



Hidden Treasures of the Island - r9b

Trip summary	9 days / 8 nights - 2 nights Ban Talae Nok, 2 nights Koh Surin Moken Experience, 4 nights Eco Resort in Koh Phrathong
Getting there	Tour starts and ends at Kuraburi
In-country support	International support staff, local guide, bilingual Thai/English translator, visitor's handbook
What's included	Transfers during the tour, accommodation, activities and meals as stated in the program
Availability	Mid October 2017 – Mid May 2018 dry season

Explore the friendly Muslim village of Ban Tale Nok. Bask in the natural beauty of the Surin Islands while you immerse in Moken Life and snorkel the crystal waters of the Andaman Sea. Help conserve the Moken's unique culture by your participation in this private tour. End by exploring the natural wonders Koh Phrathong Island, enjoy desert beach and beautiful sunset.

Day 1 Cultural Exchange

Morning Start the tour in Kuraburi at the Andaman Discoveries office for a pre-trip briefing and cultural orientation

Transfer to Ban Talae Nok village to meet your host family, and be welcomed into their way of life

Take a walking tour of the community with your local guide to learn about the history and lives of these villagers. See an area of the village that was destroyed by the 2004 tsunami and learn how this event affected the community



Lunch For lunch, enjoy authentic southern Thai food with your homestay family

In the afternoon take part in a handicraft workshop and learn the art of Batik, a technique of hand-dyeing fabrics by using designs drawn in wax. You can create your own design or have your hosts draw one for you, then color in the beautiful designs, and keep your creation as a souvenir

Then learn to weave leaves of the nypa palm with the villagers and help make traditional roofing from a local mangrove plant



Take a short walk to the beach where you can relax and bask in the spectacular colors of an Andaman Sea sunset

Evening For dinner, enjoy a barbeque dinner on the beach with your hosts and feast on freshly-caught seafood, garden-fresh vegetables, and Thai curries (weather permitting, alternative is dinner in the homestay)

In the evening participate in a cultural activity where you can share stories and experiences with the family and local villagers. Pictures from home are always appreciated!



Overnight: Ban Talae Nok Homestay, comfortable bedding and mosquito net provided

Day 2 Natural Wonder

Morning Breakfast at homestay house

Head into nature, and explore the mangrove forest in a long-tail boat, where you have the chance to spot various birds, monitor lizards and monkeys. Take a fascinating journey through the tidal canals and learn how the villagers



Andaman Discoveries is a social enterprise enabling visitors and volunteers to support community education, village-led conservation, and cultural empowerment.



are active in protecting this amazing ecosystem

Noon Lunch at homestay

After lunch take part in a handicraft workshop - the women's group, established after the tsunami, makes beautifully hand-crafted soap, using only the finest natural ingredients. Watch an informative demonstration and then make soap for yourself with the expert guidance of the soap ladies, and keep a souvenir

Return to your homestay to make a local specialty dessert. Try your hand at grating the coconut and filling the palm leaf with the batter. Then grill and enjoy the delicious snack hot of the fire

After a full day of activities, learn to cook local Thai food with your host family, or spend your time before dinner relaxing on the beach



Evening Dinner with your host family

Overnight: Ban Talae Nok Homestay, comfortable bedding and mosquito net provided

Day 3 Moken Experience

Morning Breakfast with your host family

Transfer directly to the Kuraburi Pier for your speed boat ride to the Surin Islands

Head out for some guided marine exploration. Snorkeling is very popular here – there are abundant parrotfish, clownfish, and brightly colored soft coral

Afterwards check into the National Park Headquarters and your tent accommodation on the soft and scenic beachfront

Noon Have a Thai style buffet lunch at the National Park headquarters

Meet your Moken guide and take a snorkel tour to see the underwater life of the sea gypsies, how they have adapted to living in the water, and why they love it. Watch as your Moken guide spots sea turtles and sharks swimming in the waters, end your day with your Moken guide and return to the park headquarters for free time

Evening Dinner at the National Park headquarters, fall asleep to the gentle sounds of the waves as they are washed up on the beautiful white sands

Overnight: beachfront tent at National Park Head Quarters, bedding is provided in all tents, electricity generated 6 -10pm; all meals included

Day 4 Life of the Sea Gypsy

Morning Breakfast at the National Park headquarters' restaurant

Meet your local guide and take a long tail boat trip to the Moken village. A tour around the village is an insight into the intricate relationship between the Moken and their surrounding environment. Learn about the brightly colored "Spirit Poles" and Moken homes, built on wooden stilts directly on the beach

Participate in a handicraft workshop and learn the traditional art of Moken weaving. Use forest Pandanus leaves to weave a natural bracelet. Keep it as a souvenir and show off to your friends at home



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- Noon** Have a picnic lunch in the Moken village with your guide and soak in the peaceful atmosphere
 Forest hike - your Moken guide will highlight useful plants, including medicinal herbs, edible species, and those used in construction of traditional houseboats
 Snorkeling - coral reef exploration with Moken guide. Your guide will take you to a wonderland of colorful tropical fish and allow you to witness the impressive Moken swimming techniques
 Back at the park headquarters enjoy free time to walk the beach, relax, and enjoy the sunset
- Evening** Dinner at the National Park headquarters.

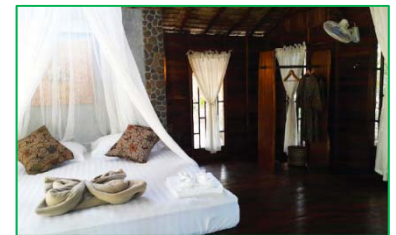


Overnight: beachfront tent at National Park Head Quarters, bedding is provided in all tents, electricity generated 6 -10pm; all meals included

Day 5 Natural Wonders



- Morning** Breakfast at the National Park headquarters
 Try your hand at rowing a Moken "row-boat" and re-enacting their method of spear fishing. Reunite with you Moken guide for more snorkeling at a new site or another visit to the village
 Snorkeling with your Moken guide if time permits
- Noon** Return to the park headquarters to have a buffet lunch
 Pack your belongs and prepare for departure from the island
 Transfer to Koh Phrathong by speedboat check in to your accommodation



Overnight: Eco Resort in Koh Phrathong Breakfast included

Day 6-8 Eco Resort in Koh Phrathong

- Morning** Breakfast at the local resort in Koh Phrathong, during your time in Phrathong you are free to relax on the beach and plan your own activities around the island with the help of the knowledgeable eco resort staff.(Free kayak and snorkeling at the Island nearby)



Day 9 Departure

- Morning** Breakfast at you resort, pack you back and transfer by long tail boat to Kuraburi Pier
 End of your program.

