

Squirrel Stories

It seems the longer one stays in the tropics, the more loose one becomes. Take this latest incident that happened just the other day.

After a visit to the market in Phuket town, a group of farang and their Thai wives turned up back in Patong, each with a squirrel in tow. Guess whose idea that was.

Here was a group of engineers, oilrig workers and ex military and policemen reduced to carrying around rodents in little cutesy cages.

But it gets even more bizarre. When one expat decided to head upcountry with his wife, of course the rodent had to go as well. Turning up at Phuket International, Mr. Gettinglooserbytheminute could see no reason why the new family member shouldn't be proudly displayed.

Airport staff had other ideas

and told him not only could the wildlife not enjoy the free handout of nuts on the plane, but that it could not travel on the thing in the first place.

Normally this is where you discreetly say to your wife you are just talking the little one for a leak and quietly flush it down the toilet. But no! Loose enlists the services of an airport limousine, pays 500 Baht (the rodent only cost 100 Baht at the market), and has it delivered back to an unsuspecting friend back in Patong.

This caused even more pandemonium, as the unsuspecting friend was in favour of my earlier option of the great loo ride, while his wife was adamant that the rodent was going to join their current menagerie of cats, dogs, birds and goldfish that is slowly engulfing their home.



Health Tip

Driving is by far the most dangerous activity you can participate in whilst on the island.

Around five percent of the local population and 1000 or so tourists are involved in serious accidents each year.

One thing to remember is that "might is right". If a vehicle is larger than the one you have, then it has right-of-way, regardless of any perceived road rules.

If you are riding a motorbike, also watch out for sand. Dust and sand can put you on the tarmac before you know what's happened.

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