

CONFERENCE TRAVEL INFORMATION

IMPACT AND POLICY CONFERENCE: EVIDENCE IN GOVERNANCE, FINANCIAL INCLUSION AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**AUGUST 30-SEPTEMBER 1, 2012
BANGKOK, THAILAND**

CONFERENCE VENUE AND INFORMATION

The conference will be held at [The Imperial Queen's Park Hotel, Bangkok](#). The hotel itself comprises two 37 story towers with 1,251 guestrooms and suites. The property backs on to the beautiful Benjasiri Park. The hotel prides itself on delivering the highest quality of cuisines whether from the Imperial China Cantonese Restaurant, Kacho Japanese Restaurant, or Parkview Thai & International Buffet Restaurant. The Imperial Queen's Park Hotel, Bangkok is located in Sukhumvit's Soi 22 ([map](#)).

Dress code for the conference will be business casual.

ACCOMMODATIONS

To book a room at [The Imperial Queen's Park Hotel, Bangkok](#), please complete this [form](#) and send to Ms. Patimaporn Kajornbutra at patimaporn@imperialhotels.com or Tel: [+66\(0\) 2261-9300](tel:+66(0)2261-9300) ext. 4732. Single rooms are approximately 83 USD (2600 Baht)/night and double rooms are approximately 93 USD (2900 Baht)/night.

TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

Find detailed directions from the Suvarnabhumi International Airport to the Queen's Imperial Park Hotel [here](#).

The Imperial Queen's Park Hotel, Bangkok is located in Sukhumvit's Soi 22 ([map](#)) which places the hotel within a few minutes' walk of the BTS (Bangkok Mass Transit System) skytrain, with connectivity to the MRT (Mass Rapid Transport) underground railway. The international airport is called Suvarnabhumi which is located in Bang Phli District, Samut Prakan Province.

Transportation Options from the Airport to the Conference Hotel Include:

The Official Airport Limousine Service (AOT Limousine)

The international airport is called Suvarnabhumi which is located in Bang Phli District, Samut Prakan Province. To use the official airport limousine which is operated by the Airports of Thailand Public Company Limited (AOT), please contact the "AOT Limousine" counters at the Arrival Level (Level 2) upon your arrival.

In the Luggage Hall before the Customs, there are 3 AOT Limousine counters - besides luggage belt numbers 9, 12, and 20; two counters after the Customs - one at Exit B and another at Exit C.

The rates will depend on the type of cars starting at Baht 950 per trip according to the location of hotels. There is no need to make advance booking. Credit cards (Visa, Master, and American Express) are accepted as well as Thai Baht.

Public Taxis

The official public taxi counters are located at the Arrival Level (Level 2), near entrances 3, 4, 7 & 8. It will take around 30 to 50 minute drive depending on traffic. Taxi fees will include metered taxi fare, extra plus 50 Baht airport surcharge and expressway fees. The cost from the airport to hotel may be approximately 450-500 Baht. Payment must be in Thai Baht and please have small change available.

Taxi Route: Heading west, take the ramp to Route 7, keep right at the fork to continue toward Route 7 and merge onto Route 7 (partial toll road). Continue onto 2nd State expressway/Route 3119 (toll road). Take exit West 2-01 toward Rama IX. Slight left at Rama IX. Slight left to stay on Rama IX. Turn left at Thanon Asok-Din Daeng Continue onto Asok Montri. Turn left at Route 3.

Airport Rail Link

Upon arrival head to the airport rail link located on the basement level of Suvarnabhumi Airport. It is recommended to purchase the Express Line ticket to Makkasan station, and then from Makkasan station we would suggest that you take a taxi directly to the hotel, which is about a 20 minute ride depending on the traffic. The Suvarnabhumi Airport Rail Link offering commuters faster travel times between Bangkok's International airport and the city centre. Operating daily from 06.00 to 24.00, the Airport Link to Suvarnabhumi Airport will provide 2 Transit options:

Direct Express Train (SA Express)

This line provides transportation service between Bangkok City Air Terminal (BCAT) from Makkasan to Suvarnabhumi Airport within 15 minutes, which stops only at Makkasan Station (original terminal) and Suvarnabhumi Station (end terminal) Express's fair is a flat rate of 150 Baht per person for a non-stop trip between Makkasan and the airport.

City Link Train (SA City Line)

The ride will take 30 minutes to travel the 28 kilometers (17 miles) to the airport, making six stops along the way throughout the city, and linking with both the Subway (MRT) and Skytrain (BTS) systems in Bangkok. The fair is according to the distance. The City Line's fair start from 15 Baht up to 45 Baht. To hotel by taking the "SA City Line" to "Phaya Thai BTS Station (N2) where you can get on the BTS Skytrain to "Phrom Phong BTS Station /or/ taking the "SA City Line" to Makkasan and take taxi to hotel.

For more information, please visit: <http://airportrailink.railway.co.th/en/index.html>

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

Visas may be required to enter Thailand. Please refer to your local consulate or embassy of Thailand for specifications. You may also check visa requirements on [this website](#). Please complete this [form](#) if you require a formal letter of invitation to the conference for your visa application. Please note that you may be required to show proof of Yellow Fever

vaccination upon arrival in Thailand. Find more information on the Center for Disease Control and Prevention website [here](#).

GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Thailand is a warm and rather humid tropical country with a monsoonal climate. Temperatures are highest in March and April with average temperature from 28 to 38 degree Celsius and humidity averaging between 82.8% to 73%. June to October is the rainy season. December is the winter but the weather is not so cool. Cotton clothes are best suited for the climate in Thailand. The dress code for the conference is business casual.

BANKS / CURRENCY

The country's central bank is the Bank of Thailand. Major Thai commercial banks include the Bangkok Bank, Siam Commercial Bank, Krung Thai Bank, Thai Farmers Bank and Thai Military Bank. Their working hours are 08.30 – 15.30 (Monday to Friday). The Bangkok Bank and Siam Commercial Bank have extended their office hours for the branches located in the shopping centers to 19.00 hours for the working days and during the weekends. Several international banks also have offices in Thailand.

The currency in Thailand is Thai Baht. Most international currencies and traveler cheques can be exchanged at banks or local money changers; and also outside the hotel premises. Major credit cards are accepted in major establishments as well as at money changers. You can get a cash advance on your credit card at most banks. 1 US Dollar is worth approximately 31.6 Thai Baht.

ELECTRICITY

The electricity in Thailand is 220 volts, 50 cycles/sec and can accommodate both flat prongs (like in the USA and Japan) and round prongs (like much of Europe and Asia). Appliances designed to operate on 110/120V need a voltage converter and a plug adapter.

BUSINESS HOURS

Government and business offices are open from 08.30 to 16.30 hours (Monday to Friday).