

THAILAND

Birding Across the Kingdom of Siam

20.10° N - 12.82° N



November 6 - 20, 2026



Wild **LATITUDES**
WORLDWIDE NATURE TOURS

THAILAND

Birding Across the Kingdom of Siam

Greetings, Fellow Explorer!

Embark on an exploration of the Kingdom of Siam, a radiant gem of biodiversity on the Indochinese peninsula. This country offers some of the best birding in Southeast Asia, with over 1,000 species. Thailand is particularly rich with colorful, charismatic birds like pheasants, pittas, broadbills, trogons, kingfishers, and hornbills.

Our trip begins in the northern city of **Chiang Mai**. We'll explore this charming city, and visit the revered Buddhist temple of Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, first established in the year 1383 AD.

Next, we'll journey to Thailand's far north, along the famous Doi Lang road. This is the land of hill tribe farmers living among the grasslands, pine-oak woodlands, and Sino-Himalayan temperate forests. In **Doi Pha Hom Pok National Park**, a stone's throw from the border with Myanmar, we'll seek remarkable birds like the **Giant Nuthatch**, **Himalayan Bluetail**, **Golden Bush Robin**, and the possibility of spotting the elusive **Mrs. Hume's Pheasant**.

Our adventure then continues southward, to **Doi Inthanon National Park**, a mountainous region rich in temperate and subtropical forests, where we can find the **Blossom-headed Parakeet**, **Common Flameback** woodpecker, and countless other remarkable birds.

Then we'll fly south to the bustling city of **Bangkok**. We'll dedicate a full day to explore some of the city's iconic sites, including the temple of **Wat Phra Kaew** and the **Grand Palace**.

Leaving Bangkok, we head south to visit the renowned salt pans and coastal wetlands of Pak Thale. There, our goal is to find the extraordinary and critically endangered **Spoon-billed Sandpiper**. The coastal habitats should also yield many other interesting shorebirds and waterbirds.

Finally, we'll journey to **Kaeng Krachan National Park**, Thailand's largest park, which spans 927 square miles of evergreen tropical forest. This is home to fascinating mammals like the **Sun Bear**, **Dusky Leaf Monkey**, and **Asian Elephant**. The birding opportunities here are exceptional. Special birds we hope to find include **Orange-breasted Trogon**, **Long-tailed Broadbill**, and **Great Slaty Woodpecker**.

Known as the "Land of Smiles," Thailand invites you to experience its warm hospitality, its stunning landscapes, and the unique diversity of its wildlife.



Steve Robertson and Ivan Phillipsen

Co-owners and Lead Guides at Wild Latitudes

info@wildlatitudes.com 503-714-3504

TRIP DETAILS

Start Date: Nov 6, 2026

Duration of Main Tour: 15 days

Number of participants: Max of 12

Price of Tour: \$5,495 per person

Deposit: \$2,700

Single Supplement: \$1,300

Trip Leaders: Dan Van den Broek and Ivan Phillipsen

Activity Level: Moderate

Included:

- Double-occupancy lodging
- Ground transportation
- Breakfasts and lunches
- Excursions and park fees
- Guiding services

Not Included:

- International Flights
- Dinners
- Alcoholic beverages
- Personal items
- Optional gratuities for guides

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ITINERARY

Tentative and subject to change depending on weather, road, or other conditions.

Day 1 - Nov 6 - Arrive to Chiang Mai

Welcome to Thailand! The group arrives at the Chiang Mai International Airport, in the country's northern region. Your trip leaders **Dan Van den Broek** and **Ivan Phillipsen** will be there to greet you. After brief introductions, we'll load into our vehicle and transfer to the hotel. It will be evening, so we'll have just a short meeting and some refreshments before we settle into our rooms for the night.

Lodging: [Siripanna Villa Resort](#)

Day 2 - Nov 7 - Sites Around Chiang Mai

We'll begin this morning for an optional bird walk around the hotel grounds. The gardens host a nice selection of birds, including **Common Myna**, **Eurasian Tree Sparrow**, **Oriental Magpie-Robin**, **Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker**, and **White Wagtail**. However, if you'd rather sleep a bit more, we'll see you at breakfast!

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Late this morning, we'll visit the amazing temple of **Wat Phra That Doi Suthep**, built in 1383 AD. This sacred site takes influences from both Buddhism and Hinduism. There will be some birding in the area, and we'll have lunch before heading back to Chiang Mai. We'll begin filling in our bird and wildlife lists in the evening as we enjoy cold beverages. You'll have time this evening to explore the colorful, lively night market and food markets of Chiang Mai.

Lodging: [Siripanna Villa Resort](#)

Day 3 - Nov 8 - Birding on the way to Fang

Mid-morning, we'll check out of the lodge and head into the lush countryside north of Chiang Mai. We'll be birding en route, scanning the fields and forests. We'll likely make a few stops to search for special birds like **Burmese Shrike**, **Indochinese Bushlark**, and **Gray-headed Lapwing**, just to name a few.

In the early evening, we arrive in the town of Fang. We'll stay three nights at the hotel here. We're perfectly positioned to explore the nearby national park. Before dinner, we'll review our bird list for the day.

Lodging: [Sleeping Tree Hotel](#)



Doi Pha Hom Pok National Park

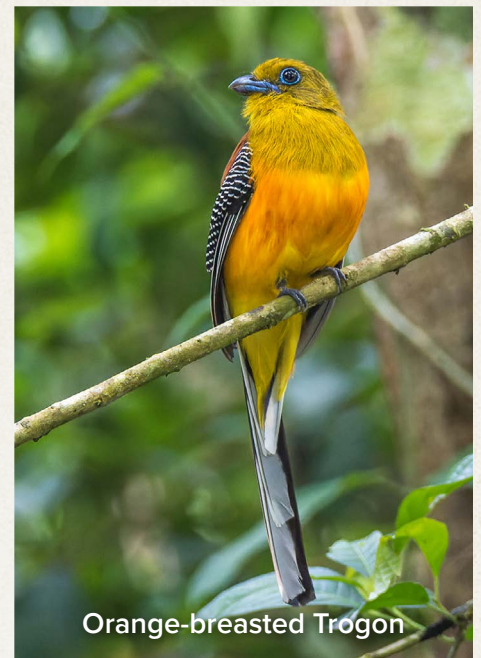
Day 4 - Nov 9 - Doi Lang and Doi Pha Hom Pok National Park

This promises to be an exciting day, full of wonderful birds and lovely habitats! We'll take our breakfast and lunch into the field, since we'll be getting an early start. We'll depart early to drive the famous birding route along the **Doi Lang Road**. This road straddles the Thailand-Myanmar border in the Daen Leo mountain range. We'll have access to excellent birding here in **Doi Pha Hom Pok National Park**.

Driving and walking the road, we'll stop at several birding stations. We'll be searching for species like **Giant Nuthatch**, **Rusty-cheeked Scimitar-Babbler**, **Rufous-gorgeted Flycatcher**, **Red-flanked Bluetail**, **Large Niltava**, **Black-backed Sibia**, and **Red-faced Liocichla**.

Back at our hotel in Fang, we'll fill in our bird list and celebrate the day over drinks before dinner.

Lodging: [Sleeping Tree Hotel](#)



Day 5 - Nov 10 - King's Project Botanical Gardens

We'll spend much of the day at the **King's Project Botanical Garden**. This is part of the larger Doi Tung Development Project, which aimed to help the local hill tribe communities with sustainable agriculture, education, and healthcare. The area now

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Royal Temple in Doi Inthanon National Park



Red-faced
Liocichla



Rufous-throated Partridge



Forest Crested Lizard



To register for this tour, email or call: info@wildlatitudes.com, 503-714-3504

flourishes with coffee plantations, handicrafts, and ecotourism, all tied to the development efforts initiated by the Royal Family.

A stop at a birding station nearby may have species like **White-tailed Robin**, **Rufous-bellied Niltava**, and **Hill Blue Flycatcher**. We also hope to find **Common Rosefinch**, **White-headed Bulbul**, **Olive-backed Pipit**, and more. You will have time to wander and explore the beautiful gardens.

We have one more night at our hotel, where we'll enjoy a relaxing evening.

Lodging: [Sleeping Tree Hotel](#)

Day 6 - Nov 11 - Driving to Doi Inthanon

It's time to check out of our hotel and return south. We'll be heading to **Doi Inthanon National Park**, southeast of Chiang Mai.

We'll break up the drive with a few interesting stops along the way. Once we arrive at Inthanon, we'll check in and then walk around the gardens to see what birds are in the area. We'll stay three nights at this lodge, which is owned by our local birding guide.

Lodging: [Rangbondoi](#)

Day 7 - Nov 12 - Doi Inthanon National Park

Doi Inthanon National Park boasts a rich array of ecosystems, from tropical rainforests and cloud forests at higher elevations, to deciduous forests and grasslands. It also protects vital freshwater ecosystems with its rivers and beautiful waterfalls.

We'll visit many birding sites in the park's lush forests. One scenic highlight is a visit to the twin spire-like pagodas on **Inthanon peak**, which at 8,415 ft, is the nation's highest point.

Our Commitment to Conservation

On every Wild Latitudes tour, we aim to make a positive conservation impact wherever we travel. We utilize the services of local guides and, when possible, stay in environmentally-sensitive, locally-owned lodges. Through our partnership with the Rainforest Trust, a portion of all international tour fees goes to purchasing rainforest acreage, for its protection in perpetuity. On every trip, we also make a contribution to a local conservation effort that works to protect a native species or ecosystem.



Long-tailed Broadbill

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At various stops today, we should see birds like **Small Niltava**, **Chestnut-vented Nuthatch**, **Golden-throated Barbet**, and **Rufous-throated Partridge**. While we're visiting one of the picturesque waterfalls in the park, we'll keep our eyes open for some songbirds that forage along the banks of the stream: **White-capped Redstart**, **Slaty-backed Forktail**, and **Gray Wagtail**.

Back at the lodge, we'll work on our bird lists before dinner.

Lodging: [Rangbondoi](#)

Day 8 - Nov 13 - Doi Inthanon National Park, continued

We have a second full day to explore the national park.

Lodging: [Rangbondoi](#)



Asian Elephant



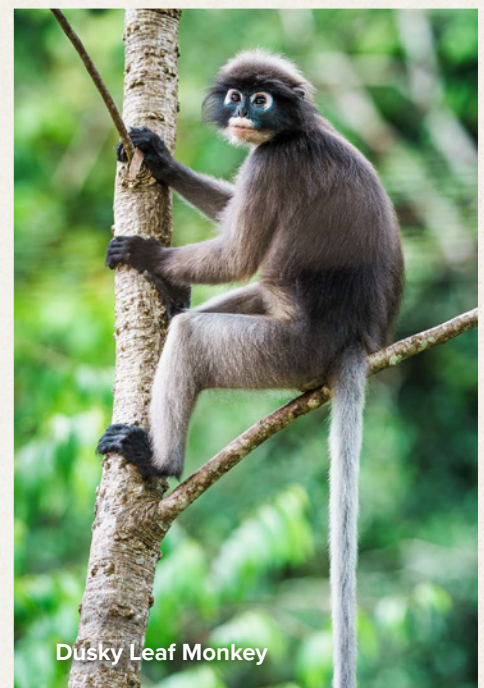
Mrs. Gould's Sunbird



Kalij Pheasant



Wat Phra That Doi Suthep temple in Bangkok



Dusky Leaf Monkey



Spoon-billed Sandpiper

Day 9 - Nov 14 - Flight to Bangkok

As we leave the Inthanon area, we'll depart mid-morning. We plan to have lunch en route. An afternoon flight gets us back to **Bangkok**, then we'll transfer to our hotel near the Chao Phraya River. After dinner, you are free to head out to explore the bustling city as you choose. For example, you could take in the view of **Wat Arun** (Temple of Dawn) across the river. Its ornate spires are beautifully lit in the evening.

Lodging: [Casa Nithra](#)

Day 10 - Nov 15 - Exploring Bangkok

We have a full day to experience the charms of Bangkok. Thailand's largest city is a vibrant metropolis, where ancient temples, bustling markets, and amazing cuisine blend with modern skyscrapers to create a unique mixture of cultural attractions.

After breakfast, we'll spend some quality time admiring the temple of **Wat Phra Kaew**. This is often considered to be Thailand's most sacred Buddhist temple. Many of its elaborate structures are covered in gold leaf, so that they glitter in the sun. Next, we'll visit the similarly spectacular **Grand Palace**, home to the Kings of Siam in years past.

The rest of the day after lunch is free for you to explore Bangkok as you desire. Or you can simply rest and relax—perhaps enjoying a delicious beverage like Thai iced tea—before the adventure continues tomorrow.

Lodging: [Casa Nithra](#)

Day 11 - Nov 16 - Salt Pans and Searching for the Spoon-billed Sandpiper

Today, we load the bus in the morning and head southeast of Bangkok, to the coastal town of Petchaburi. Our first stop will be at the **Pak Thale salt pans**. These are located on the shores of the Gulf of Thailand. We'll be searching for **Red-necked Stint**, **Marsh Sandpiper**, and **Broad-billed Sandpiper**, and many other shorebirds. The star of this location, however, is the critically endangered **Spoon-billed Sandpiper**. We'll make every effort to see this charming, rare bird.

As evening approaches, we'll arrive at our next lodge. Before dinner, we'll go through our bird list and enjoy some camaraderie.

Lodging: [Baan Maka](#)



Kaeng Krachan National Park



Sun Bear



Floating Market in Bangkok

Day 12 - Nov 17 - Kaeng Krachan National Park

We are now on the Malay Peninsula, and the southernmost part of our journey. Our lodge sits just outside the border of **Kaeng Krachan**, Thailand's largest national park and a UNESCO World Heritage Site. We have the day to explore this amazing place. The park protects tropical and subtropical forests, including tropical evergreen, dry evergreen, mixed deciduous, and bamboo forests. This rich diversity of habitats is home to nearly 500 bird species and many other animals. We should see evidence of **Asian Elephants**, and we'll likely hear the far-carrying calls of the **White-handed Gibbon**. We have good chances of seeing small groups of the charming **Dusky Leaf Monkey**. This is also one of the best places in the world to find the unique **Sun Bear**.



White-capped Redstart



Great Hornbill

Mixed species flocks moving through the trees can yield a flurry of interesting birds. We'll hope for some nice stakeouts to see what species turn up. The rewards will be great if we get views of birds like **Long-tailed Broadbill**, **White-fronted Scops-Owl**, **Asian Paradise-Flycatcher**, and the awe-inspiring **Great Hornbill**. No doubt we'll have many birds to record on our list this evening—not to mention some great mammals, reptiles, and amphibians!

Lodging: [Baan Maka](#)

Day 13 - Nov 18 - Kaeng Krachan National Park, continued

We'll have another full day to explore parts of the park we haven't visited yet. This gives us another chance to find some birds and wildlife species we may have missed the previous day.

Lodging: [Baan Maka](#)

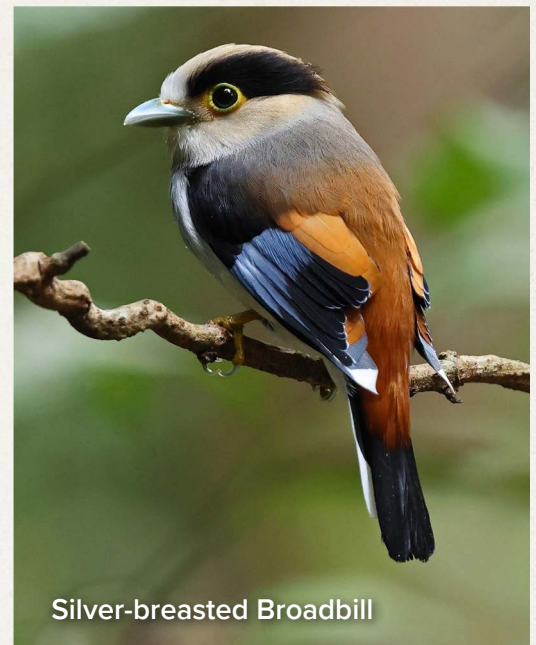
Day 14 - Nov 19 - Return to Bangkok

After a quiet morning enjoying the birds around the lodge, we'll make a leisurely drive back to Bangkok, where we'll stay close to the airport. We'll finish up our bird and wildlife lists and then enjoy one last dinner together.

Lodging: [Siam Mandarin Airport Hotel](#)

Day 15 - Nov 20 - Departures

We head to the Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi International Airport, where we'll say our goodbyes after a jam-packed, incredible journey across Thailand.



Silver-breasted Broadbill

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YOUR GUIDES

Dan Van den Broek

Dan spent countless days tracking down birds, exploring a woodlot next to his childhood home. Dan's single minded pursuit of birds opened his eyes to how plants and the landscape were being used by his avian neighbors. His curiosity expanded to include anything he could identify: dragonflies, butterflies, frogs, salamanders, small mammals, etc. There are so many rewards when you take a minute to pay attention to what is happening in nature, such as interpreting behavior, understanding migratory patterns, and knowing intricate plant and animal relationships, to name a few.

Critical to our understanding of nature and conservation is to consider how people and nature can coexist in a mutually beneficial way and vital to travel is to ensure that people and nature benefit from tourism.

Dan spent the past 18 years leading trips throughout the world, sharing amazing experiences with hundreds of people.



Ivan Phillipsen

Ivan is a dedicated naturalist with a background in scientific research. He holds a M.S. in Biology from Cal State San Bernardino and a Ph.D. in Zoology from Oregon State University. As Co-owner of Wild Latitudes, Ivan has been able to apply his knowledge in crafting and leading ecotours around the world.

Natural history is Ivan's true passion and what he is most excited to share with tour participants. Although he is fascinated by just about every aspect of nature, Ivan is particularly fond of birds, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates, plants, and geology. Everything is interconnected in nature and he does his best to take a holistic approach when teaching about the natural world.

Ivan is also the creator and host of the popular podcast *The Science of Birds*.



IMPORTANT INFORMATION

THE PACE AND STYLE OF OUR TOURS

The primary goal of our trips is to experience and learn about the natural world, especially the region's birds and other wildlife, and of course, to have fun! As birding is often a primary focus of our tours, and birds are active in the morning, we will sometimes have early morning outings before breakfast. That said, our style of birding may not be ideal for hard-core "listers." We prefer to spend time observing the species we encounter, and learn a bit about their natural history, rather than rushing through the field to add the maximum number of species to our bird list. We also make diversions for interesting, non-avian wildlife, plants, geological wonders, and cultural activities. The pace of most of our trips is moderate, and we encourage anyone in good health to attend and enjoy the experience. Please contact us about if you need specific information on the types of physical activities on a tour and their physical requirements.

We strive to immerse participants in the local culture and to that end, wherever possible, we stay in locally owned and operated hotels that are designed and run in an environmentally sustainable way. Though some accommodations may be more basic than others, all are safe, clean and comfortable. We also utilize the services of local guides, visit local markets, and other culturally significant sites.

TOUR DATE AND TRIP LEADER CHANGES

Leaders and schedules are determined up to a year in advance of our tours. In the event that we have a change in a tour's dates or leaders, we reserve the right to do so, and will strive to inform participants as early in the process as possible. Additional leaders may be added to tours according to the group size, and will be specified in the tour itinerary. We also reserve the right to cancel any trip for which there are insufficient reservations.

HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE TOUR

When you're ready to sign up for the tour, please let us know by doing one of the following:

- Send us an email at info@wildlatitudes.com
- Call us at 503-714-3504

Then we'll send you the link to our online registration form. You can choose to pay your deposit by credit card or check. See 'Deposit Policy' below.

DEPOSIT POLICY

A deposit is due at the time of registration. ***A deposit is the only thing that guarantees your place on the trip.*** Registration can be made over the phone with a credit card: 503-714-3504. *Note:* there is an additional 3.0% fee for credit card payments. This is only what we are charged by the credit card company.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Checks are happily accepted and should be made out to *Wild Latitudes LLC*. Include the tour name on the memo line of the check and send to:

Wild Latitudes, PO Box 25115, Portland, OR 97298.

PAYMENT POLICY

Full payment is required **90 days** prior to the tour departure date for international tours or any tour involving flights; and **30 days** prior to the tour departure date for local (i.e. in the Portland, Oregon area), van-based tours.

CANCELLATION POLICY

In the event a participant needs to cancel a reservation for any tour, the following policies will apply:

- **90 days** or more prior to tour departure date, the deposit will be refunded, minus an administrative fee of \$100.
- **Less than 90 days but more than 60 days** prior to tour departure date, all payments refunded, minus 50% of deposit.
- **Less than 60 days** prior to tour departure date, no refunds will be given.

We *strongly* recommend that you purchase trip cancellation insurance to protect yourself from unforeseen circumstances.

If for any reason Wild Latitudes cancels a tour prior to the start of the tour, full refunds—minus the cost of any internal/in-country airline tickets purchased and/or any non-refundable deposits or expenses already made by Wild Latitudes—will be given to all participants. In the event that the tour is canceled while underway due to unforeseeable events such as but not limited to natural disaster, military activities, social uprising, or other extremely dangerous conditions not within the control of Wild Latitudes, no refund will be issued.
