

# Introduction: Thailand's Shipbuilding Industry – A Developing Maritime Player

Thailand's shipbuilding industry is developing its position in the Southeast Asian maritime landscape. Valued at THB 12 billion and projected to exceed USD 1 billion by 2026, the sector is gaining recognition for its craftsmanship in specialized vessels tailored to regional demands. At this year's Thailand International Boat Show A Luxury Lifestyle Event, three established shipyards—PSY Shipyard, Ratanachai Shipyard, and Blue Oceanic Shipyard—will showcase their specialized capabilities and services.

# Thailand's Position in ASEAN's Marine Economy

Located near the Strait of Malacca, Thailand's shipbuilding sector focuses on vessels under 20,000 tons and approximately 1,300 TEU (twenty-foot equivalent units) in container capacity. While regional competitors like Vietnam handle larger vessels up to 100,000 tons, Thailand's shipyards have found their niche in custom builds for marine tourism and regional trade, offering competitive pricing and specialized services.



### PSY Shipyard: Supporting Phuket's Marine Tourism Growth

Located in Phuket, PSY Shipyard has established itself as a significant part of the island's marine infrastructure. Equipped with an 820-ton travel lift and a 40,000-squaremeter hardstand area, the shipyard services superyachts up to 65 meters. PSY's involvement in the Port Macchanu development includes 40 berths for superyachts up to 50 meters.



### Ratanachai Shipyard: From Fishing Vessels to Leisure Craft

Established in 1979, Ratanachai Shipyard has evolved alongside Phuket's marine sector. Originally focused on maintaining fishing vessels, the shipyard now services motor yachts, sailing yachts, and catamarans, accommodating vessels up to 45 meters in length and 9 meters in beam.

Blue Oceanic Shipyard: Developing Sustainable Practices



Based in Trang Province, Blue Oceanic Shipyard demonstrates Thailand's move toward specialized vessel construction. Recent projects include the SC GLORY 4 offshore energy vessel and the TRIPAKEE Series dredgers. The shipyard is working to incorporate emission-reduction systems and hybrid propulsion technologies.

### **Growing Marine Tourism Infrastructure**

Marine tourism in Thailand continues to expand, as evidenced by Phuket's superyacht visits increasing from 41 in 2021 to 148 in 2023—a 260% growth. This development has created new demands for shipyard services, with facilities adapting their capabilities to support this emerging market.

#### Thailand's Role in Regional Marine Services

While Thailand's shipbuilding industry is smaller than some regional competitors, it has established specific service areas, particularly in tourism-driven vessels and specialized maintenance. The country's strategic location and developing expertise in sustainable practices enable it to serve regional maritime needs, though challenges remain in areas such as skilled labor availability and large-vessel capacity.

### Experience Thailand's Marine Excellence – Register Now!

Discover the developments in Thailand's shipbuilding and marine services at the Thailand International Boat Show A Luxury Lifestyle Event. See firsthand how traditional craftsmanship and regional expertise contribute to the maritime industry's growth.

Register now at <u>https://www.thailandinternationalboatshow.com/</u> and connect with established players in Thailand's marine sector.