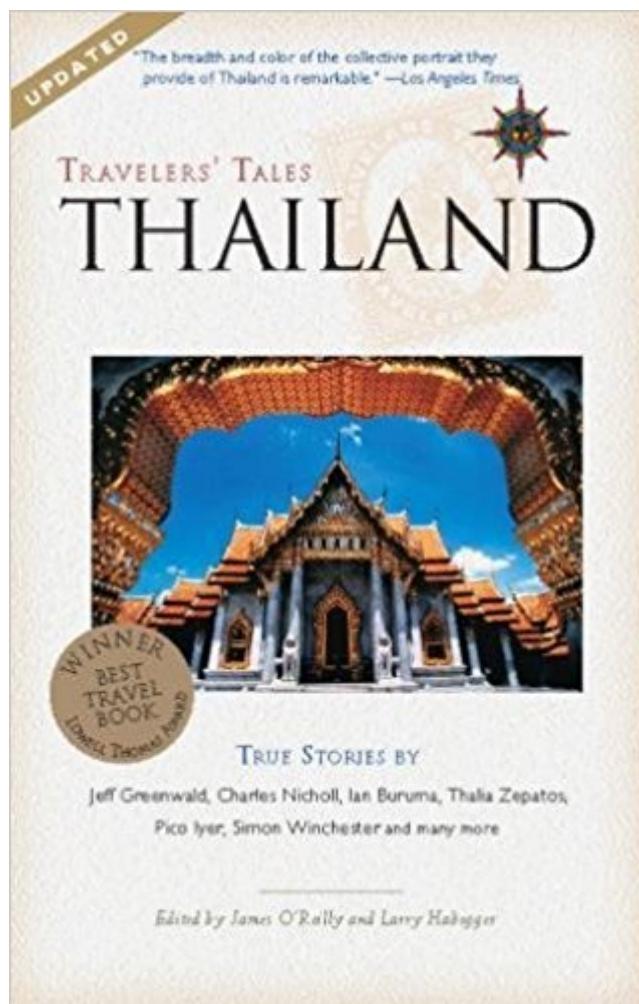


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Travelers' Tales Thailand: True Stories



Synopsis

Winner of the Lowell Thomas Award for Best Travel Book, this newly designed collection paints a unique portrait of a complex and captivating land. One contributor lives as a monk for a month, gaining an inside look at monastic life. Another discovers Bangkok's riverine pleasures, a world away from its car-choked streets. Yet another finds refuge as the houseguest of an isolated tribesman. Through these engaging personal stories, readers witness how Thailand satisfies just about any traveler's hunger for the exotic, the beautiful, the thrillingly different. Writers include Pico Iyer, Norman Lewis, Diane Summers, Simon Winchester, Ian Buruma, Thalia Zepatos, and Tim Ward. "The breadth and color of the collective portrait [the contributors] provide of Thailand is remarkable." • Los Angeles Times

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Travelers' Tales is a new kind of travel anthology, marrying the best of the guidebook and travel literature. Thailand is the first book in this series: a wonderful collection of place-specific tales previously scattered far and wide. Veteran travel writers James O'Reilly and Larry Habegger read hundreds of stories to select those that best capture the experience of Thailand. Thailand, one of the most intriguing travel destinations of the nineties, should satisfy just about any traveler's hunger for the exotic, the beautiful, the thrillingly different. A country of contrasts, Thailand is a microcosm of all that is right and wrong with tourism, including the traveler's role as pilgrim, adventurer, and consumer. As the editors write in the Preface: "The world is not our private zoo or theme park; we

need to be better prepared before we go, so that we might become honored guests and not vilified intruders." To give readers a taste of this country and its people, the book is organized into five sections: "Essence of Thailand" contains stories that reflect some essential character of the landscape, the people, or the traveler's experience of the country. "Some Things to Do" has accounts of particular places and activities that previous travelers have found worthwhile. "Going Your Own Way" contains experiences that are farther off the tourist track, relayed by an author who interacted more intimately with the local people or was willing to travel farther afield. "In the Shadows" explores the darker side of Thailand; so that visitors might be aware of the complexities beyond the cheerful face presented to tourists. "The Last Word" has one last magical moment, to remind the reader just why Thailand is worth visiting. There is perhaps no better way to prepare for a trip, or to vicariously experience another country, than to listen to those who have gone before; *Travelers' Tales Thailand* brings the best of those voices together for the first time in "Essence of Thailand

I usually don't do much preparation for international travel because my husband and I are so busy. We end up missing out on experiences during our travels simply because we didn't prepare. We definitely didn't want to miss out on anything in Thailand. This book was an excellent and easy read. I feel like I've already been to Thailand even though we're not going for another three weeks. Through the short stories and sidebar comments, the reader is presented tons of information about food, culture, and do-and-donts. Plus, this is a much nicer way of learning about Thailand vs reading a guide book that really just consists of lists upon lists. My only concern is that some of the excerpts used as short stories were originally published decades ago. However, I enjoyed reading them anyway since it offers more background info on Thai culture. I highly recommend using this book to prepare for a trip to Thailand along with a traditional guide book. I also recommend this to anyone who leaves to read and learn about other cultures. I definitely plan on purchasing *Travelers' Tales*, if available, for the next country we visit.

This was one of the best travel books I have ever read. It never got boring and it was a great combination of interesting stories and travel tips. It taught me a lot about the culture and history of Thailand. I read it to prepare for an upcoming trip.

As someone who has recently "discovered" the magic and charms of Thailand, like many who've come away from first visits the huge variety of sights, sounds, tastes and "life" leave us perplexed

yet so eager to learn much more about this wonderful culture! "Travellers' Tales Thailand: True Stories" answers many of our questions in such a fun way through interesting, even fascinating stories about real people and real places in Thailand. And there's more, much more, for the book weaves throughout helpful tips, places to visit, experiences to try, helpful Thai words, etc. And the last chapter "What You Need To Know - The Next Step" is a mini-guidebook in itself, a helpful read before going. This book will be with me on all my future visits to this delightful land.

I'm extremely happy with the condition of the book and the speed with which I received it - and best of all, it's a great read for anyone planning a trip to Thailand. This offers advice not usually found in typical travel books and gives insight into the differences in the Thai culture from that of westerners. Totally recommend this book.

The book has become one of my favorites. Its full of short stories from an array of travelers from many different backgrounds. Some parts of it read very informational while after reading other parts of the book I could not stop laughing. There is so much information and experience from travelers over the years packed into this book...I would definitely recommend it to anyone planning to travel to Bkk, Chiang Mai or others planning to trek in the north. It also has some sections about Thai food.

My husband hasn't put it down since he started it! I met and exceeded expectations!

Promptly received verification of order, date shipped and approx arrival dates. Since I live in Hawaii the arrival dates were off. When I contacted the seller I was assured it would still arrive and seller was kind and gave excellent customer service. The book arrived in beautiful condition no one at the party believed it was a used book. :-)(Im very happy with this seller and highly recommend them. Honest and reliable.Mahalo

Bought as a gift for my mom. She enjoyed the stories.

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