BLAISIAN

A CULTURAL CONNECTIONS ASIA PROGRAM

A Kingdom's Celebration

New Year's Eve in Bangkok & Pattaya
December 26, 2026 – January 4, 2027

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.

"The Black American story traveled further through Asia than most people know."
— David Wright, Founder & Scholar-Host, Blaisian

The journey

Journey	Dates	What it includes
Bangkok Core 5 or 7 days	5-Day: Dec 28 – Jan 1 7-Day: Dec 26 – Jan 1	Grand Hyatt Erawan Club Level throughout · New Year's Eve Gala and Breezeway Countdown Dinner · Blue Elephant cooking class · Chao Phraya dinner cruise · Health Land spa · Muay Thai at Lumpinee · Jamaican dinner at Frying Pan Soi 11 · soul food at Qulture Lounge Bangkok
Pattaya Extension 3 nights, 8- and 10-Day	Jan 1 – Jan 4	Avani Pattaya (upgrade to Andaz Pattaya Jomtien Beach available) · Koh Larn island half-day · Qulture Lounge's original Jomtien location · Pupen beachfront seafood dinner · the Vietnam-era Black American expat community
Custom / Bespoke Any duration	By arrangement	Designed entirely around you. Discussed by proposal.

The Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok anchors the program, chosen for its location at the center of the New Year's celebration and David's long personal relationship with its staff, not a formal corporate partnership. Pricing, group size and payment terms are on the next page.

Your scholar-host

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. Every detail, every transition, every moment of friction is handled before you notice it as a problem.

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

Request the itinerary: blaisian.com

David Wright · dwright@blaisian.com · Responds personally, usually within 48 hours · Tokyo, Japan A Cultural Connections Asia program

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Journey pricing, per person (USD)

5-Day Bangkok Dec 28 – Jan 1	**$5,650**	Single supplement $1,500
7-Day Bangkok Dec 26 – Jan 1	**$7,650**	Single supplement $2,150
8-Day Bangkok + Pattaya Dec 28 – Jan 4	**From $8,150**	Single supplement $2,200
10-Day Bangkok + Pattaya Dec 26 – Jan 4	**From $10,150**	Single supplement $2,900

All prices in US dollars, per person, double occupancy. Pattaya programs are priced from the Avani Pattaya option. Upgrade to Andaz Pattaya Jomtien Beach: 8-Day $8,950, 10-Day $10,900 (Andaz single supplement: 8-Day $2,700 · 10-Day $3,400).

Minimum 4 guests to confirm a departure; maximum 10. Two or three guests? Ask about a private journey. International airfare and travel insurance are not included.

What every journey includes

STAY & GALA

- Grand Hyatt Erawan Bangkok, Club Level, at Ratchaprasong, the center of Bangkok's countdown
- New Year's Eve Gala at The Breezeway, with free-flow champagne, live entertainment and midnight fireworks
- All airport and city-to-city transfers, arranged in advance

EXPERIENCES & HOST

- Lumpinee Muay Thai · Chao Phraya dinner cruise · Blue Elephant cooking class · Health Land spa · Thonburi canal tour
- Soul-food and Jamaican dinners in Bangkok, guided shopping
- 8- and 10-Day: Pattaya beach stay, Koh Larn island excursion, farewell seafood dinner
- David Wright, scholar-host, with you every day

Meals are included as listed in the itinerary (Gala, dinner cruise, cooking-class lunch and the named dinners). Other meals are at your own expense.

Payment and cancellation

Booked more than 120 days out: 30% at booking, 20% at 120 days, balance 60 days before departure. Booked 61–120 days out: 50% at booking, balance 60 days before. Booked 60 days or fewer out: payment in full. Payment by wire transfer or major credit card. The nonrefundable portion is 30%, 50% or 100% depending on how far ahead you cancel, as set out in the Cultural Connections Asia Client Agreement you receive at booking.

Full itinerary and booking: blaisian.com/nye

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