

# Thailand



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The following is an interview with Dave Thompson from Dave's Travel Corner

TE: What is your name, where are you from and what do you do?

DT: David Thompson and I am a global traveler and travel and wine writer.

TE: What motivated you to your current career path?

DT: I have always enjoyed exploring – the wonder of visiting new places keeps me going as well as returning to some of my favorite locations. I have tried to combine two things I love, writing and travel. If you enjoy writing and it comes naturally, you usually discover this early on in your life. For International travel, one needs to take a few trips overseas to see if that passion is there to continue traveling.

After my first few International trips I was hooked and it only seemed natural to follow a career choice that included both of my passions.

TE: What can people expect when they are in Thailand?

DT: Thailand is a country I've been to more than 20x. I fell in love with Thailand in the late 1990's and have been returning as much as possible ever since then. The people are friendly – Thailand is known as “the land of smiles” and this is very evident when one travels within the country. Even cheaper hotels - especially in Bangkok pride themselves on their hospitality.

Thailand is a Buddhist country and there are many glittering temples and wats – especially in the cities. Most people start their trip in Bangkok and one needs a few days to experience the energy that this city generates. Thailand has elevated the art of massage and spa experiences. Bangkok is full places where you can pop in for an hour and come out feeling relaxed and refreshed – and many of these are not “hard” on your wallet either!

TE: In terms of food, what will travelers find there?

DT: The food is generally spicy (yet delicious) as Thai cooking incorporates a variety of fresh vegetables and spices. Thailand has some of the best street food in the world and in certain parts of Bangkok, is often available all night. Oh, and its quite

affordable too! Look for a variety of soups, spicy salads, noodle dishes and seafood.

Don't discount the food courts in any of a number of Bangkok's many giant malls. The food here is also generally quite fresh and authentic.



TE: When is the best time to travel to Thailand?

DT: It depends on which part of the country you visit as Thailand is a fairly long country (north to south)- but my favorite time to visit is between December and February when the temperatures are generally cooler; this is also the dry season especially in the north.

TE: Any last words of advice for someone traveling to Thailand for the first time?

DT: Come with an open mind and an interest in experiencing the Thai culture, lifestyle and food. Explore – get off the typical tourists routes of Bangkok, Chiang Mai and Phuket if you have time – yet include all those on your itinerary as all are worth visiting.



Estimated Population – 66,720,153

Official Language – Thai

Currency – Baht

## One Response to *Thailand*

1.  Jen79 says:

[January 10, 2012 at 12:32 am](#)

Hi all!

I'm planning a visit in northern Thailand. I'm arriving in Chiang Mai and I was thinking about the possibility to rent a motorbike (or scooter or something with 2 wheels and possibly an engine) and spend some days driving around and visiting Chiang Rai, Phayao, Lampang and back to Chiang Mai. I don't have a schedule to stick with but I'm planning about 5-6 days.

What do you think? Bad idea? Good idea? Any chance to survive? 😊