What tourists should know about ivory trade in Thailand

Eradicating wildlife trafficking, especially illegal ivory trade, is one of Thailand’s top priorities. As part of the efforts in this regard, Thai authorities have prohibited possession, trading, import and export of ivory and ivory products. Under Thai law, foreign visitors are advised not to purchase or take ivory (including their products) out of the country. Violators will be punished under the Customs Act B.E. 2469 (1926) with up to 10 years imprisonment and/or fined up to 4 times the value of the goods.

As a party to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), Thailand has made conscious and continuous efforts in complying with the obligations of the Convention. Thus far, the Royal Thai Government has strengthened national laws and has strictly implemented the National Ivory Action Plan under CITES to ensure full compliance with its commitment to end domestic trade in illegal elephant ivory.