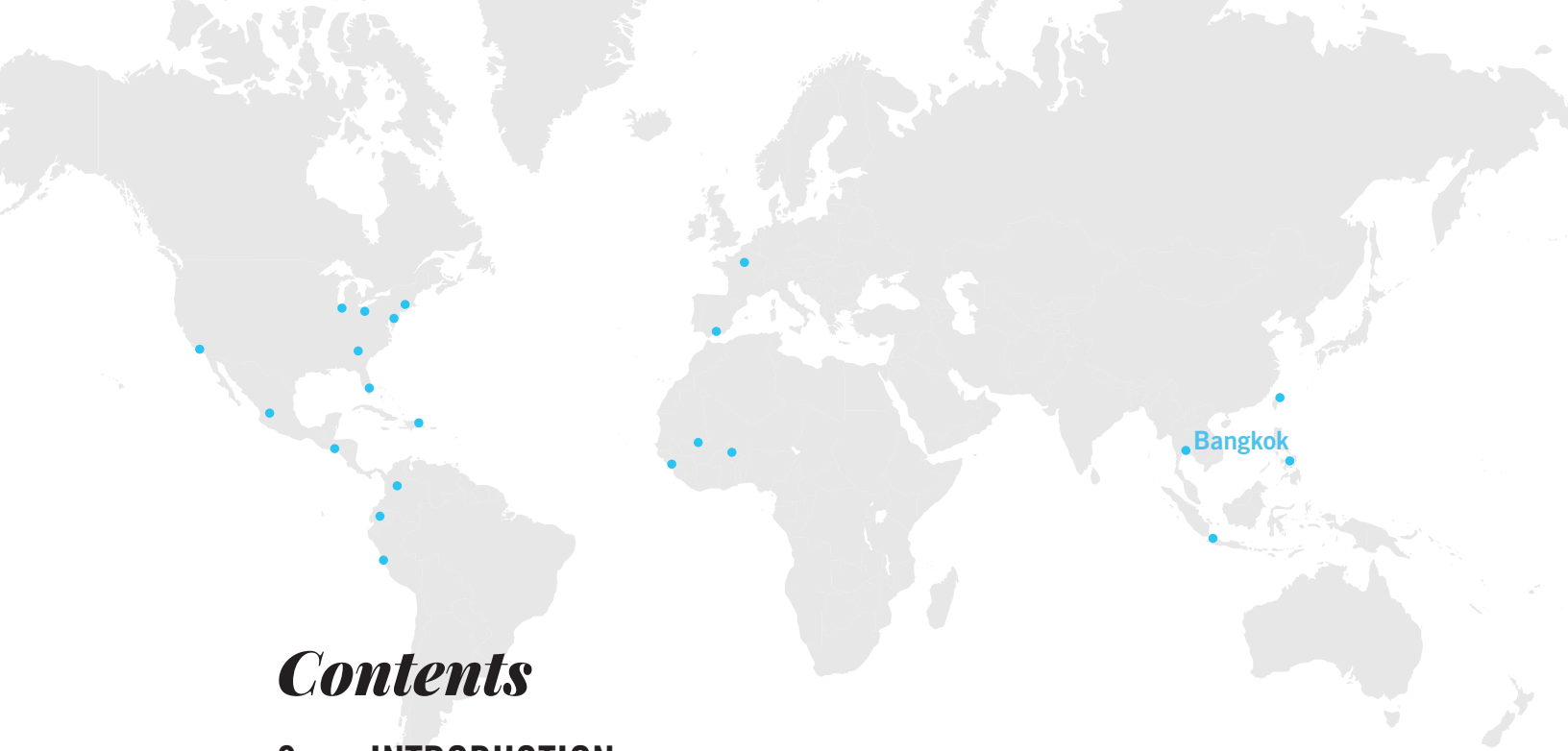




# Bangkok

ENVISION HANDBOOK





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# ***Introduction***

## **ABOUT THE SITE**

We invite you to be a part of seeing lineages changed for Christ. At Envision Bangkok, every point of contact with people is an opportunity to move them one step closer to Jesus. Our heart beats for these very moments and every opportunity after. Our goal is to be intentional with every opportunity we have to do whatever it takes to partner with God in reaching and mobilizing people for His glory. To keep it simple, we want people to fall deeply in love with Jesus.

Moreover, Blue Tree wrote the song “God of this City” while in one of the red light district in Thailand. We believe this song captures a perfect image of our heart and our hope for this city. We know that God is not done with Bangkok and is going to do even greater things in this city and beyond. So, come and join in God’s redeeming work of bringing his children back to himself and reuniting lineages back to the Maker, the Father of the broken hearted.



## MEET THE TEAM

**Site Coordinators** Tou Lee and Tang (along with their sweet children Abraham and Selah) have been serving in Thailand since January 2011. Tou Lee is originally from Hortonville, Wisconsin. He was involved with youth ministry prior to becoming the Thailand Envision Site Director. He attended Crown College where he received a B.A. in Intercultural Studies: Church Planting. He then went on to finish his M.A. at Crown in Organizational Leadership and

Ministry Leadership. Tou Lee has a passion for preaching and evangelism. Additionally, he enjoys basketball and volleyball (even though he couldn't make a basket nor spike a ball if his life depended on it). He also enjoys eating green tea ice cream and Slim Jims (but not at the same time). His secret desire? To be a part of a hip-hop dance crew.

Tang is originally from Kansas City, Kansas. She also received her B.A. from Crown College in English Education as well as a certificate in TESOL. Fun facts about Tang include: At one time she had hair down to the knees but now has a very short boy-cut. She enjoys basketball and volleyball, arts and crafts, photography, and board games. In fact, she is the reigning queen of Settlers of Catan. She could eat mangos all day – everyday – as well as chocolate ice cream. She enjoys singing and rapping and her secret desire is to be the next contestant on The Voice.



## *General Information*

### **TEAM COSTS**

The general cost is \$990 per individual on the ground in the country for 10 days. The in-country expenses cover meals, lodging, laundry, in-city transportation, and travel insurance. Airfare excluded.

### **INTERN COSTS**

The general cost is \$1,550 per intern on the ground in the country for one month. The in-country expenses cover meals, lodging, laundry, in-city transportation, and travel insurance. Airfare excluded.

In addition to the monthly cost, there will be a one-time fee of \$455 for international travel insurance; if your internship is over 6 months. For internships under 180 days, the international travel insurance would be a one-time fee of \$53.

### **HOUSING & FOOD**

Most teams and interns will stay at the Alliance Guest House in Bangkok. There is no need for you to bring pillows, sheets, sleeping bags, etc. but please do bring your own towel. Envision Culture: Bangkok has a clothing washer for teams and interns, but the clothes must be sun-dried. Please plan to bring enough clothes for your entire stay if possible.

Meals will be eaten at the Alliance Guest Home or out at a local restaurant or street vendor. Please let me know if there is any food restrictions/dietary needs prior to coming. We will do our best to accommodate your dietary needs.



## AIRPORT & ARRIVAL INFORMATION

One of our Envision team members will pick you up from the airport. If I do not come, the site directors will send you a photo of the person coming before you arrive.

After going through immigration, you will gather your luggages and exit.

1. Go through the customs lane that says “Nothing to Declare”
2. Look for door number #4 (picture attached)
3. Go stand by the door. Do NOT go outside. I or one of my team will be on the next floor looking down for you.

If you have any questions, call me at 091-774-8610.

My Address:  
Chamchuri Square Residence  
Room #913  
315 Phaya Thai Road  
Bangkok, Thailand 10330

## VISAS

Please remember to apply for your Thailand Tourist Visa before coming. This will allow you to be in Thailand for 60 days without having to leave. Here is the quick link to tell you all about it. <http://thaiembdc.org/consular-services/tourist-visas/category-tr/>

## MONEY

You may wish to bring some spending money, depending on how many gifts you plan to buy. We would recommend bringing a few hundred bucks for gifts and snacks. There are 7- 11's everywhere so you can buy snacks whenever you want during your stay.

Credit cards can be used in Thailand and there are ATM machines available. Please check with your bank or credit card company about international fees and inform them of your travels prior to traveling.

The currency in Thailand is the Thai baht. Be prepared to bring any cash in new \$50 and \$100 bills as have the best exchange rates. You could also bring new \$20s.

## COMMUNICATIONS

There is wifi at the Alliance Guest Home and many other places. There will be enough access to upload photos and team blogs. Cell phones will work in the country. If you have an unlocked SIM card operated phone, you can buy a prepaid Thai SIM card and use your phone while in Thailand.

There is a phone at the Guest Home that you may use but you will be charged extra to use the phone from your room. Thailand's voltage is 220V 50 Hertz. The plugs in Thailand are not standardized -- there are at least three different types, some two pins and some three, so be sure to either bring a universal adapter or buy one once you arrive in Thailand.

## HEALTH & VACCINATIONS

No special health concerns or vaccinations needed for your time in Bangkok.



# ***Packing List***

- Casual, comfortable clothes that will keep you cool
- Church clothes (see suggestions below)
- Pajamas
- Comfortable walking shoes
- Rain gear
- Toiletries
- Medications/prescriptions
- Ibuprofen, dayquil or nyquil, etc.
- Band-aids
- Hand sanitizer
- Bug spray
- Feminine products
- Shower supplies
- Towel
- Two forms of ID (passport and license)
- Camera
- Sunscreen
- Headphones or earplugs
- Spending money
- Water bottle
- Toilet paper/tissues
- Small nonperishable snacks
- Bible, journal, pen
- Small gifts (possibly American-themed) to give you good friends you meet

## **SUGGESTED DRESS CODE**

Bangkok is very fashionable. Please bring your normal, everyday outfits to wear, but avoid being sloppy or immodest in dress. It's also very hot, so shorts are a good idea! For church clothes, please bring a nice outfit (ladies - a long dress or skirt) in case you visit a traditional church while you're here.







# Ministry

Our philosophy of ministry is being intentional about doing whatever it takes to move people closer to Jesus together. Our site DNA consists of three different categories represented by the colors of a traffic light.

## RED

Being intentional about doing whatever it takes to move women and children in the Red Light Districts closer to Jesus.

- We partner with a local Red Light ministry to reach women and children who work on two small roads in Bangkok with over 4,000 workers every night. We partner with them in weekly outreaches, projects and larger outreach events.

## YELLOW

Being intentional about doing whatever it takes to move university students and young professionals closer to Jesus.

- English Corner: We offer two hours of free English classes on Mondays, where Thai students and young professionals can come to practice English conversation and reading comprehension skills.
- Game Night: In partnership with Deeper Life Church, we host game nights on Fridays to outreach to the local community and university students.
- Deeper Life Church:

*Sunday Celebration: We have Sunday celebration services to help our church grow deeper in love with Jesus together.*

*Soul Care: We facilitate small groups that go through Dr. Rob Reimer's Soul Care book.*

*3DM huddles: We use 3DM huddle as a tool to disciple Christians and our hope is to multiply these huddles thus making disciples that make disciples.*

*Anchor Groups: We have groups that meet once a week throughout Bangkok to build deeper relationships and experience life together as smaller groups within our church.*

- Meals: Much of our relational ministry is done over meals. Get ready for some great food and company.

## GREEN

Being intentional about doing whatever it takes to mobilize Envision participants and Thais to be on mission for Jesus.

- Thai short-term mission teams: We desire to mobilize our Thai Christians to reach the nations by facilitating short-term mission opportunities and also partnering them with Envision teams as they do outreach events in and out of Bangkok.

# Schedule

## TEAMS

A day in the life of a team here looks something like this:

Day 1	Orientation, Photo Scavenger Hunt, Team Dinner
Day 2	Team Debriefing, Jesus Time (Three hours alone with God), English Corner
Day 3	Tourist Day (Options: elephant sanctuary, floating market, temples, beach, etc.)
Day 4	Team Debriefing, Campus Ministry, Red Light Districts Prayer Walks & Outreach
Day 5	Team Debriefing, Campus Prayer Walk, Thai Relational Ministry
Day 6	Team Debriefing, Campus Thai Ministry, Game Night Outreach
Day 7	Largest Outdoor Weekend Market - Shopping, Thai Relational Ministry
Day 8	Church Service: Deeper Life Church, Free Time
Day 9	Team Debriefing, Jesus Time (Three hours alone with God), English Corner
Day 10	Final Debriefing, Final Meal, Thai Relational Ministry

## MINISTRY SETTING

We partner with a coffee shop and recording studio. Even though our teams and interns are not allowed to make coffee, it does create a sweet space to organically connect with people. In addition, we have a co-working space on the 2nd floor of the coffee shop with intentions of it being a second living room for building relationship, team debriefings, English corner and other events.

## INTERNS

Interns will go through Orientation upon arrival. They do not have a weekly schedule, like teams, but the following are ways in which interns will be expected to participate:

### WEEKLY

Interns will participate in weekly Envision meetings, church Life Groups, Sunday Celebrations with Deeper Life Church, 3DM huddles, English Corner and game nights

### WITH TEAMS

When teams are on the ground, interns will assist with airport runs, hosting responsibilities, encouraging teams, connecting the team with locals, building relationships with locals and daily team debriefings.

### RHYTHMS

Interns are expected to hold weekly sabbath and rest rhythms, patterns of Jesus time (a weekly three-hour block with Jesus)



## *Cultural Sensitivity*

Informality and general friendliness are characteristics in relationships of all ages, economic statuses, and social groups in the Thai culture. Thai people are tolerant of almost all kinds of behavior and never expect foreigners to understand the intricacies of Thai social customs.

In Thailand people do not normally say 'good morning', 'good afternoon', 'good evening' or 'good night'. They greet each other with the word *Sawadee*. Instead of shaking hands, they put their palms together in a prayer-like gesture and bow slightly. It is customary for the younger or lower in status to begin the greeting. When taking leave, the same word and procedure is repeated. This gesture is called a *Wai*. If you are greeted with a *Wai* you should reply with the same gesture, though it is not necessary to return a *Wai* to a child. Think of a *Wai* as you would a handshake. Use it at an introduction. You will not cause offence if you *Wai* inappropriately in Thailand, but you may create confusion. Don't return a *Wai* from waiting staff, drivers, or other help. You might hope to strike a blow for equality, but it will cause embarrassment. A *Wai* to your teacher is always appropriate and welcomed.

Loud voices, calling attention to yourself, pointing at people or things, throwing or dropping things, and making big hand gestures all seem graceless to the Thai sensibility. Preferred modes of comportment are those that reflect the quiet, subtle, and indirect as opposed to the loud, obvious, and direct. Although the southern Thais can at times be alarmingly direct in their interactions with others.

The monarchy remains highly respected throughout Thailand and visitors to the country must be respectful also. Avoid disparaging remarks or jokes about the royal family. All Thai people love their king, HM King Bhumibol; if you want to know why, ask them politely. The national anthem is played twice a day (typically 8am and 6 pm) and also before every film at the cinema. Everyone is expected to stand while it is playing.

Public displays of opposite-sex affection are not acceptable, although this may be changing with the younger generation in some areas. Thai people are extremely offended by public nudity, along with just about everyone else in the world. A polite man in Thailand will not touch a woman.



## *Contact Info*



EMAIL: [BANGKOK@WEAREENVISION.COM](mailto:BANGKOK@WEAREENVISION.COM)



WEBSITE: [WWW.WEAREENVISION.COM/BANGKOK](http://WWW.WEAREENVISION.COM/BANGKOK)