

The Royal Coronation Ceremony

Thailand has long been an independent kingdom with a monarch who is gloriously crowned through the ancient traditions of the Royal Coronation Ceremony. This ceremony is significant and sacred and also serves to symbolize the honor of the land; the future of the nation; the happiness and security of the country; and the prosperity of the people. The Royal Coronation Ceremony includes the following procedures:

- Collecting water from different important sources around the kingdom. The water is then consecrated to anoint the new king in the purification ceremony.
- The inscribing of the Royal Golden Plaque and the King's Horoscope, and the Engraving of the Royal Seal of State.
- The chanting of prayers for benediction, the preparation of the lustral water, the encircling of sacred threads and the lighting of the auspicious candle.
- The Song Phra Muratha Bhisek (Royal Purification Ceremony) for the new king's ablution, which is meant to ensure prosperity according to ancient traditions.
- The Royal Investiture enables the new king to assume the throne of the kingdom, signifies royal legitimacy, gives him reign over the eight cardinal points of the compass and allows him to provide security and protection for the citizens of Thailand.
- The Presentation of the Royal Horoscope, the Royal Golden Plaque with the inscription of the Royal Official Title of His Majesty the King and the Royal Regalia. Upon accepting these royal objects, the king will proclaim his Coronation Oath.

The final stage of the Royal Coronation is the Granting of an Audience, which allows the royal family members and government officials to express their good will and blessings. His Majesty the King then declares his position as the Royal Patron of Buddhism and pays homage to the relics of his royal ancestors. The Assumption of the Royal Residence takes place, which is followed by the Royal Land and Water Processions encircling the city by road and river in order to allow the general public to attend and pay homage to the new king.