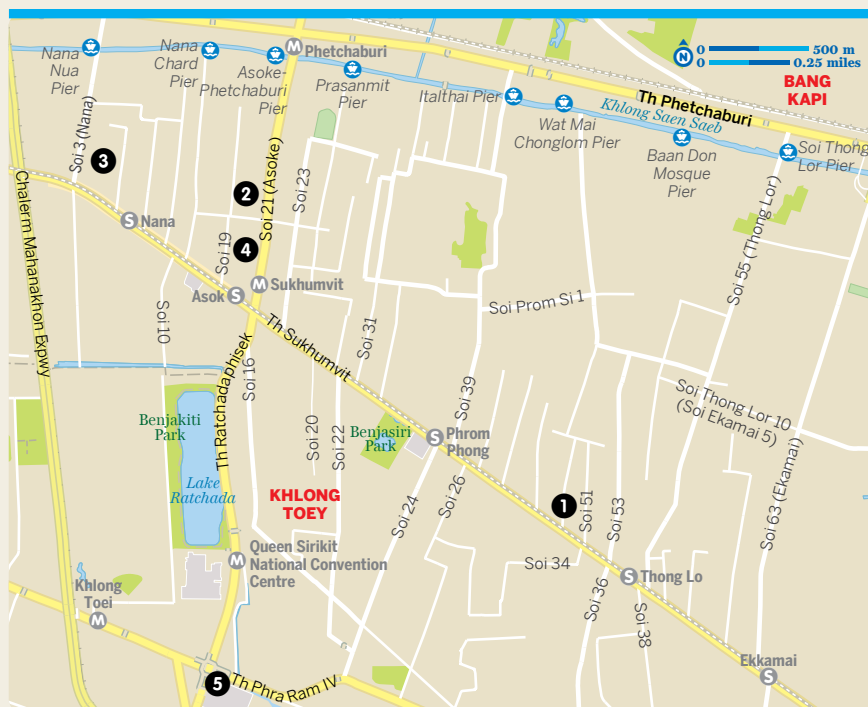


# Sukhumvit

## Neighbourhood Top Five

- ❶ Spending a night out at **WTF** (p149) or another buzz-worthy bar or nightclub the in-crowd would approve of.
- ❷ Rejuvenating at one of Th Sukhumvit's excellent-value spas, such as **Health Land** (p155).
- ❸ Sampling from Th Sukhumvit's generous spread of international restaurants, such as **Nasir Al-Masri** (p147).
- ❹ Witnessing ancient northern Thailand in contemporary Bangkok at **Ban Kamthieng** (p144).
- ❺ Getting lost in **Khlong Toey Market** (p145), one of the city's largest.



For more detail of this area see Map p282 ➔

## Explore: Sukhumvit

You'll probably spend more time on Th Sukhumvit eating, drinking and perhaps sleeping (there's a high concentration of hotels here), rather than sightseeing. Thankfully the BTS (Skytrain) runs along the length of Th Sukhumvit, making it a snap to reach just about anywhere around here. BTS stops are also a convenient way to define the street's various vibes. Lower Sukhumvit, particularly the area around Nana BTS station, is a mix of sexpats and Middle Eastern tourists; street markets and touts make this a frustrating zone to navigate nearly any time of day or night. Middle Sukhumvit, around BTS Asok/MRT Sukhumvit, is dominated by midrange hotels, upmarket condos, international restaurants and businesses meant to appeal to both tourists and resident foreigners. Near BTS Phrom Phong you'll find the well-concealed compounds of wealthy Thai residents and tidy Japanese enclaves, while extending east from BTS Ekkamai, the area feels more provincial and more Thai.

## Local Life

- ➔ **Hi-So hangouts** This is Bangkok's ritziest zone, and is *the* area to observe hi-so (high society) Thais in their natural environment: chatting at a wine bar on Soi 55/Thong Lor or topping up on Fendi bags at Emquartier.
- ➔ **International dining** Th Sukhumvit's various ethnic enclaves are a logical destination if you've grown tired of Thai food. Known colloquially as Little Arabia, Soi 3/1 is home to several Middle Eastern restaurants, while a handful of Korean restaurants can be found at Soi 12, and several Japanese restaurants are located near BTS Phrom Phong. Not surprisingly, there's relatively little interesting Thai food in the area.
- ➔ **Clubbing** The streets that extend from Th Sukhumvit are home to many of Bangkok's most popular clubs. Ravers of uni age tend to head to Soi 63/Ekamai; the pampered elite play at Soi 55/Thong Lor; and expats, sexpats and tourists head to the clubs around Soi 11.

## Getting There & Away

- ➔ **BTS** Nana, Asok (interchange with MRT Sukhumvit), Phrom Phong, Thong Lo, Ekkamai, Phra Khanong, On Nut, Bang Chak, Punnawithi, Udom Suk, Bang Na and Bearing.
- ➔ **MRT** Queen Sirikit National Convention Centre, Sukhumvit (interchange with BTS Asok) and Phetchaburi.
- ➔ **Klorng boat** Asoke-Phetchaburi Pier, Nana Nua Pier and Nana Chard Pier.
- ➔ **Bus** Air-con 501, 508, 511 and 513; ordinary 2, 25, 30, 48 and 72.

## Lonely Planet's Top Tip

All odd-numbered soi branching off Th Sukhumvit head north, while even numbers run south. Unfortunately, they don't line up sequentially (eg Soi 11 lies directly opposite Soi 8; Soi 39 is opposite Soi 26). Also, some larger soi are better known by alternative names, such as Soi 3/Nana, Soi 21/Asoke, Soi 55/Thong Lor and Soi 63/Ekamai.

## Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Jidori-Ya Kenzou (p148)
- ➔ Little Beast (p146)
- ➔ Bo.lan (p146)
- ➔ Gokfayuen (p144)
- ➔ Nasir Al-Masri (p147)

For reviews, see p144. ➔

## Best Places to Drink

- ➔ WTF (p149)
- ➔ Tuba (p149)
- ➔ Sugar Ray (p149)
- ➔ Badmotel (p149)

For reviews, see p149. ➔

## Best Nightclubs

- ➔ Grease (p151)
- ➔ Arena 10 (p151)

For reviews, see p149. ➔