

Holy Ayutthaya

January 01, 2020 (Happy New Year Trip)

Itinerary

08:00 hrs. After breakfast, commencing tour to Ayutthaya province City by air-conditioned coach.

09:30 hrs. Arrive at the **(1) Wat Nah Phramen**, an active temple with a potent history, Wat Na Phra Men was built sometimes around the turn of the 16th century across the Lopburi River (now the Mueang Canal) from the north side of the island.

It's worth the side trip to see a rare early Ayutthaya-style temple that was preserved when most of the others fell.

During the siege of Ayutthaya in the 1760s, the Burmese found Wat Na Phra Men to be an ideal location for bombarding the nearby Royal Palace with cannon fire. A Burmese commander was mortally injured when a cannon misfired, an incident that Thais have interpreted to add spiritual potency to the site. While a brick chedi out front looks like any other Ayutthaya ruin, the eye-catching ordination has remained pristine through the centuries.

The front of the gabled roof features a particularly stunning depiction of the Hindu human-bird Garuda stretching its wings atop Kali while supporting a slender-looking Vishnu. Inside, eight massive pillars rise near a six-metre-high seated Buddha image, known for its distinctive headdress and other regalia. Displaying a level of detail rarely seen on such a large image, it's an exquisite example of Ayutthaya-era bronze work.



Elsewhere in the complex is a small Wihaan housing an ancient Buddha image carved from black stone in the European posture -- seated in a chair with hands on the knees and both feet planted on the ground rather than with the usual crossed legs. It appears to display Dvaravati artistic influence and is highly unusual as Buddha images go.

10:30 hrs. Visit **(2) Phra Mongkhon Bophit**, This famous temple is situated on the south of Wat Phra Si Sanphet. Its large bronze seated Buddha image or Phra Mongkhon Bophit is one of the largest bronze Buddha images in Thailand with its measures of 9.5 meters across the lap and a height of 12.5 meters. The Buddha image is seated in the position of Subduing Mara. During the second fall of Ayutthaya, the building and the image were badly destroyed by fire. The present Vihara and Buddha image have been reconstructed and renovated in the reign of King Rama V. The open area located east of the Vihara was formerly Sanam Luang, where royal cremation ceremonies took place.



12:00 hrs. Buffet Lunch at Krungsri River Restaurant

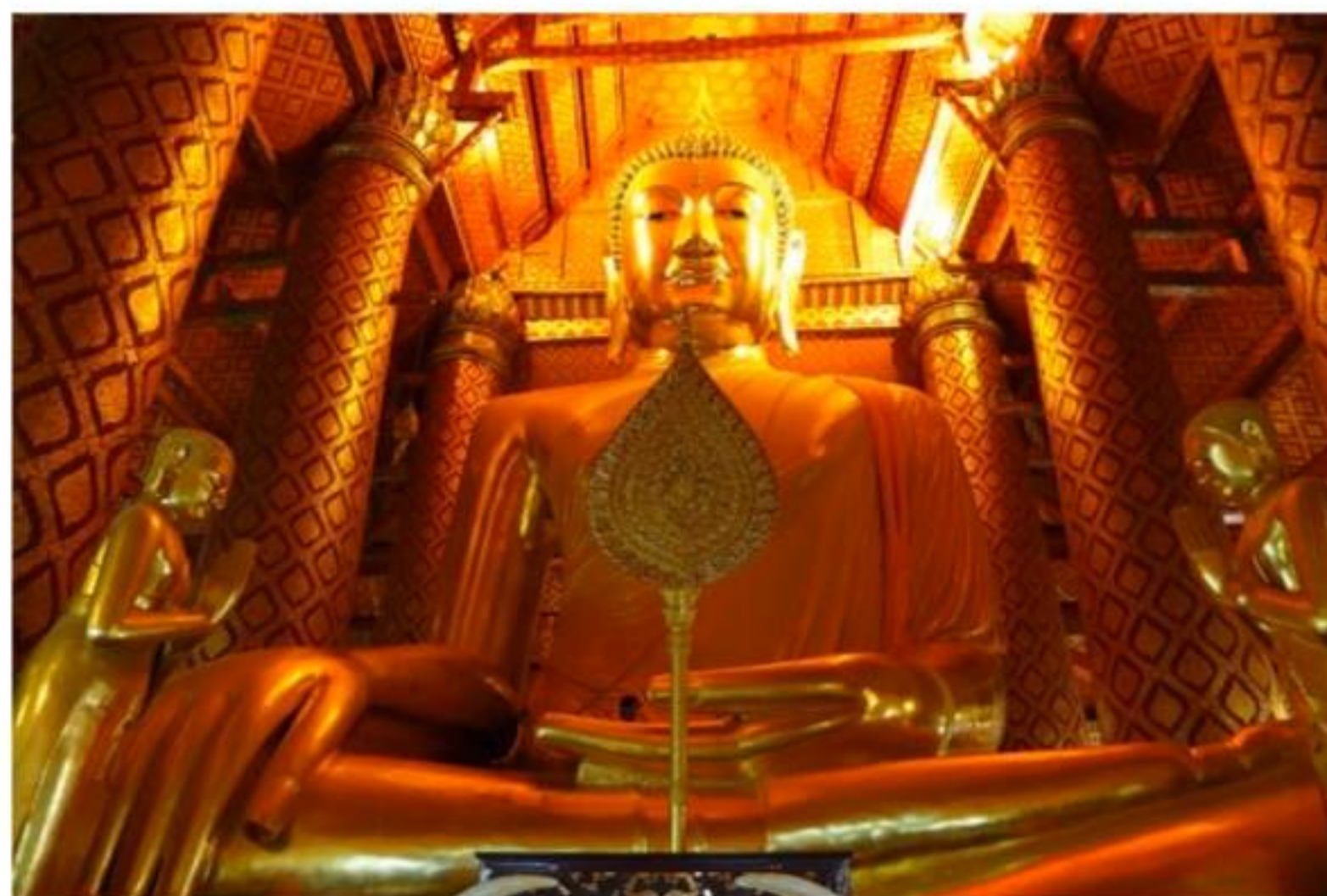
13:00 hrs. Visit **(3) Wat Yai Chai Mongkhon**, One of the most important temples in Ayutthaya, Wat Yai Chai Mongkhon has a long and illustrious history. And unlike many of the other ancient sites in Ayutthaya, this is still an active temple where monks reside. Thai people visit Wat Yai Chai Mongkhon to not only pay respects to Buddha, but also to pay homage to one of the most respected kings in Thai history, King Naresuan the Great.

Before Ayutthaya was established, historians believe the original site of Wat Yai Chai Mongkhon may have been an important Khmer temple complex. Different temples were subsequently built here which bear a number of different names. When Ayutthaya was established as the capital of Siam in 1350, King U-thong proclaimed the site as the royal

temple and it was known as Wat Chao Phraya Thai. After King Naresuan repelled a Burmese invasion in 1593, restoration work was carried out at the temple and historians believe it was at this time that the main chedi was enlarged and at some stage thereafter the temple became known as Wat Yai Chai Mongkhon which translates as the 'Great Monastery of Auspicious Victory'.



14:30 hrs. Arrive at **(4) Wat Phanan Choeng**, a Buddhist temple in the city of Ayutthaya, Thailand, on the east bank of the Chao Phraya River at the south-eastern side of the confluence of the Chao Phraya and Pa Sak rivers. Today, as part of the Ayutthaya Historical Park, the temple is a popular tourist attraction.



15:30 hrs. Return to Bangkok

18:00 hrs. Arrive at University

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Price per person = 65 USD Net

Package includes

- Round-trip 50 Seater Air-Conditioned Coach or 9 Seater VIP Van (Bangkok – Pattaya – Bangkok)
- Lunch
- English Speaking Licensed Local Guide
- All Admission Fees and sightseeing as per stated in the itinerary
- Travel Insurance

Remarks: Minimum number of travelers = 30 persons per trip by coach or 5 persons by Van unless otherwise we must cancel due over cost.