

Bangkok-Thailand/UNDSS

Security Briefing Note: Thailand

Bangkok, Samut Sakorn and Samut Songkhram

Overview:

Bangkok, the capital city of Thailand, is generally considered a safe destination. However, it's essential to remain vigilant and aware of potential security risks. The security threat level for Bangkok is assessed as Level 2 (Low) and Level 1 (Minimal) for Samut Sakorn and Samut Songkhram Province.

Significant Points:

1. General Safety Tips:

- Exercise caution in crowded areas, markets, and tourist attractions, where pickpocketing and petty theft may occur.
- Keep your belongings secure and avoid displaying valuables in public to minimize the risk of theft.
- Stay vigilant, especially when using public transportation or walking in less crowded areas, particularly at night.

2. Transportation Safety:

- Utilize registered taxis, or public transportation, such as the BTS Skytrain or MRT subway, for safe and reliable travel around the city.
- Be cautious when crossing roads, as traffic can be chaotic. Use designated pedestrian crossings and follow traffic signals.

3. Political Situation:

- While political demonstrations are infrequent, they can occasionally occur in Bangkok. Stay informed about local news and avoid areas where demonstrations are taking place.
- In the event of encountering a demonstration, remain calm, avoid confrontation, and promptly leave the area to ensure personal safety.

4. Health and Hygiene:

- Maintain good hygiene practices, such as washing hands frequently and avoiding consumption of unsafe food and water.
- Stay updated on health advisories and vaccination requirements, especially during disease outbreaks or public health emergencies.

5. Active Shooter Incident:

Although rare, active shooter incidents can happen in any location, including Bangkok. In the event of an active shooter situation, remember to:



Bangkok-Thailand/UNDSS

- **Run:** If it is safe to do so, evacuate the area immediately. Have an escape route and plan in mind.
- **Hide:** If evacuation is not possible, seek shelter in a secure location. Lock doors, turn off lights, and remain quiet.
- **Fight:** As a last resort, defend yourself and others against the shooter if confronted. Use improvised weapons and commit to your actions. More information can be found on this video.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5VcSwejU2D0&t=6s>

6. Natural Disasters:

- Thailand is susceptible to natural disasters, including tropical storms, floods, and light earthquakes. Familiarize yourself with evacuation procedures and emergency shelters in your vicinity.
- Monitor local weather reports and heed any warnings issued by local authorities during adverse weather conditions.

7. Carry Essential Documents:

- Always carry a copy (digital) of your passport, laissez-passer, and UN grounds pass/identification card with you. This will facilitate identification and assistance in case of emergencies.
- Keep emergency contact numbers programmed into your phone, if possible, including:

USEFUL CONTACTS

UNDSS Thailand

+66 (02) 288 2784 (Duty Officer)

undss-thailand@un.org

ESCAP Security

+66 (02) 288 1102

+66 (0) 8 1807 8471

UN Medical Officer Bangkok: +66 (02) 2881353

Local Emergency Hotline

Police: 191

Fire: 199

EMS: 1669

Tourist Police: 1155

Royal Thai Police: 1599

Security Clearance Procedure: All UN official travel within Thailand and travel from abroad need security clearance via TRIP website or on the UNDSS electronic Travel Advisory application (eTA).