

Around The Traps

By TT Hun

Songkran has come and gone again for another year. It is a time you either love or hate, but if you've never seen it before, it is a highly recommended day out. After having successfully managed to avoid it for the past couple of years curiosity got the better of me this year and I managed to get down to a busy part of Patong to witness the goings on. One thing that hasn't changed, and probably become worse, is the amount of ice that goes into the water buckets. This was one of the things that made me rethink getting out for Songkran day. I'm not getting any younger and a surprise attack with ice cold water is not something the old ticker is going to accept forever. The main joy that always brings a smile to my face is when I see infant children coming out for their first Songkran. Usually these kids have dad or mum standing close by to make sure they are safe and the joy on their faces make any journey out on Songkran a real treat.

Overheard at a clothing market recently... Two Western ladies were doing a bit of holiday shopping when one took a pair of pants off the rack and checked it out for size. The ever attentive market vendor took one look at the lady and as diplomatically as she could said; "Sorry, your bum too big for that". Priceless!

Open - Close - Open - Close.. Erotica has closed their doors again and this time it looks like they won't re-open, for awhile at least, and maybe not in the same format. It seems Patong is not ready for the style of entertainment they put on there. Mind you, on a recent visit there (while it was open), the price of a Heineken had risen to 190 baht, enough to put anyone off for a second visit.

Lost or Stolen Phones

Lost your phone but still need your number?

- (A) Make a police report about the stolen or lost phone.
- (B) You can fax their Head Office with the details of the numbers and put a temporary hold on the SIM cards.

Take the police report to the office of whoever your carrier is AIS (Phuket City office only - 23-27 Chana Charoen Rd), DTAC (Phuket City office Mae Luan Rd) Tell them what happened and they will replace the SIM card with a new one. For pre-paid cards, take a copy of your passport also.

It will, however, set you back 300 Baht** (AIS), 220 Baht (DTAC). Damaged SIM card 100 baht replacement (AIS).



Above: Looks like someone was having a bad hair day when we saw this sign recently. Below: It's enough to put you off your food. We probably would have spelt the Thai word for crab as Puu.



Nanai Road in Patong is getting a lot more activity happening along it lately. Basically it is the residential area for Expats and people working in the service industries around Patong. But over the past year many new buildings have been completed and are now occupied with a variety of businesses. It has hit the point where many resident Expats don't even leave the area for a night out anymore because it is all at their doorstep and the prices are very reasonable compared to the tourist prices along Bangla and the beach road. Of course rental costs reflect in the pricing but with low season already here, Nanai Rd., should be quite buoyant through the next six months.

A couple of places to mention along this road;

The Sky Steakhouse has been getting a few wraps lately for their steak menu. We've had a few emails of late saying how good the menu is.

The Beach House packs them in each Sunday with roast beef or lamb at around 295 baht and on Wednesdays for their pork roast at 190 baht.

Pim's Bar still puts all drinks out for 50 baht. Don't expect top shelf if you are on spirits but still it's a cheap alternative.

The Mouse Hole is just down the road from the Beach House almost opposite the 711 on the corner of the market road to Jungceylon and effectively is another 50 baht bar. They however, have top shelf spirits for 70 baht to 90 baht per generous shot.

The opening of another 711 within dwarf-throwing distance of the one mentioned above makes one wonder how the franchise works out where they are placed. If I was going to buy into one, I would like to think that

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