



Local Currency The unit of currency in Thailand is called the Baht (B), pronounced "bot." There are 100 Stang to the Baht. Notes are available in the following denominations: 10, 20, 50, 100, 500 and 1,000.

Office/Telephone Facilities The General Post Office **1** in Phuket Town is located off Montri Road.

A Telephone Office can be found on Phang Nga Road in Phuket Town. Public telephones require local coins. Telephone facilities can also be found along the beach area of Patong.

AT&T: 001-999-11111 / MCI: 001-999-12001 / SPRINT: 001-999-13877

Tourist Information The local Tourist Information Office **3** is located at 191 Thaalang Road, Phuket Town. Open daily.

Transportation Taxis are available at the pier. The distance to town is 6 1/4 miles (10 km). Fares should be agreed upon before starting your trip. There is no regular bus service from the pier area, but you can find buses that circle the island in Phuket Town and Patong Beach.

Useful Words

- Greetings/hello – Sawasdee (krab/kha)
- No – Mai chai (krab/kha)
- Thank you – Khob kun (krab/kha)
- You're welcome – Yin dee (krab/kha)
- It doesn't matter – Mai pen rai (krab/kha)
- Check (bill), please – Check bin (krab/kha)
- Where is the toilet? – Hong num yoo nai (krab/kha)?

*Note: in the Thai language, "krab" denotes masculine gender (the speaker) and "kha" the feminine gender. English and German are widely spoken.

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Phuket Thailand

Port Explorer

General Information

Phuket (pronounced poo-cket) is situated off the west coast of Thailand in the Andaman Sea. It is Thailand's largest island, 30 miles (48 km) long and 12 miles (19 km) wide. It is believed to have been settled as early as the 1st century B.C. It was part of the original Thai states from early times and was known by various names, Cape Salang by the Malays as well as Tongka, Junk Ceylon and Sonsalam. Today it is referred to as "The Pearl of the Andaman Sea." Its magnificent white sand beaches, dramatic coves and bays, luxuriant rain forest, rice paddy fields, rubber and coconut plantations have made Phuket one of Southeast Asia's most fashionable beach resorts.



Phuket Island, with a population of approximately 320,000 inhabitants is also noted for its rich tin mines which account for nearly one third of the Thai tin production. The island is connected to the mainland of Phang Nga Province by 2 bridges (Thepkasatree Bridge and Sarasin Bridge).

Phuket Town is located in the southeastern portion of the island and is the capital of the country's island province. It has good shopping, dependable communication facilities and some examples of Colonial and Indo-Portuguese mansions constructed by Chinese merchant barons. These barons made their fortunes in tin and rubber production after the 18th century when large numbers of Chinese came to live on the island. Today, this city of 140,000 is also a major port and commercial center, exporting tin, charcoal, lumber and fish products.



Places of Interest



Phuket Town Market 2, off Ranong road, is the region's busiest and most colorful. It contains an array of vegetables, fruit, spices and meat. Diagonally across town from the market is the provincial Town Hall which was used as the French Embassy in the film "The Killing Fields."

Ocean Time Square 4, near the Metropole Hotel, is a shopping complex that features local items of interest such as cotton, clothes, shoes, cosmetics and some handicrafts.

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