



# Koh Samui

Photo: Web Design Samui



Photo: Web Design Samui

With such beauty and charm, Koh Samui has something that appeals to just about everyone. Every year the island attracts more than 1,5 million people from all over the world that come here to do nothing or everything. So many people could not be wrong! With its beautiful beaches, clear water, great food, fun parties and superb shopping, you could certainly say that this Thai paradise has it all.



Photo: Martin Wölflé



Photo: Hajime NAKANO

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## THE ISLAND



Photo: Web Design Samui

Koh Samui, or "Samui" for vernacular speakers, is located in the Gulf of Thailand. It is the second largest island in Thailand after Phuket and measures 25 kilometres at the widest point. The main road runs along the beautiful coastline and is approximately 51 kilometres long. In contrast to the stunning beaches, the central part of the island consists of a tropical, jungle mountain.

The island was inhabited centuries ago by fishermen from China. Today the island is a melting pot of people coming here from all four corners of the world. The island appeals just as much to the mega-rich as the backpackers travelling on a budget.

The largest and most popular area is located on the east side of the island and is called Chaweng. Chaweng, the current hub of Koh Samui, is located near the airport and offers beautiful golden sand stretches, bars, restaurants and shops. Nathos is located on the west side of the island and is the old capital of Koh Samui. This is still the main port, business district and the centre of the fishing industry. Two of the other major tourist resorts are Lamai Beach and Bophut Beach.

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## DO & SEE



Photo: Martin Wölfe

At Koh Samui you can choose to do nothing or everything. The whole island is perfect for a relaxing holiday on the beach, full of colourful drinks and sun. For the adventurous ones there is a whole island to explore, full of fun, nature, shopping and food.

### Wat Plai Laem

Wat Plai Laem is one of Koh Samui's most attractive temples. This fairly new sight was completed in 2004 and is a colourful complex with a traditional Thai-Chinese style. The temple holds two giant, colourful statues (Happy Buddha and the eighteen armed Kuan Yin) that will catch your eye. Do not miss the large Golden Buddha inside Wat Plai Laem.

Address: Road 4171, Koh Samui

### Koh Tao

Koh Tao means "Turtle Island" in Thai and was once an important breeding ground for sea turtles. Since 2004 hundreds of juvenile turtles have been reintroduced to the island's ecosystem thanks to a co-operation between the Royal Navy and local Dive Operators. The island is worldwide famous for its beautiful coral reef and marine life which makes it a perfect place for snorkelling.

Address: Koh Tao

### Koh Nangyuan

If you would like to experience paradise, you should take a day trip to Koh Nangyuan which is located only a few

hundred meters from Ko Tao. This amazing island is linked to two other islands by an incredible limb of white sand. This is claimed to be one of the best places for snorkelling in the archipelago of Samui. Koh Nangyuan is truly a spectacular place where you can unwind without disturbing cars and hustle.

Address: Koh Nangyuan  
Internet: [www.nangyuan.com](http://www.nangyuan.com)

### Coco Splash Waterpark

This waterpark is a great place for a full day of exciting, family fun entertainment. Coco Splash Waterpark is based on Lamai Beach and is designed for all ages. The park features everything from thrilling high speed slides to a Jacuzzi and "Mini-Splash" area (a safe area designed for the smaller kids).

Address: Lamai Beach, Koh Samui  
Opening hours: Tuesday - Sunday 10.30 - 17.30  
Phone: +66 81 082 6035  
Internet: [www.samuiwaterpark.com](http://www.samuiwaterpark.com)  
Email: [cocosplash.samui@gmail.com](mailto:cocosplash.samui@gmail.com)

### Secret Buddha Garden

The Secret Buddha Garden was built in 1976 by a fruit farmer called Nim Thongsuk and it took around fifteen years to finish the garden. This peaceful place can be found in the hills of Samui Island in the verdant jungle. The garden is decorated with sculptures portraying both humans and deities in various poses. Getting to the garden is quite difficult so booking a tour in advance is highly recommended.

Address: Baan Saket, Koh Samui  
More Info: On a hilltop, just off Route 4169 (Ring Road) at Baan Saket.

### Wat Khunaram (Mummified Monk)

Koh Samui's mummified monk at Wat Khunaram is an unusual sight, but still offers a unique insight into Buddhist and Thai culture. The mummified monk Luong Pordaeng died in 1973 and ever since his body has been on display in a glass case at the temple. Remarkably, the monk's

body shows little sign of decay.

Address: Wat Khunaram, Koh Samui

### **Samui Butterfly Garden**

This beautiful landscaped garden features many colourful tropical flowers and hundreds of spectacular butterflies.

The place looks like a big open-air garden but it is actually covered with a net, allowing the butterflies to fly freely. For those who like bugs, there is also an insect museum as well as a bee house onsite.

Address: Laem Set Road, Koh Samui

Opening hours: Daily 08.30 – 17.30

Phone: +66 77 424 020

### **Big Buddha Temple (Wat Phra Yai)**

Big Buddha Temple, locally known as Wat Phra Yai, is majestically located on a small rocky island off Koh Samui's north-eastern corner (Koh Faan). This golden, twelve-meter seated Buddha statue was built in 1972 and is one of the island's most popular tourist attractions.

Since this is a sacred place, one should dress appropriately (cover the shoulders and wear trousers or long shorts).

Address: Route 4171, Koh Samui

More Info: Near the airport

### **Zip-Lining**

If you are seeking an adrenaline-filled ride that you will never forget, then you should try zip-lining! This experience will not only give you a thrilling moment, but also offers you astonishing views over the treetops in the beautiful rainforest. Before you start there is a thorough training and you can be certain that the highly trained staff will take care of you from the very first minute.

Address: Maenam, Koh Samui

Phone: +66 77 430 811

Internet: [www.canopyadventureshailand.com](http://www.canopyadventureshailand.com)

### **Tamarind Springs Forest Spa**

If you would like to pamper yourself with a spa treatment

there are many spa resorts to choose from. One spa resort is called Tamarind Springs Forest Spa that offers you a unique experience with its superb location in an amazing natural setting. Here you can have a peaceful time among waterfalls, rock pools and enjoy a massage treatment in an open-air pavilion.

Address: 205/7 Thong Takian, Koh Samui

Phone: +66 77 424 221

Internet: [www.tamarindsprings.com](http://www.tamarindsprings.com)

Email: [spa@tamarindsprings.com](mailto:spa@tamarindsprings.com)

### **Thai Cooking Classes**

If you would like to learn how to make Thai food, then there is no better way to do it than in Thailand. There are many cooking classes you can take in Koh Samui where you get the chance to learn the traditional methods of preparation of Thai food. When you are arriving back home why not impress your friends and family with your new culinary skills?

Pai Cookery Class

South Chaweng Beach

149/1. Moo 3 Soi Thong Kaew, near Bangkok Samui hospital

+66 86 952 3672

[Paicookery@hotmail.com](mailto:Paicookery@hotmail.com)

[www.paicookerysamui.com](http://www.paicookerysamui.com)

Samui Institute Of Thai Culinary Arts:

Address: 46/6 Moo 3 Chaweng Beach, Koh Samui

Phone: +66 77 413 172

Internet: [www.sitca.net](http://www.sitca.net)

### **Paradise Park Farm**

At Paradise Park Farm you can watch a small collection of native and non-native creatures that live up in the beautiful mountains. Here you can find various types of birds, miniature rabbits, guinea pigs and a little hedgehog. As the name suggests, this is a farm and not a zoo, where the animals seems to be happy and healthy. This is a great

place for children and adults alike.

Address: 217/3 Moo 1, Taling Ngam, Pom Mountain  
Phone: +66 8606 33318

### **Scuba Diving And Snorkeling Tour**

When travelling to Koh Samui there are many beautiful places where you can scuba dive and snorkel. There are also many tour operators to choose from, one of them is called 100 Degrees East who offers boat excursions with snorkelling and diving opportunities. This is a great way to spend some time on the sea and get the chance to see beautiful fishes and coral reefs.

Address: Big Buddha Beach, North Coast Samui, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77 245 936  
Internet: [www.100degreeseast.com](http://www.100degreeseast.com)  
Email: [info@100degreeseast.com](mailto:info@100degreeseast.com)  
More Info: Based in front of Ocean's 11 Restaurant

### **Na Muang Waterfalls**

Na Muang Waterfalls, also called "Purple Waterfalls", are located in a lush jungle environment. They can easily be reached going off the main Ring Road Route 4169 about halfway between Nathon and Lamai Beach. These waterfalls are considered to be among the most scenic ones, hence popular places for families to relax and swim. There is also an elephant safari camp nearby if you would like to ride through the jungle on these big animals.

Address: Na Muang Waterfalls, Koh Samui  
More Info: Na Muang Waterfall is located off Route 4169 south of Koh Samui's inland mountains between Nathon and Hua Thanon.

### **Bophut's Fisherman's Village**

Fisherman's Village is a beachside area, located on the northern coast of Koh Samui, and has a French twist. The area comes alive every Friday night when the main street is blocked off to vehicle traffic to make space for stalls that sell everything from coconut carved monkeys to clothes and other souvenirs.

Address: Bophut, Koh Samui

## **BEACH LIFE**



*Photo: Hajime NAKANO*

The beaches on Koh Samui seem to have been taken right out of a travel ad. With all the white sandy beaches and peacefully swaying palm trees found here, your beach experience will be more than satisfying. All around the island you can enjoy water sports, drinks, food, massages and manicures, everything you need for pampering yourself!

### **Chaweng**

Chaweng is Koh Samui's longest beach and very popular among tourists. It has more than one million visitors per year! The five kilometres of white sandy beaches offer crystal waters and a huge selection of hotels and resorts as well as restaurants, spas, nightclubs and bars.

Address: Chaweng Beach, Koh Samui

### **Lamai**

Lamai beach is probably the best beach for swimming all year around. Although Lamai is smaller than Chaweng Beach it offers great accommodations, catering for every budget, as well as a good nightlife, many restaurants, shops and bars.

Address: Lamai Beach, Koh Samui

### **Maenam & Bophut**

Maenam and Bophut are two popular beaches in Koh Samui. Both are situated on the northern coast and offer stunning views of Koh Phangan. Here you can find hotels and resorts, catering for every budget, as well as

Fisherman Village.

Address: Maenam & Bophut Beach, Koh Samui

### **Choeng Mon**

Choeng Mon is a beautiful, calm bay situated only a few kilometres north of Chaweng. On this white sandy beach you can relax and swim in the crystal clear water. When it comes to accommodation, there is a mix of traditional Thai bungalows and some new exclusive hotels and resorts found here.

Address: Choeng Mon Beach, Koh Samui

## **DINING**



Photo: Hajime NAKANO

Koh Samui is not only a melting pot of people, but also of food. Here you will find just about everything ranging from Thai food and international cuisine to snacks from streets stalls. At Chaweng Beach you can find numerous restaurants. Do not forget to try some of the local food like salted eggs and the tasty fruit rambutan!

### **Barracuda Restaurant**

Barracuda Restaurant is situated in the heart of Maenam. The restaurant is owned by a German and his team focuses on fusion cuisine, combining high quality Mediterranean and Thai cuisine. The menu changes frequently, depending on what Koh Samui's local market has to offer.

Address: 216/1 Moo 2, Soi 4, Mae Nam, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77 921 663

Internet: [www.barracuda-restaurant.com](http://www.barracuda-restaurant.com)

Email: [info@barracuda-restaurant.com](mailto:info@barracuda-restaurant.com)

### **Nuch's Green Ta'lay Restaurant**

When visiting Nuch's Green Ta'lay Restaurant, one will be able to enjoy Thai food in a nicely decorated venue. The chefs Nuch and Nin offer a genuine taste of Thailand by only using fresh ingredients from the local markets. The signature dish is green curry which is claimed to be the best one on the island.

Address: 31/4 Moo 5, Thong Krut, Taling Ngam, Koh Samui

Phone: +66 87 887 9956

Internet: [www.nuchsgreentalayrestaurant.com](http://www.nuchsgreentalayrestaurant.com)

Email: [nuch@nuchsgreentalayrestaurant.com](mailto:nuch@nuchsgreentalayrestaurant.com)

### **Zenzibar Beach Bar & Restaurant**

Zenzibar Beach Bar & Restaurant serves Thai, sea and international cuisine and is ideally located right on Maenam Beach. Here you can have a romantic dinner and watch the stunning sunset while eating mouth-watering dishes.

Address: 18/33 Moo 1, Maenam, Koh Samui

Opening hours: Open daily 11.00 - 01.00

Phone: +66 86 268 8178

Internet: [www.zenzibar.net](http://www.zenzibar.net)

Email: [zenzibar.samui@gmail.com](mailto:zenzibar.samui@gmail.com)

### **La Lanterna**

If you are craving Italian food, restaurant La Lanterna might be the perfect place for you! This restaurant serves generous portions with lots of toppings on the pizza, so make sure you come here on an empty stomach. La Lanterna also provides high standard customer service and affordable food.

Address: 82/19 Moo 3 Chaweng Noi, Koh Samui

Phone: +66 862 692 337

Internet: [www.lalanternasamui.com](http://www.lalanternasamui.com)

Email: [info@lalanternasamui.com](mailto:info@lalanternasamui.com)

### **The Boudoir**

At The Boudoir you can relish French food in an unusual ambiance with low lights and a colourful interior design

that will remind you of the Middle East. The owners of this restaurant are a couple from Montpellier. They have created a friendly and welcoming ambiance and a restaurant with a menu offering dishes like foie gras and escargots.

Address: Soi 1, Mae Nam, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 8 578 310 31

### **Tree Tops**

Claimed to be one of the most romantic and exclusive dining options, Tree Tops has a luxurious setting amongst the tree tops. The chefs carefully select high quality fresh products to create dishes with amazing flavours, which are all well presented on the plate.

Address: 92/1 Moo 2, Bophut, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77 960 333  
Internet: [www.lawana-chaweng.anantara.com](http://www.lawana-chaweng.anantara.com)  
Email: [lawanasamui@anantara.com](mailto:lawanasamui@anantara.com)  
More Info: Located at Anantara Lawana Samui Resort & Spa

### **Bamboo Beach Bar Cafe & Restaurant**

This restaurant opened its doors in 2012 in association with Elements Boutique Resort. Here you can tickle your taste buds with Thai cuisine in a handmade bamboo hut on the beach, a very romantic and cosy setting. Bamboo is very popular with locals and expats in the area due to the amazing food and the location.

Address: 53/5 Moo 4, Phang Ka, Tambon Taling Ngam, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 86 060 3118  
Internet: [www.elements-koh-samui.com](http://www.elements-koh-samui.com)  
Email: [info@elements-koh-samui.com](mailto:info@elements-koh-samui.com)  
More Info: Located at Elements Boutique Resort & Spa

### **Emerald Bar and Restaurant**

If you are in the neighbourhood of Fishermans Village you can find Emerald Bar and Restaurant. This place serves great British food and a wide variety of local and imported beers. The staff serves large portions, so chances are you will leave the restaurant fully satisfied.

Address: 61 Fishermans Village, Bophut, Koh Samui

Phone: +66 1800 643 4300  
Internet: [www.emerald-irish-bar-apartments-samui.com](http://www.emerald-irish-bar-apartments-samui.com)  
Email: [info@emerald-irish-bar-apartments-samui.com](mailto:info@emerald-irish-bar-apartments-samui.com)

### **Kob Thai Restaurant**

Kob Thai Restaurant is situated in the centre of Lamai, 600 meters from the beach road. At this restaurant you can enjoy traditional Thai food at affordable prices in a charming atmosphere. The restaurant even has a large swimming pool, ideal for children.

Address: 101/18 Moo 3, Maret, Lamai Beach, Koh Samui  
Opening hours: Daily 10.00 - 23.00  
Phone: +66 82 534 9325  
Email: [sbauche81@hotmail.com](mailto:sbauche81@hotmail.com)

### **Nettuno**

The restaurant Nettuno is described as a charming restaurant, with one of the most beautiful sea-views on Koh Samui and it guarantees quality food. On the menu you will not only find pizza but also other Italian classics like pasta, risotto and gnocchi.

Address: 310/7 Moo 3 Tumbol Angthong, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77 420 553  
Internet: [www.nettuno-samui.com](http://www.nettuno-samui.com)  
Email: [info@nettuno-samui.com](mailto:info@nettuno-samui.com)

### **Yuvraj Indian & Thai Restaurant**

This is a very simple restaurant where you can taste authentic Indian food. The chef is from New Delhi and he knows how to cook Indian food with all the right spices. On the menu you will find dishes such as chicken tikka masala, chicken korma, vegetable biryani rice and jalfrezi vegetables.

Address: 3/187 moo 2, Chaweng Beach Road, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 88 040 6991  
Email: [meetu79@gmail.com](mailto:meetu79@gmail.com)

### **Zazen Restaurant**

Zazen Restaurant has a good reputation and is praised as one of the best restaurants on Koh Samui for its superior menu, amazing beachfront location, and dreamily romantic

ambiance. At night, this trendy restaurant glows due to the over one hundred candles which create a very cosy setting. The menu offers both European and Thai food.

Address: 177, Moo 1, Tambon Bophut, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 7742 5085  
Internet: [www.samuizazen.com](http://www.samuizazen.com)  
Email: [info@samuizazen.com](mailto:info@samuizazen.com)

### **The Shack Bar & Grill**

The Shack Bar & Grill opened its doors in 2003 and has built a reputation of being one of the best steak houses on Koh Samui. From the menu you can choose mouth-watering dishes such as barbeque steaks, homemade burgers and seafood.

Address: 88/3 Moo 1, Bophut, Koh Samui  
Opening hours: Daily 15.00 - 23.00  
Phone: +66 7724 6041  
Internet: [www.theshackgrillsamui.com](http://www.theshackgrillsamui.com)  
Email: [larry622@hotmail.com](mailto:larry622@hotmail.com)

### **Dining On The Rocks**

Dining On The Rocks is an award-winning restaurant located at the tip of the headland and offers amazing views. When dining at this restaurant you will be served innovative food created with top quality ingredients, sourced locally and abroad. To accompany your food you can choose a great wine from the extensive wine list that offers a large selection of wines from some of the world's most respected regions.

Address: 9/10 Moo 5, Baan Plai Laem, Bophut, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 7724 5678  
Internet: [www.sixsenses.com](http://www.sixsenses.com)  
More Info: Located at Six Senses Hotels Resorts Spas

### **Gringos Cantina Mexican Restaurant**

If you feel like mouth-watering Tex-Mex food in large portions, you should head over to this Mexican restaurant. Gringos has built up a reputation for its excellent array of traditional Mexican food at affordable prices. Here you can enjoy your food while listening to Latin music.

Address: 166/79 Moo 2 Bophut, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77 413 267  
Internet: [www.gringoscantinasamui.com](http://www.gringoscantinasamui.com)  
Email: [gringoscantina@gmail.com](mailto:gringoscantina@gmail.com)

## **CAFES**



*Photo: Hajime NAKANO*

Koh Samui is slowly catching up with the western coffee trend, so finding a decent cup of coffee here should not be too hard. If you are craving a snack there will be an abundance of choices. You can easily grab a bite to eat or drink on the beach or from one of the many food stalls.

### **Pancake Man**

Pancake Man, popular among locals and tourists alike, is the place to visit if you have a sweet tooth. Here you can indulge in pancakes with banana, chocolate, nutella and coconut. When visiting this place you must have a look at Mr Pancake Man at work, it is very amusing!

Address: Mae Nam Beach, Koh Samui

### **Tanya's Cafe**

At Tanya's Cafe you can enjoy a good cup of coffee in a comfortable and friendly setting. Here you cannot only find good coffee and tea, but also a great selection of smoothies, fruit juices and sandwiches. This is a great place to visit for breakfast and lunch.

Address: 17/113 Moo 3, Tambon Bophut, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 90 158 3584  
Email: [ts.art4kid@gmail.com](mailto:ts.art4kid@gmail.com)

### Boy's Organic Coffee

When visiting Boy's Organic Coffee you will be served only the finest Organic Thai Coffee, which the owner Boy takes great pride in. This charming and quiet spot is great for just relaxing and enjoying Arabica coffee, grown and roasted on the hills of Chiang Mai.

Address: 30/5 Moo 5, Taling Ngam, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 87 893 9669  
Email: organic\_coffee@hotmail.com

### The Big Buddha Coffee Shop

If you have just been to the Big Buddha statue, why not take a break at this cosy café situated right at the entrance? The Big Buddha Coffee Shop has a chilled out vibe, a warm atmosphere and best of all, it offers amazing sea views.

Address: Big Buddha Temple, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 89 027 3827  
Email: TheBigBuddhaCoffeeShop1@hotmail.com  
More Info: Located at the entrance of the big buddha temple

### Island Café

Ideally located on Lamai Beach Road, Island Café is claimed to be the leading café on Koh Samui. At this coffee shop and cocktail bar you can choose from a wide selection of juices made from fresh fruits, alcoholic and non-alcoholic cocktails. If you are craving something sweet, why not have an ice cream or a cake?

Address: 124/434 Moo 3 Tambon Maret, Lamai Beach Road, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 8003 81418  
Internet: www.islandcafe-samui.com  
Email: info@islandcafe-samui.com

## BARS & NIGHTLIFE



Photo: Ross

At Koh Samui you can find some of the best parties in Thailand, Chaweng being the party central. Along the beach road in Chaweng there are many different spots catering to all different tastes. Lamai is a smaller version of Chaweng, also offering numerous bars and discos. You will definitely be spoiled for choice along the main strips wherever you go. Choose between everything from sophisticated restaurants, bars, discos and mud wrestling to the famous Full Moon Party at Kho Phangan!

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[ola.zetterlof@arrivalguides.com](mailto:ola.zetterlof@arrivalguides.com)

### Samui Rock Cafe

Samui Rock Cafe is situated in Chaweng just off the beach road. This is a great all night hangout for rock'n'roll fans and other cool people. Beside playing music from all genres, the place features live music on regular basis. The enormous cocktail list offers some highly original cocktails, many which are named after rock bands and songs.

Address: 156/21/22 Hat Chaweng, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 8797 24840  
Internet: [www.samuirockcafe.net](http://www.samuirockcafe.net)

### Soundclub

If you like to party all night, this nightclub might be perfect for you! It is not only open seven days a week but it is also Koh Samui's biggest nightclub. Soundclub attracts international guest DJ's from across the globe on a regular basis and also offers weekly events.

Address: Chaweng Beach Road, Koh Samui

Opening hours: 23.00 - 06.00

Phone: +66 2240 3700

Internet: [www.soundclubsamui.com](http://www.soundclubsamui.com)

Email: [info@soundclubsamui.com](mailto:info@soundclubsamui.com)

### The Green Mango Club

The Green Mango Club is described as a legendary Koh Samui super-club and is ideally located in the centre of Chaweng. This is an all-night entertainment complex which offers cool tunes and a mega-party atmosphere. The club is also famous for its iconic tree house design, a huge open air space including multiple bars and spacious dance floors, reached via wooden bridges passing over the Mango River.

Address: 9/34 Chaweng Beach Road, Amphoe, Koh Samui

Internet: [www.thegreenmangoclub.com](http://www.thegreenmangoclub.com)

Email: [info@thegreenmangoclub.com](mailto:info@thegreenmangoclub.com)

### Viking Bar

This Scandinavian style bar is situated in the heart of Chaweng and is the ideal place to relax with friends and listen to music. Viking Bar also provides one of the best priced happy hour drinks on the island. The atmosphere can be described a relaxed and easy going.

Address: 91/6 Moo 2, Soi Green Mango, Chaweng Beach Road, Koh Samui

Phone: +66 81 9565 4823

Internet: [www.vikingbar.net](http://www.vikingbar.net)

Email: [info@vikingbar.net](mailto:info@vikingbar.net)

### Fusion

You will find this ever popular Fusion nightclub on Lamai's main street. The live guest DJ's are playing seven days a week to get the place pumping with music like acid jazz

and funky house. Every night of the week Fusion offers new happenings and themed music events.

Address: 124/211 Lamai Beach Moo 3 T. Maret, Amphoe, Koh Samui

Opening hours: Monday - Sunday 23.00 - 06.00

Phone: +66 81 370 7386

Internet: [www.fusionclubsamui.com](http://www.fusionclubsamui.com)

## SHOPPING



Photo: Martin Wölfe

You can easily find a bargain at Koh Samui! The main areas for shopping are the hub Chaweng, Lamai with its quirky stores and Nathon with some really cheap deals. You will definitely run in to one or two designer copies that are especially popular here. Buying your own tailored suit in Thailand is also very popular, mainly because of the good price but also for the great quality.

Chaweng Walking Street offers unlimited possibilities throughout the day until late night. Here you will be immersed by sounds and smells in a light-hearted atmosphere. Along the street you will find numerous food stands, souvenirs and knick-knacks. Lamai Night Bazaar is a fun place located in the centre of Lamai and is a small version of the huge one in Bangkok. This is also a great place for buying food and local goods.

Two of the largest shopping malls on Koh Samui are the "Big C" and "Tesco Lotus". Big C is located on Ring Road right between Chaweng and Bophut. Here you will find supermarkets, accessories, cosmetics, jewellery and much more. Tesco Lotus can also be found on Ring Road

between Chaweng and Bophut. This shopping centre is full of shops, restaurants, food as well as a cinema and a bowling alley.

## ACCOMMODATIONS



Photo: brianfagan

You will find numerous accommodations catering to both high and low budgets all around the island. The variety of places to stay is simply great. Bungalows, 5-star resorts and hostels are all lined up along the coastline. All you need to do is to decide where you want to go!

### **Pavilion Samui Boutique Resort**

When staying at Pavilion Samui Boutique Resort, you will be staying in an exclusive boutique resort built in contemporary Thai style which is nestled in a tropical garden in front of the beach. The hotel offers 70 elegantly appointed luxury rooms and suites with a spa and villas with a private pool.

Address: 124/24 Moo 3 Lamai Beach, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77 424 030  
Internet: [www.pavilionsamui.com](http://www.pavilionsamui.com)  
Email: [info@pavilionsamui.com](mailto:info@pavilionsamui.com)

### **Banyan Tree Samui**

This five star hotel is beautifully located on the Lamai Bay beachfront and offers a comfortable stay with top class facilities, a spa, five dining options and a well-equipped fitness centre. Here you will be staying in a villa accommodation with private infinity pools, private balconies with stunning ocean views and tropical greenery.

Address: 99/9 Moo 4, Maret, Thailand  
Phone: +66 77 915 333  
Internet: [www.banyantree.com/en/samui](http://www.banyantree.com/en/samui)  
Email: [reservations-samui@banyantree.com](mailto:reservations-samui@banyantree.com)

### **DD Guesthouse & Backpacker**

If you would like to stay in a budget accommodation, then DD Guesthouse & Backpacker might be the place for you. This hostel is located at Chaweng Beach Road, only a two minute walk away from the beach. There are three dorm rooms varying from six to eight beds and each dorm has its own toilets and shower facilities.

Address: 37/79 Moo 1, Chaweng Road, Bophut, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 89 895 0078  
Email: [hantravel-elle@hotmail.com](mailto:hantravel-elle@hotmail.com)

### **Lamai Wanta Beach Resort**

Ten years ago two medical professionals decided to establish a small beach resort in Lamai Beach. The aim was to create an accommodation with good standards at an affordable price. They started with ten individual bungalows and today they offer 74-rooms and great facilities such as a beach front swimming pool and a café.

Address: 124/264 Lamai Beach Road, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77 424 550  
Internet: [www.lamaiwanta.com](http://www.lamaiwanta.com)  
Email: [reservation@lamaiwanta.com](mailto:reservation@lamaiwanta.com)

### **Banyan House Bed and Breakfast**

Banyan House is a modern Thai style accommodation that combines the architectural style of the King Rama VII era and European holiday home design. The property is located in a peaceful setting, far away from the crowded tourist centres, about fifteen minutes' drive from the livelier central area of Chaweng Beach.

Address: 221 Moo 2, T. Bophut, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77 247 982  
Internet: [www.banyanhousesamui.com](http://www.banyanhousesamui.com)  
More Info: North Of Chaweng Road

### **Grand Thai House Resort**

Grand Thai House Resort is situated on Lamai Beach and

provides spacious 33 rooms with either sea or pool views. All rooms come with private balconies and all necessary comforts. At the onsite restaurant you can enjoy fresh seafood, authentic Thai dishes as well as international cuisine.

Address: 135 Moo 3 ,T. Maret, Lamai Beach, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77424 7203  
Internet: [www.samuigrandthaihouse.com](http://www.samuigrandthaihouse.com)

### **Beluga Boutique Hotel**

The four star Beluga Boutique Hotel is nestled in a cocoon at the end of Lamai Beach where all the rooms are facing the sea. Offering only fourteen air-conditioned rooms with modern amenities, it is recommended to book in advance. When staying at this hotel, all guests can use an outdoor mineral water pool and have pampering massage treatments. Please notice that this is a hotel without kids.

Address: 126/92 Moo 3, T.Maret, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77 310 710  
Internet: [www.belugaboutiquehotel.com](http://www.belugaboutiquehotel.com)  
Email: [contact@belugaboutiquehotel.com](mailto:contact@belugaboutiquehotel.com)

### **Summer Inn**

Summer Inn is a budget accommodation ideally located in the centre of Lamai Beach. The hotel features spacious rooms with a balcony and a private bathroom. All of the cosy rooms are well-equipped with a queen size, or two single, beds, air conditioning, refrigerator, a cable TV and a safety deposit box.

Address: 131/9 Moo3, Lamai Beach Maret, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 7745 8464  
Internet: [www.summerinnkohsamui.com](http://www.summerinnkohsamui.com)  
Email: [info@summerinnkohsamui.com](mailto:info@summerinnkohsamui.com)

### **Six Senses Samui**

This five star hotel is beautifully set on a gently sloping headland at the northern tip of Samui Island. The resort boasts 66 private villas, many with private pools with panoramic sea views. The on-site restaurants at Six Senses Samui do not only have the reputation of serving some of the best food in Koh Samui, the resort also offers

high-class facilities like a beautiful infinity pool, a spa and a private beach.

Address: 9/10 Moo 5, Baan Plai Laem, Bophut, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 7724 5678  
Internet: [www.sixsenses.com](http://www.sixsenses.com)  
Email: [reservations-samui@sixsenses.com](mailto:reservations-samui@sixsenses.com)

### **Chaweng Garden Beach Resort**

Chaweng Garden Beach Resort is an intimate family-run property with three stars. You will find this resort on Chaweng Beach, close to Chaweng's nightlife and lively shops. Every morning a buffet breakfast is served at the restaurant which also offers evening barbeques.

Address: 162/8 Moo2, Tambon Bophut, Chaweng Beach, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77 960 394  
Internet: [www.chawenggarden.com](http://www.chawenggarden.com)  
Email: [sale@chawenggarden.com](mailto:sale@chawenggarden.com)

### **The Sunset Beach Resort & Spa - Taling Ngam**

Staying at this four star hotel, you will be able to soothe your senses when relaxing by the onsite pool or perhaps having a dinner on the beach beneath the stars. If you feel like being active, why not use the fully-equipped gym? This resort also offers guest rooms with stunning sea and sunset views which create a very romantic setting.

Address: 126/9 Moo 3, Taling Ngam, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77 428 200  
Internet: [www.thesunsetbeachresort.com](http://www.thesunsetbeachresort.com)  
Email: [reservation@thesunsetbeachresort.com](mailto:reservation@thesunsetbeachresort.com)

### **Viva Vacation Resort**

Viva Vacation Resort is a three star accommodation described as a peaceful paradise. This is an elegant, contemporary Thai resort that is located in the middle of coconut gardens and surrounded by lush green trees and plants. Here you will find true relaxation at the private white sandy beach!

Address: 19/4 Moo 3 Lipa noi, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 7748 5611-2  
Internet: [www.vivavacationresort.com](http://www.vivavacationresort.com)  
Email: [info@vivavacationresort.com](mailto:info@vivavacationresort.com)

### Lamai Coconut Resort

Lamai Coconut Resort was established in 1995 and is a family-owned business which is located in the heart of Lamai. When you are staying here, you will be staying in a bungalow with private balconies. In 2008, all bungalows were fully refurbished.

Address: 124/4 Moo 3, Lamai Beach, Koh Samui

Phone: +66 77 232 169

Internet: [www.lamaicoconutresort.com](http://www.lamaicoconutresort.com)

Email: [info@lamaicoconutresort.com](mailto:info@lamaicoconutresort.com)

### Four Seasons Resort Koh Samui

At this five star resort, you will be able to stay in your own private hillside villa with a private infinity pool, private bar and iPod dock. This resort does not only have an amazing location on the hillside, but is also surrounded by tropical gardens and coconut groves. There are also great facilities provided at the resort such as tennis courts, a beach-side infinity pool and opportunity for beach sports.

Address: 219 Moo 5, Angthong, Koh Samui

Phone: +66 77 243 000

Internet: [www.fourseasons.com/kohsamui](http://www.fourseasons.com/kohsamui)

### Samui Econo Lodge

The concept of Samui Econo Lodge is to provide a clean and a comfortable place to stay at an affordable price. This property has been designed in a stylish and modern way to meet the demands of today's travellers and it offers two room types: "Grand Suite" and "Cozy Deluxe". You will find this accommodation a five minutes' drive from Chaweng Beach.

Address: 65/8, Moo 3, Bophut, Koh Samui

Phone: +66 814 152 534

Internet: [www.samueconolodge.com](http://www.samueconolodge.com)

Email: [info@samueconolodge.com](mailto:info@samueconolodge.com)

### Absolute at Q Signature Samui Peninsula Spa and Resort

This elegant timeshare accommodation is ideally located in Boh Phut and offers stunning views over the ocean. At Absolute at Q Signature Samui Peninsula Spa and Resort

you can really unwind and enjoy yourself. Onsite there is a bar and lounge, perfect for a drink while watching the sunset over the horizon.

Address: 24/73 Moo 5, Boh Phut, Koh Samui

Phone: +66 7741 3907

Internet: [www.diamondresorts.com](http://www.diamondresorts.com)

More Info: Diamond Resorts Timeshare

## ESSENTIAL INFORMATION



Photo: Kimble Young

### ARE YOU FROM A TOURIST ORGANISATION?

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[destination@arrivalguides.com](mailto:destination@arrivalguides.com)

### Airport

Samui Airport is considered to be one of the most beautiful airports in the world after its thorough makeover. Between Departures and Arrivals you can find a large shopping centre.

Leaving or arriving Koh Samui, you can choose between private and shared airport transfer. In the arrivals hall you will find a transportation counter where you can book both transfer and private taxi. A trip with a private taxi to

Chaweng will cost you about 500Bath and a private minivan about 800Bath. A shared minivan with a minimum of 5 passengers will cost about 130Bath per person. The prices vary depending on your final destination.

There are several car rental companies located in the arrivals hall.

Address: Samui Airport, Koh Samui  
Phone: +66 77 245 601 / +66 77 425 401  
Internet: [www.samuiairportonline.com](http://www.samuiairportonline.com)  
More Info: Prices updated October 2013

### Public Transport

On Koh Samui you will get by easily with "Songthaews", motor bike taxis and taxis. The Songthaews are the main means of transportation on the island and you should expect to pay approximately 30-50Bath. They operate from early morning regularly during the day. The motor bike taxis are about the same price.

A flexible way to discover the island is to rent a motorbike or Jeep. But be careful on the roads, Samui has the highest road accident statistics in Thailand.

More Info: Prices updated October 2013

### Taxi

You can also use the metered taxis for getting around the island. Taxis are a bit more expensive than songthaews, but a great way for travelling comfortably. Insist on using the meter.

Samui Taxi:

Internet: [www.samuitaxi.com](http://www.samuitaxi.com)  
Email: [taxi@samuitaxi.com](mailto:taxi@samuitaxi.com)

### Post

You can find the Main Post Office in Nanthon with branches in Chaweng, Lamai and Maenam, all open from 9am-4pm during the weeks. Most post offices can be

found on the main roads. Stamps can also be bought in supermarkets and at hotels.

Main Post Office:

Address: Chonvithee, Nathon, 22 Moo 3, Tambon Anghong  
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 8.30am-4.30pm. Sat-Sun 9am-12pm  
Phone: +66 7742 1013

### Pharmacy

You can find several pharmacies around the island. In Chaweng there are two Boots pharmacies. There are also numerous pharmacies in Lamai offering pharmaceuticals.

Boots in Chaweng:

Address: Moo 2, Chaweng Choengmon Road, Chaweng  
Opening hours: 10am-11pm  
Phone: +66 77 413 724  
Internet: [www.th.boots.com](http://www.th.boots.com)

### Telephone

Country code: +66

Area code: 077

### Electricity

220 V, 50 Hz

### Population

Approximately 50,000

### Currency

Thai Baht (THB) 1 = 100 Satang

### Opening hours

Most shops and restaurants on Koh Samui have long opening hours. The shops in Lamai and Chaweng are generally open from 11am-11pm/12am and in Bathon from 10am-6pm. Banking hours are from 8.30am-3.30pm during the weeks.

### Newspapers

The Nation  
Bangkok Post  
Samui Express (Online News)

### Emergency numbers

Police, Ambulance: 191  
Tourist Police: 1155  
Fire Brigade: 199

### Tourist information

Tourist Information Center  
159 Moo 2, Chaweng Choengmon Road, Chaweng  
+66 814 769 630

