



### **Sunday Cultural Excursion Options**

*Selection required during conference registration.*

#### **Option 1 - Suan Sampran Sunday Excursion**

**Date:** Sunday, March 30, 2025

**Time:** 10:00 AM–1:30 PM\*

**Cost:** USD 50 (lunch and transportation fee included)

Immerse yourself in an extraordinary experience at Patom Organic Village, a family-owned 50-acre farm that has redefined sustainability and cultural preservation in Thailand since 1962. This exclusive visit offers a rare opportunity to engage with a place where local wisdom, innovation, and integrity come together to build a thriving organic society.

Rooted in a legacy that began over 50 years ago, Patom Organic Living has grown from a rose garden into a pioneering model of sustainable living. From their organic farm to their leadership in the Sookjai Foundation, which connects local farmers and communities through fair trade, Patom is a testament to how sustainability and tradition can create meaningful impact.

This curated experience allows you to not only witness but actively participate in their journey:

#### **Excursion Highlights:**

- **Organic Farm Cycle Experience:** Gain hands-on insight into the workings of an organic farm that supplies sustainable produce to the local community and beyond.
- **Two Seasonal Workshops of Your Choice:** Choose from 6 engaging, hands-on workshops (on a first-come, first-served basis), each offering a unique perspective on Thai craftsmanship and culture.
  - One workshop option is to experience the life cycle of rice, where you will get to plant rice seedlings in a paddy and follow the transformation of harvested rice to what you would buy from the store.
  - Other workshop options include classes on how to make massage oils, facial scrubs, and other personal care products.
- **Authentic Thai Meal:** Savor a fresh and flavorful Pad Thai (tofu or chicken) paired with an organic herbal drink.

- 200 THB Cash Coupon for Sookjai Organic Weekend Market: Explore and shop for unique, locally sourced foods and traditional Thai dishes and local handicrafts that embody sustainability and community values.

This experience goes beyond sightseeing—it’s a chance to immerse yourself in Thai culture and engage with a thoughtfully crafted model of sustainability and community impact rooted in nature and innovation. Don’t miss this unique opportunity to celebrate what can be achieved when we come together "to do the greatest good"!

**Attire:** Comfortable casual wear

\*Please note Suan Sampran is approximately 45 minutes from the hotel. Participants will meet in the lobby at 9:00AM and travel to the destination on a private charter bus. The bus is expected to return to the hotel by 2:30PM. Direct transportation from Suan Sampran to the airport can be arranged for those who indicate that preference in their registration, with departure from Suan Sampran at 1:00PM and arrival at Suvarnabhumi Airport at 3PM.

Minimum: 50 participants



## Option 2 – The Grand Palace and nearby temples

**Date:** Sunday, March 30, 2025

**Time:** 9:30 AM–12:00 PM

**Cost:** USD 50 (lunch and transportation fee included)

The Grand Palace, the continuous residence of the King of Siam since 1782, is often described as a “monumental marvel”. Spend the morning learning about the royal history, traditions, and architecture with a certified tour guide, before continuing to Wat Po, or the Temple of the Reclining Buddha. You will notice the significant differences in architecture between the two points of interest, which are right next to each other. Furthermore, Wat Po is the birthplace of Thai massage and still hosts the school of traditional Thai medicine, where visitors can opt to get a massage after the tour. **The National Museum and Museum Siam are within walking distance, as well as the Temple of the Emerald Buddha, which you can visit on your own also. The surrounding area is the old city with a nice riverfront and very walkable. We will provide a list of many restaurant recommendations in that area for you to explore on your own.** The bus will depart from the drop off location to take you back to the hotel at 1:30 p.m. or you can return on your own through public transportation at any time.

**Attire:** Please see the provided dress code for entry into the Grand Palace

## Dress Code

Visitors to The Grand Palace must dress appropriately because The Grand Palace is a place of reverence for the Thai people. Inappropriate clothes for entry into The Grand Palace are as follows:

- No sleeveless shirts
- No vests
- No short top
- No see through tops
- No short hot pants or short pants
- No torn pants
- No tight pants
- No bike pants
- No mini skirts
- No pants skirts
- No sleeping suit



*Pictures shown are the Wat Pho*

Minimum: 20 participants

Maximum: 80 participants

---

### **Option 3 – Stroll around town with your fellow Cornellians**

**Date:** Sunday, March 30, 2025

**Time:** 9:30 AM–12:00 PM

**Cost:** Free

Grab your favorite beverage to bring with you and adventure around the town. Walking and shopping in Bangkok is a sensory overload, characterized by a vibrant mix of bustling crowds, colorful street vendors, and a dizzying array of goods, all set against the backdrop of ornate temples and modern skyscrapers, creating a unique blend of traditional Thai culture and modern commerce; navigating the narrow alleys and bustling markets is a dynamic experience, where you can find everything from intricately hand-woven textiles to glittering jewelry, delicious street food, and unique souvenirs, all while being immersed in the city's lively atmosphere. Depending on the number of people interested in this option, we will hold a short meeting on Saturday to organize the groups and destinations of interest.

**Attire:** Comfortable casual wear