



Cultural Connections Asia

A Kingdom's Celebration

New Year's Eve in Thailand

December 26, 2026 – January 4, 2027 | Bangkok & Pattaya

Hosted by David Wright



Cultural Connections Asia

Experience Thailand During Its Most Festive Season

This year-end journey combines the energy of Bangkok with the relaxed atmosphere of Thailand's eastern coast. Carefully selected restaurants, cultural experiences, and time to enjoy each destination at your own pace are balanced with the convenience of having every major detail arranged for you.

Our Bangkok base is the Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok, chosen for its central location, long-standing relationships, and reputation as one of the city's premier New Year's Eve venues. Guests joining the extended programs continue to Avani Pattaya, or Andaz Pattaya Jomtien Beach with the upgrade, where a more relaxed seaside stay follows the celebrations in Bangkok.

From arrival to departure, accommodations, transportation, and featured activities are coordinated on your behalf, allowing you to focus on the experience rather than the logistics.

Hosted by David Wright, who has spent more than thirty years traveling throughout Asia and more than twenty years living in Tokyo.

Choose Your Journey

Four Ways to Celebrate New Year's in Thailand

All programs include the Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok New Year's Eve Gala Dinner.

Prices are per person, based on double occupancy. International airfare and travel insurance are not included.

Maximum group size: 10 guests. Minimum departure: 2 guests. Solo travelers welcome.

5-Day

Bangkok

Dec 28 – Jan 1

USD 5,650

Includes:

Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok
New Year's Eve Gala Dinner
Blue Elephant Cooking Class
Health Land Asoke Spa
Chao Phraya River Cruise
Lumpinee Muay Thai
MBK Center & Shopping

7-Day

Bangkok

Dec 26 – Jan 1

USD 7,650

Includes:

Everything in the 5-Day, plus:

Thonburi Canal Tour
Frying Pan Jerk Grill
Qulture Lounge Bangkok
Salsa Dancing

8-Day

Bangkok + Pattaya

Dec 28 – Jan 4

USD 8,150+

Includes:

Everything in the 7-Day, plus:

Three Nights at Avani Pattaya
(Andaz upgrade available)
Koh Larn Island Excursion
Qulture Jomtien
Pupen Seafood Restaurant

10-Day

Bangkok + Pattaya

Dec 26 – Jan 4

USD 10,150+

Includes:

Everything in the 7-Day, plus:

Three Nights at Avani Pattaya
(Andaz upgrade available)
Koh Larn Island Excursion
Qulture Jomtien
Pupen Seafood Restaurant

Single supplement: 5-Day USD 1,500 | 7-Day USD 2,150 | 8-Day USD 2,200 | 10-Day USD 2,900

Programs including Pattaya are priced on accommodation at Avani Pattaya. Upgrading to Andaz Pattaya Jomtien Beach adds \$800 per person on the 8-Day program or \$750 per person on the 10-Day program.



Bangkok Highlights — Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok

At the Heart of the Journey

Guests stay in Club Level accommodations at the Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok, including access to the Club Lounge. Located at the Ratchaprasong intersection, the hotel places guests at the center of Bangkok's holiday celebrations.

Highlights:

New Year's Eve Gala Dinner at Breezeway

Free-Flow Champagne

Live Entertainment and Traditional Thai Performances

Midnight Fireworks

Lumpinee Muay Thai

Chao Phraya River Dinner Cruise

Blue Elephant Cooking School

Continued:

Health Land Asoke Spa Experience

MBK Center and Bangkok's Premier Shopping Districts

Thonburi Canal Tour

Frying Pan Jerk Grill

Bangkok's only authentic Jamaican restaurant

Culture Lounge Bangkok & Rooftop Bar

Salsa Dancing



Pattaya Coastal Retreat

Time to Slow Down by the Sea

Following New Year's Eve in Bangkok, guests joining the extended programs continue to Avani Pattaya, or Andaz Pattaya Jomtien Beach with the upgrade, for a more relaxed conclusion to the journey.

After several days in Bangkok, Pattaya offers a different side of Thailand. Guests enjoy time by the sea, a visit to nearby Koh Larn Island, excellent dining, and opportunities to relax before returning home.

Highlights:

Three Nights at Avani Pattaya (Andaz upgrade available)

Koh Larn Island Excursion

Dinner at Qulture Jomtien

Farewell Dinner at Pupen Seafood Restaurant

Optional: golf, spa, beach, and the Sanctuary of Truth



New Year's Eve

Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok

New Year's Eve in Bangkok is unlike anywhere else in the world. The final evening of the year is the centerpiece of this journey and the moment around which the entire program is built.

Located at Bangkok's famous Ratchaprasong intersection, the Grand Hyatt Erawan sits at the heart of the city's New Year's celebrations. For years, the hotel has been one of Bangkok's most sought-after places to welcome the New Year, combining a central location with the comfort, service, and atmosphere of one of Thailand's leading luxury hotels.

For many guests, this evening becomes one of the most memorable moments of the entire journey.

Event Details

Venue: Breezeway, Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok

Date: December 31, 2026

Dress Code: Elegant Cocktail Attire

Included:

New Year's Eve Countdown Dinner at Breezeway

International Buffet Featuring Thai and International Specialties

Free-Flow Champagne, Wine, Beer, and Cocktails

Live Music Throughout the Evening

Traditional Thai Performances

Midnight Countdown Celebration

Fireworks and Drone Show

Special Evenings and Unforgettable Moments



Grand Hyatt Bangkok — Aerial view of the pool garden



Grand Hyatt Erawan — New Year's Eve



Poolside Night Party



With the Hotel Chef



With Grand Hyatt Staff — New Year's Eve



Thai Cooking Experience — With a Certificate of Completion



Resort Relaxation — Unwinding at the Resort



Pattaya — By Boat to the Island



Grand Hyatt Bangkok — Hotel Entrance

Everything You Need to Know

What is the typical group size?

A maximum of 10 guests. The minimum number required for departure is two. Solo travelers are welcome.

What are the entry requirements?

A passport valid for at least six months beyond your planned departure date is required. Many nationalities may enter Thailand visa-free for tourism purposes. Please verify the requirements for your nationality before departure.

Are there any health considerations?

Please consult your physician before traveling. Comprehensive travel insurance covering medical emergencies, trip interruption, and cancellation is strongly recommended.

What is included?

All programs include hotel accommodations, the New Year's Eve Gala Dinner, all listed activities and excursions, and airport transfers.

Not included: international airfare, travel insurance, personal expenses, meals not specifically listed, and gratuities.

How do I reserve?

Please contact David directly at dwright@cc-asia.com. You will receive a personal reply within 48 hours. Payment may be made by bank transfer or credit card (Visa, Mastercard, or American Express).

Payment schedule: booked more than 120 days before departure — 30% at booking, 20% at 120 days before departure, and the balance 60 days before departure. Booked 61–120 days before — 50% at booking, balance 60 days before. Booked 60 days or fewer before — payment in full.

What is the cancellation policy?

More than 120 days before departure: 30% of tour price

120–61 days before departure: 50%

60 days before departure through departure date, including no-shows: 100%

Travel insurance that includes cancellation coverage is strongly recommended.

Can dietary restrictions be accommodated?

Yes. Please advise us of any dietary restrictions or allergies when booking. Our partner restaurants can accommodate most dietary requirements.

What should I know before traveling?

Thailand's currency is the Thai baht. English is widely spoken in major tourist areas. Lightweight clothing, sunscreen, and insect repellent are recommended. Complimentary Wi-Fi is available at all hotels included in the program.

The best way to judge a journey is to hear from those who have experienced it.



A friend of mine knew David, so I joined the tour with them. I never imagined I would have so much fun. He took us to so many different places, and I thoroughly enjoyed myself. I hope to join another tour someday.

H

Bangkok Private Tour · 2 tours



I've participated in four tours, and I've enjoyed every one. I especially loved the massages and shopping. Grand Hyatt Erawan was an excellent choice, and because David knows the staff personally, we were treated like VIPs.

K

Bangkok Private Tour · 4 tours



I've joined David's tours three times. Although I traveled alone, I had a wonderful time with the other guests. David introduced me to his local friends in Thailand, and I enjoyed spending time chatting with the women. It was my first experience with a tour like this, and I felt incredibly fortunate. I would love to participate again.

M

Bangkok Private Tour · Solo traveler · 3 tours

What guests remember most is not the famous tourist attractions, but the feeling that they could relax, knowing everything was being taken care of.

Three Reasons for Peace of Mind

01

Complete Japanese-Language Support

All communication is available in Japanese, from the initial planning stages until your return home. There is no need to worry about language barriers.

02

Long-Established Local Relationships

More than 20 years of personal relationships with local staff, including those at Grand Hyatt Bangkok, help ensure a comfortable and reassuring travel experience.

03

A Legally Registered U.S. Travel Services Company

Cultural Connections Asia LLC is officially registered in Wisconsin, United States. It is a trusted travel services company based in Tokyo.

Even if you're not yet sure exactly what kind of journey you'd like, that's perfectly fine.

Simply tell us what you're thinking — in Japanese or English.



Reserve Early for 2026–2027

Chieko

Japanese-Language Support Representative

This tour is limited to a maximum of 10 guests. Reservations will close once all places have been filled.

Chieko is available to answer questions and provide consultations in Japanese. She will provide Japanese-language assistance from your pre-departure preparations through your return home. She can assist with restaurant reservations, shopping advice, and any other questions you may have during your journey.

We provide an environment in which you can feel comfortable seeking assistance in Japanese, even while overseas.



David

More than thirty years ago, David's connection with Asia began in Hong Kong as a Yale-in-China Fellow. After earning a master's degree from Yale University and pursuing doctoral studies at UC Berkeley, he settled in Tokyo, where he has lived for more than twenty years and become fluent in Japanese.

Since 2015, David has hosted small-group journeys throughout Japan and Southeast Asia, combining cultural insight, local knowledge, and attentive personal service. Every journey reflects his belief that traveling with a knowledgeable host who understands the details allows guests to concentrate on the experience itself.

20+ Years Living in Tokyo

Fluent in Japanese

Hosting Journeys Since 2015

Yale-in-China Fellow

"I personally respond to every inquiry within 48 hours."

dwright@cc-asia.com