

Andaman Discoveries is an award winning social enterprise that supports community-led development by acting as a bridge to respectful visitors and volunteers through sponsorship of education, conservation and cultural empowerment. We have been working with tsunami-affected communities to provide authentic community-based tours, study and service trips and volunteering opportunities since 2005. Our guests have the opportunity to learn about the traditional culture and livelihoods of local people by taking part in home stays, village and eco-tourism activities.

Based in Kuraburi, Phang Nga, Southern Thailand, a relatively undeveloped area just north of the resorts of Phuket and Khao Lak. Our programs offer guests a unique opportunity to immerse in the cultural diversity, local life and spectacular natural beauty of the North Andaman Coast.



## Study & Service Tour Program

Andaman Discoveries study tour programs provide students with a personalized service trip set in the traditional culture and ecology of the rural, tsunami-impacted Andaman Coast of southern Thailand. We work closely with educators to provide comprehensive study tours that meet specific pedagogical objectives and include cultural highlights of the country at the most competitive price possible.

### ENVIRONMENT

Southern Thailand boasts two of the world's oldest ecosystems: jungle and coral reefs. The area also has extensive mangrove forests, soaring waterfalls, and lush jungles perfect for exploring and understanding the relationship between natural resources and human activity.



### CULTURE

We engage students with educational and fun activities that allow them to understand the interrelationships between culture, nature, and human activity. Understanding and respecting the world helps students to realize their place and responsibility to reduce their impact on the environment.



### SERVICE

We are committed to education for sustainability and all activities are carefully designed to encourage reflection, critical thinking, and group collaboration. By helping students recognize the links between human activity and the environment, we encourage local, regional, and global citizenship.



## Why Travel With Us?

Our bilingual translators allow students to really engage with the villagers, and assist local guides in highlighting points of interest and explaining the region's fascinating eco-systems. Andaman Discoveries specially designed comprehensive support material, the Visitor's Guide and the Thai Phrasebook, allow people to make the most of their time in village.

Our international staff and partners, comprised of various backgrounds and specialties, will help you to create a program that integrates classroom learning objectives with life changing experiences. We offer extensive in country support to make sure you have a safe and enjoyable stay in the North Andaman Region.



## Learning Objectives

- Study the key cultural, economic, and sustainability issues of these coastal communities
- Direct service - understand how service learning and reciprocal learning works to benefit students as well as communities
- Study the biodiversity and interrelatedness of the eco-systems in the region including mangroves, beaches, tropical rainforests, coral reefs, and estuaries.
- Explore the interrelation of community development, coastal ecology, natural resource use, and conservation (e.g. traditional livelihoods and culture, tourism, community organizing, and environmental action).
- Experiential learning of analytical concepts such as sustainability, gender equity, and community vulnerability/resilience.
- Access a community's knowledge base on disaster management, natural resources, and traditional livelihoods.

## Our Experience

At the end of each program we hold a sharing ceremony, to enable all participants to express their impressions of their experience, allowing us to continue to improve our programs and fine tune what already works. Over the past years we feel privileged to have worked with the following groups with very positive results:

- International School Hilversum, Netherlands
- KIS International School, Thailand
- Ross School, USA
- University of Colorado, USA
- Youth Linc, USA
- University of Birmingham, UK
- Linfield College, USA
- Phuket International Academy, Thailand

*"It has been an amazing week for me. It is definitely the best trip yet!"* - Ross School Student

*"This trip was incredible. We felt so fortunate to have an amazing and knowledgeable guide. I will recommend Andaman Discoveries to all my friends, especially if they want to experience the real Thailand"* -Colorado University Student

*"I learned so much about the culture and country of Thailand. I met the most amazing people at the homestay and Burmese Learning Center, it was an unforgettable experience."* -Hilversum International School Student