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*I can write that!*

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## "Bangkok Has Him Now"

*Everything you need to know about Asia's most livable city*

**Target Audience:** Prospective expatriates looking for affordable big city living.

**Article Length:** 3,000 to 15,000 words

On the 4th of July, 1999 I landed at the old Don Muang International Airport in Bangkok. Little did I know that I had just reset my inner home page. After a lifetime of traveling around, I finally found what I'd been looking for.

I propose an article about Asia's most livable city, Bangkok, Thailand. I feel uniquely qualified to write about this subject for a multitude of reasons. Over a 25 year span, I've lived in Bangkok four times in different parts of town under different circumstances. I was there when the BTS Skytrain began operation and changed the way people live in Bangkok. I rode it the first day. I bought, renovated, and sold several properties in Bangkok. I wrote for several local magazines. I taught at a major university and I lived in Bangkok through two bloodless coups. Now I live two hours south of town in a place some call "Bangkok Beach". I go back often to visit friends, hear good music, and eat stuff you can only find in BKK.

For prospective expats who want modern and affordable big city living, nothing beats Bangkok. This piece could be as short as 3,000 words to as long as 15,000. I envision it being told like a love story as I've seen my beloved city age and grow over an extended period of time. Bangkok and I are like old lovers that are always happy to see each other. The meat of the article would give details about:

- Getting a Place that fits**—A neighborhood review
- Mass Transit Focus**—Navigating the concrete beehive
- BKK Survival 101**—Tips on Health/Fitness/Safety
- Entertainment**—What to do when you aren't a tourist anymore
- Property trends**—Buy/Sell/Flip?
- Bangkok People**—Interviews with expats in Bangkok
- Shopping and Food**—Prepare to be overwhelmed
- Future of the city**— The making of a megapolis

I've lived in Bangkok enough to know it quite well, yet I've moved away from it several times to return and be amazed at its metamorphosis. This is a unique opportunity to get a good boots-on-the-ground review from someone who has lived in Thailand for a quarter of a century and has a real connection with its legendary capital.

If a longer piece is commissioned, I have a lot of high resolution photos to help illustrate. I've also got a long list of interesting expats and some locals I could interview.

### **Projected Interviews:**

**Doug Harrison**, 30+ years, American restaurant owner, a legend in the American expat community

**Greg Lange**, 25+ years, American business owner and philanthropist

**Keith Nolan**, 20+ years, Irish, musician, entertainer, teacher, and Bangkok historian

**Sidebar Features:**

**Neighborhood tour**—  
Getting a place that “fits” in  
Bangkok

**Mass transit focus**—  
Navigating the concrete bee-  
hive

**Target Audience:** Prospective expatriates interested in big city living abroad

**Article Length:** 15,000 + Overseas Living Letter feature

**Synopsis:**

This July I'll be celebrating my 25th year in Thailand. I'd love to produce an OLL feature article for you on my favorite city in the world, Bangkok.

I've lived in Bangkok on four separate occasions, all during different time spans, and all under different circumstances. I've lived in every part of town. I rode the Skytrain the first week it was open. I taught at a major university. Now I live two hours away and visit a half dozen times per year to see old friends, go to concerts, and eat stuff you can only find in Bangkok. To say that I'm uniquely qualified to write this feature is a pretty severe understatement.

The temptation to write this like a love story that's gone on for 25 years is irresistible. It's easy to romanticize about Bangkok. But I'd also propose to break out into some focused sidebars about the mass transit system and how it changed the way people live. The secondary infrastructure like hospitals and schools is something that will surprise most readers as well. The parts of this sprawling megapolis where foreigners can live comfortably has expanded exponentially over the past 10 years thanks to mass transit and smart development.

I have an idea to combine your property feature with a neighborhood review. That way readers could have an idea of what kind of living spaces are available in each part of town. Lifestyles are extremely diverse in Bangkok, and a property and neighborhood review could illustrate that brilliantly and emphasize that getting a place that “fits” is essential in a city this big.