

## Thai: the next language you should learn

(Hamburg, November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2016) bab.la is proud to welcome its 42<sup>nd</sup> dictionary to its ranks: Thai-English! With the Land of Smiles becoming a top travel destination, we figured it was about time that people across the world start to discover this beautiful language.

Thailand entrances every single tourist that sets foot on its soil. The country boasts stunning natural beauty; striking landscapes and unspoilt beaches caressed by crystal-clear waters stand out among Thailand's main attractions for visitors. But it's not just its idyllic scenery that is grabbing the attention of more and more people every year. Thai culture is strongly influenced by Buddhism and its central values, maintaining respect for others and a non-confrontational attitude, which play a key role in people's lives. These values translate to friendly smiley faces wherever you look and are also visible in the Thai language, which is known for being highly respectful. Not just the script and the pronunciation make learning the language a challenge; the countless polite words and nuances can also be tricky. For example, there are multiple ways of addressing people according to their gender, age, marital status, and so on. But taking the time to learn a few words and venturing to interact with Thai people in their own language will show great willing and locals will really appreciate it.

Whether your goal is to get your head around some basic Thai survival phrases for your travels around the country, or if you plan to stay in the longer term and need a more in-depth understanding, the bab.la Thai-English dictionary will come in handy:

<http://en.bab.la/dictionary/thai-english/>

### About bab.la:

bab.la (<http://bab.la/>) is an interactive language portal offering bilingual dictionaries, vocabulary lessons, language quizzes, and language games all for free. Currently available in 28 different languages (English, Arabic, Chinese, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Finnish, French, Esperanto, German, Greek, Hindi, Hungarian, Indonesian, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Norwegian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian, Russian, Spanish, Swahili, Swedish, Thai, Turkish and Vietnamese), the site operates on a wiki - style model, allowing users to contribute content and feedback. bab.la was founded in 2007 by Dr. Andreas Schroeter and Patrick Uecker. Since April 2015, bab.la has been part of the Oxford Dictionaries family at Oxford University Press.

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