

August 12

Queen's Birthday

Celebration of H.M. Queen Sirikit's birthday. She attends religious ceremonies and presents of ferings of monks in the morning at Chitr Lada Palace. Also a public holiday.

October 23

Chulalongkorn Lay

It commemorates the date of the death of King Chulalongkorn, fifth King of the Chakri Dynasty who died in 1910. Thousands of people each year place floral tributes and incense at the foot of his equestrian statue in front of the National Assembly Hall.

October 7 - November 4

Tod Kathin

This ceremony takes place for a period of one month, the last month of the rainy season. It is the time of the annual offering of new yellow robes and necessary utensils to the monks, featuring a Royal Barge procession in Bangkok with barges rowed down the river to the monastery of the Dawn. Elsewhere long processions of people in boats or carts or on foot sing and dance their way to monasteries with gifts. Although a religious occasion, it is also celebrated with folk dancing, music and song.

October 11 - 17

Phra Ched Klang Nam Festival

The festival of worshipping the pagoda situated at Paknam, south of Bangkok. The festival is celebrated with colorful processions, amusing games and boat races.

November 3 - 5

Golden Mount Festival

This festival is held in November. Great crowds attend the festival to worship the Buddha's relics there is a bazaar with many local products offered for sale. There are ferris-wheels and other forms of entertainment.

November 4

The Loy Krathong Festival
(The Festival of Lights)

It takes place on the 12th lunar month full moon. The surface of rivers, streams, ponds canals throughout the Kingdom reflect tiny flickering flames from hundreds of thousands of "Krathongs" or banana-leaf-cups containing flowers, candles and incense-sticks placed upon the waters. It has been stated in Thai literature of the Sukhothai period that the "Loy Krathong" as practiced today was established to worship the Holy Footprint of the Lord

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Buddha on the bank of Nammada River. It was originally a Brahmirical rite where by the Hindus gave thnks to the Mother of Waters in whose bosom they happily bathed and swam.

November 8 Trooping of the Colrs

Members of the Thai Armed Forces pledge their allegiance to regimental flags. The ceremony is p
presided over by the Armed Forces Supreme Commande
and takes place at the parade ground in front the
National Assembly Hall.

November 3-5 Phra Pathom Chodl Fair

The largest and most ancient of Thailand's chedis or pagodas. Located at Nakorn Pathom, it is visited by thousands of pilgrims to pay homage to the Buddha's relics and to see the 380 feet high golden chedi.

November 10 Elephant Round-up

Ticket & further information obtained from
BOON VANIT TRAVEL AGENCY

December 3 or 4 The Ceremonlal Parado of the King's
Guards

December 5 King's Birhday &
National day

It is celebrated throughout the Kingdom with colorful pageantry. There is a parade of Royal Guards pleding their Oath of Allegiance to the King. (Usually held one or two days before His Majesty's Birthday)
Public building, as well as stores and private homes, are decorated with spectacular illuminations.

End of December Rod Cross Fair

Held at the Amporn Gardens, exhibition and display stands are set up by governmental agencies and private enterprises. It is a charity fair.

December 21 New year's Colobration

November 22	Saturday	That Luang Festival
" 23	Sunday	" " "
" 24	Monday	" " "

February 13

Magha Puja

MAGHA PUJA, The Buddhist Saint's Day, takes place on the full moon of the third lunar month or the fourth lunar month of an embolismic or intercalary year. This holy day commemorates a gathering of 1250 disciples who met before the Lord Buddha without prior summons. Taking the opportunity of this very coincidence the Lord Buddha delivered His Sermon Summarizing his cardinal doctrines. On this Magha Puja Day the Buddhists. Men and woman, grown-ups and children alike recite formulas in praise of the Triple Gem, after that they are making a clockwise candle procession round the temple hall in commemoration of the occasion.

February 13-15

Phar Buddha Baht Festival

Buddhist devotees flock to the Shrine of the Holy Footprint near Saraburi, 85 miles (136 kilometers) from Bangkok, Originally built in the 16th century and reconstructed in the middle of the 17th Century, it is now the site of an annual festival for pilgrims.

February-April

Kite-Fighting Season

Contests at Promane Ground in front of the Grand Palace, Bangkok, every afternoon. Contestants with elaborate kites seek to knock down those of their opponents by means of their own strings.

From February-April there is Dance and Music Festival, which is organized by the Fine Arts Department. The event takes place in the afternoon at the Music Pavilion in the precincts of the National Museum.

February 2

Sunday

Buddhist All Saints Lay
(Makhabouxa)

April 6

Chakri day

To commemorate the death of King Rama 1, the first king of the Chakri Dynasty. It is an important day in the Thai history as it is anniversary of the establishment of the foundation of the Chakri Dynasty.

It was King Rama 1 (Somdej Phra Phuttha Yodfa Chulaloke) himself who established Bangkok, a town on the left side of the Chao Phya River as a capital replacing the old and eroded Dhonburi.

May 13

Visakha Puja

This is one of the most important festivals of Buddhism. It takes place during the full moon of the 5th lunar month (about May) and commemorates the simple episodes of the birth, Enlightenment and passing into Nirvana of the Buddha. There are candle processions in the monastery grounds with elaborate lanterns made for the occasion, moving clockwise three times around the main chapel.

May 1	Thursday	Birth, Enlightenment, Death of Buddha
" 11	Sunday	Lao Constitution Day

July 9

Asalaha Puja

A holy day on the full-moon day of the 8th lunar month. This festival may be called "The First Sermon Festival" for it commemorates the First Sermon delivered by the Lord Buddha to his first five disciples.

July 10 Buddhist Lent (Khao Pansa)

Upon the arrival of the period of rains, Buddhist monks return to their monastery for study and meditation. The commencing ceremony "Khao Pansa," Khao (enter) Pansa (from Varsha= rain) of Buddhist Lent held on the 1st day of the waxing moon of the 8th lunar month. Though Pansa (rain) is observed during the rainy season it covers only three months of it, the fourth or last month is the period for Kathin Ceremonies. Most Thai youths, 20 years old, are ordained as Buddhist monks before the Buddhist Lent in order to study and practise the teaching of Buddhism during the Rainy Season.

July 19	Saturday	Independence Day (Lao)
July 29	Tuesday	Buddhist Lent-Beginning (Khaovatsa)