Food and Beverages

Thai cuisine is distinctive and thanks to the Thai love of good food, ensures excellent dining nationwide. Major European, Levantine, Asian, and Oriental cuisines are represented in gourmet restaurants. American, English, and Continental breakfasts are served in most hotels and many coffee shops specialize in European dishes. Western-style fast food shops, snack bars, and ice cream parlors are available in Bangkok and other major cities in the country. Bottled water is served in most restaurants along with excellent local beers, liquors, coffee, tea, and chocolate.

Postal Service

Thailand’s mail service is reliable and efficient. Major hotels provide basic postal services on their premises. Bangkok’s Central G.P.O. is open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, Sunday, and public holidays.

Banks

Thai and foreign banks provide standard services nationwide from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except public and bank holidays. Some banks operate money-changing booths, which open daily.

Shopping

Bargains are found in bazaars, air-conditioned shopping centers, boutiques, department stores, and government-approved emporiums. Shop for Thai silks, cottons, pewter stoneware, precious stones and gems, and quality-crafted jewelry. Shoppers can take advantage of a monthly shopping guide containing useful shopping tips, maps of major shopping areas, and a comprehensive list of shops and stores.

Entertainment

Thailand offers a variety of entertainment options for visitors, such as boxing stadiums, race and golf courses, tennis and squash courts, billiard halls, nightclubs, gourmet restaurants, concert halls, teahouses, cocktail lounges, amusement parks, museums, theaters, art galleries, and cinemas. Thailand’s English-language newspapers carry daily listings of current attractions.