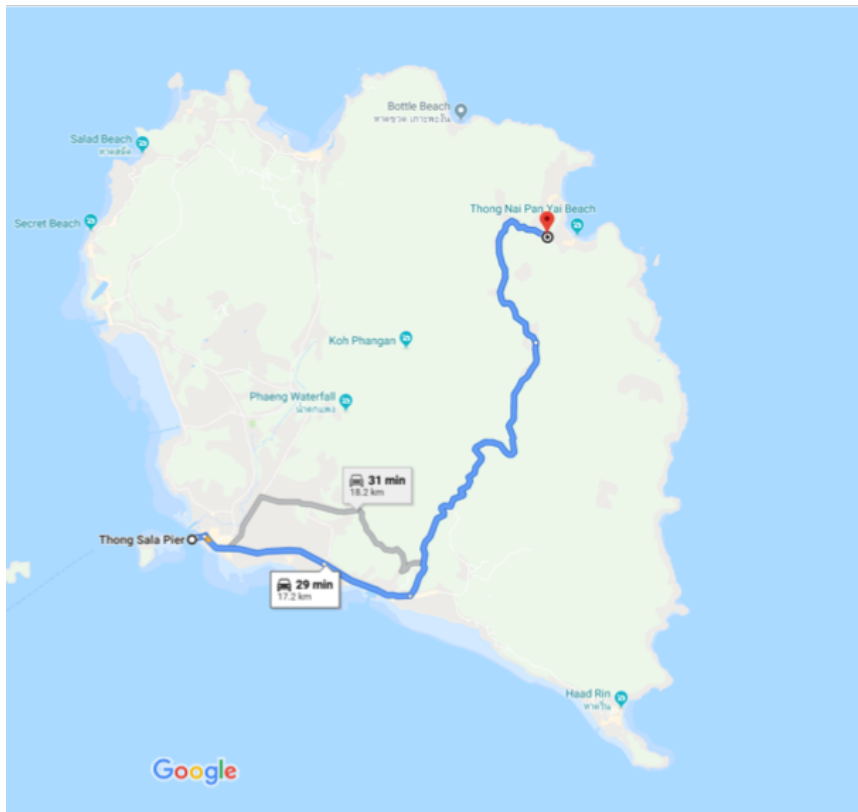


# AQUA Charters - Koh Phangan Base

AQUA Charters base on Koh Phangan is located in Tong Nai Pan bay on the north east side of the island. The charter base is just 30 minutes away from Ferry. Our base and car park location is :

**Pen Bungalow ,Thong Nai Pan Yai Beach,Baan Tai, Koh Phangan, Surat Thani 84280**  
**Tel. Base Manager +66 82 207 4588 MR. Denis Saltykov Tel . Coordintator +66 62 749 7675 Ms. Mai**



Map data ©2019 Google 2 km

We have our sailing yachts on mooring balls off the middle of the beach, at the end of the village road near Pen Bungalow Resort. We will meet you to load all your gear to a dinghy and assist you out to your yacht. If you have a large crew we can send them out to organize the yacht and the captain and one crew will stay onshore to conduct the Area Briefing and then take you out the mooring to brief you on your yacht.

Being we're not on a pier or in a marina, it can be little more difficult to organize so staying in touch with your arrival time is essential

## **Tong Nai Pan bay offers many services including:**

- Accommodation for all budgets
- Dining & Beach Bars
- Shopping: for apparel and souvenirs, but limited provisions
- Only 20-minutes to the big markets; Makro, Big C and Tesco

If you can, we recommend that you arrive a day or two before your sailing holiday commences and stay

on Koh Samui island. This will give you time to unwind from your travels and allows you to experience Koh Samui as your sailing yacht charter holiday will most likely be spent exploring the other islands to the north and AngThong National Park to the west. This also allows us to start the Area briefings a little early and get you on the water by 3pm.

There's something for everyone on Koh Samui from long sandy beaches, restaurants galore, Muay Thai Boxing, jungle hikes, luxurious spas, cheap parlor massages, street food, night markets and most areas have affordable accommodation, high end resorts or luxury villas.

All the areas of Koh Samui are a little different from the relaxed area of Lamai with an abundance of yoga studios, Chaweng beach with the party scene, little resorts of all standards tucked away in the hills to the northeast with sweeping views or private beaches and the north shore with the family friendly Bophut or Maenam beach. There are so many resorts on the island, there will be something to suit your fancy and your budget.

# How to get to the Charters Base on Koh Phangan

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## Flying to Samui

The safest and quickest way to get to the Island Spirit Base on Koh Samui is to fly to the Samui International Airport (USM).

This is an international airport with direct flight options from various Asian countries and good connections through Bangkok and Singapore. From the Samui airport, it's only a 30-minute ferry ride to the Koh Phangan. We can set up a taxi to be waiting for you on arrival or you can simply grab a taxi at the ferry.

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## The Ferry

If you coming from somewhere along the southern peninsula in Thailand like Phuket or Krabi you can fly to Koh Samui as above or travel overland to the Raja port in Donsak. [Click here for ferry schedules.](#)

When you arrive at Koh Phangan it is easiest to just grab a taxi outside the terminal and have them take you to our Charter Base. If you will be stopping on the way to provision, it's better if we book the transfer for you as we can guide the driver to the best market.

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## Flying to Surat Thani

There is also an airport in Surat Thani (URT) but this option will also require a taxi to the ferry, the ferry ride across to Koh Phangan and taxi to get to the Charter Base. You can get lots of information online and find a transfer from the Surat Thani airport all the way to the Base. Options are always changing with new ferry companies added and old ferries taken out of service. This option will take your whole day while it's a little cheaper.

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## On the Island

If you're on Koh Phangan before your Yacht Charter holiday you can either arrange a taxi through your accommodation or we can arrange one for you.

## Arrivals and Departures

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### Communication

It's important for our base team to know when you and your crew will be arriving so we can meet you on arrival 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 before and during your yacht charter so we can coordinate arrivals, send weather updates and answer any questions while you're on your sailing holiday.

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### Arriving

When you arrive at the base our crew will meet you to assist with your gear and loading of your yacht. If you have purchased provisions along the way, our crew will deliver everything to your yacht for you and help you get it aboard. If you have a large crew, your crew can get things put away while you and the Charter Coordinator deal with formalities. The refrigerator will be chilled and there will be drinking ice aboard when you arrive.

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### Briefing, formalities & Payments

The Charter Coordinator will conduct your area and yacht briefing; generally, this will take around 2 hours. 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 yacht charter. Note that AQUA Charters does not have a credit card facility at the base and can only accept cash payments. Briefings are required for all clients, this is to ensure your safety and to get you familiar with the area, systems and equipment.

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

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### Getting underway

To reach the first anchorage you will need at least two hours which means you really need to have completed everything dockside by 3:30pm to be able to leave and make it to anchor before sunset. Note that per the contract the yacht isn't guaranteed until 3pm.

However, it's best to meet prior to do the area briefing and get formalities out of the way to start the yacht briefing by 3pm. We will always accommodate an early departure if possible.

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## Staying at the base

If you are unable to conclude the dockside formalities in time to get underway, you can stay in the bay on a mooring ball and sleep aboard. AQUA Charters yachts are moored off the beach in Tong Nai Pan and you

have the option to take a room for the night if you prefer and depart the following day.

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## Returning and departure

When you return to the base at the end of your charter, take a mooring ball and the Charter Coordinator will meet you for the debriefing and collect for fuel, this generally takes a half hour or so. We will assist with your crew and gear to your taxi or stay a while and enjoy Tong Nai Pan beach for some shopping or lunch in one of the many restaurants.

# Provisioning for your Yacht Charter

*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 food is cheap in restaurants and you'll be surprised by the variety offered on the islands.*

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## 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.

- 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 or are far to get to. Get all the western delights you want at the beginning because you probably won't find them out there.
- 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....

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## 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.

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## 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 need and deliver them to the yacht for you. 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 isn't listed just note them on the last page and we will do our best to source those for you.

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## 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 is a range of shops on the island but the Makro is well stocked with western food and a good selection of fruits and veggies. There is also a Tesco/Lotus and a Big C with more bakery items and a larger selection of snacks.

You can use the provisioning form as a guide but there is much more available than is on the list.

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.

AQUA Charters will provide all yacht charters with 10kg 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 bags. Please don't bring sponges with scour pads as they scratch the drinking glasses. We will also provide a comprehensive First-Aid kit.

# 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.*

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## 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

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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. THESE WILL NOT BE ALLOWED ON BOAT**  
**Expensive accessories - once they fall overboard they're lost to the sea.**

# What's Included

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

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## 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)

- 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.

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## Above Deck

- Deck shower
- Rigid inflatable dinghy
- 2.5 HP 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

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## 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.

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## 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

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## Charts & Cruising Guides

All yachts are equipped with:

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

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## Consumables Kit

- Garbage bags
- Dish detergent

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/

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## 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.**

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## 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.

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## 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.

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## 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 offshore 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.

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## BBQ

Get 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!!

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## Snorkel equipment

Quality snorkel sets include mask, snorkel and adjustable fins and come in S/M or L/XL.

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## Fishing Gear

We're happy to send you out with a rod and reel, 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.

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## 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.

Of course, you can dive anywhere but we recommend h2o Divers on Koh Pha Ngan at Thong Yai Pan Noi to take you to Sail Rock which is a premier spot with big fish and clear water. Koh Tao is a major scuba diving destination and has clear water almost all the time with many dive operators to choose from.

# Koh Samui seasons, weather & timing

The sailing season in Koh Samui starts in mid-May when we relocate our fleet from Koh Chang. By this time the southwest monsoon winds have settled in to deliver exhilarating sailing conditions to the western side of the Gulf of Thailand. The yacht charter season ends early September, for soon the wet season will be in full swing.

While all other sailing destinations in Thailand are being battered by the southwest monsoon and remain untenable, Koh Samui is uniquely positioned to benefit with all anchorages on the eastern side of the islands and in the lee of the land.

The mountainous terrain of the Malay peninsular to the south of this island group exhausts the monsoon winds of their rains and leaves Koh Samui and its surrounding islands basking in sunshine with flat seas and a cool steady breeze.

Weather conditions remain nicely tropical with temperatures ranging from 30C in the daytime to 24C during the night. Wind can range from 10 to 25 knots and although conditions remain mainly dry, there is the chance of scattered squalls.

**All in all this is a great place to charter a yacht, with mildly challenging sailing conditions by day and beautiful tranquil anchorages by night.**