# British tourist found drowned after Koh Phangan Full Moon Party in ongoing safety concerns



A tragic incident occurred on Koh Phangan, Thailand, when a 54-year-old British woman was found dead on a local beach known for its vibrant Full Moon Parties. According to Thai police, her body washed ashore early on Tuesday morning. Initial examinations, including an X-ray, revealed a significant amount of sand and water in her lungs, strongly indicating that drowning was the likely cause of death. Police Lieutenant Pongnaphat Somboon stated that there were no signs of foul play, and further investigations will involve reviewing CCTV footage to confirm the circumstances surrounding her death.

Local reports suggest that the woman had been drinking the night prior to her death and had ventured into the sea near her bungalow. Tragically, she was due to check out of her accommodation just one day after the island's infamous monthly party. Witnesses indicate that she was found by a local villager during an early morning stroll around 6:30 am. Police noted that her belongings were still in her room, along with her passport, raising no immediate concerns regarding suspicious activity.

The Full Moon Party, which has been a staple of Koh Phangan’s nightlife since the 1980s, attracts thousands of tourists monthly and is renowned for its lively atmosphere. However, the event has faced its share of safety controversies. Following high-profile incidents, including murders and injuries linked to beach parties in the nearby province of Koh Tao, authorities had previously instituted bans on beach gatherings on various islands, sparing only the well-regulated Full Moon Parties. While these gatherings are heavily promoted for their festive nature, they have also drawn scrutiny over safety concerns, leading to official warnings regarding potential risks such as drug use and personal safety.

The tragic death of the British woman serves as a stark reminder of the dangers that can accompany such festivities. In recent years, other tourists have also faced dire circumstances in similar situations, ranging from unfortunate accidents to outright attacks. A case involving a 25-year-old British tourist who died following a fall at a Full Moon Party highlights this ongoing issue, as does a recent incident involving another British tourist found dead after attending the event. Such occurrences have raised questions about the adequacy of safety measures in place, despite the parties being marketed as vibrant and enjoyable experiences.

The Foreign Office has been notified of the incident, and investigations are ongoing to establish a clearer picture of what transpired. Authorities are committed to ensuring the safety of tourists and addressing any lapses that might hinder that goal.

### 📌 Reference Map:

* Paragraph 1 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/asia/southeast-asia/thailand-koh-phangan-full-moon-party-death-b2763191.html), [[2]](https://www.independent.co.uk/asia/southeast-asia/thailand-koh-phangan-full-moon-party-death-b2763191.html)
* Paragraph 2 – [[1]](https://www.independent.co.uk/asia/southeast-asia/thailand-koh-phangan-full-moon-party-death-b2763191.html), [[4]](https://metro.co.uk/2016/03/04/british-tourist-dies-after-full-moon-party-in-thailand-5733851/), [[5]](https://www.thailandnews.co/2024/12/british-tourist-37-found-dead-after-full-moon-party-in-koh-phangan/)
* Paragraph 3 – [[3]](https://news.sky.com/story/thailand-beach-party-ban-after-briton-murders-10384879), [[6]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Full_Moon_Party)

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## Bibliography

1. <https://www.independent.co.uk/asia/southeast-asia/thailand-koh-phangan-full-moon-party-death-b2763191.html> - Please view link - unable to able to access data
2. <https://www.independent.co.uk/asia/southeast-asia/thailand-koh-phangan-full-moon-party-death-b2763191.html> - A 54-year-old British woman was found dead on a beach in Koh Phangan, Thailand, known for its Full Moon Parties. Thai police reported no signs of assault and suspected drowning as the cause of death. The woman had been drinking and swimming near her bungalow the previous night. Authorities are reviewing CCTV footage to confirm the accidental nature of her death.
3. <https://news.sky.com/story/thailand-beach-party-ban-after-briton-murders-10384879> - Following the murders of two British tourists on Koh Tao, Thai authorities banned beach parties on some islands, except for the Full Moon Party on Koh Phangan. The ban aimed to improve safety and address negative publicity affecting tourism. The Full Moon Party was exempt due to its well-organised nature.
4. <https://metro.co.uk/2016/03/04/british-tourist-dies-after-full-moon-party-in-thailand-5733851/> - Stewart Middleton, a 25-year-old British tourist, died after attending a Full Moon Party in Koh Phangan, Thailand. He suffered a fatal fall, believed to be from bumping his head, and was later pronounced dead in hospital. Middleton had been travelling with friends and had planned his trip to coincide with the event.
5. <https://www.thailandnews.co/2024/12/british-tourist-37-found-dead-after-full-moon-party-in-koh-phangan/> - A 37-year-old British tourist was found dead after attending the Full Moon Party in Koh Phangan, Thailand. Witnesses reported he appeared intoxicated and exhausted before his death. Thai authorities are investigating, reviewing CCTV footage, and awaiting blood test results to determine the cause of death.
6. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Full_Moon_Party> - The Full Moon Party is an all-night beach event held monthly in Haad Rin, Koh Phangan, Thailand, since the 1980s. It attracts thousands of tourists and features various music genres. Despite its popularity, the event has faced safety concerns, including drug use, assaults, and robberies, leading to official warnings for tourists.
7. <https://www.khaosodenglish.com/news/2025/03/14/german-tourist-assaulted-after-koh-phangan-full-moon-party-two-indians-arrested/> - A 24-year-old German tourist reported being sexually assaulted by two foreign men near Paradise Bungalow in Koh Phangan after attending the Full Moon Party. Thai police arrested two Indian men in connection with the incident, and investigations are ongoing, including DNA tests and CCTV footage analysis.