

# The Ultimate Guide to Siam Thailand and Bangkok in 1879

Step back in time and travel to the exotic land of Siam, now known as Thailand, in the year 1879. In this comprehensive guide, we will take you on a virtual journey through the bustling streets of Bangkok and uncover the hidden gems of this magnificent country.

## to Siam

Siam, a land of rich cultural heritage and vibrant traditions, has always been a land of fascination for adventurers and explorers. In 1879, it welcomes curious tourists to discover its enchanting temples, magnificent palaces, and colorful markets.

## 2. Bangkok: The Heart of Siam

Bangkok, the capital city of Siam, is a bustling metropolis that beautifully blends tradition and modernity. Explore the magnificent Grand Palace, home to the revered Emerald Buddha, and marvel at the intricate architectural details. Visit Wat Arun, the Temple of Dawn, and witness the stunning sunrise over the Chao Phraya River.



## A Guide to Siam (Thailand) and Bangkok in 1879

by Bill Rumpel(Kindle Edition)

★★★★★ 5 out of 5

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Take a boat tour along the canals, or khlongs, and immerse yourself in the local way of life. Visit the floating markets, where you can witness the hustle and bustle of vendors selling fresh produce and local crafts. Indulge in authentic Thai cuisine, from aromatic street food to exquisite royal dishes.

### **3. Ayutthaya: The Ancient Capital**

Just a short distance from Bangkok lies Ayutthaya, the ancient capital of Siam. Step into the past as you explore the ruins of this once glorious city. Visit the Wat Phra Si Sanphet, a temple complex that served as the royal palace and is now a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

Marvel at the iconic Buddha head entwined in the roots of a banyan tree at Wat Mahathat. Admire the elegant architecture of Wat Chaiwatthanaram, a Buddhist temple that reflects the glory of the Ayutthaya kingdom.

### **4. Chiang Mai: The Lanna Kingdom**

Travel north to Chiang Mai, the cultural capital of Siam's northern region. Admire the historic city walls and explore the numerous temples, including the revered Wat Phra That Doi Suthep, nestled atop Doi Suthep mountain.

Immerse yourself in the local culture by participating in a traditional Thai cooking class or trying your hand at traditional arts and crafts such as pottery and silk

weaving. Don't miss the opportunity to visit the vibrant Night Bazaar, where you can shop for unique handicrafts and sample local delicacies.

## 5. The Floating Market Experience

No visit to Siam would be complete without experiencing the vibrant floating markets. Hop on a traditional longtail boat and navigate through the bustling canals of Damnoen Saduak Floating Market, where local vendors sell their wares from boats laden with colorful fruits, vegetables, and souvenirs.

Experience the lively atmosphere, feast your eyes on the vibrant colors, and savor the flavors of freshly cooked Thai dishes. Engage in friendly haggling and bring home unique souvenirs to remind you of your journey through Siam.

## 6.

As we conclude this guide to Siam Thailand and Bangkok in 1879, we hope you have gained a deeper understanding of the rich cultural heritage and captivating beauty of this enchanting land. From the bustling streets of Bangkok to the ancient ruins of Ayutthaya and the cultural haven of Chiang Mai, Siam offers an adventure like no other.

Immerse yourself in the timeless traditions, indulge in exquisite flavors, and embrace the warmth of Siam's people. Whether you are a history enthusiast, a food lover, or simply seeking a captivating journey, Siam will leave an indelible mark on your soul.

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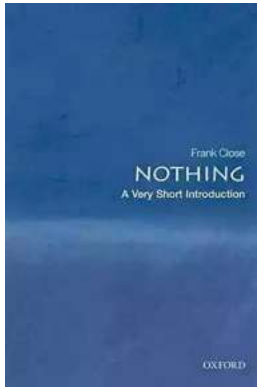
“A Guide to Siam (Thailand) and Bangkok in 1879” describes the southeast Asian country and its capital city as they were in the late 1870s.

Modern-day Thailand’s origins can be traced back to the 14th century kingdom of Ayutthaya, which flourished along the Menam River. Before the rise of the Ayutthaya kingdom, what is now Thailand was dominated by the Khmer kingdom of neighboring Cambodia. The fall of Ayutthaya came in 1767, when its capital was burned by Burmese invaders. The Thai kingdom was reunited by a general named Taksin, who moved the capital to 1769 and crowned himself king. Taksin was succeeded by another general, Chakri, in 1782. Chakri took the name Rama I, founding Thailand’s Chakri Dynasty, which still reigns today. It was Rama I who founded Thailand’s current capital, Bangkok.

As the states around them (Burma and Malaya to Britain, Cambodia, Laos and Vietnam to France) fell under European colonial rule in the 19th century, Thailand managed to maintain its independence. Thailand was known as Siam until 1939, when its official name was changed to Thailand (Prathet Thai).

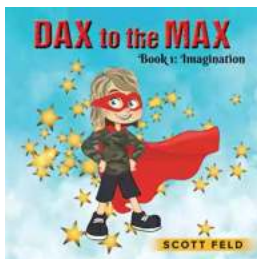
This brief, anonymous description of Bangkok and Thailand in the late 1870s describes in kingdom with thriving trade, with rice being the major export. In this

period of time Siamese rice was being exported to China, the Philippines, Singapore, and Indonesia. Other exports included teak wood. Bangkok had three newspapers at the time, two in English and one in Thai that was published by the government. The author, however, stated that the revenue of the state was undermined by the corruption of the aristocracy and bureaucracy, which meant that taxes and customs duties did not make their way into government coffers.



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