Arrival to Thailand

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CHAPTER 3



Your journey to an exciting experience at PSU began. Following, you will learn some details about passing through Customs/ Immigration and how to travel to PSU. Make sure you have all your documents ready.

At the first port of entry in Thailand

Once you reach your first port of entry to Thailand at the airport/ border, you need to go through Immigration and/or Customs. Here, you will present your passport with your Non-immigrant "Ed" Visa, and be ready to present your Letter of Acceptance from PSU just in case the officer asks for it.

Arrival-Departure Card

If you travelled by air, a flight attendant may have handed you an Arrival-Departure Card to fill out on the plane before you land. If you did not get a card on your flight, you can find one at the immigration desk.

If you are entering Thailand on land, an immigration official will give you one when you enter Customs. This card indicates some basic information about you and your reason for entering the country. The border agent in Customs will ask to see your card before you are allowed in the country.



*Be sure to keep well the Departure Card in your passport because you will need it later to extend your visa.

Follow the signs to Immigration

Once you get off the plane, follow the signs to "Immigration". You may have to wait in line for a while before you can see an agent. Make sure you have the following documents ready:

- Your passport and your family members' passports with non-immigrant visas,
 - · Letter of Acceptance from PSU,
- Proof of funds, i.e. a bank statement or letter from your sponsor if required.
- * The immigration official may also ask to see other relevant documents.

The officer will stamp, date and/or sign your passport. This is a very important step in your arrival to Thailand, so check right away the dates stamped that should allow you and your family an initial stay of 90 days in Thailand, which will be further extended once you are at PSU. Do not hesitate to ask questions if you are not sure about something. You must have your passport stamped, dated and/or signed, before you leave the airport.





Collect your luggage

Once you have your necessary paperwork and got back your passport, you may collect your luggage. Keep your boarding pass so that you can find your flight number and the corresponding luggage gate.







Go through Customs

Once you collect your luggage, follow the "Customs" sign.

If a Customs officer stops you for a closer inspection, it does not necessarily mean that you are suspected of any wrongdoing. In addition to enforcing Customs laws, Thai Customs enforces many laws for other agencies.

If you are bringing in with you items with total combined value of more than 10,000 baht, these items are subject to import taxes and duties. A flat rate of duty will be applied on the dutiable items provided that: they are intended for personal use; they are at a reasonable quantity and not intended for commercial use, business, or trade purposes; the total value is not exceeding 80,000 Baht; and passengers are able to pay taxes and duties in cash on the date of arrival.

More details on the Thai Customs regulation can be found on their website.

Foreign Currency

Travelers bringing foreign currency more than USD 20,000 or its equivalent into or out of Thailand are required to make a report to Customs at the port/airport of entry or exit, using the given Foreign Currency Declaration Form. A person who reports currency has to answer truthfully any questions that a border services officer asks about the information required for the report.

Lost or delayed luggage

Sometimes an airline loses your luggage or it becomes delayed. If this happens, report your lost luggage to the appropriate airline desk in the airport terminal. Make sure you have your baggage tags/stickers to give to the airline official and describe what your luggage looks like. They will track your bags and tell you when they will arrive. Give the airport desk the address where you will be staying so they can deliver your luggage to the right address.



Traveling from Bangkok to Hat Yai

Bangkok to Hat Yai by Flight

If your port of entry in Thailand is Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK) or Don Muang Airport (DMK), you must take another flight to Hat Yai, which takes just about one hour and 15 minutes. Hopefully, you already booked a ticket before starting your journey. In case you do not have a plane ticket from Bangkok to Hat Yai, you can buy one at the airport. Be sure to check your domestic flight' departing airport in Bangkok: Suvarnabhumi Airport (BKK) or Don Muang Airport DMK.

In case you need to take the domestic flight from the other airport than the one you arrive in Bangkok, a Transfer Bus between Suvarnabhumi and Don Muang airports (free service upon presenting the domestic flight ticket) is provided. The service is available from 05:00 a.m.-midnight, at Suvarnabhumi Airport Passenger Terminal 4th Floor, Gate 5).

For information regarding flights between Bangkok and Hat Yai, please see the website of Hat Yai International Airport.





Bangkok to Hat Yai by Bus

There are frequent bus services to Hat Yai from Bangkok's Southern Bus Terminal, Sai Tai Mai. It's quite remote from the city center, located on the Thonburi side of the Chayo Phraya river, at about 17km from Sukhumvit in downtown Bangkok (you can take a metered taxi to go there). Find the exact location of Bangkok's Southern Bus Terminal on google maps here.

There are services about every two hours throughout the day and also night buses that have blanket and pillow included in the ticket price. The one way fare is between 690 THB and 1160 THB, depending on the type of coach like 2nd class air-conditioned to VIP with extra-large seats.

The trip takes 12 to 13 hours, and the Hat Yai Bus Terminal is located about 2 km southeast of the town center and 20 minutes by car from PSU.

See how to go to PSU Hat Yai Campus from Hat Yai Bus Terminal at Chapter 5: In Hat Yai.



Bangkok to Hat Yai by Train

There are daily trains from Hua Lamphong Bangkok to Hat Yai Train Station and vice versa, all of them are overnight trains. The trip, which takes around 17 hours, brings you through Hua Hin, Chumpon and Surat Thani, so if you change your mind you can always hop off at one of these attractive destinations.

The one way fares for the Special Express train are from 339 THB for a 3rd class seat, 535 THB for a second class seat, 945 THB for a air-conditioned second class bed, to 2,094 THB for a first class room (air-conditioned).

See how to go to PSU Hat Yai Campus from Hat Yai Train Station at Chapter 5: In Hat Yai.



CHECKLIST

while at the airport:

	Received back my passport stamped and correctly dated by Immigration officer
	Kept well the Arrival/ Departure Card
	Collected my luggage
	Went through Customs
	Verified my travel arrangements to Hat Yai
NOTES:	





http://interaffairs.psu.ac.th