



Pattaya Crazy



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PREFACE

Just a short intro – I am retired from the U.S. Army and have been going to Thailand for over 33 years. My first trip was as a young soldier in 1973 for an 18-month tour in Bangkok. It spoiled me for life.

I was 20 years old then and had the time of my life. It was my first time away from home, in a far-away land, learning a new culture and beginning a military career.

I retired from the Army about 5 years ago (after 30 years) and still work as a civilian with the Army, based in Hawaii, and visit Thailand 3 or 4 times per year.

Here are some tips for having a great vacation.

Chok Dee (Good Luck),

Lar

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PATTAYA

Pattaya was a small, sleepy fishing village prior to the Vietnam conflict. With the build-up of forces in Thailand in support of Vietnam, Rest and Relaxation (R & R) visits and then subsequent vacations, Pattaya has grown to be a major city catering to the sexual whims of the foreign tourist.

I have seen Pattaya expand – no – explode into thousands of Beer Bars, massage parlors, Go-Go's and hotels. It seems that every visit there are a couple hundred new bars to visit and many old bars torn down.

But if the bars get torn down in one location to make room for a new hotel or mall, they are soon re-constructed in a different area. And the girls keep on coming and coming – looking for the good life. Looking to make money to send home to the family. Looking to marry the rich foreigner and get out of Thailand. And, some are just looking to survive.

There was an old TV show back in the 60's called "Naked City" that ended with the line - "There are eight million stories in the Naked City. This has been one of them." It reminds me very much of what you will see and hear in Pattaya.

You have a lot to learn if it is your first trip and I won't be able to teach you all of it. But I hope that I will give you enough insight so that you will stay out of trouble, won't get scammed, save some money from the tips here, and, most importantly, have a great vacation.

