



Driving From the Backseat?

What it's like to be a woman living in Thailand

Target Audience: Prospective expatriates with an emphasis on women.

Article Length: 1,500–2,000 words

Article Synopsis:

This article debunks some myths about the role of women in Thai society and sheds some light on what it's like to be a foreign woman living in the Land of Smiles.

Some couples and individuals who consider retiring overseas avoid countries in Southeast Asia because they've heard negative stories about the treatment of women. The old stereotype of the subservient Asian woman has lingered for many years.

American women are particularly reluctant to support a society that treat their female population like anything other than first class citizens. Additionally, many American women worry that they will not be treated with the same rights and liberties as men in some of these countries.

In this article, we take a good look at the role of women in Thai society and reveal a country where female college graduates outnumber men 2 to 1. A country where many of the top publicly traded firms are run by female CEOs. A country that has had a female Prime Minister and may soon have another. A country some might say is run by women.

We'll also examine what it's like to be a foreign woman living in Thailand. The source for this information is interviews with female expats and couples living, working, and retired in Thailand. They'll share their views on why they chose Thailand, how they've been treated, and what changes they've seen over the years.

In the end, readers will have a better understanding of the role of women in Southeast Asian societies and what they can expect if they choose to settle in a place like Thailand.

Projected Interviews:

Gloria Jones, 50 something Magazine Editor, from the UK with 20+ years in Thailand.

Meagan Speakman, 30 something Scottish journalist in Thailand working on TV and radio for 10 years.

Denni Hines, 40 something African American Singer/Entertainer living in in Southeast Asia 12 years .

Debra Singerr, 60 something American living and running a boutique hotel in Dongtan Beach.

Tik Ratchanee-Boyes, 40 something Thai successful business owner in Jomtien Beach.

Kammonat Saignam (Thai), 50 something Thai property investor in Bangkok.

The young ladies shown in the photo above are from "All Day Tattoo", one of the hottest tattoo shops in Bangkok. The shop is owned by two young women, half American/half Thai, who grew up in the US and always dreamed of opening their own shop. They moved to Thailand because they thought it would be an easier path to success. And they were right! The most interesting part of their story comes when you see how the shop is operated. They may be American, but the shop is a microcosm of Thai society.