

HELLFIRE PASS KANCHANABURI THAILAND

2026 ANZAC DAY DAWN SERVICE

Updated 19 Dec 2025

SATURDAY 25 APRIL 2026

Each year, Anzac Day in Thailand is commemorated with a Dawn Service and Gunfire Breakfast at the Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre, Kanchanaburi.

03.00 AM

Access opens at the Thai military base, Hellfire Pass.

BY 05.00 AM

Guests must be in position at the Hellfire Pass Memorial

05.30 AM

Dawn Service commences promptly (Duration: approximately 60 minutes)

VENUE

Konyu Cutting, Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre
Approximately 80 km from Kanchanaburi township
Travel time: 60 minutes by road.

Please note:

- The route follows a winding country road with limited lighting.
- Extra care is advised when travelling in the early morning hours
- Once arriving at the Interpretive Centre, please allow time to walk to the Memorial, Konyu Cutting.

ACCESS TO THE MEMORIAL SITE FOR THE DAWN SERVICE

The Dawn service site at Konyu Cutting is approximately a 20-minute walk from the Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre.

The route includes numerous steps and follows the old railway bed, with a rocky and uneven surface underfoot. Suitable footwear is strongly recommended.

ADVANCE REGISTRATION

Members of the public intending to attend the service are encouraged to register in advance via the Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) website by following this link or scan the QR code:

[Click to Register](#)



Registration assists organisers with:

- Managing access and parking
- Ensuring safety and crowd flow
- Delivering a respectful and well-managed service

SEATING

- Seating at the service site is strictly limited and cannot be reserved for members of the public.
- Seats are available on a first-come, first-served basis and fill quickly.
- Once seating is full, visitors are welcome to stand for the Service.

For safety reasons, capacity at the memorial site is limited because of its location within the Konyu Cutting.

Once capacity is reached, no further entry will be permitted into the Cutting. However, the Dawn service will be live streamed via a large screen located at the entrance of the Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre building.

LIVE BROADCASTING

Due to limited seating at the service site, the Dawn service will also be live streamed on a large screen with full audio at the entrance area of the Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre building.

The location of the screening area:

- is close to the toilets
- offers sheltered seating
- is where the Gunfire Breakfast will be served immediately following the service.

The broadcast (rather than walking down to the Cutting) is recommended for:

- Elderly visitors
- Visitors with limited mobility
- Anyone who does not wish to undertake the 500 meter walk to the Cutting.

VISITORS WITH LIMITED MOBILITY

- A golf buggy service is available on request on arrival for visitors with health or mobility limitations.
- The golf buggy pick up point is co-located at a predesignated location in the public car park along with the shuttle service to the Interpretive Centre.

LIVE STREAMING ONLINE

For those unable to attend or who wish to watch online, a live stream of the Dawn service will be available via the Australian Embassy Thailand Facebook page. This can be accessed at: www.facebook.com/AustralianThailand

GUNFIRE BREAKFAST

Following the Dawn service, all visitors are invited to the Gunfire Breakfast, where complimentary food and refreshments will be served.

TRAVEL TO KANCHANABURI

Both staff at the Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre and the Australian Embassy are unable to assist with personal travel arrangements or endorse service providers.

- Visitors are responsible for their own travel arrangements.
- Many commercial operators offer travel services between Bangkok and Kanchanaburi, and from within the Kanchanaburi township itself.
- A wide range of accommodation options are available within the Kanchanaburi Province which can be found through internet searches.

HELLFIRE PASS INTERPRETIVE CENTRE

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Please scan for our Google Map location

DAWN SERVICE & OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS

The Dawn service follows the same format as official Anzac Day services conducted in Australia and overseas. Visitors are reminded that:

- Late April weather in Kanchanaburi is extremely hot, with 40C + temperatures.
- Clothing appropriate for the heat is strongly recommended (jackets and ties are not required).
- Access to the old railway cutting at Hellfire Pass can be difficult for those with health and mobility issues.
- Sensible footwear is recommended as the transit to the memorial site involves many steps and walking along the old railway bed, with a rocky and uneven surface underfoot.
- Insect repellent is recommended.
- A small torch is recommended when walking into the site.
- There are no toilets at the Konyu Cutting. Toilet facilities are limited at the Interpretive Centre.
- Smoking and naked flames are not permitted at Hellfire Pass and the surrounding environment at any time.
- Mobile phones must be switched to silent when entering Hellfire Pass and remain on silent during the service.



ANZAC DAY THAILAND

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

ADVANCE BOOKING & SEAT RESERVATION

1. Do I need to book in advance to join the Dawn Service?

Members of the public are encouraged to register (for free) in advance to attend the Dawn service. Registration assists organisers to plan ahead and helps ensure a safe, respectful and smooth experience for attendees.

Important: For safety reasons, once the Konyu Cutting reaches capacity, no additional visitors will be permitted to enter Hellfire Pass.

2. Is there seating provided and can I reserve a seat in advance?

Seating at the service site at Hellfire Pass is limited and available on a first-come, first-served basis. Seating cannot be reserved for members of the public.

All attendees can enter the front gate of the Thai military base where Hellfire Pass is located from 03.00 am onwards.

3. What time does the Interpretive Centre building open?

The Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre building opens at 03.00 am on Anzac Day.

ACCESS & VISITORS WITH LIMITED MOBILITY

4. How can I access Hellfire Pass?

Hellfire Pass (Konyu Cutting), where the Dawn service is being held, is approximately a 500 metre walk from the Interpretive Centre building.

The route includes a timber stairway and gravel path along the railbed leading to the cutting and takes approximately 20 minutes on foot. Sensible footwear is strongly recommended.

5. Is there a golf buggy service and do I need to book in advance?

For visitors with mobility or health issues, the Centre provides a golf buggy service to assist with access to the service site.

Please advise staff on arrival at the public car park if assistance is required. Visitors using the service should proceed to the designated shuttle bus and golf buggy dispatch point within the public car park.

This service is free of charge and no advance booking is required.

LOCATION & GETTING HERE

6. How can I get to the Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre?

The Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre is located in Sai Yok district, Kanchanaburi province, approximately 200 km (about 3.5 hours' drive) from Bangkok.

Due to the early start time of the Dawn service, many visitors choose to stay overnight in Kanchanaburi township (approximately 80 km away) or in the Thasao area (within 20 km of the Centre).

7. If I do not have my own vehicle, how do I get to the event?

Visitors are responsible for arranging their own transport to and from the Dawn service.

Many hotels and tour operators in Kanchanaburi can assist with organising taxis or transport. Visitors are encouraged to contact their accommodation provider directly for further details.

Please note that neither the Hellfire Pass Interpretive Centre nor the Australian Embassy provides transport or a transfer service to and from the Dawn service.

MEMORIAL SERVICE & WREATH LAYING

8. Is this an official Dawn Service by the Australian Government?

Yes. The Dawn Service at Hellfire Pass is the only official Anzac Day Service in Thailand, jointly hosted by the Australian and New Zealand Governments.

9. Can I bring a wreath and when can I lay it?

Members of the public are most welcome to bring flowers or wreaths on the day.

An announcement will be made on conclusion of the service and invite members of the public to lay wreaths at the memorial obelisk.

10. Is there a service at the Kanchanaburi War Cemetery?

There is no official Anzac Day service at the Allied War Cemetery in Kanchanaburi township. However, there will be an 11.00 am unofficial service conducted by the local expatriate community. Please be aware of the very high temperature expected at this time of day.

Any further enquiries regarding the Hellfire Pass official Dawn service can be sent directly to :

anzacday@hellfirepass.in.th