



## PATTAYA, THAILAND

### 2016 Course Dates and fees:

- January 4 - 29, 2016
- Jan 25 - Feb 19, 2016
- Jan 8 - Mar 4, 2016
- Feb 22 - Mar 18, 2016
- Mar 14 - Apr 8, 2016
- April 4 - 29, 2016
- Apr 18 - May 13, 2016
- May 2 - 27, 2016
- May 23 - June 24, 2016
- June 6 - July 1, 2016
- June 20 - July 15, 2016
- July 4 - 29, 2016
- July 18 - Aug 12, 2016
- August 1 - 26, 2016
- Aug 15 - Sep 9, 2016
- Aug 29 - Sep 23, 2016
- Sep 12 - Oct 7, 2016
- Sep 26 - Oct 21, 2016
- Oct 10 - Nov 4, 2016
- Oct 24 - Nov 18, 2016
- Nov 7 - Dec 2, 2016
- Nov 21 - Dec 16, 2016

**TEFL Program Course Fee:** US\$ 1750

**TEFL Plus Program Course Fee:** US\$ 2195

What makes Thailand so special? As the only country in Southeast Asia never to be colonized by the West, its people take great pride in the preservation of their way of life, and the customs and traditions that make their country unique.

The climate of coastal Thailand is tropical, with three distinct seasons: hot from March through May, rainy from June through October, and cooler from November through February. Average daily temperatures throughout the year are around a warm and pleasant 80°F. Even in the rainy season, the rainfall is brief and the rest of the day is normally clear and sunny.

While most locals' command of English is limited, you'll find them warm and anxious to help. Thais are among the most friendly and outgoing of all peoples; most are curious about foreigners, and that curiosity is tempered by their interest in Western culture and your efforts to live among them and teach their friends and families. (Our Teachers have noted that the intensity with which Thai students throw themselves into learning English is amazing.) Pattaya, Thailand's premier beach resort since the 1960s, anchors the 15 km of golden sand which stretches along the coast from Naklua Bay to Jomtien Beach - and is the site of our Training Center. Two hours south of Bangkok, Pattaya is warmed year-round by the sun setting over the Gulf of Thailand.

## TEFL Training Center:



The TEFL training facility in Thailand is located in the southern beach city of Pattaya. The first two floors of the five-story building house office space, classrooms of varying size, and a student lounge. The center is equipped with computers with high-speed Internet access available 24/7, as well as plug-ins for laptops. Trainees can also take advantage of the training center's special on-site housing—the top three floors of the building are dedicated to student apartments.

A unique feature of this TEFL program is the opportunity to spend the first eight days of training in Phnom Penh, Cambodia in a joint session with trainees from Cambodia, Thailand, and Vietnam. A tour of the city is included, and you will also have the option to participate in an excursion to the Angkor Wat temple in northern Cambodia, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. After the joint training session, trainees will return to Pattaya for the remainder of their program. Transportation is included for trainees traveling between Thailand and Cambodia.

## Teaching English in Thailand:



TEFL jobs can be found across Thailand—from the coastal areas in the south to the high mountains of the north—but you will find it easiest to locate regular employment in the country's big cities. Thailand's thriving capital of Bangkok recently caught up with Singapore in economic output, and with the financial growth comes an increase in the demand for English language instructors in the city. Teaching positions are also available in abundance in Chiang Mai, a major metropolis in northern Thailand.

English students in Thailand range from adults and university students to children in public schools. Whichever type of student you have, you'll likely find that the intensity with which Thai students throw themselves into learning English makes them entertaining and rewarding to teach. The very low cost of living in Thailand allows TEFL teachers to live a comfortable lifestyle on a teacher's salary. In addition, some English schools may provide or subsidize housing for TEFL teachers.

## The Importance of English in Thailand:



As Thailand becomes more and more popular with foreign tourists, and as the country continues to trade more and more in the international market place, so too has the ability to use English become even more important to Thai people and to Thailand. In addition to the huge number of Thais working in positions within the tourism industry or other industries that require the use of English, a large number of Thai students are choosing to study internationally, predominantly in the USA and the UK, and to a lesser extent in Australia, New Zealand and Canada.

Thai schools, both junior and secondary schools, employ a large number of Western teachers. Even in some of the farthest flung corners of the country, you find Westerners in the role of native speaking English teacher.

There are many, many language schools in Bangkok and the market is

dominated by a few big chains. In addition to the big chains, there are also many smaller private language schools. Other places of work include international schools - that is schools which use the curriculum of a foreign country, usually England or America, universities and even some agencies which send foreign teachers into schools, and Thai companies.

## Food & Clothing:

Thai food is a joy of life. Most meals, even breakfast, include a vast array of dishes, from fried eggs to salted fish to poached shrimp to spicy, grilled chicken. Everything, even eggs and fresh fruit, is eaten with rice. In Thai, gin means "eat" and kao means "rice," and gin kao is an idiom for taking a meal. Local restaurants and street vendors abound, offering excellent, inexpensive Thai food. In general the food is very safe to eat, though common sense is essential - if you doubt the quality, don't eat it! Due to Thailand's strong Buddhist tradition, vegetarian food is widely available. Fresh vegetables and fruits are in abundant supply, as are vegetarian restaurants. There are many local restaurants and street vendors near the Training Center offering excellent, inexpensive Thai food. Participants are responsible for their own meals.



Thai people are quite conscientious of their dress. The nationwide stress on maintaining a neat and clean appearance creates a marked disparity with some Western visitors. (Thai people would never dream of wearing dirty clothes while traveling.) Dress codes while teaching range from Western "Business Casual" to "Sport Casual" (track pants and short-sleeved shirts) to "Traditional," which could include a locally handmade, ornately decorated silk shirt that is somehow more comfortable in the heat than anything else you own. In general women should cover their shoulders (sleeveless shirts are acceptable, but very thin straps or tank tops are not). No low-cut necklines or very short skirts. Bare midriffs must not be visible, even when lifting arms up. Open-toed shoes are acceptable. Men should wear long pants (not jeans), short- or long-sleeved shirt with a collar, and loafers or dress shoes. Black pants and black shoes are preferred in Thailand for men, especially when interviewing. Sandals are not acceptable when teaching. Long hair should be neatly tied into a ponytail.

## Climate:

Pattaya lies towards the top of the Gulf of Bangkok and the influence of the sea means that the weather here differs from northern, southern and in-land Thailand. The climate in Pattaya rarely sees any large temperature differences throughout the year, the average temperature being 29C. However, the weather pattern follows a different one from the Western four seasons, and there are only three seasons here, the 'cool' season, the hot season and the rainy season.

## Accommodation:

Via Lingua can reserve excellent housing accommodations for participants. Some accommodations are usually available within a 5 minutes' walk of the TEFL school. These accommodations usually run up to 4,300 baht (less than \$100 US) per month. Participants are provided with a large, one-bedroom, air-conditioned apartment which is fully furnished with large bed, dresser, table, chairs, refrigerator and telephone, as well as a cable television connection. A 5,000 baht (about US \$115) security deposit is charged when upon arrival and is refunded (fully/partially) when departing. NOTE: a variety of food is available for purchase in Pattaya.

## Communication, Telephone and Internet:

Our school may assist you, at your own cost, to acquire a direct telephone line and Internet service for your apartment, if you so desire. Buy a Cell Phone in Thailand, Don't Rent One! You can buy a cell phone anywhere in Thailand for less than \$50. You then have that cell phone to use not only in Thailand but in any country in the world you might travel to.

## Excursions and Cultural Highlights:

The Sanctuary of Truth, a gigantic carved wooden pavilion built to revitalize and carry forward ancient Thai wisdom, is prominently situated on Ratchawet Point, Chon Buri Province (81 km east of Bangkok). This enormous sacred architecture is carved in Ayutthaya style over 100 m. in height and 100 m. in width aiming to represent Phra Sumeru Mount, which is believed to be the centre of the earth and universe in ancient Thai myth. Human virtues as well as the relationship between human beings and the universe are illustrated by exquisite carving embellishments in and around the pavilion.

Ko Si Chang is a big island off Si Racha county which is 24 km. from Chon Buri town. This scenic island is located 12 km. away from the coast. Its attractions are the remains of an old palace and some other residential buildings constructed by order of King Rama V (1868-1910) for use by himself and his royal children.

Two temples were erected by the King on the island; one of which, Wat Atsadang Nimit on the top of the hill has its main temple and pagoda built in European style. The artistic Chinese Pavilion built as a shelter for the King is also interesting to visit. Chakkraphong Cave which houses a Buddha image has a chimney rising to the top of a mountain where one can overlook the scenery of the island. Hin Klom Beach or the Round Stone Beach is another attractive spot which is covered by innumerable pebbles resulting from long years of exposure to the strong waves caused by the southwest wind from February to September. Motorized tricycles and bicycles are two means of transport on the island. A few accommodations are available on the island.



## Special Offers:

Via Lingua has announced the second annual "**Ernestine Moore**" **Scholarship Award** to be offered to a deserving candidate in 2016 to any of the Via Lingua locations for a one-month intensive TEFL Course. Ernestine Moore was a lifelong advocate of education and worked tirelessly to promote educational opportunities for children and young adults. Through her personal and professional advocacy in the field of Social Work and Children's Rights she had a lasting contribution to her field and all those around her. She lived and practiced Service Learning. The author of the widely adopted college textbook "Child Welfare and Family Services: Policies and Practice", Ernestine was a staunch supporter of Via Lingua and its dedication to global learning and multicultural understanding for all ages.

### **Double-up discount**

Book together with a friend for the same course and you can both claim a 100 EUR discount on the advertised price. Offer applies to all course dates and locations. We can also arrange for you to share the same accommodation if required.