

## 8-day, Northern Thailand - Golden Triangle & MHS Loop (M-ID: 4580)

<https://www.motourismo.com/en/listings/4580-8-day-northern-thailand-golden-triangle-and-mhs-loop>



**from \$2,875.00**

Dates and duration (days)

On request

8 days

09/21/2024 - 09/28/2024 8 days

**This 8 day tour (6 riding days) through Northern Thailand gives you a chance to gain a thorough impression of the uniqueness of this beautiful region.**

In total, this trip covers approximately 1,410 km of some of the best riding anywhere in the world.

We explore the back roads from Chiang Mai to Chiang Rai, where we visit the famous White temple. Via beautiful Phu Chi Fa to the Mekong River and Golden Triangle, the region was made famous by Khun Sa, once one of the world's most infamous drug kings, who even had his own private army.

Between Mae Taeng and Mae Hong Son, there are 1,864 bends or twisties which gives everybody a great opportunity to improve their cornering skills whatever their level of expertise.

Among the highlights of the trip, you can visit the Long Neck Women of the Karon Tribe, famous for the brass rings that they wear around their necks. Before returning to Chiang Mai we ride to the top of Thailand, the highest mountain in Thailand (Doi Inthanon), 2,565 meters.

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### Highlights:

Chiang Rai / White temple, Phu Chi Fa, Golden Triangle, Mekong River, Road of 1,864 curves, Long Neck Hill Tribe, Doi Inthanon, endless mountain riding, and stunning scenery.

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### Itinerary:

Day 1: Chiang Mai

Arrival at Chiang Mai Airport (no later than 1 pm). Transfer to the hotel. At 3 pm transfer to our Service Center for a welcome briefing, answer any questions you might have and motorcycle hand over. Short motorcycle ride back to the hotel. Please plan your arrival to Chiang Mai accordingly. In the evening we have a Welcome Dinner and a briefing about the tour. Overnight in Chiang Mai.

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### Day 2: Chiang Mai - Chiang Rai

For most of the day, the roads are rural with low traffic density. There are nice bends and a pleasant riding environment the whole day. We are quickly out of Chiang Mai, riding the back road to Phrao, further up the mountain to Doi Chang with its coffee plantations and beautiful views. During the early afternoon when getting close to Chiang Rai, we take some back roads to Wat Rong Khun (White Temple), the remarkable temple which is today recognized as one of the main attractions all over Thailand. Park your motorcycle and take a stroll inside the temple. There are plenty of coffee shops around the temple. From here we have a short 30-minute ride to our hotel in downtown Chiang Rai which is the end destination of the day. After dinner, visit the busy night bazaar or just relax with a Thai massage at the beautiful centrally located hotel. Overnight Chiang Rai.

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### Day 3: Chiang Rai - Chiang Khong

From Chiang Rai, we head in an eastern direction towards the mountain of Phu Chi Fa, where we enjoy lunch. Phu Chi Fa is located on the border between Thailand and Laos. It's

a great ride up there, the scenery is spectacular, lots of photo opportunities. The road is local and not much traffic. Since Phu Chi Fa is fairly remote, there are not many tourists who make it to this part of Thailand. If time permits and the weather is clear, we ride up to the viewpoint and walk to the cliff on the border to Laos, enjoying the valley views. Descending from Phu Chi Fa towards the mighty Mekong River, stopping at the View Coffee, a beautiful spot then continuing along the Mekong River to Chiang Khong where we stay overnight at our riverside hotel.

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#### Day 4: Chiang Khong - Thaton

From Chiang Khong, we ride alongside the mighty Mekong River to the legendary Golden Triangle where the three borders of Thailand, Myanmar, and Laos meet. We will ride up to the viewpoint from where we have a great panoramic view of the Golden Triangle. There is an opium museum close by for those who are interested to learn more about the opium trade in this area not so long ago.

From the Golden Triangle, we continue to Mae Sai, the most northern point of Thailand and one of the main border crossings to Myanmar.

From Mae Sai, we ride up the mountains to Doi Tung and Doi Mae Salong on yet more amazingly twisty mountainous roads. Doi Mae Salong is a Chinese settlement that was built by a division of the Chinese Nationalist Army that refused to surrender to Chinese communists after the Nationalist Kuomintang government was routed in 1949. Today the village still offers native Chinese cuisine, lovely houses with flowers, and countless tea plantations as far as the eyes can see.

The final part of today's route will take us along gentle hills through rice paddies and farm villages. We follow the Kok River for a while before you turn left to your resort at Thaton. Enjoy a cold drink and stretch your legs by the pool. Overnight in Thaton.

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#### Day 5: Thaton - Pai

Another great motorcycle day is ahead of us. After breakfast, we ride up the hill in Thaton and enjoy a splendid view from Wat Thaton over the town and the vicinity. We follow the main road Nr. 107 and have a coffee break at the Hua Luk Royal Project. Lunch can be held at The Nest Resort with a beautiful view of the Limestone Mountains in the back.

At Mae Tang, we turn right on 1095 and cross the mountains from Pai. This is the beginning of the road to Mae Hong Son, famous for having 1864 bends of varying sharpness. Before we reach our hotel we stop at an Elephant Camp near Pai. Once in Pai, enjoy the pool at the resort, stroll down along the walking street, etc.

Relax by the pool at the hotel before we dine at local restaurants along the walking street. The whole area is littered with restaurants, bars, food stalls, etc. We will explore and enjoy. We stay overnight in Pai.

Note:

Pai is the hippie capital of South East Asia. It's a town full of diversity and contradictions. There are backpackers, tourists with suite cases, and people who once came and never left. Mixed from all corners of the earth, all walks of life, and age groups. This little town is full of bars with live music. Enjoy!

Overnight in Pai.

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#### Day 6: Pai - Mae Hong Son

Today is a rather relaxed riding day. You will only ride for about 180 km.

This is also the second part of the road famous for its 1864 bends of varying sharpness. We pass two mountains with 2 nice scenic View Points en route. The journey takes us through some beautiful mountainous scenery. Around mid-day, we arrive at Ban Rak Thai where we have lunch in one of the local Chinese restaurants by the little lake. They serve delicious Chinese specialties. Ban Rak Thai means literally "the Thai-loving village", built around a lake on the Myanmar border. About 800, mainly Chinese settled here after the communist takeover of China and some of the buildings have a distinctively Chinese appearance.

The next destination is the pier where we park our motorcycles. Enjoy a scenic boat ride on the Pai River for about 20 min to the Karen Long Neck village. The Karen, a tribal minority, historically lived in the hills on the Myanmar side of the border. Some of their women wear heavy brass rings around their necks, forearms, and shins. Many ideas regarding why the coils are worn have been suggested. Some have hypothesized that the rings protected women from becoming slaves by making them less attractive to other tribes. Another theory is that the coils originate from the desire to look more attractive.

Return by boat to the pier and ride to the nearby Fern Resort, a lovely resort in the middle of rice paddies. Enjoy first a drink at the sunset bar overlooking the rice paddies and then dinner at the resort. If still some energy left, take a drink at the bonfire. We stay overnight at Fern Resort near Mae Hong Son.

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#### Day 7: Mae Hong Son - Chiang Mai

In the morning we leave Mae Hong Son behind and ride to Khun Yuam. It is a great winding road with wide bends. In Khun Yuam we visit the local Museum. The Imperial Japanese Army troops were stationed in Khun Yuam during the construction of a highway intended to cross Burma to India. Tip: Ask the museum staff to show the video about the history (approx. 10 min, included). Next to the museum, there is a great Coffee Shop and a 7/11 store.

From Khun Yuam we continue to Mae Chaem on great twisty back roads. Lunch at a little local restaurant. We continue up to the top of Doi Inthanon, which at 2,565 meters is the highest mountain in Thailand.

The next stop is the Wachiratharn Waterfall - an impressive

and powerful 80 m high waterfall. From here we ride the last part of Doi Inthanon national park. Once down in the valley, we have another 50 km to our Service Center in Chiang Mai where we expect to arrive around 5 PM. Transfer to your hotel in Chiang Mai followed by a farewell dinner. Overnight in Chiang Mai.

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#### Day 8: Chiang Mai Departure

This amazing trip ends with the transfer to the airport or your holiday extension.

Hope you enjoyed it!

Countries	Thailand
Category	Motorcycle Tour
Terrain	Onroad
Vehicle	motorcycle rent incl.
Tourguide / Coach	yes (guided)
Accommodation	Hotel / B&B or similar
Flight to / from	no, not incl.
Ferry	no, not incl.
Support vehicle (luggage/service)	yes
Customer payment protection	yes
* PRICING	Minimal without optional extras, see pricing

## Pricing

per rider in shared/double room incl. Triumph Tiger Sport 660 (Only available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room surcharge.)	\$2,875.00
per rider in shared/double room incl. Triumph Tiger Sport 850 (Only available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room surcharge.)	\$2,875.00
per rider in shared/double room incl. Triumph Tiger 900 GT Pro (Only available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room surcharge.)	\$2,995.00
per rider in shared/double room incl. BMW R1250 GS (Only available for a booking of two persons. Single travelers need to choose the single room surcharge.)	\$3,235.00
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per pillion passenger in shared twin/double room (pillion passengers cannot book without an accompanying rider)	\$1,110.00
per person single room (surcharge - only available with an additional selection of the basic price "per rider in shared twin/double room")	\$420.00
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**IMPORTANT:** The price for a single rider in a sharing room requires another single rider booking with the same request. If there is no other request for room sharing we will have to charge you the single room supplement

Rental riding helmet, jacket and gloves (Surcharge) - On request

## Included

Airport/Hotel/Service Center transfers in Chiang Mai at arrival and departure days

7 nights with Breakfast at carefully selected quality hotels and resorts with leisure facilities

6 Lunches and 7 Dinners

Water, soft drinks, coffee/tea in connection with the meals

Late-model Motorcycle rental with unlimited mileage and fuel

Panniers and top box if desired, basic motorcycle crash protection bars, etc.

Experienced Tour leader on a motorcycle

English speaking licensed Tour guide

Support vehicle

Transfer of luggage in the support vehicle

Entrance fees

Tour description

## **Not included**

Flights

On rest days, if any, no lunch or dinner included

Alcoholic beverages

Riding gear (helmet, jacket & gloves can be rented at the Service Center. We do not provide pants and boots). We do recommend to bring your own.

Personal Travel Insurance.

All services not mentioned as included and all items of a personal nature

## **More details**

Start/Finish: Chiang Mai, Thailand

Arrival/Departure: Chiang Mai Airport

Duration: 8 days total, 6 riding days

Total riding distance: 1410km

Daily stages: between 180-300km

Terrain: Paved roads

Rest days: No

Weather: Depends on what time of the year you are in, the temperature can drop to around 10°C (50°F) during the cold season night, or can go as high as 40°C (104°F) during the summer day. Below is the average temperatures and chance of rain for Northern Thailand and its neighboring countries.

Northern Thailand, Laos, Myanmar and Vietnam: 10-30°C (50-86°F), Chance of Rain 0-20% during October to March 23-36°C (73-97°F), Chance of Rain 30-80% during April to September

Riding gear: We can provide you a helmet and riding jacket with a surcharge of USD 10.- per day for each item. However we do suggest you bring your own riding gear for the tour if possible, since they will suit you better.

Languages: Our tour guides and Road Captains are all bilingual. Besides Thai and English some of us speak German, Scandinavian, Slovenian etc. Upon request we can provide tour guides speaking other languages. When we have a group from a specific country, we will, upon request, ensure that one of our staff speaks that language.

**Group size:** We strive to offer the best possible individual guest service and a safe riding environment. Therefore, our groups are relatively small and typically kept to 8 to 10 guest motorcycles plus pillion. Most of our guests prefer groups of this size, where diversity of age, motorcycle experience and interests ignites instant friendships.

**Motorcycle Damage & Loss Coverage:** We have motorcycle damage & loss coverage. Your motorcycle security deposit amount is your maximum liability limit. This coverage is included in the tour prices for riding in Thailand, while for multi-country tours, we have a waiver program available to obtain the coverage for the riding days outside of Thailand.

In the case of any replacement parts being required due to damage caused during the rental period we shall charge the rental customer for these parts, according to the Replacement Parts Price List, up to a maximum deductible amount of the excess amount listed in the table below (according the motorcycle type).

Maximum excess for each Motorcycle Type:

- Triumph Tiger 660: USD 1,500
- Triumph Tiger 850: USD 1,700
- BMW R1250GS: USD 2,500

**Accommodation and meals:** accommodations are carefully selected quality hotels and resorts with leisure facilities. Besides, we select quality restaurants serving fresh local delicious cuisines that reflect the character of the area in which we travel. We also strive to cater to our guests preferring vegetarian, western or other food preferences, prior notice required.

**Age limit:** Minimum age limit for riders is 25 years old. We have no maximum age limit so long as you are in good condition to handle and ride the motorcycle. Pillion passengers should be not less than 15 years of age.

**Driving license and riding ability:** The customer declares that he/she possess a valid Driving License from their home country and an International Driving License for motorbike over 500 cc (the vehicle) taking part in the tour for the period of travel and has the necessary riding ability, technically, mentally and physically to control such a vehicle booked, safely on the tour route. The customer also declares to have experience of riding motorcycles above 500 cc for at least a total of 10,000 km.

Remarks:

The roads are mostly easy to ride but there are some steep and technically demanding stretches. You must be able to handle a motorcycle and do not expect to learn how to ride while on this tour.

Every riding day is designed in such a way that there is time for riding, relaxing, dining and sightseeing.

We are pleased to assist you with the booking of additional nights in Chiang Mai or any other services in connection with the tour