

Prome Loke, Nakorn Sri Thammarat

3 Day 2 Night Program

Highlights:

- Stay with a local Southern Thai family next to Khao Luang National park;
- Explore orchards, forests and mountains with local community guides;
- Mum, dad and the kids learn how to make a local handicraft (Batik);
- Experience and join in traditional arts and performance;
- Learn about the relationship between local people and the forest.

Overview of Trip:

This program gives an opportunity to explore Prome Loke and the mountains of the Khao Luang watershed area. Guests can stroll along the local nature trail, visit a waterfall, and enjoy a warm welcome and cultural exchange with local Southern Thai hosts.

Background to community:

Prome Loke community is situated in a scenic area of high plains and jungle covered mountains, adjacent to **Khao Luang National Park**. This world renowned national park is recognized by scientists as a biodiversity "hotspot," featuring an exceptional number of endemic species. Tropical rainforest covering the park is acknowledged to be part of the oldest terrestrial ecosystem on earth... It's a natural treasure trove. The highest mountain is Kao Luang peak at 1,835 meters above sea level. This mountain is the source of many rivers, streams and canals, such as Mae Nam Ta Pee, Pak Panang, Klong Krung Ching, Klong Kao Kaew, Klong Ta Pae, Klong Ra Nae and Klong La Aye. This is a very important water source for the areas surrounding Kao Luang National Park. The climate is tropical monsoon, consisting of two main seasons. Summer is from February to May and the rainy season from June to January.

The majority of people in Prome Loke are fruit orchard and plantation farmers, who mainly grow rambutan, mangosteen, musk mangoes, durian, and rubber. Villagers use the '**suan rom rom**' system of planting mixed orchards. Wild seeds from the forest have been carefully selected over several generations, and planted in the same area. This farming system contributes to high quality soil. It is recognized internationally as best practice for maintaining biodiversity alongside profitable, sustainable agriculture.

Program:

Day 1: Bangkok – Prome Loke Home stay

- Arrive at Chan Dee railway station and have breakfast.
- Travel on to Prom Kiri and meet host families.
- Enjoy a cycling trip around the village.
- Visit Prome Loke waterfall. "Time to relax, swim, chill out and enjoy the scenery".
- Practice Thai or a little English with host families. Local dinner with host family.
- Learn and do how to make Batik with host or play the local game with community.
- Relaxing time.

Day 2: Promote Local Home stay

- Local breakfast
- Full Day trekking in Khao Luang National Park with local guide. Visit the local plantation on the hillside. Picnic style lunch.
- Return home, relax with host family.
- Prepare dinner "Local food cooking experience" and Big Dinner with villagers.

Day 3: Promote Local Home stay – End of program

- Local breakfast.
- Finish the trip.

Itinerary: Local communities live according to the seasons and cycles of nature, not a strictly-timed schedule. Sometimes, guests may be invited to join interesting local events which are not described in the itinerary above. Occasionally, a specific activity may not be possible, due to the weather, local cultural or agricultural calendars. The tour operator will make every effort to ensure that the program runs as described. However, guests are requested to be flexible and to understand that there may be minor changes to the tour program. Often, such changes actually enhance the program, as guests get a more authentic insight into the rhythms of local life. Similarly, weather, road conditions, or other prevailing safety factors may influence a change in the published route & itinerary. However, the content of the tour will remain similar. The final decision of the actual itinerary will be made by the tour operator's staff, after consultation with community members on the day of the tour.