

hailand is a country with a strong cultural identity and strong religious influences. More than 90% of the population identify themselves as Buddhists. Due to the influence of Buddhism, the Thai people are known for their gentleness and courtesy, respecting the royal family and placing importance on social order. Thailand's stable society is what attracts many foreigners to invest in it. For centuries, Thailand has the point of convergence for religions, cultures and ethnic groups in Southeast Asia.

In terms of the economy, Thailand is located in the center of the five northern states that make up the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. It sits at a strategic crossroads, with Cambodia to the southeast, Malaysia to the south, Myanmar to the west, Laos to the northeast, the Gulf of Siam to the south and the Indian Ocean to the southwest. As an agricultural country, Thailand is the world's number one exporter of rubber, cassava and frozen shrimp. According to the statistics of the International Monetary Fund in 2018, Thailand is the 25th largest economy in the world and the second largest economy in ASEAN, a clear testament to the importance of Thailand in the global economy. With the recent US-China trade war, Thailand is one of the countries benefiting from the conflict as the demand for industrial parks in Southeast Asia has soared. In recent years, Thailand has initiated the economic 4.0 development plan and has become more active in seeking industrial transformation and promoting R&D and innovation in industrial technology. Combined with the "Eastern Economic Corridor" project promoted by the Thai government, which capitalizes on the area's advantageous geography, it aims to capture demand for investment and trade in northern ASEAN and channel foreign investment into infrastructure development in industrial parks. The goal is to make Thailand a leading economy in Southeast Asia and a key center for the flow of people, goods and money. With numerous on-going projects, it's worth keeping an eye on Thailand's future development.

In addition to trade, Thailand is also known for its tourism. In 2018, the number of tourists visiting Thailand reached 38 million, contributing a tourism income of 2.75 trillion Baht. As the largest city and the capital of Thailand, Bangkok features fascinating tropical scenery, rich Buddhist culture, traditional customs and unique floating markets. Combined with new shopping malls, the urban landscape is a perfect integration of past and present. Bangkok continues to charm and attract travelers around the world. The city was ranked 2nd in CNN's "Most Popular City in the World for International Travelers" in 2018, only behind Hong Kong, Asia's financial center. With its fascinating urban style and rich city culture, Bangkok is indeed irreplaceable as the capital of Thailand.

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