

The Grand Palace and Old Bangkok



PHOTOGRAPHY
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Contents

River Books is deeply honoured and grateful that His Majesty the King graciously permitted photography in many areas of the Grand Palace not normally accessible.

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Back cover: *Panoramic view of the Temple of the Emerald Buddha and the Grand Palace at night.*

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The magnificent complex of throne halls, museums and religious architecture, including the exquisite Emerald Buddha Temple, are often referred to as the 'jewel in the crown' of Bangkok. Built and embellished over the nine reigns of the Chakri dynasty (1782 onwards), the Grand Palace is a storehouse of Thai architecture and art over the last two hundred and thirty years.

As well as the Grand Palace, the guide also illustrates and explains over 40 key sites in its vicinity including Wat Pho, the Ministry of Defence, the City Pillar Shrine, Sanam Luang, the National Gallery, the recently-opened Museum Siam, many key temples and over 60 pages on the National Museum. Stroll with the guide down Ratchadamnoen Avenue from the Democracy Monument to Sanam Luang, then explore the bridges along Ku Muang Derm as far as the vibrant Pak Khlong Talad, or take a boat across the river to visit the Royal Barges Museum, the iconic Wat Arun and the important Third Reign temple of Wat Kalaya.

This beautifully photographed guide is the first to deal in depth with the wealth of buildings to be explored in the Grand Palace as well as all the sights of the surrounding Rattanakosin Island, which forms the heart of Old Bangkok.

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