



INSTANT EXPERT

a travel professional's guide to Southeast Asia

Abercrombie & Kent



Abercrombie & Kent

SOUTHEAST ASIA

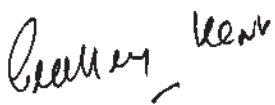
With in-country offices in Thailand, Vietnam, Cambodia and Myanmar and dedicated agents in Laos, A&K has become the leading supplier of upmarket travel arrangements throughout Southeast Asia.

Since the official opening of our Bangkok office in 1988, we have converted thousands of dreams into reality for VIPs, incentive groups, cruise ships and private jet charters.

Something of a rare gem, Southeast Asia benefits from not only a mix of magnificent & intriguing cultures but also a tremendous sense of old world charm in every way of local life. From superlative service to gracious manners, respect and smiling, friendly people, luxury travel in Southeast Asia is akin to stepping back in time. Golden spires, ancient temples, bustling open-air markets and fading colonial facades all evoke an exotic feeling of history and tradition.

Whether you are seeking an over-indulgent escape or a rustic experience tinged with adventure, our experienced on-site offices are ready, willing and more than able to exceed expectations of each & every guest, no matter how grand or lavish they may be.

Our A&K teams in Southeast Asia look forward to providing your clients with inspirational experiences singular to this enigmatic region.



Geoffrey Kent
Founder, Chairman & CEO



Abercrombie & Kent in Southeast Asia

Abercrombie & Kent is proud to provide a true point of difference in Southeast Asia. A&K's Insider Access moments work to satisfy your client's demand to delve into the culture of the country they are visiting – to understand, interact and ultimately, to expand their own horizons. Utilising on-the-ground local knowledge, our Insider Access opportunities identify the hidden aspects of a destination, allowing your clients unique access to the excitement of rare and authentic moments that few travellers enjoy.

Researchers, experts and passionate individuals; A&K employs highly experienced staff & guides. Educated and engaging, our guides' extensive knowledge of history, architecture, food, wine, indigenous culture & arts enables each journey to be tailored to each traveller.

A&K provides security and reassurance; our 24-hour contact lines in each destination enable our clients to immediate correspondence and assistance whenever required. To provide added peace of mind, our in-country specialists and local presence ensure that your clients deal with A&K, and A&K only.

Unique personal relationships with hoteliers, third party suppliers and local communities mean that Abercrombie & Kent possess the ability to "open closed doors" and secure priority check-in, preferential treatment, room upgrades, flexible check-out times and exclusive A&K amenities at hotels.

Whether your clients are travelling independently, on a shore excursion, as part of a group or on a family holiday, our vastly experienced team will go the extra mile to exceed client expectations.



With nine regional offices across Southeast Asia for almost 30 years, Abercrombie & Kent ensures the provision of seamless luxury travel with an unparalleled level of service • An exclusive selection of handpicked guides offer unique experience, unwavering passion and expert knowledge in each A&K destination • Invaluable peace of mind with Abercrombie & Kent's 24-hour assistance in each region to support every client

Abercrombie & Kent

SOUTHEAST ASIA



A&K in Vietnam AN AWAKENING DRAGON

ABOUT VIETNAM

Hidden away behind the cloak of communism for so many years, Vietnam's faded colonial charm blends seamlessly with the relics of an ancient imperial dynasty. A captivating land of unique cultural distinctions and exquisite natural beauty, from the serene highlands of Sapa and imperial splendour of Hue to the lush lowlands of the Mekong Delta, Vietnam is an awakening dragon ready to romance the world.

UNIQUELY VIETNAM

Hanoi – Centuries of Chinese influence and French colonialism have combined to create a truly unique destination, where historic temples and monuments line the narrow streets of the old quarter and age-old traditions influence a bustling version of 21st century life. From Hanoi travellers can fly by seaplane to explore the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Halong Bay aboard a chartered junk or travel by overnight train to the tranquil mountainside retreat of Sapa.

Hue – Set on the southern banks of the Perfume River, Hue was the centre of Vietnamese culture, religion and education through the reign of the 13 emperors of the Nguyen Dynasty. Hue remains known for the magnificent architecture and opulent design of its

Ancient Citadel and numerous mausoleums of the Nguyen emperors.

Danang & Hoi An – The central city of Danang sits elegantly on the coast of the South China Sea and due in part to the allure of My Khe Beach (also known as “China Beach”) was prominently known as the American forces’ main R&R refuge during their war with Vietnam.

Danang also serves as the gateway to Hoi An; this charming old town was once a flourishing port and meeting place for Eastern and Western cultures. Today Hoi An has been declared an UNESCO World Cultural Heritage Site thanks to its historical significant as a trading port from the 15th to 19th centuries, with countless buildings that display a unique blend of local and foreign influences.

Ho Chi Minh City – Still lovingly known as Saigon by many locals, HCMC is one of the liveliest cities in Southeast Asia, with vibrant markets, bustling pavement cafes and exuberant street vendors on every street corner. Though rapid modernisation is visibly underway in this bustling metropolis, over 300 years of timeless cultural traditions shine through the new veneer to charm and enchant each visitor.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Capital – Hanoi

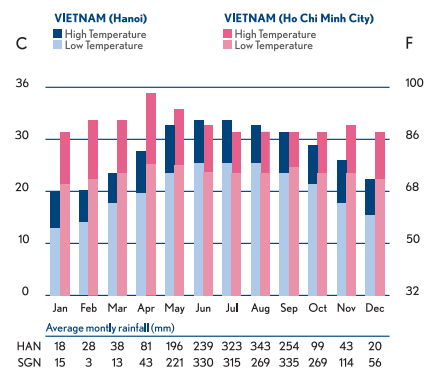
Currency – Dong (credit cards & US Dollars are accepted)

Best Time to Go – With a diverse range of climates in the Northern, Central and Southern regions, Vietnam is a true year-round destination.

Visa Requirements – Visa on arrival is possible with a Visa Approval Letter (supplied in A&K's pre-departure documents). Passport holders from UK, France, Italy, Spain, Germany, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Finland, Russia, Japan & South Korea can enter Vietnam visa-free for up to 15 days.

Time Zone – GMT +7 hours

CLIMATE GUIDE



Enjoy a private meeting with a pilot who flew combat missions during the war and is credited with being the first Vietnamese fighter pilot to shoot down an enemy plane – a US pilot who later became his best friend • Sample the best markets of Ho Chi Minh City with the A&K On the Market Trails tour and soak up the vibrant market culture while enjoying a variety of tasty treats • Take a cyclo (rickshaw) tour to see the traditional charms of Hanoi, or join a food blogger on a unique tour of the city's secret eateries • Meet with a renowned curator for a unique insight into local artists and the Vietnamese art scene

Abercrombie & Kent

SOUTHEAST ASIA



A&K in Thailand THE LAND OF SMILES

ABOUT THAILAND

Universally known as 'The Land of Smiles', Thailand is home to ancient palaces and spectacular temples; lively markets; cultural wonders and breath-taking natural beauty. Today's Thailand transcends its ancient roots yet clings to unique cultural traditions and its blend of old & new make it one of the most exotic and diverse destinations in modern Asia.

UNIQUELY THAILAND

Bangkok – A bustling, modern metropolis, Bangkok is a city where time-honoured Buddhist culture and traditions meet architectural wonders and futuristic technology. A city that rarely sleeps, Bangkok is a true day or night destination; travel along an ancient network of canals to make offerings with local monks and browse the bustling flea markets or indulge fine dining at some of the top-ranked restaurants in the world and visit designer shopping malls before soaking up the vibrant nightlife Bangkok is famed for.

Chiang Mai & Chiang Rai – Home to hill tribes and ethnic minorities, this area is the gateway to the

beautiful mountainous region of Northern Thailand formally known as the Lanna Kingdom. Explore the famous Golden Triangle and see the tireless community projects initiated by the Royal Family in action; walk through the exciting street markets and visit local handicraft villages; or float down river atop a bamboo raft before trekking through the exotic jungle.

Phuket & Southern Thai Islands – Famous for their shimmering turquoise seas, uninhabited beaches and sheer limestone outcrops, the islands of Thailand offer the perfect setting to relax & unwind. Enjoy an island-hopping exploration or simply settle on a secluded beach as a dramatic sunset unfolds. Paradise is yours to enjoy as you please.



Excite your palate with an epicurean exploration of Northern Thai cuisine in Chiang Mai with a visit to the home of a famous 'sai oua pranee' maker – a spicy sausage specific to the region and visit a local tea plantation and visit a local tea plantation to see how the leaves are grown, picked, harvested and wok-fried before brewing • Learn Muay Thai from a former local champion in a private gym; take a cookery class with a celebrity chef; or learn the art of Thai massage at an iconic Bangkok temple • Discover 'Delight in the Darkness' with A&K's philanthropic exploration of how visually impaired people get by in the bustling city of Bangkok • Dine at a secret, private spot in an exotic garden - once the home of a Thai literary legend and National Artist of Literature Rong Wongsawan • Discover Thailand's 'Death Railway' with a local historian and learn about the famous line's somber past



GENERAL INFORMATION

Capital – Bangkok

Currency – Thai Baht (credit cards are accepted)

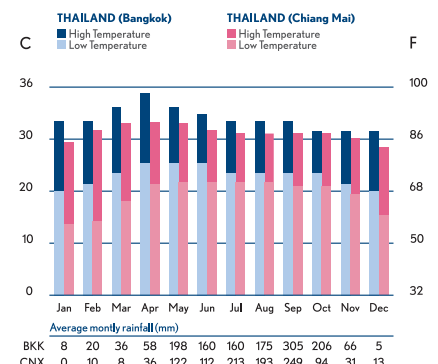
Best Time to Go – October to March

Best Value Time to Go – April to September

Visa Requirements – US, UK, Australian & most European citizens can enter Thailand visa-free for up to 30 days.

Time Zone – GMT +7 hours

CLIMATE GUIDE



Abercrombie & Kent

SOUTHEAST ASIA



A&K in Myanmar SPIRITUALLY INSPIRING BEAUTY

ABOUT MYANMAR

The 'jewel' of Southeast Asia, Myanmar (formerly known as Burma) is perhaps one of the last great destinations free from mass tourism. With magnificent cultural sights, an inspiring natural environment and warm, welcoming people, this charming nation inspires even the most seasoned traveller with its raw vibrancy.

UNIQUELY MYANMAR

Yangon - With its leafy tree-lined avenues, historic colonial architecture, scenic lakes and atmospheric parks, it is little wonder Yangon was known as the Garden City of the East. Seemingly forgotten about by the world for the last 50 years, the city has changed little since colonial times but now sits on the cusp of development. Despite the inevitable steps towards modernization, Yangon remains the embodiment of the colonial-era orient and represents a world long forgotten and dearly missed.

Bagan - Countless temples and pagodas scattered around a scenic bend of the Ayeyarwaddy make the historic Bagan region one of the most glorious archaeological sites in Asia, if not the world. The

theatrical temples stand proudly on the pancake-flat plains and offer inspirational viewpoints for dramatic sunsets.

Inle Lake - Like most of Myanmar, Inle is a region that time forgot. Inle is home to the Intha people, who live a fascinating water-borne life above the



crystal clear lake which is flanked on all sides by the verdant Shan Hills. Locals live in symbiosis with the water, and utilise a unique one-legged rowing style to navigate between the stilted buildings that appear to float upon the lake.

Mandalay - Rudyard Kipling's 'The Road to Mandalay' has forever immortalised the city as a place of mystical dreams to many from the West. Founded in 1857, the former royal capital is

surrounded by archaeological and religious treasures such as the world's largest bell at Mingun and the hundreds of monasteries and nunneries that cover the hills of Sagaing.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Capital - Naypyidaw

Currency - Kyat (credit cards are accepted)

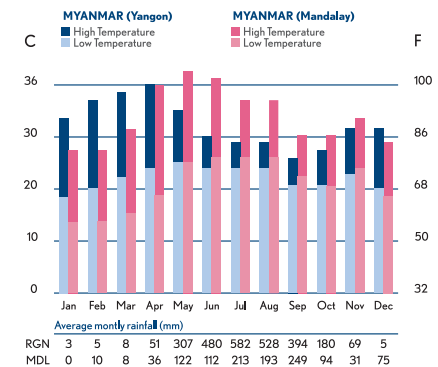
Best Time to Go - October to March

Best Value Time to Go - April to September

Visa Requirements - A visa is compulsory for travel into Myanmar (no visa on arrival). Tourist eVisas are available.

Time Zone - GMT +6.5 hours

CLIMATE GUIDE



Visit the Shwe Kyin Monastery and observe the young novice monks undertake their evening prayers • Absorb the magical aura of Bagan as the sun's rays seep slowly across the dawn sky, washing the dramatic temples with a vivid hue of red and orange during an exhilarating sunrise hot air balloon ride • Relish a unique floating lunch service on the crystal clear waters of Inle Lake as your private chef provides you with a feast of local Inthar cuisine • Sail the Ayeyarwaddy on the exquisite Sanctuary Ananda, A&K's 5-star all-cabin river vessel and one of the most luxurious cruise options in Asia

Abercrombie & Kent

SOUTHEAST ASIA



visiting the dramatic temple complex, and with over 1,000 other temples and ruins within reach, Siem Reap is home to countless archaeological wonders making it every cultural explorer's dream destination.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Capital - Phnom Penh

Currency - Riel (US Dollars are accepted)

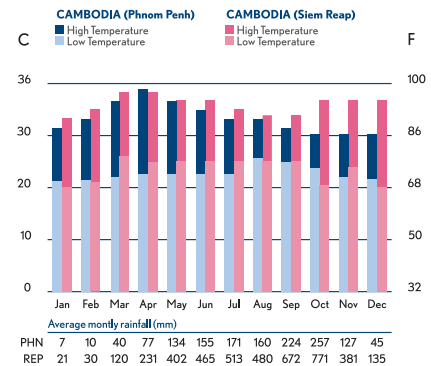
Best Time to Go - October to March

Best Value Time to Go - April to September

Visa Requirements - A visa can be obtained on arrival. Tourist eVisas are also available.

Time Zone - GMT +7 hours

CLIMATE GUIDE



A&K in Cambodia THE HEART OF INDOCHINA

ABOUT CAMBODIA

Over the centuries numerous events and atrocities have shaped Cambodia into what we see today - a resolute nation of proud survivors. From the glory years of the mighty Khmer Empire, which stretched from the breath-taking Angkor region across most of Southeast Asia, to the intolerable cruelties faced during the rule of Pol Pot and the Khmer Rouge, Cambodia has transcended its turbulent past to captivate visitors from around the world with its scenic beauty, enduring traditions and gifted artisans.

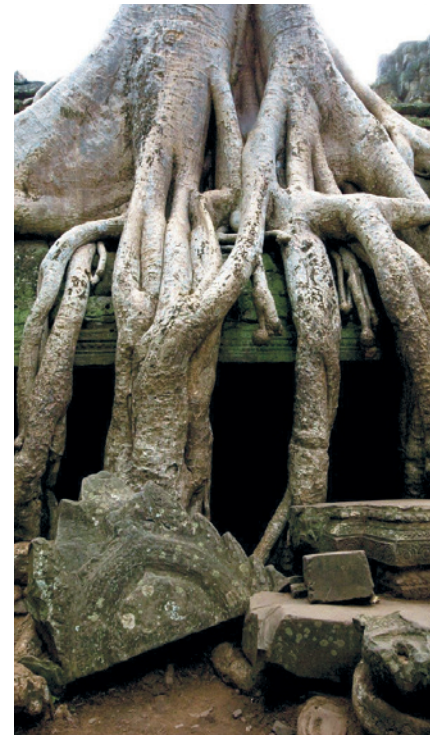
UNIQUELY CAMBODIA

Phnom Penh - Once considered the most beautiful

city built in Indochina during the French colonial era, Phnom Penh's charms have displaced the tumultuous past and returned some of the capital's old-world charisma that was so nearly lost forever. A stroll along the leafy boulevards offers explorers the chance to discover pavement restaurants & cafes on the doorstep of sprawling colonial buildings on the way to investigating glittering palaces and vibrant markets.

Siem Reap - Once a sleepy riverside village, Siem Reap is now the gateway for travellers to explore the magnificent UNESCO World Heritage Site of Angkor Wat, whose stone ruins stand testament to the power of the once vast and glorious Khmer Empire. No Southeast Asia trip is complete without

Enjoy a private introduction to the history of the Khmer Empire & culture with one of the curators from the Angkor National Museum • Discover Ta Phrom bathed in the golden light of sunrise before exploring the temple before other visitors arrive • Learn about the ancient Khmer Kingdom and post-independence Cambodia with a local historian or discover local culture at the exhilarating Phare Circus show • Visit the stilted "floating" villages that co-exist in symbiosis with the vast Tonle Sap - Southeast Asia's largest freshwater lake • Relish an Angkor Wat sunset the A&K way by private gondola - a truly quintessential experience



Abercrombie & Kent

SOUTHEAST ASIA



A&K in Laos LAND OF A MILLION ELEPHANTS

ABOUT LAOS

Due in large part to its transition into communism in 1975, today's Laos remains free from rampant commercialism and is without doubt one of the most unspoiled and unassuming destinations in Asia. Largely unaltered and unimpressed by the lure of

Discover the laid-back allure of Laos from the skies with a private helicopter journey over the Plain of Jars • After visiting the dramatic Pak Ou Caves, sample some of the local 'fire water' at a famous rice whisky village • Enjoy an exclusive breakfast at the Kuang Si Waterfalls before other visitors arrive • Begin your day by making merit with a procession of local monks during their morning alms rounds • Experience a personal welcome to Luang Prabang by village elders with a traditional baci ceremony complete with traditional dance performance



large-scale development, Laos is as naturally stunning today as in centuries past. A unique destination, its rich cultural traditions, idyllic colonial era towns and warm, welcoming people offer an unmatched glimpse of the Southeast Asia of old.

UNIQUELY LAOS

Vientiane – An eclectic mix of Thai, Vietnamese, French and Soviet influences, the capital's glittering temples rest on tranquil tree-lined avenues neighbouring colonial houses and terraced cafes serving the some of the best coffee and bread in Asia. Perhaps the world's most laid-back capital, this sleepy settlement could also be described as the largest village in Asia.

Luang Prabang – Dotted with glittering golden spires, colourful markets and architecture from a

distant colonial era, Luang Prabang sits on the confluence of the Mekong and Mae Kok Rivers and is a wonderful gateway to discovering the sacred Pak Ou Caves or the various weaving and whisky villages that line the banks of the majestic Mekong.

GENERAL INFORMATION

Capital – Vientiane

Currency – Kip (US Dollars & Thai Baht are accepted)

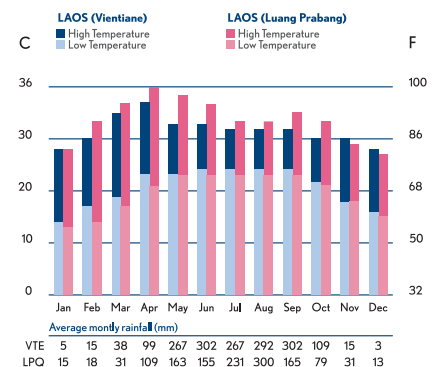
Best Time to Go – October to March

Best Value Time to Go – April to September

Visa Requirements – A visa can be obtained on arrival.

Time Zone – GMT +7 hours

CLIMATE GUIDE



Abercrombie & Kent

SOUTHEAST ASIA

SUGGESTED REGIONAL ITINERARIES

CLASSIC VIETNAM

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------|--------|---------------|
| Day 1 | Arrive Hanoi | Day 6 | Hoi An |
| Day 2 | Hanoi | Day 7 | Hoi An - HCMC |
| Day 3 | Hanoi - Halong Bay | Day 8 | HCMC |
| Day 4 | Halong Bay - Hue | Day 9 | HCMC |
| Day 5 | Hue - Hoi An | Day 10 | Depart HCMC |

BEST OF CAMBODIA & LAOS

| | | | |
|-------|---------------------------|--------|------------------------------|
| Day 1 | Arrive Phnom Penh | Day 6 | Siem Reap - Luang Prabang |
| Day 2 | Phnom Penh | Day 7 | Luang Prabang |
| Day 3 | Phnom Penh - Siem Reap | Day 8 | Luang Prabang |
| Day 4 | Siem Reap | Day 9 | Luang Prabang |
| Day 5 | Siem Reap | Day 10 | Depart Luang Prabang |

TREASURES OF THAILAND

| | | | |
|-------|----------------------|--------|-------------------------------|
| Day 1 | Arrive Bangkok | Day 7 | Chiang Mai - Koh Samui |
| Day 2 | Bangkok | Day 8 | Koh Samui |
| Day 3 | Bangkok | Day 9 | Koh Samui |
| Day 4 | Bangkok - Chiang Mai | Day 10 | Koh Samui - Depart Bangkok |
| Day 5 | Chiang Mai | | |
| Day 6 | Chiang Mai | | |

BEST OF MYANMAR

| | | | |
|-------|--------------------------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Day 1 | Arrive Yangon | Day 7 | Mandalay - RV Sanctuary Ananda |
| Day 2 | Yangon | Day 8 | RV Sanctuary Ananda |
| Day 3 | Yangon - Heho - Inle Lake | Day 9 | RV Sanctuary Ananda - Bagan |
| Day 4 | Inle Lake | Day 10 | Bagan |
| Day 5 | Inle Lake - Heho - Mandalay | Day 11 | Bagan - Depart Yangon |
| Day 6 | Mandalay | | |



Abercrombie & Kent offices in Southeast Asia

A&K Thailand & Laos

Tel: +66 26 700 050 Email: office@abercrombiekent.co.th

A&K Myanmar

Tel: +95 1373 034 / +95 1392 596 Email: myanmar@abercrombiekent.com

A&K Vietnam

Tel: +84 838 204 339 Email: vietnam@abercrombiekent.com

A&K Cambodia

Tel: +85 523 990 218 Email: cambodia@abercrombiekent.com