

Phuket, Thailand

Thailand's largest island rides the jade Andaman Sea — ancient Sino-Portuguese shophouses, a golden Buddha gazing from the hills, limestone karsts jutting from Phang Nga Bay, and beaches that live up to every postcard.

 Tender port (ships anchor off Patong/Phuket)  Typical call: 8–10 hrs  Thai Baht (THB)  Thai

MY DAY IN PORT

Ship/Date: _____	Arrive: _____	All aboard: _____
Excursion: _____	Notes: _____	

GETTING ASHORE

Docking: Tender — anchor in Patong Bay or off Phuket

Tender to beach: ~10–15 min; swell-dependent

Best For: Temples · Old Town · Phang Nga Bay

Don't Miss: Big Buddha & Phang Nga Bay

 Getting around:  **Taxi**  500–900 THB (–) ·  **Rideshare**  Grab, Bolt

TOP THINGS TO DO

- **Phang Nga Bay & James Bond Island** — Limestone karsts erupt from emerald water in one of Asia's most iconic seascapes.
- **Old Phuket Town & Thalang Road** — The historic core is lined with 19th-century Sino-Portuguese shophouses painted in blues, pinks, and greens — a legacy of the tin-mining era.
- **Big Buddha (Ming Mongkol) & Wat Chalong** — The 45-metre white marble Big Buddha sits atop Nakkerd Hill with panoramic island views — visible from the sea on arrival.
- **Ko Phi Islands** — Ko Phi Don and the iconic cliffs of Ko Phi Leh (Maya Bay of The Beach fame) are a speedboat day trip from Phuket — about 45 minutes each way.
- **Ethical Elephant Sanctuary** — Several sanctuaries north of Phuket Town offer no-riding, walk-with-and-feed experiences with rescued elephants in natural settings.

BEST WALKS

- **Old Phuket Town heritage loop** ~2.5 km · 1.5–2 hrs · easy — A slow wander through the Sino-Portuguese shophouse streets: Thalang Road for cafés and murals, Soi Rommanee for the colourful façades, Dibuk Road for heritage mansions...
- **Patong Beach promenade** ~2 km · 45 min · easy — A flat stroll along the Patong beachfront from the tender pier area south along the sand and beach road — good for a swim, a fresh coconut, and orienting yourself before...

WEATHER · DAYLIGHT · MONEY

 CLIMATE (AVG °F · RAINY DAYS)				 DAYLIGHT &  MONEY	
Mon	High	Low	Rain	Apr 6:17AM–6:35PM · Jun 6:09AM–6:44PM · Aug 6:19AM–6:41PM · Sep 6:16AM–6:26PM · Oct 6:13AM–6:10PM	
Apr	88°	79°	19d		
Jun	85°	78°	22d		
Aug	84°	78°	23d		
Sep	84°	77°	24d		
Oct	84°	77°	28d		

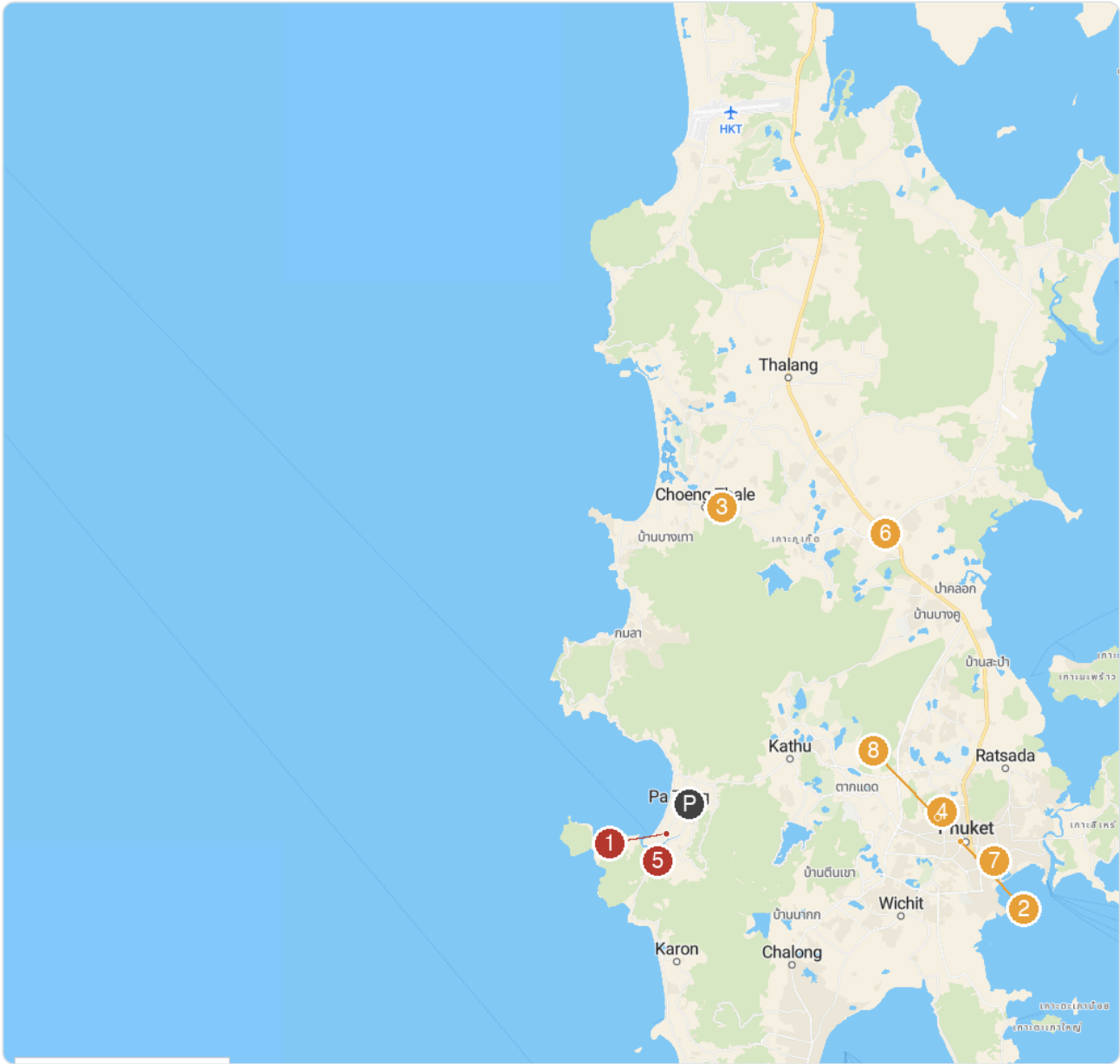
KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

- Tender timing is everything. Swell can delay or cancel tenders with little warning. If the sea looks choppy, book the ship's tour — they hold the boat for their own groups and know the last-tender cutoff.
- Cover up for temples. Wat Chalong and the Big Buddha require covered shoulders and knees. Carry a lightweight scarf or sarong — vendors sell them at the gate, but having your own is faster.
- Carry Thai Baht cash. ATMs are plentiful in Patong but charge hefty foreign fees. Exchange a modest amount on the ship or at the pier-area booths. Most tuk-tuks and local stalls are cash-only.
- Agree on fares before you board. Tuk-tuk and taxi meters are largely decorative in Phuket. Quote a destination, negotiate a round-trip fare, and confirm it covers waiting time if needed.
- Pick your elephant experience carefully. Avoid any venue that offers elephant riding, shows, or has animals chained for photos. Reputable sanctuaries list no-riding policies prominently — worth the extra research.
- Monsoon season runs May–Oct. Short heavy downpours are common in the afternoon but rarely last. Morning excursions (Phang Nga Bay, Big Buddha) usually beat the worst of the rain.

Phuket, Thailand — Port Map

cruiseports.org

Red = walkable sights · Amber = excursions farther out · P = cruise terminal. Numbers match the order you'd typically visit.



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|---------------------------------|--|---|---|
| 1 OTOP Market | Market selling local Thai crafts, food, and souvenirs. | 2 Phuket Old Town | Historic district with colorful Sino-Portuguese architecture and cafes. |
| 3 Wat Choeng Thale | Serene Buddhist temple with traditional Thai architecture. | 4 Wat Khao Rang Samakkhitham | Hilltop Buddhist temple featuring a large golden Buddha statue. |
| 5 Simon Cabaret Phuket | Extravagant ladyboy cabaret show with dazzling costumes and music. | 6 Thao Thep Krasattri and Thao Si Sunthon Monument | Monument honoring Phuket's two revered heroines. |
| 7 Nimit Roundabout | Busy traffic circle featuring a prominent clock tower. | 8 Khao Rang Viewpoint | Scenic hilltop viewpoint offering panoramic views of Phuket Town. |
| P Cruise port / terminal | | | |