



Thailand

Chiang Mai - Part 2

*March 22 - April 5,
2016*

March 22 - Back in Chiang
Mai, Adam suggested we eat
lunch at a Mexican restaurant
called Miguel's.





After lunch we stopped at a tattoo parlor so Adam could make an appointment to get an old tattoo he didn't like covered with a new one. Ariya again fell asleep for her nap.



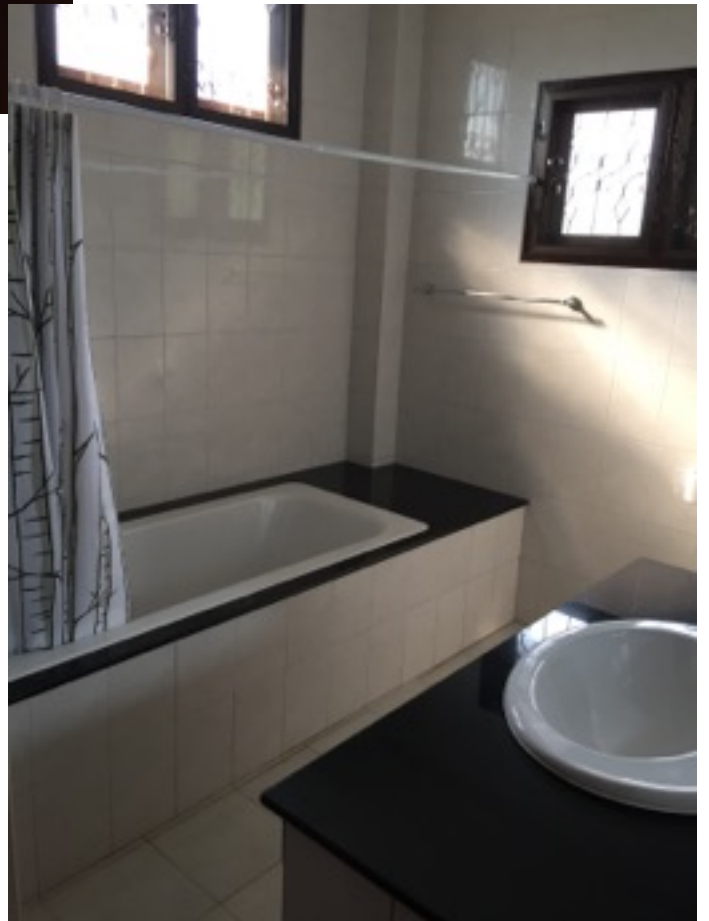
Later that day Nong, Tai, Ariya and I drove over to Nong and Ron's other house that they had built. It was beautiful. They have a large lot of land around the house.







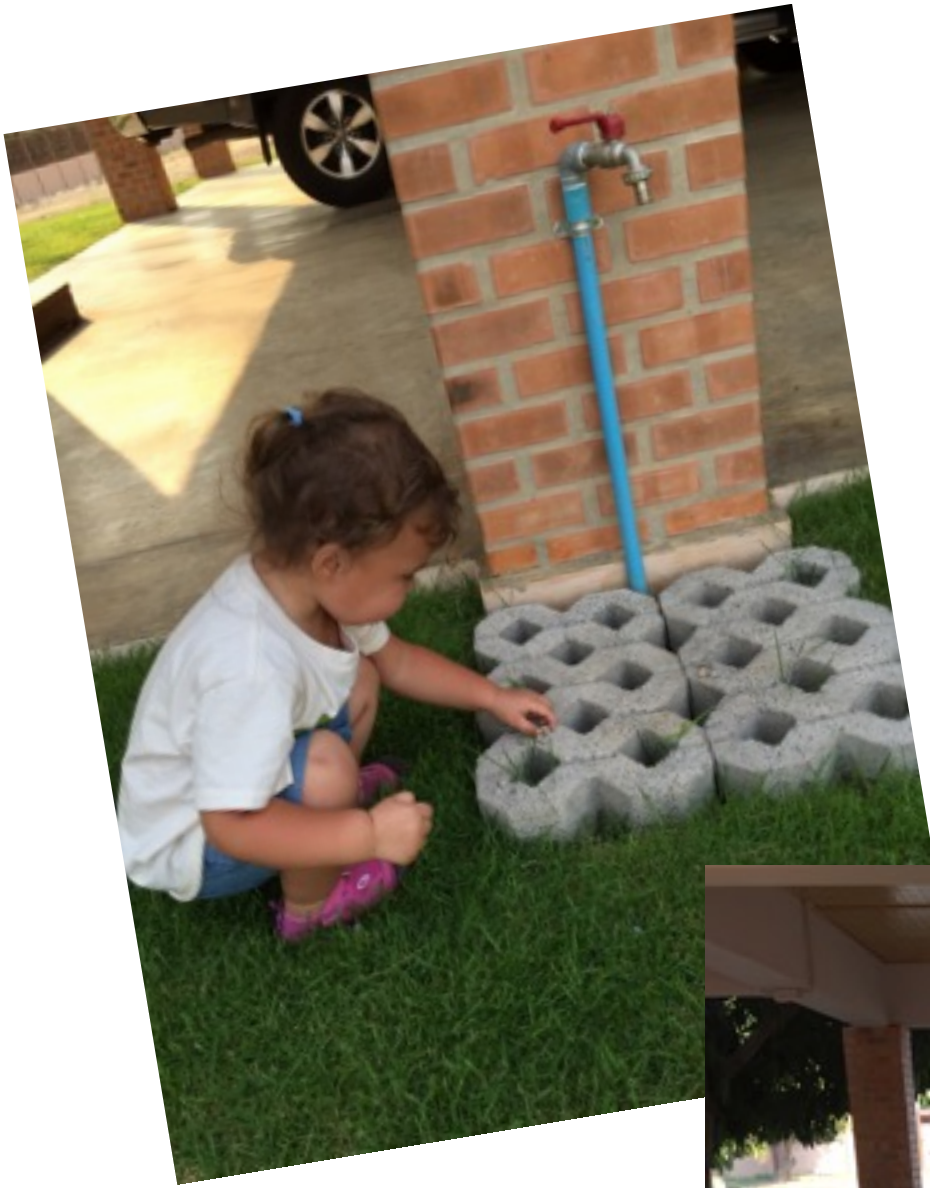
It's a smaller house with 2 bedrooms and one bath.













Ariya had fun helping
“Yai” Nong water the
grass and trees. It was
dry/hot season in Chiang
Mai while we visited.





Ariya all dressed up to go out for dinner with the family and dancing with "Dah" (Grandpa) Ron on his last night before departing for a visit to his family in England.

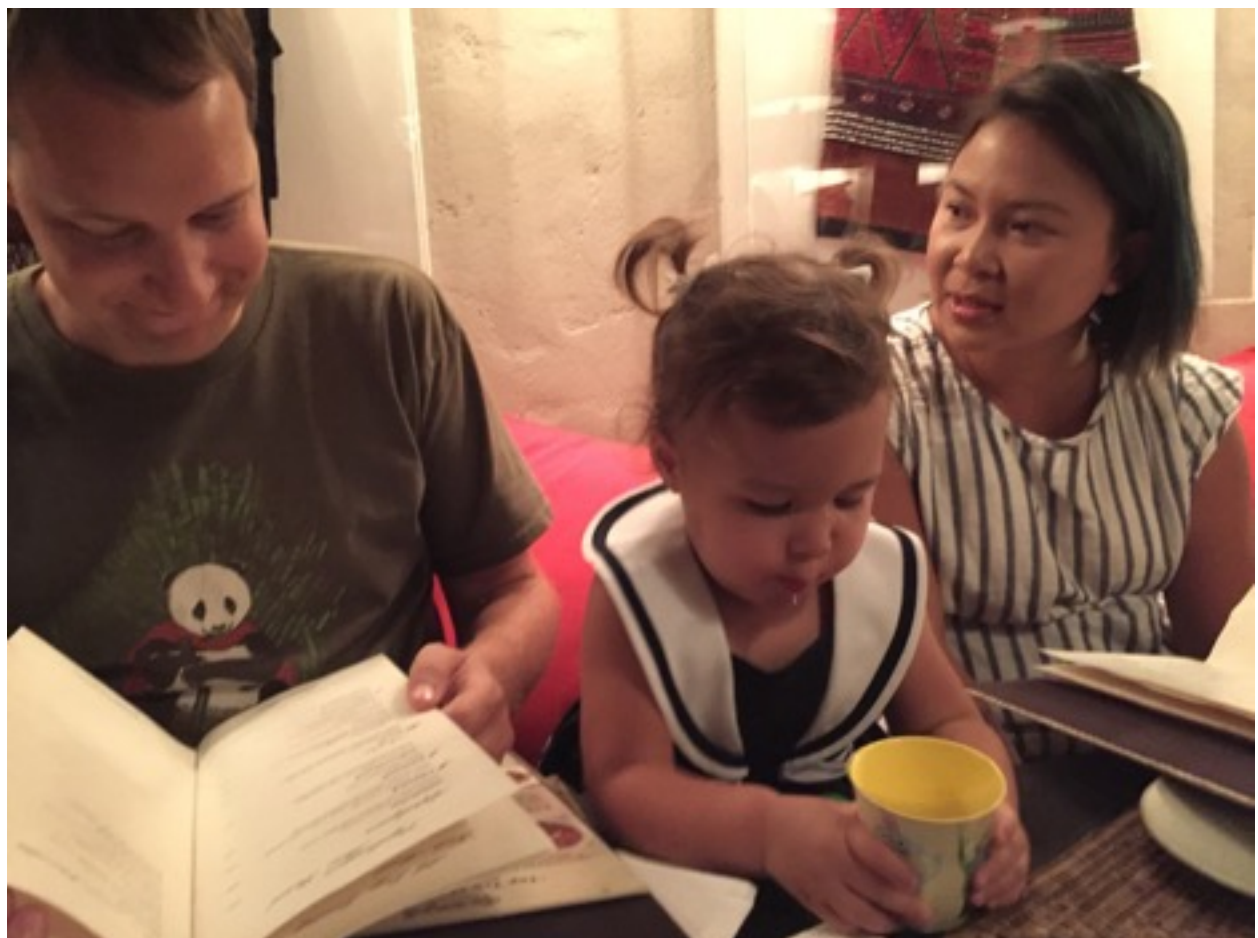


We went to a lovely restaurant called Ruen Tamarind located in a hotel. There was an art exhibit lining a walkway outside called "Songs of my Soul".



ณัฐวิณี นิเทศ
RUEN TAMARIND







Tai's young male cousin and his girlfriend joined us.







A few photos I took as we walked outside the hotel. We then walked across the street to a square where there was a very gaudy looking restaurant with an overdone display of flowers and red velvet.





Ariya chose a mint chocolate chip popsicle from a fanciful display of ice cream from a street vendor.



One of many, many Tuk-Tuks that drive around the city like New York taxi cabs.



A family photo underneath a
full moon in Chiang Mai,
Thailand.





**March 23 - Adam going
to his tattoo appointment
on the motorbike.**





March 24 - Ariya helping
"Yai" Nong do laundry.
Nong is so short and Ariya is
so tall that Ariya at age 2 is
half Nong's size!

We went shopping at
the multi-story indoor
market on both sides
of the street.





This was a cute idea to have stationary bikes for kids to play on while their parents shopped.

Below a view of some of the floors filled with clothes, shoes, food and more.





Ariya napping again!
She missed us buying
her a pink Tuk-Tuk toy.
Tuk-Tuks are 3 wheeled
motorbikes with a seat
for two in the back used
to taxi people around
the city.

Heading back to Tai's Mom's
restaurant, we stopped in a
bookstore next door and saw
one of Tai's dad's, Ron Emmons,
published books on the shelf. He
is a travel photo journalist.





Back at Nong's restaurant, Ratana's Kitchen, Ariya was awake and playing with her new pink Tuk-Tuk. Whenever driving in the car, she always pointed and said "Tuk-Tuk" when she saw them driving by.



As we walked behind the restaurant, I took this photo of the temple at sunset.





March 26 - Ariya wore this little dress I bought her at the market.

Tai and I headed out to get our nails done. I took this photo of a small old temple near the nail place.





Pedicure cost about \$9.



Then we went shopping and bought Thai style pants like the kind Yul Brenner wore in the movie "The King and I".





Ariya wearing her Thai traditional pants and top. Tai and I wearing our Thai clothing at a place we stopped for ice cream.





We next went to a very old Buddhist temple. We walked to this area with a lake with fish and lots of birds.



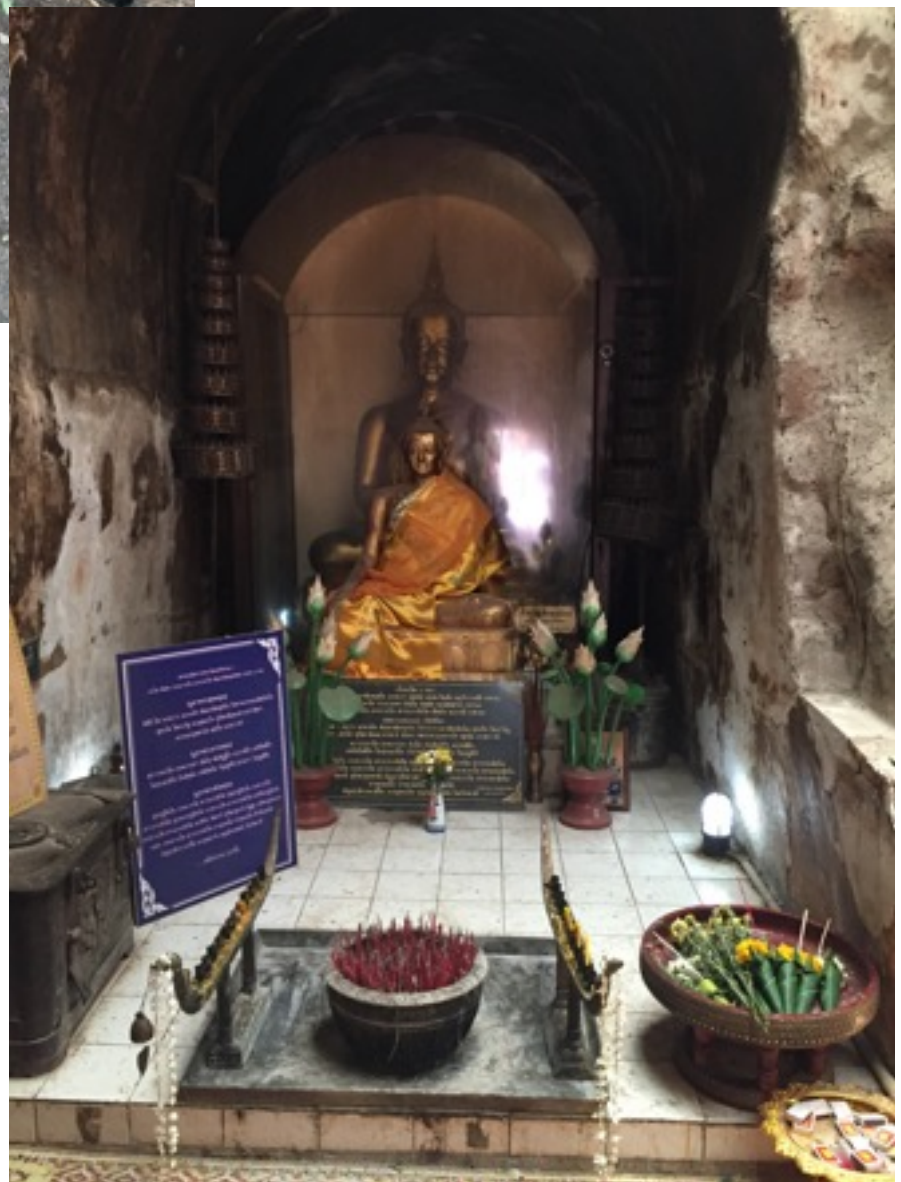


There were tons of pigeons everywhere...in the trees, on the ground. Just as I was saying it reminded me of Hitchcock's movie "The Birds", a pigeon tried to land on Tai's shoulder. Then another pigeon tried to land on my shoulder. We both screamed and said let's get out of here!

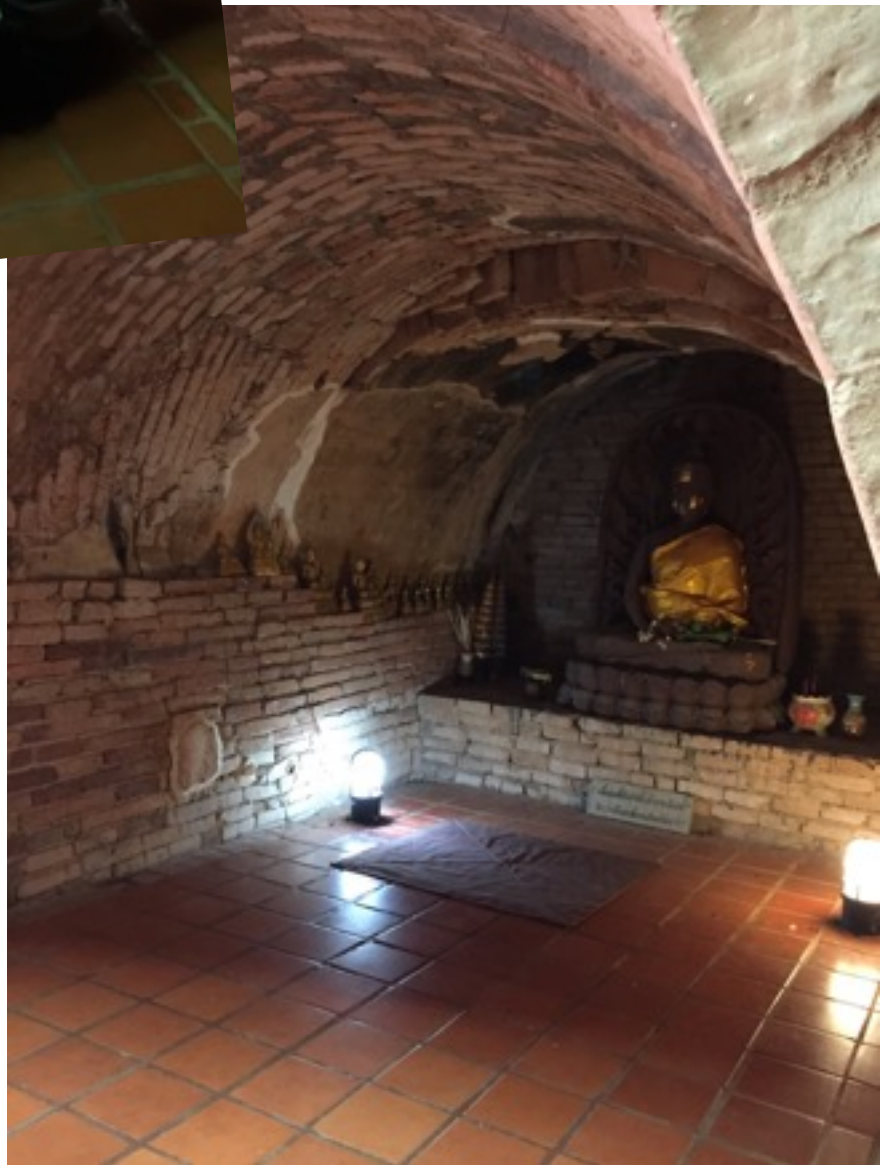




There were three tunnels going underneath, so we walked into one of them. There were shrines inside.













Very old statues at
the old temple.



Driving around the
old wall of the city
and the moat.







Ariya relaxing at home with the kitty before getting dressed up to go out to dinner with Tai and Adam to meet friends.





March 27 - Ariya trying on my shoes. We went to lunch at a place called Cafe DinDin.





It was a very kid friendly place with toy ducks on the tables.





I got a Caesar salad with
grilled chicken and
coconut juice.





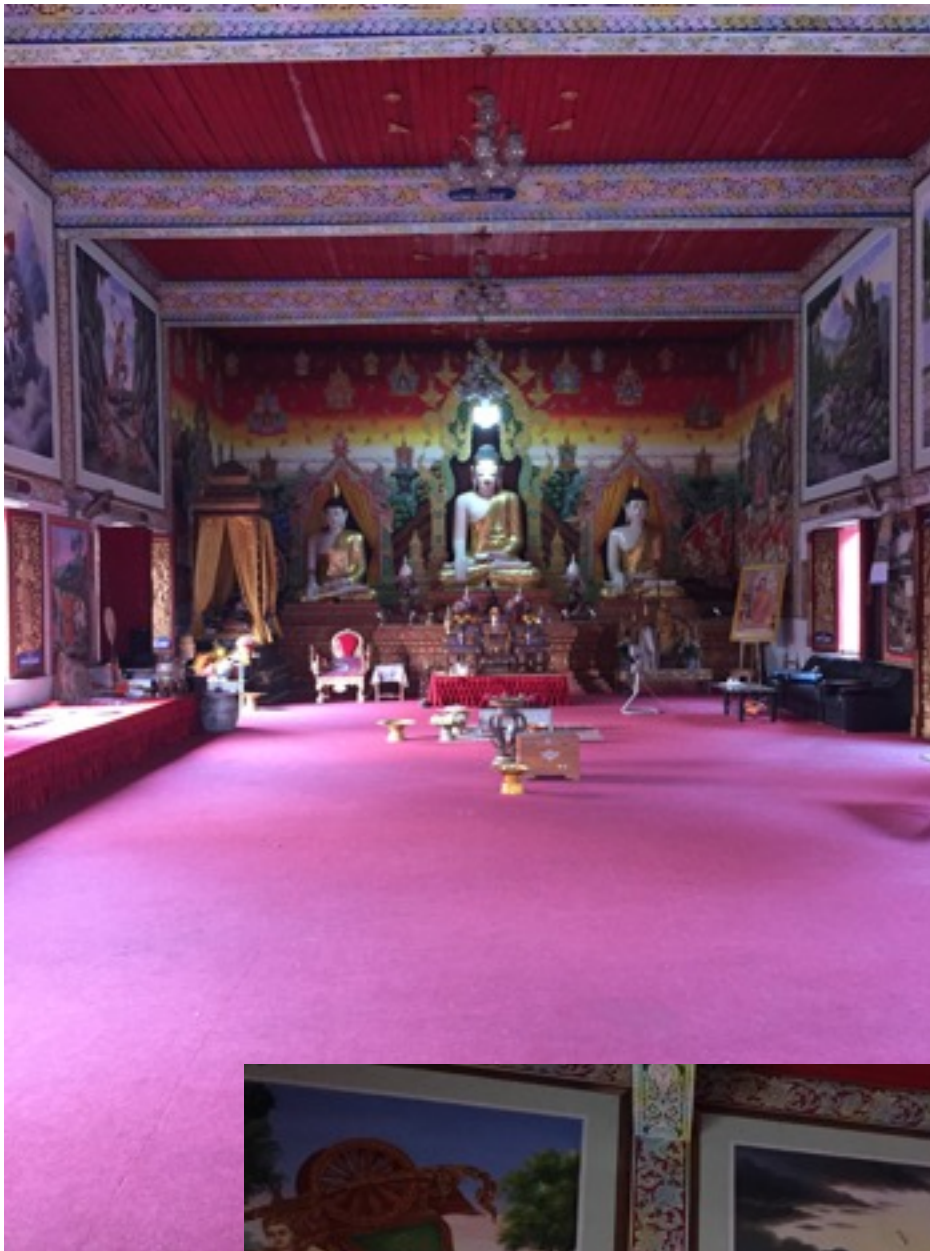
And a dessert called "roti. It's like a sweet grilled crispy pancake. This one came with vanilla ice cream and chocolate chips. So delicious!





Then off to the grocery store and to the outside market where Ariya got new hair barrettes and Tai bought a cloth to wrap around and help carry Ariya.

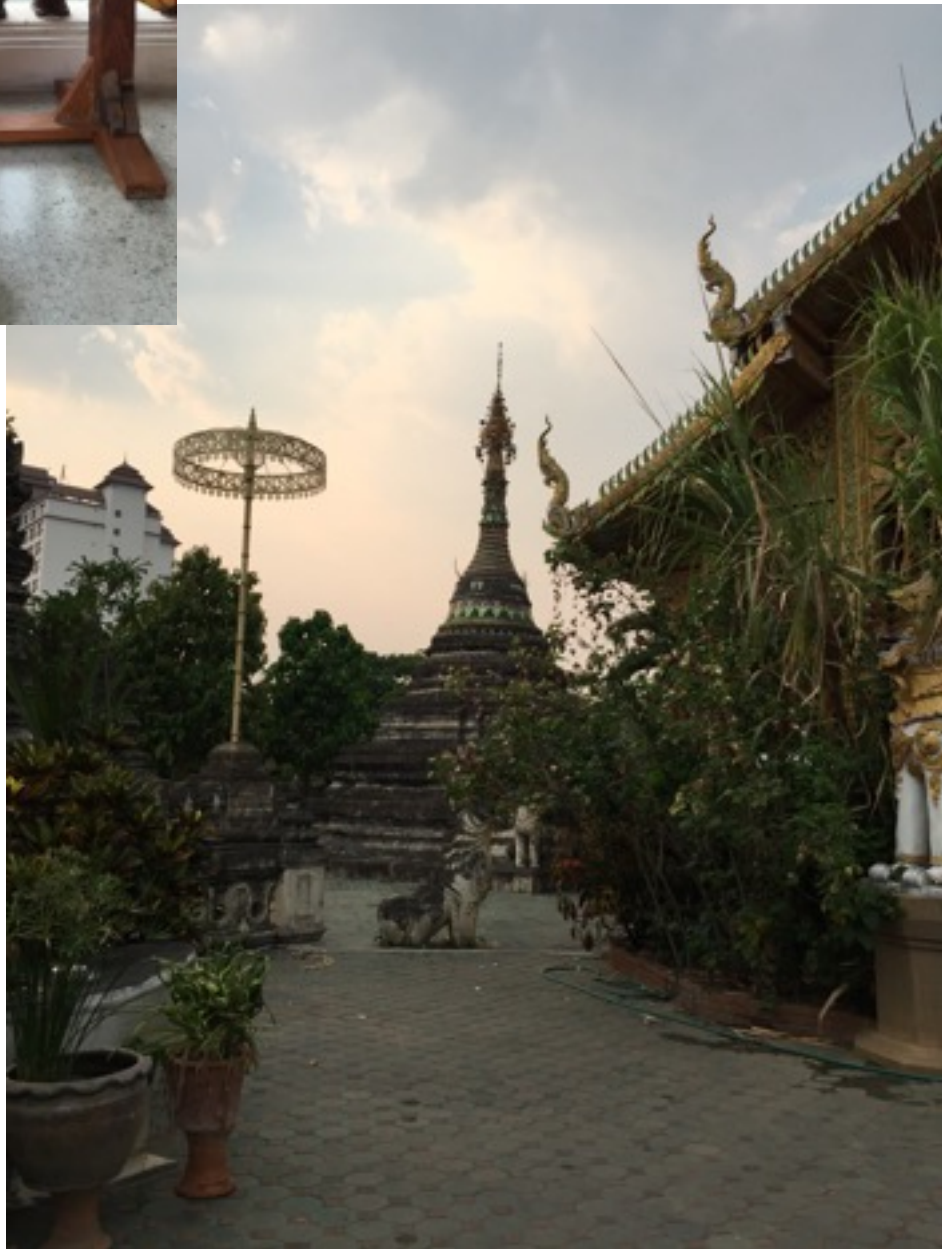




Back to Ratana's Kitchen parking lot I went into the big temple and took these photos.











We walked down to old town to go to the Sunday night market. It was so hot and humid and then the market was so crowded. Got a mango smoothie and shopped a bit. Ariya wanted to get out of her stroller and push it through the crowd. I wanted to leave so we went back to the restaurant and got a taxi to take Ariya and I back to the house, while Tai and Adam went back to shop at the market.





March 28 - Got up early to go to the Chiang Mai Zoo. Although still hot, the humidity had lessened up and was more tolerable.





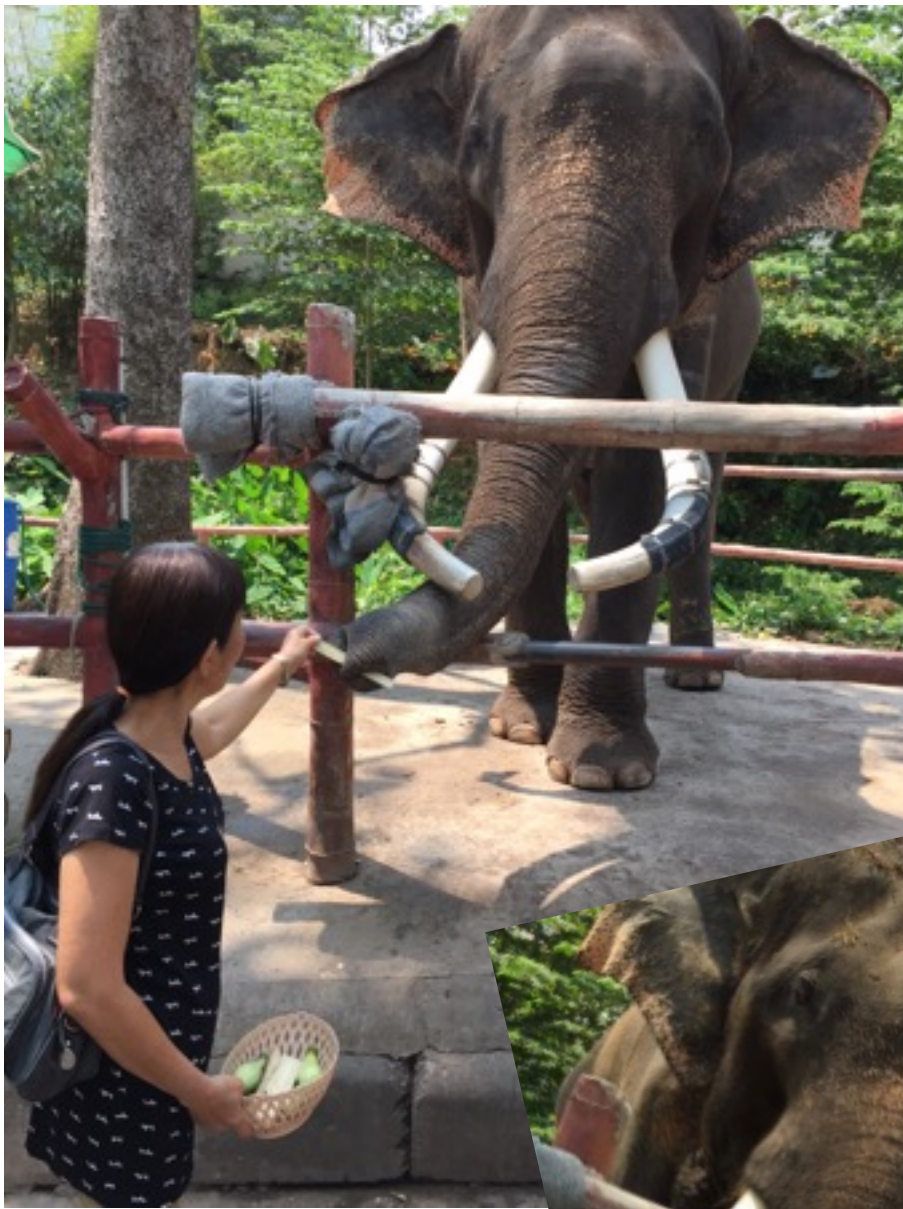
Ariya was a bit nervous to feed the giraffe the green bean.













Then to see the panda bears. They were inside with their own exhibit area and an extra charge to see them. The male above was sleeping, but the female to the right was eating bamboo non-stop.







We spent a lot of time
with the pandas. They're
so adorable.









The female tore down a small bamboo tree and chomped on the branches.







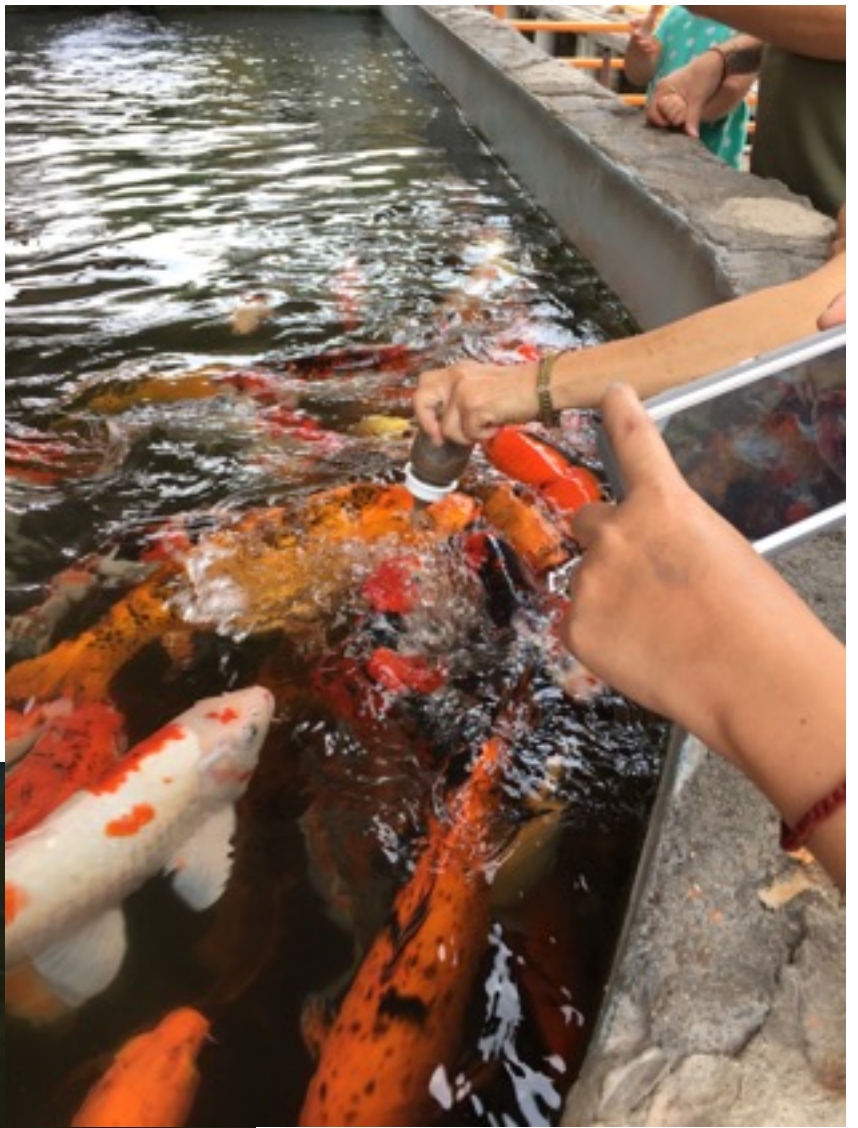
White lions outside across from the panda exhibit.



Then to the aquarium and
Nong and Ariya posed
below.



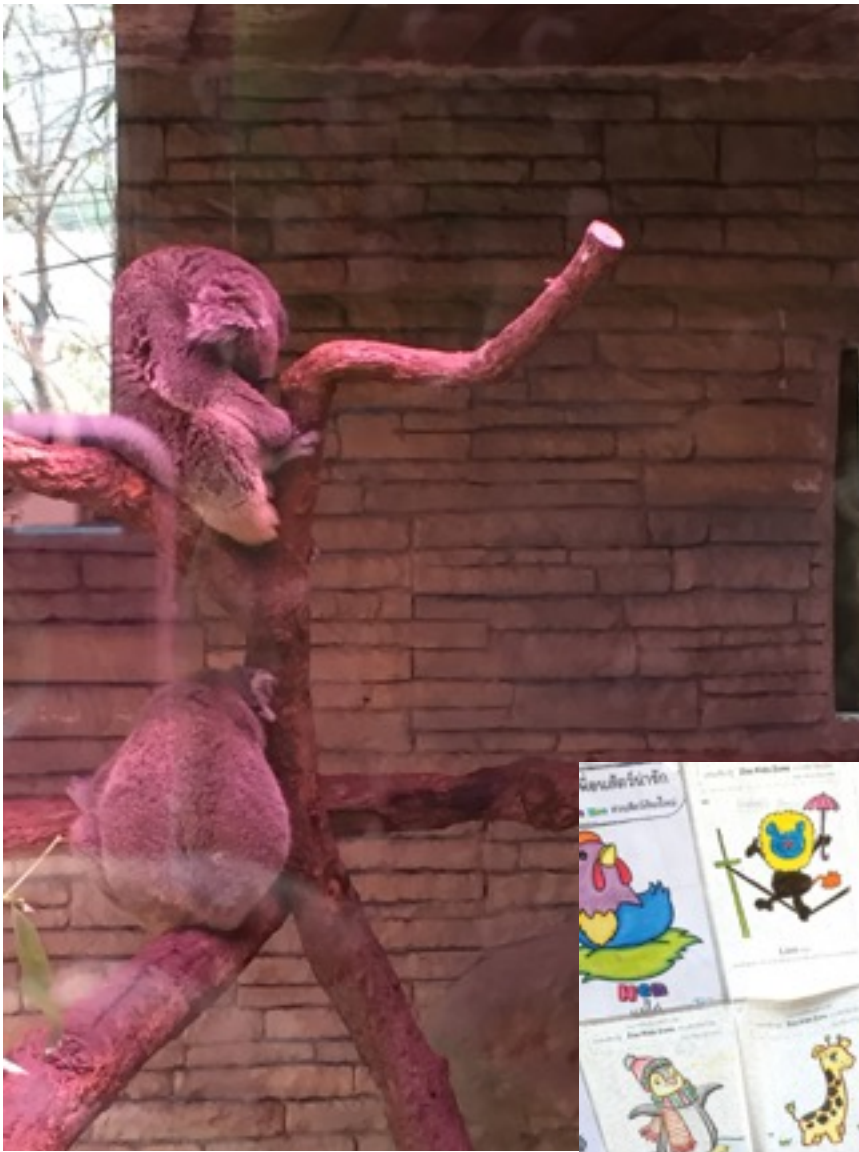
Nong feeding the carp fish
from a baby bottle. They
sell food at many of the
animal areas so you could
feed them.





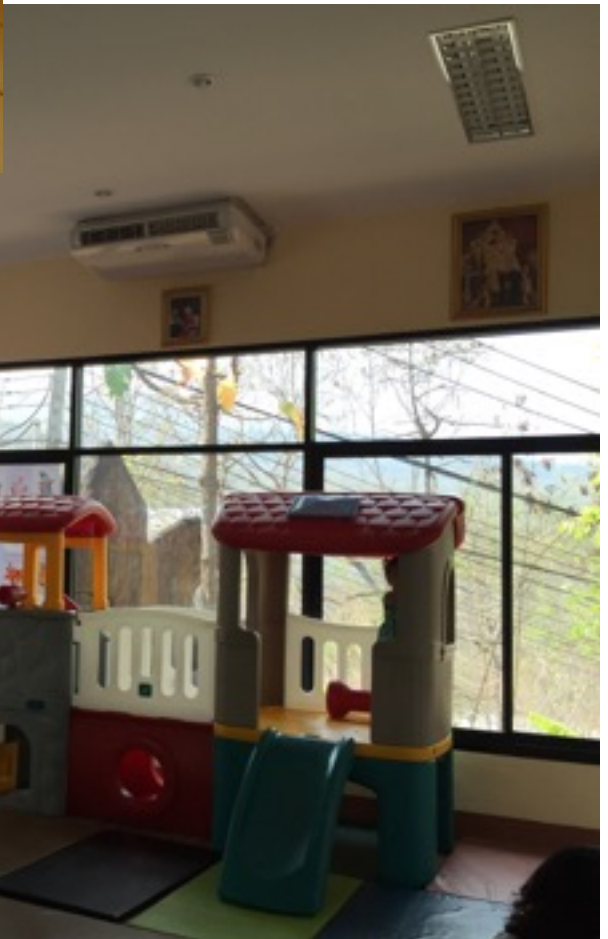
Fun photo ops outside the aquarium.





Tai and Nong stayed in the car with the air conditioner running, while Adam and I took Ariya to see the koala bears. They were sleeping. We walked up a hill to the kids' center where we found an indoor play area that was air conditioned. We stayed a while to cool off and let Ariya climb on the slide.





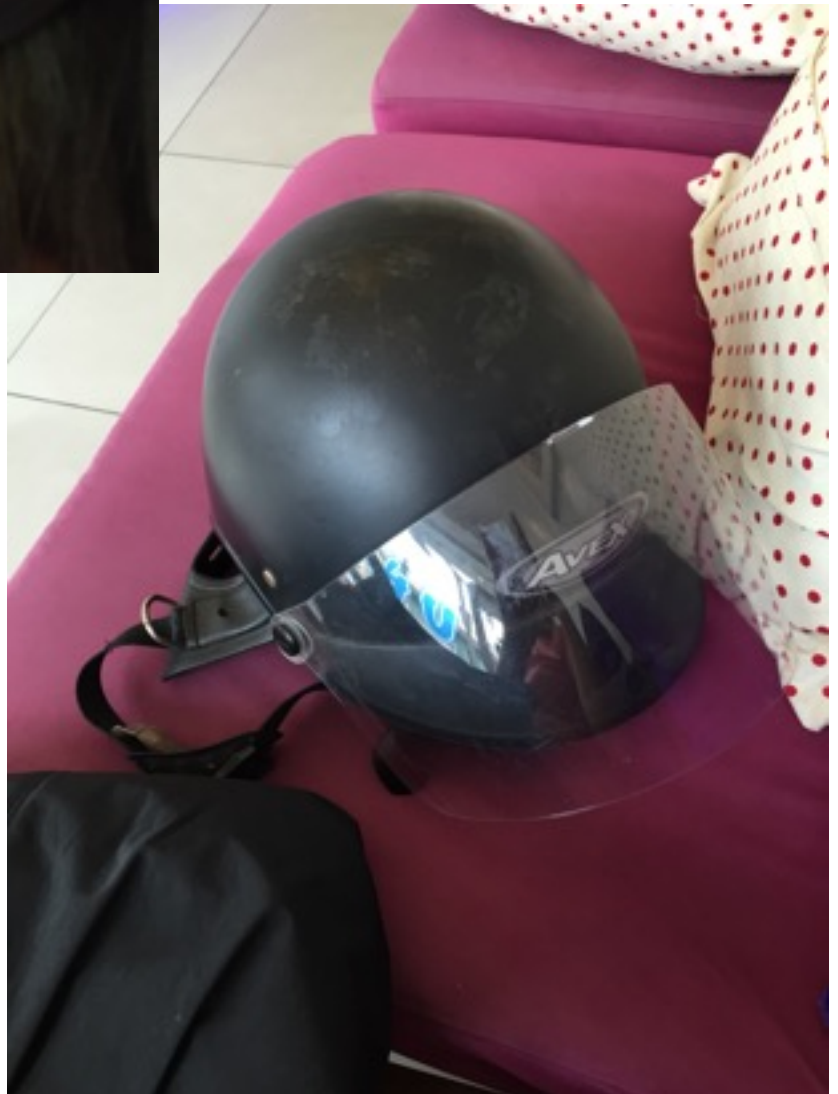


Last stop the penguin exhibit. They weren't active at all, so we didn't stay long.





March 29 - Tai drove me on the back of the motorbike to go to the dental office to get my teeth cleaned. The motorbike ride was fun!





It cost only \$20 to get my
teeth cleaned and they
were great!





After my teeth were cleaned,
I walked a half a block to
Ratana's Kitchen to eat lunch
and meet Tai. Another great
mango ice cream smoothie
and delicious tempura and
spring rolls.

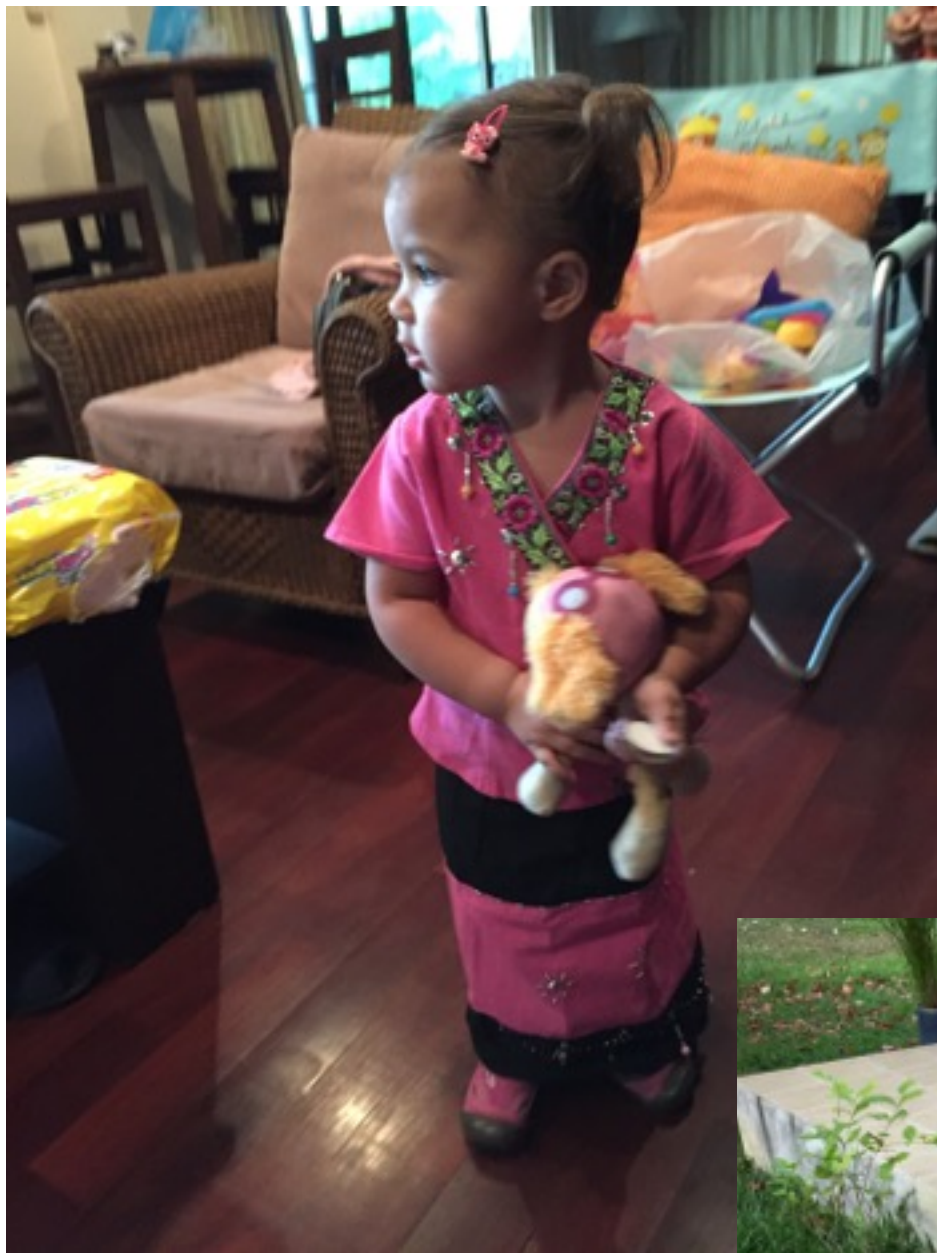


There are pictures of the Thai
Royal Family all over Chiang Mai.
This one is in the parking lot
behind Ratana's Kitchen.



March 30 - This plant was outside of Nong and Ron's house. It smelled like Jasmine but the flowers were different. They grew downward.





March 31 - We dressed Ariya up in a northern Hill Tribes style outfit that Tai bought at the market. We went to the Chiang Mai Cultural Center for dinner and a show.





We arrived at the Chiang Mai Cultural Center at sunset. Below is a Chiang Mai mailbox.

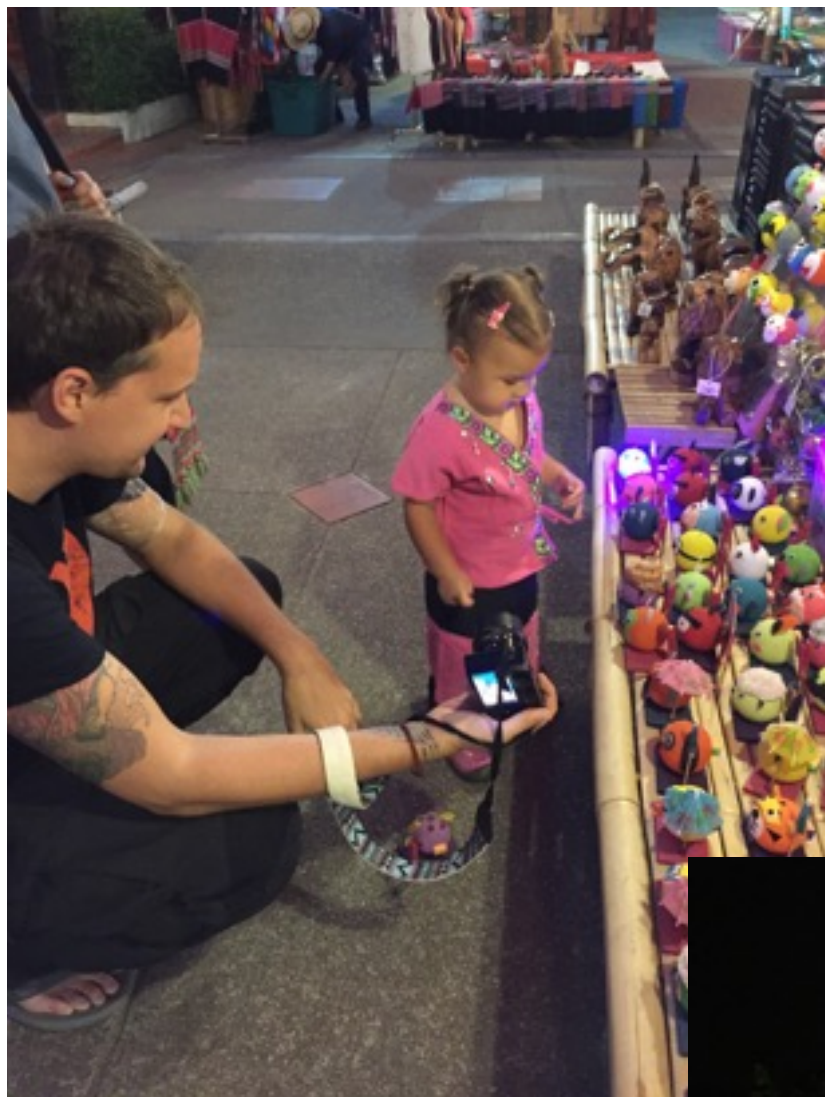






More fun photos.





More shopping!





Then inside for the dinner show.
We were served soup and a
buffet style at our table that they
refilled if we finished anything.





Tai and Adam wanted to sit on the cushions on the floor, but they indulged me and we sat at the booths with tables.





Ariya met another
little friend.



Traditional Thai dance.







Adam and Ariya found cushions to sit on to watch the show.







At the end the dancers invited some audience members up on stage. Ariya was the first one up. I followed later after her.

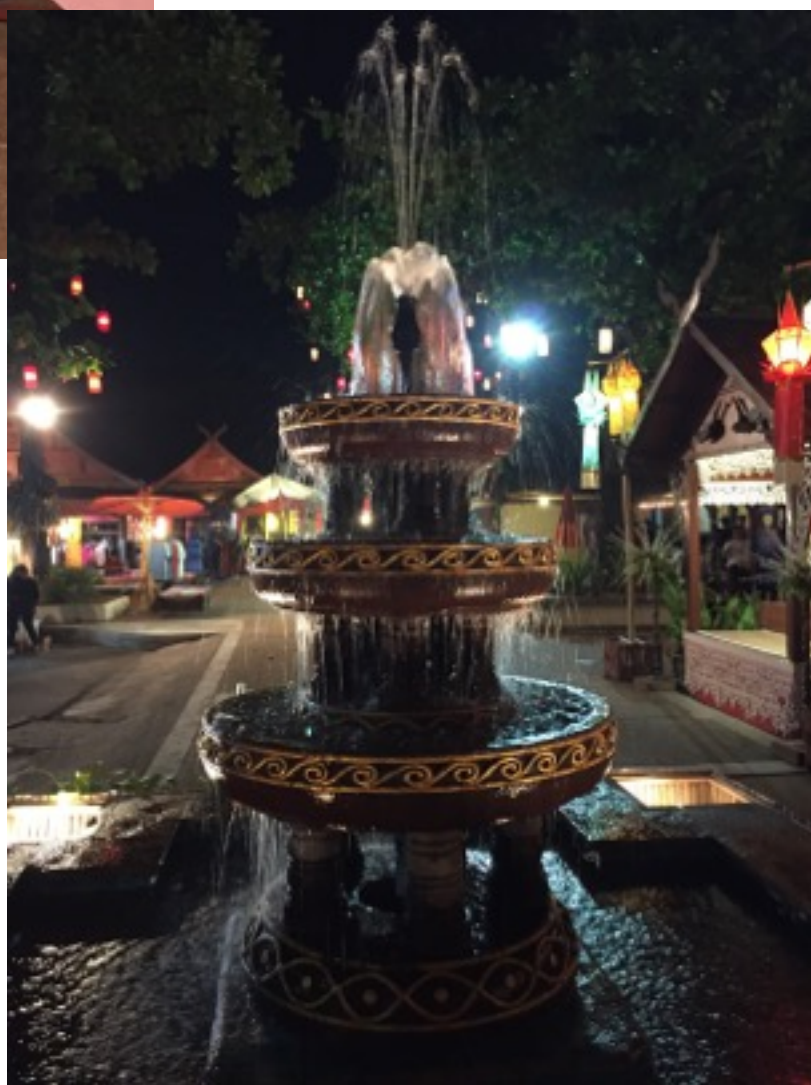






Outside after the show
Ariya posed with one
of the dancers. There
were many different
groups of the Hill Tribes
displaying their
particular costumes and
dance styles.













The dancers in the llama costume begged and received a money tip from an audience member.





The finale.



April 1 - Tai, Ariya and I took a drive around the neighborhood near the house and found this factory that makes these colorful elephant statues.









We then stopped for lunch at an Italian restaurant and organic garden near the house called Tamarind Garden Cafe.

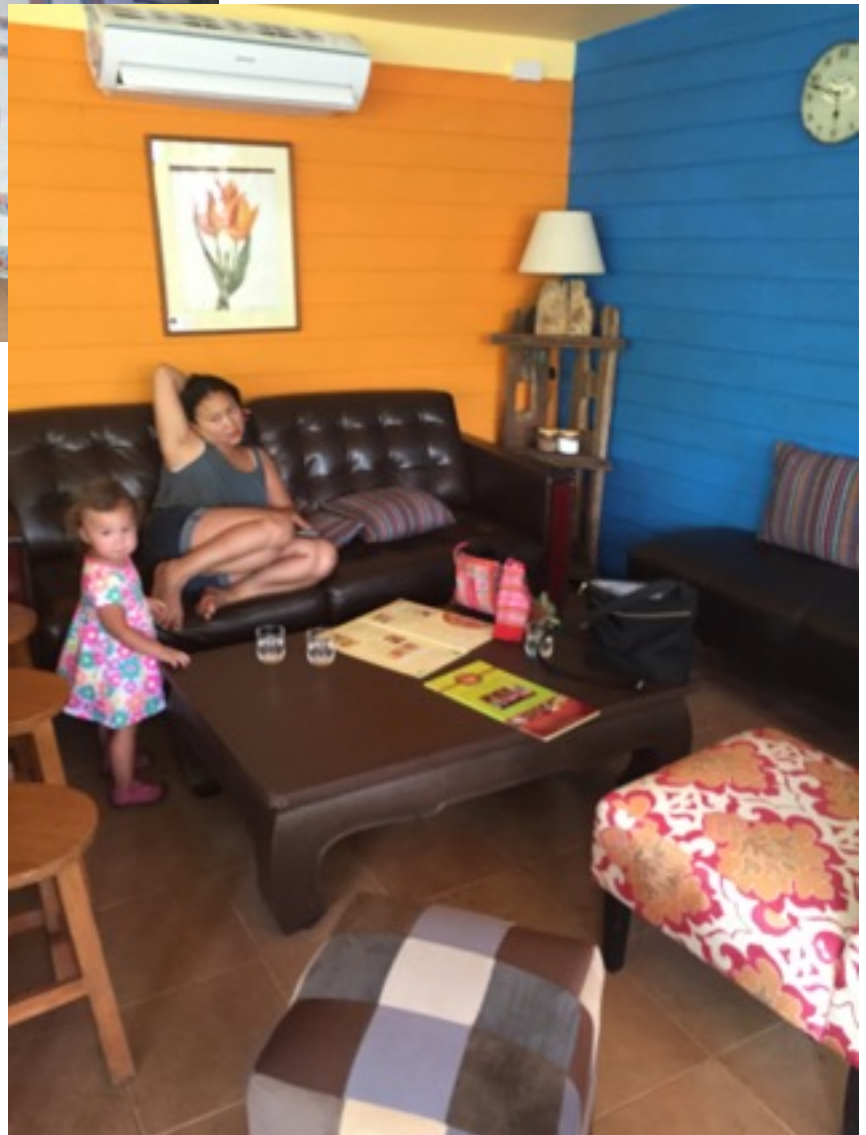








Although the garden area was so nice, due to the heat I wanted to sit indoors in the air conditioning. We were the only ones there and had the whole room to ourselves. Tai called Adam to drive the motorbike over and join us.







April 2 - Nong and Tai wanted to take Ariya around to a number of markets so they could show her to long time friends and some family. One of the stores was kids' clothing and Nong bought Ariya four outfits of clothes for just \$15.



Drove back out to the suburbs to a great organic farm restaurant called Organic Coffee Bus.

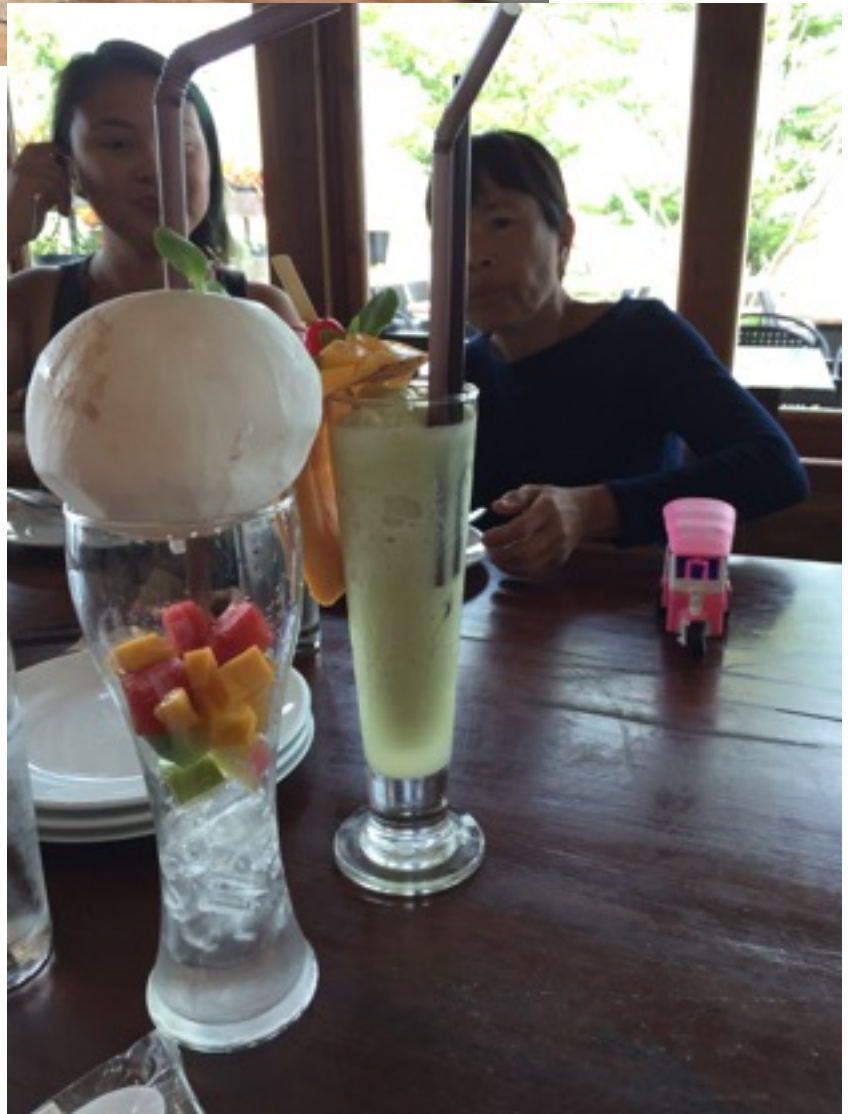






They grow all the food
right in a farm behind and
deliver it fresh to the table.







Adam's fancy coffee drink and my grilled chicken salad.





April 3 - I dressed Ariya up in one of the outfits Nong bought while I wore a skirt that was a gift from Ariya's Great Aunt.





Ariya has a devilish look on her face, as she reaches into my purse. And back to Cafe DinDin to meet Tai's high school friends for lunch.







Back to the front of Ratana's Kitchen where we flagged down a Tuk-Tuk to take Ariya on her first ride. Adam was promising her a ride, and we finally got it in two days before leaving. Tai and Nong stayed at the restaurant while we were driven around the old city moat.





Our driver had an orange mohawk but was a careful driver.







Ariya saw me holding on
and she did the same
looking curiously
everywhere.





Dressed in another new dress Nong bought, we all went out to our final dinner on our last night.





Samsen Villa restaurant
an outdoor restaurant
overlooking the Ping
River.





We met up with Adam's friend, Sean, from Vegas backpacking in Thailand, and his friend Greg, another backpacker he had met on his first trip to Thailand and Nick from England who is married to Tai's friend who we had dinner with earlier on.





A ton of food was ordered.



I noticed the lights on the bridge changed color—blue, red and green.







Ariya enjoyed playing on the swing and teeter-totter that they had for kids to play on. But one of us had to leave the table and chase after her, as she almost ran out of the restaurant into the street.



Nick is a hypnotherapist and Reiki Master and
calmed Ariya down immediately.





April 5 - Adam caught an earlier flight from Chiang Mai airport to Guangzhou, China and Tai, Ariya and I had to fly to Bangkok Airport to connect to our flight to Guangzhou. These pics are at the Bangkok Airport. We met up with Adam in Guangzhou and all got on the 12 hour long flight to Los Angeles and then to Vegas.







