# EXPLORE ASHORE

# **USEFUL INFORMATION**

CURRENCY THAI BAHT

LANGUAGE THAI

**DISTANCE TO TOWN** 45 MINUTE DRIVE TO PATTAYA

#### **AT A GLANCE**

The Port of Laem Chabang is an industrial port and is our gateway to Bangkok & Pattaya. It's approximately 2.5 hours drive to Bangkok and a 45 minute drive to Pattaya from the port, keep in mind that traffic conditions can affect the journey time. There is a small terminal building with a café and souvenir shop where the ship docks. We would recommend that you go further afield to fully immerse yourself in what Thailand has to offer. There is nowhere to walk to once you leave the port so to go out independently there's a taxi stand in the terminal building, but agree the price before leaving.

# **OUT AND ABOUT**

**Grand Palace:** Built in 1782, this place showcases Thailand's royal history to a T. One of the highlights is Wat Phra Kaeo – home to a Buddha made entirely from jade.

**Wat Pho Temple:** Wat Pho, home to the infamous gold reclining Buddha, is a true marvel of Thai craftsmanship and spirituality.

**Sanctuary of Truth:** is a one-of-a-kind wooden structure in Pattaya and a truly awe-inspiring monument. It is a 30 minute drive from port.

**Big Buddha Temple:** The biggest Buddha in the region at 18 metres in height, it's positioned nearly 100 metres above sea level, and watches over Pattaya and Jomtien beaches, just a 35 minute drive from the port.

**Pattaya Viewpoint:** A 30 minute drive from the port, it's the place to visit to get that classic shot of Pattaya's sweeping, crescent-shaped bay.

#### **BEST BEACHES**

Jomtien beach in Pattaya is known for it's relaxed ambience and water sports. It's a more peaceful alternative to the bustling Pattaya beach. The beachfront is lined with restaurants, cafés and shops.

# SHOPPING

You can find Harbour Mall a 10 minute drive from the port for some shopping near by, but for a more authentic shopping experience you'll want to head to Pattaya. Whether you're seeking traditional Thai crafts, fashion, electronics, or simply want to immerse yourself in the bustling market culture, Pattaya has it all.

# DO IT LIKE THE LOCALS

In Pattaya, skip the restaurants and head to the local street vendors for authentic Thai flavours. Try dishes like Pad Thai, Som Tam, and Mango Sticky Rice from street stalls. In Bangkok, visit temples like Wat Arun and Wat Pho. When visiting any religious sites, dress modestly by covering your shoulders, knees, and feet.

#### JUST SO YOU KNOW

We do not promote visiting Tiger World or anywhere that offers elephant rides. We advise you take some tissue or toilet roll as the facilities are unlikely to be stocked up. Hand sanitiser is a must. With any hot, humid climate we also advise you to take mosquito spray and water. The legal smoking age in Thailand is 20. Being in possession of a vape or e-cigarette is illegal and fines can be hefty.

For more information on what to do ashore, speak to the Destination Services team on Deck 5