SAMPLE ITINERARY

CHIANG MAI
3 DAY ITINERARY

3 Days in Chiang Mai · plus optional extra days

A glimpse of a private trip

Designed by

Off Path Thailand

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CHIANG MAI 3 DAY ITINERARY: A SAMPLE TRIP

To give you a feel for how I plan trips, here's a sample Chiang Mai 3 day itinerary, based on a trip I recently designed for a couple. Names, hotels and dates have been left out, and nothing here is fixed.

It mixes easy days on your own in the city with a private day out with me in the countryside. If you have longer, I've added two optional extra days at the end: a free day for the two of you, and a morning with rescued elephants before you fly out. Every trip I build starts from scratch around your dates, pace and interests, so think of this as a starting point rather than a package.

If anything here sparks your interest, or you'd like something completely different, just let me know and I'll put together a plan around you.

Warmly,

Dee

Founder, Off Path Thailand Co., Ltd.

THE ROUTE AT A GLANCE

Day 1	**Chiang Mai**	Arrive · Old City, temples, massage	Boutique hotel, Chiang Mai
Day 2	**Chiang Mai**	Doi Suthep on your own · cooking class · free evening	Boutique hotel, Chiang Mai
Day 3	**Countryside**	With Dee: Mae Kampong, caves & hot springs	Boutique hotel, Chiang Mai
Extra day	**Chiang Mai**	Free day for two · Saturday Walking Street	Boutique hotel, Chiang Mai
Extra day	**Chiang Mai**	Elephant Nature Park · departure	

WHERE YOU'D STAY

A small boutique hotel on Wualai Road, home of the Saturday Walking Street, with a more intimate feel than a standard hotel. Rooms are warm and modern, with wood finishes and private balconies, and there's a small pool for a cool-down after a day out. It's quiet enough despite being right by the Saturday market, and the mountain views at sunset are lovely. I'll suggest specific options once I know your dates and style.

CHIANG MAI 3 DAY ITINERARY

The first two days are on your own, and everything is easy to reach on foot, by Grab, or by red truck (songthaew). On Day 3 I'll pick you up for a private day out by car. If you have more time, the two extra days at the end add a free day for the two of you and a morning with elephants before you fly out.

DAY 1 Arrival, Old City & Temples Chiang Mai · on your own

Depending on your arrival time

Landing by about 1 PM: you'll comfortably fit in the full plan below.

Landing mid to late afternoon: skip Wat Phra Singh (it closes at 5 PM) and enjoy a massage and the Night Bazaar instead.

Landing in the evening, or arriving by train the next morning: keep it simple with dinner near the hotel and rest.

- Check in to your hotel
- **Wat Sri Suphan (the Silver Temple)** on Wualai Soi 2, a few minutes' walk from your hotel. Note that women aren't allowed inside the silver ordination hall itself
- Walk into the Old City through Chiang Mai Gate to **Wat Phra Singh**, about 20–25 minutes on foot or 5–10 minutes by Grab. Open daily 6 AM–5 PM; the main hall is 40 THB. Shoulders and knees covered (sarongs can be borrowed for a 100 THB refundable deposit)
- Wander the quiet back lanes from Wat Phra Singh toward **Wat Chedi Luang**. My Chiang Mai walking routes guide has the full loop
- **Thai massage** to shake off the flight (see below)
- If you still have energy: the **Night Bazaar** on Chang Khlan Road, about 10–15 minutes by Grab. Open nightly from around 6 PM

✧ MASSAGE, Lila Thai Massage

Lila trains and employs women who were formerly in prison, giving them a real profession and a fresh start. It's a great massage with a story worth supporting.

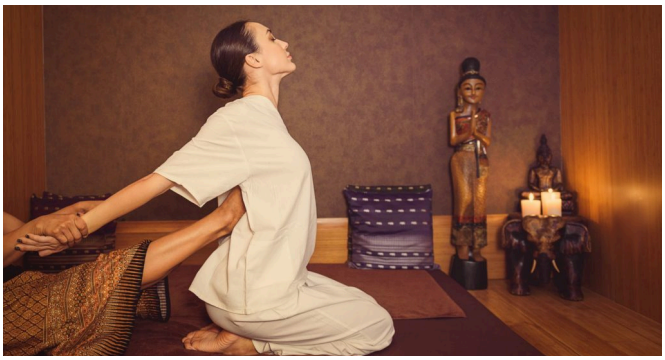
Branches near Wat Phra Singh, Wat Chedi Luang and Ratchadamnoen Road, so there's always one close to your walk. Open 10 AM–10 PM daily. Thai massage from 400 THB for an hour, or 890 THB for their two-hour signature massage. You can book online at lilathaimassage.com.

Overnight: Boutique hotel, Chiang Mai





Wat Sri Suphan, Wat Phra Singh, and the Old City lanes




Traditional Thai massage and the Chiang Mai Night Bazaar

DAY 2 Doi Suthep & Cooking Class Chiang Mai · on your own

- **Morning: Doi Suthep mountain**, Chiang Mai's sacred mountain, with four stops on the way up (see below). It's a fun, easy ride by scooter, or take a Grab or red truck from town
- **Afternoon: Grandma's Home Cooking School.** A half-day afternoon class on an organic farm just outside the city, with hotel pick-up and drop-off and vegetarian options. I'll help you book it
- **Evening: completely free**

■ DOI SUTHEP, Four Stops Up the Mountain

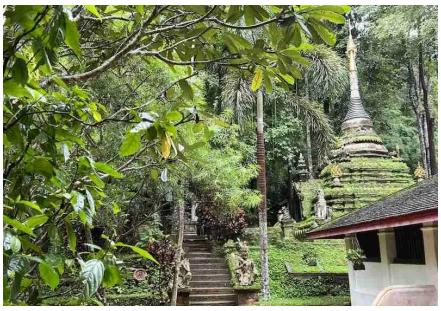
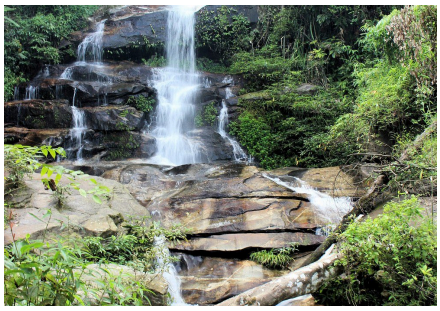
1. Wat Pha Lat: a hidden jungle temple of mossy stone stairs, waterfalls, and quiet forest, once a resting point for monks walking up the mountain.

2. Monthathan Waterfall: a cool, shaded multi-tiered waterfall in the forest, a short walk from the road.

3. Scenic viewpoint: just before the temple, with sweeping views over the city and the valley below.

4. Wat Phra That Doi Suthep: the golden chedi at the top, one of northern Thailand's most important temples. It isn't exactly off the beaten path, but it's worth the visit.

Overnight: Boutique hotel, Chiang Mai


Wat Pha Lat, Monthathan Waterfall, and the views from Doi Suthep



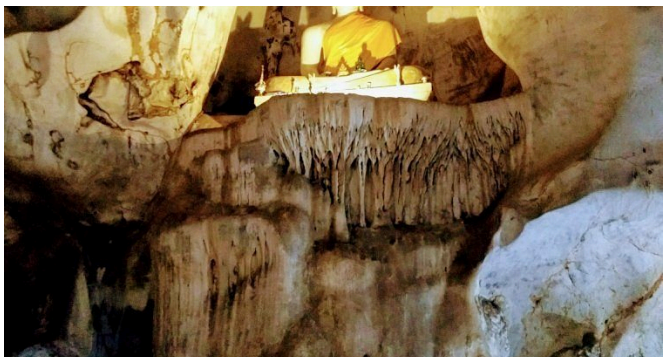

Wat Phra That Doi Suthep and an afternoon Thai cooking class

DAY 3 Coffee Village, Caves & Hot Springs Chiang Mai countryside · with Dee

- Pickup from your hotel. Today we head east into the hills by car
- **Morning: Mae Kampong**, a small coffee-growing village in the forest. Wooden houses, mountain streams, and some of the best coffee around
- **Muang On Cave**, a limestone cave with a seated Buddha among the rock formations
- **Optional: Mae Kuang Udom Thara Dam**, a calm reservoir ringed by mountains, perfect for a stretch and a few photos
- **Doi Saket hot springs**, a warm soak to finish the day before heading back to Chiang Mai
- **Optional evening: the Sunday Walking Street** on Ratchadamnoen Road in the Old City, Chiang Mai's biggest market. It's easy to reach by Grab or scooter from most central hotels

Included: Private car, fuel, guiding, and hot springs and entry fees

Overnight: Boutique hotel, Chiang Mai

Mae Kampong and Muang On Cave




Mae Kuang Udom Thara Dam and Doi Saket hot springs

HAVE MORE TIME? TWO OPTIONAL EXTRA DAYS

If you can stay longer than 3 days in Chiang Mai, these are the two days I'd add.

EXTRA A Free Day for Two & the Night Market Chiang Mai · on your own

- A full free day in Chiang Mai, with nothing fixed. It's the perfect day to pick one or two things from **Romantic Ideas for Couples** (see that section), or simply sleep in and wander
- **Evening: the Saturday Walking Street** on Wualai Road, with handmade crafts, street food, and live music

Overnight: Boutique hotel, Chiang Mai



The Saturday Walking Street on Wualai Road

EXTRA Elephants & Departure Chiang Mai · flying out

- Check out of your hotel
- **Elephant Nature Park**, north of the city. It's one of Thailand's best-known ethical sanctuaries for rescued elephants, with no riding and no shows. Visits must be booked in advance on a set program and are paid separately
- Back to Chiang Mai and on to the airport, with timing set around your flight



Elephant Nature Park

ROMANTIC IDEAS FOR COUPLES

A handful of my favorite things to do as a couple in and around Chiang Mai. None of these are fixed in your schedule. Pick whatever appeals for your free day, your open evenings, or any moment you feel like slowing down together.



Mon Jam: terraced flower and vegetable farms above the clouds

Queen Sirikit Botanic Garden & Mon Jam

Mae Rim, about an hour north of town

Glasshouses full of orchids and tropical plants, plus a canopy walkway through the treetops. It's on the way up to Mon Jam, a hilltop of terraced flower farms with views over the mountains, so the two make a beautiful half-day together.

Huai Tueng Thao Lake

About 20–30 minutes from town

A calm lake at the foot of the mountains, with bamboo huts on the water where you can order lunch and while away an afternoon.

Riverside dinner along the Ping

Evening

A slow dinner at one of the restaurants along the Ping River, with the water and the city lights beside you.

Couple's massage at a proper spa

Any afternoon

A step up from a street-side massage: a private room for two, herbal compresses, and a couple of unhurried hours.

Art in Paradise

Near the Night Bazaar

A playful 3D art museum where you step into the paintings. Silly, fun, and great for couple photos.

Cycle the quiet lanes of the eastern Old City

Morning or late afternoon

Rent bicycles and drift through the residential lanes on the east side of the Old City, past small temples, cafés, and everyday neighborhood life.

Pottery or craft workshop for two

Half a day

Make something by hand together and take it home, a far better souvenir than anything from a shop.

Evening walk at Wat Suan Dok

Around sunset

A field of white chedis glowing in the last light, with Doi Suthep rising behind. Peaceful, uncrowded, and one of the prettiest sunsets in the city.

WHERE TO EAT IN CHIANG MAI

A short list of places I genuinely love, with plenty of vegetarian options. Two of them are fully vegan.

Huen Muan Jai

Chang Phueak, just north of the Old City · 11 AM–9 PM, closed Wednesdays

Classic Northern Thai cooking in a traditional Lanna house. The Northern appetizer platter, gaeng hung lay, and khao soi are favorites. Ask about vegetarian versions.

Anchan Noodle

Nimman (Siri Mangkalajarn Rd) · 8 AM–4 PM daily

Bright blue butterfly pea flower noodles and fresh anchan juice with lime. Great for a lunch stop. Noodles can be made without pork.

Chennai to Rangoon

Old City (Ratchadamnoen Rd) · 10 AM–10 PM daily

South Indian and Burmese flavors under one roof. Masala dosa, biryani, and a Burmese tea leaf salad, with lots of vegetarian choices.

Kad Manee

Near Airport Plaza · evenings from about 5 PM

A local evening food market around a small lake, with lots of vendors, plenty of seating, and live music. Very relaxed and very local.

Lang Mor Night Market

Suthep Rd, behind Chiang Mai University · 5–10:30 PM daily

Chiang Mai's student food street: cheap, cheerful, and buzzing. Skewers, Japanese crepes, shaved ice, and everything in between.

Malin Plaza

Huay Kaew Rd, opposite Chiang Mai University · evenings

Another lively student night market near Nimman, with street food, snacks, and inexpensive clothes stalls.

Free Bird Cafe FULLY VEGAN

Nimman (Sirimangkalajarn Soi 9) · closed Mondays

A social enterprise café whose profits support Burmese refugees and local communities. Zero-waste kitchen, local organic produce, and a charity thrift store attached.

Vegan Heaven FULLY VEGAN

Old City (Moon Muang Soi 9)

Hearty plant-based Thai and Western dishes, a short walk from Tha Phae Gate.

I hope this gives you a feel for the kind of trip I could plan for you both. If you'd like your own version, just send me your dates and a few things you'd love to do, and I'll take it from there.

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With warmest regards,

Dee

Founder, Off Path Thailand Co., Ltd.

We look forward to taking you off the beaten path.

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