

Trip of a Lifetime (Part 1)

By Barbara Lutz BCMG '40

I joined my granddaughter and her family on their winter break vacation as a celebration of my 80th birthday. I arrived in Hong Kong in mid-December and visited their school and markets close to their flat. We then headed out for our amazing trip to Thailand, Viet Nam and Macau. I've been asked to share my trip. Part 1 covers my time in Thailand.



Chiang Mai, Thailand was the first stop on our adventure.



We visited an Elephant Sanctuary where we washed bananas before feeding, walking, playing with and bathing the elephants





We really enjoyed our zipline trip through an ancient rainforest followed by a wonderful spa visit for a Thai massage



The next day we flew to Bangkok, Thailand where we learned of Thai culture and religion at the Erawan Museum which is known for its giant three-headed elephant art display. Inside the giant elephant is a gallery of ancient buddha statues



. We also visited Wang Saen Suk Hell Garden, a Buddhist temple meant to describe and depict Naraka (Buddhist hell).



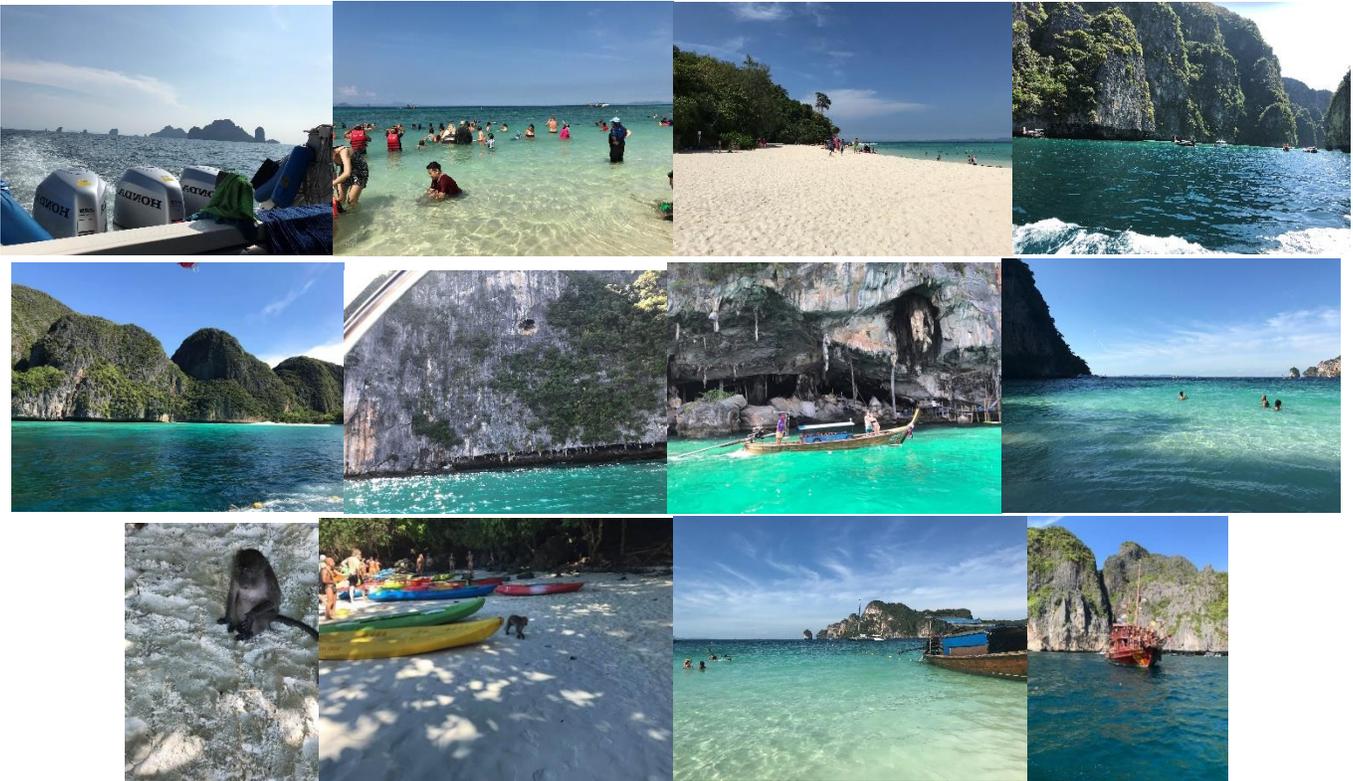
We enjoyed the sun and a swim at Pattaya Beach and saw lights of the city from an evening dinner cruise and celebrated Christmas Eve by going up to the Baiyoke Sky Tower revolving rooftop observation deck



The next stop on our trip was Krabi, Thailand where we had a great time kayaking through the mangroves.



Our tour to the beautiful Phi Phi Islands was amazing, we enjoyed swimming and snorkeling at Bamboo Island, saw the Phi Phi Lay Viking Cave, swam at Loh Sama Bay and Maya Beach (the set of the famous 'The Beach' movie with Leonardo DiCaprio) had lunch and ended with swimming, snorkeling and beach time at Monkey Beach.



Our last day in Krabi was spent at the public beach, eating, shopping and another massage.

