Despite being home to the intergalactic melting pot that is Th Khao San, this district of antique shophouses and temples remains the city's most characteristically 'Bangkok' neighbourhood.

Riverside, Silom & Lumphini
This is Bangkok's de facto financial district, and most locals come here to work, while you'll probably come to eat, play or stay.

Ko Ratanakosin & Thonburi
Bangkok's riverside historical centre includes the monuments to king, country and religion that draw most tourists.

Chinatown
Home to shark-fin restaurants, gaudy gold and jade shops and flashing neon signs in Chinese characters, Chinatown is Bangkok's most hectic neighbourhood.

Siam Square, Pratunam & Ploenchit
The area around Siam Square is essentially one giant shopping mall, and today is considered the unofficial centre of modern Bangkok.

Thanon Sukhumvit
Dominating the area east of central Bangkok is Th Sukhumvit, a busy commercial and residential neighbourhood with modern midrange hotels, which is a favourite of expatriates and cosmopolitan Thais.