



Thailand
Village Academy

TAMBON NONG RONG COMMUNITY

Kanchanaburi



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Kanchanaburi's Nong Rong community is hidden in the heart of the jungle, away from the province's main tourist areas around the popular River Kwai. As a result, the bond between community members' lifestyle and the forest has been able to survive – and prosper – to this very day. Now, they are open to outside visitors who contribute to their small but sustainable tourism industry. Knowledgeable locals are on hand to show you around, guiding you along nature trails to pick up fresh ingredients (which you can cook with later), as well as to see nearby waterfalls and streams.

ACTIVITIES

- Strolling through the community's forest.
- Explore the church built in the Late Ayutthaya period at Wat Khao Cham Sin.
- Learn how to weave bamboo cradles and other utilities.
- Making products from *Enkleia siamensis* (scientific name of plant).
- Learn how to make products from toddy palms.
- Craft bracelets and rings from *Cocculus Indicus*.
- Rainbow herbal rice crackers, low-fat crispy pork rinds and cooking dinner.



PROGRAM 3 DAYS 2 NIGHTS

DAY 1

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| 10.00 am. | Meet at the designated meeting point and travel to Kanchanaburi via highway. |
| 12.00 pm. | Lunch break |
| 01.00 pm. | Continue your journey onwards towards Kanchanaburi. |
| 01.30 pm. | Stop at Kanchanaburi City Pillar Shrine to pray for good luck. Here, you can visit the old city wall behind the shrine and stroll through Pak Praek community, the oldest community in Kanchanaburi where the charms of old houses are still preserved. |
| 02.30 pm. | Visit Don Rak War Cemetery, also known as the United Nations War Cemetery or “The British Cemetery” to the locals, a huge cemetery where 6,982 graves of war prisoners who passed away during the construction of the Death Railway are located. |
| 03.00 pm. | See the famous River Kwai bridge (better known as “The Bridge Over the River kwai”). The bridge goes over River Kwai Yai and boasts a semi-circular iron structure and truss, supported by reinforced concrete pillars. It is currently part of the Thonburi-Namtok railway and used to be part of the Death Railway itself. |
| 04.00 pm. | Travel to Nong Rong sub-district community, Panomtuan district. |
| 04.30 pm. | Arrive at the community. Get to know the community representatives and check in to your accommodation. |
| 06.00 pm. | Enjoy dinner at the homestay accommodation a leisurely time. |
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DAY 2

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| 07.00 am. | Breakfast at the homestay |
| 09.00 am. | <p>Learn about the community forest from the community master, who will guide you through the forest area that’s been taken care of by the locals. Now, it is now a source of food and revenue for the community members. Collect cocculus and enkleia siamensis which will be used to make products that bring revenue into the community.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Learn how to knit cocculus rings and bracelets from an expert master.• Visit a late-Ayudhaya church and pray at Khao Jam Seen Temple. |
| 12.30 pm. | Enjoy Masang chili paste, the restaurant’s famous dish, for lunch. |
| 02.00 pm. | Learn how to transform enkleia siamensis collected from the community forest into products like key chains and decorative flowers using various colors to give them a unique touch. |
| 03.00 pm. | Learn how to make garlands out of kaffir lime and pandan leaves. This is one example of how the community transforms local produce found in abundance into value-added products. Try to do it yourself and take one of these souvenirs back home! |
| 04.30 pm. | Visit the community’s agricultural garden. One of the common plants here is melientha suaveis; get to know all about it, as well as how to grow and harvest it for distribution. Pick it directly from the source and use it to cook dinner. |
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06.00 pm.

Cook a melientha suavis dish with your host and have dinner together at the homestay.

DAY 3

08.00 am.

Breakfast at the homestay

09.00 am.

“Dong Tan” (or toddy palm plantation) is a forestry learning center of the community. Toddy palm tree climbers, a popular occupation for members of the Nong Rong community, requires bravery and expertise as the climbers have to climb up extremely tall trees. Learn about the process of climbing the trees, cutting the toddy palm and preparing them for distribution.

- Learn about the properties of each palm fruit.
- Taste the fresh palm flesh taken from the plantation.
- Process fresh palm flesh.

Notes: This activity can only be arranged during the toddy palm season (late-January to mid-May). During other periods, it will be replaced with a learning activity on transforming the flesh and seeds.

11.30 am.

Lunch

12.30 pm.

Say goodbye to the community and return to Bangkok.

01.00 pm.

Stop off at Meena Café to taste some coffee and take in the fresh air in the middle of the green field.

03.00 pm.

Travel back to Bangkok.

06.00 pm.

Safely arrive in Bangkok.

Program 3 Days 2 Nights

Number of visitors	4-6 persons	7-9 persons	
Rate/Person (THB)	9,800	7,500	

Program 7 Days 6 Nights

Number of visitors	2-3 persons	4-6 persons	7-9 persons	
Rate/Person (THB)	40,000	27,000	20,000	

TOUR OPERATOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Local Alike Co., Ltd.

Tel. 0-2115-9861, 08-1139-5593 | E-mail: group@localalike.com

-  www.facebook.com/LocalAlike
-  www.twitter.com/localalike
-  www.instagram.com/localalike
-  www.youtube.com/user/LocalAlike
-  www.localalike.com

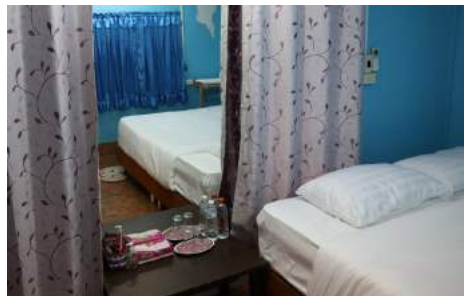
WHAT WILL YOU LEARN?

See how locals use fresh herbs and plants to make herbal compress balls, as well as things to eat (both sweet and savory). Also, enjoy making handicrafts such as a bamboo cradle and products from *Enkleia siamensis* – which are some of the many sources of income for the community.



HOME STAY

13 homestays with a capacity to accommodate 40-50 visitors in total





FOR MORE INFORMATION

Thailand Village Academy

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