Guide to the Bangkok Skytrain

Using trains to get around in congested Bangkok

The Bangkok Skytrain (BTS and MRT Rail Lines) makes Bangkok travel so much easier. Getting around Bangkok can be an absolute pain, especially at peak hours when the roads are gridlocked and almost nothing moves … except the Bangkok sky train!

If you are staying around the city centre or Chao Phraya River area of Bangkok, there is no better way to get around Bangkok than on the Bangkok Skytrain network – the BTS and MRT lines which form part of the Bangkok Mass Transit System. It’s cheap, convenient, goes almost everywhere a visitor would want to go, and it’s very reliable. However you do need to have a good idea of where each of the main lines goes, or you can end up somewhere you didn’t expect.

- **Silm Line** (BTS Skytrain, Station Code “S”, dark green on map below) – runs from Wongwian Yai (S8), west of the Chao Phraya River, across the Saphan Taksin Bridge, then curves up through Chinatown and Little India into the central downtown area, ending up at National Stadium (S1), connecting with the MRT Line at Sala Daeng (S2) and the Sukhumvit BTS line at Siam (C).

- **Sukhumvit Line** (BTS Skytrain, Station Code “E”, light green on map below) – runs from On Nut (E9) in the south-east of Bangkok, up along Sukhumvit Road for most of its length, then swings west to meet the Silom Line at Siam Station (C) before swinging north through the business district to Mo Chit and the Chatuchak weekend market.

- **MRT Line** – runs from the inter-city Hualamphong railway station, east to Lumphini and the Suan Lum Night Bazaar, then swings north at the Convention Centre and runs all the way to Bang Sue (near Chatuchak Weekend Market), connecting to Silom Line at Silom Station and to the Sukhumvit Line at Sukhumvit Station.

- **Airport Rail Link** – A relatively new rail service starting at Phaya Thai BTS station and going all the way to Suvarnabhumi Airport, connecting also to the MRT Line at Makkasan station where an express service is available to the airport.

Check out our Map of attractions close to the Bangkok BTS Skytrain for information about where to stay, where to shop and what do do around the Bangkok Skytrain network!

Did you know you can now find the cheapest flights to Bangkok on TripAdvisor?
BTS Skytrain map

Navigating the Bangkok Skytrain and connecting MRT Line and Airport Rail Link connection is very easy. The Bangkok BTS Skytrain map below shows all the stations in the network with the locations of connections between each of the lines. Check out the station information Google map at the bottom of this page for details about each station. Also check out our Shopping trips from the BTS Skytrain page, which details the best places to get off the Bangkok Skytrain for bargain and fashion shopping in Bangkok. One of the best is, of course, the Siam Paragon near Siam Station on the Silom Line!

All of the Bangkok Skytrain stations are numbered for your convenience and ease of travel. Stations S1 to S8 (going outward from Siam Central Station across the Chao Phraya River) are Silom Line stations. Stations E1 to E14 (also going outward from Siam Central) are Sukhumvit Line stations.
The BTS Skytrain also has great connections to the Chao Phraya River Express Boat which is a fast way to go generally north and south through Bangkok, as well as a great way to see and get to some of the major tourist attractions like the Grand Palace and the major temples. It’s also a useful connection between the main backpacker accommodation around Khao San Road district and the BTS Skytrain station on the Chao Phraya River at Saphan Taksin (S6). See the BTS Skytrain Connections Map below for details.
Combined Bangkok Skytrain, MRTLine and Chao Phraya Express route map
How to buy Bangkok BTS Skytrain and MRT Line tickets

For the BTS Skytrain, you need to buy tickets from automatic vending machines inside the stations (see map above), so it helps to know where you are going and also to have a good supply of 5B and 10B coins. But if you are stuck either for a destination or the right change, there are usually some helpful station staff nearby. They are used to dealing with foreign travellers and are fairly patient.

The most expensive ticket on the BTS Skytrain lines (Wongwian Yai to Bearing) will cost you 40 Bt (about US$1.30), so it’s very cheap to use. Each ticket machine has a map of the metro system so you can check your destination before committing to a ticket. Stored value cards are also available, but generally only used by daily commuters – check the brochures in any station.

The MRT (or Metro) is a little different and mainly used by locals. There is only one line and the tickets are different to the Skytrain. You cannot ride the MRT Line on your Bangkok BTS Skytrain ticket. You buy a plastic token for each ride and you wave it at the gate when you get on, then deposit it into the gate as you get off.

Check out the combined Bangkok BTS, MRT and Chao Phraya River Express transport map (above) for connections between the three major services (courtesy Transit Bangkok).

Also see our new page about Shopping trips from the BTS Skytrain, to find out where to get off the BTS Skytrain for each of the major shopping destinations in Bangkok, including walking directions and descriptions of each shopping destination.
Map of attractions near BTS Skytrain and MRT Line stations

The Bangkok Skytrain (BTS and MRT Lines) is the cheapest, fastest and easiest way to see Bangkok’s major attractions and hotels.

This handy map of attractions near the Bangkok Skytrain is a guide you can print out and take on your Thailand holiday. There are lots of the best Bangkok hotels, tourist attractions and department stores within a short walk or tuk-tuk ride of each Bangkok Skytrain station. These printable maps include markers for all of the major attractions nearby including hotels, apartment buildings, department stores, shopping centres and tourist attractions.

BTS Skytrain map of inner Bangkok stations

- **National Stadium BTS station (W1)** - Pathum Wan and MBK Centre
- **Siam Central BTS station (C)** - Siam Square and Siam Paragon
- **Saphan Taksin BTS station (S6)** - Chao Phraya River
- **Surasak BTS station (S5)** - Sathorn Road and commercial district
- **Chong Nonsi BTS station (S3)** - Silom Road and commercial district
- **Sala Daeng BTS station (S2)** - Rama IV Road and restaurants
- **Ratchadamri BTS station (S1)** - Ratchadamri Road and Rama I Road
- **Ratchathewi BTS station (N1)** - Phaya Thai Road and Phetchaburi Road
- **Chit Lom BTS station (E1)** - Ploenchit Road and Ratchadamri Road
- **Phloen Chit BTS station (E2)** - Central Department Store and Amarin Plaza
- **Nana BTS station (E3)** - Sukhumvit Road and Sukhumvit Street Market
- **Asok BTS station (E4)** - Times Square Department Store and night clubs
- **Phrom Phong BTS station (E5)** - Emporium Department Store and Benjasiri Park
- **Thong Lo BTS station (E6)** - Sukhumvit restaurants and bars
Silom Line stations

Let’s start with a look at what’s accessible from the Silom Line, which runs from National Stadium to Wongwian Yai station, via Siam Central.

Hotels and attractions near National Stadium BTS Station (W1)

Take a moment when you walk out of National Stadium BTS Skytrain station to watch the amazing traffic flows through the Pathum Wan intersection, one of Bangkok’s busiest. When the lights go red, watch the scooters progressively fill the front of the intersection, coming down both sides of the cars and even filling both sides of the road sometimes, all trying to get to the front. From here you can shop at major department stores including the MBK Centre (250 metres away) and the Tokyu Department Store, visit the famous Jim Thompson’s House on Soi Kasemsan 2 (which also has a creditable cafe), browse the Bangkok Art and Cultural Museum and the Chulalongkorn Art Centre.

Hotels near National Stadium BTS Station include:

- **Holiday Inn Express Bangkok Siam** (4-stars – 100m)
- **Siam@Siam, Design Hotel & Spa** (4-stars – 200m)
- **The LIT Bangkok Hotel** (4-stars – 200m)
- **Hua Chang Heritage Hotel** (5-stars – 300m)
- **Vista Residence Bangkok** (3-stars – 300m)

See all hotels near National Stadium BTS Station.
Hotels and attractions near Siam Central BTS Station (C)

Located in the centre of downtown Bangkok, Siam BTS Skytrain station is the interchange between the two main BTS Skytrain lines, Silom Line and Sukhumvit Line. It’s a great place to jump off for some lunch or dinner, to do some bargain shopping at local markets and department stores, or to let the kids run wild in some of the best children’s attractions in Bangkok.

For connections to the BTS Sukhumvit line, take the skywalk across to Chit Lom Station.

From Siam station you can go shopping at Siam Square (see above), the Siam Paragon (see above) or the Siam Discovery Centre. You can also enjoy a wide variety of dining experiences including the Chabuton Ramen, which features a famous Thai TV chef, a fantastic Thai salad at Siam Boat Noodles, a blast of Tex Mex and Rock ‘n’ Roll from the Hard Rock Cafe, or clean out your sensory systems with a fiery Som Tam from Som Tam Nua. After lunch, you can entertain the kids wildest dreams and get up close and personal with celebrities at Madam Tussaud’s Wax Museum, explore the amazing aquaculture of the Siam Ocean World aquarium, grab a game of 10 pin bowling with a difference at Blu-O Rythm and Bowl Bar, go ice skating at The Rink in Central World Shopping Centre (see above), or just grab a movie at the Paragon Cinema Complex.

Hotels near Siam Central BTS Station include:

- **Novotel Bangkok on Siam Square** (4 stars – 200m)
- **Kempinski Residences Siam** (5 stars – 300m)
- **Hua Chang Heritage Hotel** (5 stars – 500m)
- **Pathumwan Princess Hotel** (5 stars, 500m)

See all hotels near Siam Central BTS station.
Hotels and attractions near Saphan Taksin BTS Station (S6)

Located on the Chao Phraya River, Saphan Taksin BTS Skytrain station has connections to the Chao Phraya River Express boats at the Sathon Central Pier, providing easy access to river cruises, the Grand Palace, Wat Arun, Wat Pho and Sanam Luang. Saphan Taksin is close to the main Bangkok Post Office and the River City shopping center as well as the Robinson Department Store at Bangrak, Wat Yannawa and the Bangrak Market.

Hotels near Saphan Taksin BTS station include:

- [Centre Point Silom](#) (4 stars – 200m)
- [Shangri-La Hotel Bangkok](#) (5 stars – 300m)
- [Tower Club At Lebua](#) (5 stars – 500m)
- [Lebua at State Tower](#) (5 stars – 500m)
- [Mandarin Oriental Bangkok](#) (5 stars – 290 metres)
Surasak BTS Skytrain station is located on Sathorn Road, in the commercial district of Bangkok.

Hotels near Surasak BTS station include:

- **Holiday Inn Silom** (4 stars – 280 metres)
- **King Royal Garden Inn Hotel** (3 stars – 100 metres)
- **Easin Grand Hotel Sathorn** (5 stars – 200 metres)
- **Baan Pra Nond Bed & Breakfast** (3.5 stars – 150 metres)
- **Novotel Bangkok Fenix Silom Hotel** (4 stars – 300 metres)
- **Tower Club at Lebua Hotel** (5 stars – 300 metres)
Hotels and attractions near Chong Nonsi BTS (S3)

Chong Nonsi BTS Skytrain station is located on a side road between Silom Road and Sathorn Road, in the commercial district of Bangkok. Attractions nearby include the diplomatic quarter which has nothing to do, but is very pleasant to stroll through and peek over the high fences to see how the other half lives.

Nearby 4-star and 5-star hotels include:

- **I Residence Hotel Silom** (4 stars – 30 metres)
- **The Heritage Bangkok** (4 stars – 30 metres)
- **Glow Trinity Silom** (4 stars – 90 metres)
- **Sabai Sathorn Service Apartment** (4 stars – 120 metres)
- **FuramaXclusive Sathorn** (4 stars – 160 metres)

See more hotels near Chong Nonsi BTS Station.
Hotels and attractions near Sala Daeng BTS Station (S2)

Sala Daeng BTS Skytrain station is the main stop on the Silom Line and is located near the intersection of Silom Road and Rama IV Road in Silom district. Nearby restaurants include the Tomato Noodle, the Taiyo Japanese Restaurant, Nooddi, Gyunoya, Japanese Curry Shop and Richard’s Pub and Restaurant. If you’re up for some night life after dinner, try Club Kagura, GOD Disco or Pieru.

Hotels near Sala Daeng BTS station include:

- **D Varee Diva Bally Silom** (3 stars, right outside station)
- **Crowne Plaza Bangkok Lumpini Park** (5 stars – 80 metres)
- **Dusit Thani Bangkok** (5 stars – 100 metres)
- **Saladaeng Colonnade Serviced Apartment** (4 stars – 190 metres)
- **The Inn Saladaeng** (3 stars – 300 metres)

See more hotels near Sala Daeng BTS Station.
Hotels and attractions near Ratchadamri BTS Station (S1)

Ratchadamri BTS Skytrain station is located close to the intersection of Ratchadamri Road and Rama I Road in Ratchapradong. Attractions near Ratchadamri include the Royal Bangkok Sports Club.

Hotels near Ratchadamri BTS station

Nearby 4-star and 5-star hotels include:

- **Anantara Siam Hotel** (5 stars – 70 metres)
- **Anantara Baan Rajprasong Serviced Apartment** (5 stars – 100 metres)
- **Grande Centre Point Ratchadamri Hotel** (5 stars – 150 metres)
- **Courtyard By Marriott Hotel Bangkok** (4.5 stars – 190 metres)
- **Grand Hyatt Erawan Hotel** (5 stars – 240 metres)
- **Renaissance Bangkok Hotel Ratchaprasong** (5 stars – 250 metres)
- **Mayfair Bangkok Marriott Executive Apartments** (5 stars – 250 metres)

There’s very little good food or nightlife here outside of the major hotels.
Sukumvhit Line stations

Hotels and attractions near Ari BTS Station (N5)

Ari BTS Skytrain station is located on Phahonyothin Road in Sam Sen Nai. Nearby department stores and shopping centres include the La Villa mall and the Phranakorn Coop Store (which also has a good food hall). But there is pretty good coffee and food available at Wawee Coffee, a short walk from Ari station.

Hotels near Ari BTS station

Nearby 4-star and 5-star hotels include:

- Baan Nueng Serviced Apartments (4 stars – 320 metres)

If you really want to stay close to Ari station, there’s also the Piyavan Tower Serviced Apartment (3 stars – 40 metres) and Chew House (2 stars – 100 metres).
Hotels and attractions near Ratchathewi BTS Station (N1)

Ratchathewi BTS Skytrain station is located on Phaya Thai Road near the Phetchaburi Road intersection. There is an interesting bar called Co-Co Walk nearby as well as the Cafe Net New New which has Internet access and the Heap Restaurant. The only nearby department store is the Hollywood Street Mall.

Hotels near Ratchathewi BTS station

Nearby 4-star and 5-star hotels include:

- [Asia Hotel Bangkok](#) (4 stars - 160 metres)
- [Evergreen Place Bangkok](#) (4 stars - 210 metres)
- [VIE Hotel Bangkok](#) (5 stars - 210 metres)
- [Metro Resort Pratunam](#) (4 stars - 250 metres)

If you really want to stay close to Ratchathewi station, try the [Siam Swana Hotel](#) (3.5 stars - 150 metres) or the [Samran Place Hotel](#) (2.5 stars - 190 metres).
Hotels and attractions near Chit Lom BTS Station (E1)

Chit Lom BTS Skytrain station is located on Ploenchit Road near Ratchadamri Road.

Nearby 4-star and 5-star hotels include:

- [Holiday Inn Bangkok Hotel](#) (4 stars - 100 metres)
- [InterContinental Bangkok Hotel](#) (5 stars - 130 metres)
- [Renaissance Bangkok Hotel Ratchaprasong](#) (5 stars - 150 metres)
- [Grand Hyatt Erawan Hotel](#) (5 stars - 180 metres)
- [Bliston Suwan Parkview Hotel](#) (4 stars - 190 metres)
Phloen Chit BTS Skytrain station is located on Ploenchit Road near Wireless (Withayu) Road. Nearby shopping centres include the Central Department Store Chidlom and the Amarin Plaza.

Nearby 4-star and 5-star hotels include:

- **Sivatel Bangkok Hotel** (5 stars - 70 metres)
- **Novotel Bangkok Fenix Ploenchit Hotel** (4 stars - 130 metres)
- **Okura Prestige Bangkok Hotel** (5 stars - 150 metres)
- **FuramaXclusive Sukhumvit Hotel** (4 stars - 170 metres)
- **Skyy Hotel** (4 stars - 180 metres)
- **Best Western Premier Sukhumvit** (5 stars - 190 metres)
Hotels and attractions near Nana BTS Station (E3)

Nana BTS Skytrain station is located near Sukhumvit Sois 5, 6 and 7 and very close to the Sukhumvit street market.

Nearby 4-star and 5-star hotels include:

- **Ambassador Hotel Bangkok** (4 stars - 100 metres)
- **Adelphi Suites Hotel** (4 stars - 110 metres)
- **The Landmark Hotel Bangkok** (5 stars - 110 metres)
- **Grand Sukhumvit Hotel Bangkok** (4 stars - 120 metres)
- **Phachara Suites Sukhumvit** (4.5 stars - 130 metres)
- **Amari Boulevard Bangkok Hotel** (4 stars - 130 metres)
Asok (or Asoke) BTS station is located near Sukhumvit Sois 14, 16, 19 and 21 and close to the Times Square department store. The only other shopping to be had near Asok is at the Sukhumvit Arcade. There is some nightlife in the area including the Eden Club, the Siam Smile Bar, the Eight Plus Bar and the New Wave Bar. There’s decent food to be had at the Zanzibar Bar and Restaurant, India Today, Shalimar Sharma’s Indian Restaurant, the Moghul Room Indian Restaurant and, if you’re really desperate, there’s a Subway just outside the station.

Nearby 4-star and 5-star hotels include:

- [Grande Centre Point Sukhumvit - Terminal 21](#) (5 stars - 100 metres)
- [Park Plaza Sukhumvit Bangkok](#) (4 stars - 150 metres)
- [SilQ Bangkok Hotel](#) (4 stars - 150 metres)
- [Grand Millennium Sukhumvit Hotel](#) (5 stars - 190 metres)
Hotels and attractions near Phrom Phong BTS Station (E5)

Phrom Phong BTS station is located near Sukhumvit Sois 22, 24, 31 and 33, close to the The Emporium department store and Benjasiri Park. Terminal Plaza Shopping Centre and NaRaYa Store are also nearby.

Nearby hotels include:

- [Emporium Suites Hotel](#), connected to the station,
- [St James Hotel](#), about 7 minutes walk,
- [Ariston Hotel](#) and [Novotel Lotus Hotel](#), each about 9 minutes walk.

There's also the cheaper BKK Home 24 Hotel. Plenty of good food to be had around here including the Great Shanghai Chinese restaurant, the Sanya Restaurant, Sunstaina Restaurant, Samurai Japanese restaurant, and Dondon. If you're heading out for some nightlife after dinner, there's the Haruka Japanese Club and the E Ri Ka Club close by.
Hotels and attractions near Thong Lo BTS Station (E6)

Thong Lo BTS station is location near Sukhumvit Sois 36, 51 and 55, with the free BTS shuttle bus taking you to nearby restaurants and bars. This area of Sukhumvit is very popular with Japanese and Korean expats and travellers.

Nearby hotels include:

- **Sawasdee Sukhumvit Inn**, about 6 minutes walk,
- **Baan Thai Wellness Retreat**, about 8 minutes walk.

If you need to send some postcards, Santi Suk Post Office is just outside the station. There are some decent eateries around here including @Thonglor by JJ Kitchen, Izakaya Chotto, 38 Shokudo, Dawon Korean Restaurant and Gyuma Japanese BBQ Buffet.