AFTER ARRIVING CHECKLIST

Practical steps for a smoother move to Thailand

1 VISA SETUP & IMMIGRATION

Follow the visa plan you chose before arrival.

- [ ] Start the appropriate long-term visa or extension process if needed; consider a reputable agent for your first application.
- [ ] Confirm your current visa/entry category and permitted-stay expiry date.
- [ ] If entering as a tourist, verify whether an in-country change of status is available for your intended visa.
- [ ] If you already hold a DTV or other long-stay visa, follow that category's specific conditions.
- [ ] If your route requires Thai bank evidence, coordinate account opening and visa timing; an agent may help, but cannot guarantee approval.
- [ ] Learn whether your situation requires TM30 address notification, 90-day reporting, extensions, or re-entry permits.
- [ ] Calendar deadlines and keep copies of immigration paperwork.

2 HOUSING & SETUP

Settle into accommodation before committing long term.

- [ ] Use short-term accommodation while you compare neighborhoods.
- [ ] Visit condos or houses in person before signing a long lease.
- [ ] Review rental terms, deposits, inventory, and utility charges.
- [ ] Arrange electricity, water, home internet, and essential services.
- [ ] Confirm landlord/property-manager responsibility for address reporting.
- [ ] Learn the location of shops, pharmacies, transport, and other amenities.

3 BANKING & FINANCES

Set up practical ways to pay for daily life.

- [ ] Open a Thai bank account if eligible and useful for your visa and daily needs.

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- [ ] Check your specific visa's financial evidence rules; a Thai account is not universally required (for example, DTV requirements differ).
- [ ] Use reputable transfer providers and compare currency conversion costs.
- [ ] Activate Thai mobile banking and QR/PromptPay payments if available.
- [ ] Expect many small vendors to prefer cash or bank-scan payments.
- [ ] Keep a card for larger merchants and accessible emergency funds.
- [ ] Arrange recurring payments and track actual monthly spending.

4 PHONE & INTERNET

Stay connected with a reliable Thai mobile number.

- [ ] Choose a local SIM or eSIM from a suitable provider.
- [ ] Compare data plans and check coverage where you live.
- [ ] Arrange home internet if needed.
- [ ] Update important accounts with your Thai number where appropriate.
- [ ] Consider a VPN and secure account authentication.
- [ ] Test international calling and messaging options.

5 HEALTHCARE & INSURANCE

Understand local care and medicine access.

- [ ] Identify nearby hospitals, clinics, dentists, and emergency services.
- [ ] Activate or review appropriate health insurance coverage.
- [ ] Ask a local pharmacy about medication availability and Thai rules; controlled drugs and some medicines require prescriptions.
- [ ] Keep copies of medical history, allergies, and medication lists.
- [ ] Know how to contact emergency services.
- [ ] If you are a U.S. veteran, review VA Foreign Medical Program coverage for eligible service-connected care.

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6 DAILY LIFE & INTEGRATION

Build a comfortable routine in your new community.

- [ ] Learn basic Thai phrases and local etiquette.
- [ ] Explore nearby markets, shops, transport, and public services.
- [ ] Join expat or veteran communities if helpful.
- [ ] Check requirements for driving and a Thai driving licence.
- [ ] Set up recurring bills, subscriptions, and household routines.
- [ ] Take time to explore and enjoy life in Thailand.