in government, will also have an influence on who performs the wai first. For example, although one may be considerably older than a provincial governor, when meeting it is usually the visitor who pays respect first. When children leave to go to school, they are taught to wai to their parents to represent their respect for them. The wai is a sign of respect and reverence for another, similar to the [namaste](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Namaste) greeting of India and Nepal. Association football, however, has possibly overtaken Muay Thai's position as most widely viewed and liked sport in contemporary Thai society and it is not uncommon to see Thais cheering their favourite English Premier League teams on television and walking around in replica kits. Another widely enjoyed pastime, and once a competitive sport, is [kite flying](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kite_flying). [Thai cuisine](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cuisine_of_Thailand) blends five fundamental tastes: sweet, spicy, sour, bitter and salty. Some common

ingredients used in Thai cuisine include garlic, chillies, lime juice, lemon grass, and fish sauce. The staple food in Thailand is rice, particularly [jasmine variety rice](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jasmine_rice) (also known as Hom Mali rice) which is included in almost every meal. Thailand is the world's largest exporter of rice, and Thais domestically consume over 100 kg of milled rice per person per year. Over 5000 varieties of rice from Thailand are preserved in the rice gene bank of the [International Rice Research Institute](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/International_Rice_Research_Institute) (IRRI), based in the Philippines. The king of Thailand is the official patron of IRRI.

Like most Asian cultures, respect towards ancestors is an essential part of Thai spiritual practice. Thais have a strong sense of hospitality and generosity, but also a strong sense of social hierarchy. Seniority is an important concept in Thai culture. Elders have by tradition ruled in family decisions or ceremonies. Older siblings have duties to younger ones. Taboos in Thailand include touching someone's head or pointing with the feet, as the head is considered the most sacred and the foot the dirtiest part of the body. Thai society has been influenced in recent years by its widely available multi-language press and media. There are some English and numerous Thai and Chinese newspapers in circulation; most Thai popular magazines use English headlines as a [chic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chic_(style)) glamor factor. Many large businesses in Bangkok operate in English as well as other languages.

Thailand is the largest newspaper market in Southeast Asia with an estimated circulation of over 13 million copies daily in 2003. Even upcountry, out of Bangkok, media flourishes. For example, according to Thailand's Public Relations Department Media Directory 2003–2004, the nineteen provinces of [Isan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isan), Thailand's northeastern region, hosted 116 newspapers along with radio, TV and cable.

**Language**

Thailand have Thai is the official language. And the main language used for communication. Education and is spoken throughout the country. Thailand using a standard form letter to write. In addition to the dialect of the region as well.

The official language of Thailand is [Thai](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thai_language), a [Tai–Kadai language](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tai%E2%80%93Kadai_language)closely related to [Lao](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lao_language), [Shan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Shan_language) in Burma, and numerous smaller languages spoken in an arc from [Hainan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hainan) and [Yunnan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yunnan) south to the Chinese border. It is the principal language of education and government and spoken throughout the country. The standard is based on the dialect of the central Thai people, and it is written in the [Thai alphabet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thai_alphabet), an [abugida](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Abugida) script that evolved from the [Khmer script](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khmer_script). Several other dialects exist, and coincide with the regional designations. [Southern Thai](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Southern_Thai_language) is spoken in the southern provinces, and [Northern Thai](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Northern_Thai_language) is spoken in the provinces that were formerly part of the independent kingdom of Thai Lanna.

Thailand is also host to several other minority languages, the largest of which is the [Lao](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lao_language) dialect of [Isan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Isan_language) spoken in the northeastern provinces. Although sometimes considered a Thai dialect, it is a Lao dialect, and the region in where it is traditionally spoken was historically part of the Lao kingdom of [Lan Xang](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lan_Xang). In the far south, [Yawi](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Yawi_language), a dialect of Malay, is the primary language of the Malay Muslims. Varieties of Chinese are also spoken by the large [Chinese](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thai_Chinese) population, with [Teochew](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teochew_dialect) being best represented.

Numerous tribal languages are also spoken, including those belonging to the [Mon–Khmer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mon%E2%80%93Khmer) family, such as [Mon](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mon_language), [Khmer](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Khmer_language), [Viet](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vietnamese_language), [Mlabri](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mlabri_language) and[Orang Asli](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aslian_languages); [Austronesian](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Austronesian) family, such as [Cham](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cham_language) and Moken; [Sino-Tibetan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sino-Tibetan_languages) family such as Lawa, [Akhan](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Akha_language), and [Karen](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Karen_languages); and other [Tai languages](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tai_languages) such as [Nyaw](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Nyaw_language), [Phu Thai](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Phu_Thai_language), and [Saek](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saek_language). [Hmong](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hmong_language) is a member of the [Hmong–Mien languages](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hmong%E2%80%93Mien_languages), which is now regarded as a language family of its own.

English is a mandatory school subject, but the number of fluent speakers remains very low, especially outside the cities.

**Cuisine**



Thailand cuisine combines the flavors of sweet, sour, spicy and bitter and salty. Components, which are often used in cooking as well as Thailand, chili, garlic, lime juice and fish sauce and the ingredients of the food in Thailand is rice. With brown rice and polished rice is ground. A special feature is a nutritionally complete. And the properties of drugs and herbs. Thailand's most famous dishes is fish sauce with a side that is set. The food is popular and known all over the world that is Tom Yum Goong.

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