



## ASIA'S 5 BEST FOOD SPOTS FOR SUN SEEKING FOODIES

**DECEMBER 2015** – Searching for a taste of sunshine and some of the most colourful and delicious #foodporn around? Asia is all that, and a bag of prawn crackers. The ultimate culinary travel destination when it comes to street food, Asia enables foodies to sample some of the world's most amazing local delicacies – all in reach of the roadside. From fresh seafood in Thailand and vibrant noodles in Malaysia to incredible savoury treats in Japan, Asian street food is Instagram's new best friend (and soon to be yours).

A recent survey reveals 47% of young travellers are planning to eat more street food over the next 12 months\*. That's a whole lotta dumplings. To celebrate this drool-worthy truth bomb – and the launch of Topdeck Travel's new Asian trips – the youth travel experts have compiled a definitive list of some the best Asian street food hotspots. Chopsticks, at the ready.

### **Bangkok**

Adventurers looking to experience Bangkok at it's fullest should be sure to stumble upon the city's famous street markets – a feast of local delicacies. Travellers can sample Sukhothai noodles – rice noodles in a broth with slices of roast pork, green beans, ground peanuts and deep-fried pork rind, Nai Mong Hoy Tod – omelettes filled with local oysters or mussels, or everyone's favourite Phad Thai noodles with a choice of topping to get a real taste of Thailand. Tuk Tuk, optional.

## **Vietnam**

Every adventurer needs a pit stop. Whilst experiencing Vietnam's indigenous H'mong lands and absorbing the rich culture and history that this part of the country has to offer, travellers can take five and get their hands on Sapa's most delectable street foods. Dig in to Vietnam's famous beef noodles locally known as Phở bò to Xôi – a breakfast dish made using rice and a choice of filling, and well known for its energy boosting qualities (read: ideal trekking fuel). Or those taking on Vietnam's capital, Hanoi, should treat their taste buds to comforting noodle soup, Pho, and refreshing Rice Paper Rolls, stuffed full of vegetables and fresh prawns, found on sale at street side vendors.

## **Indonesia**

Adventurers visiting Indonesia will not be able to resist hopping around some of the nation's most remote islands, getting stuck in to a range of activities including Cidomo (traditional horse and cart) rides, water sports on Lembongan Island and snorkelling in the turquoise waters of the Gili Islands. This will of course work up an appetite, and Indonesia's vast street food doesn't disappoint. After a hard day on the beach, sunbathers can tuck into Kerak Telor, an egg and rice fritter with an assortment of fillers like shallots, shrimp and grated coconut. Alternatively, slurp on Soto, a moreish soup that comes in many regional variations, including beef ribs and coconut milk in the Betawi region. Delish!

## **Japan**

Those keen to take on Japan can join Topdeck for a trip sampling the perfect balance of both traditional and ultra-modern Japanese culture. No vaycay would be complete without a visit to Japan's culinary capital, Osaka, to enjoy the island nation's best street food dishes. Think, Kushikatsu, a deep-fried meat/vegetable skewer, or Takoyaki, a wheat flour based snack filled with diced octopus. Lastly, flavour fiends must try Okonomiyaki, one of Japan's most famous savoury treats. Picture a 'do it yourself' pancake-style dish with a choice of fillings – one not to miss!

## **Malaysia**

While exploring the streets of Malacca on the southwest coast of Malaysia, there are plenty of delicious street side culinary offerings for gastronomes. Get stuck into Or Luak, an oyster omelette, or one of Malaysia's favourite noodle dishes Char Kway Teow jam packed with shrimp, eggs and vegetables. Malaysian street food is full of colour, and Rojak is no exception – the fruit and vegetable salad is covered in a sweet-savoury sauce, and is a foodie gem not to be missed.

Those seeking sun, sea and street-side feasts, check out Topdeck Travel's brand new Asia trips via [topdeck.travel/destinations/asia](http://topdeck.travel/destinations/asia).

**ENDS**

\*Data from Topdeck's 2015 Global Youth Survey.

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## **About Topdeck Travel:**

A leader in youth group travel, Topdeck delivers life-changing trips around the world for 18-39 year olds.

Started in 1973 by a group of friends with a passion for adventure, Topdeck foundations were set on the spirit of adventure – a value that is still part of the brand's core DNA 40 years later.

Boasting a huge range of trips through Europe, Australia, New Zealand, USA, Canada, the Middle East, Africa and now Asia, Topdeck delivers the big bucket-list travel moments and authentic local experiences so each young adventurer can return home with their own amazing memories, lifelong friendships and stories worth sharing.