



In the Footsteps of the Railway POWs

4 Days / 3 Nights

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2024 Tour Program

Day 1: (Transfer from Bangkok via Ban Pong; Museum; Local historical tour; Long-tail boat ride; Bridge on the River Kwai)

Meet 7:30am at your Bangkok hotel and travel to **Kanchanaburi** (about 3 hours from Bangkok) via **Ban Pong** where the POWs arrived from Singapore, by train. Continue and on arrival at Kanchanaburi, visit the Thailand-Burma Railway Centre, a museum of world renown overlooking the war cemetery. Dioramas, artefacts (retrieved from various camps and work sites along the railway) and personal stories of POW's, all combine to give you a better appreciation of the railway story. Then, visit the adjacent **Kanchanaburi War Cemetery** before having lunch in the museum's café.

In the afternoon, take a **personally guided tour around Kanchanaburi** visiting several significant railway locations. This includes the **Aerodrome (& F Force transit) & Officers Camp**, the **F & H Force Hospital Camp** where F Force survivors returned after completion of the railway, **Chungkai Cemetery** and site of the **POW Camp, Chungkai Cutting and POW work area** consisting of large embankments, bridges and cuttings.

Take a **long-tail boat on the Kwai rivers** to the famous **Bridge on the River Kwai**. Learn the true story of the Bridge including the nearby **Tha Makham Camp** which supplied the labour for the bridge. Finish with a visit and walk on the bridge before checking in at the **U Inchantree Kanchanaburi Resort**, a well-located resort on the river, within easy walking distance to the Bridge, a good restaurant, swimming pool and English-speaking staff.

Includes: Transfer from Bangkok in air-con vehicle with TBRC Guide, lunch & refreshments, admission to Museum/Research Centre, local historic tour in air-con vehicle with TBRC Researcher/Historian and TBRC Guide, long-tail boat trip, accommodation.

Day 2: (Start of 2 Day personal historical tour with TBRC Researcher/Historian and TBRC Guide)

Check out at 8:30am for your historical tour following the railway. Visit the various camps along the way and learn the deep history of events. Proceed directly north through **Lat Ya, Tha Dan** and across country to **Wang Yai and Tha Sao** where they linked up with the railway. Continue up country through the camp sites of **Kannyu** and then to **Kinsaiyok** to view remnants of the railway.

Price (Per Person):

2 Persons (1 Room) - **\$2,480**
 3 Persons (2 Rooms) - **\$1,950**
 4 Persons (2 Rooms) - **\$1,650**

Prices valid to: 31st Dec. 2024

From/To: Bangkok

Duration: 4 Days

Departs: On request

Departure: Guaranteed

Inclusions:

- Pick-up/Drop-off at your Bangkok hotel
- Accommodation (3 Nights)
- Meals and refreshments as indicated (Note: Drinks not included with meals)
- Experienced, English-speaking guide
- Burma-Thailand Railway Researcher/Historian on tour as indicated
- Comfortable, air-conditioned minivan with driver
- All touring as indicated



Day 2 (Cont'd):

Continue through the camp locations of **Lin Thin, Hindat, Prang Kasi, Tha Khanun**, (passing **Tamuron Part, Konkoita, Shimo Ni Thea & Ni Thea**). Finish the day exploring the area of **Shimo Songkurai**, learning about this difficult work area of F Force. Overnight at **Suan Magmai Resort** at nearby Sangklaburi (about 230kms from Kanchanaburi) not far from Three Pagodas Pass and the border with Myanmar (Burma).

Includes: Breakfast, lunch, dinner, all day historical tour in air-con vehicle with TBRC Researcher/Historian and TBRC Guide, admission to Saiyok National Park for Kinsaiyok camp site access, accommodation.

Day 3: (Day 2 of personal historical tour with TBRC Researcher/Historian, TBRC Guide & Train trip)

After breakfast take in some of the interesting **local cultural sights** before departing for the short trip via the F Force camp sites and work areas of **Songkurai** and **Kami Songkurai** from May 1943, finishing at **Three Pagodas Pass**. Discover where the railway crossed from Thailand into Burma and where the seriously sick from F Force were taken to Thanbaya Hospital Camp in Burma towards the end of 1943.

Start the **return trip along the railway** visiting locations not covered on the previous day. This will include major sites such as **Hellfire Pass** (including the Australian Government operated Memorial and walking trail) and the **Wang Pho Viaduct** learning more on these remarkable work areas and their history. Return on the last leg of the journey **by taking the train** on the still-working section of railway from **Tham Krasae** back to **Kanchanaburi**. Arrive back late afternoon at the **U Inchantree Kanchanaburi Resort**.

Includes: Breakfast, lunch, all day historical tour in air-con vehicle with TBRC Researcher/Historian and TBRC Guide, train ride and accommodation.

Day 4: (Local interest/cultural sights and activities in the morning; Afternoon return journey to Bangkok)

The morning can be spent on local/cultural sights and activities prior to leaving for Bangkok. These include **Prasat Muang Sing** (ancient Khmer ruins) and **Erawan National Park and waterfalls**.

Early afternoon **depart for Bangkok** and on the way visit **Nakhon Pathom** where there was a large hospital camp set up for the chronically ill in 1944 and where the well-known Australian railway Doctor **Weary Dunlop** was based from mid-1944 until the end of the war. Visit the nearby **Phra Pathom Chedi**, the largest Buddhist Pagoda in Thailand and a substantial landmark very visible at the time to the men in the Nakhon Pathom camp. Continue to Bangkok and your hotel.

Includes: Breakfast, lunch & refreshments, TBRC Guide, morning and afternoon programs, all admission charges and air-con vehicle return to Bangkok.

Inclusions (Cont'd):

- Entrance fees to museums and parks (including unlimited access to the Thailand-Burma Railway Centre)
- Long-tail boat and train ride

Exclusions:

- Airfares, passports and visa expenses
- Bangkok accommodation
- Drinks with meals not mentioned
- Comprehensive travel insurance
- Personal expenses (e.g. telephone, internet, laundry, drinks, souvenirs etc.)
- Tips to Guide and Driver

