





SOUTHERN THAILAND & THE MERGUI ARCHIPELAGO

A JOURNEY FROM THE BUSTLING SHORES OF PHUKET, WHERE COCONUT PLANTATIONS MEET GLITZY MARINAS, TO A TREASURE CHEST OF JEWEL-LIKE ISLANDS DOTTED ACROSS THE ANDAMAN SEA, SOUTHERN THAILAND & THE MERGUI ARCHIPELAGO MAKES THE PERFECT PAIRING.

A forgotten wilderness cast off the coast of Burma, the Mergui Archipelago is sometimes dubbed "the lost world" and not without reason. Largely inaccessible without a boat, this string of 800 mostly uninhabited islands boasts natural wonders, endemic wildlife and interesting culture.

The distinctive landscape is characterised by jungle-clad hills, lagoons, rivers and mangroves, and the local Moken people carve a nomadic lifestyle here. Wildlife roams the forests and birds thrive in this remote Eden.

Sailing in the Andaman Sea reveals a sequin trail of pure white beaches sloping to turquoise water and coral reefs. The landscape is characterised by jungle-clad hills, lagoons, rivers and mangroves. Wildlife thrives, with gibbons and civet cats inhabiting the forests alongside a plethora of birds.









DAY 1: PHUKET TO KOH HONG

Upon arrival, you will be met by a representative and transferred to the harbour to board your private yacht. After a safety briefing, you can relax on deck with a welcome drink as the yacht sets sail into the Phang Nga Bay, stopping at Ko Hong (Room Island). Koh Hong's Pelay beach is framed by limestone, where during high tide, speed boats are able to enter the "room" and visitors can swim in crystal clear water about a metre deep. The yacht will moor here overnight.

DAY 2: PHANG NGA BAY

Today, we'll explore Phang Nga Bay and sail through the characteristic karstic islands that became the symbol of Phuket worldwide after appearing in James Bond film "The Man with the Golden Gun". Phang Nga Bay is a place like no other with islands that can be enjoyed by speedboat or kayak. The best time to visit the "James Bond island" is early morning or late afternoon before day travellers hit this very popular spot.

DAY 3: KRABI

This morning we'll sail to Le Rai Beach nearby Ao Nang, one of Krabi's most beautiful coves. Le Rai is famous for its sunsets, sometimes accompanied by spectacular display of cloud to cloud lightning over the Andaman Sea. Many shops, restaurants and bars line the shore along this popular bay.

DAY 4: PHI PHI DON & LEI

The "Koh Dam Kwan" islands - Phi Phi Don and Phi Phi Lei - are extremely picturesque with crater like bays and towering cliffs plunging into the crystal clear water. Hill tops are scalable and offer a perfect view of the bays before sunset. Towards the end of the afternoon, we'll cruise to Ko Rachai to moor overnight.

10-night Phuket to Mergui itinerary

DAY 5: KOH RACHAI-SURIN

Koh Racha Noi is a blissfully quiet island getaway to the south of Phuket. The area is good for snorkelling and perfect for a relaxing day. Before sunset, we will begin the cruise north, heading for the Surin Archipelago and sailing overnight.

DAY 6: SURIN

The Surin Islands benefit from an offshore location and are arguably the best snorkelling and diving grounds in this part of Thailand. Given that only dive liveaboard yachts can reach it, the beaches are totally spared by tourism, the corals are healthy and teeming with underwater life. We'll spend the night moored in Surin.

DAY 6: KAWTHAUNG & SOUTH BAY

Early this morning, we'll head to Kawthaung, the gateway to the Mergui archipelago. Clearance will be processed directly onboard and we will depart around noon to South Bay where we will anchor for the night in a peaceful bay - and make our first contact with the sea and the beaches of the Mergui Islands.

DAY 7: COCK'S COMB TO MACLEOD

Cockscomb's or Hidden Lagoon is a pool-like shallow lagoon surrounded by rocky walls. Access to this secret spot is made through a small arch allowing only small craft to get in at low tide. This enclosed lagoon act as a reef shark nursery and it's not unusual to spot the wild but shy creatures while silently kayaking. After cruising in the very southern part of the Merguis, we head to the north to MacLeod Island.

















DAY 8: MACLEOD ISLAND

One of the only islands with a 'resort' (some low key timber chalets hidden among a coconut grove) MacLeod offers a deep and sheltered bay in the south with stunning scenery that can be fully appreciated from the top of the hill after a short trek. The bay offers good snorkelling and trekking through to other beaches, one known as 'nautilus' beach for the shells that can be found there.

DAY 9: '115'

After a last morning swim in MacLeod's stunning bay, the yacht will cruise east to '115' (named after its elevation above sea level) where you can enjoy swimming and snorkelling in a pristine environment and go ashore to stroll along the deserted beaches of fine white sand.

DAY 10: PONI-BARWELL.

The "mid term" group of islands composed by Poni, '115', Bada, Pine islands among others offer some infinite option for exploration by speedboat, kayak or jet skis. End of the afternoon, before sunset, we'll cruise to Barwell island and stay there overnight.

DAY 11: KAWTHAUNG

Today, the yacht will return to Kawthaung where the crew will assist you with disembarking and transferring to the airport for your flight home.





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