

MEMORABLE MOMENTS
FOR SONGKRAN

A GUIDE TO THE THAI NEW YEAR

Songkran is one of the most important festivals in Thailand, celebrated from April 13 to April 15 each year. It marks the beginning of the Thai New Year and is a time for family reunions, temple visits, and fun water fights. Here's a guide to the customs and traditions of Songkran



THE WATER FESTIVAL

Best Place to Visit | Nong Jan Public Park, Karon Beach

One of the most well-known customs of Songkran is the water festival. During this festival, people splash water on each other as a way of symbolically cleansing themselves of the past year's misfortunes and welcoming the new year. The water is often mixed with talcum powder, which makes it easier to apply and also adds to the festive atmosphere.

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Join us for our water festival beside the main pool from 12pm to 2pm and in the evening go to Nong an Public Park at Karon Beach, with concert, DJ, water tunnel & foam party from 4pm to 10pm



VISITING TEMPLES

Best Place to Visit | Wat Chalong

During Songkran, many Thais visit their local temple to make merit and participate in Buddhist ceremonies. They offer food and other items to the monks, make donations to the temple, and listen to dharma talks. Some people also perform the traditional "rod nam dum hua" ceremony, in which they pour water on the hands of their elders as a sign of respect and to ask for blessings.



TRADITIONAL FOOD AND DRINKS

Best Place to Visit | Old Phuket Town

Songkran is a time for feasting, and there are many traditional foods and drinks associated with the festival. One of the most popular dishes is “khao chae,” a rice dish served with a variety of side dishes, such as fried shrimp paste balls, stuffed shallots, and shredded sweetened pork. Other traditional dishes include “miang kham” (a snack made of various ingredients wrapped in a leaf), “som tam” (papaya salad), and “khanom krok” (coconut-rice pancakes). For drinks, Thais often enjoy “nam ob woonsen” (sweet basil seed drink), “nam manglak” (tamarind drink), and “sugar cane juice.”

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Celebrate with authentic Thai cuisine at our Songkran Buffet at Portosino from 6.30pm to 10.30pm



DRESSING UP

Best Place to Visit | Old Phuket Town

Many Thais dress up in traditional clothing during Songkran, with women wearing colorful “pha sin” skirts and men wearing “chong kraben” (a type of Thai sarong) or traditional jackets. The traditional clothing adds to the festive atmosphere and helps to create a sense of community and cultural pride.

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Dress Up & join us for our Thai New Year Celebrations at CHAR'D Grill with a seafood set menu from 6.30pm to 10pm



RESPECT AND GRATITUDE

Best Place to visit | Blessing Ceremony at the hotel lobby

Finally, Songkran is a time to show respect and gratitude to one's elders and ancestors. Thais often visit their families during the festival, paying respect to their elders and receiving blessings in return. They also pay homage to their ancestors by cleaning and decorating their family's spirit houses and making offerings of food and other items.

Join us at our hotel lobby from 13 to 15 April for a special Song Nam Phra water blessing with our Buddhist statue.

In summary, Songkran is a fun and festive time in Thailand, filled with water fights, traditional food and drink, temple visits, and cultural pride. If you are in Thailand during the festival, be sure to join in the fun and experience the unique customs and traditions of this important celebration.

For further information & reservations, please contact front office, ☎ +66 76 302 660 ✉ ha224-re@accor.com

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