

# A Kingdom's Celebration

**Bangkok Core & Pattaya Extension — the Black American story in Thailand, told where it happened**

Bangkok at New Year's Eve is one thing. Bangkok seen through thirty years of relationships — the Grand Hyatt staff who know David by name, the MBK shop owners who greet him personally, the Blue Elephant chef who taught a private cooking class — is another.

In the 1960s, Black American servicemen discovered Thailand on Vietnam-era R&R leave. Some never left. Their community still lives in Pattaya today — a distinct chapter of the Black American story in Asia that most tours never mention, and one this journey traces directly.

Every Blaisian journey is personally hosted throughout by David Wright. Every detail, every transition, every moment of friction is handled before you notice it as a problem. You are not managing Bangkok — you are moving through it with someone who has spent thirty years building the relationships that make it open up.

*“The Black American story traveled further through Asia than most people know.”*

— David Wright, Founder & Scholar-Host, Blaisian

## YOUR SCHOLAR-HOST

### David Wright

David Wright holds a Master's degree from Yale University and completed doctoral research at UC Berkeley in American History, with a focus on Black-Japanese and Black-Asian encounters. He has lived in Tokyo for over twenty years and speaks Japanese fluently. He travels with every Blaisian group for the full duration of the journey.

<b>Education</b>	Yale University (MA) · UC Berkeley (doctoral research, American History)
<b>Based</b>	Tokyo, Japan · 20+ years residence
<b>Languages</b>	English · Japanese
<b>Operating</b>	Since 2015 · Cultural Connections Asia LLC · Wisconsin-registered

## THE JOURNEY

### Bangkok Core & Pattaya Extension

Bangkok anchors every departure — the Grand Hyatt Erawan's New Year's Eve gala, a private cooking class, the culinary diaspora that connects Black America to the city today. An optional Pattaya extension traces an entirely different story: the Vietnam-era Black American expat community that still calls the coast home.

Journey	Duration	Description
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<b>Bangkok Core</b>	<b>5 or 7 days</b>	Grand Hyatt Erawan Club Level throughout · New Year's Eve Gala & the Breezeway Countdown Dinner · Blue Elephant Cooking School · Health Land Spa · Muay Thai at Lumpinee · Jamaican dinner at Frying Pan Soi 11 · soul food at Qulture Lounge Bangkok.
<b>Pattaya Extension</b> <b>OPTIONAL</b>	<b>3 nights</b>	Andaz Jomtien Beach · Koh Larn island half-day · Qulture Lounge's original Jomtien location · Pupen beachfront seafood dinner · the Vietnam-era Black American expat community — an entirely different Bangkok story.
<b>Custom / Bespoke</b>	<b>Any duration</b>	Designed entirely around you. Discussed by proposal.

The Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok anchors this program — selected for its location at the center of the New Year's celebration and thirty years of David's personal relationship with its staff, not a formal corporate partnership. Departures run December 26 – January 4.

Blaisian · A Cultural Connections Asia Program · Tokyo, Japan · blaisian.com · dwright@blaisian.com

## ACCOMMODATIONS

### The hotel is not the brand.

Accommodations are selected to match the character and goals of each journey — not the other way around. The tier is a guide; the final selection is always tailored to the traveler.

#### **SIGNATURE** Well-placed. Consistently excellent.

Premium hotels in excellent locations, without the international luxury brand price point. Example: Amari Watergate Bangkok.

#### **PREMIER** Refined. Distinctly positioned.

International luxury brands in landmark locations. Examples: Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok (David's flagship, personal-relationship property) · Waldorf Astoria Bangkok.

#### **BESPOKE** Exceptional. Irreplaceable.

Asia's most celebrated properties, for guests who want the accommodation itself to be part of the story. Examples: Four Seasons Hotel Bangkok at Chao Phraya River · Mandarin Oriental, Bangkok · Capella Bangkok.

#### **PATTAYA EXTENSION** Cape Dara Resort · Holiday Inn Pattaya · Andaz Pattaya Jomtien Beach

Signature-tier stays at Cape Dara Resort or Holiday Inn Pattaya; Bespoke-tier at Andaz Pattaya Jomtien Beach, by Hyatt.

Accommodations are confirmed at the time of proposal and discussed directly with each guest.

## WHAT IS INCLUDED

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- ✓ Personally hosted throughout by David Wright
- ✓ Accommodations matched to your journey tier
- ✓ All ground transportation and private transfers
- ✓ Listed activities, reservations, and the New Year's Eve gala where applicable
- ✓ Dedicated host available throughout — logistics handled in real time

### NOT INCLUDED

- International airfare
- Travel insurance (required)
- Personal expenses
- Single supplement (available on request)

## JOURNEY INVESTMENT

### From USD 2,900 per person

5-Day Core · Land only · Double occupancy · 2 – 10 guests · Final pricing provided by proposal

Pricing is per person, land only, based on double occupancy. Excludes international airfare and travel insurance. David's hosting, all ground transport, included hotel nights, and all listed activities are covered.

Package	Dates	From (per person)
5-Day Bangkok Core	Dec 28 – Jan 1	\$2,900
7-Day Bangkok Core	Dec 26 – Jan 1	\$3,600
8-Day Bangkok + Pattaya	Dec 28 – Jan 4	\$4,100
10-Day Bangkok + Pattaya	Dec 26 – Jan 4	\$4,750

Shown for planning purposes only — every proposal is priced individually and confirmed before booking.

## BEGIN THE CONVERSATION

### Request the Itinerary

Every Blaisian journey begins with a conversation. Tell us which journey interests you and when you're thinking of traveling — David responds personally to every inquiry.

Email	dwright@blaisian.com
Response	Within 48 hours
Based	Tokyo, Japan
Group size	2 – 10 guests · Solo travelers welcome