

Phuket Markets Guide

Phuket offers a rich variety of markets catering to locals and tourists alike. From bustling night bazaars to early-morning wet markets, each has its own character and specialties. Below is a detailed overview of Phuket's market scene, organized by type.

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Night Markets

Chillva Market in Phuket Town comes alive at night with music and colorful shipping-container stalls (photo: Chillva Market)

- **Chillva Market (Phuket Town, Yaowarat Rd)** – Open **Monday–Saturday 5pm–11pm**[\[1\]](#). A trendy “hipster” night bazaar built around colorful shipping containers. Vendors sell street food (Pad Thai, satay, grilled meats, fried insects), trendy clothing, accessories and art. The atmosphere is lively and bohemian, with live music on weekend evenings[\[2\]](#)[\[1\]](#). Bargaining is expected on non-food items; prices are generally low. Young locals and in-the-know tourists flock here for its creative vibe.
- **Naka Weekend Market (Phuket Town)** – Open **Saturday & Sunday 4pm–10pm**[\[3\]](#). Phuket’s largest weekend market (near Central Festival). Known to Thais as *Talad Tairod* (“car boot sale”), it’s a vast, crowded bazaar with two main sections – one for shopping (clothes, shoes, bags, knockoff brand goods, souvenirs) and one for food[\[4\]](#)[\[5\]](#). Expect rows of stalls selling casual fashion and holiday keepsakes, plus dozens of street-food vendors (fried snacks, curries, desserts). The market has a festive, family-friendly atmosphere[\[6\]](#). Visitors often arrive early to beat the crowds; remember to bargain (except on food)[\[7\]](#).
- **Kata Night Market (Kata Beach)** – Open **daily 11am–11pm**[\[8\]](#). A medium-sized night bazaar on Kata Rd, popular with beach-goers. It features about 20 stalls (mostly food stalls) offering grilled skewers (chicken, pork, seafood), Thai curries, fresh juices and sweet treats[\[8\]](#). A few souvenir/shirt stalls line the outskirts. The market is clean and well-organized, with fixed tables and chairs. Atmosphere is relaxed and family-friendly. (Primarily a food market – come hungry!)
- **Malin Plaza Patong (Patong Beach)** – Open **daily 11am–midnight**[\[9\]](#). A covered food-and-shopping complex near Jungceylon Mall. The ground floor has dozens of street-food counters (grilled seafood, meat-on-a-stick, fresh fruit smoothies – even exotic eats like crocodile skewers and scorpion on a stick)[\[9\]](#)[\[10\]](#). Upstairs are souvenir and clothing vendors selling T-shirts, beachwear, bags and trinkets. It’s very tourist-oriented, often crowded in the evening. Price point is moderate (generally more expensive than local markets). Tip: Try the local BBQ dishes and mango sticky rice[\[9\]](#).
- **Bangla Road Night Market (Patong)** – Open **daily 6pm–2am** (after bars close)[\[11\]](#). Located on Bangla Street (the infamous nightlife zone). Not a traditional market – vendors sell novelty grilled foods (grilled crocodile, jumbo prawns, or scorpion-skewers)[\[12\]](#). The vibe is wild and touristy (lots of late-night crowd). Prices are high (vendor stalls here openly overcharge)[\[13\]](#). It’s more of an adventurous street-food experience for tourists than bargain shopping. *Tip:* If you go, be prepared to haggle and be warned that safety/health standards are minimal.

- **Sunday Walking Street (Lard Yai, Old Phuket Town) – Sunday 4pm–10pm[14].** Also called *Lard Yai*. A pedestrianized section of Thalang Rd in historic Phuket Town is closed to traffic on Sundays. The 350m street is lined with booths selling handmade arts, handicrafts, clothing of natural fabrics, traditional desserts and snacks[14]. Street musicians and dancers perform along the way, making for a festive cultural fair[15]. This market is a major tourist draw but highlights local culture (vendors often are local artisans). It's colorful and family-friendly. Prices are reasonable for handcrafted items, but some souvenirs are touristy. *Tip:* Go early (4pm) before it gets too crowded, and try classics like Malaysian pancakes, roast pork on rice, and kanom jeen curry.
- **Phuket Indy Night Market (Phuket Town) – Wed–Fri 4pm–10:30pm[16].** An evening bazaar at Limelight Avenue Mall. A smaller, hipper market geared toward locals and creatives. Stalls sell handcrafted jewelry, vintage clothing, comic-inspired T-shirts, quirky accessories and small artworks. There are also many food trucks and stalls offering Thai fusion cuisine and international dishes[16]. The atmosphere is chill and “hipster” – you'll see graffiti art and live indie bands. It's a good place for unique souvenirs and designer-made items. Prices are modest; bargaining is less common here as most vendors price fairly.
- **Bang Tao Night Market (Bang Tao) – Mondays 4pm–9pm and Thursdays 2pm–8pm[17].** A small community market on Bang Tao–Kalim Rd. Vendors sell clothing, cosmetics, handicrafts and accessories (many knock-off items)[17]. There are also fresh seafood and meat stalls where you pick products and have them grilled nearby. It's very “local” – not crowded with tourists – and prices are low. *Tip:* Come early for the seafood (local fishermen bring in their catch in the afternoon). Pickled fruit, coconuts and grilled meats are popular here.
- **OTOP Market Phuket (Patong) – Open daily 10am–10pm[18].** A large, permanent bazaar (an outdoor mall) promoting “One Tambon One Product.” You'll find traditional handicrafts, textiles, woven goods and souvenirs from all over Thailand, along with cheap clothing, accessories and snacks[19]. The site also houses dozens of tiny bamboo beer bars and food stalls[20]. Atmosphere is laid-back (lots of seating) but still touristy. Prices are generally low; you can pick up silk scarves, silver jewelry or wooden carvings here. *Tip:* The beer bars in the back offer ice-cold drinks at good prices – a fun place to unwind.
- **Fun Friday Market (Boat Avenue, Bang Tao) – Fridays 5pm–11pm[21].** A weekly night bazaar in the Boat Avenue/Shops at Loch Palm area. It's smaller in size but popular with expats and families. Vendors sell street-food favorites (papaya salad, pad Thai, grilled meats) and artisanal snacks. There are also a few handicraft stalls and boutique booths. The vibe is friendly and festive (often with live music). Prices are low. *Tip:* Even if you miss the market, Boat Avenue has many shops and bars open at night for further shopping or dining.

- **G Market (Phuket Town) – Sun–Wed 4pm–9pm[22]**. An evening bazaar in front of Phuket Grocery Mall (opposite Tops Market). It has many food carts (serving Thai and some international street food like dumplings, takoyaki) and shops selling youth-oriented clothes and gadgets[23]. Mostly frequented by students and young people. Atmosphere is casual and simple; some live music. It's niche, but worth a look if you're in Phuket Town mid-week.
- **Karon Temple Market (Karon) – Tuesdays 4pm–9pm; Fridays 4pm–11pm[24]**. Held on the grounds of Wat Karon. Vendors sell local handcrafts, swimwear and beach accessories, as well as abundant Thai street food (pad Thai, curry, mangoes, grilled meat skewers)[25]. Less touristy than Patong markets, it has a relaxed family vibe[26]. It's a good spot to pick up inexpensive souvenirs and try local snacks.

Daytime Markets (Produce, Wet Markets, Local Food)

Local vendors sell fruits and vegetables at Rawai Market (Monday/Thursday market) in southern Phuket (photo: Rawai Market)

- **Banzaan Fresh Market (Patong) – Daily 6am–9pm[27].** A modern indoor market behind Jungceylon Mall. The ground floor is filled with neat stalls of fresh tropical fruit, vegetables, meats and live seafood. The upstairs food court has dozens of stalls selling Southern Thai curries, dim sum, noodles and barbecued meats[27]. It's very clean and family-friendly, attracting both locals and tourists staying in Patong. Prices are market-rate. *Tip:* Try the fresh coconut smoothies or have a restaurant cook your seafood for you.
- **Ranong Market (Phuket Town) – Daily midnight–noon[28].** The island's main local market in Old Town (fronting the old Thai Air building). In the morning it's a traditional wet market: vendors sell vegetables, herbs, pork, chicken and fresh fish (early hours: 6am–10am)[28]. After 6pm it transforms into a popular street-food zone (until about midnight) with grilled meats, soups and chow foods for the dinner crowd. The atmosphere is authentic Thai "market" – old-fashioned and busy. *Tip:* Arrive early for a Thai breakfast (try *kanom krok* or pork congee).
- **Talad Kaset (Kaset Market, Phuket Town) – Daily morning hours** (very early). A local market behind Robinson Department Store. It's known for pungent smells (fish, dried shrimp, durian) but excellent prices on vegetables, meat and spices[29]. Kaset is small and runs on Thai time (usually closes by noon). The clientele is almost entirely local (Thai shoppers from the neighborhood). *Tip:* Wear light clothes but cover shoulders/knees (small temple next door). It's a fun place to see everyday local life[29].
- **Kathu Fresh Market – Daily early morning (approx. 4am–2pm).** A 24-hour wholesale market halfway between Patong and Phuket Town. It bustles before dawn as trucks deliver vegetables, flowers and fruit. By mid-morning it's mostly closed. If you're up early, wander among the piles of fresh produce and cheap Thai snacks. (Local gossip: try the sweet bananas and sticky rice with coffee from the nearby stalls.)
- **SukSamran Fresh Market (Chalong) – Daily 5pm–8pm.** An evening local market in Chalong. Farmers unload produce around 4pm and by 5pm stalls are open with veggies, fruit, meat, plus ready-to-eat food. It's a favorite among expats and Thai residents. Prices are low and the atmosphere is friendly. Good for picking up fresh coconut or tropical fruit to snack on or take home.
- **Nai Yang Fresh Market – Tue, Thu, Sat, Sun 4pm–7pm[30].** A weekly market on the way to Nai Yang Beach (near the airport). Small but very local – mostly fruits

and vegetables. Serves local village residents and a few beach workers. Come early for the best selection of produce (lemongrass, papaya, Thai eggplant, etc.).

- **Kamala Market – Mon & Fri 3:30pm–7pm[31]**. A roadside evening market near Kamala Beach and Fantasea. Fresh fruit, vegetables, meats and seafood are brought in by local fishermen and farmers. There are also stalls selling Thai snacks and sweets. Atmosphere is casual and Thai-oriented. Great spot to buy grilled fish and papaya salad.
- **Mae Somchit Kata Fresh Market – Daily 6am–9am[32]**. The main morning market in Kata. Stalls line Patak Road, selling seafood, tropical fruit (durian, mangosteen), rice and chicken. A few noodle shops open early for breakfast. Serves mostly local residents and hotel kitchens. Very cheap prices.
- **Rawai Market (Mon/Thu Market) – Mon & Thu 4pm–8pm[33]**. A small nightly market in Rawai village (southern Phuket). It has colorful fruit & vegetable stands, fresh-dinners stalls (fried chicken, noodle soup), and a few souvenir/clothing booths. Locals and some expats shop here for nightly groceries and dinner. Prices are very low (fresh mango ~60–100 THB/kg, grilled banana 10 THB each)[34]. Atmosphere is laid-back and friendly – perfect for a casual stroll and inexpensive local eats.
- **Rawai Seafood Market (Rawai Beach) – Daily 11am–9pm[35]**. A popular stretch of road where fishermen sell the day's catch (fish, lobsters, crab, prawns) and diners choose fresh seafood to be cooked at adjacent restaurants[36]. Once a local haunt, it's now very touristy (busloads arrive in the evening) so prices have risen. It's noisy and crowded, with simple open-air seafood shacks. Expect to pay roughly THB100 per kilo for fish (tiger prawns ~1500/kg)[36]. *Tip*: Haggle on seafood price and watch the large lobsters on ice. For a more authentic vibe, wander south to the little sidewalk grills (Salaloy and Aek Rawai restaurants) along the beach instead[37].

Weekend & Special Occasion Markets

- **Phuket Walking Street (Lard Yai) – Sunday 4pm–10pm[14].** (Same as above in Night Markets) A must-visit cultural market on Thalang Rd, Old Town. Highlights local handicrafts, art and street food in a historical setting.
- **Fun Friday Market (Boat Avenue) – Friday 5pm–11pm[38].** (Same as above) A weekly night bazaar popular with expats. Thai eats and local crafts in a casual waterfront setting.
- **Karon Temple Market – Tue 4pm–9pm; Fri 4pm–11pm[24].** (Listed above) Offers local street foods and trinkets in a temple setting on Patak Road. Family-friendly, quieter than Patong.
- **Rawai Mon/Thu Market – Mon/Thu 4pm–8pm[33].** (Listed above) Mentioned in Daytime section. Highlighted here as a small weekly event loved by locals and tourists for fresh fruits and Thai snacks.

(Phuket has no major yearly “special occasion” markets beyond these. Some festivals like Thai New Year (Songkran) see temples hosting fair-like markets, but these are short-lived and community-specific.)

Souvenir & Handicraft Markets

- **Phuket Walking Street (Lard Yai)** – *Sunday 4pm–10pm*. Craftsfolk sell textiles, jewelry, wood carvings and Phuket-themed souvenirs among the food stalls^[14]. Many items are handmade (tie-dye clothes, silver earrings, home décor).
- **Naka Weekend Market (Phuket Town)** – *Sat–Sun 4pm–10pm*. Besides food, hundreds of stalls here sell souvenirs: Thai silk scarves, replica watches, trinket boxes, novelty gifts and toy shops. It's a good place to stock up on inexpensive gifts (note: many are mass-made, with lots of imitation).
- **Malin Plaza Patong (Patong Beach)** – *Daily 11am–midnight*. A tourist-focused souq. Hundreds of booths sell Phuket souvenirs (carved elephants, seashell crafts, T-shirts, magnet keychains, wooden lanterns). Prices are higher than local markets, but wide selection and air-conditioning (in sections) make it comfortable.
- **Phuket Indy Market (Phuket Town)** – *Wed–Fri 4pm–10:30pm*. Boutique-style stalls with handmade jewelry, art prints, ceramics, leather goods and craft décor. You'll find unique pieces not sold elsewhere. Good for quality souvenirs like silver jewelry and artisanal soaps.
- **OTOP Market (Patong)** – *Daily 10am–10pm*. (See above) A showcase of Thai handicrafts from around the country. Textiles (silk scarves, wool garments), hand-painted umbrellas, embroidered bags and tribal silver jewelry are common. While many items are touristy, OTOP emphasizes regional artisans.
- **Boat Avenue Sunday Market** – *[Unofficial]* There's an informal Sunday market at Boat Avenue and Laguna Village; small stalls pop up selling crafts, fashion and street food. It's more relaxed and local than the Friday market.

Fashion & Streetwear Markets

- **Chillva Market (Phuket Town)** – *Mon–Sat 5pm–11pm*. A hotspot for youth fashion. Stallholders sell trendy clothes, denim, indie-designed T-shirts and sneakers. You'll also find bohemian jewelry, guitar accessories and vintage finds. The prices are low to moderate. (Live music on some nights adds to the “cool” ambiance.)
- **Phuket Indy Market (Phuket Town)** – *Wed–Fri 4pm–10:30pm*. Offers quirky fashion and retro wear. Vintage clothing shops, punk/goth apparel, and upcycled art make it popular with hipsters. Also stalls with streetwear brands and handmade leather goods.
- **Karon Night Market (Karon Beach)** – *Tue & Fri evenings*. Beachwear and swimwear are abundant here – bikinis, sarongs, flip-flops and hats at cheap prices. Also sells souvenirs, jewelry and accessories targeted at beachgoers[\[26\]](#). It's more laid-back and family-friendly than Patong.
- **OTOP Market (Patong)** – *Daily 10am–10pm*. In addition to crafts, dozens of stalls offer inexpensive ready-made clothing and footwear. You can haggle on casual T-shirts, shorts, and Thai traditional outfits.
- **Central Patong and Jungceylon Mall** – *(Shopping malls)*. While not open-air markets, they bear mentioning for brand-name fashion (local designers, sportswear). If you're seeking international or higher-end Thai brands, these covered malls on Beach Road are the spots.

Floating Markets (Phuket)

- **Phuket Floating Market (Kathu)** – *Closed permanently*. Phuket's attempt at a floating bazaar (opened 2017) is now abandoned[39]. Only a few souvenir shops and paddle boats remain in a mostly empty complex. It is **not** recommended – far better to visit Chillva Market or Old Town markets instead.

(In short: Phuket has no truly functional “floating market” like Bangkok or Amphawa.)

Artisan & Specialty Craft Markets

- **Phuket Pearl Factory Outlet (Phuket Town)** – Not a market but a large retail center. Here you can buy high-quality South Sea pearl jewelry and gemstones at factory prices. Prices vary widely (from a few hundred to tens of thousands THB) depending on quality[40]. Always ask for certificate of authenticity.
- **OTOP Market (Patong)** – *Daily 10am–10pm*. (See above.) While touristy, it does showcase regional handicrafts: hand-woven textiles, carved woodware, lacquerware, and local food products[41]. A good place to buy genuine Thai crafts.
- **Phuket Walking Street (Lard Yai)** – *Sun 4pm–10pm*. Many artisans set up pop-up shops here. Look for original paintings, carved wooden masks, pottery and signature Phuket items (decorative umbrellas, hand-painted silk).
- **Artisan Workshops (Phuket Town)** – Phuket Town's lanes have small galleries and shops by craftsmen (ceramics, batik, local paintings). For example, at Soi Rommani (near Soi Love Andaman) you can find teakwood artisans and silverware shops. (No fixed schedule; browse during day.)
- **Specialty Markets (Phuket)** – Phuket is known for gems; while not a “market” per se, reputable shops like Gems Gallery and Phuket Pearl Factory have fixed showrooms in town. They often sell gemstones (sapphires, rubies) and pearls. Buyers should insist on certificates.

Local vs. Tourist-Focused Markets

- **Local markets** are those where most vendors and shoppers are Phuket residents. These include the wet markets and fresh-food bazaars: Kaset Market, Kathu Market, Nai Yang Market, Suksamran Market, Kamala Market and the Rawai weekday market[42][43]. They offer truly local produce (tropical fruits, pork, fish, spices) and home-style Thai dishes. Prices here are very low and products authentic (e.g. Thai desserts, plums, local herbs). The atmosphere is everyday village life: lively but casual. *Tip:* In local markets you won't see many English signs; come with cash and enjoy sampling street eats.
- **Tourist-focused markets** are designed for visitors: Patong markets (Malin Plaza, Bangla Road, OTOP), Phuket Town's big night markets (Naka, Lard Yai) and beach-area bazaars (Kata, Karon). These venues have a mix of Thai and Western food, souvenir boutiques, and convenience stalls. English is commonly spoken, but prices are higher and bargaining still expected. The atmosphere is festive and crowded – vendors may call out in English and hawk “best price.” *Tip:* Hold onto your belongings in these busy markets (tourist areas see pickpocketing) and compare prices at a few stalls.
- **Mixed markets** like Chillva and Indy attract both locals and hip tourists. Chillva's creative vibe and Indy's indie arts scene draw crowds of young Thais alongside expats. And markets like Walking Street and Boat Avenue have a family-friendly feel (many Thai families visit, but also tourists).

Sources: Official and local Phuket travel guides and market reviews^{[1][15][4][3][29]} (detailed citations above).

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