



Email. [magictourssnzmail@gmail.com](mailto:magictourssnzmail@gmail.com)

## Thailand 13 Day Adventure Information Pack

### Your guides are Howard Mansell and Karel Pavich.

We are both riders, we know what riders want and like. We have designed these rides with that in mind, it is not a bus tour on motorcycles, it is a fantastic bike ride for people who love riding, with some stops (which we all need when riding), at interesting places.

We have years of experience of riding with and managing groups, we understand the dynamics of group rides, the difficulties of getting everyone ready, stopping while wearing bike riding gear in hot conditions, variant riding speeds, fear of getting lost, the need for coffee stops, stopping for fuel etc. We have these all managed and we use techniques that make it easy for you.

For you it's about having fun with likeminded people and not having to worry about any of the logistics. There are lots of jokes, great camaraderie and you may well make some new riding friends for back in NZ.

**We will endeavour to make this experience one which will be a life-long wonderful memory for you and you will receive a beautiful hard cover photo album to help you keep the experience alive.**

**The highlights of the adventure?** Starting in Chiang Mai we ride up Thailand's highest mountain, follow the Myanmar border all the way to the Golden Triangle where three countries meet on the famous Mekong River. Then we follow the Laos border on some of Thailand's most exciting motorcycling highways, visiting two more Northern Thailand cities than the 10day adventure, finally completing a grand 2500k circle back in Chiang Mai. Every day is filled with incredible scenery, through lush mountainous roads with endless corners, mainly on smooth sealed hot mix.

### The Roads:

The ride is almost all on **tar sealed (mostly hot mix)** roads, many of which are VERY tight and twisty, with seemingly endless elevation changes. The surface, camber, and signage is generally very good and traffic volumes are low. We ride between 200 and 370 km per day which will take more hours to ride than in NZ due to the tight nature of the roads. We are on the bikes from approximately 7:30am to 3-4pm, with stops about every hour.

We are riding on a lot of backroads which don't have much traffic, so there's lots of space to enjoy the corners, hills and scenery

### Accommodation on the Adventure:

No one wants to stay in shoddy accommodation. Lovely resorts, with pools and individual air-conditioned rooms await you every night.

Check out the Accommodation slideshow on the website, it will put your mind at rest.

### Food:

Breakfast, good lunch breaks and coffee stops, and nice dinners are included nearly every time, don't worry, we have them well organized.

### The Weather:



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It is the beginning of the Cool Season when we are there, it's likely that we will get some rain at various times (usually late afternoon when we are just getting off the bikes).

It is also low tourist season in Thailand and is one of the best times to ride there as there is less traffic on the road.

### The Bikes we ride:

Honda CB500X and Suzuki Vstrom 650 dual purpose, modern twin cylinder bikes that are perfect for the job. We strongly recommend the CB500X's as they are perfect for these rides.

They come with a top box (40 litre, medium size) and optional side panniers are in the price.

See the testimonials on the website.

### Support Vehicle:

We have a registered Thai Guide who travels with us in a pick-up. He is there to act as interpreter, we can load a bike onto the pick-up if necessary and there are always cold drinks, snacks and fruit available at every stop. It isn't suitable for carrying luggage but if someone gets sick or if a pillion needs a break they can ride in the pick-up.

### PLEASE NOTE:

This is a very challenging ride – it is a ride for experienced and confident riders. We will need to ensure that everyone's riding skills are suitable for the ride. We reserve the right to accept or decline participants. We may also recommend that riders participate in specific activities as part of the requirement to meet a minimum skill level (this may be various training courses or rides) This is to safeguard both your welfare and our H & S requirements.

## Other Information

### Chiang Mai:

This is a 700-year-old city with battlements and a moat. There is the old city which is inside the moat and is like a small village approximately 3 kilometres square, outside the moat is a modern cosmopolitan city. It has a population of approx. 300,000 people so it's not a huge city. It's a very nice, easy place to enter Thailand due to its small size and laid-back pace.

### Accommodation in Chiang Mai:

If you do wish to stay in Chiang Mai either before the start date or afterwards, we are happy to book you into the same hotel we will be staying in. We will be there for an extended stay ourselves, so it will be easiest if you are in the same hotel (it's very reasonably priced at around \$40 per night). Let us know and we can book it for you.

### Sightseeing in Chiang Mai:

As well there are lots of cool things to do in [Chiang Mai](#) including things like:

Night safaris, the zoo, [Tiger Kingdom](#), [The Elephant Poopoo paper park](#), Elephant Camps and of course temples galore. Chiang Mai is a huge shopping mecca with modern shopping centres and night markets every night.



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**Britannia Tours:** (our partner Company in Chiang Mai) can arrange all of the Tourist options for our clients, just ask us and it's sorted.

**Extra luggage:** You will be able to leave any other luggage in secure storage at the hotel while away on the ride, so you can just take what you need for that trip. We return to the Hotel for our last night and so you can be re-united with your luggage.

**Bike Insurance:** Damage to or total loss of the bike is covered, with an excess of NZ\$500. This is underwritten by Magic Motorcycling as there is no bike insurance available in Thailand for us. We do have conditions and can supply an insurance document now if you wish.

**Dental work:** We have arranged a lot of dental work for clients in Chiang Mai, everything from implants to root canals and crowns, our experience is that it is about 50% of the cost of NZ. The Dental Company we deal with are a very professional organisation, very thorough and deal mostly only with Foreigners so the language is not a barrier. Ask us about this if you are interested in having some dental work done before or after the ride.

### Optician:

We have a very reliable optician in Chiang Mai. They can easily organise new glasses for you while you are away riding, prices are about half NZ prices and the quality is very high.

**Pricing:** Our prices are in the table below-

|         | Solo rider<br>CB500X<br>\$NZ | Solo rider<br>Vstrom 650<br>\$NZ | Rider &<br>pillion<br>CB500X<br>\$NZ | Rider &<br>Pillion on<br>Vstrom 650<br>\$NZ | Couple, 2<br>CB500X<br>bikes<br>sharing<br>rooms, \$NZ | Other<br>variations?<br>Please ask |
|---------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|--|------------------------------------|
| 13 days | \$4,795                      | \$5395                           | \$8590                               | \$9190                                      | \$9040   |                                    |

### Terms and Conditions:

**Deposit:** \$1500 deposit per rider is required to secure your place.

**Balance:** The balance is payable about 30 days before the adventure begins.

**Cancellation policy:** Cancellation up to 4 weeks of the ride commencing incurs \$250 booking fee.

Cancellation within 4 weeks of the ride commencing incurs \$500 per person UNLESS we can fill your place then fee reduces to \$250.

### Want to Book on?

Please click on the "Book Here" link for the ride of your choice on the website and enter the details on the form.

This will put you into our booking system and enter you onto the ride.

Once we see your booking, we will email or ring you to find out if which options you want (pillion, Vstrom etc) We will then create an invoice based on those choices and send it to you. At that point we will ask you for the \$1500 deposit to hold your place. We will send you a copy of the invoice showing the deposit when it arrives.



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## Thailand 13 Day Adventure Information Pack

On booking you will receive a second, more detailed information pack helping you with flights, visa, health concerns, insurances, licenses etc. all focussed on helping you to prepare for the ride.

### Still not sure?

Please feel free to ask any questions at any time. Phone or email is fine.

Howard is: 0211259052

Karel is: 0276998089

Email is: [magictourstnz@gmail.com](mailto:magictourstnz@gmail.com)