

CHIANG MAI *uncovered*

Delve into the Archives.....

In Chiang Mai uncovered you won't find any advertising, no high-end venues, no 'trendies' of any description, just intriguing stories about in and around this weirdly wonderful city. We also include restaurant and book reviews, local snippets, the occasional tongue-in-cheek dig at café society and an easy bike ride around the city. To read a particular article simply click on the issue number then click on the image on the contents page to go directly to the article itself.

NUMBER ONE

[*Getting Around Chiang Mai*](#)

Page 6

How to get around the city using tried and sort-of-trusted local transport.

[*Devil's Delight*](#)

Page 8

The garden where retribution is less than divine

[*Street Eats*](#)

Page 12

As darkness sets a over Chiang Mai Gate, the red glow of the sun is diffused with smoke from grills and charcoal burners.

[*Cat's Boxes*](#)

Page 16

It's impossible to discover when rice boxes first came into use, they've just always been there, as much a part of the northern Thai kitchen as the spoon.

[*A Traveller's Life for Me*](#)

Page 19

Most people's idea of a travel journalist's life is one long round of first class travel to exotic destinations, the reality is somewhat different.

[*On Two Wheels - Huey Tueng Tao Lake*](#)

Page 20

On high days and holidays Huey Tueng Tao reservoir is a magnet for people to escape the city and eat at the thatched platforms that follow the beach.

NUMBER TWO

[*A Stroll Along Tha Phae Road*](#)

Page 6

Find a city with a river and you can almost guarantee that's where its commercial heart lies, or at least lay. Chiang Mai is no different.

[*Street Jewelry*](#)

Page 10

If your ambition is to paint a mural the size of a house but all you have is a sketch pad, where to you go to practise for the really *big* jobs?

[*Lamphun's Rich Red Earth*](#)

Page 12

From a discarded amulet a glorious garden grew.

[*Gone but not Forgotten*](#)

Page 16

Every culture has its own way of respecting the dearly departed

[*On Two Wheels - Down by the Riverside*](#)

Page 20

The first part of this ride is simply getting out of Chiang Mai, but soon you will be on country roads almost devoid of traffic.

[*The Go-between Guy*](#)

Page 22

A unit at the Far Eastern University aims to ease the way for volunteers and put money from rural tourism where it belongs - in the hands of the villagers who provide the services.

NUMBER THREE

A Passion for Everything - Wat Gate Museum

Page 6

A museum of such joyous idiosyncrasy that it makes most other museums seem like a staid formal dinner compared to the free-for-all of a family meal.

A Delicate Touch

Page 8

The fine art of traditional Thai fruit and vegetable carving.

Geocaching - Technological Treasure Hunt

Page 10

In its simplest form geocaching is finding caches hidden by people - if only everything was simple.

Second-hand Rose

Page 13

In some of the second-hand markets around Chiang Mai a lot of the stock has been worn almost to extinction. But there's still some decent stuff to be found.

On Two Wheels - Doi Saket to Bo Sang

Page 16

A ruined tobacco curer, beautiful gardens, hand-made umbrellas all to be seen in this bike ride.

This is Thailand

Page 18

Being left in charge of a senile eighty-five-year-old and two bags of dying fish after just an hour's acquaintance - just another day in Thailand

NUMBER FOUR

Lord of Success

Elephant-headed Ganesh, god of magnificent manifestations, is one of the most important deities in the Hindu pantheon.

Page 5

Stinky Market - A rose by any other name

Page 14

From well before dawn until late at night Muang Mai market buzzes, with a brief respite during the heat of the afternoon.

Chiang Rai - Capital of Kitsch

Page 12

Chiang Rai is undoubtedly one of the kitchiest places in Thailand.

On Two Wheels - Wararot Loop

Page 16

A short jaunt up one side of the Ping River and down the other, this ride is a pleasant way to stretch the legs for a couple of hours.

Sunday in the Park

Page 18

Buak Haad Park, the only green space of any size in Chiang Mai, is a pleasing place to relax for a while.

This is Thailand

Page 21

It may seem like a strange thing to make life in Chiang Mai worth being here, but a frock as worn by a diminutive Thai lady is as good as anything else.

NUMBER FIVE

Mud, Glorious Mud - Ginger Farm

Once upon a time getting covered in mud got a ticking off from you parents; now kids in Chiang Mai can do it with parental smiles.

Page 4

Enter the Dragon

Page 9

A curious wander through the innards of a dragon unfolds the story of the life of Buddha.

On Two Wheels - Caves and Canals

Page 10

With a visit to a temple, a beautiful garden and a weirdly wonderful restaurant this ride is equally enjoyable for an afternoon out of the city by car or motorcycle.

Eating with the Seasons

Page 12

Thai food is immensely popular world-wide. Unfortunately it is ignoring locally grown produce, which leads to the loss of some regional delicacies.

San Pathon Buffalo Market

Page 14

Siamese fighting fish, weird food, technicolor plastic flower - it's not just buffaloes you can buy at this traditional farmers market, almost the last of its kind.

This is Thailand

Page 16

Your future foretold by a clanking machine and a smiling fat Buddha. Frock as worn by a diminutive Thai lady is as good as anything else.