

## **Day 29 – A day at Hat Kata [Saturday 19-Feb-2011]**

Even though we were tempted to get up early, we resisted. Not only is Phuket a place that thrives at night, but our next stop is so far away that any attempt to benefit from a westerly travel direction are meaningless.



**The taxi driver that took us from Patong to Hat Kata and back. ½ hour and \$13 each way!**



**Thai lunch in Hat Kata. Pork in red curry.**



**Even Swedes are allowed on this beach in Hat Kata. Heck, every other person is a Swede!**



**Downtown Hat Kata (near Phuket), Thailand**

We rented chairs on the beach of Hat Kata. Along the shore side of the beach are numerous resorts, including Club Med. You can see Tok Toks from various resorts ready to take care of their customers. The beach was packed with Swedes and other Scandinavians.



**This crab at Hat Kata is well camouflaged**



**Exploring the southern edge of Hat Kata. The white blip on the mountain top is Buddha.**



**Giant Buddha can be seen on a hill from Hat Kata looking to the east (Phuket City)**

Our taxi driver was at the agreed upon location in Hat Kata and took us back to Patong, where we started looking for dinner. All in all, it felt like Hat Kata was a bit more structured than Patong and more for resort guests than the wild crowds in Patong. Everywhere we turned in Hat Kata we heard Swedish. It was like we were surrounded by charter tourists. The beach was about the same as Patong, a no cleaner. The chairs were quite ratty in Hat Kata compared to Patong. In Patong our chair master (owner) came by and checked on us every ½ hour and made sure our umbrella was in exactly the right spot for our comfort.

We looked at a Swedish steak house first: Buffalo Steak House. I thought the prices were high relative to other options on the streets. And, unlike the name suggested, they did not offer any buffalo burgers.

We ate Italian for dinner, on a side street to Bangla St in Patong. It tasted great. We had some Italian pizza and red wine with that. The owners were real Italian, and so were many customers. All in all it cost us less than \$35 for two great pizzas with drinks. That is hard to beat even back in the US.

We elbowed our way back along Bangla Street and then home, where we went to bed just after 10PM. We were pretty exhausted from a full day.



**The NEU president is screening Thai shemale candidates for the NEU 2011-2012 board.**