

THAILAND-BURMA RAILWAY CENTRE (TBRC), KANCHANABURI, THAILAND

(Thailand Tour Company License No. 13/01172)

SHBSS (Dutch) GROUP: 81 Years TBR Pilgrimage: 13th – 21st November 2023

Itinerary (9 Days/8 Nights): Minimum Group of 34 plus TBRC staff

13th November 2023 (Mon): (Pick up Bangkok take Kanchanaburi–Independent Day)

TBRC Guides POOM + 1 to meet on arrival of (Flt) at ???am at Bangkok airport.

Coffee break on the way to Kanchanaburi. On arrival Kanchanaburi we check you in at hotel where you can rest & relax for balance of day. Overnight **Royal River Kwai Resort**.

Including private air-con Coach from Bangkok (and support vehicle) for the day, 2 x personal Guides & Accommodation (not including lunch and dinner)

14th Nov. 2023 (Tues): (Tour in morning, relax in afternoon) **Guides: POOM + 1**

7.00am: Breakfast

8.00am: Group gathers in the audio room for introduction to the railway and the days ahead by Andrew Snow or Rod Beattie (TBRC)

8.30am: Individual research discussions with TBRC researchers, Rod, Terry & Andrew.

9.30am Depart for a tour up country. Travel to the southern end of the Wang Pho viaduct (Arrow Hill camp and work area) for a look and understanding of this little-known but interesting location of the railway where a number of Dutch PoWs worked. Back to the resort to rest and relax as you wish and overnight at **Royal River Kwai Resort**.

Including breakfast, private air-con Coach (and support vehicle) available for tour, 2 x personal Guides as required & Accommodation (not including lunch and dinner)

15th Nov. 2023 (Wed) (Museum, Local tour- historical sites) **Guides: POOM + 1**

7.30am: Breakfast in the restaurant.

8.30am: Depart by coach & travel to Thailand-Burma Railway Centre.

9.00am: Rod Beattie introduction to the Museum & then **go through Museum**

10.15am: Meet in Coffee Shop for Coffee break (tea, coffee, cake & cookies)

10.45am: Walk to adjacent Kanchanaburi War Cemetery for explanation of the background history. (Spend more time in the Cemetery on 26th October)

11.15am: Leave Cemetery for Personally guided half day tour around Kanchanaburi including F & H Force Hospital Camp, Aerodrome Camps & see Boon Pong shop and Jeath Museum.

12.45pm: Buffet Lunch at Taraburi Restaurant on the River Kwai.

1.45pm: Leave for Chungkai Cemetery & site of PoW camp, Chungkai Cutting and PoW work area.

3.00pm: Depart for the Bridge on the River Kwai and Tha Makham Camp area.

4.30pm: We return you to Royal River Kwai Resort, Kanchanaburi. Relax and as you wish for balance of day & evening.

Including Breakfast, Lunch, admission to Museum, Local Tour in air-con Coach (and support vehicle), historical Tour Leader, 2 x Personal Guides & Accommodation, (not including dinner)

START OF UP COUNTRY PILGRIMAGE

Guides:- AUI + 1

16th November 2023 (Thurs): (1st day of 3 Day up country pilgrimage with Rod Beattie)
(Check out of hotel and excess baggage can be stored in a separate room at the hotel until your return on 18th November. Bags will be labeled and taken from rooms to storage area by Bellboy. Recommend bags be locked as no responsibility can be accepted by the Resort)

7.00am: **Breakfast** in the Restaurant.

8.00am: **Depart by coach** accompanied by Rod Beattie & Guides. Follow the route of the majority of the Dutch PoWs on the way to the railway construction. Visit **Lat Ya**, stop briefly (stay on the bus) for a look and talk. Continue to **Tha Dan** for more information (stay on the bus). Move on to **Wang Yai & Tha Sao** where they linked up with the railway and where you stop for a break.

9.45am: **Coffee Break** (and comfort stop) at **Pung Waan Kwai Noi Resort** (Tha Sao camp site). During the break learn about the history of this location.

10.30am: Leave for up country, travel to **Kinsaiyok**, first Base Camp of Dutch & Group 6. Learn camp & station locations and walk the large embankment.

12.00md: Leave Kinsaiyok for **Rin Tin (Lin Thin)** & learn the history of this camp.

12.40pm: Leave Rin Tin and travel to **Hindat** area.

1.00pm: Stop for lunch at **Khiri Wong Restaurant** on the highway before Hindat.

2.00pm: Leave for **Hindat Camp and work locations** for history of this area.

3.00pm: Leave Hindat and travel route of railway to **Sangkhlaburi**.

5.00pm: Arrive and **check in to Suan Magmai Resort** at Sangkhlaburi.

6.30pm: **All meet in restaurant for group Dinner** and relax for the evening.

Stay overnight **Suan Magmai Resort, Sangkhlaburi**, not far from the Burma border.

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17th November 2023 (Fri): (2nd Day of Pilgrimage, 3 Pagodas Pass & sightseeing)

Guides:- AUI + 1

8.00am: Breakfast as required.

9.00am: **Leave** for Three Pagodas Pass at the Burma border, where Dutch Burma workers crossed the border into Thailand. Along the way stop at Songkurai and Kami Songkurai and learn the history.

10.30am: Visit **Three Pagodas Pass** at the Burma border and learn the history. Shopping available as required.

11.30am: Board coach for return to Sangkhlaburi.

12.15pm: Arrive back at resort in Sangkhlaburi.

xxxx: Have lunch in the market area and in the afternoon take time to explore the local sights, **visit the Temple, the Mon Bridge, Mon Village** etc. Optional free time for relaxation. Guides will help with planning.

6.30pm: **All meet for group Dinner in restaurant** at the Resort.

Second night at **Suan Magmai Resort, Sangkhlaburi.**

Including Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner, air-con Coach (and support vehicle), Rod Beattie's guidance all-day, 2 x Personal Guides & Accommodation.

18th November 2023 (Sat): (3rd Day of Pilgrimage – return journey to Kanchanaburi)

7.30am: **Breakfast** in the Restaurant.

Guides:- AUI + 1

8.30am: **Check out and ready to board coach.**

8.45am: Depart for the **return journey** re-capping and covering anything still required along the way. Stop at view point at Ni Thea.

10.00am: Visit the hydro-electric dam.

11.30am: **Lunch at Baad Reaw Restaurant** at Thong Pha Phum (**Tha Khanun**).

12.30pm: Leave Thong Pha Phum and continue south.

1.45pm: Arrive **Hellfire Pass Memorial** and walking trail in Kannyu area. Can visit the memorial museum and the Cutting for an understanding of this area.

3.00pm: Leave and travel to Hintok. View cutting and bridge site and walk the trail.

4.30pm: Leave for Kanchanaburi.

5.30pm: Arrive back **Royal River Kwai Resort**, collect bags from storage, check in to rooms. Balance of evening and dinner at your leisure and as you wish.

Incl Breakfast, Lunch, Rod Beattie's historical guidance for all-day Pilgrimage in air-con Coach (and support vehicle), 2 x Personal Guides, Admissions & Accommodation (not including dinner)

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19th November 2023 (Sun): (Train trip on PoW built railway or take a rest day)

xxxx: **Breakfast** as required.

Guides:- POOM + 1

10.15am: **Transport to train station to take the train (11.00 am departure) along the still-working section of railway from Kanchanaburi to the end of current line at Nam Tok** accompanied by our Personal Guides.

Have **lunch** at “**Station Food & Beverage**” restaurant near the station.

The coach meets you after lunch for a short trip to the **Saiyok Noi waterfall** before the return journey to Kanchanaburi to return you to **your hotel perhaps around 4.30pm.**

Balance of evening & dinner as you wish.

Overnight **Royal River Kwai Resort.**

Including Breakfast, Lunch, 2 x personal Guides, air-con Coach (and support vehicle), train ticket for all in special carriage, admission to Museum/Research Centre & Accommodation (not incl. dinner)

20th November 2023(Mon): (**Museum, Memorial Service, lunch & farewell dinner**)

7.30am **Breakfast** in Restaurant

Guides:- POOM + 1

8.30am: Board coach to go to **TBRC Museum** before Memorial Service.

9.00am: Arrival at TBRC Museum for a re-visit prior to Memorial Service

10.00am: Walk to adjacent Kanchanaburi Cemetery for 10.20am Memorial Service

Memorial service at Kanchanaburi War Cemetary: (non religious as requested by group organizers)

“ORDER OF SERVICE” WILL BE HANDED OUT TO ALL ATTENDEES ON THE DAY.

10.15am: Go to chairs and sit down

10.20am: COMMENCEMENT OF SERVICE AND INTRODUCTION:

Rod Beattie OAM, MBE, Knight in the Order of Orange Nassau (NL), Research Director and creator of Thailand-Burma Railway Centre (TBRC), Kanchanaburi, Thailand, will give an outline of the commemoration and briefly explain the events of WWII in Thailand leading to the establishment of the Cemeteries and the role and purpose of the CWGC as well as the current and ongoing work of TBRC.

Information will be provided regarding the significance of Kanchanaburi during the railway construction project and the large locally based Camps. Special mention of the local population of Dutch people in Kanchanaburi after the end of WWII (former PoWs, wives and families) and their building of the adjacent Beata Mundi Regina Memorial Church specifically to cater to the needs of the Dutch community and fellow Christians.

...SERVICE PROCEEDS

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE:

(continued next page)

(20th November 2023 (Mon).....cont.....Memorial service at Kanchanaburi War Cemetary...)

ADDRESS: (*Any guests wishing to address the Service*)

SPECIAL ROLL CALL (Edu Harms)

LAYING OF WREATHS:

ODE OF REMEMBRANCE:

THE LAST POST: Buglers from the Royal Thai Army play the Last Post.

ONE MINUTES SILENCE:

REVEILLE: Buglers from the Royal Thai Army

CONCLUSION

NATIONAL ANTHEM: (Audio of the National anthem of the Netherlands)

END OF SERVICE:

10.45am: Visiting and placing flowers on individual graves as required

11.15am: Departure by Coach to Chungkai War Cemetery

11.30am: Arrival at Chungkai

Wreath Laying Service Chungkai War Cemetery

11.45am Gather at Cross of Sacrifice

Short opening statement

ADDRESS: (*Any guests wishing to address the Service*)

LAYING OF WREATHS:

THE LAST POST: Buglers from the Royal Thai Army play the Last Post.

ONE MINUTES SILENCE:

REVEILLE: Buglers from the Royal Thai Army

12.00md: Visiting and placing flowers on the individual graves

12.30pm: Departure to Royal River Kwai hotel for lunch

1.00pm: Buffet Lunch at Royal River Kwai Resort.

2.00pm: Balance of day **as you choose**. Guide can assist.

7.00pm: In the evening enjoy a **farewell dinner joined by your TBRC service staff at a local restaurant**. Guides will advise plans and transport.

Overnight at **Royal River Kwai Resort**, Kanchanaburi.

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21st November 2023 (Tues):(Return Bangkok extra camp sites & end TBRC Program)

Guides:- POOM + 1

10.30am: After breakfast, pack up, check out & depart for Bangkok. On the way we will visit **Tha Muang Camp** site where some Dutch PoWs were camped in 1944/45, then to **Ban Pong** to see where all Thailand railway workers first arrived from Singapore followed by **Nong Pladuk**, the starting point of the railway in Thailand and then **Nakhon Pathom** to see the **Chedi and Camp location**. Have lunch in this area (Road House/Service Centre) before continuing to Bangkok (arriving around 2.30pm) & balance of day as you wish. Overnight Well Hotel, Bangkok (SHBSS booking)
Incl. Breakfast, 2 x personal Guides, air-con Coach (and support vehicle) to Bangkok hotel (not including lunch & dinner)

END OF TBRC TOUR PROGRAM

INCLUSIONS: (BASED ON PLAN FOR MINIMUM OF 34 x Travelers)

Admission to Museum & Research Centre: Unlimited entry to the Museum for the duration of your stay.

Admission to Kinsaiyok National Park: Admission paid by TBRC on entry.

Admission to Hellfire Pass Memorial: Included

Meals: As per program & including water. (***Not including alcoholic drinks, Lunch for 3 days & Dinner for 6 days***).

Accommodation (self-contained, air-con, with hot water in bath room, **for 8 nights**)

BASED ON ALL DOUBLE OR TWIN ROOMS (2 PER ROOM – “TWIN SHARE”) (min. 34 people in 17 x rooms)
SINGLE ROOMS (1 PERSON PER ROOM) AVAILABLE AT ADDITIONAL COST (SINGLE SURCHARGE)

Royal River Kwai Resort, Kanchanaburi. (Check-in from 2.00pm)

First 3 x nights, including breakfast (ABF)

Last 3 x nights, including breakfast (ABF)

Suan Magmai Resort, Sangklaburi

Up country 2 nights, Including breakfast (ABF)

Personally escorted Pilgrimages: (Just you and TBRC historian for over 4 days)

2 x Half Day local tours as per itinerary including lunch and air-con Coach & minibus.

3 Days up country with Rod Beattie as itinerary, meals as program, air-con Coach & minibus.

Last Day: Guided southern camp visits on return trip to Bangkok.

Personal Travel Assistant/Guide:

A minimum of two (2) TBRC Travel Assistant/Guides (English speaking) will accompany your group on the Coach on **each of the 9 days** in the Kanchanaburi program including meeting you on day of pick-up in Bangkok and returning with you to Bangkok at the end of the program (on Day 9) for guidance at historical camp locations. This will ensure all runs smoothly without language/translation problems and assist with organization, meal ordering and any special requirements along the way.

Memorial & Wreath Laying Services: (Refer Itinerary)

TBRC & SHBSS will conduct a Memorial Service at the Cross of Remembrance at 10.00am at Kanchanaburi War Cemetery followed by a second brief Service and Wreath Laying Ceremony at Chungkai War Cemetery. The Memorial Service includes Thai Army Buglers playing the “Last Post” and “Reveille” with the reciting of “The Ode” and a minute silence in between. There will be a second Wreath Laying Service at Chungkai War Cemetery. A large Wreath will be provided at each Service to be laid by your nominee on behalf of your group.

Train Ticket in Special Tourist carriage:

Train tickets pre-purchased and provided for all travellers.

Medical support (OPTION – Not included): *We understand you plan to have your own Doctor travelling with you.*

Private Transport: (Air conditioned Coach and driver, plus support vehicle and driver)

All 9 Days, from pick up Bangkok airport on arrival until return to Rembrandt Hotel in Bangkok on last day.

Insurance and Licensed Guide staff:

Full Licensing and compliance with Thailand Tour and Travel Agent law for your protection and peace of mind.

(Subject to TBRC Terms and Conditions - available on request)