



# GULF OF THAILAND TALL SHIP EXPERIENCE SAILING, SCUBA & MARINE SCIENCE



## ➤ AT A GLANCE

- 21 days, June & July
- Program run full-time aboard 112-ft schooner *Argo*
- Tropical marine science classes (possible high school credit)
- Basic through Advanced Sailing & Scuba Certifications
- Hiking, Trekking
- Cultural Experience

## ➤ VOYAGE DESCRIPTION

Piracy was not a problem for Odysseus – just getting home was his problem... yet pirates stood between our 112-ft school ship *S/Y Argo* and the Mediterranean, so we turned our bow east and returned to Asia. The Chinese symbol for Crisis is the same as the one for Opportunity. For us the opportunities are many. The exotic Asian Gulf of Thailand will allow for a more tropical sailing experience. In addition, we're also offering scuba certifications and a Tropical Marine Science course, taught by our Sea | mester staff aboard. And, for those who are ready and up for the adventure, we've got some news designed to put you over the top. The *Odysseus* voyage will come with a virtually free round trip ticket to Bangkok as we have lowered the tuition by \$1500.00 to reflect the savings of sailing in Asia!

In fact *Argo* has sailed this area extensively over her short lifetime. She was built in Bangkok and spent the summer and fall of 2006, sailing island to island just as we propose to do again this summer. *Argo* will sail on the same dates as the originally planned *Odysseus* Voyage. We will even keep the same voyage name and ActionQuest Founder and Director, Jim Stoll, will lead this trip personally.

We will fly as a group to Bangkok and spend the first day touring the Royal Palaces and famous temples of that amazing city. We'll also see Bangkok the real way – by taking a longtail boat through the canals to see how the people still live along the waterways of the "Venice of the East." Later in the day, we'll drive on to the coast to board *Argo* in the afternoon.

Orientation and shipboard preparation come next, so that all aboard are aware of their new responsibilities as the crew of *Argo* when she departs on a voyage of discovery and learning. We'll set sail the very next day to learn the ropes and procedures in preparation for our first voyage to Hua Hin, home to the Palace of the King of Thailand. We'll anchor off the beach and tour ashore before heading south to the world famous island of Koh Samui.

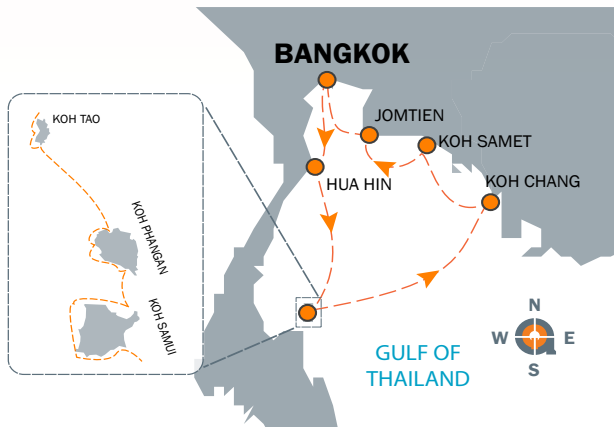
Here, vivid tropical reef systems rest in crystal clear waters, offering us the perfect setting for scuba diving while learning more about this fascinating ecosystem. All students will have the opportunity to gain or further develop their scuba certifications, something that would not have been possible in the Mediterranean.

Koh Tao is the most famous in all the Gulf of Thailand for scuba diving, and an important breeding ground for hawksbill and Green Turtles, so after a couple of days of waterfalls and trekking we're off to seek out turtle, rays and the abundant fish that reside there.

On the other side of the Gulf of Thailand lies a group of islands around Elephant Island, Koh Chang. The anchorage is crowded with fishing boats bringing in their catch and the shrimp are everywhere – especially in all the restaurants along the dock itself. We'll trek and climb the ridges and valleys of the mountains and cameras will work overtime in this tropical paradise before we make a night passage on to Koh Samet.

Beaches, caves, and mountains line this beautiful coast and Thai food served with candlelight on the beach costs less than a meal at McDonalds, so off we'll go to enjoy our stay the island way.

All in all we'll complete the great circle of the Gulf of Thailand hitting all the highlights and major destinations. Along the way we'll poke into lots of little coves and anchorages to really see and learn what Thailand is all about.



FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL US OR GO ONLINE  
800.317.6789 | [WWW.ACTIONQUEST.COM](http://WWW.ACTIONQUEST.COM)



Waking up every morning and feeling so alive, healthy, and happy about the place I was in and the people I was with was so valuable to me. Your program has changed my life and I'm so glad I had the opportunity to do it.

NICKIE CUTRONA, BURKE, VA



In addition to the voyage itself, we'll be building miles and seamanship skills for those who are looking to learn and further their certifications through the International Yachtmaster Training (IYT) we offer throughout the voyage. The same holds true for scuba certifications as we'll be visiting some spectacular diving locations.

You'll take on the leadership necessary to fully operate *Argo* yourselves. The last time Jim sailed *Argo* with students, he only really touched the wheel once when docking on a particularly windy day.

You'll learn tropical marine science and Oceanography from one of our college-level instructors and be able to apply that knowledge to life aboard, from plotting your course across the Gulf to conducting fish identification surveys on the reef.

And...you'll be a team in the end as you and your shipmates will sail and make your voyage your own by your combined efforts. Nothing builds teamwork, character and leadership better than that.

## ➔ ITINERARY

PROPOSED 22-DAY VOYAGE ITINERARY*	
DAY	DESCRIPTION
1	FLY FROM USA NEW YORK OR LOS ANGELES OR EUROPE TO BANGKOK
2	ARRIVE LATE, MEET IN THE AIRPORT AND PROCEED TOGETHER TO IBIS HOTEL BANGKOK SATORN
3	TOUR BANGKOK CANALS & ROYAL PALACES – TRAVEL ON TO ARGO NEAR OCEAN MARINA JOMTIEN BEACH
4	SHIFT OR ANCHOR JOMTIEN BEACH ANCHORAGE - SCUBA TRAINING AND VESSEL FAMILIARIZATION
5	SHORE TIME AFTER ON BOARD CLASSES THEN SAIL TO HUA HIN – SCUBA TRAINING CONTINUES
6	HUA HIN FULL PROGRAM DURING DAY & EVENING
7	SAIL MORNING TO KOH SAMUI - SCUBA
8 & 9	KOH SAMUI – SHORE EXCURSIONS AND PROGRAM ACTIVITIES
10	SAIL TO KOH TAO – SCUBA OPEN WATER CHECK OUT DIVES AND ADVANCED TRAINING FOR THOSE ALREADY CERTIFIED
11	KOH TAO – SHORE EXCURSIONS AND PROGRAM ACTIVITIES
12	SAIL TO KOH CHANG
13	KOH CHANG – SHORE EXCURSIONS AND PROGRAM ACTIVITIES
14 & 15	CHANG ISLAND GROUP SOUTHERN ISLANDS
16	SAIL TO KOH SAMET
17 & 18	KOH SAMET – SHORE EXCURSIONS AND PROGRAM ACTIVITIES
19	SAIL BACK TO JOMTIEN BEACH
20	FINAL PROGRAM AND CLEAN UP DAY
21	TO BKK AIRPORT – DROP BAGS – ON TO JIM THOMPSON HOUSE AND CENTRAL SHOPPING DISTRICT OF BANGKOK IN THE AREA OF SIAM SQUARE
22	FLY 1:20AM. ARRIVE 8TH SAME DAY BACK IN THE USA

\* Please note that all time estimations and destinations are weather dependent and subject to change.

## ➔ DATES & TUITIONS

PROGRAM LENGTH	COURSE CODE	DATES	TUITION
21 DAYS	ODYSSEUS	JUNE 17 - JULY 8, 2009	\$4,370



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