

AVANI+

Bangkok



**INSIDER**

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# THONBURI AND THE RIVER OF KINGS

Most tourists visiting Thailand know that the kingdom has a rich history and even a simple 'Google search' would uncover stories of ancient Siam and its capital, Ayutthaya. What many of our guests don't realise is that Thonburi, where our hotel is located, was also Thailand's capital during King Taksin's reign from 1767 to 1782. Many of you will have heard Bangkok referred to as 'The City of Angels', but some of you might not know another of the capital's earlier epithets, first coined by European visitors, who visited Siam in the late 1800s, and described the region as the 'Venice of the East', due to Thonburi's vast network of canals.



## GETTING AROUND

Our shuttle boat connects guests with Sathorn Pier, one of Bangkok's busiest transport hubs, where tens of thousands of people are ferried up and down the Chao Phraya, every day. From Sathorn Pier, purchase a day pass for the Chao Phraya Tourist Boat, which allows you to hop on and off as many times as you want, connecting you with some of the capital's major attractions, while avoiding the infamous Bangkok traffic.



## LONGTAIL BOAT PRIVATE CHARTERS

For those looking to seek adventure on their own, one of the most rewarding ways of exploring the region is by longtail boat. Hold onto your hats as your boat captain carves through the chocolate waters, along the serpentine canals that dissect the former capital. Observe local life, try your hand at artisanal pastimes and enjoy local street food.





IconSiam

Asiatique



## RIVERSIDE SHOPPING



IconSiam, located on the banks of the Chao Phraya River, is a sprawling complex that combines luxury shopping, dining, entertainment, and art in one magnificent setting. Boasting a dazzling array of high-end boutiques, flagship stores, and designer labels, IconSiam is a paradise for fashion enthusiasts and discerning shoppers. Visitors can also indulge in world-class dining options, enjoy live performances, and marvel at stunning art installations throughout the complex.

Asiatique, situated further down the river, exudes a charming and nostalgic atmosphere with its blend of traditional Thai architecture and modern amenities. This vibrant night market offers a diverse range of shops, stalls, and boutiques selling everything from handicrafts and souvenirs to clothing and accessories. Visitors can stroll along the riverside promenade, sample delicious street food, catch a live Muay Thai show, or enjoy panoramic views of the city skyline. With its lively ambiance and eclectic offerings, Asiatique is a must-visit destination for anyone seeking an authentic Thai shopping experience by the river.



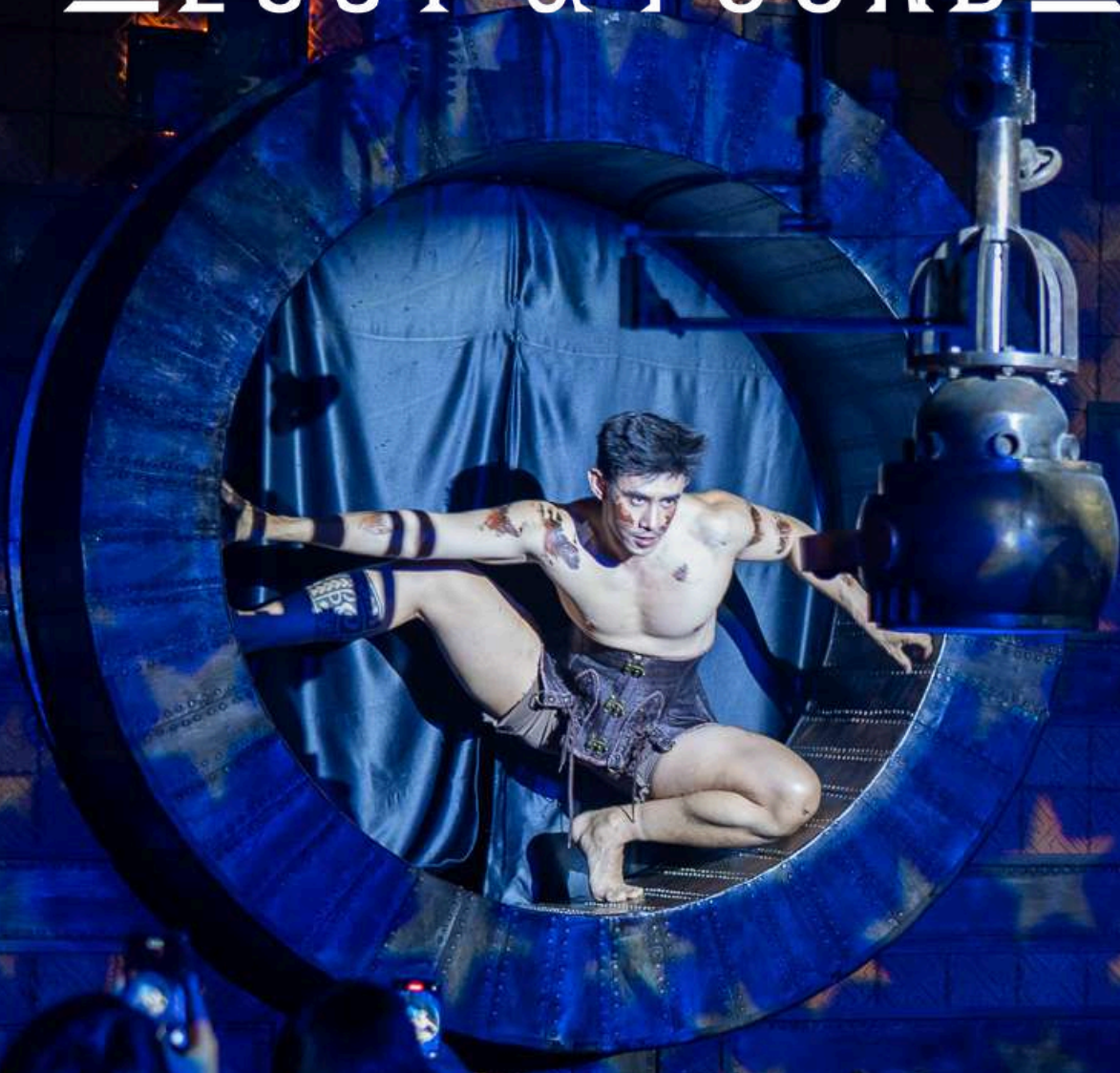
# SEEN

RESTAURANT & BAR  
BANGKOK

SEEN is one of Bangkok's most famous rooftop bars and with views like this, it's easy to see why. But there's more to SEEN than the view. Our chefs are tapping into the brand's South American roots, the mixology team are busting some of the city's most creative cocktails and Bangkok's best DJs are banging down the doors looking to play here. In summary, SEEN is a playground for your senses and we can't wait to see you there!



# LOST & FOUND



## LOST & FOUND

Lost & Found provides the perfect backdrop for a wild and wicked weekend, showcasing a plethora of performers. Not only that... the venue is arguably the capital's best place to privatize your next hen night, stag do or after party. Grab your gang for a takeover and enjoy the very best that L&F has to offer.

# THE TALE OF THONBURI'S #1 BADASS



*King Taksin*

It was 1767, and Siam's ancient capital, Ayutthaya lay in ruins. The Burmese army had sacked the city, looted the temples and palaces, stripped the chedis of their gold, forced tens of thousands into slavery and razed the once glorious capital to the ground, bringing to an end to an era that lasted more than four centuries. Ayutthaya became a vassal state of Burma, ruled over by the Burmese King Hsinbyushin of the Konbaung dynasty. It was arguably the darkest hour in Thailand's long history.

Days before the city fell, a man named Sin, who held the title Phraya Tak, or Governor of Tak, slipped through the Burmese clutches with a small army of soldiers, escaped off the island and headed south towards the sea, with only one thing on his mind... revenge. Meanwhile, King Ekathat's body had been discovered in Ban Chik Woods, and the rest of Siam fell into civil war, with 'lords' ruling over fragmented territories. Sin knew that if he wanted to defeat the Burmese, he would need an army bigger than the one he had, so he attempted to join forces with Chanthaburi. When the Chanthaburi governor refused alliance, Sin waited until nightfall, scaled the city walls, and executed him. The Chanthaburi army woke in the morning with a new leader, and inspired by his bravery and tenacity, pledged allegiance to him. As word spread, more men arrived and with each passing day, Sin's army grew bigger and stronger. Morale was high, and the soldiers began referring to their new leader as 'Tak-Sin', a combination of his title 'Phraya Tak' and his birth name 'Sin'.

Less than six months after Ayutthaya fell, Sin sailed back up the Chao Phraya, leading a charge that would echo through the history books forevermore. By now, his army was five-thousand strong, and packed into more than a hundred boats. When they reached the fallen capital, Sin led the charge, bursting through the city gates on horseback, executing anyone and everyone who stood in his way, and together with his army, they cast out the Burmese oppressors, and liberated his homeland, changing the course of history forever. He crowned himself king and immediately set about reunifying the country, uniting the different regions and attacking the Lanna kingdom (modern-day northern Thailand) which had been under Burmese rule for two centuries, reclaiming it for Siam. He established his humble palace on an area of land next to Wat Arun, in Thonburi, where he reigned until 1782, when a coup d'etat saw him executed at the hands of his childhood friend and right-hand-man Chao Phraya Chakri, better known today as King Rama I.

# BANGKRACHAO

## A DAY TRIP TO



### WHERE TO GO?

Anyone hoping to connect with nature while visiting Bangkok, one of the world's largest capital cities, would be disappointed, right? Wrong! Open Google Maps and zoom out. That big 'green lung' is Bangkrachao and while its location is not far from the city centre, it's a million miles away from anything you'll find on Silom or Sukhumvit.



### WHAT TO DO?

Rent a bicycle and explore miles and miles of small labyrinthine pathways strewn throughout the island, many of them surrounded by dense foliage. There is a national park with a large lake and shaded areas for a picnic. The ride isn't difficult, but the sun will be your biggest enemy, so keep covered and use plenty of sun-tan lotion.

From the hotel, take the complimentary shuttle boat to Saphan Taksin, navigate the skytrain and/or MRT system and get off at either Bang Na (BTS) or Klong Toei (MRT), where you are just a short taxi ride away from the pier. Take the ferry across the river for less than 10 baht and rent a bicycle when you reach the other side... or if that sounds too much like hard work, you could just take a taxi like normal people :)



SUGAR BABIES



**A whimsical  
world of  
sweet treats.**

# RIVER VIEW JUNIOR SUITE



Looking for an upgrade? Avani+ Bangkok's Junior Suite is our most popular room type and will elevate your stay to new heights with a large bedroom with king-size bed, expansive windows offering picture-perfect panoramic views and a walk-through bathroom, where you can melt away your troubles in a bath full of bubbles, as you marvel over the spectacular city skyline.

To check availability, please dial '0' to contact the Guest Service Centre.



# MEETING & EVENT SPACES



Avani+ Bangkok Hotel offers the right space for every event making it one of the most iconic and versatile locations in Southeast Asia. From intimate boardroom meetings to grand exhibitions and everything in between, Avani+ can provide the perfect venue for your next wedding, meeting or event.





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