

THAILAND – HUA HIN WINTER 2016 - 2017

This winter we decided to stay in Thailand. We were in Thailand the winter 2010 - 2011. Then we stayed in Jomtien, on the outskirts of Pattaya.

Now we found a nice apartment in Hua Hin, which we booked from 1 December 2016 to 28 March 2017. We acquired the visa through Visumservice. It costs a little extra, but is a lot easier when everything goes via the web and mail.

We traveled with [Norwegian](#) from Oslo the 30th of November in the afternoon. We took a taxi to the train station at Kongsvinger and train from there to Lillestrøm. There we had to change trains. We did not bother to wait for the normal train, so we entered the express train that were ready to depart when we got on the platform. It costs a bit more, so we had to pay the difference to come through the gate.

We traveled to Bangkok.

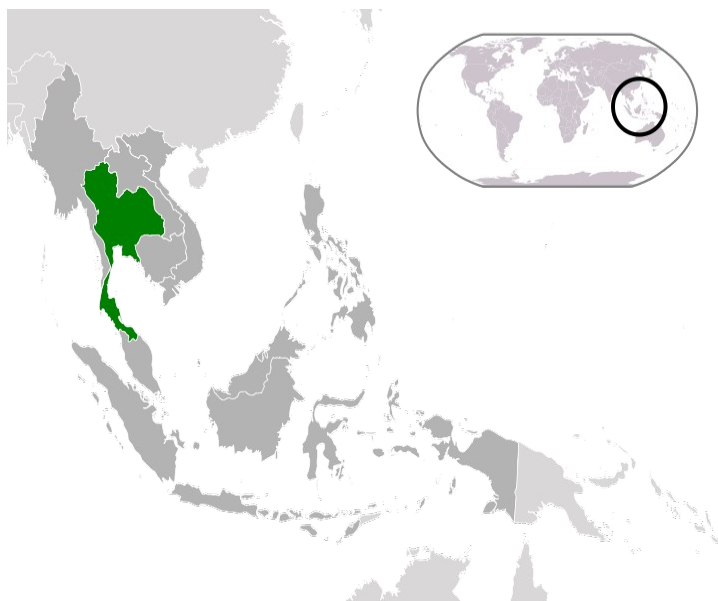
The main airport which is called Suvarnabhumi Airport.



[Suvarnabhumi Airport](#), also known as (New) Bangkok International Airport, is the main airport in Bangkok. After many delays the airport was opened for traffic the 28th of September 2006.

Suvarnabhumi lies about 25 km east of Bangkok. The name *Suvarnabhumi* was chosen by [King Bhumibol Adulyadej](#) and is referring to «the ancient kingdom» that is believed to have been somewhere in south east Asia. The control tower at the airport is the highest in the world (132.2 m). In addition the terminal building is the next biggest airport terminal (563,000 m²), only beaten by Hong Kong International Airport (570,000 m²), but bigger than the South Korean Incheon International Airport (496,000 m²). Suvarnabhumi is one of the busiest airports in Asia.

A bit about [Thailand](#)



Thailand on the map

Thai is the name of the largest ethnic group of people in Thailand, and the name of the country is probably to be interpreted as «the land of the Thai people».

The official name was Siam until 1939, and between 1945 and 1949.

The Thai people has lived for immemorial times in southern parts of China, from where they have diverged south and east to Vietnam, Laos, Thailand, the Shan states in Burma and Assam. This migration, which found place through year hundreds, increased when the Mongols invaded China during the 1200s.

Around 1250 the first Thai dominated kingdoms appear in the northern Thailand in the towns Chiang Saen, Chiangmai and Sukhothai. Sukhotai is considered to be the first capital of Thailand.



Flagg



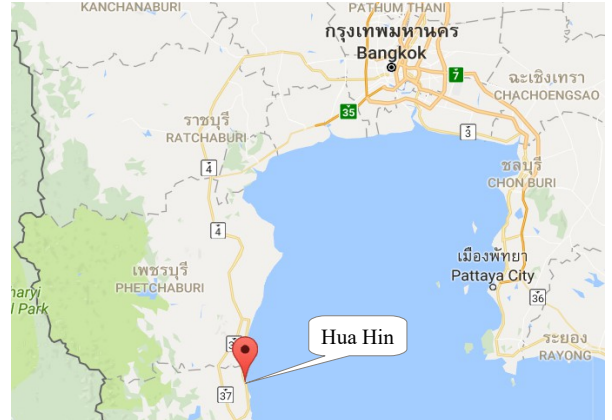
Riksvåpen

There were wars both against the Khmer states and against Burma.

The first Europeans – the Portuguese – arrived in Thailand in the beginning of the 1500s.

It is interesting to notice that Thailand has never been a European colony.

Thailand is a monarchy and the King, [Bhumibol Adulyadej](#), is the king of Thailand who have reigned longest, and he is immensely popular among the Thai people. He died in 2016 and was followed by [Maha Vajiralongkorn](#).



A little about Hua Hin

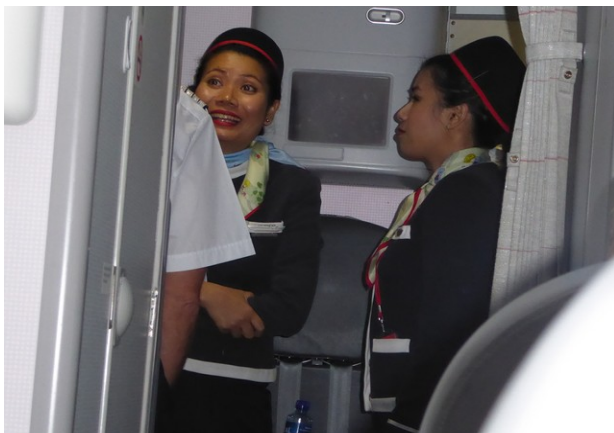
Hua Hin is the oldest resort town of Thailand, and it got a boost in the 1920s when Rama VI and Rama VII built summer homes here to escape Bangkok's stifling climate. The construction of the southern railway made many wealthy Thais also to build summer homes by the sea here. In 1980s there were built many large hotels and many foreign tourists started coming. The tranquil fishing village was thus eventually a vacation spot for both Thais and foreigners. Today there are over 70,000 residents here.



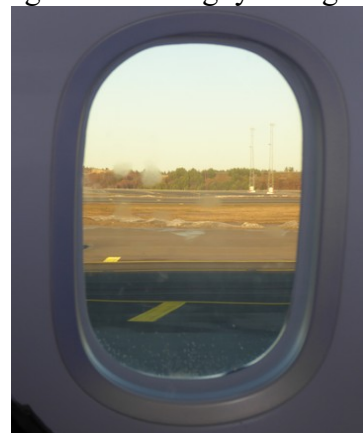
Here we are in the air.



I had a long chat with the guy sitting next to me.



Some of the staff on the aircraft.



Then we have landed.

We had made arranged to be picked up by a car. The driver should stand at the exit with a sign with our name. After we had passed through the passport control and picked up our suitcases, we found no driver with our name. There were many who were going to fetch people who came with the planes, so we went back and forth many times without success. Eventually we had to call and ask where the driver was. We were told that he would be there in five minutes. It went about two hours after our flight landed before he arrived. Then it was so late that we were caught in the morning rush hour. The trip to Hua Hin thus took 4½ hours. Normally it takes 3 hours. There was also very cramped legroom in the car, so we had fairly stiff muscles when we arrived.



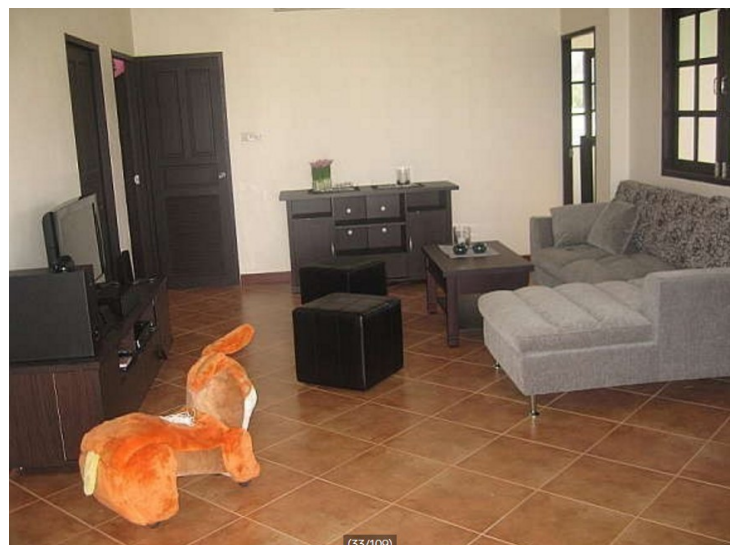
Here we can see the house from the street inside the area.



In the end of the street is this small Buddha Temple.



Some pictures from the house.





(35/109)



(29/109)



Bad til Master soverom (46/109)



Bad nummer 2 (45/109)



Fullt utstyrt kjøkken (42/109)



(43/109)



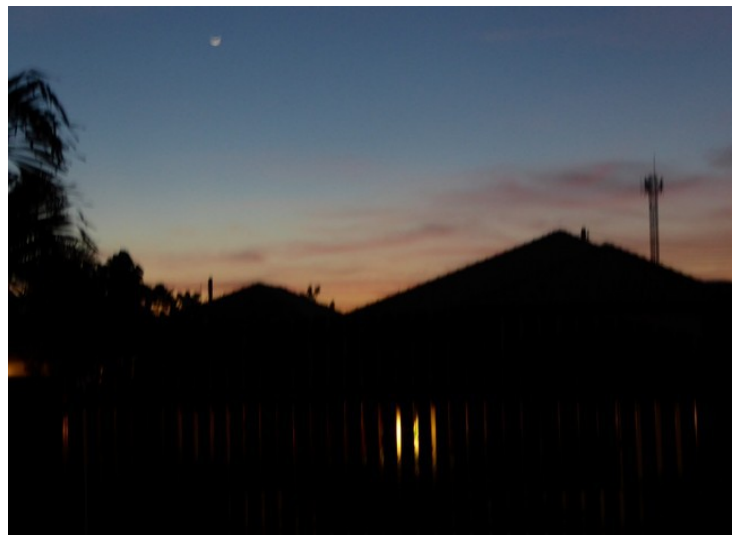
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(91/109)



This is from the restaurant on site.



There were fine sunsets here too.



The first days we took pictures of many different insects, birds, animals and flowers that existed around the house.
A large grasshopper.



A frog.
The images are blurry, since it was completely dark and they moved.



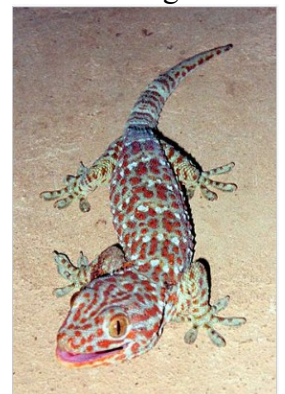
A small [common house gecko](#) sitting in the ceiling. A period there were quite a lot of them. They sat mostly in the roof on the terrace after it was dark. They came into the house several times and when Silja visited us, she managed she to chase out two of them. They make some sharp croak sounds, so it's not okay to have these in the bedroom when they make noises several times during the night. The sound is like [this](#) or [this](#).



This is a moth sitting on the ceiling.

A little further away there lived a bigger type gecko, a [Tokay gekko](#). It made sounds like [this](#) or [this](#).

This one we never saw, but it should look like. It can be 30-40 cm long.





A couple of beetles.



Then some more pleasurable flower pictures.



Here we look down the street toward the entrance.



Here we look the other way towards the end of the street.
The gate where we live is at the right.



Many types of palms.



This is a [black drongo](#).



We had two [common myna](#) around us all the time.



They made an incredible number of different sounds.
They can even learn to [«talk»](#).



[Mantis](#).



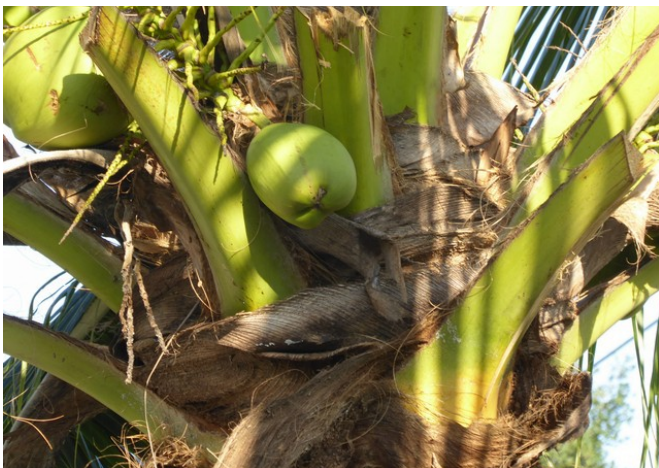
[Snail](#) with house.



We had some rain, which is unusual at this time of year.



We had coconut trees in the garden.



This is a «green bee eater»



This is a «[oriental magpie robin](#)». It resembles a little on the Norwegian [Eurasian magpie](#).



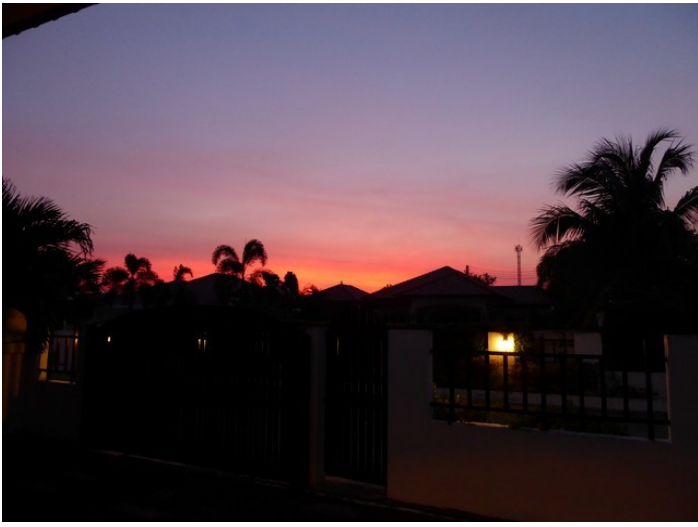
It liked to pick on window handles so that it became a powerful sound.



We also had a visit from a toad in the garden.



Then a little more sunset.



Butterfly



Moth



There stayed two kittens in the yard when we arrived. They looked so skinny and miserable that we gave them food and water.



Then it did not take long before they began to look normal.



The became our pets while we stayed here.





The mynas also like cat food.

We also had pigeons there.



We think it is «[zebra doves](#)»