

JULY 2011 FINANCIAL JOURNAL

Friday, July 1st, 2011

- 40 Baht @ Noonoy School: two iced teas, snacks
 - 400 Baht for laundry—as in every financial journal, I must mention that this is a pretty ridiculous amount to pay for laundry in Surat—you can get the same amount done for about 80-90 Baht. I just choose to go to this one place because they do the best job and they iron everything.
 - 140 Baht @ Good Health for dinner: tofu green curry, rice, appetizer, iced lemon juice.
- Total Food/Drink: 180 Baht Total Personal: 400 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht
TOTAL: 580 Baht

Saturday, July 2nd, 2011

- 100 Baht contribution to cook out food
 - 27 Baht @ corner store for popsicles
- Total Food/Drink: 127 Baht Total Personal: 0 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht
TOTAL: 127 Baht

Sunday, July 3rd, 2011

- 40 Baht for lunch: noodle soup and iced tea
 - 80 Baht contribution to house cleaning supplies
 - 15 Baht at the corner store for 3 bottles of water
 - 80 Baht for dinner at an Isan restaurant
 - 90 Baht for ice cream at Swensen's
- Total Food/Drink: 225 Baht Total Personal: 80 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht
TOTAL: 305 Baht

TOTALS FOR THE WEEK

Food/Drink Total: 532 Baht **Personal Total:** 480 Baht
Transportation Total: 0 Baht **TOTAL:** 1,012 Baht

Monday, July 4th, 2011

- 25 Baht @ 7-11: large water and banana cake
 - 110 Baht for dinner at the most delicious Thai restaurant in town.
 - 33 Baht @ 7-11: large water and milk
 - 35 Baht @ fruit stand: 2 dragon fruits
- Total Food/Drink: 203 Baht Total Personal: 0 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht
TOTAL: 203 Baht

Tuesday, July 5th, 2011

- 34 Baht @ Noonoy School for snacks and a drink
 - 20 Baht for an iced coffee near Super English
- Total Food/Drink: 54 Baht Total Personal: 0 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht
TOTAL: 54 Baht

Wednesday, July 6th, 2011

- 300 Baht for birthday present
 - 220 Baht for Joseph's birthday dinner at Ciao Italia
- Total Food/Drink: 220 Baht Total Personal: 300 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht
TOTAL: 520 Baht

Thursday, July 7th, 2011

- 30 Baht for lunch @ rice lady—Pad Ka Prow
 - 48 Baht @ 7-11: large water, soda, loaf of bread
- Total Food/Drink: 78 Baht Total Personal: 0 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht
TOTAL: 78 Baht

Friday, July 8th, 2011

- 26 Baht @ Tops for 2 large waters
- 24 Baht @ Noonoy School for snacks
- 210 Baht @ Sahathai for school supplies: loose leaf paper, paper clips, highlighter, construction paper.
- 10 Baht for a drink at the corner store next to Super English
- 140 Baht for dinner at Good Health—drink, main dish, and rice.

Total Food/Drink: 200 Baht Total Personal: 210 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 410 Baht

Saturday, July 9th, 2011

- 125 Baht for fruit at the fruit stand
- 50 Baht for my share of the water bill
- 150 Baht for dinner with SE teachers at the Isan restaurant “under the bridge”.
- 310 Baht @ Tops Daily→ large water, soda, yogurt, bread, peanut butter, jelly. Peanut butter is very expensive here—137 Baht, and the yogurt was 95. Worth it for a PB&J sandwich, though.

Total Food/Drink: 585 Baht Total Personal: 50 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 635 Baht

Sunday, July 10th, 2011

- 40 Baht for lunch: stir-fried veggies and seafood with rice and an egg.
- 55 Baht @ corner store: 2 large waters, soda, and 2 posicles.

Total Food/Drink: 95 Baht Total Personal: 0 Baht Total Transportation: 0 baht

TOTAL: 95 Baht

TOTALS FOR THE WEEK

Food/Drink Total: 1,435 Baht

Personal Total: 560 Baht

Transportation Total: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 1,995 Baht

Monday, July 11th, 2011

- 105 Baht for gas for my motorbike
- 98 Baht @ stationery store for a ream of plain white copy paper
- 40 Baht for lunch: veggie fried rice with egg
- 45 Baht @ fruit stand for rambutan and dragon fruit
- 400 Baht for a new black cardigan—I know that this sounds ridiculous but it’s really hard to find cardigans here, never mind nice ones.
- 19 Baht @ 7-11 for iced tea
- 75 Baht for dinner—Corner Guy’s amazing fried coconut and ceviche-like seafood thing

Total Food/Drink: 179 Baht Total Personal: 498 Baht Total Transportation: 105 Baht

TOTAL: 782 Baht

Tuesday, July 12th, 2011

- 51 Baht @ Family Mart: water, Coke, and a whiteboard marker (23 Baht)
- 34 Baht @ Noonoy School for snacks and tea
- 19 Baht @ the corner store near Super: yogurt and dried fruit
- 125 Baht for yoga class
- 40 Baht for dinner—pad see iew with veggies

Total Food/Drink: 121 Baht Total Personal: 148 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 269 Baht

Wednesday, July 13th, 2011

- 2,500 Baht @ the dentist for three fillings
- 140 Baht for dinner at P. Roon’s—best Thai food in town.

Total Food/Drink: 140 Baht Total Personal: 2,500 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 2,640 Baht

Thursday, July 14th, 2011

- 40 Baht @ Coffee Zone for an iced tea shake
- 35 Baht for lunch: veggie fried rice with egg
- 125 Baht for yoga class
- 30 Baht for dinner
- 77 Baht @ 7-11: water, soda, chocolate, and q-tips (40 Baht)

Total Food/Drink: 142 Baht Total Personal: 165 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 307 Baht

Friday, July 15th, 2011

Saturday, July 16th, 2011

Sunday, July 17th, 2011

*** For these three days I was in Koh Phangan. While I was on this weekend holiday I did not keep track of my expenses at all. Over the course of the weekend I bought the following: a bus ride to and from the pier, a ferry ticket to and from the island, a songteaw roundtrip from the pier in Phangan to the main beach, a taxi boat roundtrip from the main beach to Haad Yuan, bungalow accommodation for two nights, food for three days, and other personal expenses. I am going to include this entire weekend under the category of "Personal" because it was completely an elective trip. So in conclusion, I have no idea of the specifics of what I spent money on, but I do know how much I spent in total: about 2,600 Baht. ***

TOTAL: 2,600 Baht

TOTALS FOR THE WEEK

Food/Drink Total: 582 Baht

Personal Total: 5,911 Baht

Transportation Total: 105 Baht

TOTAL: 6,598 Baht

Monday, July 18th, 2011

- 100 Baht for photocopies
- 35 Baht for lunch: fried veggie rice with egg
- 20 Baht for guava from the fruit stand
- 125 Baht for yoga class
- 30 Baht for dinner: veggie pad see iew
- 85 Baht @ 7-11: 3 large waters, banana cake, soda, yogurts

Total Food/Drink: 170 Baht Total Personal: 225 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 395 Baht

Tuesday, July 19th, 2011

- 28 Baht @ Post Office—mailing letter to USA.
- 125 Baht for yoga class
- 180 Baht for dinner at Ciao Italia—very expensive but the only really decent salad in town.

Total Food/Drink: 180 Baht Total Personal: 153 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 333 Baht

Wednesday, July 20th, 2011

- 22 Baht @ 7-11: iced tea and banana cake

Total Food/Drink: 22 Baht Total Personal: 0 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 22 Baht

Thursday, July 21st, 2011

- 53 Baht @ 7-11: cashews, tea, and water
- 35 Baht @ 7-11: tea, water, and yogurt

Total Food/Drink: 88 Baht Total Personal: 0 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 88 Baht

Friday, July 22nd, 2011

- 47 Baht @ 7-11: two small waters, yogurt, banana cake, iced tea
- 15 Baht @ Noonoy School: snacks and a drink
- 44 Baht @ Tops: popcorn, tea, and water

Total Food/Drink: 106 Baht Total Personal: 0 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 106 Baht

Saturday, July 23rd, 2011

- 300 Baht for Thai Massage: two hours = 260 Baht + 40 Baht tip
- 170 Baht for dinner @ seafood restaurant

Total Food/Drink: 170 Baht Total Personal: 300 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 470 Baht

Sunday, July 24th, 2011

- 40 Baht for lunch @ "Rice Lady" → fried rice with egg
- 35 Baht @ the corner store: waters and milk
- 390 Baht for laundry
- 300 Baht for phone credit
- 72 Baht @ 7-11: water, soda, juice, two yogurts

Total Food/Drink: 147 Baht Total Personal: 690 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 837 Baht

TOTALS FOR THE WEEK

Food/Drink Total: 883 Baht

Personal Total: 1,368 Baht

Transportation Total: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 2,251 Baht

Monday, July 25th, 2011

- 150 Baht @ motorcycle repair shop for two new rearview mirrors
- 22 Baht @ 7-11: banana cake and tea
- 100 Baht @ My Cup for iced tea and cake
- 125 Baht for yoga class
- 282 Baht @ Tops: peanut butter, jelly, bread, apples, waters, milk

Total Food/Drink: 404 Baht Total Personal: 125 Baht Total Transportation: 150 Baht

TOTAL: 679 Baht

Tuesday, July 26th, 2011

- 225 Baht for inner tubes for motorbike tire—had a flat tire and had to replace the inner tube two times in one day—only 100-125 Baht for one tube.
- 34 Baht @ Noonoy School: snacks and tea
- 82 Baht @ 7-11: chocolate, soda, nail polish remover & cotton pads (44 Baht)
- 800 @ Ciao Italia: appreciation dinner for Janet & John Phelps

Total Food/Drink: 872 Baht Total Personal: 44 Baht Total Transportation: 225 Baht

TOTAL: 1,141 Baht

Wednesday, July 27th, 2011

- 35 Baht @ 7-11: yogurt, tea, raisin bread
- 100 Baht for gas for my motorbike
- 40 Baht for lunch: fried veggie rice with egg
- 125 Baht for yoga class

Total Food/Drink: 75 Baht Total Personal: 125 Baht Total Transportation: 100 Baht

TOTAL: 300 Baht

Thursday, July 28th, 2011

- 57 Baht @ 7-11: large water, iced tea, yogurt, banana cake.
- 30 Baht for lunch @ rice lady – pad ka preaw with chicken

- 125 Baht for yoga class

Total Food/Drink: 87 Baht Total Personal: 125 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 212 Baht

Friday, July 29th, 2011

- 57 Baht @ 7-11: large water, iced tea, yogurt, banana cake
- 185 Baht @ Pharmacy—antibiotics, antihistamines, and antibacterial cream
- 150 Baht contribution to house pizza party

Total Food/Drink: 207 Baht Total Personal: 185 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 392 Baht

Saturday, July 30th, 2011

- 200 Baht for food—John's birthday party
- 700 Baht @ Big-C and Makro: presents and alcohol for John's birthday party.

Total Food/Drink: 200 Baht Total Personal: 700 Baht Total Transportation: 0 Baht

TOTAL: 900 Baht

Sunday, July 31st, 2011

- 185 Baht for my part of the monthly electricity bill
- 300 Baht for cell phone credit
- 30 Baht for lunch—pad ka preaw at rice lady
- 80 Baht to fill my motorbike with gas.
- 60 Baht at the Don Nok Sunday night market—for four pairs of earrings!
- 200 Baht @ Ciao Italia—and worth every Baht. Dinner date with Amber.

Total Food/Drink: 230 Baht Total Personal: 545 Baht Total Transportation: 80 Baht

TOTAL: 855 Baht

TOTALS FOR THE WEEK

Food/Drink Total: 2,075 Baht

Personal Total: 1,849 Baht

Transportation Total: 555 Baht

TOTAL: 4,479

TOTALS FOR THE MONTH

Food/Drink TOTAL: 5,507 Baht

Personal TOTAL: 10,168 Baht

Transportation TOTAL: 660 Baht

GRAND TOTAL FOR THE MONTH: 16,335 Baht

Reflections:

At this point I sound like a broken record—I start out every reflection in disbelief of how much money I actually spent in the month. This month, however, far exceeds any shock I have endured up until now. I know it was the trips to Koh Phangan and the dentist that did it, but it's still a bit unsettling to actually see it. That being said, it's still a good value. You get a lot for your money in Thailand. For a little over \$300 (or about 1/3 of my monthly salary) I went to a tropical island, ate good food, and got fillings without having dental insurance. That is not going to be a possibility when I move back to the United States in October. I am grateful to have a job here that allows me to explore and enjoy Thailand.