



# 25 April – ANZAC Day Kanchanaburi, Thailand



## Dawn Service – Hellfire Pass (Sai Yoke) Key Information

**Time:** The service commences at **0530 (5.30am)** and lasts approximately 40 minutes. The access gates to Royal Thai Armed Forces camp at Sai Yok where Hellfire Pass is located will be open for general public access from 0300 (3.00am) on Anzac Day.

**Venue:** Konyu Railway Cutting, below the Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre, Kanchanaburi. The trip from Kanchanaburi town to Hellfire Pass is approximately 80 kilometres and takes about 45 minutes by road. Visitors for the Dawn Service should be aware that this is a winding country road with very limited lighting and that road fatalities have occurred.

**Attendance:** All visitors are welcome to attend the Anzac Day Dawn Service at Hellfire Pass. Visitors are not required to register their attendance nor are passes required.

**Seating:** Seating at the area is not allocated or reserved (other than a limited area for officials and VIPs) and is available on a first-come, first-served basis noting that gates open at 0300hrs. Some sections have restricted and/or indirect views of the Commemoration.

**Weather:** Extremely hot weather conditions normally prevail in the province of Kanchanaburi during late April. The surfaces at the Centre can become slippery due to rain and humidity. Visitors should ensure they are equipped for hot, humid and wet weather. Appropriate clothing and sensible footwear should be worn as there are numerous steps and loose rocks at Hellfire Pass. Insect repellent should be worn for the Dawn Service.

**Parking:** The local Thai police manage all traffic arrangements outside the Centre. Attendees are to arrange their own transport to and from the centre.



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**Medical Assistance:** Limited medical support is provided at the Commemoration. Visitors should ensure to bring their own medication, including non-prescription pain relief medication as this is not available from authorities on site. The medical support provided is equipped for medical emergencies and is not designed to treat minor ailments.

**Mobility Assistance:** Walking into the site takes approximately 20 minutes via steps and along the old railway line. The track along the old railway line is rocky and uneven in areas, the ground is covered by blue metal gravel (ballast). Limited assistance will be available for mobility impaired visitors. A golf buggy service from the public carpark grassed area to a point 60 metres to the rear of the service at the rail bed and back may be provided for those with a health requirement or mobility impairment. No booking is required. Wheelchair transport to and from the Interpretive Centre should be via your own arrangements. Please note that access down to the Hellfire Pass railway cutting where the Dawn Service is held and along the rail bed is not possible for wheelchairs due to the ballast.

## **What will NOT be available?**

- Personalised or dedicated one-to-one assistance.
- The provision of carers, wheelchair pushers, or physical assistance with seating or embarking and disembarking vehicles.
- Wheelchairs, walkers or mobility aids — any visitor requiring this assistance must bring their own.
- Oxygen or personalised medications.
- Specialised support for 'high care' individuals.
- Support traveling to or from your accommodation.

## **Miscellaneous:**

- A small torch should be brought for walking into the site.
- Toilet facilities are limited.
- Mobile phones are to be switched off when attending the services.
- **Smoking is not permitted at Hellfire Pass and the surrounding environs.**

## **Wreath Laying:**

- Wreath-laying, by invited official representatives only, will occur during the service.
- Members of the public who wish to lay a wreath will have the opportunity to do so immediately at the conclusion of the service.
- Members of the public who are laying a wreath are to supply their own and it is their responsibility to carry it with them, care for it and transport it to the Centre and then down to the cutting. There are no facilities or arrangements for storage or transport of personal wreaths at the Centre.



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## Gunfire Breakfast – Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre

On completion of the Dawn Service in Konyu Cutting enjoy a complimentary tea or coffee with traditional ANZAC Biscuits together with a sausage sizzle and a tot of Bundaberg Rum at the Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre.

### Point of contact for Hellfire Pass is:

Mr. Michael Clarke  
Manager, Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre.  
Tel: +66 (0) 34 919 605  
E-mail: [info@hellfirepass.in.th](mailto:info@hellfirepass.in.th)



### Travel to Kanchanaburi and Hellfire Pass:

The Australian Embassy and Defence Sections in Thailand are unable to assist with personal travel arrangements or endorse any particular service-provider. Many commercial agencies offer travel services between Bangkok and Kanchanaburi.

Kanchanaburi Province has substantial accommodation options that cater to a wide range of personal requirements which can be found through internet searches.

