



Ko Chang

Hailed as one of the biggest islands in Thailand, Ko Chang rests 330 kilometers southeast of Bangkok in Trat Province near the Cambodian border. The name Ko Chang translates to Elephant Island, possibly because of the outline of the island itself. Although elephants can be found on Ko Chang, they are not native to the island archipelago which consists of 52 islands.

It takes about 5 – 6 hours by bus, plus a 20-minute ferry to reach the island from the capital of Thailand. Although the island is relatively large, 430 square kilometers, there is no airport. It is possible to fly from Bangkok to Trat Province and catch a bus, plus a ferry to the island in around 2 hours.

The ferry from the mainland arrives on the north of the island where pick-up truck taxis or motorcycle rentals wait to take travelers and locals south along the western coast. The east coast of the island is largely undeveloped, with quiet villages and a few resorts. The most well-known beaches are White Sand Beach and Lonely Beach both located on the western coast of the island. White Sand is the most developed, with shops, restaurants and hotels lining the beach. Lonely Beach is actually not very lonely, home to the most lively bars and restaurants on the island. It might be hard to have a peaceful night's sleep at this beach. There are a few smaller beaches on the island as well, some with and without sand. Accommodation on the island ranges from a simple tent rental all the way up to 5-star resorts. Mid-range options include reasonably priced private bungalows.

The majority of the interior of the island is actually part of the Mu Ko Chang National Park, boasting jungles, rainforests, waterfalls, and small mountain peaks. This is a great place to see wildlife and do some hiking. A great variety of marine life can also be found off the smaller islands, south of Ko Chang. A ferry terminal on the south side of the island makes runs to these smaller islands, including Koh Mak and Koh Kood.

Ko Chang offers great hiking, kayaking, snorkeling, chartered sail boat rides, Thai massage classes and Thai cooking classes. The diving in the area is suitable for beginners and advanced scuba practitioners. There is even a shipwreck off the coast of the south of the island divers can enjoy. Come and enjoy Elephant Island.

Sources:

www.lonelyplanet.com

www.travelfish.org

Vocab Match

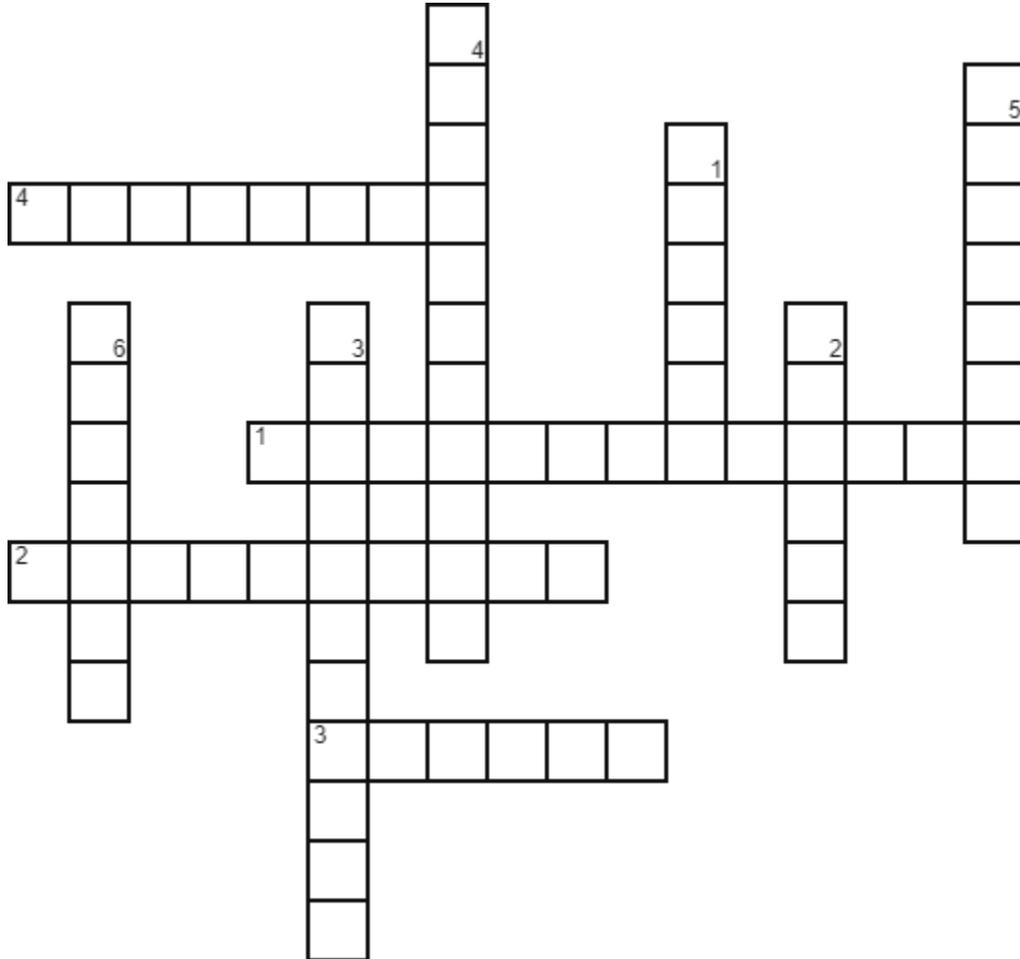
Name: _____

Word	Answer	Definition
1. Hailed	1. ____	a. noun - a large group or chain of islands
2. Native	2. ____	b. adj - good match
3. Archipelago	3. ____	c. adj - few shops and/or buildings
4. Relatively	4. ____	d. verb - known and respected
5. Undeveloped	5. ____	e. verb – proud to have
6. Lively	6. ____	f. adj – exciting, eventful, active
7. Accommodation	7. ____	g. adj - comes from
8. Boasting	8. ____	h. noun – place to stay; hotel or guesthouse
9. Variety	9. ____	i. adverb – compared to others
10. Suitable	10. ____	j. noun - many different types

Discussion Topics

1. Where do you like to travel? Beaches or mountains?
2. Have you ever been to Thailand or Southeast Asia?
3. When traveling, do you like to stay in resorts or small guest houses?
4. Where's your favorite travel destination?
5. Have you ever gone scuba diving or jungle trekking?

Ko Chang



Across	Down
1. noun – place to stay; hotel or guesthouse 2. adverb – compared to others 3. adj – good match 4. adj – exciting, eventful, active	1. verb - known and respected 2. adj - comes from 3. noun - a large group or chain of islands 4. adj – few shops and/or buildings 5. verb – proud to have 6. noun - many different types

Quiz

1) Where is Ko Chang?

a. Laos b. America c. Cambodia d. Thailand

2) What does Ko Chang mean in English?

a. Turtle Bay b. Tiger Style c. Trat Province d. Elephant Island

3) Is there an airport on the island of Ko Chang?

a. yes b. no

4) When traveling by plane, how long does it take to get from Bangkok to Trat?

a. 2 hours b. 4 hours c. 3 hours d. 1 hour

5) Where does the ferry from the mainland arrive?

a. The west side of the island b. The south side of the island c. The east side of the island d. The north side of the island

6) Which side of the island is undeveloped?

a. south b. east c. north d. west

7) Which are the two most well-known beaches?

a. White Sand Beach and Lonely Beach b. White Neck Beach and Cleanly Beach c. Lovely Beach and Sandy Beach d. Lone Beach and Whistle Beach

8) Where is a good place to do some hiking?

a. the ocean b. the national park c. the marine habitat d. the beach

9) How do you get to the smaller islands, like Koh Mak and Koh Kood?

a. take a ferry b. walk c. swim d. run

10) What kinds of Thai classes can you take on Ko Chang?

a. shipwrecking and baking b. cooking and massage c. kayaking and snorkeling d. cooking and cleaning

Key

Crossword	
Across	Down
1. accommodation 2. relatively 3. lively 4. suitable	1. hailed 2. native 3. archipelago 4. undeveloped 5. boasting 6. variety

Matching	Quiz
1. d	1. d
2. g	2. c
3. a	3. b
4. i	4. a
5. c	5. d
6. f	6. b
7. h	7. a
8. e	8. b
9. j	9. a
10. b	10. b

PROJECT:

Students write a 5-day travel plan to the destination of their choice.