



JOHN HAYCRAFT and ROB CANDY

COLOURS OF THAILAND



Sketch the Ancient City of Aythuya
Experience the bustling floating markets

Paint fishing boats at Hua Hin
Visit the fabled Golden Triangle
Paint the magic of Mekong River
Adventure through old Bangkok

Reflect on the sacrifice at the River Kwai
Sketch and paint to your hearts content

Tour includes

- * airfares from Sydney, * Bangkok- Chiang Ria flight

- * twin share hotel accommodation

- *daily breakfast and dinners**

- *Fully inclusive tour English speaking guide and local guides, coach, entrance fees, visas**

\$5450 twin share

For further details contact Eric Wang Chinabestours 92621555

Frequently asked questions

Where does the tour take you ?

The tour begins in the bustling city of Bangkok exploring with pen and brush the culture of Thailand. We take a day excursion to visit the former capital Attuyua before leaving Bangkok for the Kachanaburi and the River Kwai and its significance in Australian history. Travelling south we visit the floating markets before arriving at Hua Hin a traditional fishing area on the Gulf of Thailand. From here we return to Bangkok to fly to Northern Thailand's city of Chiang Rai. This provides the artist with a base to explore the Mekong River and the Golden Triangle.



Do I have to be an experienced artist?

Absolutely 'No' ! The tour is designed for artists of all abilities and media. Whilst the main tuition is in watercolour, aspects such as subject choice, compositions, values and sketching techniques will be universal to all media. Many artist joining the tour, choose to just gather images either in a sketchbook or on a camera. Such source material is then used for years to come. Both leaders are experienced teachers and know how to bring the best out in their students.

Do I have to be an artist?

Absolutely 'No' ! Many non painters join our tour simply to see and experience such a wonderful region. There is a comprehensive non painter's programme each day. While the artist is toiling away capturing the scene, non painters and our guide will be visiting the sights such as museums, galleries, cafes, markets and shops. They will have much to do. Many non artists often decide to give a sketch a go with great results. Thailand is a treasure trove for photographers and shoppers.

Do I need a partner?

No . Many individuals join our tours rather than travelling alone.

Artistic Tour Leaders:

Rob Candy

Rob Candy is a leading watercolourist and he has had numerous solo and group shows in Sydney, Brisbane, Melbourne, Tamworth and Patonga. His love and passion is painting landscapes in watercolour whether it is a beach, harbour or outback. He was invited to become a member of the prestigious Australian Watercolour Institute in 2005. Rob is an associate member of the Royal Art Society of NSW. He regularly conducts workshops in watercolour and has judged many art competitions. He has been featured artist in the Australian Artist Magazine many times and is included in the book 'Australian Watercolours' 2007. He has led many watercolour and sketching tours along the Silk Road, China, Tibet, The Balkans India and Turkey.



John Haycraft

John Haycraft has been a professional artist since 1971. Trained as a perspective artist he has over the years developed his interest in watercolour as a medium for expressive painting particularly well adapted for plein-air work. A world traveller, he uses extensive sketching and on the spot painting to capture a sense of place with atmosphere. John is the watercolour tutor at the Royal Art Society of NSW. He teaches from his own studio at Lilyfield in Sydney as well as Summer and Winter Schools at Mitchell College of the Arts, Bathurst and Sturt Gallery in Mittagong. He regularly runs workshops around Australia and annually in Fiji.

He has lectured perspective illustration in various university faculties of architecture since 1979. A collection of his architectural drawings is held in the Mitchell Library, the State Library of New South Wales. His work has been in solo and group shows and John has been the winner of numerous awards.



Itinerary:

Day 1: Sept 28 Australia ✈ Bangkok Meal: Dinner

Today you will take Thai Airways flight **TG476 1000/1620** from Sydney to Bangkok. On arrival at Suvarnabhumi International Airport you will be met and transferred to your hotel by our professional tour escort.

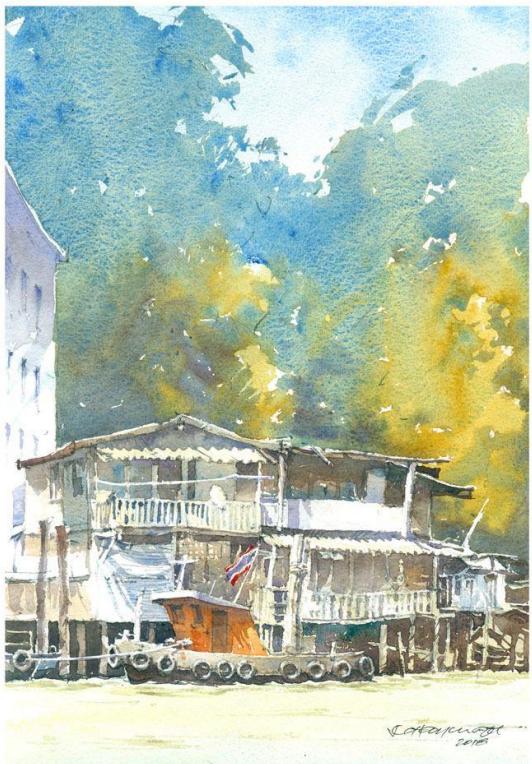
A chance to settle in followed by a Welcome dinner at the hotel

Overnight at VIE Hotel Bangkok (deluxe room)



Day 2: Sept 29 Bangkok

Meal: B/L/D



After breakfast we will begin to artistically explore the busy bustling Bangkok street and canal life on route to Jim Thompson's beautiful Thai-style house and garden. Thompson, founder of the silk company that carries his name, settled in Thailand after World War II and is credited with playing a huge role in reviving the dying local silk industry. As well as being an entrepreneur, Mr Thompson was also a keen collector of antiques and his former teak home now exists as a museum. We will spend the morning sketching and painting in the garden. Lunch will be in a local restaurant before heading to the Kudichin Community where we will spend the afternoon painting. This Portuguese settlement brought about a complex yet harmonious set-up where Christians, Buddhists and Muslims have been co-existing together peacefully for more than 200 years. This area offers excellent sketching and painting in the alleys and lanes including the Italian Renaissance-style Santa Cruz Church which was built in 1770 to cater to the religious needs of foreigners living on the west bank of the Chao Phraya. In the evening we visit Jam Factory café/art gallery, followed by dinner at The Never Ending Summer Restaurant. After the dinner, return to the hotel. **Overnight at VIE Hotel Bangkok**

Day 3: 30 Sept

Bangkok

Meal: B/L/D

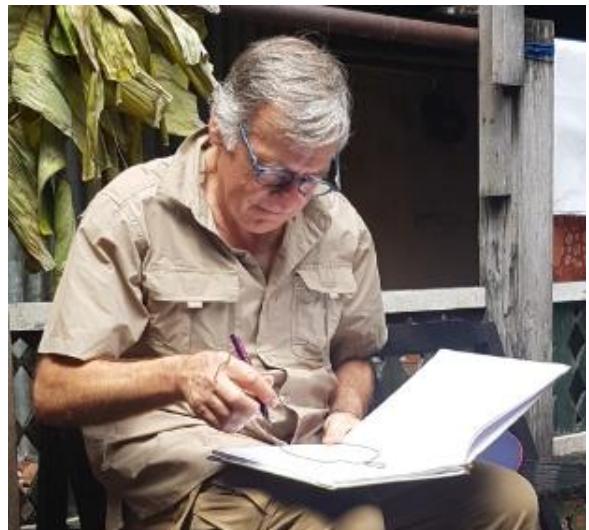
After breakfast we will enjoy the Nang Loeng neighbourhood program where we will have the opportunity to participate and sketch Thai cooking, dancing and community life. You may have the opportunity to learn to make Pad Thai with a local cook.

Lunch at The Printing House Café.

In the afternoon, we will sketch and paint in Bangkok's old quarters. Here, along the Chao Phraya River, everyday life is experienced from car repairs to dress making, all providing the artist with a myriad of artistic opportunities. We will return to the hotel and then in the early evening we will explore Bangkok's Train Night Market.

Dinner at local restaurant.

Overnight at VIE Hotel Bangkok (MGallery by Sofitel; deluxe room).




Day 4: 1 Oct Bangkok 🚅 Aytthaya Day Meal: B/L/D

After breakfast we set off for Ayutthaya 1hr (80km), one of Thailand's most compelling former capitals of Siam from 1350 – 1767. Despite being sacked during the 18th century the surviving ruins stand as testament to the former glory of this once-magnificent city.

Rob and John will discuss possible watercolour approaches and techniques to sketching and painting these ancient ruins. We will paint and sketch Wat Phra Si Sanphet, a former royal temple which stood within the palace compound and Wat Phanan Choeng the riverside temple.

After lunch at a local restaurant we will paint at the Elephant Village and Elephant Kraal Pavilion (Phaniat). The pavilion in the old days was used for the king to stay and watch the elephant round-up. As the sun sets we will leave these magnificent ancient ruins to return to Bangkok. Dinner at the hotel (Thai family sharing set menu).

Overnight at VIE Hotel Bangkok (MGallery by Sofitel; deluxe room).

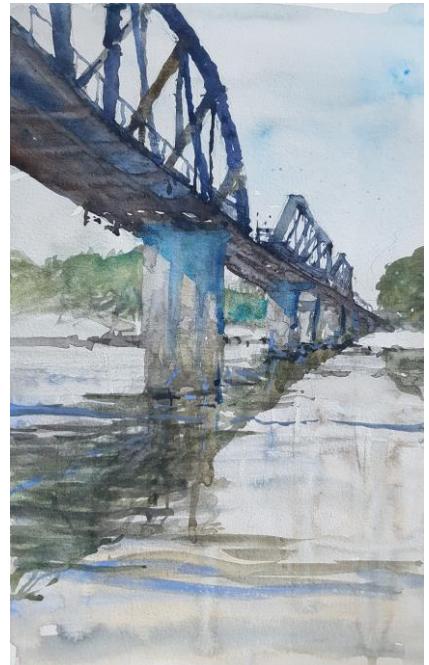
Day 5: 2 Oct Bangkok 🚅
Kanchanaburi Meal: B/L/D

After breakfast we will drive to Kanchanaburi, home of the famous "Death Railway Bridge" where we will sketch or paint the Bridge over the River Kwai. Take the local train along the Death Railway and travel until Tham Krasae cave. Lunch at local restaurant.

Afternoon visit Hellfire Gorge where we will have the opportunity to walk a section of the Pass and visit the Museum.

We will then drive to Hintok River Camp Resort where we may have an opportunity to paint along the river. BBQ dinner at the resort.

Overnight at Hintok River Camp @ Hellfire Pass (Tented Camp Room).

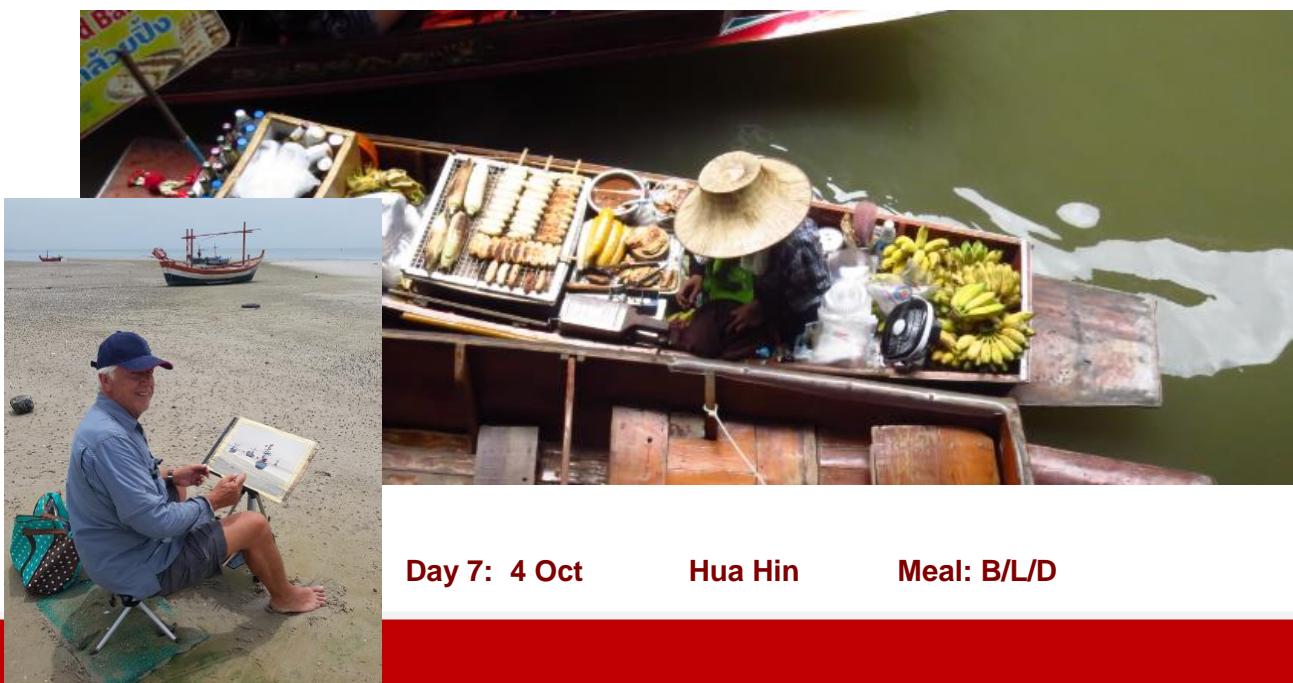

Day 6: 3 Oct
Meal: B/L/D

Depart early morning for Damnern Saduak and visit this old-style marketplace, set in a small klong (canal) network where floating vendors sell their wares from canoe-style boats. Find a scene to paint or sketch or enjoy a short boat ride through the market with your camera.

After the market we will continue to drive to the coastal town of Hua Hin.

After settling in at The Rock Resort we will enjoy a seafood dinner at local restaurant. Overnight at the Rock Hua Hin Beachfront Spa Resort.

Seafood dinner at local restaurant


Day 7: 4 Oct Hua Hin Meal: B/L/D

After breakfast we will drive (20 mins) to Hua Hin Fishing village where Rob will demonstrate skills and techniques for painting boats on the beach. You can spend the morning artistically exploring the boats or nearby fishing village.

After lunch in a local restaurant we will spend the afternoon at Khao Takiab Fishing village where we will be amazed at the myriad of painting subjects.

After dinner at a local restaurant we will visit the Cicada Night Market.

Overnight at the Rock Hua Hin Beachfront Spa Resort.



Day 8: 5 Oct Hua Hin

After breakfast you have Join John and Rob as they subjects around Hua Hin or visit malls or simple revitalise those around the pool or beach. In the early afternoon, you may you watch John paint a Dinner at the resort.

Overnight at the Rock Hua

Meal: B/L/D

options. tackle one of the many painting one of the many shopping artistic juices as you relax

like to purchase a cocktail as demonstration in watercolour.

Hin Beachfront Spa Resort

Day 9: 6 Oct Hua Hin ✈ Bangkok ✈ Chiang Rai Meal: B/L/D

After breakfast, we leave southern Thailand to explore Thailand's diversity as we travel to Chang Rai in the far north of the country. We will return to Bangkok's Suvarnabhumi Airport for a THAI Airways flight to Chiang Rai. Arriving in Chiang Rai in the afternoon and transfer to the Legend Chiang Ra. If time and light permit we will sketch in the local area before dinner at the resort.

Overnight at The LEGEND Chiang Rai Boutique River Resort and Spa

Day 10: 7 Oct Chiang Rai

Meal: B/L/D



After breakfast you will visit some of the region's most fascinating temples in and around the city of Chiang Rai. We will begin to explore the region by firstly visiting the local market. These markets are a fascinating introduction to indigenous culture and thanks to their vibrant colours and sometimes bizarre, often exotic produce which also provide wonderful opportunities to sketch and paint.

After exploring the market, we will visit Wat Rong Khun, or "The White Temple", Wat Phra Kaew Chiang Rai, where the famous Emerald Buddha (now housed in Bangkok) was found in 1434 AD. After lunch at a local restaurant we will enjoy the afternoon sketching and painting at Wat Phra That Doi Chom Thong built overlooking the Mae Kok River and the King Meng Rai Monument.

Dinner at hotel Overnight at The LEGEND Chiang Rai Boutique River Resort

Day 11: 8 Oct Chiang Rai

Meal: B/L/D

Today is an opportunity to explore the rice landscape of Northern Thailand and the river life along the Mekong River. After breakfast we will depart for Mae Sai - the border point between Thailand and Myanmar. We will stop on route to paint the Thai rice landscape. At Mae Sai you will visit and sketch a market selling handmade products and locally grown produce from the hill tribes from all three countries, a unique convergence of culture.

You will then continue on to the Golden Triangle region, where the borders of Thailand, Laos and Myanmar meet. There will be an opportunity for painting or sketching along the Mekong River. After lunch we will take a boat trip to Chiang Saen, an ancient city that was considered a key part of the Lanna Kingdom. Dinner in local restaurant.



Overnight at The LEGEND Chiang Rai Boutique River Resort and Spa

Day 12: 9 Oct Chiang Rai Meal: B/L/D

After breakfast we will depart Chiang Rai at 9 a.m. on the flight to south to Bangkok.

After checking in at the hotel in the afternoon, options await. You may like to sketch along a Bangkok canal or lane with John and Rob, visit a contemporary art gallery or of course shop in the large plazas near to the hotel. We will then enjoy a farewell dinner at Blue Elephant Restaurant .

Overnight at VIE Hotel Bangkok.



Day 13: 10 Oct Bangkok Australia Meal: B/L

Breakfast at the hotel.

Before we leave Thailand one last opportunity to paint in nearby lanes or along the canals or time to make that last purchase from nearby shops before leaving for Australia. Check out at noon. Lunch in a local restaurant before heading at 1500 hrs, for the airport. Depart Suvarnabhumi Airport

1920 hrs, depart by TG475 for Sydney

Day 14: 11 Oct ✈ Australia

Arrive Sydney in morning



**Package Price: \$5450.00 per person
Single Supplement: \$1055.00**

Inclusions:

1. Economy Class Thai Airways air tickets Sydney or Melbourne-Bangkok-Chiang Rai-Bangkok- Sydney or Melbourne including taxes and fuel surcharges
2. Land arrangements at various cities as per program mentioned by private vehicle and English speaking guide.
3. Hotel accommodation as mentioned or similar class including daily breakfast
4. 12 Lunches and 12 dinners as per program,
5. Admission fees to places visited as per program,
6. Boat ride and train ride as per program,
7. Tax and service charge (wherever applicable)
8. Tipping

Exclusions:

1. Personal expenses
2. Drinks during meals
3. Travel insurance (Strongly recommended)

How to Book?

Please fill out the booking form enclosed and have it sent to CBT Holidays by email: eric@cbtholidays.com.au

Further enquiries

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