



# OUTDOOR EDUCATION IN ASIA

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Real challenge and skills development in a safe,  
secure and enabling environment

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“The maritime environment is a challenging arena in which new skills are learned, new relationships are built, and both success and failure are experienced in a supportive environment. Experience of watersports and the marine environment provides a positive impact on young people.”

The Andrew Simpson Foundation

### Message from Mike, our Principal



“Over the course of my sailing and watersports career I have found the above statement to be true, both as a participant and instructor. Watersports brings out the best in people, giving them a real challenging activity that makes them work as a team towards a common goal.

In the early years of my teaching career, after I had completed my RYA Yachtmaster Instructor course, I was fortunate enough to become one of the Inner London Education Authority's (ILEA) watersports professional development coordinators. I now write course handbooks for ISSA which are available to schools.

Since starting my own company, Sail in Asia, over 23 years ago in Thailand, I have always wanted to help schools within South East Asia introduce their students to sailing and other watersports; not only as a great way to help the students develop the soft skills necessary to be successful in their future lives but also to allow them the opportunity to experience an activity that will give them a lifetime of joy, reward and challenge!

I have now established a number of bases in Thailand that will provide your students with authentic learning and development opportunities. From the mangroves of Krabi to the islands around Phuket there are always amazing places to visit, that can only be reached by boat. At Outdoor Education in Asia we aim to have your students, in sole charge of the boats by the end of their time with us (all whilst under my supervision from a safety boat, of course!)

My team has a number of highly qualified and experienced **teachers on staff** who will help you take care of both the big picture and the smallest of details (and everything else in between) to ensure that working with SIA is the easy and hassle-free choice when it comes to organising challenging and memorable school expeditions.

As educational visits experts we understand the importance of pre-visits for the trip leaders to enable you to familiarise yourselves with the locations, to gain some skills prior to your students' arrival and to identify the intended outcomes and activities in partnership with us. Please check out our Pre-Visit program that we offer in the following pages. Hope to see you soon.

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“Adventure should be 80 percent 'I think this is manageable,' but it's good to have that last 20 percent where you're right outside your comfort zone. Still safe, but outside your comfort zone.”

Bear Grylls



## Location: Krabi Province

Our Krabi base offers the perfect entry point for schools looking to help their students develop watersports skills. Arrival at the site is by longtail boat, a typically Thai way to travel on water. Located at Krabi Boat Lagoon this site offers quick and easy access to the Krabi River, which provides perfect conditions for novice sailors.

For those wishing to further develop their skills the coastal waters and islands around Krabi and Ao Nang are simple day trips, which allows your students to take part in the preparation and planning for simple day passages.

The facilities at Krabi Boat Lagoon mean that your students have a quiet environment in which to recharge after a full day of activities.



### Highlights

- Keelboat training
- Krabi River Adventurous Voyage
- Dragonboat cruises
- Canoeing sessions
- Camping accommodation

## Krabi River Adventurous Voyage

This expedition makes the most of Krabi; after three days of training, the first day involves sailing along the Krabi River with stops at Krabi town and an overnight stay at a local campsite. The following day is a trip for lunch at the renowned Chicken Island and then back to the base at Krabi Boat Lagoon. From here the expedition is fully adaptable based on the aims and objectives of your trip. For more details, please check our website at:

[adventureactivityasia.com/education-courses/adventurous-journey-krabi-river/](http://adventureactivityasia.com/education-courses/adventurous-journey-krabi-river/)



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## SIA Base Locations: Ao Yon Bay, Ko Lon, Coco Pier Phuket

Our Phuket base is on a secluded beach in the South East of the island that provides both calm waters and easy access to a range of stunning locations. Within a sheltered bay your students will have an easy introduction to all types of sail training and watersports as chosen by you. Your students will be able to gain internationally recognised sailing certifications during their stay with us so that they can continue their development as sailors upon their return home.

We have developed a menu of additional activities in Phuket for your students to do whilst not on the water so that they can also experience aspects of Thai culture and all that Phuket has to offer. Please visit our website to see the diverse choices available: [adventureactivityasia.com/additional-activities/](http://adventureactivityasia.com/additional-activities/)

### Highlights

- Keelboat training
- Island Adventurous Voyages
- Circumnavigation cruises
- Canoeing sessions
- Camping / Chalet accommodation



### Phuket Island Adventurous Voyages

The islands around Phuket offer a superb environment in which your students can both experience challenge and develop their skills. From Phuket we offer three different expeditions catering for a range of abilities and objectives; from the simple 2-4 day Ko Yao Yai expedition to the more challenging 4-6 day Phang Nga Bay circumnavigation, Outdoor Education in Asia can help you design an expedition that will give your students an experience to cherish. Please see for more details: [adventureactivityasia.com/adventurous\\_voyages/](http://adventureactivityasia.com/adventurous_voyages/)



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Research has repeatedly shown that sailing takes people from thinking, 'what's in it for me?' and makes them think, 'what's in it for us?' Further, you move from 'how can I do that' to 'how can we do that?' In doing so it ingrains the idea of collectivism, both in responsibility and operation.



#### **SAILING CERTIFICATIONS**

As part of the Sail in Asia family, all of our expeditions can be designed so that students work towards an internationally recognised sailing certification ISSA. This not only helps all of your students' achievements be recognised but also starts them on a lifelong journey towards skippering their own yacht. Students may participate in ISSA Yacht Crew Certification too.



#### **ADVENTUROUS VOYAGES**

This collaborative process involves your students participating in the decision making for every day of their voyage. Students are supported to anticipate and consider the challenges of weather, tides, navigation, risks, constraints and they may meet. This



#### **IB: CREATIVITY / ACTIVITY / SERVICE**

The combination of Sailing and Coastal Ecology gives us a dynamic platform to engage youth through 'Creativity, Activity and Service'. These expeditions and adventures are designed to guide participants beyond the comfort zone and venture into the 'learning zone'.



#### **INTERNATIONAL AWARDS (DoE/Int. Award)**

Our Adventurous Voyages perfectly meet the requirements of the DoE or International Award; we are able to support both the practice and qualifying journeys. We are able to provide support for all levels of the award, from Bronze to Gold and at all stages of the journey, from pre-planning to conclusion.



#### **MEMORABLE LOCATIONS**

With Outdoor Education in Asia you will be taken to places that few visitors are lucky enough to see. Mike's in-depth knowledge of the coastal waters and waterways enables him to identify the best locations that meet your objectives. Not only will your students learn but will also return home with lifelong memories.

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## Trip Administration

Sail In Asia provides detailed risk assessment documents for all activities along with personalized correspondence prior to, during and after the trip – along with group schedules, briefings and packing lists.



### **TEACHER AND LEADER PRE VISITS**

We encourage trip leaders to make a pre-visit to familiarise themselves with both the activities and the environment. This approach allows teachers to have a 2-day taster session at our watersports centre prior to visiting with their students. It enables us to co-create the details and program design. For more details visit: [adventureactivityasia.com/professional-development/](http://adventureactivityasia.com/professional-development/)



### **HEALTH & SAFETY**

Outdoor Education in Asia understands that ensuring safety is a key aspect to planning school trips and we take this responsibility extremely seriously. We maintain appropriate instructor to learner ratios and all of our staff are safety trained. We believe that each participant has a right to be protected from unnecessary risks and but we also train them to exercise their responsibilities appropriately to help manage any risks.



### **STAFF**

The SIA watersports team are highly qualified IYT / RYA instructors. Their diverse backgrounds, highly professional attitude and passion for the outdoors make them ideal role models. The strength of our team is rooted in their friendly, energetic and enthusiastic personalities. This ensures a successful program and learning medium for your outdoor education trip.

## Activity Options

- ISSA dinghy sailing certifications (level 1- 4)
- Dragon boating
- Multi-day voyages
- Canoeing and Kayaking
- Introduction to SCUBA
- SUP activities
- ISSA keelboat certifications (up to Offshore skipper)
- Camping
- Team building
- Night Safaris
- Snorkelling
- Dragonboating

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## Outdoor Education in Asia's guarantee

### **1) A strict focus on your students' development.**

Sailing and watersports are increasingly acknowledged as one of the most effective and efficient ways to support personal, social and emotional development with a particular focus on key life skills; all of these skills are vital for future life (and leaders). Our instructors are trained to help students identify their own goals to bring about 'success moments' and develop skills-based confidence.

### **2) Real challenge in a safe, supportive and enabling environment.**

Given the range of roles on our yachts we are able to individualise each day to enable all crew to consolidate and extend the skills they learnt on previous days. We debrief at the end of each day with trip leaders to identify the development priorities for the next day; we maintain ongoing dialogue with all participants throughout your stay with us to ensure that all get the most out of their visit

### **3) Stress-free planning and implementation.**

We will use our local knowledge and networks to enable your students to have unique experiences. Outdoor Education in Asia's experienced team understand the processes and procedures required to lead successful and effective expeditions. Our aim is to ensure that all participants leave with memorable experiences and wanting to return.

'Outdoor activities both at school and on residential courses enable pupils to enjoy challenging and unfamiliar experiences that test and develop their physical, social and personal skills. They can be among the most memorable experiences for pupils of their school-days.'

Outdoor Education, Aspects of Good Practice report (Ofsted, 2004)

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