

Travel with The Met

January 19–30, 2019

Siam to Singapore
Aboard the *Eastern
& Oriental Express*

THE
MET

Siam to Singapore

Aboard the *Eastern & Oriental Express*

Dear Members and Friends of The Metropolitan Museum of Art,

Please join Travel with The Met next January in sunny Southeast Asia on an exciting itinerary featuring the remarkable artistic and cultural achievements of Bangkok and Singapore. Step back in time to the bygone era of luxury rail travel, as you cross the Thai-Malay peninsula aboard the *Eastern & Oriental Express*.

Begin in Bangkok with four nights at the Shangri-La Hotel, a serene oasis in this lively ancient city of glittering temples and palaces. Be introduced to Thai art and antiquities at the private Prasart Museum, housed in a lushly landscaped colonial mansion. Travel by private barge to spend the morning with master craftsmen at a canal-side artists' community where you will enjoy a traditional puppet show. Discover the Suan Pakkad Palace, with its rich collections of lacquer and furniture, and the Grand Palace, home of Thailand's holiest image, the Emerald Buddha.

Visit the impressive National Museum and the famous Reclining Buddha at the Temple of the Dawn before boarding the legendary *Eastern & Oriental Express*. On a relaxing three-night journey, enjoy the elegant ambiance, exquisite cuisine, and exceptional service of this magnificent train. Travel through tropical scenery passing temples, tea plantations, and paddy fields. Step off to view the legendary bridge on the River Kwai and tour a charming 19th-century Malay village. Conclude with two days in Singapore, to stroll in two glorious gardens, admire the city's stunning architecture on a Marina Bay cruise aboard a traditional "bumboat," and peruse the treasures in the National Gallery.

For those wishing to spend more time in Thailand, an optional prelude in Chiang Mai is offered.

I hope you will join us for this extraordinary adventure.

Sincerely,



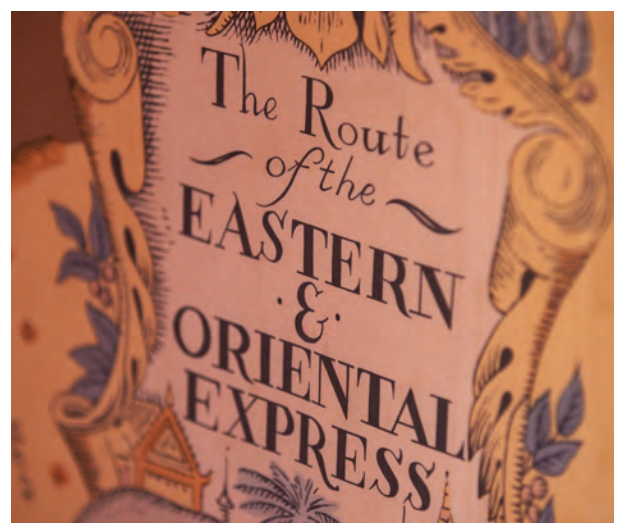
Clyde B. Jones, III
Senior Vice President for Institutional Advancement
The Metropolitan Museum of Art



Spiderhunter, Singapore Botanic Gardens (top); and Bangkok Night Market Stalls (above)

Trip Highlights

- Discover Bangkok's Suan Pakkad Palace, a hidden gem of traditional teak houses where a Thai princess once lived
- Ride a private barge to a canal-side artists' community to see a traditional puppet show
- Spend three nights aboard the glamorous *Eastern & Oriental Express*, enjoying impeccable service and five-star dining
- Cruise the River Kwai to see its bridge, immortalized in David Lean's epic World War II film
- Stroll through Singapore's renowned Botanic Gardens and Gardens by the Bay, and take an architectural tour aboard a traditional "bumboat"
- Explore a contemporary art gallery in Singapore's trendy Gillman Barracks area



Map detail, the *Eastern & Oriental Express*, photo courtesy of Belmond



Photos clockwise from top right: Wat Phra Kaew Temple (detail), Bangkok; Map of the Malay Region; The ArtScience Museum by Moshe Safdie, Singapore; Gardens by the Bay, Singapore. Photo courtesy of the Singapore Tourist Board; The Wat Phra Kaew Temple, Bangkok; and Thai Countryside. Front cover: Buddhas at Wat Arun, Bangkok. Back cover: *Eastern & Oriental Express* (top) and Grand Palace detail, Bangkok (bottom).

Siam to Singapore by Luxury Rail

Aboard the *Eastern & Oriental Express*

January 19 – 30, 2019

An optional three-night prelude in Chiang Mai is offered from January 16–20.

Departure

Saturday, January 19

Depart on an overnight flight to Bangkok, with a connection en route.

Bangkok, Thailand

Sunday, January 20

Arrive in Bangkok late tonight and transfer to the elegant Shangri-La Hotel overlooking the Chao Phraya River, the lively artery of Bangkok and gateway to many of the city's glittering temples and palaces.

Bangkok

Monday, January 21

During a morning at leisure, you may wish to relax at the hotel's spa or pool. This afternoon, explore the private Prasart Museum, with its impressive garden and colonial-style mansion housing Thai artifacts. In the evening, gather for introductory remarks, followed by a welcome dinner. B, D

Bangkok

Tuesday, January 22

This morning a private barge takes us to a canal-side artist community to meet local craftsmen and performers and enjoy a traditional puppet show. Following lunch, see the Suan Pakkad Palace. As we stroll through the traditional teak houses gathered by a member of the Royal Family, enjoy the rich collection of lacquer and furniture. The evening is at leisure. B, L



Traditional Thai Puppets

Bangkok

Wednesday, January 23

Today, discover the Grand Palace, residence of the kings of the Chakri Dynasty. In the religious complex of Wat Phra Kaew, see the Emerald Buddha, the most sacred image for Buddhists in Thailand. The balance of the day is at leisure. An optional excursion will be offered to the Jim Thompson House, former home of the American collector and entrepreneur. Dinner this evening is at the famed Blue Elephant. B, D

Bangkok / *Eastern & Oriental Express*

Thursday, January 24

Begin with a walk through the local market to learn about the ingredients of Thailand's famed cuisine. Then, visit the National Museum, whose collections include both early Siamese Buddhist bronzes and some spectacular Khmer stone sculptures. After lunch, view the Reclining Buddha at Wat Pho and Wat Arun, the Temple of Dawn. Continue to the glamorous *Eastern & Oriental Express*. Dine together on board this evening. B, L, D

Eastern & Oriental Express

Friday & Saturday, January 25 & 26

From the comfort of your elegant en suite cabins or the open-air Observation Deck, view the lush landscapes of Thailand and Malaysia. Enjoy famously exquisite meals in the dining car as well as a private lecture. Each day will include excursion options, beginning with a short cruise on the River Kwai to see its immortal bridge and a visit to the museum documenting the Thailand-Burma Railway. The following day will focus on Malaysian food, culture, and agriculture in a local village. B, L, D

Singapore

Sunday, January 27

After a late morning arrival in Singapore and a dim sum lunch, walk in Chinatown before transferring to the Fullerton Hotel for check-in. The evening is at leisure. B, L

Singapore

Monday, January 28

Discover the National Gallery's impressive collection of modern Southeast Asian art, housed in the former Supreme Court and City Hall buildings. This afternoon, board a traditional "bumboat" for a Marina Bay cruise featuring Singapore's architectural highlights, followed by a walk in the enchanting Gardens by the Bay. Gather for a farewell dinner this evening. B, D



Chinatown, Singapore

More Travels with The Met

Sailing the Baltic's Amber Coast Aboard *Sea Cloud II* June 29–July 11, 2018

In the Wake of the Vikings Aboard *Sea Cloud II* July 10–21, 2018

Ancient Civilizations & Modern Arts of Chile October 15–25, 2018

Bermuda: Exclusive Collections & Exotic Gardens December 5–9, 2018

For details please go to metmuseum.org/travel

Singapore

Tuesday, January 29

This morning, admire the glorious orchid collections and many varieties of spectacular bamboo at the renowned Botanic Gardens. Then, visit an art gallery or two in the trendy Gillman Barracks area. Enjoy lunch together before spending the balance of the day at leisure. B, L

Singapore / Return

Wednesday, January 30

Transfer to the airport for return flights, arriving in the United States the same day. B

Program Rate

\$10,899 (per person, double occupancy)

\$12,399 single rate

Rate Includes

- Ten nights hotel/train accommodations as per itinerary
- Meals as indicated in the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner); bottled water and coffee/tea with all meals; house wine/beer at lunches and dinners (where available)
- Airport/hotel group transfers for all participants on suggested flights
- Enrichment program of lectures and talks
- Escorted sightseeing, transportation, and entrance fees for all included visits
- Gratuities to local guides and drivers; taxes, service charges, and portage

Not included in rate Airfare; passport fees; alcoholic beverages other than wine/beer at lunches and dinners (where available); meals not specified; personal items and expenses; airport transfers for those not on suggested flights; baggage in excess of one suitcase; trip insurance; optional prelude in Chiang Mai; any other items not specifically mentioned as included.

Accommodations



Eastern & Oriental Express

Discover Southeast Asia aboard the *Eastern & Oriental Express*. This spectacular train is operated by the same company that runs the legendary *Venice Simplon-Orient-Express*. The Society of International Railway Travelers awarded the E&O a place on the "World's Top 25 Trains" list for beauty, dining, service, and excursion experiences.



Shangri-La, Bangkok

On the banks of the Chao Phraya River, the elegant Shangri-La is a short walk to Bangkok's sky train and a quick boat ride from the Grand Palace. The hotel's spacious lobby and luxurious rooms offer a mix of traditional Thai style and modern comfort. Amenities include a choice of restaurants and bars, a spa, a boutique, and an outdoor swimming pool.



Fullerton Hotel, Singapore

Housed in the Fullerton Building, a neo-classical landmark built in 1928, this heritage hotel has 400 comfortable rooms. The hotel has three restaurants, a 25-foot infinity pool, a gym with a sauna and steam room, and a spa. The Fullerton is a short walk from Merlion Park and the Singapore National Gallery.

The *Eastern & Oriental Express* (top), Shangri-La, Bangkok (middle) and Fullerton Hotel, Singapore (above)

The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of The Metropolitan Museum of Art and Arrangements Abroad. For complete details, please carefully read the terms and conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms.

Siam to Singapore Aboard the *Eastern & Orient Express*: January 19–30, 2019

To secure your reservation, please call Arrangements Abroad at 844-TRVLMET (844-878-5638); or complete this form and return it with your deposit of \$1,000 per person (of which \$500 is non-refundable for administrative fees), to be paid by debit card, credit card, wire transfer, or check payable to *Arrangements Abroad*. Mail to: Arrangements Abroad, 1040 Avenue of the Americas, 23rd Floor, New York, NY 10018-3721.

Name(s) in full as on passport(s). Please print.

Address

City

State

Zip

Telephone (home)

(business)

Fax

Email

Accommodations

Hotel room/cabin preference One bed Two beds Single

I wish to share a room/cabin with _____

Optional prelude

I/We would like to join the optional prelude in Chiang Mai

Form of payment

Enclosed is my check (payable to *Arrangements Abroad*) Debit card Credit card

Name on debit/credit card

Debit/credit card number

3- or 4-digit security code

Expiration date

Each participant must sign below. I/We have read, understand and agree to the Terms & Conditions at www.arrangementsabroad.com/terms and detailed in forthcoming program documents. I/We agree to full payment 120 days prior to departure.

Signature (required)

Date

Signature (required)

Date

Siam to Singapore Aboard the *Eastern & Oriental Express* January 19 – 30, 2019

The Metropolitan
Museum of Art

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New York, NY 10028

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