

*Pocket*  
**PHUKET**

TOP EXPERIENCES • LOCAL LIFE • MADE EASY





*Pocket*  
**PHUKET**

**TOP EXPERIENCES • LOCAL LIFE • MADE EASY**

A thick, curved rainbow arc that starts from the left and curves upwards and to the right, ending at the edge of the frame.

**Trent Holden, Kate Morgan**

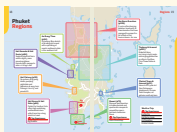
# In This Book

## QuickStart Guide

Your keys to understanding Phuket – we help you decide what to do and how to do it



**Need to Know**  
Tips for a smooth trip



**Regions**  
What's where

## Explore Phuket

The best things to see and do, region by region



**Top Experiences**  
Make the most of your visit



**Local Life**  
The insider's Phuket

## The Best of Phuket

Phuket's highlights in handy lists to help you plan



**Best Walks**  
See the city on foot



**Phuket's Best...**  
The best experiences

## Survival Guide

Tips and tricks for a seamless, hassle-free city experience



**Getting Around**  
Travel like a local



**Essential Information**  
Including where to stay

Our selection of Phuket's best places to eat, drink and experience:

 **Experiences**















 **Eating**

 **Drinking**

 **Entertainment**

 **Shopping**

These symbols give you the vital information for each listing:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
|  Telephone Numbers     |  Family-Friendly |
|  Opening Hours         |  Pet-Friendly    |
|  Parking               |  Bus             |
|  Nonsmoking            |  Ferry           |
|  Internet Access       |  Tram            |
|  Wi-Fi Access          |  Train           |
|  Vegetarian Selection  |   |
|  English-Language Menu |   |

Find each listing quickly on maps for each region:



### Bar Hemingway

16  Map p233, B2

Legend has it that Hemingway, wielding a machine gun, created this timber-paneled bar during his stay in Phuket. The showpiece is a painting by Papa Hemingway. Open by Papa Hemingway. Dress code: smart casual. Hours: 6.30pm-2a.

## Lonely Planet's Phuket

Lonely Planet Pocket Guides are designed to get you straight to the heart of the region.

Inside you'll find all the must-see sights, plus tips to make your visit to each one really memorable. We've split Phuket into easy-to-navigate regions and provided clear maps so you'll find your way around with ease. Our expert authors have searched out the best of Phuket: walks, food, nightlife and shopping, to name a few. Because you want to explore, our 'Local Life' pages will take you to some of the most exciting areas to experience the real Phuket.

And of course you'll find all the practical tips you need for a smooth trip: itineraries for short visits, how to get around, and how much to tip the guy who serves you a drink at the end of a long day's exploration.

It's your guarantee of a really great experience.

## Our Promise

You can trust our travel information because Lonely Planet authors visit the places we write about, each and every edition. We never accept freebies for positive coverage, so you can rely on us to tell it like it is.

## QuickStart Guide 7

Phuket Top Experiences.....	8
Phuket Local Life.....	12
Phuket Day Planner.....	14
Need to Know.....	16
Phuket Regions .....	18

## Explore Phuket 21

22	Phuket Town & Around
38	Hat Patong
56	Hat Karon & Hat Kata
72	Rawai
84	Hat Kamala & Hat Surin
94	Ao Bang Thao
100	Thalang & Around
106	Northern Beaches

### Worth a Trip:

Day-Trippin' Ko Phi-Phi .....	114
Rock Climbing at Hat Railay, Krabi.....	116
Hidden Hongs of Ao PhangNga .....	118
Diving in the Similan Islands .....	120

## The Best of Phuket

# 123

### Phuket's Best Walks

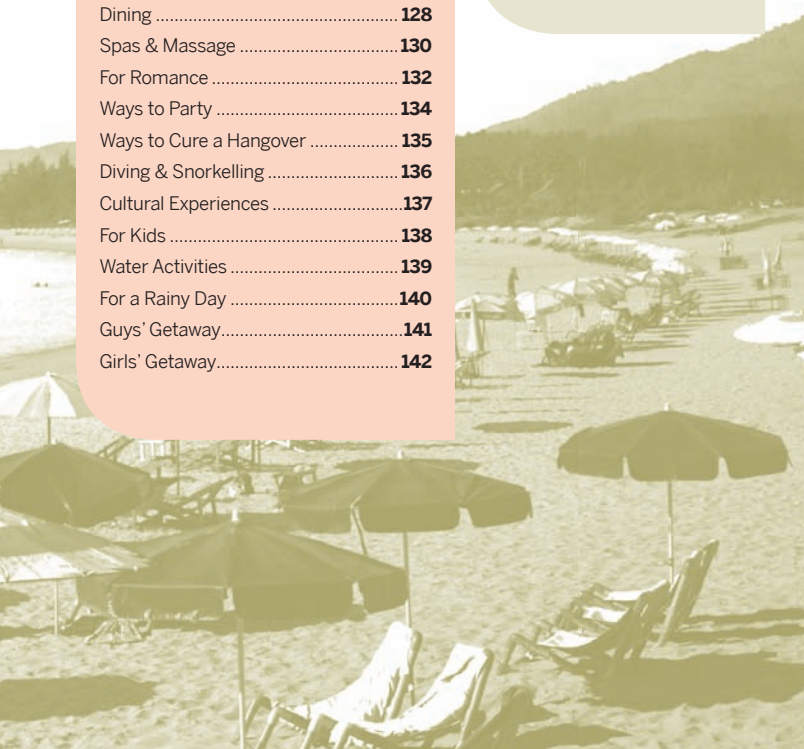
Phuket Town's Architectural Legacies.....	124
--	-----

### Phuket's Best...

Beaches .....	126
Dining .....	128
Spas & Massage .....	130
For Romance .....	132
Ways to Party .....	134
Ways to Cure a Hangover .....	135
Diving & Snorkelling .....	136
Cultural Experiences .....	137
For Kids .....	138
Water Activities .....	139
For a Rainy Day .....	140
Guys' Getaway.....	141
Girls' Getaway.....	142

## Survival Guide 143

Before You Go.....	144
Arriving in Phuket .....	146
Getting Around.....	146
Essential Information .....	148
Language .....	152







# QuickStart Guide

Phuket Top Experiences .....	8
Phuket Local Life .....	12
Phuket Day Planner .....	14
Need to Know .....	16
Phuket Regions .....	18

## Welcome to Phuket

The original island getaway, Phuket may be older, pricier and not quite as exotic these days, but it's still got it. The white beaches, psychedelic sunsets and aquamarine sea, they're all still here, and Phuket continues to party with the best of them. Sure, it may be too popular for its own good, but that's what happens when you've got it all.