



EXPERT HOSTS

BANGKOK, THAILAND

WWW.SMILINGALBINO.COM



WHY WE LOVE DANIEL: A natural host, Daniel's energy, fluency in the Thai language, local friendships and in-depth destination knowledge have since made Daniel one of Thailand's – and Southeast Asia's – most recognized travel authorities and personalities.

DANIEL FRASER

URBAN LIFE - LOCAL FOOD - HISTORY - RELIGION - VERNACULAR ARCHITECTURE

In 1995, Daniel first came to Thailand from Canada at the invitation of the Thai Royal Family to consult and teach at Chitralada Palace under the direction of HRH The Crown Princess.

Recognizing a need for travel experiences that go beyond the backpacking tradition the region was known for, Daniel founded Smiling Albino in 1999. Over the last decade, Daniel has been personally immersing himself in the known and unknown of Southeast Asia.

Daniel is also a well-known media figure in Thailand and the host of popular Thai-language documentary series, Longrukyim, investigating unique sides of Thai culture, food and traditions through the eyes of a resident Canadian. Nearly 300 episodes have been filmed since 2011.

With Smiling Albino now actively present throughout the region, Daniel is a regular presenter at tourism and community events throughout Southeast Asia, and splits his time between Thailand, Cambodia, and Vietnam, often on a bicycle or motorbike.

Daniel's other interests include exploring the craft beer scene, sharing his passion for travel and tourism and crafting signature pierogi recipes.



GOOD FOR: Joe is a good fit for clients that are artsy, intellectual, or guests who are hippies at heart. He has hosted a variety of guests looking for artisanal things, textiles, easel painting, woodwork, unique tribal art and more.

JOE CUMMINGS

ARTS & TEXTILES - THAI SAK YANT TATTOOS

Joe Cummings, a Thai culture expert with a focus on arts and textiles is one of Bangkok's most prominent residents and hosts, having shown the city to celebrities including Mick Jagger and Steven Tyler.

As the author of more than 40 books on Southeast Asian art, history, design and culture, with a degree in Asian Art History and Thai Language, Joe has called Thailand home for more than 25 years, enabling him to share a fascinating personal introduction to the elaborate and ornate art form that is the Thai temple.

Joe is also an expert on the topic of magic and mastery of Thai sacred tattoos, Sak Yant. For guests interested in this unique Thai art, we are able to arrange personalized trips to renowned Sak Yant artists, accompanied by Joe.

MORE ABOUT JOE

[Spells & Sigils: The Magic & Mastery of Thai Sacred Tattoos | Joe Cummings | TEDxChiangMai](#)
[Sacred Tattoos of Thailand](#)
[Joe Cummings Online](#)



WHY WE LOVE PHILIP: Philip will 'school' guests on elements of his books live, as they are experienced on the street while out exploring the city. This is a rare opportunity for a real insider's look at the City of Angels.

PHILIP CORNWEL-SMITH

THAI CULTURE - HISTORY - POP CULTURE - ART

Philip Cornwel-Smith is a longtime Bangkok resident, former magazine editor, author, and expert on Thai culture, design and style. One of our veteran expert hosts, we have partnered with Philip Cornwel-Smith to take guests on an exploration of interesting elements and angles of not only Bangkok, but its people and what makes them all link and tick!

SAMPLE PROGRAM

Over coffee, join Philip Cornwel-Smith, as he spends roughly an hour introducing you to his top-selling book, Very Thai, which explores a wide range of elements of Thai culture and life. The book has been translated into several languages and is a regular go-to source for all things Thai culture and style. His second book, Very Bangkok: In the City of the Senses, was published in early 2020.

Depending on your specific interests Philip may take guests to art galleries, quirky shops or weekend design markets, to explore elements of the Very Thai book at 'street level'. Indulge at one of Philip's favorite restaurants for dinner.



FROM NYM: "I simply love getting in touch with the real essence of food, not from how it tastes but from the people."

KORAKOT (NYM) PUNLOPRUKSA

THAILAND FOOD AND CULTURE EXPERT

Travel and food columnist, photographer, writer and travel show host of Journal Journey for Voice TV Thailand, Nym Korakot, is a Bangkok native who loves exploring her hometown.

Nym's regular food column can be found in Bangkok 101, 'Eat Like Nym'. It takes people deeper into each dish and into the lives of the people who create them. No matter if the food is found in an old community or in a high end restaurant, food speaks its own language.

Nym has also worked with various international television programs including Food Hunter with Mark Brownstein on ARTE and posed as the local talent on the Bangkok episode of Bizarre Foods with Andrew Zimmern.

SOME OF NYM'S WORK

[Bizarre Foods Bangkok with Andrew Zimmern](#)

[Eat Like Nym on Bangkok 101](#)

[Journal Journey with Nym](#)



FROM DAVID: "The River provides the perfect balance to the constant traffic, end-to-end shopping malls, and incessant heat-laden concrete. The Chao Phraya River is the lifeblood of the city: its history, its culture, its trade and commerce, and increasingly, its creativity. This is REAL Bangkok and I'm excited for the opportunity to promote it to locals and visitors alike."

DAVID ROBINSON

BANGKOK RIVER DISTRICT EXPERT

Born in Sydney, David spent his early career on the business side of the commercial and public television industry, based in Australia and then in the UK. Throughout, he balanced his professional life with support of the arts, acting as a sponsor, advisor or on the board of orchestras, art galleries, dance companies and small theatre companies.

David has been living in Bangkok since 2001 and has become one of the foremost experts on Bangkok riverside history, culture and art.

David leads Bangkok River Partners, a business collaborative formed to promote the Chao Phraya River for leisure and tourism. David is also a co-founder of Creative District Foundation, a non-profit catalyst for property preservation, creative livelihoods and environmental improvement in the riverside districts of Bang Rak and Klongsan.

Guests who accompany David can expect to learn about Bangkok's creative scene ranging from gallery visits, artist introductions, eclectic cafes, European heritage building history, and more.



WANRADA (KAM) VANNASIT

THAILAND SHOPPING CONCIERGE

Kam is a Bangkok resident with a degree in English Language and Archaeology. As a part time interior decorator and designer, she has a keen eye for art, antiques, textiles, housewares and designer amenities.

A Bangkok resident who has lived across Thailand and abroad, Kam loves meeting new people and exploring the hidden gems of her favourite cities with them, be it museums, art galleries, furniture or antique shops.

A self-described “serial renovator”, Kam takes on freelance projects ranging from decorating, office design, personal shopping and consulting on areas from bespoke furnishings, uniquely designed home amenities, jewelry and clothes from top Thai and regional brands and private collections.

With Kam, guests can expect a personalized shopping experience. Acting as your private concierge, Kam will match the client's shopping requests, selecting top boutiques and shops for the ultimate shopping experience.

WHY WE LOVE KAM: Kam's sense of detail was honed over 14 years in the airline industry flying around the globe, shopping markets and curio boutiques in Europe, the USA, Japan, and of course, her home country, Thailand.



ABOUT OUR SMILING ALBINO EXPERT HOSTS

Welcoming guests from all over the world is the complete opposite of a one-man show.

Over the years, Smiling Albino has built up a superb list of friends who sometimes work with us, specialists in a wide variety of areas that add depth and color to any trip they're a part of.

Just as no two trips are the same, no two hosts are the same either, and depending on the particular theme of a trip or interest of our guests, we can tailor the hosting experience to add a particular twist to your adventure.

These are just a small selection of the expert hosts Smiling Albino uses to liven up a dinner, join on a day-trip, or give a custom-tailored presentation on their area of expertise.

Looking for an expert on a particular topic? Our wide network of connections around the region includes seasoned masters in a variety of fields.



START PLANNING

AT SMILING ALBINO WE DON'T JUST CONNECT
THE DOTS, WE CREATE THEM, AND DELIVER
UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS.

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