



Koh Chang Base

Blue Haven Bay Marina , Klong Son. Koh Chang , Trat 32170
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The base office and boats are located at the [Blue Haven Bay Marina](#) in Klong Son area 5 min drive from ferry in the village Klong Son on the North-east Northwest side of the island



Klong Son, the nearest Koh Chang town to the ferry piers, offers some of the best villas on the island alongside luxury and boutique resorts, bungalows and motels.

It is a very local area, so there is not too much for the tourist outside of where they stay, with a few cheap eats, Thai style and a couple of 7/11's but it continues to grow in popularity, as more visitors opt for a private villa as their accommodation choice.

Though Klong Son is separated from the rest of the west coast by the mountain and its switchback curves, taxis do still run back and forth very regularly.

The [Blue Haven Bay](#) complex is split into two areas. The principal and original one has its Klong Son villas laid out in three rows by the seafront, with *The Beach Club* and *Peninsula Resort* alongside and the 9 hole pitch and putt golf course behind. There are also smaller bays and little beaches with their own sets of villas.

Connected by a 500 metre track, the newer secondary area has a single row of Klong Son villas on the sea, 2 condo

blocks, *Shambala Beach Club*, *Boat House*, *Laguna Beach House* and behind it, *Marina Sands Resort* and the marina

Within the complex, you'll also find the following 5 resorts:-

- In the main section of the complex, the excellent boutique resort, [Little Sunshine](#), has its main building on the seafront, a couple of villas just behind – double rooms from 4,000bt, its suite with private pool from 8,000bt and its pool villa at just under 15,000bt.
- [Peninsula Resort](#) combines deluxe beachfront rooms near the main swimming pool, with a selection of the *Blue Haven* style villas and pool villas, which themselves are either ocean facing or off the golf course, Prices start at 4,200bt a night in high season, 11,000bt upwards for the villas.
- Located in the secondary section next door to the marina, the aptly named [Marina Sands Resort](#) is a four storey hotel in 2 blocks. Its rooms start at 800bt for a mixed dorm through 2,400bt for standard double and 7,800bt for a 2 bedroom suite.
- Also in this area but nearer to the sea, [Boat House](#) offers stylish rooms in a 3 storey condo style building just by the sea in that same area, prices from 3,000bt to 4,200bt.
- Nearby, [Laguna Beach House](#) too has ocean front rooms in its large villa complex, from 5,200bt to 6,000bt (peak season with taxes inc.)

How to get to Base on Koh Chang

Ko Chang is located approximately 350kms southeast of Bangkok in Trat province, which lies on the Thai Cambodian border. There are two car ferry services that operate between the island and the mainland from 7:00am to 7:00pm departing every 45 minutes or so for the 30-minute voyage.

Flying:

The safest and quickest way to get to AQUA Charters on Koh Chang is to fly to Trat (TDX) airport. Flights only come from Bangkok and are operated by Bangkok Airways. They have three flights a day which take one hour and all flights get you to the ferry terminal in time to catch the ferry. You can find flight information on the Bangkok Airways [website](#)

From the Trat airport, we can book a taxi to take you all the way to the AQUA Charters Base. We recommend this option so you don't have to carry your gear more than in and out of the taxi when you leave the airport and arrive at our base. The airport is 20 minutes from the Koh Chang ferry. The ferry is about a 30 minutes trip but can add a few hours to your arrival/departure time depending on how busy it is. From the ferry terminal on Koh Chang, it's another 30 minutes to the AQUA Charters base.

board the ferry with you. Once you reach the island they will drive you on to the AQUA Charters base in Salakphet Bay or you can make a detour to pick up some provisions.

If you plan to arrange your own transportation be sure to make arrangements for your driver to board the ferry rather than drop you at the terminal on the mainland side which would leave you to hand carry all your belongings on to the ferry by yourself and to negotiate the taxi ride to our base in Salakphet once on the island.

Driving:

The journey from Bangkok can be made by car, the roads are major highways and are in good condition, however, you should allow 5 hours to reach the ferry terminal on the mainland and make sure you have plenty of time to reach the terminal before the last ferry at 7pm. There is free, safe parking at the AQUA Charters Base.

Private Transfer Minivan:

We can arrange a transfer for you from Bangkok airports or hotels to the AQUA Charters Base in Salakphet.

- From Bangkok; it's about a 6-7 hour drive depending on stops and the ferry.
- From Pattaya; it's about 5-6 hours drive depending on stops and the ferry.
- From Trat; it's about 2 hours drive depending on stops and the ferry.

If we arrange transfers for you, our minivan driver will meet you at the airport/hotel and

Bus:

You can take a bus but it's unpredictable how much time it will take and will likely be an all-day adventure. The bus will only take you to the ferry on the mainland and from there you will need a ferry ticket across and a pick-up truck style taxi to the AQUA Charters Yacht Charter Base once you arrive on Koh Chang. This is a cheaper option but it takes time and patience and is not recommended.

If you're having difficulty with flights and transfers please do mention this to your AQUA Charters Coordinator to get the most up to date info and options. You can find further information regarding taxi, bus and ferry options at www.i-amkohchang.com under Transport.

Arriving and departing the Koh Chang Base

Communication

It's important for our base team to know when you and your crew will be arriving for your yacht charter holiday so we can meet you and help with all your gear. Please make contact with the Charter Coordinator prior to the day of your charter. WhatsApp is the best way to communicate during your trip so we can send weather updates and answer any questions while you're on your sailing holiday.

Arriving

When you arrive at the base our crew will meet you in the car park of marina and direct you to your yacht. If you have purchased provisions along the way, our crew will deliver everything to your yacht for you while you and the Charter Coordinator deal with formalities. The refrigerator will be chilled and there will be drinking ice aboard when you arrive.

Briefing, formalities & Payments

You will receive QR code/link to FLOATIST Self-Check in app that will guide you through yacht system briefings, inventory check lists and sailing area intro guide, generally, this will take around 1 hour.

Once this is done and pre check list is completed one of crew will be with you to follow up on any questions remaining.

Please be considerate and go through all the checklist items you can on your own and mark unclear ones so all issues will be dealt at once at the end this will save everyone's time

App Guided Briefings are required for all clients, this is to ensure your safety and to get you familiar with the area, systems and equipment, this

App will also be your main supper communication channel with base

Once all checklist items are cleared You will be required to sign your charter contract and to fill in the credit card release for the security deposit (or leave cash). If you have used the AQUA Charters provisioning service, you'll need to pay for the provisions and any other extras you've ordered for your trip.

Payment can be done in local currency, EUR, USD or by credit card with 3 percent surcharge for credit card payments.

Please note, to ensure effective communication AQUA Charters asks you to have only the Skipper and Co-Skipper attend the briefing.

Staying on board in marina

To reach the first anchorage you will need at least an hour which means you might want to spend first night in marina or at our bay moorings (if tide allows). This allows you to get to know yacht at our own pace, have nice dinner in nearby restaurant and basically get well prepared for the cruise

You will be piloted out of marina first thing in the morning

Returning and departure

When you return to the base at the end of your charter the Charter Coordinator will meet you for a debriefing, this generally takes an half hour or so. The AQUA Charters dockside crew will refuel the yacht and you will be required to pay for the fuel you have used in cash or credit card

Provisioning for your Yacht Charter on Koh Chang

Stocking your boat with food and drinks is an important consideration before you set sail. Remember that it's cheap in Thailand to eat onshore and it saves the time of preparation and cleaning up leaving more time to enjoy your holiday. Being onshore is a big part of the experience. Both Thai food and western foods are cheap in restaurants and you'll be surprised by the variety offered on the islands.

How much things cost

Prices vary from restaurant to restaurant, but here's a rough guide. Most wine by the glass is coming from a box and is 100baht and up to 300 baht for the same thing, depends on the setting. A bottle of wine costs about 700 baht in a supermarket and at least twice that in a restaurant. A bottle of beer costs about 45 baht in a supermarket and from 70 baht up to 150 baht in a restaurant. Good quality Thai food can cost as little as 80 baht per person in a local restaurant where a meal in a resort can cost anything from 500 baht per person and more.

Tips for planning your menu

If this is your first time catering for a yacht charter holiday in the Gulf of Thailand; remember that it's the tropics, boat galleys have very limited space, refrigerators are small and storage lockers are few, so you need to be smart with what you take and how you use it.

Design a menu that shares many of the same base ingredients, but delivers very different tasting meals. That way you minimize the number of items you take on board. Keep the menu simple so you don't spend your holiday time in the galley trying to make magic happen.

- Don't take too much fresh or cold food as your refrigerator space will be limited and food left out will spoil in the tropical heat.
- We recommend purchasing your beverages, breakfast items, light lunches, heavy snacks and one or two dinners for onboard.
- Most of the shops on the outer islands are not very well stocked.
- Get all the western delights you want at the beginning because you probably won't find them out there.

AQUA Charters will provide all yacht charters with 10 kg of ice for the refrigerator/freezer or cooler along with cleaning supplies like dish soap, spray cleaner, sponges, tea towels, paper towels, toilet paper and garbage

- Don't buy ingredients to make Thai food, it's much easier and most likely cheaper to eat Thai food on shore. And...they'll make it right....

Provisioning Service

AQUA Charters offers a provisioning service for your charter so that you don't have to take the time out of your holiday. Our staff will gather the things you order and deliver them to your yacht. When you arrive for your charter the yacht will be stocked and ready to go.

Simply fill out the provisioning form indicating the items you require, email it back to us and we will have everything you requested delivered to your yacht before you arrive. If there are any special request that are not listed just note them on the last page and we will do our best to source it for you.

Provisioning on your own

If you are arriving by taxi we can arrange the driver to stop for you to shop along the way. There are limited shops on the island but the Makro is well stocked with western food and a good selection of fruits and veggies. You can use the provisioning form as a guide but there is much more available than is on the list.

If you have your own transportation and will be provisioning yourself, see the map of shops on Koh Chang island. If coming from Bangkok or Pattaya there are also many markets just off Highway 3 and an excellent Makro in Trat.

Please note that in Thailand, alcoholic beverages are only sold (in the bigger markets) between the hours of 11am and 2pm or after 5pm to midnight. You can usually buy it all day in the smaller local shops.

bags.

What to bring on your Yacht Charter Holiday

A yacht charter holiday is very similar to glamping (glamorous camping), you're just in a yacht on the water. Bonus! The benefits are that there's no checking in and out of resorts or packing your bags every day to see the different beautiful locations. There are some things you can't get here so make sure you bring those special items with you. If you have a few days in Bangkok and love to shop, you can pretty much find anything you need there.

Essentials

- Sunscreen - be sure to pack it as it can be expensive here
- Camera/Phone & chargers
- A good hat or two
- Swimsuit or water clothes
- Soft luggage for easy stowing - we do not allow hard suitcase to protect the yachts
- Beach towels for the saltwater (we supply your bath towels)
- Binoculars - if you want binoculars you must bring your own
- Long sleeves and knee-length shorts/skirts if you plan to go to any temples
- Dry bag
- A sense of adventure

Footwear

You will most likely spend most of your time on board the yacht or on a beach, barefoot. Flip-flops will generally suffice for a visit ashore. If you plan to do any hikes, a good pair of sports shoes or sturdy supportive sandals should be sufficient. Most of the beaches are sandy and don't require reef shoes.

Clothing

We're in the tropics and it's generally very warm day and night. T-shirts, shorts and sundresses/

sarongs for the women should be enough. Remember you will be at a different place most days so only two to three casual outfits are necessary, no one will know you've been wearing the same few things all week.

For a night at an island resort, casual is all that is required and in the cooler months a light jacket or sweater for the evenings. Remember we're in the tropics so that can mean rain.

If you forget anything or don't want to bring much, it's very cheap to buy clothes here in Asia. However sizes are a little different and it's often hard to find larger sizes, especially shoes other than flip-flops.

Sunglasses

When entering anchorages it is important that you proceed slowly with a forward look-out. Polarized sunglasses assist in reducing reflection and improve the visibility of the reef. It is often possible (but not guaranteed) to get very cheap polarized sunglasses at the local shops.

What NOT to bring

Hard suitcases and luggage
Expensive accessories - once they fall overboard they're lost to the sea.
GLASS beer and soft drink bottles. Wine bottles are ok

Please don't bring sponges with scour pads as they scratch the drinking glasses.

What's Included

Features and equipment common to all bareboat and skippered yacht charters include:

Below Deck

- hand towels and two bath towels per cabin
- Two blankets & Two pillows with covers per cabin
- Tea towels
- Clothes pegs
- Cabin fans
- Toilet facilities
- Showers
- Refrigeration
- Gas stove
- Galley gear for preparing and serving meals
- 12v outlet
- 300W 240v inverter
- Flashlight
- Stereo AUX connection (or Bluetooth)

Above Deck

- Deck shower
- Rigid inflatable dinghy
- 2.5 HP or 5HP outboard
- Spare 10L jug of benzene for the dinghy
- Electric windlass anchor winch
- Winch handles
- GPS plotter
- Bucket
- Fenders
- Mooring lines
- Boat Hook
- Swim ladder
- Dinghy anchor

Safety

- Charts
- Cruising guide
- Parallel rule and dividers
- Operations manual
- Buoyancy jackets
- Comprehensive First-Aid Kit
- Depth sounder
- Tide chart for your trip
- Tools & Spares
- Life ring (MOB)
- Fire Extinguishers, Fire Blanket

Consumables Kit

- Garbage bags
- Dish detergent
- Sponges
- Aluminium foil
- Plastic wrap
- Toilet paper & Paper towels
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240v Inverters

All yachts have 240v/300W (or more) inverters as standard equipment. Inverters are useful if you do not have a 12v plug for your phone charger or if you need to charge camera batteries or laptops. The inverters cannot power Blenders, Coffee Machines, Hair Dryers or Hair Straighteners

Although laptops draw very little power they may not charge on the inverters. The electrical signal to start up the inverter may not be sufficient and the sine-wave may not be correct, check the operation before departing or leave your laptop at home for a digital detox.

Air Conditioning:

Air-conditioning units are installed on some yachts in our fleet. Yachts with air-conditioners have a generator fitted so you can use it on the water, for details see the individual yacht features.

When at anchor the yachts naturally face into the wind. Simply open the hatches to allow the breeze to flow through.

Feedback from our guests is that the noise of a generator running quickly outweighs any benefit from the cold air., In order to not overprice our yacht charters for a feature that is unlikely to be used and to encourage our guests to save energy, we charge 5€ per hour for the use of air-conditioning that .

Charts & Cruising Guides

All yachts are equipped with:

IN KOH CHANG;

- * Chart 151 - Koh Chang Island to Trat
- * Chart 120 - Islands of Koh Chang
- * [Koh Chang Cruising Guide](#)

IN KOH SAMUI;

- * Chart 204 - Samui & Koh PhaNgan Islands
- * Chart 220 - All Islands
- * Chart 254 - AngThong National Park
- * Chart 111 - Koh Tao
- * Koh Samui Cruising Guide

Charts provide you with the distances to be traveled and the hazards to avoid when cruising the surrounding islands. It is important that you know how to read them and to use them for your passage planning. For more accurate descriptions of cruising area, anchorages, resorts and surrounding reefs, refer to the cruising guide provided/

Music on board

All vessels are fitted with a marine stereo system complete with a headphone auxiliary cord allowing you to plug in your device, just remember to bring your charger. Some yachts only have Bluetooth stereo systems.

iPhones – If you have one of the new iPhone models without the traditional headphone port, most yachts have Bluetooth capabilities.

TIP: Set up some offline playlists so you can still listen to music when there is no internet coverage.

Refrigeration

Refrigeration space is limited on all yachts. When planning your provisions consider how much you need to refrigerate.

We recommend that you buy all your drinks, dry goods, non-refrigerated fruit & veggies for the whole charter. Stock up on bread and cheeses before leaving the base as it can be difficult to find western foods out at the islands. We will provide you with 20kg of ice to get you started and you can find ice on the islands at local shops and resorts.

All yachts use 12v refrigeration units and they are controlled by a thermostat that will switch the fridge or freezer compressor on or off as needed. Not all yachts have freezers and if they do their usually small but many struggle here in the tropics. Refrigeration units are designed to shut down at low voltage therefore always monitor your batteries and keep them well charged. Keep in mind that there are places to eat out at most anchorages and eating ashore is much easier, often cheaper and part of the experience.

Communication:

Communication is easiest done with provided onboard phone/ ZELLO PTT (internet walkie-talkie) device or WhatsApp before and during your charter as there is a signal in most anchorages and around the islands. If there is an emergency it is best to call the Base Manager as no one (speaking English) is usually listening on the VHF. You are also encouraged to install ZELLO put application on your phone.

We will send out weather updates daily. If you should have any questions about safe anchorage or need advice don't hesitate to send a message or call. We are available 24/7 for your support. You can call direct or through WhatsApp for free.

Rental Gear

It's nice to have some toys out there on your journey to explore the smaller nooks and crannies. We can organize additional rental equipment for your yacht charter to take your adventure at sea to the next level. Equipment is rented for the entire duration of your charter and are based on a daily rate. Make sure to order your extra gear in advance as supplies are limited.

Stand Up Paddle Boards (SUP)

Step off your yacht onto the SUP and glide across the water's surface. Explore the rivers, travel the coastlines nooks and crannies or snorkel from your board around the smaller off-shore islands and pinnacles. It's a great way to experience the anchorages and surroundings while getting a little exercise. All our boards are over 350cm long x 80cm wide (11.5'x31") making it easy for beginners and children to learn quickly yet small enough for the experienced rider to enjoy. SUP rentals come with an adjustable paddle and leash.

BBQ

Rent a BBQ for your yacht charter and grill up some fresh local seafood. You can get a variety of things to grill at the market and it's also possible to get fresh fish or squid from the local fisherman. The fisherman doesn't want your money, just a few beers will get you and handful. Just approach their boats with the dinghy and ask for Fish = Plah or Squid = Plahmuk (ink fish). Good luck with speaking Thai!!

Fishing Gear

We're happy to send you out with a rod and reel at no cost, just make the request with the base manager. However, if you lose the lure reeling in "the biggest fish ever" we'll have to charge you for the loss. Feel free to bring your own lures and we will provide the rods.

Fishing is permitted everywhere other than a 1-mile radius around the National Marine Parks. You can often bring your fish to a restaurant and have them cook it for you for a nominal fee.

Snorkel equipment

Quality snorkel sets include mask, snorkel and adjustable fins and come in S/M or L/XL. Children's sizes are available but limited so reserve your gear in advance.

Scuba Diving

We do not allow dive gear on the yachts due to possible damages. However, talk with the yacht charter coordinator to help organize diving trips with local dive operators. You must carry a PADI or equivalent certification to be able to dive on organized trips.

Koh Chang seasons, weather & timing

The sailing season in the Ko Chang Archipelago starts in mid-October just before the start of the northeast monsoon and ends mid April, which marks the change and the beginning of the southwest monsoon. With the winds to the north some of the very best anchorages are in the lee and provide comfort and tranquility.

Mid October to mid January

Generally, the northeast winds are strongest in the early part of the season from November to mid January ranging from 15 to 25knots and the climate is cooler with daytime temperatures ranging from 27C in the day to 20C during the night.

Mid January to May

From mid January onwards the temperature rises and the winds become less predictable ranging from 10 to 15knots. However, there are very few days where there is no sailing wind and in the latter part of the season we often get a westerly sea breeze providing a beam reach the full length of the archipelago. Late in the season the winds shift a little more south opening up some great anchorages for overnight.

Throughout the season

Throughout the season the sailing conditions remain good, the weather is warm and tropical and there is little chance of rain. If there is rain, it would be in the very beginning or towards the end of the season and even then, it would be scattered squalls as opposed to hours of rain as usually in the early morning before the day starts.

All in all this is a great place to sail, conditions are not so challenging that your crew will be hanging on white-knuckled to the rail, but adequate to allow you to sit back and indulge in the art of sailing.

Ko Chang's driest months are November to March but it might rain a little during those times which keeps the waterfalls flowing and the tropical landscape green and lush. On average, the warmest month is April and the coolest/driest month is January.