

National Parks *in Thailand*



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Preface

At the end of WWII, there were a series of attempts to establish national parks in Thailand, some of which were successful. The main reason for these attempts lay in the rapid growth in population, which created economic pressure. Wildlife habitats were turned into human settlements and farm land. Fertile forests were encroached upon, cleared and afterwards abandoned, left to become derelict old clearings and degraded forests. Wildlife was hunted for sale and for consumption. Some species came to the brink of extinction, while others disappeared forever. For these reasons, the Royal Forest Department proposed that the government establish a number of forests as national parks. A lack of funds and competent personnel to successfully carry out this task meant those forests could only be declared as 'Forest Park'. However, these were the 'seeds' of the national parks of today. In the meantime, legislation was proposed to conserve and protect nature and natural resources through the declaration of national parks. His Majesty the King gave royal assent by signing the National Park Act B.E. 2504 (1961) on the 22nd of September, 1961. According to the Act, a national park is defined as land, which includes mountain, creek, swamp, canal, marsh, basin, waterway, lake, island and seashore which have been designated as national park areas. Those lands should include interesting scenery, and should not be private property legally owned by a person who is not a government entity. This is to keep such land in its original state, preserved for the education and recreation of the people.

On 18th September 1962, Khao Yai National Park was established as the first national park in Thailand, covering an area of 2,165.55 sq.km. in Nakhon Ratchasima, Prachin Buri, Nakhon Nayok and Saraburi provinces. From the time Khao Yai was established to the present, 103 national parks have been created, covering nearly 52,782 sq.km. or over 10 percent of the total land area of the country. A further 45 new national parks are in the process of being established, covering an additional 20,862 sq.km. (as of August 2005).

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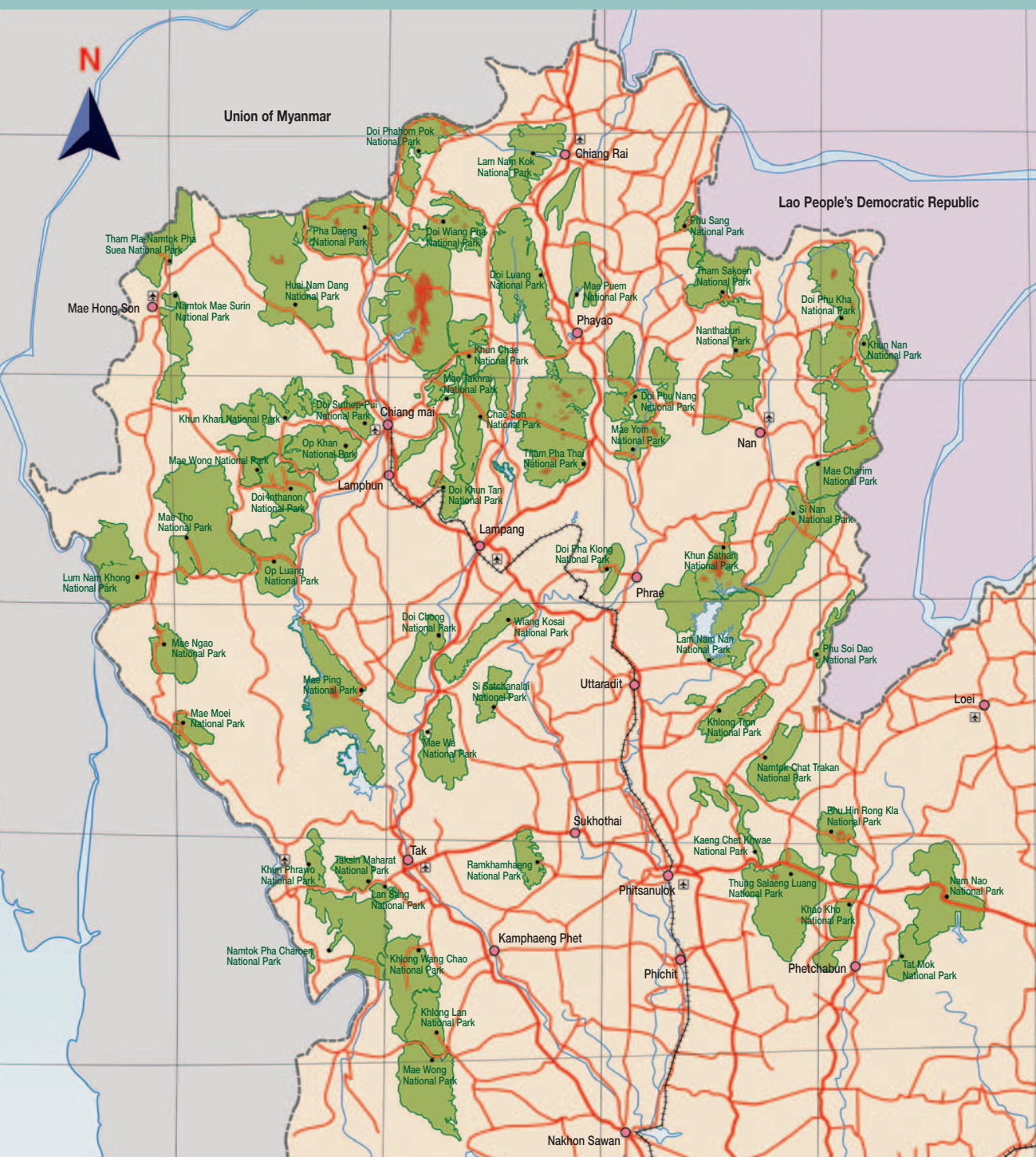




“North Thailand is home to 34 national parks with further 25 natural sites planned for designation. The parks typically cover and rugged mountain area northward from Phetchabun province. They function as watershed for several rivers.”

National Park in The North

A detailed map of Northern Thailand showing its geographical features, major cities, and numerous national parks. The map includes labels for neighboring countries like Myanmar and Laos, as well as various provinces such as Chiang Mai, Lamphun, and Phayao. A compass rose indicates North. Major roads are shown in red, and rivers in blue.

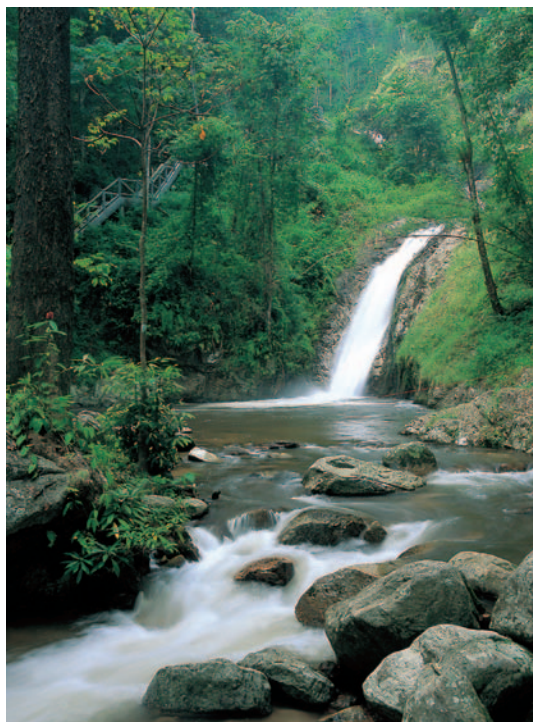


Chae Son National Park

Chae Son National Park covers an area of 768 square kilometres in northeastern Lampang. The national park is one of the Lampang's major attractions and offers hot spring and waterfalls proving the fact that the earth's underneath is circulated in the high temperature. Since 1988, it has been announced to be the 58th national park of Thailand. Furthermore, it received the award of the best natural attractions in Thailand in 2000 to promote the national park's tourism.

Geography

The national park is a mountainous area with 81 degrees Celsius hot spring over rocky terrain, providing a misty and picturesque scene.



Climate

Rainy season is from May to October, winter season is from November to February and summer season is from March to April. Usually, tourists can visit the national park all year round.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp blankets the park with various plants including *Atzelia xylocarpa*, *Chukrasia tabularis*, *Toona ciliata*, *Diospyros pubicalyx*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Pinus merkusii*, *P.kesiya*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis* and *D. obtusifolius*.

The park is home to animal such as Common Muntjak, Mouse Deer, Common Wild Boar, Asian Golden Cat, Siamese Hare, Southern Serow, Malayan Flying Lemur, Langur, Macaque, Porcupine, Bear, Squirrel and Treeshrew.

Various kinds of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Red Junglefowl, Woodpecker, Hawk, Bulbul, Barbet, Tailorbird, Green Pigeon, Warbler, Babbler, and Dove.

Annually, there is a number of cicada conglomerating near the hot spring. People believe that they come to consume mineral water here.

Attractions

◆ **Chae Son Waterfall**, originating from Mae Nam Mon is full of water all year round. The 6 level waterfall cascading down the cliff to large natural pool on each level. It is not far from the National Park office. The waterfall can be accessed only 1 kilometre by walk from the parking area.

◆ **Mae Mon Waterfall** is far from the National Park office only 5 kilometres. The scene is breathtaking, especially when watching the strong currents flowing from the high cliff into the deep valley.



◆ **Mae Khun Waterfall** is near Mae Mon Waterfall. The waterfall cascades from the 100 kilometres cliff onto the plain below and later joins to Mae Mon Waterfall.

◆ **Mae Peak Waterfall**, one of the beautiful waterfalls is the 3 level waterfall with 100 metres high. It is easily access and only 3 kilometres from the national park office.

◆ **Hotsprings** covering the area of 3 rais approximately is popular among tourists. Most of Hotsprings jet out mild sulphur scented steam. Visitors usually enjoy bringing eggs to boil here.

◆ **Warm Basin** near to Hotsprings. Since originated from the Hotsprings and Chae Son

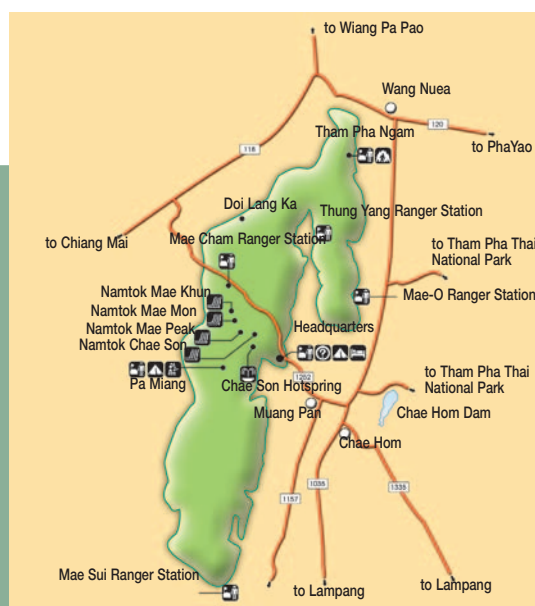
Waterfall, the basin provides warm water and bath facilities.

◆ **Mineral Bathing** facilities. Each room is supplied by natural mineral water with temperature from 39 degrees Celsius to 42 degrees Celsius served by Geyser directly. It is believed that this mineral water can relieve some skin problems and illness including for relaxation and recreation.

◆ **Pha Ngam Cave** is situated 60 kilometres far from the national park protection unit.

Getting there

- The national park is about 75 kilometres from the district town of Lampang. From the Lampang's town, take Highway No. 1035 (Lampang-Chae Hom route) for a 58 kilometres distance and then proceed to sub route heading to Amphoe Mueang Pan for a 17 kilometres distance.



Doi Inthanon National Park

Amidst its rugged mountain, the national park houses the country's highest peak Doi Inthanon. Its mountain range is watershed that originates many rivers, as well as Ping River that fills up power-generating Bhumiphol Dam. In its lush jungle, the park has many natural attractions including MaeYa Waterfall which is considered the country's most beautiful waterfall. Doi Inthanon National Park acquires total area of 482.40 square kilometres, covering parts of Amphoe Chomthong, Amphoe Mae Cham, Amphoe Mae Wang and King-Amphoe Doi Lo of Chiang Mai.

Doi Inthanon is one of the first 14 forests

of Thailand the government has decided to declare as a national park on October 7, 1959. The establishment of this national park was completed in 1978.

Geography

Rugged mountain envelopes the whole area supporting the country's highest peak Doi Inthanon to tower at 2,565 metres above mean sea level. Doi Hua Mot Luang is the second highest peak at 2,330 metres. Doi Inthanon is watershed jungle that fills up numerous rivers including Mae Klang, Mae Malo, Mae Pon, Mae Hoi, Mae Ya, Mae Cham, Mae Khan and tributary of Mae Ping River that fill up power-generating Bhumiphol Dam.





Climate

By its elevation of, it is rather cool all the year round. The humidity is very high that setting fire is quite difficult on the mountain. At the top, temperature drops lower than zero in winter and quite comfortable in summer.

Flora and fauna

Due to deforestation by hilltribe, some empty plains appear interrupting the jungle while treeless hills can be seen along the both side uphill. Doi Inthanon National Park comprises many forest types including hill evergreen forest, coniferous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and mix deciduous forest. They are homes to important plants such as *Tectona grandis*, *Hopea odorata*, *Shorea obtusa*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Diospyros mollis*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Terminalia alata* and *Michelia floribunda*.

The forest is beautified by plenty of wild flowers such as *Vanda coerulea*, *Rhynchostylis gigantea* and *Rhododendron moultmeinense*. Spagnum Moss can be found at high elevation.

Being treated by hunting and badly deforestation by hilltribe, number of wildlife in the park has fallen and large mammals had extincted from this forest. The remaining wildlife include Serow, Goral, Tiger, Chestnut-tailed Minla and Green-tailed Sunbird.

Attractions

◆ **Doi Inthanon Peak.** Presently, road to the mountain top allows visitors to access the peak conveniently by car. Anyway, naturalists who want experience conventional way to explore the peak can trek through the jungle from Mae Klang Waterfall and stay overnight in Karen village.

◆ **The cool and damp weather** that covers the peak all the time allows thick mosses to blanket all the tree's trunks, making the forest looked like dating back to million years ago.

◆ **Mae Klang Waterfall.** The waterfall is situated at the lower hill near the entrance gate. Tourist can use Chom Thong-Doi Inthanon Road. Turn left at kilometres 8, one kilometre from the main road.

◆ **Mae Ya Waterfall.** Situated in the southern part of the park, this big waterfall cascades through 260 metres long cliffs from Mae Ya Stream. Can be accessed via sub road, off Chom Thong-Hot Road.

◆ **Siriphum Waterfall.** It was named Siriphum to honour His Majesty the King and Her Majesty the Queen. It is situated by kilometres 31 of Chom Thong-Doi Inthanon Road.

◆ **Vachirathan Waterfall** or Tat Khong Yong Waterfall. Originated from Mae Klang Stream, the 70 metres high waterfall is situated at kilometres 22 of Chom Thong-Doi Inthanon Road.

◆ **Caves.** There are numerous caves in the park. The most beautiful cave is Brichinda Cave. Situated on the eastern part of the park, the big cave houses beautiful formation of stalagmites and stalactites.

Getting there

■ From Chiang Mai downtown, motorist can go via Chiang Mai-Hot Road, turn right at kilometres 58, before Chom Thong Market, Doi Inthanon is 48 kilometres away. Get off and turn left at kilometres 8, Mae Klang Waterfall is a kilometre away.



Doi Khun Tan National Park

The tranquil park is home to various plants as well as the country's longest railway tunnel. Doi Khun Tan National Park acquires total area of 255.29 square kilometres, covering part of Amphoe Mae Tha of Lamphun and Amphoe Hang Chat and Mueang of Lampang.



History

The forest of Doi Khun Tan one of 14 forests the government decided to declare as a national park in 1959. The survey conducted in 1974 and 1975 found this forest was rich in natural resources namely economic plants, orchids, herbs, wildlife, shady forest and the country's longest railway tunnel. It was upgraded from reserved forest to Thailand's 9th national park in 1975.

Getting there

- Take northern railway and get off at Khun Tan Railway Station, the park's headquarters is 1.3 kilometres away on foot.
- Khun Tan National Park can be contacted via mail at mu 8, Tambon Tha Pla Duk, Amphoe Mae Tha, Lamphun 51140 or call 0-5351-9216.

Geography

Rugged mountains blanket most area, leaving the remaining to the plain on mountain shoulder. The park is watershed for significant river including Mae Tan and Mae Tha. Doi Khun Tan is the highest peak at 1,373 metres above sea level. The park comprises Moist evergreen forest and hill evergreen forest that occupy area above 1,000 metres elevation. Its coniferous forest and mixed deciduous forest can be found above 700 metres elevation.

Climate

Climate in Doi Khun Tan National Park can be divided into three seasons.

Summer, from February to April, is comfortable with summer breeze.

Rainy season can be wet from May to October. It rains heavily in July and August.

Winter, from November to January, is rather cool.

Flora and fauna

The park is home to various forest types including





tropical rain forest, hill evergreen forest, mixed deciduous forest and coniferous forest. Its significant plants include *Tectona grandis*, *Azela xylocarpa*, *Toona ciliata*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Michelia* sp., *Mangifera* sp., *Pinus merkusii*, *Pinus kesiya*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* and *Schleichera oleosa*.

Wildlife using this area includes Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Macaque, Langur, Wild Boar and great variety of bird such as Lineated Barbet, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Collared Scops-Owl, Black-naped Oriole, Spotted Dove, Striped Tit-Babbler and Little Bunting.

Attractions

◆ **Khun Tan Tunnel.** The country's longest railway tunnel is 1,352 metres long. At the entrance, there is a 'Chao Pho Khun Tan' shrine to houses protective spirit of the forest and a monument to honour German who controlled the tunnel construction.

◆ **Mountain peaks.** Mountain peaks in Doi Khun Tan National Parks are nice places for camping. Tourist can relax in a resort of State Railway of Thailand, or visit coniferous forest where resort of MR Kukrit Pramote's house was located nearby. The house was decorated with temperate plants and lychee garden where His Majesty the King had paid a visit. Some 3.5 kilometres from the house, through shady beautiful scenery, is the highest peak of Khun Tan Range from where provincial town of Lampang can be clearly seen. On the way, there are 7 resorts belong to missionary. The resort is available for rent, by contacting at Payap University in Chiang Mai.

◆ **Mae Long Waterfall.** The waterfall is situated among lush vegetable 10 kilometres south of Khun Tan Railway Station. Visitor can get off at Mae Tan Noi Station and walk for other 3 kilometres.

◆ **Tat Moei Waterfall.** The entrance to the waterfall is between MR Kukrit's house and the peak. It is situated in Mae Yon Wai Valley, 300 metres away.

Doi Luang National Park

Doi Luang National Park covers an area of 1,170 square kilometres in Amphoe Mae Suai, Amphow Phan, Amphoe Wiang Pa Pao in Chiang Rai province, Amphoe Wang Nuea and Amphoe Ngao in Lampang province including Amphoe Mae Chai and Amphoe Mueang in Phayao province. It was declared as the 61st national park on 16 April 1990.

Geography

The mountainous areas lie down from northern to southern. The highest peak is "Doi Luang" with 1,694 metres above mean sea level. On the upper level part of the mountain, it is easy to find soil mixed with rocks and it is easy to find gravel mixed with sandstone and fertile black soil in deep valley.

Climate

Rainy season is from June to October. Winter is from November to January and summer is from February to May.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and evergreen forest blankets the national park with various plants including *Lagerstroemia tomentosa*, *L. speciosa*, *Hopea odorata*, *Irvingia malayana*, *Toona ciliata*, *Mesua ferrea*, *Shorea obtusa*, *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus* and various kinds of bamboo. It is also home to animals such as Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Palm Civet, Civet, Malayan Flying Lemur, Bear, Siamese Hare, Macaques, Tiger including different birds such as Vernal Hanging-





Getting there

- From Mueang district, Phayao province, follow highway no.1 until reach km.773-774 and turn to Ban Pu Kaeng for 9 km.to the park.



Parrot, Partridge, Richard's Pipit, Sooty-headed Bulbul and Blue-winged Pitta.

Attractions

◆ **Pu Kaeng Waterfall**, originates from the limestone accumulation of water. It creates spectacular stalagmite and stalactite including a number of caves. The beautiful Waterfall is located in Ban Pu Kaeng, Amphoe Phan, Chiang Rai and is full of water all year round.

◆ **Cham Pa Thong Waterfall**, a beautiful and tall waterfall, offers clean water supply.

◆ **Pha Klet Nak Waterfall**. It takes 4 kilometres on foot to reach there, beginning at Ban Tom. The waterfall generates spectacular view when sunshine reflecting its currents.

◆ **Wang Kao Waterfall**, one of the most beautiful waterfalls in Doi Luang National Park. Originating from the limestone accumulation, the 102 level Waterfall offers spectacular scenery and is full of water all year round.

◆ **Wang Thong Waterfall** is near to Wang Kao Waterfall. It provides nice waterfall and recreational surroundings.

◆ **Nang Phaya Pang Din Fi Cave** offers the wonderful view of stalagmites and stalactites.

Doi Phahom Pok National Park

Acquiring about 524 square kilometres in Tambon Mon Pin, Amphoe Fang and Amphoe Mae Ai and Chai Prakan of Chiang Mai, the National Park has been declared as one of the Thailand's national park since 2000. It is reputed for beautiful waterfalls and hot springs.

Geography

The National Park is located on the Phi Pan Nam mountain range. The mountain is about 400-2,285 metres above the sea level. The highest peak is "Doi Phahom Pok" peak, the second highest mountain in Thailand. Also, it gave birth to the main tributaries of Mae Nam Fang.

Climate

Average temperature is 25.4 degrees Celsius. Winter season is from November to February (13.7-19.0 degrees Celsius) and rainy season is from May to September (Average rainfall is 1,183.5 mm. per years) In April, the temperature is generally up to 39.1 degree Celsius.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp,

evergreen forest and coniferous forest and virgin forest blankets the National Park with various kinds of vegetations such as *Hopea odorata*, *Baccaurea* sp., *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Tectona grandis*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Phyllanthus emblica*. Particular rare vege-



tation such as "Thian Hang" and "Kulap Fi" are found on the top of "Doi Phahom Pok".

The National Park is home to a number of wildlife including Sambar Deer, Bear, Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Slow Loris as well as different kinds of birds such as Cutia, Purple Cochoa, Green Cochoa and rare butterflies such as Brown gorgon, Mountain peacock and Kaiser.

Attractions

◆ **Hot Springs.** These hotsprings originate from

simmering granite with temperature from 90-130 degrees Celsius. It is popular among tourists.

◆ **Geysers.** These geysers spring into the air with 50 metres high for a 2 minute period every 25 minutes.

◆ **Huai Mae Chai.** It is 300 metres far from Hot Springs. Its current is clear, clean and full of water all year round.

◆ **Tham Huai Bon.** This cave offers a fantastic view of stalagmite and stalactite. It is 12 kilometres far from Amphoe Fang.

◆ **Pong Nam Dang Waterfall** is one of the beautiful waterfalls because there is a lots of water supply for consistent flowing.

◆ **Huai Hian Waterfall.** The 3 levels waterfall is far from Tham Huai Bon 3 kilometres.

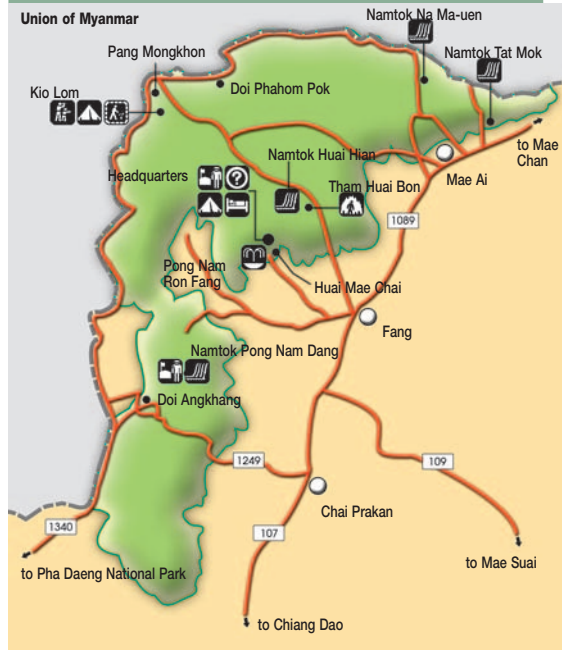
◆ **Tat Mok Waterfall** offers spectacular view of waterfall. It is located far from Mae Eye 4 kilometres.

◆ **Na Ma-uen Waterfall,** a 3 level waterfall, is located in the jungle of Amphoe Mae Ai.

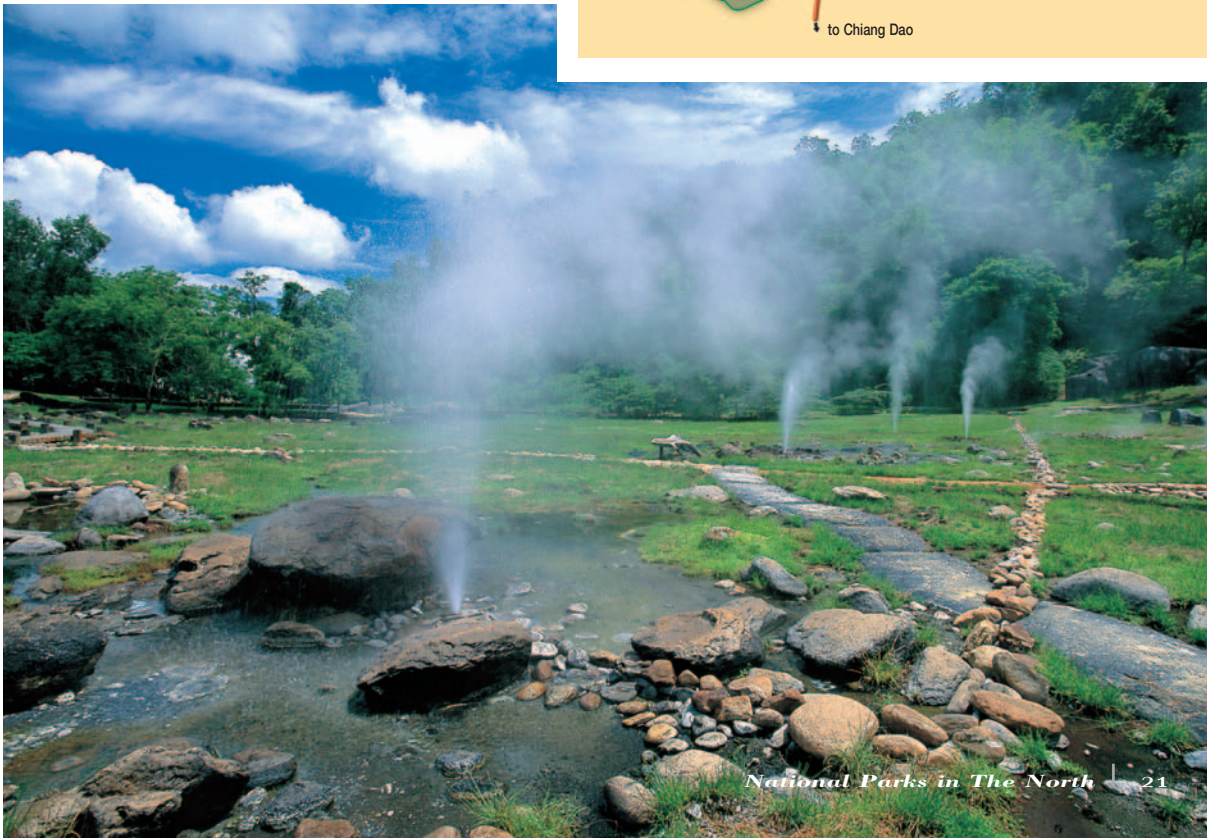
◆ **Doi Pha Hom Pok,** the second highest peak of Thailand has 2,285 metres high. From here, visitors can watch spectacular views including sea of clouds and the border route between Myanmar and Thailand.

Getting there

■ From Chiang Mai, take Highway No. 107 for a kilometre (Amphoe Mae Rim-Amphoe Mae Taeng-Amphoe Chiang Dao-Amphoe Fang-Ban Lan), take a turn right to Highway No. 54 (Ban Mae Chai Tai-Ban Pong Nam Ron) for 5 kilometres until reaching Hot Spring.



North



Doi Phu Kha National Park

The National Park covers the mountainous area of 1,704 square kilometres in Amphoe Pua, Chiang Klang, Thung Chang, Mae Charim, Tha Wang Pha, Santisuk, Bo Kluea and Chaloeam Phra Kiat in Nan. It was declared as the Thailand's national park in 1988. The National Park offers endemic and rare plants, scenic view of Doi Phu Kha including lovely waterfalls.

Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range. The highest peak is Doi Phu Kha, which is 1,939 metres above the sea. Doi Phu Kha is also the major symbol of Nan Province. The terrain is mainly forested land on limestone mountain range and also the source of several streams which flow into Mae Nam Nan.

Climate

Rainy season is from May to October. Winter is from November to February (The weather is quite cool from December to January and average temperature is 5 degrees Celsius.) Summer is from March to April by the temperature average is 30 degrees Celsius

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and grassland blankets the National Park with various kinds of vegetations such as *Lithocarpus* sp., *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Xylia xylocarpus*, *Tectona grandis*, *Shorea obtusa*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *Calamus* ssp. and *Thelypteris* ssp.

The National Park is also home to Elephant, Guar, Sambar Deer, Macaque, Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Southern Serow, Gibbon, Langur, Bear, Palm Civet, Mouse Deer and Otter including various kinds of birds such as Red Junglefowl, Indian Roller, Striped Tit-Babbler, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Lineated Barbet, Red-billed Blue Magpie, Scarlet Minivet, Common Myna, Scally-breasted Munia, Trogon, Greater Coucal, Green-billed Malkoha and Yuhina.

Attractions

◆ **Doi Phu Kha Panorama.** The National Park offers spectacular view of Doi Phu Kha particularly "Doi Phu Kha" peak, which is covered by clouds for every winter and rainy season.

◆ **Attractive waterfalls.** A number of scenic waterfalls are offered everywhere in the National





Getting there

- Drive on the Nan-Amphoe Pua-Amphoe Thung Chang route and continue to the circuit ring between Amphoe Pua Amphoe Thung Chang areas. Total distance is 60 kilometres.



Park such as Phu Fa Waterfall, Sila Phet Waterfall, Mae Charim Waterfall, Ton Tong Waterfall, Tat Luang Waterfall, Huai Kon Waterfall.

◆ **Caves.** There are lots of large and beautiful caves in the National Park. The most beautiful gigantic cave is Tham Pha Kao located in Amphoe Pua.

◆ **Than Nam Lot.** This is a miracle phenomenon, so-called "Nam Ok Ru." There is a stream underneath the mountain and the water comes up, then flows out from the cave underneath. This action makes a loud noise like a waterfall's current flowing.

◆ **Phalan Hin and Na Pha.** These cliffs approach fantastic scenery on Doi Phu Wae.

◆ **Palm Primitive Forest.** This is one of the large palm forests in Thailand. It is located around Doi Phu Wae area only.

Doi Suthep-Pui National Park

Doi Suthep Mountain was formerly known as Doi Oi Chang. Its present name comes from a hermit who trained his meditation in this mountain a thousand years ago. The forest was combined with other 13 forests nearby for establishing a national park in 1981 and the country's 24th national park was established in 1981. A year later, more area was combined into the park's boundary.

Doi Suthep-Pui National Park stretches over 261.06 square kilometres area in Amphoe Mae Rim, Mae Taeng, Hang Dong and Mueang, Chiang Mai.

Geography

As part of upper Phi Pan Nam Range, the park features rugged mountain. Its significant peaks



include Doi Suthep, Doi Buak Ha and the highest Doi Pui at 1,685 metres above sea level. The watershed mountain range originates streams namely Huai Kaeo, Huai Chang Khian and Huai Mae Hia, which are tributaries of Mae Ping River.

Climate

The average temperature is 16 degrees Celsius. It has cold winter season and comfortable summer season.

Flora and fauna

The park features hill evergreen forest, deciduous



dipterocarp forest, mixed deciduous forest and coniferous forest. Its lush forest comprises various kinds of plants namely *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Lagerstroemia tomentosa*, *Dalbergia* ssp., *Dalbergia* ssp., *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Anisoptera costata* and *Pinus kesiya*.

Unfortunately, wildlife in the park is bothered by the local and hilltribe. However, we can often find Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Macaque, Langur and over 200 bird species such as Large Hawk-Cuckoo, Red Junglefowl, Silver Pheasant, Black-naped Oriole, Vernal Hanging-Parrot, Asian Paradise-Flycatcher and Scarlet Minivet.



Attractions

◆ **Phra Tamnak Bhubing Rajanives.** Famed for its remarkable beauty, the hill-top palace is the northern royal palace for His Majesty the King and the royal family. The palace was built in 1961 in Thai style. Nature around the palace remains well conserved while flowerbed of various kinds beautifies the palace garden. The palace is 4 kilometres from the headquarters.

◆ **Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep.** The significant temple houses a stupa, sacred architecture in Buddhism which shares history with foundation of Chiang Mai. Built in 1384 in Lanna style, the Naga stairs lead to the ancient temple whose stupa houses Lord Buddha's relic. The temple is quite a precious place for people and pilgrims.

◆ **Khru Ba Si Wichai Monument.** The monument was built to commemorate Khru Ba Si Wichai, Buddhist monk, who led the local people built the 12 kilometres uphill road to Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep in 1934.

◆ **Huai Kao Waterfall.** Huai Kao Stream flows from Doi Suthep and cascades through the waterfall. A bit upstream is Wang Bua Ban where legendary love story of Chiang Mai lady occurs.

◆ **Montha Than Waterfall.** The three-step waterfall is the most beautiful one in the park.

◆ **Mae Sa Waterfall.** It is one of the most beautiful waterfalls. The big waterfall cascades through 8 steps, each of which is 100-500 metres away from others. The other waterfalls from the same stream are Srisangwan, Mahidol, Tat Mok-Wang Hang and Tat Mok Fa Waterfall.

Getting there

■ The park headquarters is 16 kilometres from Chiang Mai downtown. Motorist can use Huai Kao Road, passing Chiang Mai University and Chiang Mai Zoo to Wat Phrathat Doi Suthep, then turn right to the park.



Huai Nam Dang National Park

The National park covers an area of 1,252.12 square kilometres in Amphoe Mae Taeng and Wiang Haeng of Chiang Mai and in Pai of Mae Hong Son. The National Park offers the scenic views of natural mountain ranges and early morning sea of clouds can be seen from the viewpoint.

Geography

The mountain, which is mostly ranged highlands, has verdant forests that are the source of tributaries and various streams. The National Park offers a number of streams such as Huai Mae Yen Klang, Huai Mae Hi, Huai Mae Ping, Huai Mae Chok Luang, Huai Nam Dang and later join to Mae Nam Pai, Mae Nam Ping Noi and Mae Nam Dang.

Climate

Rainy season is from May to October. Winter season is from November to February and summer is from March to April.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and evergreen forest blankets the National Park with various plants such as *Hopea odorata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Toona ciliata*, *Mangifera* sp., *Ailanthus triphysa*, *Lagerstroemia tomentosa*, *Alphonsea glabrifolia*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Vitex canescens*, *Bombax anceps*, *Pinus merkusii*, *Shorea obtusa* and *S. siamensis*.

It is also home to wild animals such as Elephant, Sambar Deer, Bear, Tiger, Macaques, Mongoose, Porcupine, Civet, Palm Civet, Common Wild Boar, as well as different kinds of birds such as Thick-billed Green Pigeon, Vernal Hanging Parrot, Richard's Pipit, Rufous-throated Partridge, Hill Myna, Ashy Bulbul, Black Bulbul, Striped-throated Bulbul, Eagle and Hawk.

Attractions

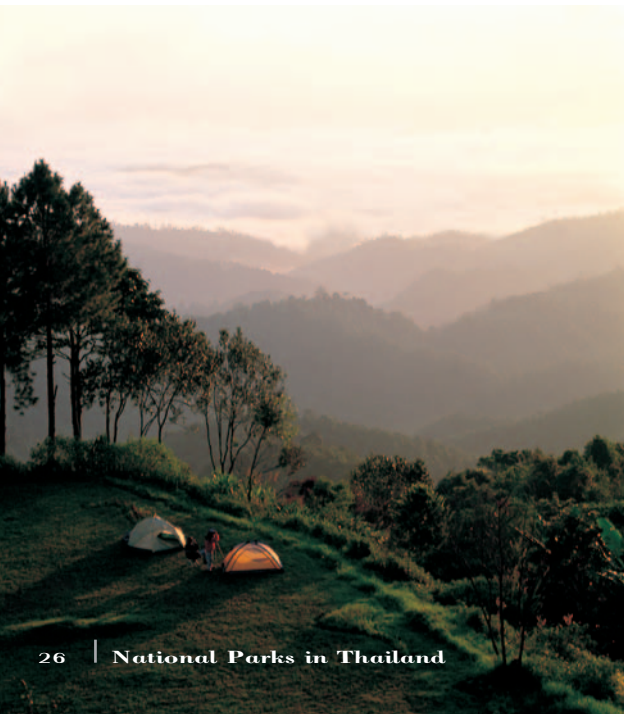
◆ **Doi Kio Lom Viewpoint.** Offers spectacular scenery of Doi Chiang Dao when overlooking from the viewpoint. Visitors enjoy watching sunrise and sea of clouds in the morning especially in winter season.

◆ **Doi Chang Viewpoint** is located 20 kilometres beyond the Doi Kio Lom Viewpoint and is only accessible by four-wheels drive vehicle. The scenic views of natural mountain ranges and early morning sea of clouds can be seen from this viewpoint.

◆ **Huai Nam Dang Waterfall.** This 4 level waterfall originates from Huai Nam Dang stream and there are a number of rocky outcrops in the fall's basin. The water is 50 metres high and 40 metres wide and is generally covered by rainforest vegetations.

◆ **Mae Yen Waterfall,** a large waterfall, has water all year round. It originates from Huai Mae Yen Luang

◆ **Rafting on Mae Taeng river.** Along both side





Getting there

■ To reach there, drive along Mae Malai-Pai route to between Km. 65-66 and then take a 6 kilometres access to the National Park Office.

◆ Pong Nam Ron Tha Pai or Tha Pai Hotspring.

This warm pool is located in Amphoe Pai, Mae Hong Son province. The 80 degrees Celsius temperature pool is far from the National Park office about 30 kilometres.

◆ Pong Nam Ron Pong Dueat or Pong Dueat

Pa Pae Hotspring. The warm pool is located in Amphoe Mae Taeng, Chiang Mai province, in area consists of 3-4 large warm pools with the 90-99 degrees Celsius temperature. Besides, Nature Trail or natural study route is approached for a 1,550 metres distance.



of Mae Taeng river offers various plants and different kinds of birds such as Kingfisher, Wagtail, Coucal, Malkoha, Minivet, Bulbul, Swallow, Sunbird and Raptors. Visitors can take a rafting trip along the river. Total rafting period is about 3-4 hours, beginning at Ban Pang Pa Kha or Ban Pa and end up at Ban Sop Kai.

◆ **Mae Lat Waterfall.** With its 40-50 metres high, the waterfall is located in Tambon Mueang Haeng, Amphoe Wiang Haeng, Chiang Mai.

◆ **Mae Hat Waterfall.** With its 40-50 metres high from the ground, the 4 levels waterfall is located in Tambon Mueang Haeng, Amphoe Wiang Haeng, Chiang Mai.

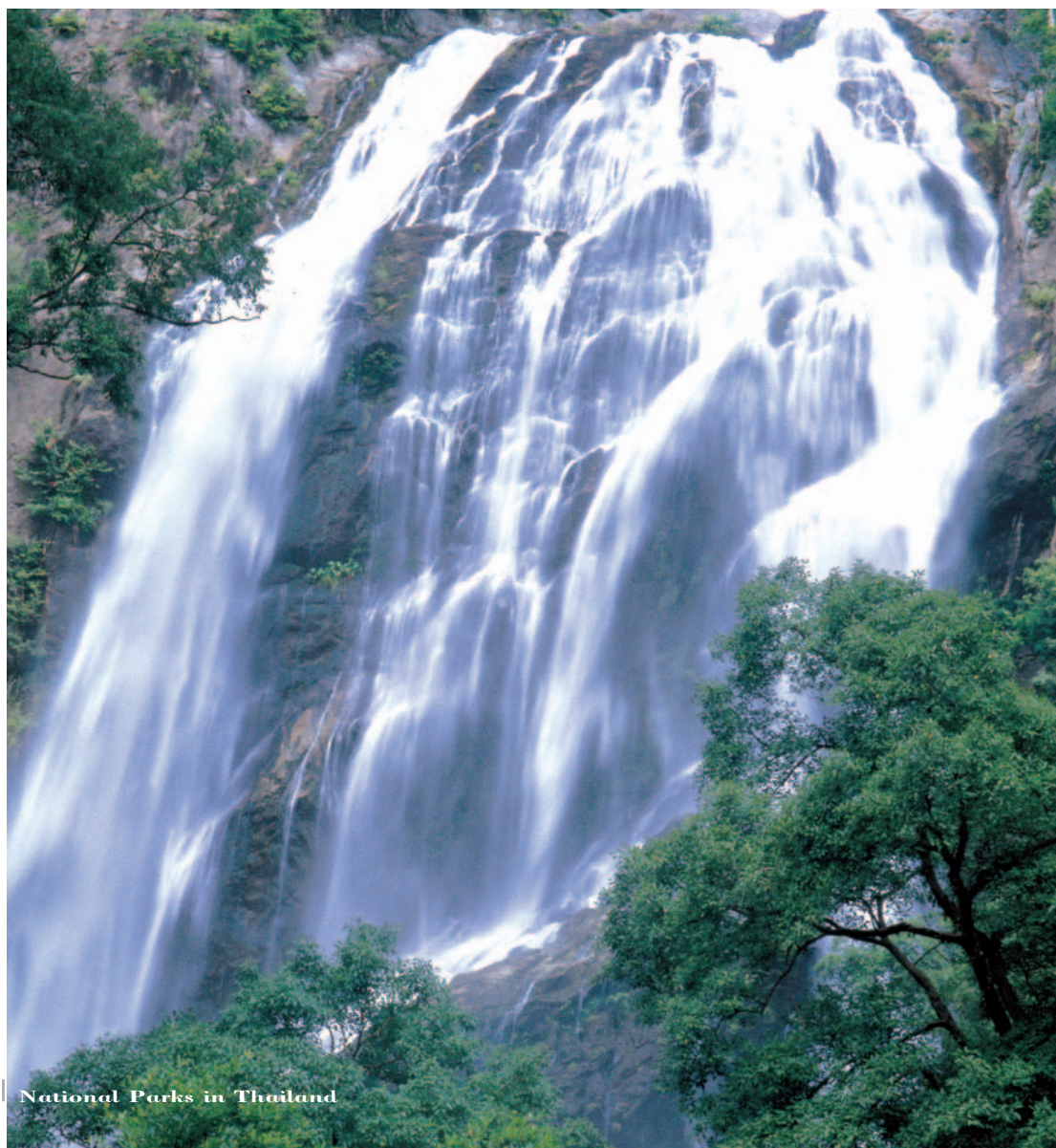
Khlong Lan National Park

The park covered parts of Amphoe Khlong Lan and Mueang of Kamphaeng Phet. It is the last lush jungle of the province. Featuring rugged mountain, the park originates many streams and rivers such as Khlong Khlung and Khlong Suan Mak which are tributaries of Ping River. Established in

1982, the country's 44th national park acquires total area of 300 square kilometres.

Geography

Lush forest blanketing its rugged mountain is watershed that fills up streams such as Khlong Suan



Mak, Khlong Khlung and Khlong Lan. The highest peak towers at 1,439 metres above sea level.

Climate

The park has average temperature at 23 degrees Celsius and average rainfall 978 millimetres per year. It is quite comfortable to visit during winter.

Flora and fauna

As the last lush forest at lower northern region, the park has many forest types including deciduous dipterocarp forest, mixed deciduous forest, dry evergreen forest and moist evergreen forest. Its major plants include *Tectona grandis*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *S. roxburghii*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Hopea odorata*, *H. ferrea*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *Toona ciliata*, *Terminalia bellirica* and *T. alata*.



Getting there

- From Bangkok, taking motorist can travel via Asian Highway no. 1 through Nakhon Sawan, turn left at kilometre 346 at Ban Khlong Mae Lai Market and head for Umphang. Continue going for other 46 kilometres, turn right at Khlong Lan Market Intersection, the park is 4 kilometres away.

Previously, there was a great deal of wildlife. It is pitiful that invasion and deforestation has driven them into vast jungle of Umphang Wildlife Sanctuary of Tak and Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary of Uthai Thani. Nowadays, the remaining wildlife include Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Macaque, Giant Squirrel, Gibbon and great variety of birds such as Red-headed Trogon, Large Hawk-Cuckoo, Kalij Pheasant, Red Junglefowl, Hoopoe, Black-naped Oriole, Collared Scops-Owl and Large-tail Nightjar.

Attractions

◆ **Khlong Lan Waterfall.** Five streams from Khun Khlong Lan have combined into a big single stream in a large and deep pool before falling from a cliff at 100 metres high, 40 metres wide.

◆ **Khlong Nam Lai or Pang Khwai Waterfall.** The waterfall cascades through 9 tiers from different height into black glittering rock terrace. Situated on Umphang-Khlong Lan Road, the waterfall is 25 kilometres from the headquarters. It is a very nice place for picnic and swimming.

◆ **Kaeng Ko Roi,** The rapids on Khlong Suan Mak Canal features rugged rock terrace surrounding by crystal clear stream. The rapids is on Umphang-Khlong Lan Road.



Khlong Tron National Park

The National Park covers an area of 518.79 square kilometres in Amphoe Thong Saen Khan and Amphoe Nam Pat, Uttaradit. It was established in 2003 and offers natural scenery of waterfalls, caves cliffs, plants, mammals and birds and also it is easy to access.

Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range, comprising mountain of Khao Phu Miang, Khao Khwam Ruea, Khao Ngai Ruea, Khao Sam Liam, Khao Thanon, Khao Mai Pha, Khao Tak Bon, Khao Nam Yoi, Khao Phak Khuang, Khao Chan. The "Phu Miang" mountain, the highest peak, is 1,500 metres high above sea level. It gave birth to the main tributaries of Mae Nam Nan.

Climate

Summer season is from March to April, the highest temperature is 42.6 degrees Celsius and the lowest is 12.9 degrees Celsius. Winter season is from October to February. Mean rainfall occurs in rainy season.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and evergreen forest blankets the National

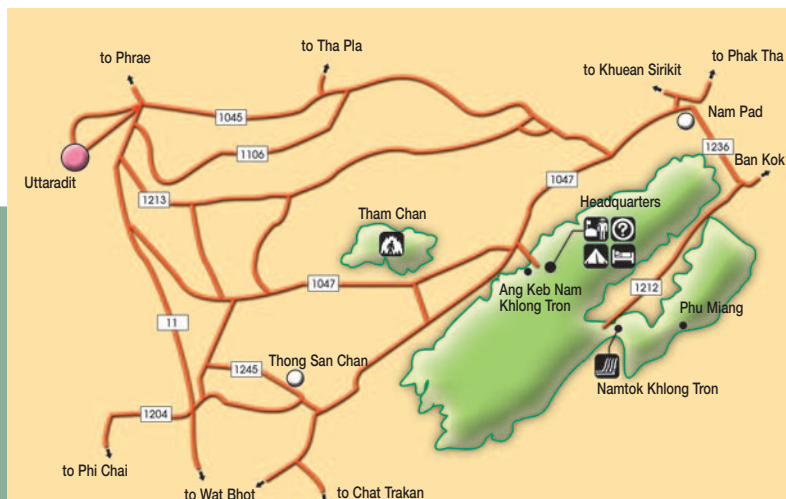


Park with various plants such as *Invingia malayana*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Tectona grandis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Vitex pinnata*, *Terminalia chebula*, *Shorea obtusa*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Lagerstroemia venusta* and *Cratoxylum maingayi* includes *Lithocarpus* spp.

It is home to wildlife including Asiatic Black Bear, Serow, Slow Loris, Common Muntjak, Mouse Deer,

Getting there

- From Amphoe Muang, Uttaradit, take Highway No. 11 to Ban Nam Ang, Amphoe Tron and take Highway No. 1407 to Amphoe Nam Pat. Total distance is 70 kilometres.



Common Wild Boar, Clouded Leopard, Fishing Cat, Palm Civet, Siamese Hare, Mongoose, Black Giant Squirrel, Treeshrew and Porcupine.

Different kinds of birds such as Silver Pheasant, Blue-winged Pitta, Richard's Pipit, Thick-billed Pigeon, Spotted Dove and Parrot.

Attractions

◆ **Khlong Tron Waterfall**, originating from Huai Khlong Tron, consists of 2 waterfalls; The 4 level fall with 20 metres high and the second waterfall with 30 metres high. The falls can be reach by walk only.

◆ **Huai Sai Waterfall**, one level waterfall, originates from Huai Sai. It is 35 metres high. The waterfall can be reach by walk only.

◆ **Phu Miang Waterfall** originating from Huai Miang, is located in the between of Bang Kham Pom village and Huai Khom village. With a height of 30-45 metres, the 11level waterfall is far from both villages for 2 kilometres. It is accessible on foot only.

◆ **Huai Khom Waterfall** is located in Ban Huai Khom, Amphoe Nam Pat. It consists of 3 waterfalls; a 11 level waterfall with its height of 15 metres, the

2-level waterfall with its height of 15 metres and a 1-level waterfall with its height of 20 metres. It is accessible on foot only.

◆ **Huai Nian Waterfall**, originating from Huai Sap (Huai Nian) is located in the middle of Huai Sap. With its height of 5 metres, the 3 level waterfall is reach only on foot and far from Huai Nian village for a 3 kilometres distance.

◆ **Pha Phu Miang**, one of the beautiful cliffs, is a large one. From there, visitors can see spectacular panorama of whole 2 villages (Ton Khanun village and Ban Bang Kham Pom village.) It can be reach on foot only.

◆ **Chan Cave**, a medium cave, is located in the forestry preservation in Tambon Phak Khwai and Tambon Thong Sang Khan. The cave is 200 metres deep and 15 metres wide.

◆ **Wua Daeng and Suea Dao Cave**. These small and narrow caves are far from Tham Chan about 200 metres.

◆ **Khao Chedi**, a rocky mountain, is like a pagoda-shaped mountain. It is far from Tham Chan about 500 metres.



Khlong Wang Chao National Park

Khlong Wang Chao National park covers an area of 747 square kilometres in Amphoe Khlong Lan and King Amphoe Kosamphi Nakhon in Kampaeng Phet and King Amphoe Wang Chao in Tak province. The National Park offers scenic view including wildlife sanctuary. Also it was declared as the Thailand's 63rd national park in 1990.

Geography

The National Park, a part of Thanon Thong Chai mountain range, lies down from northern to southern. There is a small plain in the middle providing 2 small basins, 3.2-8 square kilometres respectively. Major

mountains are Khao Yen, Khao Tao Dam, Khao Son, Khao Khanun, Khao Wang Chao and Doi Luak. The highest peak is in western mountain, which is 1,898 metres above sea level. Generally, its terrain varies from 200 to 1,898 metres above sea level.

Climate

Summer season is from February to May. Rainy season is from June to November and winter is from December to January.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, Deciduous Dipterocarp and dry evergreen forest including pine forest blankets the national park with various plants such as *Tectona grandis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Azalia xylocarpa*, *Hopea odorata*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *L. tomentosa*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Diospyros mollis*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Pinus merkusii*, *P. kesiya*, *Hiang (Dipterocarpus obtusifolius)*, *Shorea obtusa* and *S. siamensis*.

It is home to wild animals such as Southern Serow, Asian Elephant, Summer Deer, Bear, Tiger, Macaque, Siamese Hare, Squirrel, Common Muntjak Mouse Deer, Common Wild Boar, Hog Badger, Langur, Gibbon including various kinds of birds such as Great Hornbill, Grey Peacock-Pheasant, Kalij Pheasant, Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Striped Tit-Babbler, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker and Red Junglefowl.

Attractions

◆ **Khlong Wang Chao Waterfall** is a large waterfall with 60 metres wide, 29 kilometres far from Phahonyothin route. This one level waterfall with 60 metres high offers strong current flowing from the top to the bottom at 90 degrees angle.

◆ **Pak Khlong Na Khiri** offers natural reef with



Getting there

■ From KamphaengPhet heading to Tak province along Highway A1, turn left at the intersection of Talat Wang heading to Ban Na Bot for 3 kilometres, then turn left at the intersection Den Kha heading to Ban Nong Daeng for 28 kilometres, finally visitors can reach Khlong Wang Chao National park. An alternative route, take Highway A1 (KamphaengPhet to Tak), turn left at the intersection of Ban Wang Chao and heading to Ban Lo ko via Ban Nong Daeng and finally arrive at the National Park Headquarters.

a number of white granite rocks.

◆ **Khlong Samo Kluai Waterfall**, the medium 5 level waterfall has the yellow color. The current from the first level with its 40 metres high flows to the lower level at a 90 degrees angle.

◆ **Tao Dam Waterfall**, a large 3 level waterfall, approaches the breathtaking scene, when watching the strong current flowing from the upper levels to the lower levels especially the current from the third level with its 270 metres high to the bottom at 90 degrees angle. The waterfall is truly spectacular and seems dangerous at the same time.

◆ **Pong Nam Ron or Hot Spring**, a hot spring at the 50-70 degrees Celsius temperature, is far from



North

Tao Dam Waterfall approximately 1.5 kilometres and covers the area of 1,600 square metres. This is home to wild animals such as Common Wild Boar, Common Muntjak and Sambar Deer.

◆ **Khao Kradan**, the cliff of Khao Tao Dam, is near Tao Dam Waterfall.

◆ **Pha Klom** offers the 360 degrees angle cliff. The peculiar scenery is like a gigantic pencil plunged down on earth.

◆ **Nam Khao Ru**(water running through the hole) was named by local people since the current from Lam Huai Loko will flow through this area and disappear into the mountain which takes 1 kilometre distance, then the current will appear again on the another side of the mountain.

◆ **Pong Kaet** is a small hot spring, which constantly jets out sulphur scented steam.

◆ **Tham Khao Phanang**, a large cave, is situated along Khlong Suan Mak. Also a scenic view of stalagmite and stalactite is provided.

◆ **Tham Na and Tham Thep Phanom**, a large cave, is similar to Tham Khao Phanang. It is also home to a number of bats.

Khun Chae National Park

The National Park covering the areas of 270 square kilometres in Wiang Pa Pao of Chiang Rai has been announced as the national park of Thailand since 1995. Also it gave birth to the main tributaries of a number of rivers and formed the beautiful waterfall, namely Khun Chae.

Geography

Geologically, the mountain formations have been covers by igneous rock and sedimentary rock including granite. Besides, it is found basalt produced by



volcanoes around this area. Most of the park area is very rugged with steep valley and offers a number of waterfalls.

Climate

Winter season is from November to July. Rainy season is from January to February and summer is from March to June.

Flora and fauna

Because of the great differences in altitude, the Park has an enormous wealth of plant species; bamboo forest and various trees growing in the altitudinal range 300-800 metres, deciduous dipterocarp forest growing in the altitudinal range 800-1,000 metres, pine forests and rainforest growing in the altitudinal range 1,000-1,500 metres, hill evergreen forest growing in the altitudinal range upper 1,500 metres and covering with orchids, ferns and moss.

Attractions

◆ **Mae Tho Waterfall.** The 7 levels waterfall has water all year round and the highest level is 40 metres high. The best time to visit the waterfall is during the rainy season. It is accessible by car, from the National Park headquarters to the entrance, it takes about 30-40 minutes. Then, visitors have to walk for 2 hours to reach the waterfall.

◆ **Khun Chae Waterfall.** This beautiful 2 level waterfall cascades from the cliffs. Camping and gears are available near the waterfall.

◆ **Doi Mot** is home to rainforest vegetations blanketing along the route to the top. From there, visitors can watch Chiang Mai town and Chiang Rai town.

◆ **Doi Langka** is the 2,000 metres mountain. It offers diversify of plants and spectacular scenery. Visitors have to spend 3-4 days for each trip.

Getting there

- From Chiang Mai, take a daily bus service along the Chiang Mai-Doi Saket-Chiang Mai route. Alternatively, from Chiang Rai, take a daily bus service to reach the National Park. Total distance is 129 kilometres.



◆ **Ficus tree**, a large tree, is located near to the National Park headquarters. The tree is outstanding and has a number of its branches expanding and covering an area of more than 1,600 square metres. There are also various kinds of epiphytes living at the gigantic tree.

◆ **Buddhist Monk Dwelling**, a small house, is located not far from the National Park headquarters. Visitors can reach here by take the Chiang Mai-Chiang Rai route. Also they can find themselves amidst of lush green trees while crossing a small bridge to access the dwelling.

◆ **Mae Chang Khao Reservoir**. This is a heaven for fishing including reserve as a recreational attraction for picnics.



Lam Nam Nan National Park

Lam Nam Nan National Park covers an area of 999.15 square kilometres in Amphoe Mueang, Phrae and Amphoe Tha Pla and Amphoe Nam Pat, Uttaradit. The National Park gave birth to the main tributaries of the Mae Nam Yom in Phrae. It was declared as the Thailand's national park in 1998.

Geography

The Lam Nam Nan National Park features rugged mountain range higher than the highest level of water supply of Sirikit Irrigation. Most of the area consists of steep mountains with plains and is full of forest and wildlife.

Climate

Since Monsoon winds have an impact on Thailand's tropical climate, generally, the temperature is usually a little higher and more humid in daytime. Rainfall is more likely during the summer months of May through October and the average rainfall is 1,440 mm. per year. During the winter months, in the mountainous North, the temperature is cool enough for tourism.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forest dominate the National Park including *Tectona grandis*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* and *Shorea obtusa*.

The National Park is a safe sanctuary for wildlife including several mammal species such as Sambar Deer, Serow, Common Wild Boar, Asiatic Black Bear, Malayan Sun Bear, Palm Civet, Macaque, Porcupine, Fishing Cat, as well as different kinds of birds such as Heron, Rail, Lapwing, Dove, Cuckoo, Malkoha, Coucal, Swift, Crow, Roller, Coppersmith Barbet, Bulbul and Lark.

Attractions

◆ **Sirikit Dam**, a gigantic lake, was originated when Sirikit irrigation was built into Nan river. Here, a number of islet and reef are found in the reservoir. It offers spectacular view particularly when visitors



take a boat trip. To reach there, take Highway No. 1045 (Uttaradit-Sirikit Dam) via the entrance to Amphoe Tha Pla and proceed to Ban Huai Charoen and take a laterite road for another 4 kilometres to reach the National Park headquarters, which is located near the reservoir.

◆ **Choeng Thong Waterfall**, a small fall, is located near the road and far from Phra That

Getting there

- It can be reached by taking the Highway No. 1045 (Uttaradit-Sirikit Dam) via Sam Yaek Ruam Chit (The entrance to Amphoe Tha Pla) and heading to Ban Huai Charoen and proceed on for a further 4 kilometres to reach the National park.



North

Chohae, Amphoe Mueang, Phrae about 9 kilometres. It has water all year round.

◆ **Choeng Thong-Kio Khian route.** This is home to a large number of birds amidst lush green trees including *Prunus cerasoides*, tree ferns and various orchids.

◆ **Phu Phaya Pho** is the highest point of Lam Nam Nan National park with 1,350 metres high above sea level. From here, visitors can watch spectacular view of mountain range and abundant forest. This sacred place is also respected by residences nearby.



Lan Sang National Park

Lan Sang National Park is rich in diversity of plants, wildlife and natural attractions particularly the waterfall. The most famous waterfall is Lan Sang Waterfall is quite a nice place worth a visit. The park covers 104 square kilometres area in Amphoe Mueang of Tak. It was established in 1979.

History

The idea to build recreation place for Tak people was initiated since 1955. Lan Sang Waterfall and other 14 forests were combines and the national park

was well established in 1979.

Geography

Rugged mountains dominate most area of the park. Khao Luang Range divides the boundary at half in northwest-southeast direction. Khao Um Yom is the highest peak at the elevation 1,065 metres above sea level. Slopes gradually down over Northwest area of the park around Lan Sang Waterfall.

Climate

The park features three seasons. Rainy season is during May to October. Winter is from November till January and summer is from February to April. The highest temperature is 43 degrees Celsius and the lowest is 7 degrees.

Flora and fauna

The park feature many forest types. At the elevation above 700 metres, coniferous forest dominates the park. The prominent plant, *Pinus* sp. can be found with *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus*.

Hill evergreen forest can be found on rugged mountain. It has also tropical evergreen forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and mixed deciduous forest which houses various bamboo, *Tectona grandis*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Dalbergia* sp. and *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*.

Wildlife found in the park include Sambar Deer, Serow, Common Muntjak, Asian Golden Cat, Gibbon, Palm Civet, Siamese Hare, Porcupine and Rats.

Attractions

◆ **Pha Lat Waterfall.** The Huai Lan Sang Stream runs over a big sloping rock terrace, coating the rock at 25 metres wide and 40 metres long. Pha Lat is situated a kilometre off highway 105, the same way to the park headquarters.





◆ **Lan Liang Ma Waterfall.** Situated 200 metres upstream from Pha Lat, stream runs over a hill, down through a small channel before rising again into the waterfall.

◆ **Lan Sang Waterfall.** The famous and beautiful waterfall is situated 2 kilometres upstream of Lan Liang Ma Waterfall. From 40 metres high cliff, the waterfall runs through three steps into the pool of Lan Liang Ma Waterfall.

◆ **Pha Phueng Waterfall.** Huai Pha Phueng

Stream falls from 15 metres high cliff which is decorated naturally with caves and formation of stalagmites and stalactites. The waterfall runs only in rainy season and winter.

◆ **Pha Noi Waterfall.** The small waterfall runs through narrow channel from 10 metres high cliff. It is a tributary of Lan Sang Stream.

◆ **Pha The Waterfall.** The waterfall drop from 25 metres high cliff. It is around 2 kilometres from Pha Noi Waterfall.

Getting there

■ The park is 430 kilometres from Bangkok. Motorist can use highway 1 and turn left 7 kilometres before Tak into highway 105 bound for Mae Sot. Turn left at kilometres 12, the park is 3 kilometres off the main road.



Lum Nam Khong National Park

Lum Nam Khong National park covers the areas of 721.52 square kilometres in Amphoe Sop Moei, Amphoe Mae Sariang of Mae Hong Son province. The National Park has been declared as one of the Thailand's national park since 1994. It offers spectacular scenery and recreational attractions. Formerly name Salawin.erw





Getting there

- Travel 4 kilometres of Amphoe Mae Sariang via Highway No. 1194, then turn right and continue a further distance of 4 kilometres to the National Park office.

Tailorbird, Common Mormon, Red Helen, Common Birdwing, Orange Oakleaf, Magpie Crow, Sailor and Sergeant .

Attractions

◆ **Mae Nam Salawin**, a splendid river, offers soft and gentle beaches along the bank. Usually the river will be covered by fog in the morning when the winter comes. This creates spectacular scenery. Visitors can take a boat trip to see how beautiful it is. Stay overnight along the riverbank is permitted.

◆ **Cruise on Mae Nam Salawin** is a popular program for tourists and taking only 1 hour.

Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range. The highest peak with elevation of 1,027 metres above the sea level. The mountain ranges gave birth to the main tributaries of the Mae Nam Yuam, Mae Nam Salawin, Mae Nam Kong Kha, Mae Nam Mae Ngae and Mae Nam Han.

Climate

Summer season is from March to May. Rainy season is from June to October and winter is from November to February, is the best time for visitors to enjoy the nature in chilling temperature.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp blankets the National Park with various plants such as *Tectona grandis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Hopea odorata*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius* and *D.tuberculatus*.

The National Park is also home to wild animals such as Southern Serow, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Wild Boar, Bear, Tiger, Gaur, Siamese Hare, Squirrel, Treeshrew, Gibbon, Palm Civet and

Different kinds of birds and butterflies such as White Wagtail, Common Kingfisher, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Dollarbird, Brown Shrike, Dark-necked



Mae Moei National Park

Geographically, the National Park borders on Myanmar in the west for a distance 50 kilometres. It covers the area of 185.28 square kilometres in Amphoe Tha Song Yang of Tak. The Park offers scenic view amidst various vegetations and was gazetted in 1999.

Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range and little plain. With its average 680 metres high above sea level, it gave birth to the main tributaries of Mae Nam Mae Song, Mae Nam Mae Usu, Mae Nam Salit Luang, Mae Nam Moei.

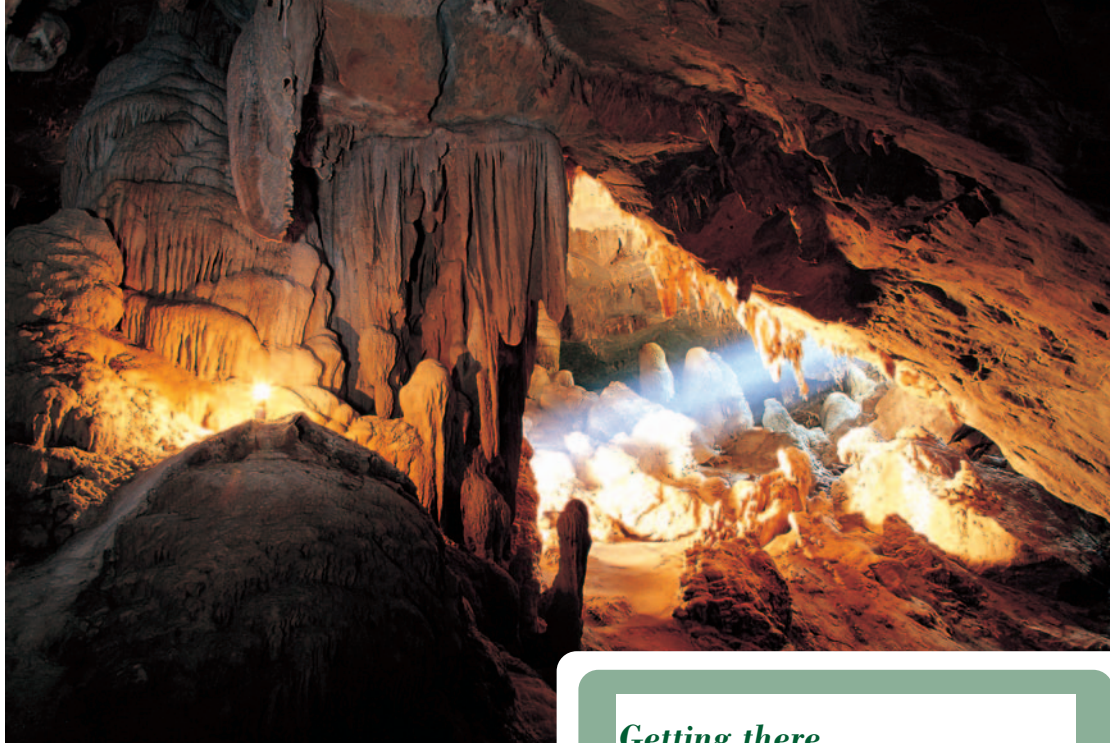
Climate

Rainy season is from May to October (tourism avoided.) In summer, the weather is warmer. During the winter months, the temperature is cool and it is the best season for tourism.

Flora and fauna

The National Park is home to wildlife such as Common Muntjak, Wild Boar, Palm Civet and Civet and various kinds of birds as Barbet, Babbler, Bulbul, Bee-eater, Minivet, Trogon, Thrush, Tailorbird, Shrike, Sunbird and Flowerpecker.





Attractions

◆ **Mae Usu Cave.** The cave has a subterranean river runs through. This attraction is naturally decorated with glittering curtain-like stalagmites and stalactites.

◆ **Mae Salit Noi Waterfall.** It is a medium size waterfall and is a popular route for adventurers since visitors have to take a 3 kilometres walk to reach there.

◆ **Chao Doi Waterfall,** a medium waterfall, is required only one kilometre walk to access the waterfall.

◆ **Viewpoints** of sea of clouds. All viewpoints are approached along Mae Salit-Om Koi route.

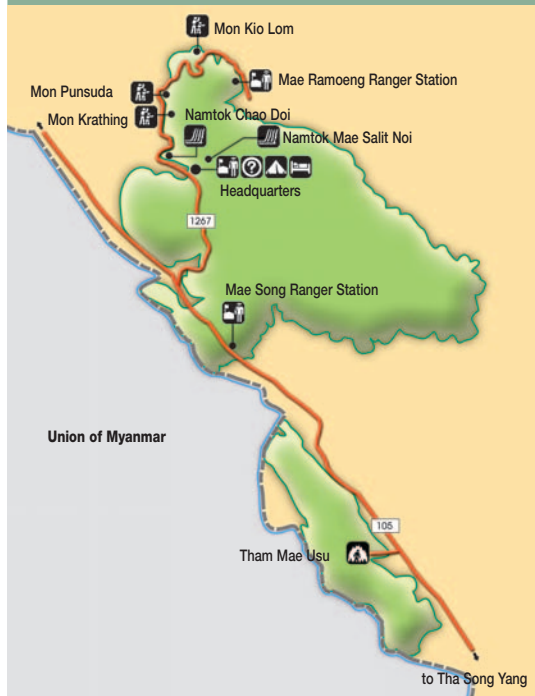
◆ **Viewpoints** of sea of clouds at the back of Mae Moei National Park headquarters. With its 1,100 metres high above sea level, the viewpoint offers the best attraction for watching sea of clouds including sunrise and sunset views. Visitors have to take a 4 hour walk to access the viewpoint and staying overnight is required.

◆ **Mon Khruba Sai and Mon Punsuda.** They are quite close to each other. Also the places offers sea of clouds viewpoint.

◆ **Mon Kio Lom.** The attraction is the most popular among visitors to watch spectacular sunrise and sea of clouds panorama views. It is located 7 kilometres from the National Park headquarters.

Getting there

- To reach there, drive on Highway No. 105 (Mae Sod- Mae Sariang route) for about 84 kilometres. From Tak province, then continue driving for about 13 kilometres and turn left to Tham Mae Usu. Alternatively, drive on Highway No. 105 for about 30 kilometres and take a turn right to Highway No. 1267 (Mae Salit-Om Koi route) and continue for about 11 kilometres until reaching the National Park office.



Mae Ping National Park

Situated on the left side of Mae Ping River which fills up Bhumiphol Dam, the picturesque park is rich of forest and wildlife. Its rugged mountain range and crisscrossing streams cover parts of Amphoe Doi Tao of Chiang Mai, Amphoe Li of Lamphun and Amphoe Sam Ngao of Tak. Established in 1981, the country's 32th national park acquires total area of 1,003.75 square kilometres.



Geography

Rugged mountains cover most part of the park at the average elevation of 900 metres above sea level. Its highest peak, Doi Huai Lao, towers at 1,334 metres. The range is watershed of many streams that are tributaries of Mae Ping River.

Its water boundary starts from Amphoe Doi Tao of Chiang Mai and stretches southward for a hundred kilometres to reservoir of Bhumiphol Dam in Amphoe Sam Ngao of Tak. Its widest part is 6 kilometres wide.

Climate

Like most part of the country, the park has summer, rainy season and winter. However, vast forest of the park makes its climate a bit different from the other regions.

Flora and fauna

Deciduous forest blankets over 80 percent of the

total area, covering sandy soil mountain at elevation less than 1,000 metres. The remaining 20 percent area are valleys and creeks blanketed by deciduous forest.

The significant plants include *Tectona grandis*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *Mong Atzelia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Pinus* sp., *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Terminalia alata*, *T.chebula*, *T.bellirica*, *Hopea ferrea*, *H.odorata*, *Bambusa bambos*, Orchids and Fern.

Wildlife is often found along the Mae Ping River. They include Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Asiatic Black Bear, Serow, Goral, Fishing Cat, Small Indian Civet, Macaque, Gibbon, Siamese Hare and Giant Black Squirrel.

Great amount of resident and migration birds such as Great Crested Grebe, Little Grebe, Asian Brown Flycatcher, Brown Shrike, Burmese Shrike, Black-naped Oriole, Greater Racket-tailed Drongo, Barn Swallow, Red-rumped Swallow, Asian Palm Swift, White-rumped Shama and Red Junglefowl.

Attractions

◆ **Ko Luang Waterfall.** The waterfall is quite a famous place for people from Lamphun and nearby. The limestone waterfall cascades through 7 steps. The beautiful formation of stalactites around the waterfall and quiet pool with lots of fish make it a nice place to relax.

◆ **Thung Kik.** Situated on the eastern part of the park, the vast grassland, interrupted with deciduous dipterocarp forest, is a beautiful habitat of wildlife such as Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Siamese Hare and Red Junglefowl. It is a nice place for naturalist. Ko Noi Waterfall, 9 kilometres from the grassland, is a cute place for relaxing.

◆ **Huai Tham.** The viewpoint by Mae Ping River offers picturesque view of Doi Tao Reservoir.

Getting there

- The park's headquarters is located in Tambon Mae Lan, Amphoe Lee of Lamphun. From Amphoe Lee, take highway 1 and get on highway 1087. The headquarters is on the left side of kilometre 20-21.
- Tourist can cruise from Doi Tao Reservoir of Chiang Mai to Reservoir of Bhumiphol Dam in Tak.

◆ **Pha Dam-Pha Daeng.** The towering cliff is enveloped amidst untouched nature. Panoramic view can be seen from the cliff. It can be accessed by foot only.

◆ **Yang Wi Cave.** The big limestone cave, decorated beautifully by formation of stalagmites and stalactites, is home to bats. Around the cave is beautiful coniferous forest that always satisfies the adventurous naturalist.

◆ **Kaeng Ko.** The scenic reservoir is nice for relaxing. Rafts guestroom are available for tourists. As Kaeng Ko is situated at the mid of reservoir of Bhumiphol Dam, it is quite convenient to cruise around to visit attractions around such as Um Pae Waterfall, Um Pat Waterfall, Tao Cliff, Phra That Kaeng Soi and etc.



Mae Wa National Park

Mae Wa National Park, which covers a mountainous area of 587 square kilometres is located in Amphoe Thoen, Amphoe Mae Phrik, Lampang province and Amphoe Sam Ngao, Amphoe Ban Tak, Tak province. It sets amidst natural surroundings of trees and verdant hills. The National Park has been declared as one of the Thailand's natural park since 2000.

Geography

The National Park generally features rugged mountain range with steep slope. The central to southern areas are mountainous ranges with flat plain on the top and there are large pine forests spreading on the mountain. The western area is covered by limestone mountains with 300-400 metres high above sea level.



Climate

Monsoon winds have an impact on this area. Rainy season is from Mid-May to September. Winter is from October to Mid-February and summer is from February to Mid May.



Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp, evergreen and coniferous forest blankets the National Park with various plants such as *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Spondias bipinnata*, *Chukrasia tabularis*, *Terminalia alata*,



Careya sphaerica, *Hopea odorata*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Pinus merkusii* and *P.kesiya*.

The National Park is home to wildlife such as Tiger, Guar, Asiatic Black Bear, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Siamese Hare and Palm Civet.

Different kinds of birds such as Hawk, Owl, Coucal, Asian Barred Owlet, frog and freshwater fish species.

Attractions

◆ **Mae Wa Waterfall**, the 12 level waterfall, creates spectacular view and each level has its own beauty style. Setting amidst steep mountains, the waterfall originates from Doi Prae Luang and finally flows to join to Mae Nam Wang.

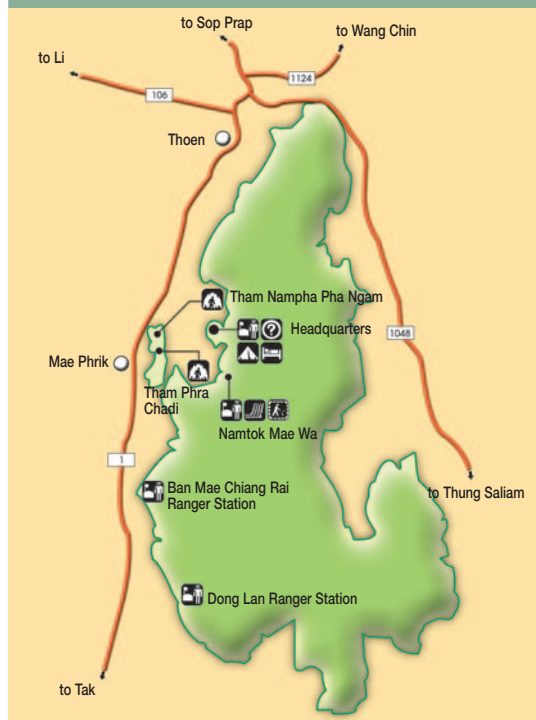
◆ **Tham Phra Chedi**, a medium limestone cave, offers scenic view of pagoda-shaped stalagmite inside. It is located in Amphoe Thoen, Lampang.

◆ **Tham Nampha Pha Ngam**, a large limestone cave, offers a scenic view of stalagmite and stalactite. It is located in Amphoe Mae Phrik, Lampang.

◆ **Scenery and forest** at Doi Khun Huai Pong, Doi Kio Khot and Doi Ta Chi offers scenic view of large green forest. Mixed pine forests, grove vegetations and grass land are blanketed all central and southern area of the Park.

Getting there

■ From Lampang, take Highway No. 1 (Lampang-Tak route) and turn to the junction at Km. 498-499 and proceed for a 10 kilometres distance.



Mae Wong National Park

Mae Wong National Park, the country's 55th national park, covers an area of 894 square kilometres in NakhonSawan province. It watershed forest feeds the main tributaries of the Mae Wong River, which is one of the most important rivers in NakhonSawan. The surroundings are still in perfect natural condition providing nice waterfall and cliffs naturally.

Geography

The Mae Wong National park is located in the Thanon Thong Chai mountain range and "Mokochu", its highest peak, is 1,964 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Summer season is from March to May, rainy season is from June to October and winter is from November to February (the best period to travel).

Flora and fauna

The National Park covers a forested area usually on the mountain range and plain near the river. Their major plants includes *Tectona grandis*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Invingia malayana*, *Mangifera* sp., *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Tarenna hoaensis*, *Hopea odorata*, *Lithocarpus* spp., *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius* and *D.tuberculatus*.



Getting there

- By car, take the Bangkok-Kamphaeng Phet-Khlong Lan route, or the Bangkok-Nakhon Sawan-Lat Yao-Khlongsarn route to Mae Wong National Park then taking Highway No. 1117 along the Klong Lan-Umphang route and stopping at the km. 65.



Such forests are home to wildlife such as Guar, Asiatic Elephant, Tiger, Sambar Deer, Asiatic Black Bear, Siamese Hare, Giant Black Squirrel, Flying Squirrel, Porcupine, Civet, Palm Civet, Macaque, Tapir and Langur.

Various kinds of rare birds such as Crested Kingfisher, Burmese Yuhina, Rufous-necked Hornbill, Coral-billed Scimitar-Babbler, Rufous-capped Fulvetta, Kalij Pheasant, Pin-tailed Pigeon, Rusty-naped Pitta, White-hooded Babbler and Spot-billed Pelican.

Attractions

- ◆ **Mae Kra Sa waterfall**, the 9 levels large waterfall is claimed as one of the most beautiful waterfalls. It has its 700 metres height. The waterfall is accessible by taking a 18 kilometres walk.

- ◆ **Mae Rewa Dee waterfall** features a basin that is 40 metres wide and 30 metres long, provided for a waterfall cascading down the cliff from the hill. It takes 11 hours by walk to reach there.

- ◆ **Mae Ki-Mae Wong waterfall** is claimed as the most beautiful waterfall in Asia (recorded by ASEAN MAGAZINE in 1975) The 9-layer waterfall has its 200

metres height and has a year round supply of water. To reach there, travelers have to walk for 10 hours.

- ◆ **Kaeng Pha Khoi Nang-Kaeng Nam Bon Kaeng Hin** is the large limestone reef. It is a scenic natural attraction and located approximately 1 kilometre from the National Park office along the Khlong Lan-Umphang route. It offers many recreational opportunities such as picnic in the mild weather.

- ◆ **Viewpoint at Km. 8.** Visitors can drive on the Klonglan-Umphang route to reach this attraction. It is far from the National Park office about 16 kilometres.

- ◆ **Chong Yen** at Km. 93. Visitors can drive on the Khlong Lan-Umphang route. It is located far from the National Park office about 28 kilometres. Since this place has fresh air blowing all the time, it was named "Chong Yen" (fresh and mild place.) It is also easily to find Orchid, Fern and Tree fern including various kinds of rare birds such as Rufous-necked Hornbill and Burmese Yuhina.

- ◆ **Mokochu Peak**, the highest peak is 1,964 metres above mean sea level. It takes 27 kilometres from Mae Wong National Park. It is also one of the tourist's popular destinations.



Mae Yom National Park

The second national park of Phrae is home to a big teak forest. Established in 1986, the country's 51st national park acquires total 454.75 square kilometres area in Amphoe Ngao of Lampang and Amphoe Song of Phrae.

Geography

Rugged mountain range dominates both eastern and western side of the park's boundary. Its watershed jungle fills up many streams which are tributaries of Yom River.



Climate

Rainy season is from June to September. Winter season is from October to January and summer season is from February to May. From November to May of each year is the best period for tourists to visit the national park.

Flora and fauna

The national park has diversity of plants. The steep valley is covered by dry evergreen forest with *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Anisoptera costata* and *Toona ciliata*.

On the higher elevation, hill evergreen forest occupies the area with *Pinus kesiya*, *Castanopsis acuminatissima*.

Mixed deciduous forest is home to *Alzelia xylocarpa*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata* and dense *Tectonia grandis* forest.

Deciduous dipterocarp forest and Secondary forest can be found on the hill and some plateau with as *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D.tuberculatus* its major plants.

Getting there

■ The park is 70 kilometres from Phrae. From Phrae, use Prae-Nan Road to Rong Kwang Intersection and turn left to Rong Kwang-Ngao Road to Amphoe Song 26 kilometres away. Then use Song-Ngao Road, the park is 20 kilometre away.





Such wilderness is home to Common Muntjak, Serow, Asiatic Black Bear, Wild Boar, Siamese Hare, Slow Loris and various kinds of bird such as Bulbul, Barbet, Babbler, Bee-eater, Kingfisher, Common Koel, Cuckoo, Roller and Flycatcher.

Attractions

◆ **Dong Sak Ngam.** The dense teak forest occupies on the bank of Yom River. The beautiful teak forest is in full bloom in October and November, turning the forest into light yellow hue. The teak forest is 6 kilometres from the headquarters and can be accessed by foot only.

◆ **Kaeng Suea Ten.** The rapids stretches 6 kilometres in Yom River. Kaeng Suea Ten or “Dancing Tiger Rapids” is named after a rock on this rapids on which tiger’s foot print obviously appears. Wide beaches along the river make it a nice place for camping. The rapids is situated in front of the park’s headquarters.

◆ **Lom Dong.** The natural hill-top pond, around 100 metres wide, is filled up with water all the year round. It is believed that the pond is sinkhole. Now it is water source for wildlife. The pond, with view point nearby, is 10 kilometres from the headquarters. Camping ground is available.



Nam Nao National Park

One of the country's finest national parks, the mountainous forest of Nam Nao borders the North and Northeast region of Thailand kingdom. Its tropical forest, with network of distributaries, blankets Amphoe Lom Kao, Lom Sak and Nam Nao of Phetchabun province as well as Amphoe Khon San of Chiayaphum province. This picturesque forest covers total area of 966 square kilometers. The country's 5th national park was established in 1982.

Geography

Bordering the North and Northeast of Thailand, Phetchabun Range in Nam Nao National Park stretches across Chiayaphum and Phetchabun province. Phu Pha Chit and Phu Kum Khao are significant landmarks. The forest originates many streams that fill up Pa Sak River, Phong River, Loei River, Khon Kaen Stream and Ubonratana Dam and Chulaphorn Dam.



Climate

Temperate climate on this mountain range allows visitor to explore the park comfortably in average temperature of 25 degrees Celsius all the year round.

Flora and fauna

Vast forest of Nam Nao comprises various kinds of forest such as deciduous dipterocarp forest, mixed deciduous forest, dry evergreen forest and grasslands. Its significant plants include *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Afzelia* sp., *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Hopea odorata* and various herbs and orchids.

Mixed forest, vast field and tropical jungle are nourished by network of streams. So this forest is paradise for a number of wildlife. Elephants freely roam the park, leaving their along the highway. Besides such gigantic creatures, the forest of Nam Nao is habitat for great variety of wildlife including Guar, Banteng, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Asiatic Black Bear, Malayan Sun Bear, Serow, Mouse Deer, Porcupine, Wild Boar, Tiger, Leopard and Langur.

The park houses over 200 kinds of bird, whose colourful feather always entertain naturalists. Colourful wings of butterfly, over 340 kinds of them such as Hornbill, Barbet, Woodpecker and Bulbul.

Attractions

◆ **Pha Hong Cave.** Situated among bamboo grove and sharp rock cliff, small cave naturally decorated with formation of stalagmites and stalactite.

◆ **Ban Paek Coniferous Forest** (Dong Paek). The picturesque landscape of Dong Paek comprises the realm of *Pinus merkusii* with grassy field carpeting beneath.

◆ **Phu Kum Khao Coniferous Forest.** The scenic landscape of coniferous forest around Phu



Kum Khao is a nice place where tourist can enjoy the nature in different hues on different seasons.

Without any other kind of tree, the realm of pine covering 10 square kilometers area raises its canopy high at 30-40 metres, leaving the land beneath to the grassland. During the monsoon, greenery will blanket the whole area, while wild flowers scatter around with colours blossom. In the dry season, the grassland beneath the shade of mountain pine forest

will slowly turn gold and brown finally, until the next rainy season comes.

In the mid of this landscape, visitors can witness such landscape over a hill called Phu Kum Khao. The landmark hill, at the altitude 880 metres above sea level.

◆ **Heo Sai Waterfall.** The Sanamsay stream, runs through the forest before jumping over the cliff to the pool 20 metres below. Beneath the waterfall, there is a big rock shelter roomy enough for camping.

◆ **Sai Thong Waterfall.** The waterfall of 30 metres wide and 4 metres tall is only 500 metres from Heo Sai Waterfall.

◆ **Phu Pha Chit (Phu Dan Ipong).** The remote flat-top peak can be reached by 7 hours trekking. Its crest, at 1,271 metres above average sea level, is the highest peak of the park.

◆ **Phalom Phakong.** The limestone mountain at 1,134 metres above sea level in the hug of jungle and mixed forest offers a scenic view point on the top. Nearby are picturesque cliffs with nice view called Pa Klang Loan, the cliff with 850 metres height and Pa Ton Hom which is 900 metres high.

◆ **Tham Yai Nam Nao (Phu Nam Rin).** The big cave is situated in Limestone Mountain of 955 metres high peak. The stunning beauty by formation stalagmite and stalactite in the cave always fascinate cave lover. The cave complex, with subterranean river, is home to large amount of bat.

◆ **Tat Phranba Waterfall.** Choen Stream cascades over two steps, creating this 20 metres high waterfall.

◆ **Phu Ko Viewpoint.** The place is one of the best viewpoints in the park.

◆ **Colourful forest.** Autumn blankets the forest of Nam Nao in December and January of each year. The best viewpoint to witness such colourful phenomenon is on Phu Lang Kongkwan.

Getting there

■ Headquarters of Nam Nao National Park is 103 kilometres from downtown Khon Kaen and 55 kilometres from Amphoe Lom Sak of Phetchabun. Motorist can go through highway 12. The park's entrance is at kilometre 50 and the headquarters is 2 kilometres off the highway. Buses leave Khon Kaen and Lom Sak for the park everyday.



Namtok Chat Trakan National Park

Namtok Chat Trakan, the 54th national park of Thailand, covers 543 square kilometres in Amphoe Chat Trakan and Nakhon Thai, Phitsanulok and was established in 1987. Generally, it provides nice surroundings, a carved historic earth in the first age and scenic viewpoint.



Geography

Generally, the National Park features rugged mountain range and gave birth to the main tributaries of the Mae Nam Phak and Mae Nam Lam Khwae Noi. The vast rock formation mainly consists of sandstone.

Climate

Summer season is from March to May (25-29 degrees Celsius), rainy season is from June to October and winter is from November to February.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp can be found in the National Park including *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *S.obtusa*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Lithocarpus* sp., *Mangifera* spp., *Calamus* spp. and various kinds of Bamboos. The National Park is home to small animals such as Common Muntjak, Wild Boar, Red Junglefowl, Mouse Deer, Giant Black Squirrel, Treeshrew and various kinds of birds such as Eagle, Owl and Pipit.



Getting there

■ From Phitsanulok, take the Phitsanulok-Lom Sak route, turn left into Amphoe Nakhon Thai before arriving Amphoe Chat Trakan, then continue a further distance of 2 kilometres along the route of the National Park. Total distance is 145 kilometres.

■ From Phitsanulok, take Asia-Phitsanulok-Uttaradit route, turn into Amphoe Thong Saen Khan, Uttaradit and Amphoe Chat Trakan (1 km), then continue a further distance of 12 kilometres along the route of the Chat Trakan National Park. Total distance is 160 kilometres.

Attractions

◆ **Chat Trakan Waterfall**, the 7 levels waterfall cascading down the cliff to a forest hillside has a large natural pool on each level. The spectacular attraction is the stream cascading for 15 metres in the first basin covering 800 square metres. This also creates some tiny beaches beautifully.

◆ **Waterfall's Cliff** offers the vivid color of sandstone. From January to June, a swarm of bees and butterflies usually construct their beehive.

◆ **First Historic Art** of human beings was found at Khao Kradan Lek (Pha Kradan Lek). Here, the animal symbols carved by human beings was found.



Namtok Mae Surin National Park

Situated in remote jungle amidst rugged mountain in Amphoe Khun Yuam and Mueang of Mae Hong Son, the park acquires 396.60 square kilometres. The aerial survey finds that the forest around Mae Surin Waterfall was rich in wilderness. The cone-shaped Doi Pui Mountain has unique landscape with flat-top summit where blanketed with cold weather all the year round. Its waterfalls, Mae Surin and Pha Bong, are major natural attractions. Thus, the country's 37th national park was established in 1981.



Geography

Most area in the park is rugged range, rock mountain and towering cliffs particularly at Doi Khun Nam Rin and Doi Pui. Various forest types, including mixed deciduous forest, dry evergreen forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and coniferous forest, carpets the whole area. Among such wilderness, there are many prestige orchids such as *Vanda coerulea*. The vast wilderness is watershed many tributaries that contribute to Pai River.

Climate

The park has comfortable climate. It is quite cold during the winter. Heavy rains in the rainy season always worsen the transportation. So, winter and summer is the best period to make a visit to the park.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp blankets low land by the stream where high moisture nourishes the trees. Its major plants include *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Terminalia bellirica*. Coniferous forest covers most steep ridges *Pinus merkusii* and *P. kesiya* can be found. Numerous kinds of wildlife can be found such as Bear, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Civet, Macaque, Langur, Mouse Deer, Gibbon and Tiger as well as different kinds of birds.

Attractions

◆ **Mae Surin Waterfall.** It is one of the highest waterfall in Thailand. Mae Surin Stream falls in to the cliff 180 metres below. Situated 38 kilometres from Amphoe Khun Yuam, it can be accessed during the dry season only.

◆ **Damkhon Waterfall** (Pha Bong Waterfall) Damkhon Stream falls through 2 tiers at 30 metres high. It is 12 kilometres from Mae Hong Son. The waterfall can be visited all the year round.

Getting there

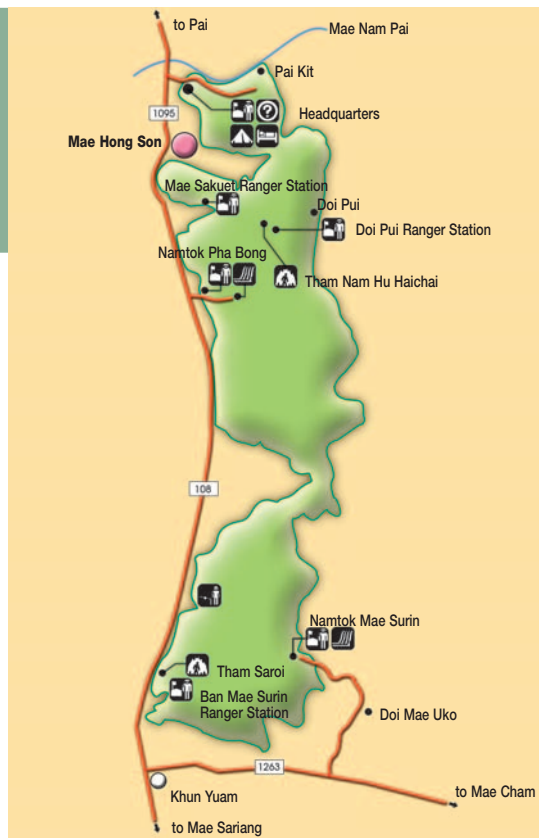
■ From the provincial town of Mae Hong Son, use highway 108 bound for Amphoe Khun Yuam 60 kilometres away. From Khun Yuam, the park is 40 kilometres away.

◆ **Pai River.** The river has beach which is a nice place for camping. The exciting white water rafting tour is available on this river.

◆ **Nong Khiao.** The vast plain situated on the ridge is covered with coniferous forest. Tourists require to trek 2 hours from Mae Surin Waterfall.

◆ **Doi Pui.** Famed for cold weather, the flat-top mountain is home to many temperate-climate plants.

◆ **Nam Hu Haichai Cave.** It is a strange natural phenomenon. Every 25 minutes, the cave wall always breathe out water from the holes. It is assumed that such phenomenon is resulted from water pressure deep from the underground. The cave is in Tambon Pha Bong, Amphoe Mueang of Mae Hong Son. Visitors require to walk for 3-4 hours from Ban Huai Nam, Mae Sakuet.



Op Luang National Park

Op Luang National Park is an amazing natural attraction comprising of both splendid natural charms as well as mysterious scenery. A zigzagging river flows in front of a picturesque gorge. Acquiring a total area of 553 square kilometres, the National park covers areas in Amphoe Chom Thong, Amphoe Hot, Amphoe Mae Chaem of Chiang Mai. Also it was declared as the Thailand 68th national park in 1991.



Geography

Op Luang National Park is located on the Thanon Thong Chai mountain range lying down from northern to southern. The area is a high, steep cliff with a narrow passage, creating strong currents and powerful echoes. The mountain range were all formed by the same folding event in the Cretacius and Triassic periods creating granite, granodiorite and Mitmatile granite.

Climate

Rainy season is from May to October. Winter is from November to January and summer is from February to April.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and evergreen forest including pine forest blankets the national park with various plants such as *Tectona grandis*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Hopea odorata*, *Toona ciliata*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Diospyros mollis*, *Millettia leucantha* var. *buteoides*, *Terminalia alata*, *Lagerstroemia speciosa*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Stereopermum colias*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D.tuberculatus*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis* and *Pinus* sp. including genus *Lithocarpus* such as Bamboos, Palms and Ferns.

The National Park is home to wild animals such as Tiger, Sambar Deer, Asiatic Black Bear, Macaque, Siamese Hare, Squirrel, Southern Serow, Common Wild Boar, Common Muntjak, Gibbon, Civet, Pangolin, Palm Civet, Langur, Mongoose, Northern Treeshrew and Tree Monitor.

Different birds such as Vernal Hanging-Parrots, White-rumped Shama, Scarlet Minivet, Spotted Dove, Common Koel, Woodpecker, Greater Coucal, Hill Myna, Shikra, Sparrow-hawk, Falconet, Peacock Pheasant, Red Junglefowl, Lineated Barbet, Bulbul, Broadbill, Puff-throated Babbler, Little Bee-eater and Partridge.

Attractions

◆ **Op Luang**, the Great Canyon is located at the 17th kilometre of Highway No. 108. It covers the areas of Tambon Hang Dong, Amphoe Hot, Tambon Ban Pae, Amphoe Chom Thong. It offers a breathtaking view of the natural scenery of a steep river valley amidst scenic mountains and Teak or *Tectona grandis* forests.

◆ **Mae Bua Kham Waterfall**, originates from Huai Mae Bua Kham in Tambon Hang Dong, Amphoe Hot.

◆ **Mae Chan Waterfall** originates from Huai Mae Chan in Tambon Ban Pae, Amphoe Chom Thong. It is a large waterfall flowing down to several rock



Getting there

- Op Luang National Park is located 105 kilometres from Chiang Mai town along Highway No. 108 (Chiang Mai-Hot-Mae Sariang)



formations below creating spectacular view of current flowing like translucent fiber spreading all cliffs and terrain.

◆ **Mae Tia Waterfall**, one of the beautiful waterfalls, is located in the middle of the jungle of Huai Mae Tia in Amphoe Chom Thong. It cascades from a 80 metres cliff on to the plain below.

Interesting Prehistoric archaeological site was found near Op Luang.

◆ **Doi Pha Chang**. The granite rocky outcrop is 300 metres long and 49 metres high and has black color. Its shape is like a gigantic elephant sitting on Doi Pha Chang

◆ **Thep Phanom Hot Spring** is located in Tambon Tha Pha, Amphoe Mae Cham, far from Op Luang 14 kilometres.

◆ **Tham Tong** is the limestone and granite cave.

◆ **Tham Tu Pu**, a small cave offers a scenic view of stalagmite and stalactite.

◆ **Mae Cham River** originates from the mountain range in Mae Hong Son province. Its current is strong and zigzagging along the cliffs and valleys.

Pha Daeng National Park

The National Park covers an area of 1,154.92 square kilometres between Chiang Dao Wildlife Sanctuary and Pha Hom Pok National Park in Chiang Mai. It has an abundant of wildlife and verdant forestes, which are the source of the main tributaries of Mae Nam Ping and Mae Nam Mae Taeng. Also, an interesting historic archaeological site is located in the Park. The Park has been declared as one of the Thailand's national park since 2000.



Geography

Pha Daeng National Park features rugged mountain range. Most eastern area are limestone mountain including Doi Tham Klap, Doi Hua Tho, Doi Khun Huai Sai, Doi Pha Daeng, Doi Tham Ngob, Doi Dan Fak and most western mountains are occupied by tropical forest including Doi Kam Phra, Doi Puk Phak Ka, Doi Lek Chi, Doi San Kio Khom Pra, Doi Kio Hu Lom, Doi Thuai, Doi Yang Klo.

The highest peak of Pha Daeng National Park is "Doi Puk Phak Ka" peak, which is 1,794 metres above mean sea level

Climate

Monsoon winds have an impact on this area. The temperature is usually higher and more humid particularly in summer while rainfall is more likely during the rainy months particularly in August. The average rainfall is 1,839 mm. per year. In winter, the highest temperature is about 27 degrees Celsius and the lowest temperature is about 8 degrees Celsius.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and Moist evergreen forest blankets the National

Park with various plants such as *Michelia floribunda*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. obtusifolius*, *Hopea odorata*, *Cinnamomum iners*, *Schima wallichii*, *Pinus* sp., *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Morinda coreia*, *Lagerstroemia tomentosa*, *Chukrasia tabularis*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Lagerstroemia venusta*, *Cratoxylum maingayi*, *Terminalia chebula*, *Careya sphaerica* and *Bambusa bambos*.

Various kind of birds such as Scarlet Minivet, Short-billed Minivet, Orange-bellied Leafbird, Green-billed Malkoha, Bronze Drongo, Ashy Drongo, Brown Shrike, Grey-backed Shrike, Barn Swallow, Thrushes, Flycatcher, Stonechat, Pipit, Bulbul, Hawk, Eagle and Barbet.

Attractions

◆ **Si Sang Wan Waterfall**, a medium fall, has 10-12 metres wide and 10-15 metres high. The 3 level waterfall originates from Khun Nam Na Wai amidst large green trees. It is far from Amphoe Chiang Dao only 35 kilometres.

◆ **Pang Tong Waterfall**, a medium fall, hides itself amidst lush green forest. Originating from Khun



Mae Ngai river, the waterfall has its special characteristic; its current flows from the mountain through the holes into the underneath for a 50-60 metres distance and later flowing out from the holes to the waterfall's cliffs.

◆ **Klap Cave**, A medium-size cave is 10 metres wide. Inside, it is home to bats community. Also a number of monkeys live on the mountain. The place offers spectacular view of stalagmites and stalactites and is located far from Km. 99 of the Highway No. 107 (Chang Mai-Fang) only 1.5 kilometres.

◆ **Tap Tao Cave**. Situated in Ban Tap Tao, This cave is smaller than Tham Chiang Dao. It set amidst large trees including various vegetations. It is very convenient to access.

◆ **Doi Pha Tang**. The high rock mountain has its special feature, with its gigantic round stone standing into the air. It is located at Km. 93 of the Highway No. 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang)

◆ **Doi Pha Daeng**, a rock mountain, offers spectacular view. It is located at Km. 98 of the Highway No. 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang)

◆ **Pong Ang Hot Well**, a small warm pool with gas, sulphur and steam surroundings, has water all year round. It is located at the entrance of Pong Ang village, Km. 22 of the Mueang Rai-Ban Na Wai route.

◆ **Viewpoint** at the peak located at Km. 45 of Mae Cha-Piang Luang route covers the Khun Khong Watershed Management Unit. From here, visitors can see spectacular view of both Chiang Dao Wildlife Sanctuary and Pha Daeng National Park.

◆ **Viewpoint** at the top of Doi Thuai. This place gave birth to Khun Ping, which is the beginning point of Mae Nam Ping. Visitors can watch scenic panoramas both in Thailand's and Union of Myanmar's side.

Getting there

- Take Highway No. 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang) and take a turn to the junction of Ban Tap Tao at Km. 118 (Chai Prakan sub-district.)
- Take Highway No. 1178 (Mueang Ngai's Km. 79 - Ban Na Wai's Km. 24) for a 24 kilometres distance and take the Ban Na Wai Km. 24 Ban Mueang Na route for 134 kilometres distance.



Phu Hin Rong Kla National Park

The park has long been battle field that led to big loss of Thailand. The mountain range had been served as a stronghold for the communist during 1968–1972, before being defeated in 1982. The country's 48th national park was established in 1984. Today, Phu Hin Rong Kla National Park acquires total area of 307 square kilometres in Amphoe Dan Sai of Loei province and Amphoe Nakhon Thai of Phitsanulok province.



Geography

Rugged and steep mountain dominates most area. Phu Phaeng Ma, Phu Khithao, Phu Hin Rong Kla and Phu Lom Lo are major peaks. The Phu Man Khao is the highest, at 1,820 metres above sea level. These ranges slope down to the west, originating many streams.

Climate

The park has temperate weather all the year round at temperature between 18-25 degrees Celsius. During winter, it is rather foggy and the temperature drops to 0-4 degrees. While the other places are too hot, it is quite comfortable in the park.

Flora and fauna

The park is dominated by three forest types including mix deciduous and deciduous dipterocarp forest in the dry area, hill evergreen forest on wet and high elevation and coniferous forest on the plateau. The deciduous dipterocarp forest has *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *S.roxburghii*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius* and *D.tuberculatus*.

After the end of battle, Tiger, Common Muntjak, Mouse Deer, Bear and different kinds of birds can be found.

Attractions

The park features historical attractions which mirrors the communism era in this area namely.

◆ **Political and military school.** The school, comprising 31 small buildings, once were served at the venue to train and educate the communists. Situated amidst lush forest, the school is 6 kilometres from the park's headquarters.

◆ **Communist Headquarters** Old Office buildings were served at the headquarters where the communists government runs their administrative functions.

◆ **Village.** There are villages, such as Dao Daeng and Dao Chai Village, mirror the lifestyle of communist during the civil war time. Each village comprises 40-50 houses, each of which is built on the ground with air raid shelter.

◆ **Hospital.** Located 2 kilometres from the communist headquarters, the hospital was well equipped. There were recuperated and medicine compound rooms with lots of medicine supplies.

◆ **Turbines.** Located opposite to Political and military school, the water-power turbines were used for pounding rice, feeding thousands of people.

The park actually has many beautiful natural attractions



Getting there

■ From Phitsanulok, head to Lomsak for 68 kilometres and turn right at Ban Yaeng Intersection, to Amphoe Nakhon Thai 29 kilometres away. From Nakhon Thai, the park is 31 kilometres away. Local bus is available at Amphoe Nakhon Thai. The park can be accessed from Phetchabun, via Amphoe Lom Khao.

◆ **Pha Chu Thong.** After each victory against the government troop, the communist warrior always fly their flag of the towering cliff which offers magnificent view.

◆ **Man Daeng Waterfall.** The big waterfall cascade through 32 tier.

◆ **Romklhao-Pharadon Waterfall.** The twin waterfall is 4 kilometres from the park's headquarters. It is a nice shady place amidst wilderness.

◆ **Si Phatcharin Waterfall.** The waterfall is 5 kilometres from the headquarters; however, it is not ready for tourism as it cannot be accessed by car.

◆ **Pha Lat and Tat Fa Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfalls are situated at the foot of Phu Hin Rong Kla Mountain, five kilometres from Ban Huai Nam Sai.

◆ **Lan Hin Taek.** The broken rock terrace is probably a result from earth splitting. The depths of these cracks, both narrow and wide, remain doubtful. The mysterious area is covered by moss, lichen, ferns and different orchids. The terrace is 300 metres from Thai Army Base.

◆ **Lan Hin Pum.** The field of rocky lumps in equal size is believed a result from physical and chemical erosion. The scenery rock terrace was served as rejuvenating area for the communist patients.



Phu Sang National Park

The Phu Sang National Park covers an area of 2854.88 square kilometres in Amphoe Thoeng, Chiang Rai province and Amphoe Chiang Kham, King Amphoe Phu Sang in Phayao province.

The Phu Sang National Park has been declared as one of the Thailand's national park since 2000.

Geography

With its altitude range 440-1,584 metres high, the Phu Sang National Park features rugged mountain range. It is, geologically, a border between Laos and Thailand.

Climate

Rainy season is from May to October. Winter is from November to January and summer is from February to April.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, dry dipterocarp forest, hill evergreen forest and coniferous forest blankets the National park with various vegetations such as *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D.turbinatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Toona ciliata*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Michelia* sp., *Anisoptera costata*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Artocarpus lacucha*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Xylia*



Getting there

- From Phayao, drive on the Phayao-Amphoe Chun-Amphoe Chiang Kham-Nam Tok Phu Sang route. Total distance is 104 kilometres. Alternatively, from Chiang Rai via Amphoe Thoeng via Amphoe Chiang Kham to Nam Tok Phu Sang. Total distance is 124 kilometres.

xylocarpa, *Tectona grandis*, *Lagerstroemia tomentosa*, *Dillenia* sp., *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Schleichera oleosa*, *Terminalia bellirica*, *Irvingia malayana*, *Lithocarpus* spp., *Mangifera* sp. and bamboos.

The National Park is home to wildlife including Sambar Deer, Pid-tailed Macaques, Siamese Hare, Common Muntjak, Wild Boar, Mouse Deer, Langur, Gibbon, Jungle Cat, Porcupine, Palm Civet, Civet, Black Giant Squirrel, Flying Squirrel, Mongoose and Dhole.

Different kinds of birds such as Common Koel, Plaintive Cuckoo, Common Kingfisher, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Black-crested Bulbul, Olive-backed Sunbird, Greater Coucal, Ashy Drongo, Lesser Racket-tailed Drongo and Red Junglefowl.

Attractions

◆ **Phu Sang Waterfall** is a scenic waterfall about 20 kilometres to the north of district town of Chiang Kham on Highway No. 1093. The surroundings are still in perfect natural condition. Phu Sang is different than other waterfalls. It is fed by a hot spring on the mountain which flows into the brook before cascading over the fall.

◆ **Phu Sang Warm Pool** is the source of Phu Sang Waterfall and has its current at a 35 degrees Celsius temperature.

◆ **Tham Nam Daeng**, a large cave, provides spectacular view of waterfalls and stalagmite and stalactite inside.

◆ **Doi Pha Dam**, a limestone mountain, offers beautiful large cliffs.

◆ **Tham Pha Dan**, a large cave, offers spectacular view of waterfalls and stalagmite and stalactite inside.

◆ **Tham Nam Lot**, a small cave, offers spectacular view of a number of cave's rooms inside.



Ramkhamhaeng National Park

North



Besides historical artifacts since Sukhothai Kingdom, the national park features lush watershed forest and beautiful natural attractions such as Sai Rung Waterfall. Ramkhamhaeng National Park acquires total area of 341 square kilometres, covering parts of Amphoe Ban Dan Lan Hoi, Khiri Mat, and Mueang of Sukhothai.

History

According to the policy of the Forestry Department to establish additional wildlife sanctuary and national park, the reserved forest of Khao Luang in Sukhothai was surveyed and named after the great king of Sukhothai period. The country's 18th national park was established in 1980.

Geography

Rugged mountains towers in the mid of the park like “Chom Phluak” or home of white ant of the lower Northern region. Khao Luang Range, comprising Khao Narai, Khao Phra Chedi, Khao Phra Mae Ya and Khao Phu Ka, has the highest peak at 1,200 metres above mean sea level. The forest originates many tributaries of Yom River.

Climate

Summer is from March to May. It rains heavily in September. The climate is quite comfortable in winter and quite cold at the peak. The most comfortable period is from December to January.

Getting there

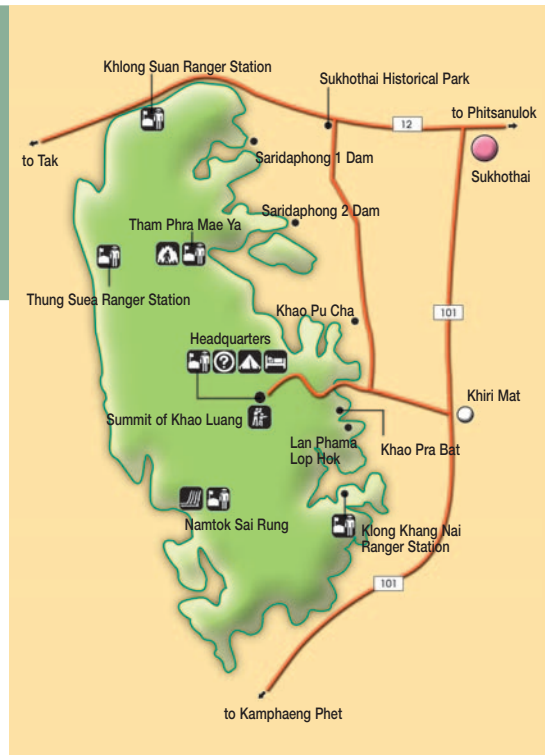
- Motorist from Bangkok can use highway 100 to Amphoe Khiri Mat and turn into the park at kilometres 414. The park is a kilometre off the main road. From Phitsanulok, use highway 117 to Sukhothai then bound for Amphoe Khiri Mat.

Flora and fauna

Dry evergreen forest occupies the plain. Furthermore, there are mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and grassland which houses lots of herbs, particularly around Suan Kaeo Suan Khwan area. The significant plants include *Hopea odorata*, *Toona ciliata*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *S.obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *S. roxburghii*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* and *Xylia xylocarpa*.

The wildlife found in the park includes Elephant, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Macaque, Squirrel and Gibbon.

Different kinds of birds such as Hawk, Leafbird, Sunbird, Spiderhunter, Flowerpecker, Myna, Starling,



North

Wood-swallow, Pipit, Lark, Trogon, Laughingthrush, Flycatcher, Stonechat, Shrike, Hoopoe, Roller, Barbet, Bulbul, Pheasant, Munia, Swallow, Tailorbird and Woodpecker.

Attractions

◆ **Khao Luang.** Lying at the south of Sukhothai, The mountain range with the highest peak looked like a lying lady. Her face is mostly decorated with white cloud. The mountain has four peaks blanketed with grassland namely Khao Narai, Khao Phra Chedi, Khao Phra Mae Ya and Khao Phu Ka. The latter two is the highest peaks at 1,200 metres elevation.

◆ **Grassland.** Acquiring area of 3,000 rais or 4.8 square kilometres, the grassland with different kinds of grass carpets the mountain peaks. Herbs can be found particularly around Suan Kaeo Suan Khwan area where huge banyan tree spans its branches, providing shade to mountaineer along the way.

◆ **Herbs.** The park is home to hundreds of herbs such as *Cinnamomum iners*.

◆ **Sai Rung Waterfall.** In rainy season, Phai Na Canal from Khao Phra Chedi falls into steep cliff over a hundred metres deep.



Si Lanna National Park

Si Lanna National Park was declared the Thailand's 60th national park in 1989. The National Park occupies Amphoe Chiang Dao, Amphoe Prao and Amphoe Mae Taeng in Chiang Mai, with an area of 1,406 square kilometres. It is full of forest, mountains and wildlife.



Geography

The national park features rugged mountain range and providing large forest from south to north. It is the source of various tributaries of the Ping River, Mae Ngat River. With its altitude range 400-1,718 metres high and highest peak at Doi Chom Hot. Its rich and fertile forests are habitants to a great number of plants. The limestone formation have been covered by sandstone, limestone and shale.

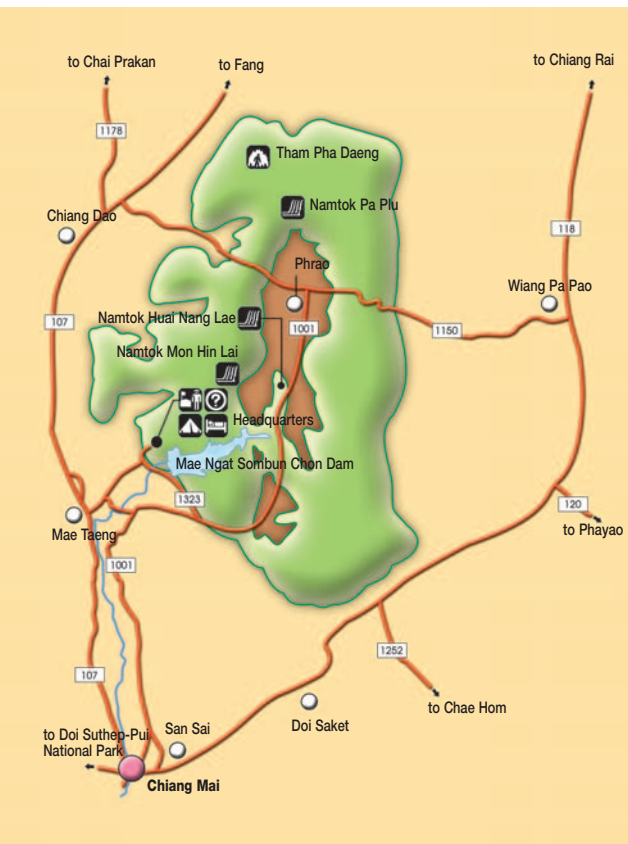
Climate

Rainy season is from May to October. Winter is from November to February and summer is form March to April.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest, hill evergreen forest and coniferous forest blankets the national park with various plants such as *Toona ciliata*, *Cinnamomum iners*, *Hopea odorata*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Tectona grandis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Invingia malayana*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus* and *Dalbergia oliveri*. Also various bamboo, fern and palm can be found at the lower part of the National Park.

The parks is a safe heaven for wildlife including several mammals such as Tiger, Sambar Deer, Asiatic Black Bear, Macaque, Common Wild Boar,



Siamese Hare and Common Muntjak as well as different birds such as Duck, Coucal, Bulbul, Egret and Barbet.

Getting there

■ To get there, drive on Highway No. 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang route) along Mae Nam Ping or drive on Highway No. 1001 (Chiang Mai-Prao route) or drive on Highway No. 1150 (Pingkhong-Chiang Dao-Prao route). Alternatively, drive on Highway No. 1150 (Chiang Rai via Doi Saket to Amphoe Wiang Pa Pao in Chiang Rai route)

Attractions

◆ **Mon Hin Lai Waterfall** is situated at Hual Mae Paeng in Chiang Mai. The 6 level waterfall is full of water all year round and creates spectacular view.

◆ **Mae Ngat Irrigation Reservoir** covers an area of Mae Taeng forest and Mae Ngat forest. The Reservoir approaches scenic natural view and is developed to be an ideal place for recreation.

◆ **Spectacular forest** is approached along the Highway No. 1150 in Amphoe Prao, Amphoe Chiang Dao in Chiang Mai. From here, visitors can watch the scenic view of Doi Pha Sam Sao mountain range.

◆ **Nam Pu Yen, Namtok Yen and Buag Dong Cave** is situated along the Highway no. 42 (Chiang Mai-Prao route) covering the area of Amphoe Mae Taeng in Chiang Mai. Here, mineral water, originated by the earth is created to become streams and tiny waterfalls.



Si Satchanalai National Park

Si Satchanalai National Park acquires 213.20 square kilometres area in Amphoe Si Satchanalai and Thung Saliam of history-rich province of Sukhothai. The country's 26th national park was established in 1981.

Geography

Rugged mountains and rock cliffs dot around the area. The high mountains such as Doi Mae Wang Chang and Doi Mae Mok lie from the north to the

south on its western edge at the elevation range between 300-1,200 metres above sea level, leaving the plain at by Yom River. The forest is watershed of many streams such as Huai Sai Khao, Huai Mae Tha Phae, Huai Mae San, Huai Pha Cho and Huai Manao.

Climate

The climate in the park does not differ from the nearby area. It has hot summer and wet rainy



Getting there

- From Sukhothai, motorist can use highway 12, bypassing the provincial town for 15 kilometres, then turn right in to highway 1113 and then 1294. The park is 100 kilometres from downtown Sukhothai.
- Or the motorist can use highway 101 to Si Satchanalai, turn left at Si Satchanalai Hospital to the highway 1035 and get on highway 1294 to the park. This route is 122 kilometres.

season. In winter, the coldest month is between December and February.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest acquires 93.4 percent of the total area, covering steep valleys, slopes and by the creek. The remaining area belongs to the deciduous dipterocarp forest which houses of *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Schleichera oleosa* and hill evergreen forest where *Castanopsis acuminatissima*, *Dipterocarpus turbinatus* and *Helicia* sp. are found.

Lush forest, rugged mountain and crisscrossing streams make the park a perfect place for wildlife. Often found wildlife includes Northern Treeshrew, Common Wild Boar, Variable Squirrel, Macaque, Asian Golden Cat, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Hawk and Bat.

The rare species animal in the park include Serow, Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Porcupine, Big-headed Turtle, Tiger, Great Hornbill, Langur and



white-handed Gibbon.

Number of endangered species such as Asian Elephant and Guar are declining.

Attractions

◆ **Tat Dao Waterfall.** The beautiful is originated from Huai Mae Tha Phae Stream that falls 30 metres, through 3 steps, to the deep pool below. It is 3 kilometres from the park's headquarters.

◆ **Tat Duan Waterfall.** The small waterfall is some 10 metres high. The stream snakes into deep pool where people can enjoy swimming. It is only 300 metres from the park's headquarters.

◆ **Huai Sai Khao Waterfall.** The 7 steps waterfall is situated tranquil valley, 3 kilometres from the headquarters.

◆ **Tara Wasan Cave.** Situated only 1.5 kilometres from the headquarters, the cave has beautiful formation of stalagmites and stalactites. Plenty of flora and fauna, such as Chan Pha and Southern Serow are found around the area.

◆ **Khang Khao Cave.** The beautiful cave is home to hundred thousands of bat. It is 20 kilometres from the headquarters.

Moreover, the park features many natural attractions such as Huai Pha Cho Waterfall, Viewpoint from Doi Mae Wang Chang.

Taksin Maharat National Park

Amidst the lush jungle and abundant wildlife, the park has unique landscape of stone arch and the country's largest tree. Historian assumed that ancient army once roamed this area during the war time. Established in 1981, the park was initially named "Ton Krabak Yai National Park" to show the park's landmark which is a huge Krabak tree or great Anisoptera costata. It was renamed into Taksin Maharat National Park in 1986 to honour King Taksin the Great who once ruled Tak province. The national park acquires total area of 149 square kilometres.



Geography

Situated on Thanon Thongchai Range, the park features rugged mountainous landscape with tiny plain. At its middle region, its highest peak towers at 1,027 metres elevation above sea level and slopes down to all direction.

Climate

The park has quite comfortable weather all the year round with mean temperature at 22 degrees Celsius. It rains heavily in August till October. The temperature could drop to 6 degrees during the winter, from November to January.



Flora and fauna

Dry evergreen forest, mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp forest covers around Great Krabak tree and natural stone arch. Its major plants include *Anisoptera costata*, *Baccaurea ramiflora* and *Toona ciliata* for instance. Coniferous forest occupied the land at the elevation above 700 metres.

Wildlife found in the park include mammals, birds and insects such as Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Civet, Palm Civet, Wild Boar, Squirrel, Mongoose, Treeshrew, Green Pigeon, Ashy Drongo, Scarlet Minivet, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Black-naped Oriole, Great Barbet, Plaintive Cuckoo, Barn Swallow, Spotted Dove, Greater Coucal, Collared Scops-Owl, Olive-backed Sunbird, Oriental White-eye, Paris Peacock and Common Birdwing.

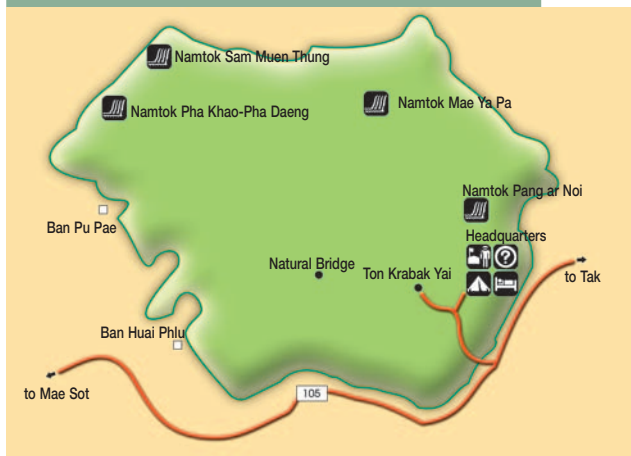
Attractions

- ◆ **Sam Muen Thung Waterfall.**
- ◆ **Pang ar Yai Waterfall and Pang ar Noi Waterfall.** Its medium size waterfall with 20 metres high from ground.
- ◆ **Mae Ya Pa Waterfall**, one of the most beautiful with 3 levels. The fall can be accessed only 2 kilometres by walk.

- ◆ **Pha Khao-Pha Daeng Waterfall.**
- ◆ **Nature Rock Bridge**, with 25 metres high.
- ◆ **Krabak Yai tree or Great Krabak** (*Anisoptera costata*). It is the biggest Krabak tree, *Anisoptera costata* in Thailand.

Getting there

- From Tak can go by motorist 105 (Tak-Mae Sot) just to 26 kilometre, then turn right only 1.5 kilometres to Headquarters of National park.



Tat Mok

National Park

The National Park covers the area of 290 square kilometres in Phetchabun. It has been declared as the Thailand's national park since 1998. Tat Mok National Park has a huge waterfall fed by streams flowing down cracks and crevices of the mountains creating a beautiful waterfall.



Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range. It also gave birth to the main tributaries of the Mae Nam Pa Sak and Mae Nam Chi.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and dry evergreen forest blankets the National Park with various plants such as *Hopea odorata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Tectona grandis*, *Lithocarpus* spp., *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata* and Bamboos.

The National Park is home to wildlife such as Macaque, Serow, Wild Boar, Common Muntjak and different kinds of birds such as Drongo and Nightjar.

Attractions

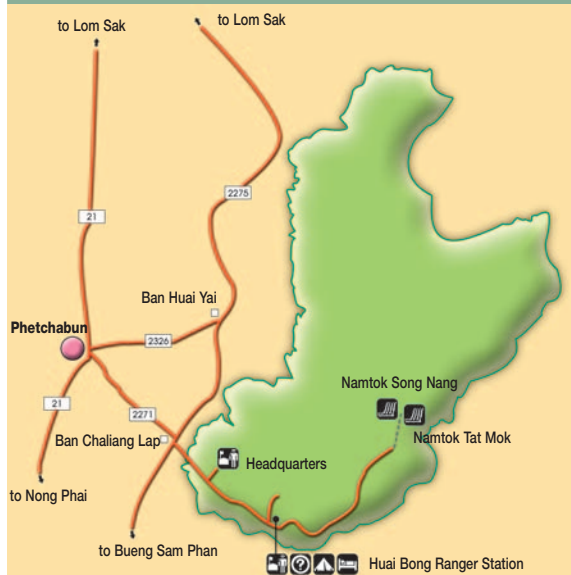
◆ **Tat Mok Waterfall.** Very beautiful waterfall originates from Tat Mok Mountain. It has only one level with its 200-300 metres high from the ground.

◆ **Song Nang Waterfall.** The Waterfall, a border of the Tat Mok National Park to Nam Nao National Park flows to meet Mae Nam Pa Sak. It is surrounded by lush vegetation and various kinds of trees.



Getting there

■ To access there, drive from Phetchabun's town to the east for 12 kilometres to Ban Chaliang Lap, then take a right turn onto Highway No. 2275 (Ban Nam Ron). After just 200 metres is a left fork leading to an access to Ban Chaliang Lap route for a distance 19 kilometres to car park., then walk for a distance of 2 kilometres to access the waterfall.



Thung Salaeng Luang National Park

Thung Salaeng Luang National Park acquires vast area of 1,262.40 square kilometres in Amphoe Wang Thong, Nakhon Thai and Noen Maprang of Phitsanulok and Amphoe Khao Kho and Wang Pong of Phetchabun. It features beautiful natural attractions namely caves, grassland, waterfalls and various flora and fauna. The country's 3rd national park was established on January 29, 1963.

Geography

Rolling hills cover most area of the park leaving the western edge to rugged limestone range lies in north-south direction. Khao Khae is the highest peak



with 1,028 metres elevation above sea level. The watershed forest fills up many streams namely Huai Khek Yai, Huai Khek Noi, Lam Nam Thum, Khlong Chomphu and Khlong Wang Thong.

Climate

From March to June is the hottest period with maximum temperature of 29 degrees Celsius. Rainy season is from July to October with annual rainfall of 1,700 millimetres on average. Winter, from November to February, is the perfect time to enjoy the nature in chilling temperature.

Flora and fauna

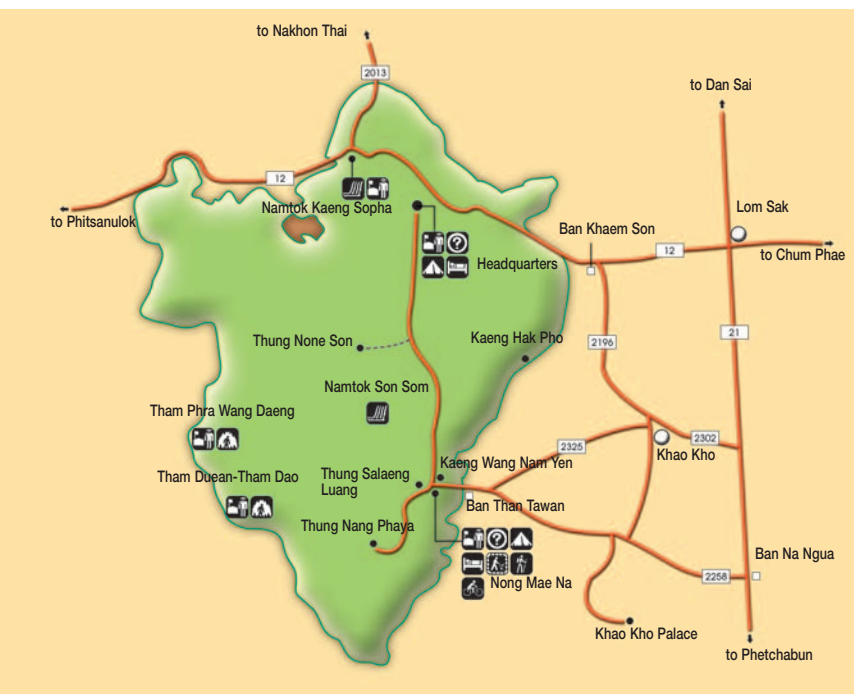
The park comprises evergreen forest, dry evergreen forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest, coniferous forest and mixed deciduous forest. Interrupted with vast grassland and flower field, the forest of Thung Salaeng Luang has various significant plants include *Pinus merkusii*, *Lithocarpus* spp., *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Mangifera* spp., *Pometia pinnata*, *Azelia* sp., *Tectona grandis* and *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*.

Wildlife found in the park includes Asian Elephant, Tiger, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Macaque, Langur, Civet, Wild Boar and great variety of birds such as Drongo, Partridge, Kingfisher, Dove and Bulbul.

Attractions

◆ **Kaeng Sopa Waterfall.** Originated from Huai Khek Yai Stream, the famous waterfall is only two kilometres off the Phitsanulok-Lomsak Road.





Getting there

■ The best way from Bangkok to Thung Salaeng Luang starts from Phitsanulok by motorist 12 (Phitsanulok-Lom Sak) for 80 kilometres just to the Headquarters.

◆ **Saphan Khwaen or Hanging Bridge.** The landmark is located three kilometres from the park's headquarters. On the way, lush shady forest makes it nice place for relaxing.

◆ **Thung Salaeng Luang.** The vast savanna acquires 10 square kilometres area. It is always decorated with wild flowers. Wildlife is always found

in the area by mixed deciduous forest. The savanna and coniferous forest can be found also at Nang Phaya Field and None Son Field. Such two fields share the entrance with Thung Salaeng Luang.

Furthermore, the park also features caves, Phra Wang Daeng Cave and Duean Dao Cave which will be developed for tourism in the future.



Wiang Kosai National Park

Established in 1981, the first national park of Phrae features rugged mountains and lush forest in Amphoe Long and Wang Chin of Phrae and Amphoe Thoen, Sop Prap and Mae Tha of Lampang. Among its 410 square kilometres area, tourist can enjoy many beautiful natural attractions including Mae Koeng Luang and Mae Koeng Noi, Mae Chok Hot Spring. It is the country's 35th national park.



Geography

The park features very steep valleys and rugged mountains whose slopes lean up to 80 degrees on average. Situated on average elevation of 800 metres above sea level, the park has the highest peak towering at 1,267 metres above sea level. Its rugged mountains are blanketed by dry evergreen forest and mixed deciduous forest that originate

many rivers namely Mae Koeng, Mae Chok, Mae Sin and Mae Pak.

Climate

The park has three seasons. The summer is from March to May. April is the hottest month with the maximum temperature at 39 degrees Celsius. From June to October is rainy season and winter is from

November to February. December is the coldest month, may drop to 13 degrees in minimum.

Flora and fauna

The northern part of the park is covered by dry evergreen forest, while its southern part is dominated by mixed deciduous forest. Its major plants include *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Diospyros pubicalyx*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Tectona grandis*, Bamboos and *Calamus* spp..

The park once was habitat for Sambar Deer, Tiger, Elephant, but now extinct after heavy hunting. Today, there are only small animals such as Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Squirrel, Treeshrew.

Different kinds of bird such as Sooty-headed Bulbul, Coppersmith Barbet, Common Tailorbird, Common Kingfisher and Magpie Robin which occupy the valleys and water sources.

Attractions

◆ **Mae Koeng Luang and Mae Koeng Noi Waterfalls.** The beautiful falls cascades through 5 tiers from the mountain Doi Mae Koeng, which means 'The Stair Mountain' in local dialect. The waterfalls are tributaries of Mae Yom River.

◆ **Mae Chok Hot Spring.** The hot spring is situated next to Ban Mae Chok School in tambon Mae Pak, Amphoe Wang Chin of Phrae. It heats up the water to 80 degrees Celsius. White steam blankets the area in early morning.



◆ **Panchen Waterfall.** The small waterfall is situated 7 kilometres from the park's headquarters.

◆ **Dong Takhian.** The dense forest of Iron Wood (*Hopea odorata*) surprises visitors by its huge size. These big trees are more than a hundred years old. This impressive forest is 15 kilometres away from the headquarters and it can be reached by trekking only.

◆ **Huge vine.** The big vine of Saba is only a kilometre from the headquarters.

◆ **Mae Sin Waterfall.** The small waterfall is situated 4 kilometres from the headquarters by trekking.

The park actually has many beautiful waterfalls including Mae Chok, Mae Pak, Mae Rang and Khun Huai.

Getting there

■ From Bangkok, motorist can drive through Nakhon Sawan, Phitsanulok, to Amphoe Den Chai of Phrae, then continue on Phrae-Lampang Road. Head for Amphoe Wang Chin for other 13 kilometres and turn into park's entrance, 1.3 kilometres from the main road. Totally, it is 594 kilometres length from Bangkok.



Doi Chong National Park

The National Park covers an area of Amphoe Sop Prap, Amphoe Thoen and Mae Phrik, Lampang and Amphoe Li, Lamphun. The National Park offers mountainous area and completed range of deciduous forest. The highest point is the 1,339 metres Doi Jong. Total area of 332 square kilometres.

Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range. The elevation is variety between 270-1,300 metres above mean sea level. It gave birth to the main tributaries of Mae Nam Wang, which is the main river in Lampang including the main water



Getting there

- From Amphoe Mueang in Lampang, take the southern Highway No. 1 (Phahonyothin road) about 45 kilometres to reach the Amphoe Sop Prap government office, then take a turn right to Ban Lai-Ban Kaen Route and proceed to reach Ban Na Mai Daeng. Proceed along Phahonyothin road for a 8 kilometres distance, take a turn left and continue for a 7 kilometres distance to reach The National Park. Total distance is approximately 68 kilometres.

supply source of Mae Prap Reservoir, Huai Mae Pu Reservoir, Mae Thai Reservoir, Mae Yong Reservoir, Mae Kat Reservoir and etc. Geographically, granite, limestone, Zinc and gemstone are found here.

Climate

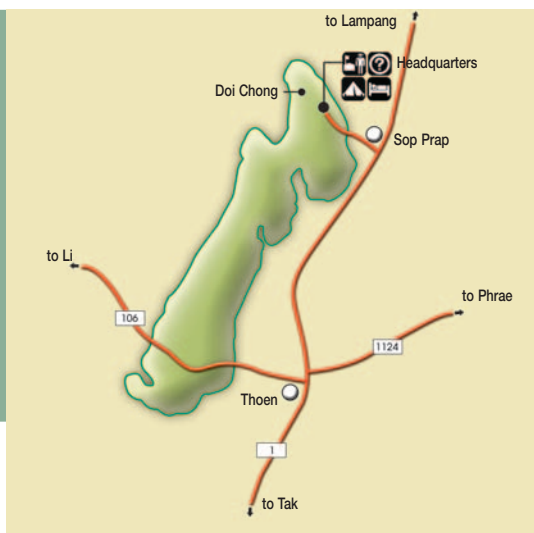
The lowest temperature is 9.9 degrees Celsius and the highest temperature is 43.1 degrees Celsius.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp blankets the National Park. It is home to wildlife such as Common Muntjak, Wild Boar, Treeshrew, Squirrel, Mongoose, Civet including various kinds of birds such as Barbet, Bulbul and Babbler.

Attractions

◆ The National Park offers spectacular scenery particularly cliffs. Visitors can walk only from the National Park Office to the top of the mountain for a 7 kilometres distance. This is the fantastic point for watching sunrises and sunsets including spectacular panorama of the mountainous area at 360 degrees. With its 1,339 metres high. On the top, there are varieties orchids blossoming from October to January annually.



Doi Pha Klong National Park

The National Park covers an area of 178.60 square kilometres in Amphoe Long, Amphoe Mueang and Amphoe Sung Men, Phrae province. It offers a miracle natural rock, named “Suan Hin Maharat” amidst lush green trees.

Geography

The National Park featured rugged mountain range. There are plains in some mountainous area and natural rocky outcrops are offered. Also it gave birth to the main tributaries of Mae Nam Mae Yom, which consists of Huai Khamin, Huai Pha Kham, Huai Bia, Huai Nam Rin, Huai Mae Ta and Huai Mae Sang.

Climate

Since the National Park is located in steep mountainous range and there are various kinds of

vegetations, the temperature is approximately 8-12 degrees Celsius in winter season while the average temperature is about 30 degrees Celsius in summer.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp blankets the National Park with various plants such



Getting there

- From Phrae province, drive on Highway No. 1023 (Phrae-Long) for a 25 kilometres distance. To reach there, a good asphalt road is provided all year round. Visitors also can take a bus from Phrae to Amphoe Long.



as *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Millettia brandisiana*, *Hopea odorata*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Wrightia arborea*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D.tuberculatus* and *Spondias bipinnata*.

It is home to wildlife such as Serow, Common Munjak, Mouse Deer, Wild Boar, Palm Civet, Squirrels, Treeshrew, Eastern Mole, snakes including various kinds of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Greater Coucal, Red Junglefowl, Scally-breasted Munia and different fishes.

Attractions

◆ **Suan Hin Maharat**, offers natural rocky outcrops in various animal shapes; some are like Crocodiles, some are like Dinosaurs and some are like Primitive animals. Visitors can imagine that they are in fairy tales.

◆ **Tham Chan Pha** is located on the northern Suan Hin Maharat. It is home to a number of bat.

Doi Phu Nang National Park

The National Park covers an area of 861 square kilometres in Amphoe Dok Kham Tai, Amphoe Pong and Amphoe Chiang Muan, Phayao province. It has an abundance of wildlife and different forests which are the source of tributaries of many rivers.



Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range lying from northern to southern while Mae Yom and Nam Pi forests lie themselves like a horseshoe-shaped. The 1,202 metres Doi Phu Nang is the highest peak.

Climate

The average highest temperature is 31.3 degrees Celsius. The average lowest temperature is 20.2 degrees Celsius.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and evergreen forest blankets the National Park with various plants such as *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*.

The National Park is home to wildlife such as

Fishing Cat, Asiatic Black Bear, Wild Boar, Common Muntjak, Palm Civet, Squirrel and various kinds of birds and lizards.

Attractions

◆ **Fang Ta.** Its feature is like Phae Mueang Phi

Getting there

■ Take Highway No. 1091 (Amphoe Chun-Nan province) or take Highway No. 1120 (Amphoe Chiang Muan-Amphoe Song). Alternatively, take Highway No. 1251 (Amphoe Dok Kham Tai-Amphoe Chiang Muan) and connect to Highway No. 1091 at Ban Sa, Tambon Sa, Amphoe Chaing Muan)



canyon in Phrae.

◆ **Than Sawan Waterfall**, is a 4 level waterfall. That the current of the first level flows down to limestone terrain with 150 metres wide.

◆ **Na Bua Waterfall**, is a 3 level limestone waterfall, which has a year round supply of water.

Doi Wiang Pha National Park

The National Park covers an area of 583 square kilometres in Amphoe Chai Prakan and Fang, Chiang Mai province and Amphoe Mae Suai, Chiang Rai province. The National Park is in the consideration process of being one of the Thailand's national park.



Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range. "Doi Wiang Pha" is the highest peak with 1,834 metres high.

Climate

Rainy season is from May to October. Summer is from March to April and winter season is November to February, which is proper for visiting.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and evergreen forest blankets the National Park with various plants such as *Tectona grandis*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Pinus merkusii* including various kinds of Moss, Fern and Orchids. The National Park is home to wildlife such as Common Muntjak, Wild Boar, Serow, Porcupine, Siamese Hare, Palm Civet,

Treeshrub, Macaque and Squirrel, as well as various kinds of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Dove, Hawk and Red Junglefowl.

Attractions

◆ **Huai Sai Khao Waterfall**, a small waterfall, is located far from the National Park Office only 300 metres. The 3 level fall originates from Huai Sai Khao.

◆ **Doi Wiang Pha Waterfall**, a medium waterfall, is located far from the National Park Office only 8 kilometres. The waterfall is 18 metres high.

◆ **Mae Fang Luang Waterfall**, a medium waterfall, is 10 metres high.

◆ **Doi Wiang Pha Viewpoint**, offers spectacular natural scenery.

Getting there

■ From Chiang Mai, take Highway No. 107 to Amphoe Chai Prakarn, then take a turn right at Km. 125 (Ban Mae Khilaifang) and continue for a 12 kilometres distance to access Doi Wiang Pha National Park.

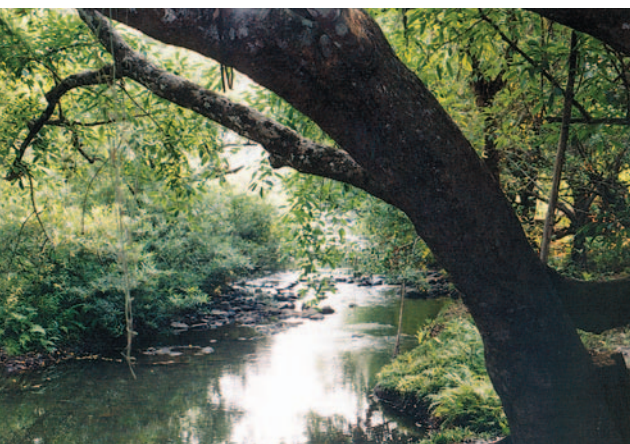


Kaeng Chet Khwae National Park

The National Park covers an area of 261 square kilometres in Amphoe Wat Bot, Amphoe Chart Trakan, Amphoe Nakhon Thai, Amphoe Wang Thong, Phitsanulok province. The National Park offers scenic natural view amidst verdant forests.

Geography

The National Park offers rugged mountain range and blankets with vegetation and forests.



Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and evergreen forest blankets the National Park with various plants such as *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*. The National Park is home to wildlife such as Macaque, Common Muntjak, Langur, Palm Civet and different kinds of birds.

Attractions

- ◆ **Kaeng Chet Khwae** is the rocky stone spreading in river. In rainy season, strong current flows.
- ◆ **Kaeng Lan Kloi** is a rocky plain and located into Khwae Noi river.

- ◆ **Kaeng Khan Na Noi** and Kaeng Chon.
- ◆ **Kaeng Bua Kham**, is a beautiful attraction.
- ◆ **Study Route** along the Kaeng Chet Khwae Park. Visitors can enjoy taking a raft here.
- ◆ **Viewpoint of Ban Nong Hin**. On the top, visitors can see the picturesque of Khwae Noi river.
- ◆ **Kao Chan Waterfall**. It is located in Khao Kra Yang and offers spectacular view in rainy season.
- ◆ **Ha Chan Waterfall**. It is far from the 9 level waterfall only 500 metres.

Getting there

- Take Highway No. 1 (Phitsanulok-Uttaradit) and proceed to Ban Na Kham at Amphoe Wat Bot. Total distance is 51 kilometres. Or take Highway No. 12 (Phitsanulok-Uttaradit) and proceed to Ban Sap Phraiwan. Total distance is 95 kilometres. Alternatively, from Bangkok to Kaeng Bua Kham, which is a proper venue to be a location of the National Park. Total distance is 97 kilometres. The National Park is far from Bangkok about 450 kilometres.



Khao Kho National Park



Khao Kho National park has high bio-diversity, species and wildlife, beautiful natural tourism places such as the waterfall, caves, isles, islet, cliffs, scenery viewpoint and historical fighting monument encountered between the government and the communist terrorists.

Geography

General condition of Khao Kho looks like the beautiful atmosphere of Switzerland and the sea on the mountain with pleasant chilly all year long.

Flora and fauna

Forest resources of Khao Kho National Park comprises with natural forest and forestation composed mixed deciduous forest, dry dipterocarp forest, tropical evergreen forest and grassland.

This forest is a sanctuary, food source, shelter for wildlife such as mammals, birds and reptiles.

Attractions

- ◆ **Than Thip Waterfall.** The waterfall has one level, 26 metres high and 30 metres wide.
- ◆ **Wang Nam Rin Waterfall,** is a small waterfall about 5 metres high.
- ◆ **Khan Bandai Waterfall,** is a waterfall which looks like the step about 20 steps.

◆ **Kaeng Liang Pha,** is the beautiful waterfall with a large stoneyard and high-slope cliff.

◆ **Tat Fa Waterfall.** It is the most biggest and largest waterfall in Khao Kho National Parks.

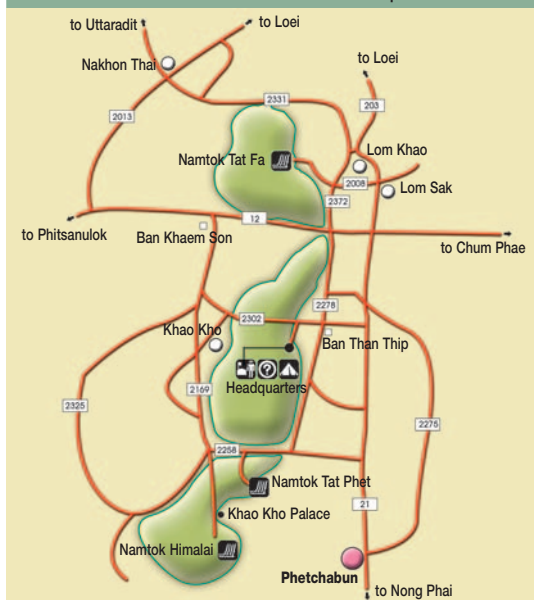
◆ **Pha Lat Waterfall,** is the waterfall from the cliff for the person who prefers adventure.

◆ **Huai Yai Waterfall,** is a large sized with 12-20 metres high.

◆ **Tham Yai Namko.** It is the settle of Buddha image for the local people.

Getting there

- Khao Kho National Park 33, Mu 11, Bung Nam Tao Sub-district, Lom Sak, Phetchabun, Thailand 67110 Tel. : 0 1226 0565
- By Car : Khao Kho National Park is in the office of Namtok Than Thip Forest Park, 32 kms away from the city of Mueang Phetchabun. Beside travel by personnel car, also travel by first class bus and by the plane, which has just 9 kms far from the commercial airport.



Khun Khan National Park

The National Park covers an area of 240 square kilometres in Amphoe Mae Chaem and Samoeng, Chiang Mai. Apart from mountains, visitors can find several ecosystems such as mountain forest and lowland rainforest.



Geography

The Park features rugged mountain range. The altitude ranges from 500 metres above sea level to 1,708 metres, on top of the Doi Pung Kia.

Climate

The average highest temperature is 28 degrees Celsius and the lowest is 18 degrees Celsius.

Flora and fauna

The Park has an enormous wealth of plants species growing in the area of mountains and forests. Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp, evergreen forest and pine forest blankets the National Park with various plants such as *Pinus merkusii*, *P. kesiya*, *Schima wallichii*, *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Anneslea fragrans*, *Hopea odorata*, *Bischofia javensis*, *Terminalia chebula* and *Pterocarpus macrocarpa*. The Park is home to wildlife such as Common Muntjak, Wild Boar,

Porcupine, Pangolin, Gibbon and Serow.

Attractions

- ◆ **Samoeng forest's Viewpoint** is located at Km. 24-25 of the Samoeng-Mae rim route.
- ◆ **Tham Luang Mae Sab**, a middle cave, offers spectacular view of stalagmites and stalactites.
- ◆ **Huai Tat Waterfall**, the 2 level fall.
- ◆ **Huai Mae Na Poe Waterfall**, the 7 level fall, with its 10-30 metres high has water all year round.
- ◆ **Samoeng and Mae Chaem forest's viewpoint** are located at Km. 33-55.
- ◆ **Pha Sam Na** is located in Ban Sop Pha Luang. It is on the mountain with 1,253 metres high.

Getting there

- From Chiang Mai, take Highway No. 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang) for a 16 kilometres distance and take left turn to Highway No. 1096 (Mae Rim-Samoeng) at Mae Rim and proceed for 35 kilometres distance. Alternately, take Highway No. 108 (Chiang Mai-Mae Sariang) for 10 kilometres distance and take right turn before arrive Amphoe Hang Dong to Highway No. 1296 and proceed for 48 kilometres distance to reach The Khun Khan National Park.



Khun Nan National Park



The National Park covers an area of 248.6 square kilometres in Doi Phu Kha forest, Pha Dang forest in Amphoe Bo Kluea, Nan province. The National Park gives a sense of adventure to visitors with its impressive scenery, diversity and abundance of flora and fauna.

Geography

The National Park is mountainous, ranging from 600 metres to 1,745 metres above mean sea level. The highest peak in the Phi Pan Nam mountain range is 1,745 metres and located in Tambon Dong Phaya. Also the Park consist of Phu Fa mountain, Khun Nam Wa Noi mountain, Nam Wa Klang mountain and Phi Pan Nam mountain.

Climate

The weather is usually mild for whole year round. It is clean, fresh and pure.

Flora and fauna

National Park has an enormous wealth of plants species growing in the area of mountains and forest. Hill evergreen forest and moist evergreen forest blankets the Park with various plants and wildlife.

Attractions

◆ **Sapan Waterfall** is located in Ban Sapan. The 3 level waterfall has water all year round. The surroundings are still in perfect natural condition.

◆ **Huai Tee Waterfall** is located in Ban Huai Ti. The 6 level waterfall is large and has water all year round. It is a perfect recreational place for visitors to literally immerse themselves in the natural beauty.

◆ **Ban Den Waterfall.** This medium waterfall has water all year round. The 3 level fall is surrounded by lush green trees and is located in Ban Sapan.

◆ **Huai Ha Waterfall.** This 5 level waterfall is located in Ban Na Bong. The medium fall offers spectacular view of its current flowing down into each stair. It has a year round supply of water and is surrounded by a pleasant forested area.

Getting there

■ The Khun Nan National Park is located in Amphoe Mueang of Nan province.



Khun Phra Wo National Park

The National Park comprises about 220 square kilometres in Tak province. The Park evolved from several already existing conservation areas; Mae Lamao forest, Mae Ramat forest, Samuen forest in Amphoe Mae Sot and Mae Ramat to preserve natural balance, educational research including developing to be a recreational attraction.

Geography

The parks features rugged mountain range. The altitude ranges from 350 to 905 metres.

Climate

The average highest temperature is 25 degrees Celsius and the lowest is 9 degrees Celsius.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and evergreen forest blankets the National Park.



Getting there

■ From Tak province, take Highway No. 105 (Tak-Mae Sot) to reach Km. 62 (The entrance of Phra Wo shrine), then proceed on foot for a 750 metres distance to reach the National Park (temporary office) Total distance is 62 kilometres.



Attractions

- ◆ **Khun Khao Phra Wo**, an ancient historic site.
- ◆ **Hub Pha Phra Wo**, offers a spectacular view of sea of clouds in the morning.
- ◆ **Tham Nang Manora**.
- ◆ **Huai Mae Lamao**, a large stream, has water all year round. It is surrounded by lush green trees.
- ◆ **Pa Mak Waterfall** is located in Tambon Pha Wor, Amphoe Mae Sod. It has water all year round.
- ◆ **Pha Prong and Viewpoint**. This is a place where lots of more than 70 years old Cycas.
- ◆ **Phak Phai Waterfall** is 70 metres high.
- ◆ **Tham Pha Phueng** is one of the beautiful cave. Visitors are able to see a great natural basin.

Khun Sathan National Park

At present National park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department has offer the committee of National park at the second meeting on December 15, 2003 for setting this area with 419.20 square kilometres to be a National park.

Geography

The mountain ridge of Doi Prae Mueang separates boundary between Phrae and Nan provinces. Doi Ku Sathan with 1,630 metres high above mean sea level.

Climate

Summer from March to May, rainy runs in June to October and winter runs in November to February.

Getting there

- By Car From highway number 101 (Yontrakit Koson road) is the rout from Phrae province about 50 kms then there is a crossing, turn right at Ban Huai Kaet along highway number 1216 then pass Khun Sathan village and about 4 kms will get to National park headquarters.



Flora and fauna

Mostly area covers different forest type as mixed deciduous forest, dry dipterocarp forest, pine forest, moist evergreen forest and dry evergreen forest. Wildlife found mammalia, reptile, amphibian, birds and several insects.



Attractions

- ◆ **Sirikit Dam**, with beautiful of nature and scenery view of the dam.
- ◆ **Tat Mok or Bansan Waterfall**. Large sized waterfall with 3 levels, total high is 50 m.
- ◆ **Doi Ku Sathan** It is the mountain with about 1,630 metres above mean sea level. There is an astonishing scenery viewpoint. Chilly temperature trough the year
- ◆ **La-long Cave**. The large sized cave with the length about 1.8 kms. Inside the cave stream and astonishing beautiful stalagmite and stalactite.
- ◆ **Doi Mae Chok**, scenery view point and holiday place. It is the summit of the mountain with 1,424 metres high above mean sea level, chilly all year long.
- ◆ **Khun Li Waterfall**. Large sized waterfall with about 100 metres high.
- ◆ **Scenery View**. Along the road on highway number 1216, between Ban Khun Sathan to Bansan.

Lam Nam Kok National Park

On July 2001 and in the budget year 2002, the Royal Forest Department planned the program and the estimates to assume setting Lam Nam Kok to be a National Park including approval to construct the office buildings at the site of Huai Makliam watershed management unit office, in the local of Doi Hang sub-district, Mueang District, Chiangrai province. Permission using this area was from the Royal Forest Department on May 10, 2002.

Geography

Topography of Lam Nam Kok National Park is high sloped mountainous alternate narrow plain.

Climate

The summer from March to May, rainy from June to October and winter from November to February.

Flora and fauna

Lamnamkok National Park composed 4 of forest types as Dry dipterocarp forest, Hill evergreen forest and Mixed deciduous forest.



Getting there

■ **By Car :** From Chiangrai Province to Chiangrai road-Bandenha crossroad pass Khai Mengrai Maharat then go to Doi Hang sub-district and 19 kms to Ban Phasert then go about 1.5 kms to headquarters or will chose to raft along Lam Nam Kok with travel from Lam Nam Kok bridge in the city of Chiangrai, about 20 kms to headquarters.



Attractions

- ◆ **Khun Kon waterfall**, more than 70 meters high.
- ◆ **Huai Kao waterfall.**
- ◆ **Pong Phra Bat waterfall.**
- ◆ **Huai Mae Sai.** There are 2 levels in this waterfall, the first is 14 metres high and 20 metres high.
- ◆ **Pang Sa waterfall.** With total 7 levels.

Mae Charim National Park

Mae Charim National Park is one of the national parks in Thailand. Actually, it is a collection of various nature reserves and forests. Most parts cover area of 434 square kilometres in Amphoe Mae Charim and Amphoe Wiang Sa, Nan. This is a heaven for adventurers who love rafting along the river amidst fantastic surroundings.

Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range. With it 300-1,652 metres above sea level, the Luang Phra Bang mountain range lies within the boundary between Laos and Thailand from northern to southern. The highest peak is Doi Khun Mok Mae Charim (1,652 metres), the second is Doi Daen Din (1,558 metres), the third is Doi Khun Nam Pun



(1,530 metres) and the fourth is Doi Khun Koon (1,307 metres) respectively.

The park also gave birth to main tributaries of Mae Nam Nan (Nan river) including Huai Sai Mun, Huai Sasi, Huai Bai Noi, Huai Bai Luang, Huai Nam Phang, Lam Nam Paeng (Paeng stream).

Getting there

- Start from Mae Charim(Nan) by Highway no.1243 (Mae Charim-Nam Muap) about 13 kilometres to Ban Huai Sai Mun.Only 4 kilometres reach at Headquarters.



Climate

Summer season is from March to May. Rainy season is from June to October and winter is from November to February. Average rainfall is 1,206.29 millimetres per year.

Attractions

◆ Rafting along Lam Nam Wa. This is the most important recreational activity in the Mae Charim National Park. Begins at Ban Nam Pu, Tambon Nam Paeng, Amphoe Mae Charim and ends up at Ban Hat Rai, Tambon San Na Nong Mai, Amphoe Wiang Sa, Nan province. Total distance for rafting is 15.2 kilometres.

The Mae Charim National Park, offers a good opportunity for rafting using rubber inflatable boat along the river in the lush forests including scenic view particularly in winter season.

Mae Ngao National Park

The National Park covers an area of 412.24 square kilometres in Chiang Mai, Mae Hong Son and Tak provinces. This National Park offers a breathtaking view of the natural scenery of waterfalls and cliffs amidst scenic mountains and teak forests.

Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range and also gave birth to the tributaries of Mae Nam Salawin. Most rivers lie down from eastern to western. They are full of water all year round.

Climate

Rainy season is from June to October. Winter season is from November to February and summer is from March to May.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and dry evergreen forest blanket the National Park with various vegetations such as *Tectona grandis*, *Terminalia alata*, *Dalbergia* spp., Bamboos, Moss, Fern and Orchid. The parks is home to animal such as Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar and different kinds of birds as Barbet.

Attractions

◆ **Mae Wa Luang Waterfall**, a beautiful waterfall. The multi-level fall is 35 metres high.

◆ **Mae Chae Waterfall** originates from Huai Mae La Ki. It can be reach by taking the Mae Sot-Mae Sariang route. It is accessible by a kilometre walk.

Getting there

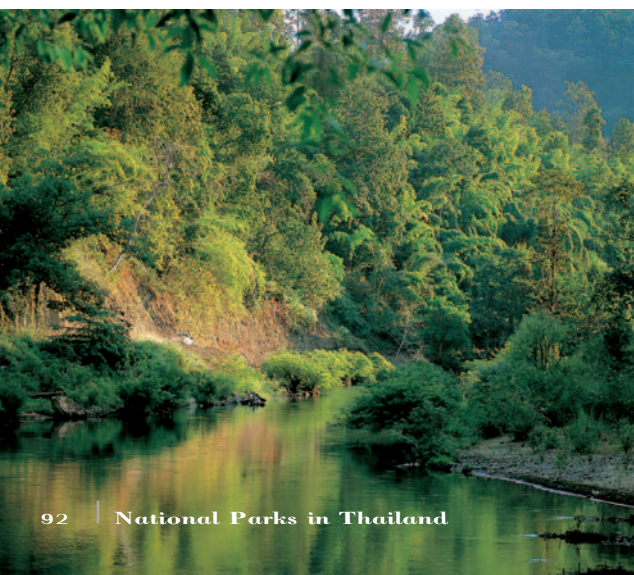
■ From Chiang Mai, drive on Highway No. 108, take Highway No. 105 at Amphoe Mae Sariang, proceed a 25 kilometres distance to Amphoe Sop Moei and heading for 15 kilometres distance to Ban Mae Ngao, then take left turn and proceed another 5 kilometres distance to reach The National Park Office.



◆ **Mae La-o Waterfall** originates from Huai Mae Laoor. It is located near to Amphoe Mae Sot-Mae Sariang. It is one of the most beautiful waterfalls in the National Park.

◆ **Tham Mae Om Ki**. It offers spectacular view of stalagmites and stalactites.

◆ **Burana Prapha Waterfall** originates from Huai Tee Per Gro. It is accessible by 500 metres walk.



Mae Puem National Park

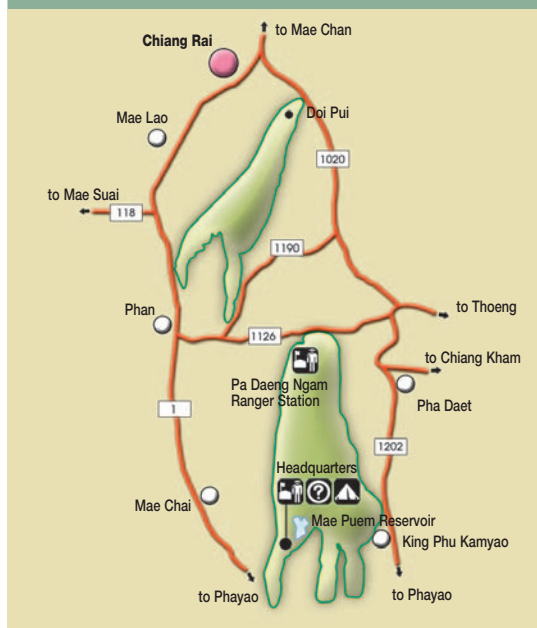
Originally, most of the 363.70 square kilometres was classified as protection forest, but the area's status is going to be developed into the National Park of Thailand. A rich variety of forests such as pine forests, virgin forests and mixed forests can be found in this area making it ideal for a diverse collection of bird species.

Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range. Highest peak is 978 metres above sea level.

Getting there

- The National Park is located at Mae Puem Reservoir. From Phayao's town, take Highway No. 1 (Phayao-Chiang rai) and take a turn right at Km. 754 to reach The National Park Office. Total distance is 23 kilometres.



Climate

In winter season, average temperature is 25 degrees Celsius. The lowest temperature is 9-12 degrees Celsius.



Flora and fauna

The National Park has an enormous wealth of plants species growing in the area of mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp forest such as *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Dalbergia oliveri* and *Shorea siamensis*. For 40 kinds of birds are found in this area such as Pigeon and Woodpecker. It is also home to wildlife such as Common Muntjak, Wild Boar, Fishing Cat, Mouse Deer and Squirrel.

Attractions

◆ **Mae Puem Reservoir** offers spectacular scenery and very nice view.

◆ **Doi Hua Ngom** has its shape similar to Phu Kra Dueng.

◆ **Phra Bat Tak Pha.** The two gigantic shaped rock. One is like a footprint of Buddha, another is like a square for hanging wet clothes.

North

Geography

Climate

Getting there

-
- A detailed map of Chiang Mai province, Thailand. The map shows a network of roads (orange lines) connecting various towns and locations. Key towns include Chiang Mai (marked with a pink dot), Mae Rim, San Sai, Saraphi, Banthi, Ban Pa Sam Kha, Ban Mai, and Doi Saket. National parks are shown in green, including Huai Nam Dang, Phrao, Mae Taeng, and Khun Chae. Other locations include Mae Taeng, Mae Rong, Doi Lang Kha, Namtok Mae Tong, Namtok Mae Takhrai, and Ang keb Nam Mae Takhrai. Road numbers 107, 108, 1147, 1006, and 118 are indicated. Icons for a bus, a truck, and a person are shown near the Namtok Mae Takhrai area.

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp blankets the National park with various plants including *Tectona grandis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*.



The National Park is home to wildlife such as Macaque, Sambar Deer, Tiger, Siamese Hare, Gibbon, Common Muntjak, Southern Serow and various kinds of birds such as Parrot, Egret, Bulbul and Asian Barred Owllet.

◆ **Reservoirs and Dams** include Huai Pha Han Reservoir, Huai Khamin Reservoir, Huai Bong Reservoir, Huai Mae Takhray Reservoir, Mae Kwang Dam and Mae On Dam.

◆ **Tham Muang On**, Situated in Amphoe San Khamphaeng, is a large cave. It was found the historic evidence of some Buddhism sacred objects.

◆ **Scenic views** include limestone mountains, cliffs, waterfalls, hot springs, caves, stalagmites and stalactites.

Mae Tho National Park

The National Park covers an area of 990 square kilometres in Amphoe Hot and Mae Chaem, Chiang Mai. Once this area was reclaimed by local people, later it was rehabilitated by the Royal Forest Department. The National Park offers scenic view of various vegetation.

Geography

The features rugged mountain range and reaches 400-1,699 metres above sea level. The highest peak is "Doi Kio Rai Mong" with 1,699 metres high.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp blankets the National Park with various plants such as *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Bischofia javensis*, *Alstonia scholaris*, *Castanopsis cerebrina*, *Gluta usitata*, *Cajanus cajan*, *Aglaia edulis*, *Tectona grandis*, *Lagerstroemia tomentosa* and *Pinus kesiya*.

It is home to wildlife such as Guar, Bear, Deer, Macaque, Elephant, Wild Boar, Langur, Palm Civet, Gibbon, Common Muntjak and Serow.

Attractions

- ◆ **Mae Tho Viewpoint.** From here, visitors can

Getting there

- From Chiang Mai, take Highway No. 102 (Chiang Mai-Hot) for a 80-kilometre distance to Amphoe Hot, proceed to Highway No. 108 (Hot-Mae Sariang) via Op Luang National Park for another 54 kilometres to arrive Ban Kong Loi and take right turn to Highway No. 1270 (Ban Kong Loi-Ban Mae Tho) for 16 kilometres to reach the National Park office.



watch sea of clouds and highest peak of Doi Inthanon.

- ◆ **Mae Aep Waterfall** is located far from the National Park office for 9 kilometres distance.

- ◆ **Mae Lit Waterfall**, offer spectacular scenery with 8-10 metres wide and 12-15 metres high.

- ◆ **The Mae Ping Noi-Sop Mae Tum-Sop Huai Kong Pae.** Offers scenic view of various vegetations and adventurous journey.

- ◆ **Rafting** along the route of Ban Mae Khan-Sop Mae Tum-Sop Huai Kong Pae.



Mae Wang National Park

Mae Wang National Park covers an area of Pa Mae Cham, Pa Mae Khan-Mae Wang and Pa Chomthong National conservation forest in Chiangmai with 700 Square kilometres of area. Covering with various type of forest as mixed deciduous forest, Dry dipterocarp, mixed dry dipterocarp, Hill evergreen forest and Pine hill forest.

Geography

Complex mountainous of Tanonthongchai hill range that is lying along north-south line. 400-1,909 metres high above mean sea level.



Climate

Summer in March to May, rainy in June to November and cold in December to February.

Flora and Fauna

There are 4 of forest types in Park, Mixed deciduous forest, Dry dipterocarp forest, Pine hill forest and Hill evergreen forest.

Attractions

- ◆ **Pha Deang.** At 1,909 metres high above mean sea level. Chilly troughs the year.
- ◆ **Mae Phui Waterfall,** It is about 25 metres high

and about 10 metres wide with stream all year long.

◆ **Mae Wang Waterfall.** One step waterfall, 20 metres high and 10 metres wide with stream all year long.

◆ **Maeng Ang Waterfall,** a large waterfall with 4 levels, 50 metres high and 30 metres wide.

◆ **Pha Choi.** It is natural phenomenon occurring from sediment of Ping River.

◆ **Pha Moen Waterfall.** It is a large waterfall with 3 levels, 30 metres high and 25 metres wide.

◆ **Pha Duk Deang Waterfall.** It is one step waterfall with 10 metres high, 30 metres wide.

Getting there

- **By Car :** From the city of Chiangmai use highway number 108 (Chiangmai-Hot) to the south about 21 km then turn right to Maewang sub district by use Rorporchor road number 12039 and 10240 (Meawin-Maekeaw) and about 36 km will get to National Park Headquarters.



Namtok Pha Charoen National Park

The National park covers an area of 855 square kilometres in Amphoe Mae Sot and Amphoe Phop Phra, Tak province. It offers scenic natural views particularly a number of waterfalls. Also it gave birth to the main tributaries of the rivers including Huai Mae Lamao.

Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range. The highest peak is 1,765 metres high above sea level.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp blankets the National Park with various plants such as *Tectona grandis*, *Shorea siamensis*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Sindora siamensis*, *Toona ciliata* and *Chukrasia tabularis*.

The National Park is home to wildlife such as Guar, Sambar Deer, Bear, Tiger, Common Muntjak, Civet, Palm Civet, Macaque and Gibbon.

Birds species such as Spotted Dove, Thick-billed Pigeon, White-rumped Shama, Striped Tit-Babbler, Greater Coucal, Olive-backed Sunbird, Great Barbet,

Puff-throated Babbler and Flycatcher.

Attractions

◆ **Pha Charoen Waterfall.** A limestone waterfall with 97 level fall offers spectacular view.

◆ **Sai Fa Waterfall.** It offers spectacular view of spectrum when the sun shinning at the waterfall.

Getting there

- Take a daily bus (Bangkok-Mae Sot) along Highway No. 105 (Northern route) and Highway No. 1090 (Western route)



◆ **Pha Charoen Hot Springs.** The 3 hot springs have been developed to be tourism attraction.

◆ **Pa Wai Waterfall.** A limestone waterfall with 100 levels waterfall offers spectacular.

◆ **Huai Tapu Ko Waterfall.** This is one of the beautiful waterfalls.

◆ **Viewpoint.** With 1,018 metres high above sea level, at Km. 50 of Highway No. 1090.



Nanthaburi National Park

The Nanthaburi National Park covers an area of 877 square kilometres in Amphoe Tha Wang Pha, Amphoe Muang, Amphoe Ban Luang, Nan province. The National Park offers great habitat diversity including fantastic natural attractions.

Geography

The National Park is mountainous, ranging from 300 metres to 1,674 metres above sea level. The highest peak is "Doi Wow" with 1,674 metres above mean sea level.

Getting there

- From Nan province, take Highway No. 1080 (Nan-Thung Chang) to Amphoe Tha Wang Pha and take Highway No. 1148 (Tha Wang Pha-Song Khwae) for 1.5 kilometres distance, then proceed along the Sai Na Nun-Sop Khun route to Km. 27, take a right turn and proceed on a further 500 metres to reach the National Park.



Climate

The average lowest temperature is 8.4 degrees Celsius and the highest temperature is 40.8 degrees Celsius.



Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forest blankets the National Park such as *Tectona grandis*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Hopea odorata*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Gmelira arborea*, *Schima wallichii*, various moss, ferns and orchids.

Attractions

- ◆ **Santi Suk Waterfall**, a medium waterfall, has water all year round with 5 levels fall.
- ◆ **Song Khwae Waterfall**, a small waterfall.
- ◆ **Huai Phrik Waterfall**, a medium waterfall with 4 levels fall offering scenic view.
- ◆ **Tat Fa Rong Waterfall**, the 3 levels waterfall.
- ◆ **Doi Mok Waterfall**, a medium waterfall.
- ◆ **Ban Nam Ki Hot Spring**, the hot spring has its 80 degrees Celsius.
- ◆ **Phi Tong Lueang Tribe (Mlabri)**, a group of wild wanderers, lives in the forest and moves from one place to another place all the time.

Op Khan National Park

The National Park covers an area of 484 square kilometres in Amphoe Samoeng, San Pa Tong, Hang Dong and Mae Wang, Chiang Mai province. It offers a breathtaking view of the natural scenery of waterfalls, cliffs and caves amidst scenic mountains. Today, the National Park is in the process of considering to be one of the Thailand's natural park.

Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range. The highest peak is Khun Tian Sung, which is 1,550 metres above sea level.

Climate

Generally, the temperature is higher and humid in summer and it is much lower in winter. It rains in a short period of monsoon season.

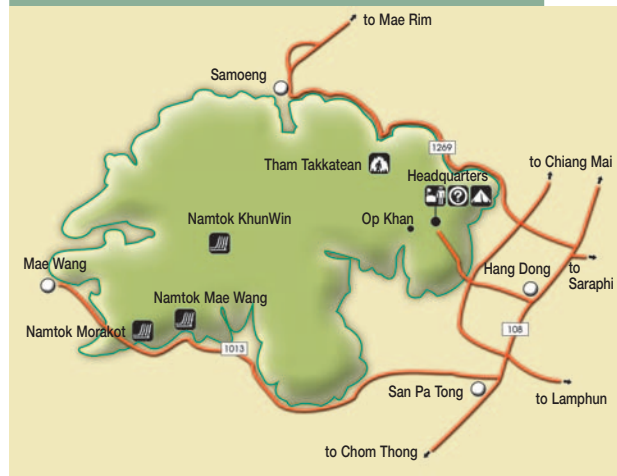
Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forest blankets the National Park

with various plants such as *Invingia malayana*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Tectona grandis*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Schleichera oleosa* and various bamboos. The National Park is home to wildlife such as Serow, Common Muntjak, Fishing Cat, Mouse Deer, Palm Civet, Mongoose, Porcupine and various kinds of birds.

Getting there

- To reach there, from Chiang Mai take highway no. 108 (Chiang Mai-Hot) for 11 kilometres, then turn right at Amphoe Hang Dong Office and reach to Nam-Phrae-Op Khan road for 11 kilometres to headquarters.



Attractions

- ◆ **Op Khan**, a small natural attraction, is a zigzagging river flow in front of a picturesque gorge.
- ◆ **Op Hi**, a small natural attraction, like Op Khan.
- ◆ **Takkataen Cave**, The large cave, offers spectacular view of stalagmites. Nam Sum and Huai Hok Cave are medium-size caves.
- ◆ **Mae Tian Waterfall**, a one level fall. Mae Sa pok Waterfall, a small fall. Khun Win Waterfall, the 3 levels waterfall is 60 metres high.



Phu Soi Dao National Park

The National Park covers an mountain area of 200.18 square kilometres in Amphoe Ban Khok, Huai Mun, Nam Pat, Uttaradit and Amphoe Chat Trakan, Phitsanulok. Its rich and fertile forests are habitats to a great number of different plant life. It offers fantastic scenery of Nam Tok Phu Soi Dao, a 5 levels waterfall covering 1.6 square kilometres in the Park.

Geography

The altitude ranges from 500 metres to 2,102 metres above sea level. Most of the areas are mountains and forests including narrow plains.

Climate

Rainy, from May to October. Winter, from November to February and summer is from April to June.

Flora and fauna

The National Park has an enormous wealth of plants species growing in the area of mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp, pine forest and hill evergreen forest such as *Pinus kesiya*, *Betula alonides*, *Schima wallichii* and *Shorea siamensis*.



Attractions

◆ **Pine forest on Phu Soi Dao.** The terrain on Phu Soi Dao gives an impressive scenery with 1.6 square kilometres canopy to 1,800 metres above sea level. Pine forest and grassland blanket terrains particularly in rainy season, there are various flowers.

Getting there

■ From Phitsanulok, take Highway No. 11 and turn into Highway No. 1246. When arriving Ban Phae, take Highway No. 1143 (via Amphoe Chat Trakan) and turn into Highway No. 1237 (via Ban Bo Phak) to access Highway No. 1268, then proceed to the Park. Total distance is 199 kilometres.



◆ **Phu Soi Dao Waterfall**, the 5 levels waterfall.

◆ **Sai Thip Waterfall**, the 7 levels waterfall.

◆ **Rock Terrain** on the bank of Lam Nam Phak.

The natural rock terrain has its 10-15 metres wide and 100 metres long.

Si Nan National Park

The National Park has an abundance of wildlife and verdant forests, which are the sources of various tributaries of Maenam Nan. It covers an area of 934 square kilometres in Amphoe Na Muen, Na Noi and Wiang Sa, Nan.

Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range. Doi Kham is the highest peak with elevation of 1,294 metres above sea level.

Climate

Summer is from February-April. Rainy is from May-October and winter is from November-January.

Getting there

- From Bangkok, drive on the Nakhon Sawan - Phitsanulok - Phrae route and proceed Highway No. 101 to Amphoe Wiang Sa, take a turn right to Highway No. 1026 (Wiang Sa-Na Noi route) and proceed for a 35 kilometres distance, then take a turn left to Highway No. 1083 (Na Noi-Pang Hai route) and continue for another 5 kilometres distance to access the National Park Office.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forest blankets the National Park with various plants such as *Anisoptera costata*, *Hopea odorata*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Toona ciliata*, *Tectona grandis*, *Pinus kesiya*, *P. merkusii*, *Shorea siamensis*, *S. obtusa* and various kinds of Bamboos and Orchids.

Attractions

◆ **Sao Din Na Noi and Kok Suea**, feature is like Grand Canyon and Phae Mueang Phe Canyon of Phrae.

◆ **Pak Nai** is a forest area flooded by current of Sirikit Irrigation. It is the Nan's largest fishery area and there is a fishery village nearby.

◆ **Kaeng Luang** originates from rocky outcrops spreading into Nan river.

◆ **Doi Pha Chu viewpoint** is a gigantic cliff. Visitors can watch spectacular forest view.



Tham Pha Thai National Park

The National Park covers a mountainous area of 1,214 square kilometres in Amphoe Mueang, Chae Hom and Ngao, Lampang province. It offers spectacular views of waterfalls and caves including some archaeological evidence.

Geography

The National Park features rugged mountain range. Doi Kio Lom, its highest peak, is 1,202 metres above the sea level.

Climate

Summer, from March to May. Rainy, from May to October and winter is from November to February.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forest blankets the National Park with various plants such as *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Lannea coromandelica*, *Dalbergia oliveri* and *Halidina cordifolia*. The National Park is home to wildlife such as Guar, Macaque, Siamese Hare, Wild Boar, Porcupine, Mole, Palm Civet and different birds and lizards.



Getting there

- The National Park is located at Km. 665 along the Highway No.1 (Lampang to Chiang Rai.) Alternatively, take the Ph2rae-Amphoe Ngao-Chiang Rai Route and take a turn left to Lampang province before reaching Amphoe Ngao



Attractions

- ◆ **Tham Pha Thai** originates from a Limestone mountain.
- ◆ **Lom Phu Kiew**, like a volcano's chimney.
- ◆ **Reservoir** near Kiew Lom Irrigation.
- ◆ **Tham Ook Roo** and **Huai Mae Plueng**.
- ◆ **Mae Chae Fa Waterfall**, with 9 levels waterfall.
- ◆ **Huai Tat Noi Waterfall**. It is a small waterfall.
- ◆ **Mae Saan and Mae Kae Waterfall**.
- ◆ **Tham Ratchakrue**. It is a limestone cave.
- ◆ **Historic Painting** in Ban Pak Huai Hok.

Tham Pla-Namtok Pha Suea National Park



The National Park covers an area of 511.20 square kilometres in Amphoe Mueang and Pang Mapha, Mae Hong Son province. The Park has of interesting items, particularly for tourism and recreational areas.

Geography

Because of its steep mountains, the National Park features mountain range like waves. "Doi Lan" is the highest peak with 1,918 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Rainy season is from mid May to October. Average rainfall is 138 day per year. Winter is from November to January.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp, pine forest and evergreen forest blankets the Park with various plants such as *Tectona grandis*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *Sindora siamensis*, *Afzelia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Terminalia pedicellata*, *Hopea odorata*, *Pinus merkusii* and *P. kesiya*.

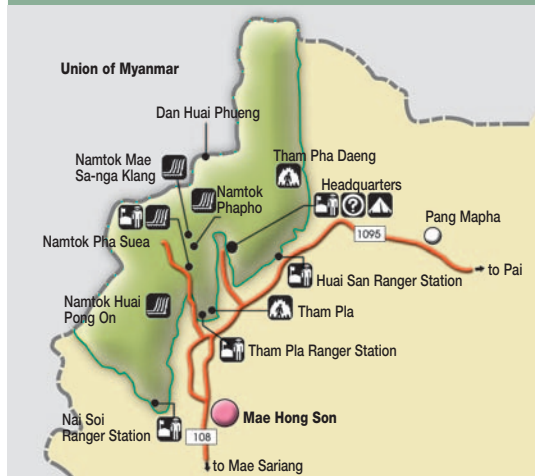
Also the park is home to wildlife such as Southern Serow, Guar, Bear, Civet, Palm Civet, Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar and different kinds of birds such as Hawk, Prinia and Bulbul.

Attractions

- ◆ **Tham Pla**, a fantastic cave. Visitors can watch large fish, so called "Pla Mung or *Tor soro*".
- ◆ **Pha Suea Waterfall** originates from Mae Nam Sa-nga. It is 10 metres wide and 15 metres high.
- ◆ **Mae Sa-nga Dam**. With 37 metres high and 160 metres long, the irrigation is made of soil.
- ◆ **Mae Sa-nga Klang Waterfall**, a 15 metres high waterfall. Huai Pong On Waterfall. It is 7 metres high and 5 metres wide.
- ◆ **Tham Pha Daeng**. Very beautiful Limestone cave with 1 kilometres deep.

Getting there

- **By Air**, Take Thai International Airway from Chiang Mai to Mae Hong Son and catch a car to the National Park for a 18 kilometres distance. Alternatively, take Highway No. 11 (Bangkok-Chiang Mai) and proceed to Chiang Mai-Mae Hong Son Route to access Amphoe Mae Sariang. Pass Amphoe Mae La Noi and Khun Yuam and take Highway No. 1095 for 18 kilometres distance to access Amphoe Mueang.



Tham Sakoen National Park

The National Park covers an area of 248.32 square kilometres in Amphoe Tha Wang Pha, Chiang Klang, Thung Chang and Song Khwae in Nan and in Amphoe Chiang Kham and Pong in Phayao. It includes examples of forest ecosystems, which give a sense of adventure to visitors with impressive scenery, diversify and abundance of flora and fauna.



Geography

The Park reaches about 300-1,752 metres above sea level and the highest peak is the 1,752 metres at Yot Doi Chi.

Climate

Summer season is from March to April. Rainy season is from May to October and winter is from November to February.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and evergreen forest blankets the National Park with different kinds of plants such as *Prunus cerasoides*, *Cinnamomum iners*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*. It is home to mammal wildlife, various reptiles and

different kinds of birds such as Tiger, Serow, Common Muntjak, Wild Boar, Squirrel, Treeshrew, Dhole, Hawk, Hill Myna, Dove, Pigeon, Bulbul, Barbet, Red Junglefowl, Coucal, Munia, Iora and Wagtail.

Attractions

◆ **Hong Wiang Chan Waterfall.** The medium waterfall consists of 9 levels.

◆ **Huai Hat Waterfall.** The medium waterfall consists of 3 levels.

◆ **Tham Luang Sakoen**, a medium cave with its 600 metres long, offers spectacular view of stalagmites and stalactites. There are lots of bats inside.

◆ **Tham Pla Khang**, a small cave, is located in King Amphoe Song Khwae, Nan province.

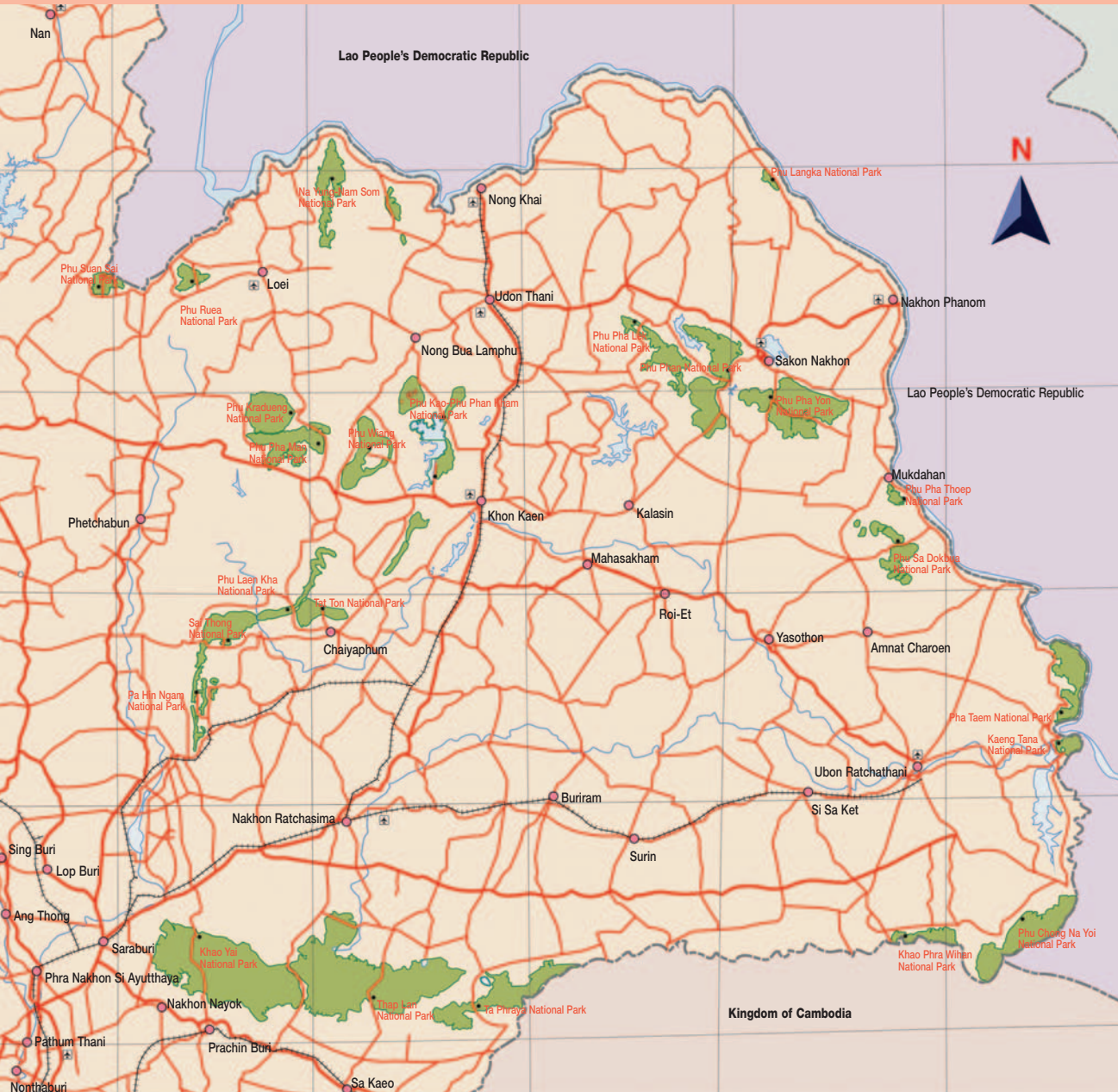


Getting there


■ From Nan's town, take Highway No. 1080 (Nan-Thung Chang) for a 42 kilometres distance and take a turn left to Highway No. 1148 (Tha Wang Pha-Song Khwae) when arriving Amphoe Tha Wang Pha and proceed for a 33 kilometres distance. Then, take a left turn to Highway no. 1097 (Song Khwae-Chiang Kham) for a 38 kilometres distance when arriving Amphoe Song Khwae. Visitors will reach Sakoen village, Tambon Yot, Amphoe Song Khwae and proceed a turn right, pass the village for a 6 kilometres distance to access the National Park.



National Parks *in The Northeast*







“The Northeast This region covers an area northward from Nakhon Ratchasima province and is characterized as a high plateau. There are 20 national parks and 5 areas in establishment process, all of them contain many nice places to visit.”

Kaeng Tana National Park



Situated in Amphoe Khong Chiam of Ubon Ratchathani, the park is plateau and small hills while Mae Nam Mun and Mekong runs along its northern boundary. The park is famed for fierce and dreadful rapids in the river. Established in 1981, the country's 31st national park acquires total area of 80 square kilometres.

Geography

At the mean elevation of 200 metres above sea level, most area in the park is plain and small hills by the Mae Nam Mun and Mekong. Khao Banthat is the highest peak towering at 543 metres. It is covered mainly by secondary forest. Dry evergreen forest can be found only by the big creeks.

Climate

The park has monsoonal climate, however, two big rivers keep the temperature rather stable. So, it is not too hot during summer and not too cold in winter. In Summer, the temperature will be around 25-29 degrees Celsius. Tourist can visit the park all the year round.

Flora and fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp forest cover most part of the park. There are lots of *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D. tulerculatus* in dwarf size. Tropical evergreen forest is found by big creeks and on the summit of Don Tana Hill. Its major plants include *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Tectona grandis*, *Dipterocarpus alatus* and

Getting there

- The park is 90 kilometres from provincial town of Ubon Ratchathani. As the park is divided by the Mun River, tourist can get to the park by 2 routes.
- To the right side of Kaeng Tana, motorist can use highway 217 through Amphoe Warin Chamrap to Phibun Mangsahan, get on highway 2173 and then 2296 to the park. This route is 90 kilometres.
- To the left side of Kaeng Tana, motorist can across Phibun Mangsahan 200 years Bridge to Khong Chiam and turn right to the park, 4 kilometres prior to Amphoe Khong Chiam.



Grassland scatters around.

Wildlife found in the park include Common Wild Boar, Common Muntjak, Palm Civet, Civet, Macaque and Gibbon.

Different kinds of birds such as Barbet, Bulbul, Tailorbird and Owl.

Attractions

◆ **Kaeng Khanheo.** The rapids in Mun River is packed with different forms of rock and beaches. With 300 metres wide and a kilometres long, the rapids will be enlivened by flooded in winter season, on December.

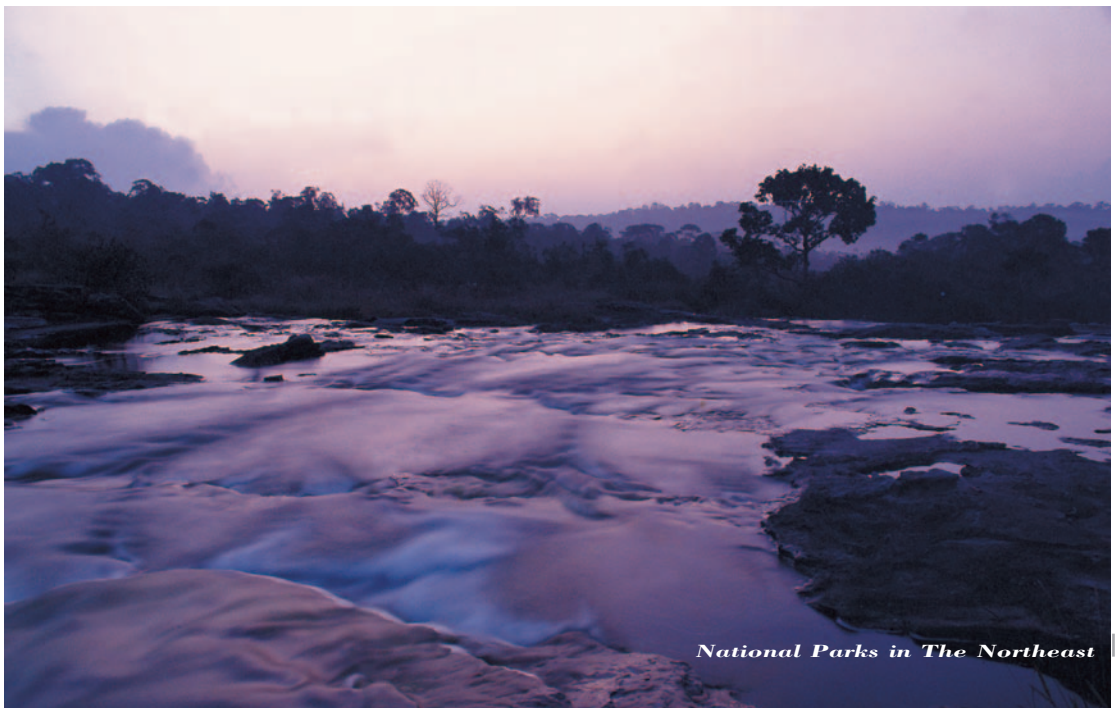
◆ **Don Tana.** The hill in the mid of Mun River divides the river into two lines. With 450 metres wide and 700 metres long, the hill with beach is a nice place to picnic.

◆ **Kaeng Tana.** The whole Mun River becomes a big rapids when it has passed Don Tana and combined together once more. There are many submerged caves occupied by great number of freshwater fish.

◆ **Tat Ton Waterfall.** The stream falls from a crescent-shape rock terrace.

◆ **Huai Mak Swamp** and waterfall. At Ban Huai Mak village, a big pond supplies water to a stream which cascades away.

◆ **Huai Kwang.** The waterfall is situated close to Amphoe Khong Chiam.



Khao Phra Wihan National Park

Northeast



Bordering Thailand and Cambodia, the park is quite rich in forest, wildlife, scenery, and cultural attractions. As Thailand and Cambodia have agreed in tourism cooperation, thus, Khao Phra Wihan National Park plays significant role as gateway to visit Prasat Khao Phra Wihan, cliff-top Khmer Ruins on Cambodia soil. Acquiring total area of 130 square kilometres in Ubon Ratchathani and Si Sa Ket, Thailand's 83rd national park was established in 1998.

Geography

The park features plateau and rolling hills at the elevation between 200-500 metres. That originate many rivers namely Huai Bon and Huai Ta Maria.

Climate

Summer is from March to May. The rainy season is from June to October, and Winter is from November to February.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forest blankets most area with major plants such as *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *S. roxburghii*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Calamus* spp. and Terrestrial orchid.

Connecting two countries, there are animals migrating around such as Wild Boar, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Squirrel, Gibbon, Civet, Bat, Spotted Dove, Indian Roller and Drongo.

Attractions

♦ **Mo Idaeng Cliff.** Right on Thailand-Cambodia border, the cliff offers nice scenery of Cambodian country side and Prasat Khao Phra Wihan.

♦ **Don Tuan Khmer Ruins.** The cliff-top Khmer Ruins is located right on Thailand-Cambodia border. It is a nice cultural attraction. Today, it is quite convenient to visit the ruins.

♦ **Sathup Khu** or Twin Stupa. The twin stupas are located west of Mo Idaeng Cliff. With different design from the other era, the sandstone stupas have rectangular base and round top.

♦ **Low Relief.** The arts relief of three gods in Khmer style is cared at Mo Idaeng Cliff.

♦ **Sa Trao Pool.** Neatly built with sandstone in Khmer style, the pool is now renovated and be functional again to serve tourist.

♦ **Rock cutting site.** The site once serves as rock cutting place for the pool. Both finished and unfinished rock remain by the pool.

♦ **Ruesi Cave.** Situated west of Sa Trao, close to the way to Preah Vihear Khmer Ruins, there is a cave which was served as monk's monastery for a while.

♦ **Ta Thao Checkpoint.** The small channel, like a blank on Phanom Dongrak Range, allows people to cross border quite comfortably. However, the area remains dangerous by land mines.

♦ **Phoi Checkpoint.** The channel in Ubon Ratchathani leads to Cambodia border. With



waterfall and nice scenery, it is a good place to visit.

♦ **Khun Si Cave and Waterfall.** Situated west of Sa Trao, the big cave can accommodate lots of people. It is believed that it was accommodation of Khun Si, who supervise rock cutting work to build Prasat Khao Phra Wihan.

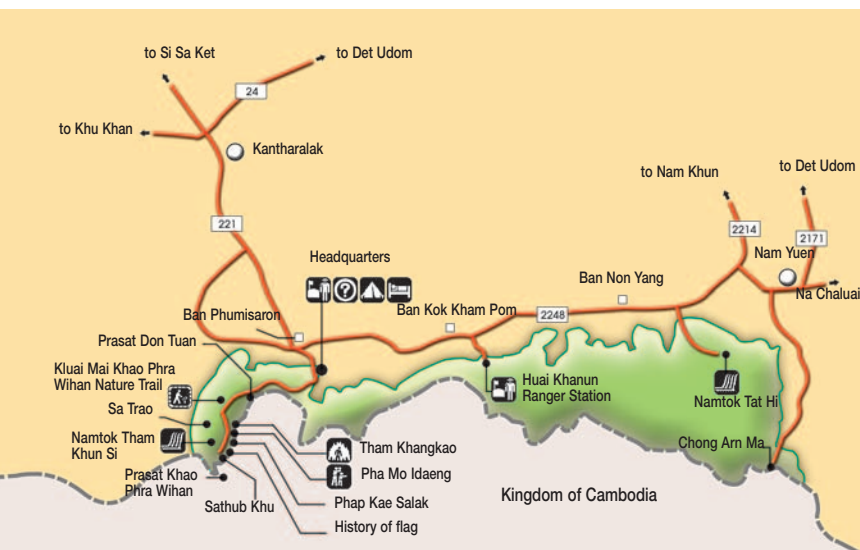
♦ **Huai Ta Waterfall.** The small waterfall is close to the road to Mo Idaeng. It is a nature trail where tourists can explore different birds, trees, herbs and orchids.

♦ **Satta Som Mountain.** The cliff next to Thailand-Cambodia border is a nice location for sunset view. Tourist can observed Mo Idaeng Cliff and Preah Vihear Khmer Ruins from here.

♦ **Huai Khanun Dam.** Surrounded by greenery, the reservoir is a nice place for relax and camping.

♦ **Sai Yoi Waterfall.** The small waterfall is situated in Amphoe Nam Yuen.

♦ **An Ma Checkpoint.** The checkpoint is opened for border trade between Thailand and Cambodia. The checkpoint opens every Tuesday and Thursday.



Getting there

■ From Si Sa Ket, motorist can travel via highway number 221 through Amphoe Phayu, Si Rattana and Kantharalak. This route is total 87 kilometers.

Khao Yai National Park

This huge national park acquires total area of 2,165.55 square kilometres, covering 11 Amphoes of Nakhon Nayok, Prachin Buri, Nakhon Ratchasima and Saraburi. Its huge size and biological diversity makes it a debut as Heritage of Asean. As part of Phanom Dongrak Range, on the local range called Dong Phrayayen. The big forest is home to great diversity of flora and fauna, as well as very beautiful nature. The government decided to remove all of them and set up the country's 1st national park in 1962.

Geography

Rugged mountains dominate most area of the park. Khao Rom is the highest peak towering at 1,351 metres.

Climate

The weather is comfortable all the year round at mean temperature at 23 degrees Celsius.



Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest occupies northern part of the park at elevation between 200-600 metres. It is home to *Azadirachta xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Anogeissus accuminata*, *Vatica odorata*, *Shorea henryana*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Lagerstroemia* spp., *Tetra meles nudiflora*, *Pterocymbium tinctorium* and *Nephilium hypoleucum*.

Such rich wilderness is home to large amount of wildlife such as Asian Elephants, Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Tiger, Guar, Serow, Bear, Porcupine, Gibbon, Giant Black Squirrel and Palm Civet.



Getting there

■ Khao Yai National Park is only 3 hours by car from Bangkok. Motorist can head north via Phahonyothin Highway to Hin Kong of Saraburi, turn right to highway 305 to Prachin Buri and turn left to Khao Yai. This route is 190 kilometres.

■ Tourist can also use Phahonyothin Highway to Rangsit, turn right into highway 305 to Nakhon Nayok, get on highway 33 to Noen Hom Intersection then turn left to Khao Yai. This route is 160 kilometres.



Over 200 bird species which include Great Hornbill, Wreathed Hornbill, Brown Hornbill, Hill Myna, Blue Magpie, Minivet, Pitta, Barbet, Drongo and Dove.

Attractions

Its huge watershed forest originates over 30 beautiful waterfalls such as

◆ **Nang Rong and Sarika Waterfall.** The both famous waterfalls are situated in Nakhon Nayok Province.

◆ **Kong Kao Waterfall.** The small waterfall is quite beautiful during the rainy season. It is only 100 metres from the park's headquarters and tourist centre.

◆ **Pha Klui Mai.** The medium size waterfall can be accessed easily by car, 7 kilometres from the headquarters. *Remanthera coccinea* decorating the compound is symbol of the waterfall.

◆ **Heo Suwat waterfall.** The famous falls can be

called a symbol of the park. The big waterfall, 20 metres high, can be accessed easily by car. Big pool makes it a nice place to swim.

◆ **Heo Narok Waterfall.** The park's biggest and highest waterfall is situated at the south of the park. Strong stream falls into deep valley below. Its three tiers, have total height of 150 metres.

◆ **Nong Phak Chi Watching Tower.** The tower is located by Phak Chi Pond, next to vast grassland and salt lick. Its entrance is at kilometre 35-36 of Thanarat Road. Tourist requires to walk 1 kilometre from the main road.

◆ **Mo Singto Watching Tower.** Located by the Mo Singto Reservoir, grassland and salt lick, it is a nice place for wildlife watching. The tower is 500 metres from the headquarters.

Moreover, the park has many more attractions to entertain nature lovers. Tourist can enjoy night safari, exploring various nature trails, and bird watching.

Nam Phong National Park

Situated close to Ubolratana Dam west of Khon Kaen, the park acquires 197 square kilometres area, covering many forests in Khon Kaen and Chaiyaphum.

Geography

Like most range in the Northeast region, Nam Phong National Park features elevated sandstone range. The range lies in north-south direction along with the reservoir of Ubolratana Dam. Phu Phan Kham Ranges occupies its northern area, leaving the southern area to Phu Meng Range. There are steep slopes and cliff at the west and mountain's foot plain in the east at the elevation 600 metres above sea level.

Flora and fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp forest blankets 80 percent of the park, leaving the rest to mixed deciduous forest and grassland. Dry evergreen forest occupies the mid of the park, supplying water to the Ubolratana Dam. *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Irvingia malayana*, *Parinari aramense*, *Hopea ferrea* and *Cycas* sp. can be found.

With minimum threatening from human, remote forest of Khao Meng Range is sanctuary for wildlife.

There are medium and small animals like Common Wild Boar, Common Muntjak, Porcupine, Pangolin, Siamese Hare and variety of birds such as White Wagtail, Grey Wagtail, Richard's Pipit, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Common Kingfisher and Munia.

Getting there

- From Khon Kaen, motorist can use highway 12 bound for Amphoe Chum Phae, turn right at kilometre 30. The park is another 19 kilometres. This route is 49 kilometres long.
- Tourist can use highway 2 from Khon Kaen and turn left to Amphoe Ubolratana. At Amphoe Ubolratana, turn right into Nong Saeng-Tha Ruea Road. Drive along the reservoir for 20 kilometres to the park. This route is 65 kilometres.





Attractions

◆ **Reservoir of Ubolratana Dam.** Around the park's headquarters, by the reservoir is nice place to relax amidst impressive scenery and easy lifestyle of local fishermen. With facilities, the place suits camping and recreation activities.

◆ **Hin Chang Si Viewpoint.** A group of huge rock in the jungle is the best viewpoint for sun rise and sunset view. Wild elephants love to scratch their ribs with these rocks, leaving dry mud on the rock as obvious evidence. The rock group is close to a hill-top rock terrace with a skull-shape rock as landmark. From the terrace, tourist can enjoy stunning view of Khon Kaen City, Reservoir of Ubolratana Dam, Phu Wiang and Phu Kao. Pre-historical painting is found nearby.

◆ **Phalan Chat.** The rock terrace, 30 minutes walk from Hin Chang Si, offers nice view of Nam Phong Forest.

◆ **Kham Phon.** The volcanic vent-like rock well, 5 metres in diameter, is close to Phalan Chat.

◆ **Pha Sawan.** The cliff-top rock terrace has very beautiful view point. It is 3 kilometres north of Hin Chang Si. As the trail is quite difficult, it is better for visitors to stay overnight.

◆ **Phu Meng Summit.** Situated south of the park's headquarters, the mountain is blanketed with lush deciduous dipterocarp forest and dry evergreen

forest. Rich in wildlife and herb, the mountain is also watershed of Nam Phong Forest. It is the best place for those who want to study regarding nature and herb.

◆ The park has many cliffs along the trail Kham Phon, Phalan Chat Hin Chang Si. Each cliff allows tourist to enjoy the view of reservoir, forest, and ranges. It takes 3-4 hours to get through the trail. Moreover, tourist can enjoy exploring archeological sites in the park or cruising in the reservoir.



Pha Taem National Park

Pre-historical paintings on the long cliff which can date back to 4,000 years makes the park debut. Furthermore, its stunning nature such as waterfalls, rock formations, caves, and picturesque view of Mekhong River that border Thailand and Lao add more charm to this national park. Pha Taem, Thailand's 74th national park, acquires total area of 340 square kilometres in Amphoe Khoeng Chiam, Si Mueang Mai, and Pho Sai of Ubon Ratchathani.

Geography

The national park is rugged mountain range, with high 100-600 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

There is big difference in each season. The park has very wet rainy season from June to September, cold and dry winter from October to February, and hot summer from March to May.



Flora and fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp Forest blankets most part of the park. Thus dwarf trees in strange shapes can be easily found. Its main plants include *Shorea siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Helicia* spp. and *Bambusa bambos*.

The forest is colourful by wild flowers that carpets the field such as *Drosera peltata*, *Doritis pucherima*, *Melastoma malabathricum*, *Utricularia bifida*, and *Eriocaulon henryanum*.

Dry evergreen forest occupies around creeks and streams. Its major plants include *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Terminalia alata*, *T. pedicellata*, *Dialium cochinchinense*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pinus merkusii*, *P. kesiya* can be found in the mountain.

Such forests are home to small animals like Palm Civet, Siamese Hare, Common Muntjak, Malayan Flying Lemur, Common Wild Boar, Giant Squirrel, MongOOSE and Rat.

Birds such as Hill Myna, Green Peafowl, Hawk, Large-billed Crow, Green-billed Malkoha, Red-billed Blue Magpie, Rufescent Prinia, Indian Roller, Olive-backed Sunbird, White Wagtail, Yellow Wagtail and Common Kingfisher.

During dry season when water in Mekhong descends, there are some Common Wild Boar and Serow cross the river into the park.





Attractions

◆ **Pha Taem.** The cliff lining along Mekhong, houses pre-historical paintings, over 300 paintings on 180 metres length. These are probably the largest group of pre-historical painting found in the world.

◆ **Pha Chek-Pha Moei.** Like Pha Taem, the cliff houses pre-historical paintings but in less number and different way of painting.

◆ **Phu Pha Kham and Sandstone Mountain.** The flat-top mountain has pre-historical painting on its side.

◆ **Sao Chaliang.** The mushroom shape pillar is created by erosion of wind, stream, and sunshine.

◆ **Phu Krabo.** The sandstone mountain houses lots of Sao Chaliang.

◆ **Phu Long.** A big wooden coffin was found in the valley. It is assumed to be a pre-historical coffin.

◆ **Patihan Cave.** The sandstone mountain surprisingly has a cave formation. The very long cave has many chambers.

◆ **Phu Natham.** The coniferous forest occupies the cliff, with the backdrop of mountain range of Lao.

◆ **Soi Sawan Waterfall.** Two streams fall and join to each other in the valley, making it a picturesque place to relax.

Tourist can enjoy many other waterfalls, cruising, and landscape.

Getting there

- Amphoe Khong Chiam is 80 kilometres from Ubon Ratchathani.
- From Khong Chiam, take the Khong Chiam-Khemmarat Road for 15 kilometres. Then turn right and continue another 5 kilometres to the park headquarters.



Phu Chong Na Yoi National Park

The park covers part of Amphoe Buntharik, Na Chaluai, and Nam Yuen of Ubon Ratchathani. Its boundary, which covers part of Phanom Dongrak Range, connects to Lao and Cambodia. Featuring many rugged mountains, the park acquires total area of 686 square kilometres. Thailand's 53rd national park was established in 1987.

Northeast



Geography

As most part of the park is rugged mountain range blanketed by various types of lush forests, it is watershed that fills up many significant streams of Ubon Ratchathani such as Lam Dom Yai, Lam Dom Noi, Huai Luang.

Climate

The weather in the park is quite comfortable all the year round. Rainy is from June- November. Winter is from December- February, is a little bit cool. Summer is from March-May.

Flora and fauna

Hill evergreen forest, dry evergreen forest, mixed deciduous forest, and deciduous dipterocarp forest occupy around 75% of the park's area. Its main plants include *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *S. roxburghii*, *Hopea odorata*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* and *Helicia* sp..

Birds diversity such as Black Drongo, Lineated Barbet, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Streaked-eared Bulbul, Grey Wagtail, Scally-breasted Munia, Oriental Magpie Robin, Little Bee-eater, Greater Coucal and Collared Scops-Owl.

Attractions

◆ **Bak Teo or Huai Luang Waterfall.** The big waterfall cascades through three tiers, some 40 metres high in total, to a big pool below. Comfortable trail around the fall allows tourists to enjoy the view and the pool.

◆ **Bo Nam Sap or Capillary Water.** There are three wells of capillary water on the mountain of Phu Krathung, mirroring lushness of the jungle.

◆ **Pha Phueng Viewpoint.** Viewpoint is southwest of Phalan Yao Rock Terrace. Tourists can enjoy scenery of both Kingdom of Cambodia and Lao People's Republic Democratic. There is a small cave with beautiful rock formation nearby.



◆ **Pha Ta Luem.** The cliff is situated on Phu Wang Yao Mountain. There is well of capillary water nearby.

◆ **Phalan Yao Rock Garden.** Rocks in different formation scatter around the rock terrace of Phalan Yao. The area is the centre of recreation activities.

Getting there

■ Ubon Ratchathani can be reached conveniently by train, car, bus, and air. From the provincial town, take the bus to Amphoe Na Chaluai for another 100 kilometres. The bus fare is 25 baht. Motorist can use better road via Warin Chamrap and Det Udom, to Na Chaluai. This route is 140 kilometres.



Phu Kao-Phu Phan Kham National Park

Situated in the Upper Northeast region, the park features beautiful forest over its 322 square kilometres boundary of Nong Bua Lamphu, Udon Thani and Khon Khaen. Established in 1985, it is the country's 50th national park.

Geography

Phu Kao Mountain Range is two peripheral lines of mountain; the outer line is high and steep mountains; the inner mountains are lower. Most of the area alternates between high and low, and some are plains.

Phu Phan Kham is part of Phu Phan Range. The range lies in northeast-southwest direction. The southwest part is a vast-plain of Lam Nam Phong in huge valley. Such valley is now reservoir of Ubolratana Dam. There are deciduous dipterocarp forest and mixed deciduous forest growing on the rocky soil.

Climate

Summer is from March to May. April is the hottest month. Rainy season is from June to October. September is the wettest month. And winter is from November to February. January is the coldest month.

Flora and fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp forest dominates most areas, particularly on the ridge. Its major plants include *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *S. roxburghii*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Careya sphaerica*, *Cycas* sp., *Vietnamosa sapusilla* and *Olea brachiata*.

Mixed deciduous forest occupies on river's banks, valley and mountain shoulder. The significant plants are *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Sindora siamensis*, *Irvingia malayana* and *Schleichera oleosa*.

Dry evergreen forest can be found only by the creeks. Its major plants include *Lagerstroemia caly-*

culata, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Azela xylocarpa* and *Dalbergia oliveri*.

Bird species such as White Wagtail, Richard's Pipit, Oriental Magpie Robin, Greater Coucal, Common Tailorbird, Sooty-headed Bulbul and Streak-eared Bulbul.

Attractions

◆ **Scenery of reservoir** over Ubolratana Dam. The reservoir suits for cruising and camping. Tourist can visit fishery village and enjoy buying fresh fish.

◆ **Archeological Site.** Artifacts of ancient hunting



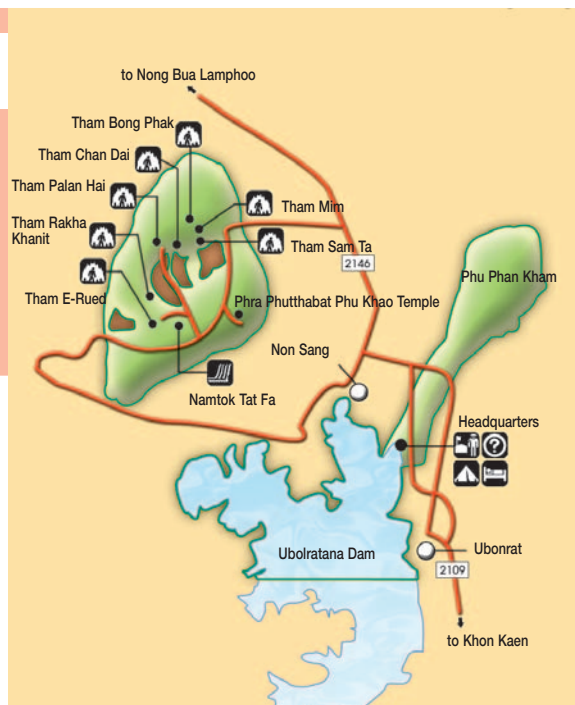
Getting there

- From Udon Thani, motorist can head for Noen Sung on Udon Thani-Noen Sueng Road for 86 kilometres, turn left at Ban Kutku. The park is 17 kilometres away.
- From Khon Kaen, motorist can use Khon Kaen-Ubolratana Road to Ubolratana Dam which is 50 kilometres away. From the dam, the park is another 6 kilometres.

communities in Ban Chiang Era are found. There are paintings and carving on the wall of many caves including Tham Suea Tok, Tham Plalan Hai and Tham Chek.

♦ **Ham Tang.** The mushroom rocks are amazingly created by erosion of wind, water, and sunlight.

♦ **Tat Fa and Tat Hin Taek Waterfall.** The both waterfalls, on Phu Kao Mountain, are quite beautiful during the rainy season.



Phu Kradueng National Park

The picturesque national park is very famous among naturalist and teenager who search for romantic scenery among the beautiful nature. The forest in temperate climate such as coniferous forest, maple, and colourful blossom has long maintain its fame. The park in Amphoe Phu Kradueng, Loei, acquires total area of 348.12 square kilometres. Thailand's second national park was established in 1962.

Geography

The park is actually a flat-top sandstone mountain interrupted by small rolling hills. Its highest peak is Phu Kum Khao at 1,350 metres above sea level. It comprises coniferous forest, forest of Ko (Fagaceae), grassland, waterfalls, crystal clear streams, and rock terrace. Its watershed forest originates Nam Phong Stream which fills up Ubolratana Dam and Nong Wai Dam in Khon Kaen.

Flora and fauna

Phu Kradueng National Park comprises many forest types namely deciduous dipterocarp forest, mixed deciduous forest, hill evergreen forest and coniferous forest.

Its major plants include *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Toona ciliata*, *Diospyros mollis*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Terminalia alata*, *Michelia baillonii*, *Schima wallichii*, *Acer calcaratum*, *Pinus merkusii*, *P. kesiya*

From November to December is beautiful seasonal flowers such as *Rhododendron lyi*, *Curcuma aeruginosa*, *Nepanthes smilesii*, *Drosera burmanii*, *D. indica*, *Eriocaulon henryanum*, *Caulokaempferia thailandica*, *Drosera peltata*, *Doritis pulcherima*, *Eria pubescens* and Spagnum moss.

Its lush forest is also a big home to wildlife in

various mammal and bird species such as Asian Elephant, Tiger, Asiatic Black Bear, Serow, Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Common Wild Boar, Gibbon, Malayan Flying Lemur, Giant Squirrel, Dhole, White-rumped Shama, Siamese Fireback, Chinese Francolin, Red Junglefowl and a rare freshwater turtle as Big-headed Turtle.

Attractions

◆ **Pha Nok An.** The cliff is 2 kilometres from the





park's headquarters and 2.5 kilometres from Lang Pae. It is a small rock terrace by the cliff with a pine tree. The cliff is a nice viewpoint for sun rise where tourist can see the field and mountain range.

◆ **Pha Lom Sak.** A piece of rock hangs on the cliff, making it a special view point to see rugged mountain range in Phetchabun. It is one of the best

places for sunset view in the Phu Kradueng national park. The cliff is 9 kilometres from the headquarters by walk.

◆ **Anodat Pool.** The big pool is lined with dense pine tree with a rock terrace on its bank, allowing tourist to enjoy swimming.

◆ **Sa Kao.** The big natural pool offers impressive crystal clear water. Nearby is the rock terrace that lead to flower field that stretches upto Pha Na Noi.

◆ **Phen Phop Mai Waterfall.** The stream falls through crescent-shape cliff. During winter, red leaves of Maple always blankets the lush green of moss, making it as stunning view.

◆ **Tat Hong Waterfall.** Phong Stream falls into a very deep cliff, and fills up the whole valley with echo. The waterfall is 20 kilometres from the headquarters.

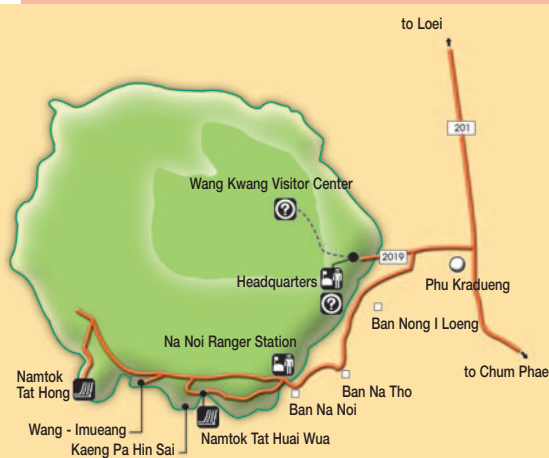
◆ **Wang Kwang Waterfall.** Situated only 750 metres from tourist accommodation. The falls cascades into the pool where a herd of deer always come for water. There are many easy corners to relax.

◆ **Tham Yai Waterfall.** In beginning January, the waterfall is beautified all fallen maple leaves that add red colour to the green jungle. It is situated a kilometres from Phen Phop Mai Waterfall.

◆ The national park actually has many waterfalls such as a Than Sawan Waterfall, Phon Phop Waterfall, Phra Ong Waterfall as well as numerous attractions. To visit them all, visitor should spend at least 3 days in the park.

Getting there

- Tourist can catch train to Khon Kaen, then take the bus to Amphoe Phu Kradueng, and then take local bus for another 5 kilometres to the park headquarters. The accommodation is 5 kilometres uphill and 4 kilometres in the grassland. Porter service is available and the fee will be charged by kilomgram.



Phu Pha Man National Park

Phu Pha Man is named after a landmark mountain range which towers elegantly like a huge rock curtain. The park once was rich in flora and fauna, but number of wildlife and forest area has shrunk dramatically by logging concession. However, its beautiful caves, waterfalls, and watershed forest urged the government to conserve the place. Established in 1991, the country's 72nd national park acquires total area of 350 square kilometres in Amphoe Chum Phae, Khon Kaen and Phu Kradueng, Loei.

Geography

Rugged and long limestone range dominates the park. The park is situated at the elevation between 200-800 metres above sea level. Its watershed for-

est fills up many stream that are tributaries of Nam Phong River, Huai Phuhi, Huai Chomphu, Huai Chok and Huai Khahao.

Climate

The park is rather hot with mean temperature at 39 degrees Celsius.

Flora and fauna

The park comprises hill evergreen forest, dry evergreen forest, mixed deciduous forest, and deciduous dipterocarp forest. Its major plants include *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *L. calyculata*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Alpinia malaccensis*, *Vietnamosasa pusilla*, *Calamus* spp. and *Musa acuminata*.

These forests are home to Serow, Common Wild Boar, Common Muntjak, Macaque, Siamese Hare, Pangolin, Porcupine, Tree Monitor and different birds over 200 species such as Barbet, Bulbul, Prinia, Tailorbird, Coucal and Malkoha.

Attractions

◆ **Pha Puang Cave.** Formations of stalagmite and stalactite decorate this cave. A chimney leads to the mountain summit where cave trekker can witness the stunning view.

◆ **Phaya Nakkharat Cave.** The most beautiful cave in the park whose chambers are decorated by glittering stalagmites and stalactites.

◆ **Lai Thaeng Cave.** The caves houses ancient cave painting on its wall. At the size of 2 metres by 2 metres, it was assumed as treasure map in the past. Actually, the painting comprises 70 pictures of men and animals in red. Its age is being estimated.

◆ **Phu Ta Lo Cave.** The huge cave with flat ground can accommodate up to 1,000 people. Its



Getting there

- Buses leave Northeastern Bus Terminal in Bangkok for Loei and Chiang Khan every day. Get off at kilometre 112-113 of highway 201. The park is 5 kilometres off the main road. Bus from Khon Kaen is also available.

high ceiling is decorated naturally by rock formations. The entrance and facilities development is under process.

◆ **Tat Hong Waterfall.** The stream originated from Phu Kradueng falls into deep valley 70 metres below, hitting a piece of rock and filling up the whole forest with echo. The trail leading to the waterfall remains quite difficult, thus, the forest is in good condition.

◆ **Tat Fa Waterfall.** The 30 metres high waterfall turns vibrant every rainy season. Some 8 kilometres from the falls is Huai Mo Taek Waterfall and Huai Hin Lat Waterfall.

◆ **Phalan Thong Waterfall.** The small waterfall,

only 10 metres high, is situated a kilometre from the park's headquarters.

◆ **Tat Yai Waterfall.** The big waterfall cascades through many tiers into Nam Choen Stream. The height of 80 metres makes it look elegant and so beautiful, particularly during the rainy season. It can be accessed by car.



Phu Pha Thoep National Park

Strange formaton of rock, colourful flower field, forest and wildlife shape up this small park, which acquires only 48.39 square kilometres in Amphoe Mueang and Don Tan of Mukdahan, to be a nice place to visit. Established in 1988, Mukdahan National Park is the country's 59th national park.

Geography

The park features rugged mountain range, comprising mountain of Phu Nang Hong, Phu Tham Phra, Phu Lang Se, Phu Hin Thoep, Phu Mano. Phu Chom Si is the highest peak with elevation of 420 metres above sea level. These rock mountains characterise the park with high cliff and rock landscape.

Climate

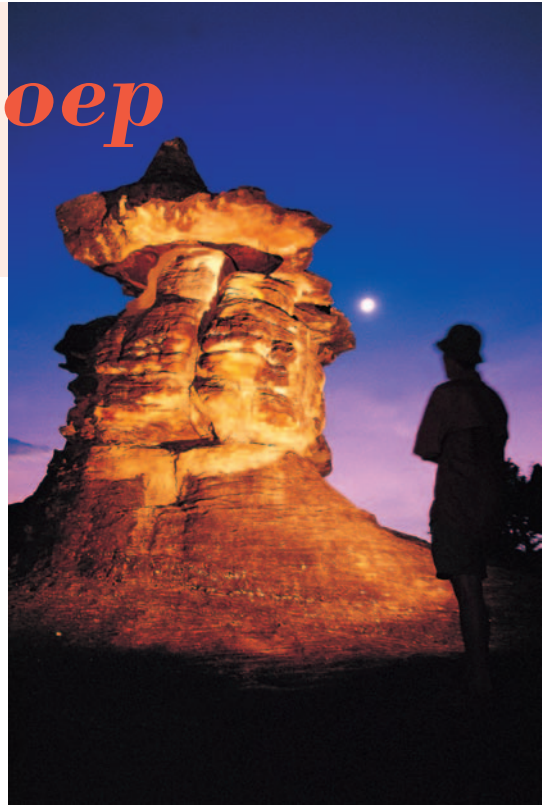
Rainy season is from June to November. Winter is from December to January. And summer is from February to May.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp blankets the park with various plants including *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, *D.oliveri*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Irvingia malayana*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Dillenia* sp., *Barringtonia* sp., *Cratoxylum* sp., *Michelia floribunda*, *Toona ciliata*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Shorea obtusa* and *S.siamensis*.

The national parks is home to small mammals like Common Wild Boar, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Red Junglefowl, Golden Jackal, Macaque, Civet and Palm Civet.

Variety of birds such as Red Junglefowl, Green Peafowl, Pheasant, Barbet, Bulbul, Parrot, Babbler, Warbler, Minivet and Owl.



Attractions

◆ **Phu Pha Thoep.** The group of rock in strange formations and composition is main attraction of the park. Some sit of another, creating natural sculpture in different shape. The natural rock garden is surrounded by deciduous dipterocarp forest whose trees grow in dwarf shape. In beginning of winter, the area will be blanketed by wild flowers in full bloom.

◆ **Phu Tham Phra.** The area has and a well which supplies capillary water all the year round. Such water is enough to cascades into Tham Phra Waterfall. Nearby is a sacred cave which houses a large amount of wooden Buddha images and animal replicas.

◆ **Phu Nang Hong.** The rock terrace is decorated naturally by a swan shape rock at the mid. Around the area, there are rocks in various formations.

◆ **Phu Lakse.** The mountain offers a view point in Secondary forest.

◆ **Fa Mue Daeng Cave.** The tiny rock shelter, 3 metres by 60 metres, is decorated by pre-historical cave painting of hands. The paintings can be dated

Getting there

- The park is located by Phu Pha Thoep, 17 kilometres from Mukdahan. Tourist can use Mukdahan-Don Tan Road and turn left into lateristic road.



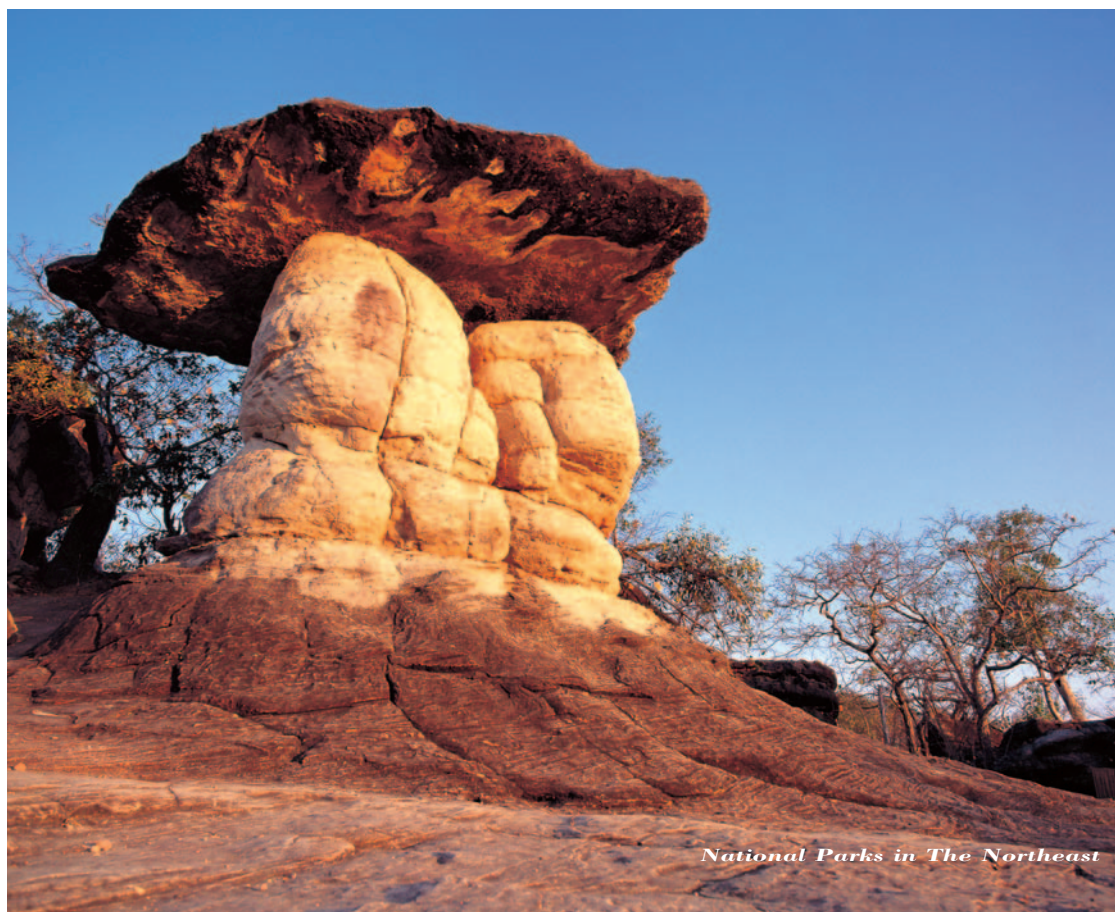
back to 3,000 years.

♦ **Wang Duean Ha.** Situated close to the national park, the natural reservoir allows visitors to enjoy.

♦ **Tham Lot.** The boulder is on the way to Phu Lakse and Phu Nang Hong. Ancient artifact items were found here.

♦ **Phu Mano.** The mountain, south of Mukdahan Town, offers nice view of the town, Mekhong River, and Sawannakhet of Lao PDR.

♦ **Streams and capillary** water sources. The park originates many streams such as Huai Ta Luea, Huai Ling, Huai Saiphan, Huai Ruea.



Phu Pha Yon National Park

Northeast



Featuring plateau and sandstone range on the 828.56 square kilometres, the park covers part in Amphoe Phu Phan, Khok Si Suphan, Tao Ngoi of Sakon Nakhon, in Amphoe Na Kae of Nakhon Phanom and Amphoe Dong Luang and Khamcha-i of Mukdahan. It is rich of natural beauty such as waterfalls, caves, cliffs, rolling hills, reservoir, and various wildlife. Phu Pha Yon National Park was established in 1988. It is one of five national parks established to

celebrate the 60th anniversary of His Majesty the King in the year 1987.

Geography

Most area in the park is plateau and sandstone range at the elevation between 300-600 metres. The mountain range embraces a 10 kilometres long plateau. The forest is watershed that fills up many streams, rivers, and 19 reservoirs nearby as Huai Huat Reservoir and Ta Noi Reservoir.

Climate

Rainy season is from May-October. August is the wettest month. Winter is from November-January. December is the coldest month. The temperature can drop to 16 degrees Celsius and Summer is from February-April, is 32 degrees Celsius on average.

Attractions

◆ **Huai Huat Reservoir.** The scenic reservoir is surrounded by rocks in different formations. Located in King Amphoe Tao Ngoi of Sakon Nakhon, it is a nice place to picnic and relax.

◆ **Dong Noi Reservoir.** The reservoir is located in Amphoe Na Kae of Nakhon Phanom.

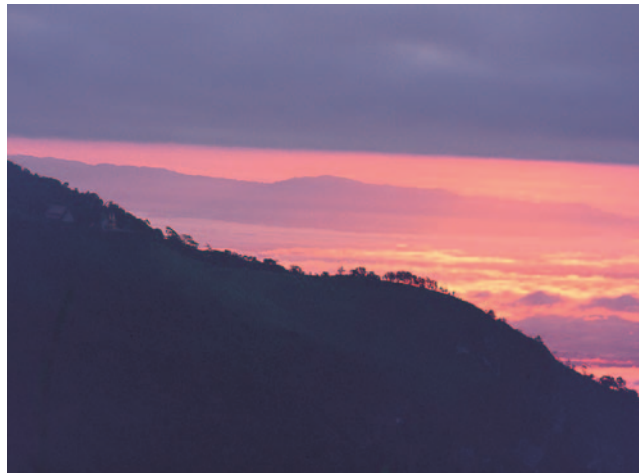
◆ **Hip Phu Pha Nang Cave.** The cave is situated in King Amphoe Tao Ngoi of Sakon Nakhon.

◆ **Phra Vet Cave.** The cave is situated in Amphoe Nakae of Nakhon Phanom.

◆ **Saovabha Cave.** The cave is situated in Ging Amphoe Tao Ngoi of Sakhon Nakhon.

◆ **Pha Noen Hin.** The cliff is beautified by flower bed which blankets the rock terrace.

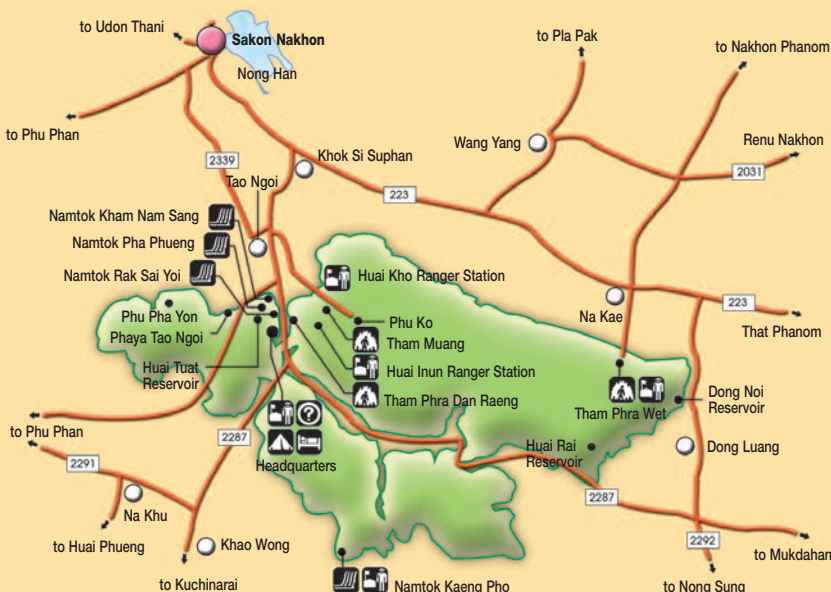
◆ **Kham Nam Sang Waterfall.** The park's highest waterfall is around 20 metres high from the ground. It is situated 1,800 metres only from the park's headquarters.



◆ **Phu Pha Yon.** The mountain offers nice scenery and cliff carving which can be dated back 3,000 years ago. The cliff carving is the richest among seven sites in the Northeast region. The mountain can be accessed by Tao Ngoi-Siwicha Road.

◆ **Phaya Tao Ngoi Cliff.** The cliff houses a toitoise-shape rock. The tortoise rock, 5 metres in length, is heading to Nam Phung River. The local believes the tortoise means prosperity.

◆ **Kaeng Pho Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall is 14 metres wide and 10 metres high. There are a big camping which can accommodate thousand of tourist. It is situated 32 kilometres from the park's headquarters.



Getting there

■ The park is 35 kilometres from the provincial town of Sakon Nakhon. From Sakon Nakhon, motorist can head east on the highway 223 and then turn right, via to Amphoe Tao Ngoi to the park.

Phu Phan National Park

Once well known as dangerous area by political conflict, the park acquires total area of 664.70 square kilometres in Amphoe Phanna Nikhom, Mueang, Kut Bak and King Phu Phan of Sakon Nakhon and Amphoe Somdet and Huai Phueng of Kalasin. The country's 7th national park was established in 1972.

Geography

Most area of the park is limestone mountain which originates many streams such as Huai Lao, Huai I Khok, Huai Khae, Huai Saen Kong, Huai Phrik and Huai Sai. These streams are tributaries of Un, Phung, Lam Pao and Yang River.

Climate

Summer is from March-May. Rainy is from June-October. And it is rather comfortable in winter, from

November-February.

Flora and fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp forest scatters around. It is home to *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D.tuberculatus*, *Terminalia alata*, *Dillenia obovata*, *Irvingia malayana*, *Shorea obtusa* and *S.siamensis* for instance.

Dry evergreen forest densely occupies river banks with a great variety of plants as *Hopea odorata*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *Xylia xylocarpa* and *Peltophorum dasyrachis*. Apart from such two forests is the mixed deciduous forest, grassland can be found.

Its wildlife comprises Langur, Civet, Malayan Flying Lemur, Squirrel, Porcupine, Fishing Cat, Palm





Civet, Sambar Deer, Tiger, Bear, Common Muntjak and Common Wild Boar.

Various kind of birds namely Hill Myna, Black Drongo, White-rumped Shama and Richard's Pipit.

Attractions

◆ **Kham Hom Waterfall.** The famous waterfall is well known among Sakhon Nakhon and nearby province.

◆ **Phrathat Phu Phek.** The Khmer-Era pagoda is located on Phu Phan Range, 544 metres above mean sea level. A Buddha image was found in the pagoda.

◆ **Pricha Suksan Waterfall.** The stream slopes over 15 metres wide rock terrace which rotates 40 degrees. The amazing flat rock makes it a natural slider.

◆ **Thang Phi Phan** or Nature Bridge. The stone arch is 1.5 metres wide and 8 metres long.

◆ **Sari Thai Cave.** The cave once was served as armour storage of Saree Thai to fight against the Royal Japanese Army during the World War II.

◆ **Pha Nang Moen.** Facing to the west, the cliff is a very nice view point for sunset view.

◆ **Pha SaWoei.** Facing to the south, the cliff once was served at a lunch venue for His Majesty

the King.

◆ **Phu Phan Mountain Range.** The range borders Sakhon Nakhon and Kalasin. It is a very beautiful area with rich forest, mountain and waterfall.

Getting there

■ From Amphoe Mueang of Sakhon Nakhon, use highway No. 213 and pass Phu Phan Royal Residence. The park headquarters is located on the highway.



Phu Ruea National Park

The boat-shape rock on the mountain Phu Ruea always appears in the mist all the year round. The 16th national park of Thailand was established in 1979. It acquires total 121 square kilometres in Amphoe Phu Ruea and Tha Li of Loei.

Geography

The park features rugged sandstone mountain range, interrupted with granite mountain. Thus there are plateau mixed with high mountain. Phu Ruea is the highest peak with the elevation of 1,365 metres above sea level. Phu Son is the second highest peak at 1,035 metres elevation. The region originates many streams such as Huai Nam Dan, Huai Bong, Huai Thiang Na, Huai Sai Khao, Huai Tio and Huai Phai which runs through a beautiful waterfall.

Climate

Loei is the coldest province in Thailand, therefore, the mountain Phu Reau is rather cold all the year



round. In winter, the temperature goes down below zero, and freeze the dew sometime.

Flora and fauna

The park comprised various forest types, from mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest, dry evergreen forest and coniferous forest. On the summit, coniferous forest is interrupted by rocks, bushes and grassland. *Doritis pulcherrima*, *Vanda* sp., *Rhynchostylis retusa*, *Dendrobium chrysotoxum*, *D.lindleyi*, *D.draconis* always decorate the forest all the year round.

The park has great deal of wildlife. Bear, Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Common Wild Boar, Dhole, Macaque, Black Giant Squirrel, Siamese hare, Red Junglefowl, Siamese Fireback and Big-headed Turtle can be often found. In winter, there are always migratory birds from China.





Attractions

◆ **Pha Loan Noi.** The mountain is a very nice view point for sunrise view where tourist can see three mountains namely Phu Luang, Phu Pha Sat, Phu Khrang and very beautiful mountain range. The viewpoint is 3 kilometres from the national park's headquarters.

◆ **Pha Samthong.** The towering cliff is blanketed

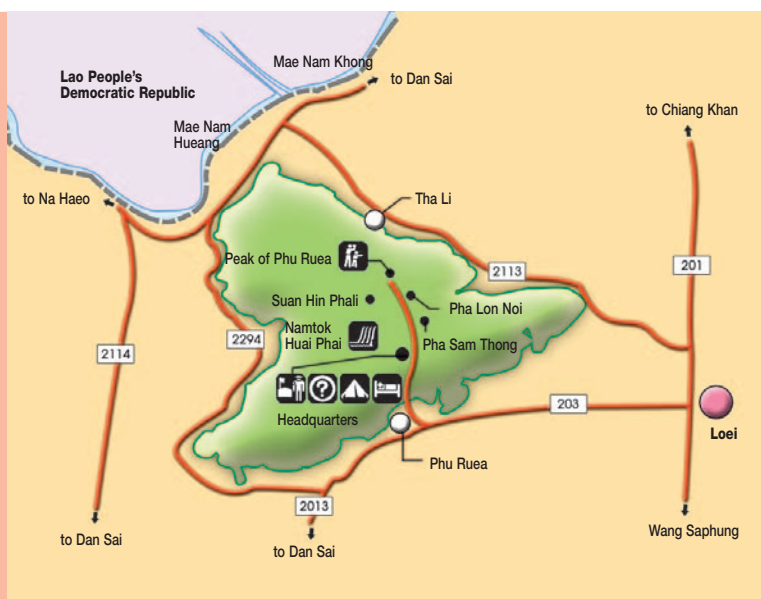
by golden colour lichen. It is 2.5 kilometres from the headquarters.

◆ **Huai Phai Waterfall.** The 30 metres high from ground, the waterfall is situated 2 kilometres from the headquarters.

◆ **Phu Ruea Summit.** The summit is the cliff at 1,365 metres above sea level. From there, tourist can witness panoramic view and Hueang River and Mekhong River that borders Thailand and Lao.

Getting there

■ Loei is 558 kilometres from Bangkok. From Loei, tourist can bound for Phu Ruea via highway No. 203 which is 48 kilometres away. From Amphoe Phu Ruea, the park is 4 kilometres away.



Phu Sa Dok Bua National Park

The park is covered Amphoe Nikhom Kham Soi and Don Tan of Mukdahan, Amphoe Loeng Nok Tha of Yasothon, and Amphoe Chanuman, Senangkhanikhom of Amnat Charoen, acquiring total area of 231 square kilometres. Phu Sa Dok Bua National Park was established in 1992.

east direction. Big rock terrace dot around. Phu Kra sa is the highest peak towering at 481 metres above sea level. Other peaks stand at 350-450 metres. Lush forest blanketing the park originates many streams such as Huai Thom, Huai Kabok, Huai Kan Lueang and etc. These streams are lifeline of the agricultural communities surrounding the park.

Geography

Rugged mountain ranges lie in northwest-south-

Flora and fauna

Mix deciduous forest and dry evergreen forest





blankets the ranges by major plants namely *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Sindora siamensis*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *D.cochinchinensis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*., *Hopea odorata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus* and *Anisoptera costata*.

In such perfect forest, there are numerous wildlife namely Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Palm Civet, Mouse Deer and Malayan Flying Lemur.

Kinds of bird such as Siamese Fireback, Silver Pheasant, Red Junglefowl and Sooty-headed Bulbul.

Attractions

◆ **Phu Pha Taem.** The 60 metres long cave in the mountain houses pre-historical painting in the same era to those in Phu Pha Thoep and Pha Taem National Parks.

◆ **Pha Ma Kluea.** The shady rock terrace by the cliff, close to Phu Pha Taem, is a nice place to sit back and relax. It is used as venue for religious rites for the local.

◆ **Phu Pha Hom.** Situated at 386 metres above sea level, the viewpoint of Phu Pha Taem offer mountainous view of Phu Mu, Phu Phaeng Ma, Phu Mai Sang, Phu khong, Phu Akkara Chat.

◆ **Phu Sa Dok Bua.** The 423 metres high mountain is situated on border of three provinces namely Mukdahan, Yasothon, and Amnat Charoen. On its summit, there are 6 rock ponds, each of which is a few metres wide. These rocky ponds, which are packed with water lily, are amazingly filled up with water all the year round. A nearby cave once was

served as accommodation for communists. It can accommodate up to a hundred people.

◆ **Phu Pha Tak.** The viewpoint offers picturesque view of Phu Pha Thoep National Park at distance.

◆ **Rock Terrace** and Deciduous Dipterocarp Forest. There are many large rock terraces are surrounded by beautiful deciduous dipterocarp forest at dwarf size. Such places can be found at Phu Wat, Phu Pha Hom, Phu Kabok, and Phu Hua Nak.

Getting there

■ The park's entrance at kilometre 24-26 of highway 2277. The park is a kilometre off the highway.



Phu Suan Sai National Park

Acquiring total area of 117.16 square kilometres, the reserved forest in Amphoe Na Haeo of Loei was upgraded to Thailand's 79th national park in 1994.

Geography

The park features rugged mountain and plateau sloping from 2-50 degrees at the elevation between 600-1,408 metres above sea level. The steep area on its west is blanketed by big forest. The slope area on the east comprises some plains by the mountain foot.



Climate

By lush forest, the park has comfortable weather all the year around.

Flora and fauna

The park is covered by dense tropical rain forest which is habitat for great deal of wildlife such as Serow, Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Mouse Deer, Common Wild Boar, Bear, Tiger, Dhole, Palm Civet, Malayan Flying Lemur and Squirrel.

Birds found in the park include Hawk, Common Tailorbird, Barbet, Common Koel, Red Junglefowl, Silver Pheasant, Great Hornbill, Ashy Drongo, Streak-eared Bulbul and Sooty-headed Bulbul.

Moreover tourist can spot Tao Pulu or Big-headed Turtle, Lizard, Salamander, Beautiful Lizard, Skink, Tree Monitor and Snake.

Getting there

- From Loei, takes the highway 203, 2031 and 2113 to Amphoe Na Haeo and keep going for another 4 kilometres to Ban Mueang Phrae. Turn left to the highway 1268 and turn right at kilometre 0 post. The park is another 3 kilometres.
- From Lomsak of Phetchabun, motorist can use highway 203, 2014 and 2113 for 32 kilometres just to Amphoe Na Haeo.
- From Phisanulok, use highway 1237 and turn right at kilometre 50 to highway 1268.





Attractions

◆ **Khing Waterfall.** Phrae Stream cascades through a 5 tiers. Nearby, there is a royal pavilion built to welcome HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn who paid royal visit to the park on February 12, 1991.

◆ **Chang Tok Waterfall.** Situated 500 metres upstream from Khing Waterfall.

◆ **Wang Tat Waterfall.** It is 1.5 kilometres upstream of Chang Tok Waterfall.

◆ **Tat Hueang Waterfall.** The 3 tiers waterfall is 50 metres high. The shady setting makes it a nice place to relax and enjoy the nature.

◆ **Tat Pha Waterfall.** The 60 metres high water-

fall is situated close to Ban Saeng Pha.

◆ **Hin Si Thit** or Four direction stones. Four sacred stone south of foothill of Suan Sai Mountain are worshiped as a gateway to the mountain. The sacred stones are worshiped every three years.

◆ **Hin Kuai Lo.** The amazing isolated sandstone in Phu Suan Sai looked like huge mushroom. It is 19 metres in circumference and 4 metres high. The nature also builds gullies on the rock around the amazing sandstone.

◆ **Hill 1408 Viewpoint.** The viewpoint, at the heart of the park is a nice location for sunrise view.

◆ **Hill 1205 Viewpoint.** The viewpoint offers scenery of Ban Huai Nam Phak, Phu Soi Dao and Phu Wiang of Lao, and mountain ranges at north.

Phu Wiang National Park

Northeast



Artifacts, namely skeleton of ancient man, tools, bronze and reclining Buddha image from Dhavaravadi and pre-historic cave paintings, have proven that the forest of Phu Wiang once was location of ancient settlement thousands year ago. Dinosaur fossils and footprint which dates back to almost 200 million years add more significance to this park. The forest of Phu Wiang covers part of Amphoe Phu Wiang, Si Chomphu, and Chum Phae and King Nong Na Kham of Khon Kaen. Thailand's 71st national park acquires total area of 325 square kilometres. It was established in 1991

Geography

Phu Wiang Mountain itself has volcanic shape ringed twice by mountain ranges. There are some plains scatter at the mountain foot.

Climate

The park has monsoonal climate. Its summer is from March to July. The rainy season is from August to November and winter is from December to February.

Flora and fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp, mixed deciduous and dry evergreen forest dominate the park. Their major plants include *Atzelia xylocarpa*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D.tuberculatus*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Chukrasia tabularis*, *Nephilum hypoleucum*, *Cycas* sp., *Vietnamosasa pusilla*, *Musa acuminata*, *Vitex* sp., bamboo and different species of fern.

Such forests are home to Common Muntjak, Mouse Deer, Serow, Civet, Fishing Cat, Leopard Cat and Common Wild Boar.

Different kinds of bird such as Siamese Fireback, Silver Pheasant, Hill Myna, Red-billed Blue Magpie, Streak-eared Bulbul, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Bee-eater, Kingfisher and Barbet.

Attractions

◆ **Dinosaur fossils.** A knee bone of a dinosaur was discovered in 1976, marking the first discovery of dinosaur fossil in the kingdom.

◆ **Phra Phutthasaiyat.** The carved Buddha image, 3.75 metres long, is situated on the summit of Phu Wiang Mountain.

◆ **Fa Mue Daeng Cave.** 50 metres long rock shelter houses pre-historic paintings in the shape of 7 silhouette hands on red background.

◆ **Khon Non Cave.** The cave houses pre-historic

paintings in lines, dots, and crosses on sandstone.

◆ **Thap Phaya Suea Waterfall.** The 2 tiers waterfall is a nice place to visit.

◆ **Sam Champa Waterfall.** The medium size waterfall turns vibrant in rainy season only.

◆ **Thung Kukti.** The vast hill-top field on over 3 square kilometres area offer nice view.

◆ **Tat Klang Waterfall.** The big waterfall is situated in Tambon Nai Mueang of Amphoe Phu Wiang.

◆ **Tat Fa Waterfall.** The big waterfall, 25 metres high, is a nice place for camping.

◆ **Thung Yai Sao Aram.** The vast field on Phu Wiang mountain entertain naturalist with panoramic view of grassland.

◆ **Hua Phu Chon.** The large rock terrace is decorated naturally with rock in different formation.

◆ **Chan Gully.** The gully on Phu Wiang Mountain houses a big hermit sculpture. From over there, tourist can enjoy the scenic view.

◆ **Hin Lat Kok Kum.** The large rock terrace has rocks in different formations. The place is decorated by wild orchid. Tourist can enjoy scenic view of Phu Wiang Range.

Getting there

■ Amphoe Phu Wiang is 56 kilometres from Khon Kaen. The park is 4 kilometres from Amphoe Phu Wiang. Motored tricycle service is available.



Sai Thong National Park

Northeast



Established in 1992, the park acquires total area of 319 square kilometres in Amphoe Nong Bua Rawe, Thepsathit, Phakdi Chumphon and Nong Bua Daeng of Chiayaphum.

Geography

Deciduous dipterocarp forest occupies its southern area. Dry evergreen forest blankets the streams and summits. The steep slopes at north and west are

occupied by deciduous dipterocarp forest and bamboo, rich mixed deciduous forest.

Attractions

◆ **Sai Thong Waterfall.** The waterfall is close to the park's headquarters. The wide waterfall, 80 metres wide and 5 metres high, is so lively during the rainy season. Tourist can enjoy swimming in the big pool. Upstream, there is a big pool called "Wang Nguak" which supplies water to Sai Thong Waterfall.

◆ **Chuan Chom Waterfall.** It is 2 kilometres upstream of Sai Thong Waterfall. The shady waterfall is 20 metres high and 50 metres wide.

◆ **Bua Sawan Field.** *Curcuma* spp. or Kra Chiao in pink and white, blankets the western ridge of Khao Phang Hoei 10 kilometres from the headquarters. The flower will be in full bloom from June to mid of August of each year.



◆ **Khao Phang Hoei Viewpoint.** The viewpoint is at kilometre 70 of highway 225.

◆ **Khao Lang San Viewpoint.** The peak of Khao Phang Hoei is 1,008 metres above sea level. It is chilling all the year round. Camping ground and accommodation are available.

◆ **Khlong Sai Waterfall.** The shady small waterfall in Amphoe Phakdi Chumphon is vibrant every rainy season.

Getting there

■ Sai Thong National Park is 70 kilometres from Chiyaphum. Tourist can use highway 225, the park is 7 kilometres off the highway.



Ta Phraya National Park

Covering lush forest in Amphoe Ta Phraya, Sa Kaeo and Amphoe Ban Kruat, Lahan Sai and Non Din Daeng of Buri Ram, the park's boundary also connects to Cambodia's forest. Ta Phraya National Park acquires total area of 594 square kilometres in Khorat Plateau which is part of Phanom Dongrak Range. Thailand's 82nd national park was established in 1996.

Geography

The park features high mountain range of Banthat Range which connects to Phanom Dongrak Range. Situated at the elevation between 206-579 metres above sea level. Khao Phran Nut is the highest peak at 579 metres. The southeast area close to Khorat Plateau is 100-200 metres above sea level.

Getting there

- The park is 250 kilometres from Prachin Buri and 140 kilometres from Buriram. It can be accessed via highway 3198 and 2121.



Climate

Summer is from February to April. Rainy season is from May to October and winter is from November to January. On average the park has maximum temperature at 39.8 degrees Celsius and lowest at 14.3 degrees Celsius.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest can be found at 400 metres elevation on the north and northeast corner of the park. Its major plants are *Atzelia xylocarpa*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata* and *Xylia xylocarpa*.

Dry evergreen forest covers the plain at north and northeast of the park at the elevation between 100-400 metres above mean sea level. Its significant plants are *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Shorea roxburghii* and *Hopea odorata*.

Deciduous dipterocarp forest occupies both south and north of the national park. Its major plants such



as *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis* and *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*.

Such forests are home to Serow, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Mouse Deer, Bear, Macaque, Langur, Gibbon, Palm Civet, Asian Golden Cat, Fishing Cat, Banteng, Guar, Dhole, Jungle Cat, Hog Badger, Porcupine, Mongoose, Bat, Siamese Hare, Squirrel and Treeshrew.

Birds found in the park include Minivet, Blue Magpie, Parrot, Emerald Dove, White-rumped Shama, Woodpecker, Hawk, Owl, Bulbul, Koel, Red Junglefowl, Pheasant and Hill Myna. There are also various amphibians and fishes in the park.

Attractions

◆ **Huai Yang Reservoir.** Situated amidst lush dry evergreen forest, the big reservoir in Tambon Thap Rat. It is favoured place to relax.

◆ **Lam Chang Han Reservoir.** By its nice scenery, the big reservoir is a favoured place to relax.

◆ **Mi Akson Shrine.** The shrine houses handwriting of King Rama V on the ground.

◆ **Lam Patia Reservoir.** The medium size reservoir in Tambon Nong Waeng, has nice scenery.

◆ **Khao Lon Khmer Ruins.** The Khmer ruins is located in Tambon Thap Rat, Amphoe Ta Phraya.

◆ **Mekha Reservoir.** The big reservoir is a favoured place to relax by its nice scenery of lush forest.

◆ **Lan Hin Tat.** The vast field in Tambon Prasart, Amphoe Ban Kruat, offers picturesque scenery.

◆ **Lan Kra Chiao.** The field is decorated with Kra chio (*Curcuma* spp.) and lush forest around.

◆ **Bai Baek Khmer Ruins,** is located in Tambon Chanthop Phet, Amphoe Ban Kruat.

◆ **Laeng Loha Kam.** The place houses numerous items of Khmer artifacts and antique.

Tat Ton National Park

The park comprises beautiful waterfalls which is a main attraction and lush forest. It acquires total area of 217.18 square kilometres in Amphoe Mueang, Chaiyaphum. It is the country's 23rd national park which was established since 1980.

Geography

Situated on Phu Laenkha Range, the park features plateau nestling in the embrace of mountains. These mountains such as Khao Phu Khiao, Phu Klang and Phu Laenkha are blanketed by dry evergreen forest and deciduous dipterocarp forest. The big forests originate streams as well as Lam Patao, Huai Nam Sap, Huai Khro and Huai Tat Ton Noi, which further nourish the Chaiyaphum Province.

Climate

Summer is from February to May. Rainy season is from June to September. The rains always fill up

Getting there

- From Chiyaphum, use highway 2051 which leads directly to Tat Ton Waterfall for 21 kilometres. Chartered vehicle or private car is recommended.





the stream and make the waterfall runs at its highest level. Winter is from October to January. December is the coldest month with mean temperature at 13 degrees Celsius.

Flora and fauna

Dry evergreen forest can be found by the stream, valley and mountain summit. Its significant plants include *Calophyllum polyanthum*, *Irvingia malayana*, *Barringtonia* sp., *Shorea roxburghii*, *Garcinia speciosa* and *Memecylon ovatum*.

Deciduous dipterocarp forest occupies the mountain range. Its major plants include *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Sindora roxburghii* and *Vietnamosasa pusilla*.

The national park is home to small animals such as Squirrel, Treeshrew and various birds as Red Junglefowl and Bulbul.

Attractions

◆ **Tat Ton Waterfall.** The major tourist attraction is a 6 metres high waterfall that runs on 50 metres wide rock terrace that stretches 300 metres long.

There are pools scattering around, allowing tourist to enjoy. In rainy season, from June to September, is the ideal period to visit the lively waterfall. It is 21 kilometres north of Chaiyaphum.

◆ **Chaopho Tat Ton Shrine.** Located in the waterfall compound, the shrine is built to honour Pu Duang, a solitaire who loved to travel around and cured the people.

◆ **Tat Fa Waterfall.** The small waterfall is situated at the eastern part of the park, 23 kilometres from Chaiyaphum.

◆ **Pha Koeng.** The cliff is the highest point on Chaiyaphum-Nong Bua Daeng Road or highway 2159. At kilometres 27, the view point offers scenery of Amphoe Nong Bua Daeng, mountain range and Phu Khiao Wildlife Sanctuary.

◆ **Pha lang Waterfall.** The waterfall is situated amidst lush dry evergreen forest. Big shady trees around the waterfall make it a nice place to relax. It can be accessed through Ban Chilong Nuea, 3 kilometres off highway 2159. Tourist requires to trek for 3 kilometres.

◆ **Pha Song Chan Waterfall.** The 2 tiers waterfall is around 5 metres high. It is situated upstream of Pha lang Waterfall.

Thap Lan National Park

*This lush forest stretches over Amphoe Pak Thong Chai, Wang Nam Khiao, Khonburi, Soeng Sang of Nakhon Ratchasima and Amphoe Nadi of Prachin Buri. Thap Lan National Park, which is the second largest national park of Thailand, is home to the rare forest of Lan (*Corypha lecomtei*). Acquiring total area of 2,235 square kilometres, the country's 39th national park was established in 1981 in a bid to preserve the forest of Lan (*Corypha lecomtei*) whose number is shrinking fast by the expansion of agriculture.*

Northeast



Geography

The park features rugged mountainous area with the highest peak, Khao Lamang at 992 metres above sea level. Amidst the mountain range are valleys, cliffs, and waterfall. The lush jungle of Thap Lan originates many streams such as Huai Khamin, huai Khamchae, Huai Pla Khang, Huai Suan Nam Hom. These streams are tributaries to Mun River and Bang Pakong River.

Climate

Summer is from February to May. Rainy season is from June to November, and winter is from December to January.

Flora and fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp, mixed deciduous and dry evergreen forest dominate most area of the park with *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *D.alatus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, *D.oliveri*, *Hopea odorata*, *Atzelia xylocarpa*, *Michelia* sp., *Lagerstroemia caliculata* and *Corypha lecomtei* around in the tropical evergreen forest. It is the last Lan forest (*Corypha lecomtei*) of Thailand.

Its lush forest is home to Asian Elephant, Guar, Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Tiger, Asiatic Black Bear, Mouse Deer, Palm Civet, Leopard Cat, Jungle Cat, Siamese Hare, Wild Boar and Mongoose.

Getting there

- The park is located on highway no. 304, only 197 kilometres from Bangkok. Motorist can use highway 33 and turn left into 304 to the park.



Various kind of birds such as Rufescent Prinia, White-rumped Shama, Green-billed Malkoha, Greater Coucal and Scally-breasted Munia.

Attractions

◆ **Lan forest.** The last Lan forest (*Corypha lecomtei*) in Thailand. This ancient tree flowers when it is more than 20 years old. Each contains more than 60 million flowers. The tree dies after the blossom.

◆ **Huai Yai Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall is around 50 metres high and 30 metres wide. The waterfall is 6 kilometres off highway 304. Its entrance is close to kilometre 79.

◆ **Huai Kham Phu Waterfall.** The waterfall cascading into a reservoir is a nice place to visit and relax.

◆ **Bo Thong Waterfall.** Enlivened by rain, the waterfall becomes a lively place every rainy season, from July to September. It is situated 6 kilometres off highway 304.

◆ **Suan Hom Waterfall.** The big waterfall, 50 metres high and 30 metres wide, is very beautiful in rainy season, from July to September. It is situated 6 kilometres off highway 304.

◆ **Khao Makha.** The scenic route to the mountain of Khao Makha always entertain motorist. Camping ground is available. The mountain, in Tambon Udom Sap of Amphoe Wang Nam Khiao, is 5 kilometres off highway 304.

◆ **Lam Mun Bon Dam.** The reservoir over the

Lammoon Bon Dam is a nice place to relax among scenery. It is located on highway 304 in Amphoe Khon Buri of Nakhon Ratchasima.

◆ **Lam Praeng.** The eco-tourism attraction is suit for camping, observing wildlife, and trekking into Pang Sida National Park. It is 35 kilometres from Amphoe Khon Buri.

◆ **Lam Plaimat Dam.** Reservoir of Lam Plaimat Dam has a beach where recreation activities are provided. The family can enjoy picnic, swimming, and cruising. The reservoir is 17 kilometres from Amphoe Soeng Sang.



Na Yung-Nam Som National Park

Ater the forest officer had surveyed the forest area in Na Yung sub-district, which is on the boundary of Phu Phan mountain range, found it is specific outstanding on the mountain ridge of Amphoe Na Yung that is beautiful and the waterfall is much more beautiful, proper improvement to be a relaxing place.

Total area about 344 square kilometres, abundant forest condition and beautiful natural, appropriate to be a national park.

Geography

The topography condition is slope complex mountainous above 200-500 metres from mean sea level, the mountain with the highest peak is Phu Ya-u about 588 metres.



Climate

The monsoon, very hot weather in the summer about 40 degree between March to May. Rainy season runs in June to October.

Flora and fauna

Forest condition is dry dipterocarp forest, distribute along foothills and hill range. Down the valley is mixed deciduous forest. Along the riverside is dry evergreen forest.

Getting there

■ By car from Udonthani follow to highway Udonthani-Nongkhai about 15 km then turn left to Nam Som district, 12 kms before to Nam Som turn right to Na Yung district about 15 kms, then turn right at the signboard of Na Yung-Nam Som, 2 kms to headquarters.



Attractions

- ◆ **Namtok Yung Thong.** Very beautiful in rainy season, flow from height slope cliff about 25 m.
- ◆ **Pha Daeng Scenery Viewpoint.** Follow the Namtok Yung Thong sand stone slope cliff nature trail can see a large beautiful scenery down.
- ◆ **Namtok Yung Thong Nature Trail,** is a on-foot trail for studying the nature of National Park.
- ◆ **Namtok Than Thip,** is a waterfall in the boundary of Nongkhai Province close Khong river.

Pa Hin Ngam National Park

Besides filling up Chi and Pa Sak River, the watershed forest in Amphoe Thep Sathit of Chiayaphum is famed for its dream-like flower field of Kra chiaio (*Curcuma* spp.). Pa Hin Ngam National Park covers 112 square kilometres.

Geography

The park features rugged mountains at the elevation between 200-800 metres above sea level.

Flora and fauna

The forest of Pa Hin Ngam is a mixture between deciduous dipterocarp forest and dry evergreen forest. Its major plants include *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis*, *S.roxburghii*, *Invingia malayana*, and *Dillenia obovata*.

The national park is home to Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Siamese Hare and Pangolin.



Northeast

Attractions

◆ **The field of Kra Chiaio or *Curcuma* spp.** The seasonal flower blankets the rock plain of Lan Hin Ngam and stretches for a kilometre. The flower colours the whole plain in pink and purple from June to August of each year.

◆ **Lan Hin Ngam.** The rock plain is decorated with strange formation of rocks which experienced long erosion. It can be accessed by car.

◆ **Sut Phaendin Viewpoint.** The peak of Khao Phang Hoei Range, towering at 846 metres above sea level, is created by the continental drift phenomenon that lifted up the whole northeastern plateau. The highest peak is exactly the edge of Central and Northeast region, so, it is called "Sut Phaendin".

Getting there

■ From Bangkok, motorist can head up north via highway 1. Turn right at Phu Khae Intersection into highway 21. Turn right at Ban Lam Narai to highway 205 and connect with highway 2354. Keep going for 15 kilometres and turn left, bound for Ban Rai. The park is another 14 kilometres.

Phu Laenkha National Park

The lush forest in Phu Laenkha National Park houses many amazing natural attractions. Acquiring 148 square kilometres area in Amphoe Ban Khwao, Nong Bua Daeng and Kaut Sombun, Chaiyaphum.



Geography

The park features rugged mountains and plateau at the elevation between 200-725 metres. A 669 metres high peak stands in northwest part while Phu Laenkha Mountain, the highest peak 725 metres, towers in the northeast.

Climate

Summer is from February to May. Rainy season is from March to September and winter is from October to January.

Flora and fauna

The park is blanketed by lush forest namely deciduous dipterocarp forest, dry evergreen forest, mixed deciduous forest and grass land. Its major plants include *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis* and *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*.

The wildlife found in the national park include Siamese Hare, Macaque, Wild Boar, Flying Squirrel, Palm Civet as well as different kinds of birds such as Bulbul, Prinia, Pipit, Swallow, Shrike, Wood-Swallow and Cisticola.

Attractions

◆ **Hin Ngam Chan Daeng Forest**, Hin Rong Kla View Point, Pa Hin Prasart View Point, Orchid Cliff, *Curcuma* spp. in Hin Ngam Thung Khlong Chang Forest and Sa Kao pand.

Getting there

■ Chaiyaphum is around 312 kilometres from Bangkok. Motorist can head north through highway 1 Pathum Thani, Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya and Saraburi. Then get on highway 2 to Amphoe Sikhio. Get on highway 201 to Chaiyaphum.



Phu Langka National Park

The reserved forest of Phu Langka comprises several forest types and natural attractions such as cliff, caves, and waterfalls. The park covers 50 square kilometres area in Amphoe Seka of Nong Khai and Amphoe Ban Phaeng of Nakhon Phanom.

Geography

There are many small rugged mountains lines the Mekong River. The highest peak is at 563 metres above sea level. The forest blanketing these mountain ranges feed many streams that are lifeline to nourish agricultural communities before flowing into Mekong River.

Climate

The park has climate similar to most area of the Northeast region. But at its rock summit is quite cold during the winter.

Getting there

- Phu Langka National Park lies along the highway 212, some 220 kilometres from provincial town of Nong Khai. From Bangkok, motorist can travel via Sakon Nakhon, Nakhon Phanom, Ban Phaeng.



Northeast

Flora and fauna

The national park is rich in flower, particularly *Paphiopedilum* spp. which was brought for export until it is almost extinct. Moreover, *Musa acuminata*, *Calamus* sp. and *Doritis pucherrima* can be found. The park is a significant source of herbs. According to local people, there are great deal of mammals.

Attractions

◆ **Tat Kham Waterfall.** The small waterfall is situated among nice setting, with comfortable rock terrace to relax. It is quite famous place for people from nearby. During the weekend, visitors to the waterfall may top 500.

◆ **Tat Pho Waterfall.** The waterfall can be noticed from distance, even from Nakhon Phanom-Nong Khai Road. It cascades through many tiers, each is over 10 metres high. The second tier is 30 metres high.

The park also houses many interesting attractions such as caves, picturesque cliffs on Phu Langka Tai and Phu Langka Nuea, beautiful rock plain, as well as natural rock gardens which amaze visitors by different formations.

Phu Pha Lek National Park

As the only watershed forest in upper Northeast region, the park whose boundary covers parts of Amphoe Song Dao, Waritchaphum, Nikhom Nam Un, Kut Bak of Sakon Nakhon, Amphoe Wang Sa Mo of Udon Thani and Amphoe Somdet, Kham Mueang of Kalasin. The national park was established in 1961. Its forest, which acquires 419 square kilometres, originates many rivers and streams.

Geography

Phu Pha Lek National Park is part of Phu Phan Range that stretches in east-west direction. Phu Ang So is the highest peak, towering at 695 metres above sea level.

Climate

It is quite hot during summer. Winter, the temperature will be 15-20 degrees.

Flora and fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp, mixed deciduous and dry evergreen forest occupies around the mountain's foot and ridge. Its major plants include *Shorea obtusa*, *S.siamensis* and *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*.

The wildlife found in the park include mammals and different birds such as Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Common Wild Boar, Barbet, Swallow and Roller.

Attractions

◆ **Pha Suriyan**, Pha Nam Chok, Ho Song Dao, Hin Dan Man Pla Forest, Lan Usa Sawan, Dinosaurs Grave and Pha Phak Wan Pre-historic Wall Painting.

Getting there

■ Phu Pha Lek National Park's office is located in Song Dao district, Sakon Nakhon Province. It is very near Udon Thani Province so that more convenient way to enter the area is to start from Udon Thani. Motorist can use highway 22 (Udon Thani - Sakon Nakhon), turn right at kilometre 95 and get on Ban Tai-Don Som Hong Road, turn right at kilometre 17 (Ban Phon Junction) to Ban Phon Swang-Phu Pha Lek Road. The park is another 6 kilometers. It is approximately 82 kilometers from Udon Thani.











“Fourteen National Parks have been designated in Central and Eastern Thailand. A further 6 are in preparation. Parks terrains include steep mountain. Fertile forests and abundant wildlife habitats are trademarks of parks in these areas.”

National Park in The Central and East



Chaloem Rattanakosin National Park

Although this park is a bit small, it is special by picturesque nature and remarkable geographical phenomenon that has shaped up its limestone range in different ways. Waterfalls, cliffs and enormous cave where river runs through, as well as natural bridge undermined by river, make the park a remarkable place worth a visit. Artifacts of Burmese and Japanese Army found also added historical value to this small park of 59 square kilometres area.

History

After establishing the Tham Than Lot Forest Park in 1974, the Royal Forestry Department has surveyed and amazingly found that this park had special landscape, particularly the cave undermined by river. Besides great deal of wildlife, there were historical artifacts of Burmese and Japanese Army once roaming through the forest. Therefore, the park was upgraded into the country's 17th National Park by 1980.

Ancient artifacts found in the park such as, skeletons, weapons and sacred items, had proven that the area once was roamed by Burmese and Siamese Army. King Rama I, founder of Chakri Dynasty, had led his army to fight against the Burmese troops many time in Kanchanaburi. Therefore, to honor him, the national park board has approached his Majesty the King Bhumiphol, asking

for royal permission to rename the park after the name of King Rama I. Finally, the park was renamed into Chaloem Rattanakosin National Park by his Majesty the King.

Geography

Limestone mountain range, with Khao Kamphaeng crest as the highest peak at 1,260 metres above sea level, dominates most area. The watershed forest originates Mae Klong River.

Climate

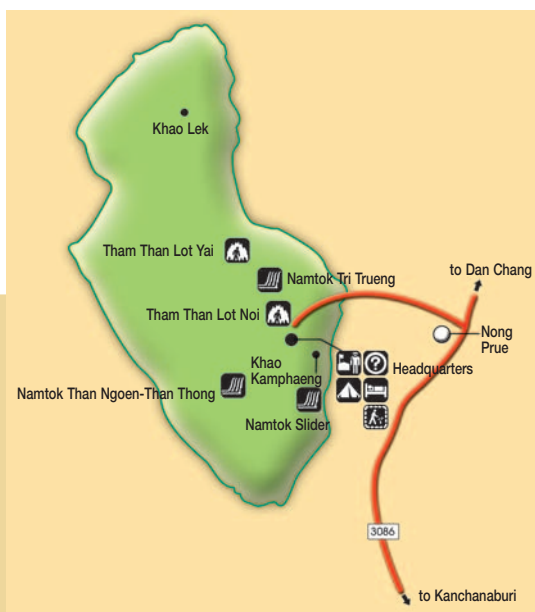
The park has hot and humid climate with annual rainfall of 1,146 millimetres. In summer, from March to April, the temperature can rise to 38 degrees Celsius and drop to 17 degrees in winter from December to January.

Flora and fauna

Tropical evergreen forest, mixed deciduous forest,

Getting there

- The park is total 196 kilometres from Bangkok. From Downtown Kanchanaburi, tourist can head for Sri Nagarindra Dam. Then, turn right at Lat Ya Market, 16 kilometres away, to Amphoe Bo Phloi. Continue traveling off 32 kilometres until reaching Nong Prue, from there the park is 18 kilometres away.



deciduous dipterocarp and bamboo forest occupy most area. Lush and rich forest houses various kinds of plant including *Hopea odorata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lithocarpus* spp. and *Styrax* sp..

Abundant food and water sources, as well as well protection, allow wildlife to roam the park. Wildlife often found in the park includes Malayan Sun Bear, Banteng, Guar, Serow, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Asian Elephant, Pig-tailed Macaque, White-handed Gibbon and great variety of bird such as Silver Pheasant, Greater Coucal, Striped Tit-Babbler, Scally-breasted Partridge, Ashy Drongo and Bulbul.

The park is also habitat of rare animal, Giant Toad, the toad-like animal which barks like dog, which live by the stream and Tham Than lot or Than Lot Cave.

Attractions

◆ **Than Lot Noi Cave.** Undermined by a stream, the cave is some 300 metres long and 10 metres high. Its entrance is around 25 metres wide. Glistening stalagmites decorate the whole cave. The stream running through the cave pull down the temperature, make it comfortable to pay visit. From the Than Lot Noi cave, there is a trail leading to Than Lot Yai Cave.

◆ **Than Lot Yai Cave.** The two kilometres trail on natural bridge from Than Lot Noi Cave leads to this bigger cave. Lots of ancient skeletons found in the



area has proven that once ancient people had liven here.

◆ **Waterfalls.** There are a number of beautiful waterfalls in the park such as Tri Trueng Waterfall that cascades through 3 steps. The waterfall is just 1.5 kilometres from the headquarters. Another very beautiful waterfall is Than Ngoen which runs through 7 steps.

◆ **Ancient weapons,** skeletons and sacred items scatter around the park's territory, proofing that once Burmese Army had made their way through this area to defeat Ayutthaya kingdom. During the World War II, the Imperial Japanese Army has used this route as well.



Erawan National Park

Home to one of the most famous waterfalls in Thailand. Erawan, this vast national park with impressive nature is always fascinating for naturalists. Erawan occupies total area of 549.88 square kilometres. Its territory, comprising mountainous, cliff and cascading waterfall, covers Amphoe Mueang, Si Sawat and Sai Yok of Kanchanaburi.

History

The government has learnt that the area was rich of picturesque nature and precious natural resources and the establishment of Thailand's 12th national park was completed in 1975.

Geography

Several peaks at the elevation between 165-996 metres above sea level dot around the park, leaving the rest to plain and numerous streams.

Climate

Rainy starts in May and lasts until October. The



winter breeze cool down the forest until January and then summer heat dries up the forest till April.

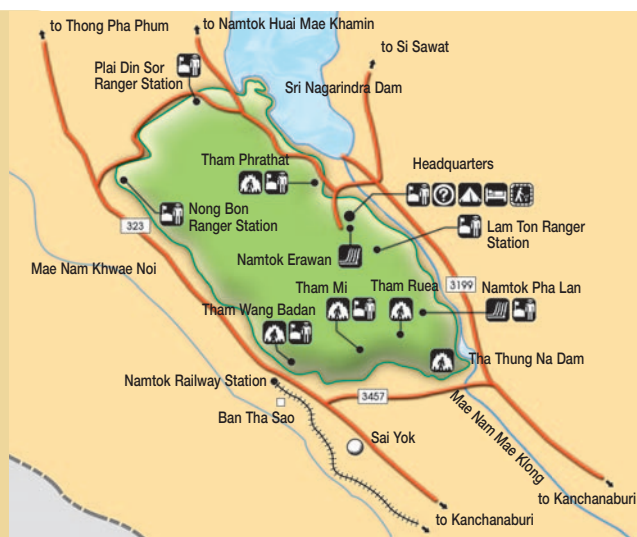
Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest dominates upto 81% of the park area, houses various kinds of tree such as *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Terminalia alata*, *Vitex canescens* and *Bambusa bambos*. The remaining area is covered by deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forest. Plants such as *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Polyalthia viridis*, *Chukrasia tabularis* and variety of bamboo are widely found.

The park is habitat to five groups of wildlife namely mammal, reptile, amphibian and bird. Many of them can be often found including Elephant, Tiger, Serow, Common Muntjak, Deer, Common Wild Boar, White-handed Gibbon, Siamese Hare and Squirrel.

Getting there

- Erawan National Park can be reached via two routes as following:
- From Kanchanaburi downtown, use highway 323 to Electricity Generation Authority of Thailand at Sri Nagarindra Dam, across the bridge to the market and keep going into the park. The headquarters is 66 kilometres from Kanchanaburi.
- From Sai Yok National Park, motorist can take short cut from Ban Wang Yai, six kilometres south of Sai Yok Noi Waterfall to Ban Pong Pat nearby Tha Thung Na Dam. This route is 19 kilometres long. Then turn left into highway 323, the park headquarters is 30 kilometres away.



Attractions

◆ **Erawan Waterfall.** This long waterfall cascades through 7 steps, stretching some 1,500 metres long. In each steps, lush forest rich in great variety of flora and bright orchid beautify the places, while the bird and stream entertain visitors with their natural songs, making them all nice place to naturalist. On the highest step of this waterfall, there is a elephant-head rock turns vibrant when water cascades over it. The waterfall is called “Erawan”, referring to the Hindu God Indra’s heavenly elephant.

◆ **Pha Lan Waterfall.** Only in the rainy season, this single step waterfall will be a refreshing place.

◆ **Phathat Cave.** Decorated naturally with stalagmite and stalactite, this beautiful cave is elevated at 790 metres above sea level.

◆ **Wang Badan Cave.** Although its entrance is a bit small, this cave surprises visitor with several chambers which are beautified with stalagmite and stalactite in different forms such as delicate curtain or huge needle. A stream runs through its lower chamber where some aquatic animals live inside.

◆ **Ta Duang Cave.** The cave is special by

painting on the wall in the shape of humans and trees at the entrance. Artifacts, such as broken bowl and jar, indicate that the cave was human’s habitat since Neolithic Age.

◆ **Mi Cave.** The word “Mi” means bear, referring to legend saying that the cave once occupied by bears. The big cave has good air ventilation. It comprises 8 chambers in which is naturally decorated in different shapes.

Visitor can use highway 3199 from Kanchanaburi, turn left at Ban Tham Phathat to Amphoe Sai Yok until reaching Ban Thap Sila at kilometre 10. Get into Soi Samakki Tham 10 until reaching Takhian Canal.

◆ **Ruea Cave.** The cave is special by wooden tank from ancient era. The boat-shape tank was hollowed from a whole log. The figure head was carved like human’s face with two ears to support the tank. It is pitiful that most tanks are broken.

Like Mi Cave, this cave can be accessed from Ban Thap Sila. From Samakki Tham 10, across Takhian Canal for some 200 metres and turn right. Car can go for other 300 metres, then trekking skill is required for another kilometre.



Kaeng Krachan National Park

The country's largest national park covers huge area of 2,914.70 square kilometres, featuring different natural landmarks such as lake, waterfall, caves and beautiful cliff. The territory of vast park stretches over Amphoe Kaeng Krachan, Nong Ya Plong, of Phetchaburi and Amphoe Hua Hin of Prachuap Khiri Khan. And its watershed forest originates Phetchaburi and Pranburi River which are lifelines of both provinces.

History

When His Majesty the King spent his day at "Klai Kang Won"-Summer Palace of Prachuap Khiri Khan in October 29, 1979 and made a remark to director general of the Forestry Department at that time, requested for devotion to protect and preserve watershed forest of Phetchaburi although logging concession has been issued on some area. He had pinpointed that if deforestation occurs in the forest of Phetchaburi faces, drought would sure arrive.

The survey found that the watershed forest of Phetchaburi and Pranburi River was pretty rich in natural beauty and wildlife. So, the country's 28th

national park was completely established in 1981.

Geography

Among the average height of 500 metres above sea level of granite and limestone range, with Khao Nag-ngan Nik Yauk Tong is the highest peak towers at 1,513 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Tropical rain forest blankets most area, resulting heavy rain and high humidity.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest, mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp forest is perfect home to various plants such as *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *L. tomentosa*, *Spondias pinnata*, *Shorea obtusa* and *Alexia xylocarpa*. The untouched wilderness of Kaeng Krachan National Park is rich in diversity of birds and large mammals such as Asian Elephant, Guar, Tiger, Gibbon, Bear, Hornbill, Pheasant, Partridge, Broadbill, Hawk, Eagle as well as reptiles, amphibians and endangered Siamese Crocodile.



Getting there

- Phetchaburi is 115 kilometres from Bangkok by road. From Phetchaburi, tourist can get to the park via highway 4. Turn right is Khuean Phet Intersection and keep going for 38 kilometres, via Ban Chong and Kaeng Krachan Dam. The park's headquarters is 3 kilometres from the Dam.
- Regular buses leave Phetchaburi Bus Terminal for Ban Kaeng Krachan. The park is only 4 kilometres away, from there, motorcycle taxi or chartered bus are available.



Attractions

- ◆ **Khao Phanoen Thung.** The peak rises to 1,207 metres above sea level. From its crest, panoramic view of morning fog that blankets the forest upto horizon always.
- ◆ **Tho Thip Waterfall.** Enveloped among lush jungle and watershed of Phetchaburi River, it cascades through 18 steps.
- ◆ **Caves.** Caves in Sam Roi Yot Range and Viman Caves is known for natural beauty. Archeological artifacts about ancient man were found in the cave.
- ◆ **Pha Nam Yot.** High cliff sprays water into Phetchaburi all the time. In rainy season, the cliff will turn green by moss.
- ◆ **Hua Pa Ngao Waterfall.** It comprises four groups of waterfall.
- ◆ **Than Thip Waterfall,** the 7 steps waterfall. Hin



Lat Waterfall, the 5 steps waterfall, Pranburi Waterfall, the 3 steps waterfall.

◆ **Mae Saliang Waterfall.** The 3 steps waterfall, it is a nice place for naturalist who loves camping.

◆ **Kradung La Waterfall,** 3 steps waterfall.

◆ **Tham Khang Khao.** Naturally decorated with chambers and chimney, it is a nice place to visit.

◆ **Wiman Cave.** The cave is beautified by stalagmite. Good ventilation allows tourist to comfortably visit its chambers, in which broken ceramics of the ancient era were found as well as stone axe in the area nearby. Huai Pla Kang Waterfall, which cascades through 3 steps.

◆ **Cruise trip** on Phetchaburi and Bang Kloi River. Lush vegetable along the both sides of the rivers offers scenic view.

◆ **Sight seeing** along Wang Won-Tho Thip Waterfall. Various wildlifes are seen along the way.

◆ **Hanuman Terrace** or Khao Pakarang. The scenic hill is covered by coral like rock.

◆ **Pa La-U Waterfall,** the waterfall cascades through 16 steps all the year round. Some facilities are available, making it a good place for picnic.

◆ **Huai Pa Lao Waterfall,** the 7 steps waterfall.

◆ **Chonlanat Waterfall.** The stream falls from 200 metres high cliff, it the highest waterfall in the national park.

Khao Chamao-Khao Wong National Park

The tropical rain forest blankets over 83.68 square kilometres area which is rich of wilderness and natural beauty. Serving as an attraction for naturalists, the territory of Khao Chamao-Khao Wong National Park covers some part of Amphoe Klaeng of Rayong and Amphoe Kaeng Hang Maeo of Chanthaburi.

History

In 1974, when the cabinet was considering to establish Khao Chamao-Khao Wong National Park, the idea was cheerfully by world renowned biologist and conservationist Dr.Boonsong Lekagul, who was secretariat of the Association of the Conservation of Wildlife, Natural Resource Conservation Club of

Srinakharinwirot University, Prathumwan Campus and a column published in Siamrat Daily Newspaper.

After the survey, the country's 13th national park was finally established in 1975.

Geography

Towering at 1,024 metres above sea level, the highest peak in the national park, Khao Chamao is surrounded among mountain range of Khao Chamao.

This watershed forest originates Prasae River, lifeline of Rayong. Another forest, Khao Wong, has special landscape of circling ranges with some cliffs invade into Chanthaburi territory.

Climate

Heavy rains with annual rainfall of 3,000 millimetres always soak the whole national park since May until October. Winter breeze blowing the park from November to February makes the winter here quite comfortable, before summer breeze warms it up to 26-27 degrees Celsius in March and April.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest in Khao Chamao-Khao Wong National Park is a perfect home to many major plants including *Irvingia malayana*, *Chukasia tabularis*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Peltophorum dasyrachis*, *Markhania stipulata* and *Syzygium* spp. as well as wild orchids. The plants growing in dense shrub layer include *Calamus* spp., *Bambusa bambos* and different kinds of fern.

Forest habitats within the Khao Chamao-Khao Wong National Park are used by many wildlife species including Asian Elephant, Guar, Southern Serow, Bear, Common Wild Boar, Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer and Pileated Gibbon.

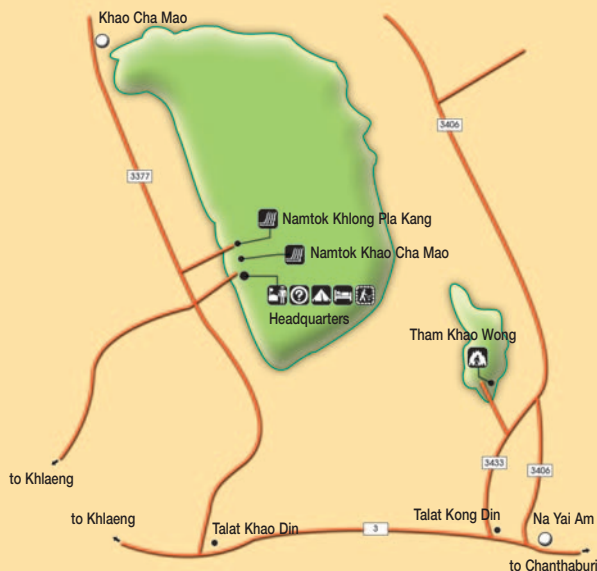
Bird Species such as Hill Myna, Red Junglefowl, Silver Pheasant, Common Iora, Black Drongo, Rufescent Prinia, Greater Coucal and Lineated Barbet.





Getting there

- From Bangkok, motorist can go via highway 3. After passing Ban Khao Din Market, turn left to highway no. 3377 (Ban Khao Din-Phatthana Intersection). The park's entrance is at kilometre 17 and the headquarters is a kilometre from main road.



Attractions

◆ **Khao Chamao-Khao Wong Waterfall.** This waterfall is quite close to the park's headquarters and a kilometre from main road. The crystal-clear stream cascades for 3 kilometres through many steps and pools.

There are many beautiful corners nice for picnic such as Wang Matcha, Morakot Pool, Pha Kluaimai, Namtok Hok Sai and Pha Sung. At Wang Matcha, tourist can enjoy the clear stream and big school of Soro Brook Carp living densely there.

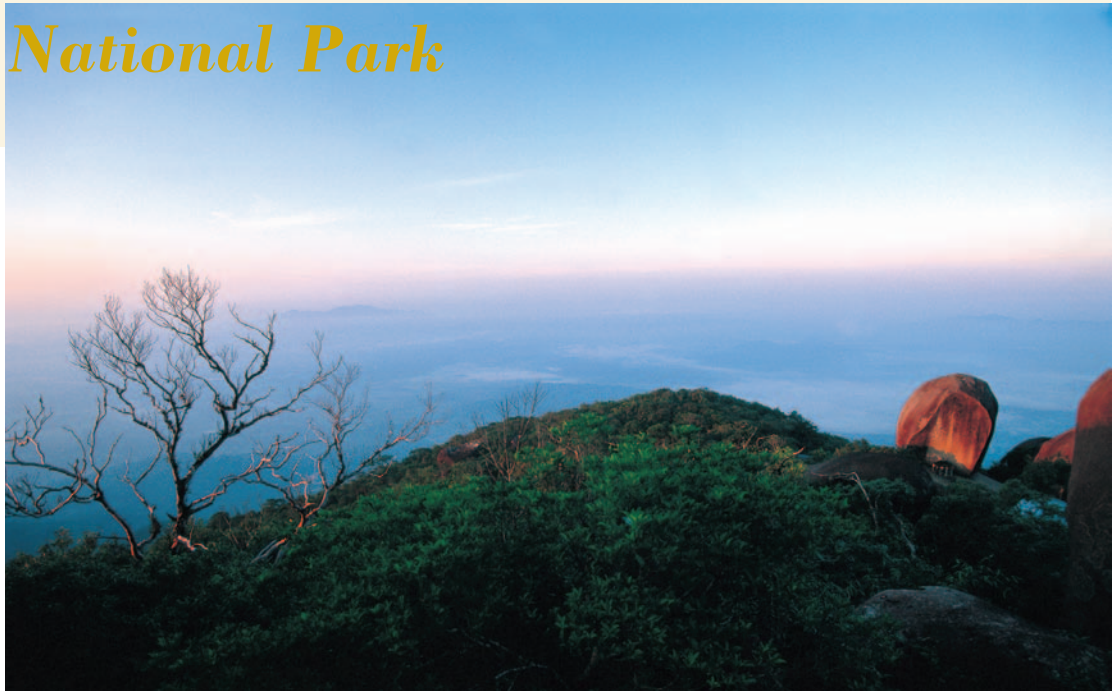
◆ **Pha Sawan.** The towering cliff is just ahead of Khao Chamao-Khao Wong Waterfall. Its 900 metres trail is beautified by various kinds of flora and fauna.

◆ **Khlong Pla Kang Waterfall.** This most beautiful waterfall. Around the area is rich of wilderness, dense carpet of fern and wild orchids.

◆ **Tham Khao Wong.** The small cave can be divided into 80 chambers, each of which has different styles such as the chamber of priest, theatre, diamonds and pagoda. Nowadays, 16 chambers are opened for the public. The mountain is habitat for big herd of Southern Serow

◆ **Khao Wong** is only 18 kilometres away from Na Yai Am Market, Amphoe Tha Mai of Chanthaburi.

Khao Khitchakut National Park



Three crests lines harmoniously at the elevation of 700 metres as well as remarkable Buddha's footprint of the mountain's peak make Khao Khitchakut in Chanthaburi a fascinating place worthy a visit. Covering total area of 58.31 square kilometres, Khao Khitchakut National Park's territory blankets the whole forest of Khao Khitchakut or Khao Phra Bat in Amphoe Makham and King Khao Khitchakut of Chanthaburi.

History

In 1957, the Association of the Conservation of Wildlife had approached the Minister of Agriculture and Cooperatives, requesting the ministry to spare the lush forest of Khitchakut in Chanthaburi for wildlife's habitat. Eight years later, the forest was declared for forest reserve.

The forest was combined with other 14 forests nearby after the survey team has learnt that this mountainous area was rich in wildlife natural beauty. Finally, Thailand's 14th national park was established in 1977.

Geography

Mountain range dominates most area of this watershed forest which supplies water for Mae Nam Chanthaburi, leaving small room for plain at its western corner. Khao Phra Bat, the highest peak at 1,085 metres elevation, is characterized by three big round rocks lying on the crest.

Climate

Rainy season starts from May and nourishes the park until October. With average temperature of 26 degrees Celsius, it is quite comfortable to visit the park during such time.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest, hill evergreen forest and deciduous forest characterize this park. Precious species of plant and herb found in the park include *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Aguilaria crassna*, *Pavetta pilosa*, *Amomum* sp. and *Scaphium scaphigerum*.

The shrub layer is the kingdom of fern, various kinds of Banana, Rattan and *Salacca wallichiana*.

Therefore, great deal of wildlife happily roams the park. Asian Elephant, Guar, Asiatic Black Bear, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Southern Serow, Civet, Palm Civet, Red Junglefowl, Hooded Pitta, Blue-winged Pitta and Common Koel can be found.

Meanwhile, in the streams, there are lots of Yellow Mystus, Common Climbing Perch, Armed Spiny Eel and Black Spot Long Törn.

Attractions

◆ **Krathing Waterfall.** Originated from Khitchakut range, this waterfall cascades through 13 steps. Each steps are decorated naturally with pools. Lush moss and fern carpets around, making nice corners of greenery.

◆ **Phra Bat Peak.** Geographical phenomenon characterized the peak in line with religious legends in Buddhism. On the peak, there are rock pagoda, Buddha's footprint, up-side-down monk's rice bowl, hermit's cave, God Indra's racing track and rock elephant and rock tortoise at gigantic size.

Each year, from the first day of waxing moon of the third lunar month or in February, till new moon



Getting there

■ From Bangkok, motorist can go via Bang Na-Trat Highway. Turn left at kilometre 248, at Khao Rai Ya Intersection, into Bamrat Naradun Road and keep going for 24 kilometres. The park's entrance is close to Kasetsart University, Chanthaburi Campus. The headquarters is located 1.5 kilometres from the main road.



of the fourth lunar month, the peak turns vibrant by religious festival. Pilgrims always roam the peak all night and day to worship the Buddha's footprint and celebrate.

◆ **The peak is a nice viewpoint,** allowing visitor to see landmarks far away such as Sa Bap Mountain Range, Sukim Mountain, Nom Sao Island and downtown Chanthaburi.

◆ **Phra Bat Peak** is 16.5 kilometres east of headquarters. Tourist can bound for Wat Phluang and walk up hill for other 6.5 kilometres.

◆ **Khlong Chang Se Waterfall.** The waterfall cascades from very a high cliff and never dries up throughout the year. There is camping ground and nature trail in the area of tourist can enjoy. For safety reason, accompanying by park's official is required. The waterfall is in the valley on the way to Phra Bat Peak, two kilometres from Khao Phra Bat Unit.

◆ **Khlong Krasue Waterfall.** With nice and shady surrounding, the waterfall is a cute place for picnic and swimming. Khlong Krasue is close to Khlong Phaihun Unit, 8 kilometres distance from headquarters.

Khao Laem National Park

With total area of 1,497 square kilometres, territory of the park covers lush forest that envelops reservoir of Khao Laem Dam which is part of Amphoe Sangkhla Buri and Thong Pha Phum of Kanchanaburi. Rich in wildlife and natural attractions to enjoy and study, Khao Laem National Park is one of five national parks established to celebrate the 60th anniversary of His Majesty the King on December 5, 1987.

History

The Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives has initiated the project to set up an additional national park in each region, total 5 national wide, to celebrate the 60th anniversary of His Majesty the King. The Royal Forest Department has proposed the forest area around Khao Laem Dam. The survey team has learnt that different forests in the area as well as the reservoir over Khao Laem Dam are quite beautiful. As a result, Thailand's 67th national park was established completely in 1991.

Geography

Tanao Si Range lies in north-south direction at the average elevation of 950 metres above sea level. Most of them are limestone and laterite mountains with elevation ranging between 100 to 1,700 metres.

The park is watershed that fill up Khwae Noi River, major water source of Khao Laem Reservoir, as well as other streams namely Kroeng Krawia, Nam Mut, Huai Pompei Nai, Huai Ong Phra, Runti River and Pi Khi Yai River. The remaining area is Khao Laem Reservoir.

Climate

Southeast monsoon and wind from Andaman Sea influences the park in three seasons. Rainy season begins in June and last until October. Heavy rain soaks the park in July and August. Winter starts in November and its breeze blows the park until January. During such time, temperature can drop to 10 degrees Celsius. Summer starts since February and last until May.



Getting there

- From Kanchanaburi, motorist can travel via Kanchanaburi-Thong Pha Phum-Sangkhla Buri highway. The park is 190 kilometres from Kanchanaburi, possible for a day trip from Bangkok.



Flora and fauna

Forest in Khao Laem National Park comprises mixed deciduous forest and tropical evergreen forest. The important plants include *Lagerstroemia loudonii*, *Stereospermum firabriatum*, *Terminalia bellirica*, *Parkia sumutrana*, *Nephilium hypoleucum*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Shorea siamensis* and different kinds of bamboo.

There is great variety of wildlife living in the park namely Common Muntjak, White-handed Gibbon, Common Wild Boar, Siamese Hare, Oriental small clawed Otter, Common palm Civet and various birds such as White-rumped Shama, Oriental Magpie Robin, Streaked-eared Bulbul, Sooty-headed Bulbul and Yellow-vented Bulbul.

Attractions

◆ **Khao Laem Reservoir.** The big lake is a result of Khao Laem Dam built by the Electricity Generation Authority of Thailand. Islands and towering cliff in the

lake offers great view, making it a nice cruise trip.

◆ **Kroeng Krawia Cave.** Decorated beautifully with formations of stalagmite and stalactite, the 300-400 metres deep cave has a subterranean river. The cave is situated north of Kroeng Krawia Village.

◆ **Kroeng Krawia Waterfall.** The small waterfall is just 5 metres high, but it is beautified by many steps. Shady surrounding makes it a nice place to visit. The waterfall never dries up.

◆ **Dai Chong Thong Waterfall.** The small beautiful waterfall is 15 metres high. It is situated 47 kilometres from Amphoe Thong Pha Phum. Its entrance is just 1.5 kilometres from Kroeng Krawia Waterfall. Tourist requires to walk for 500 metres.

◆ **Bo Ong Pagoda.** Mon or Burmese style pagoda is located on small hill at the mid of big pond where various kinds of colourful lotus. Pilgrimage takes place on the full moon of the fourth lunar month.

◆ **Trateng Cheng Waterfall.** The waterfall flows from a 30 metres high limestone pillar and cascade through steps into the pond below. The waterfall is 4 kilometres from the park's headquarters. Due to its confusing trail, tourist should ask for staff to accompany. The trail leading to the waterfall cuts through dense jungle where various birds are spotted.

◆ **Kroeng Krawia Swamp.** The big pond is paradise for bird lover. It is a stronghold for many kinds of birds such as Lesser Tree-duck White-breasted Waterhen Common Moorhen and etc. Its surrounding grassland is home to Coucal Bee-eater. The jungle around is habitat of Woodpecker, Barbet, Great Hornbill. The swamp's entrance is a bit prior to the waterfall's.



Khao Laem Ya-Mu Ko Samet National Park

The park acquires total area of 131 square kilometres of land and sea, covering Khao Laem Ya Hill and Mae Ramphueng Beach, famous Ko Samet, Ko Kudi, Ko Thai Khang Khao, Ko Kruai and other 6 islands in Amphoe Mueang and Klaeng in Rayong. The parks was established in 1981.

Geography

Its marine boundary covers 123 square kilometres, or 94 percent of its total area, leaving the remaining to seaside hill, sandy beach lying in north-south direction.

Climate

During the monsoonal period, from May to September, the sea turns fierce by strong wind and

cruising is dangerous. From December to March, heavy rain. It is hot during March to June and rather cold from November to January.

Flora and fauna

The Dry evergreen forest once blanketed Khao Laem Ya, Khao Plet and Khao Thian, but now treated by deforestation and invasion. Most islands feature high mountain and coastal land, rock cliff and sandy beaches. Limestone forest covers Ko Kudi, Ko Kruai and Ko Plai Tin.

Beach forest can be found by the beach and sandy soil area. Influenced by sea breeze, some areas do not suit for big tree but nice for grassland. Plants found *Thespesia populnea*, *Xylocarpus rumphii*, *Terminalia cattappa*, *Casuarina equisetifolia*, *Pandanus odoratissimus* and *Ipomoea pes-capra*.

Getting there

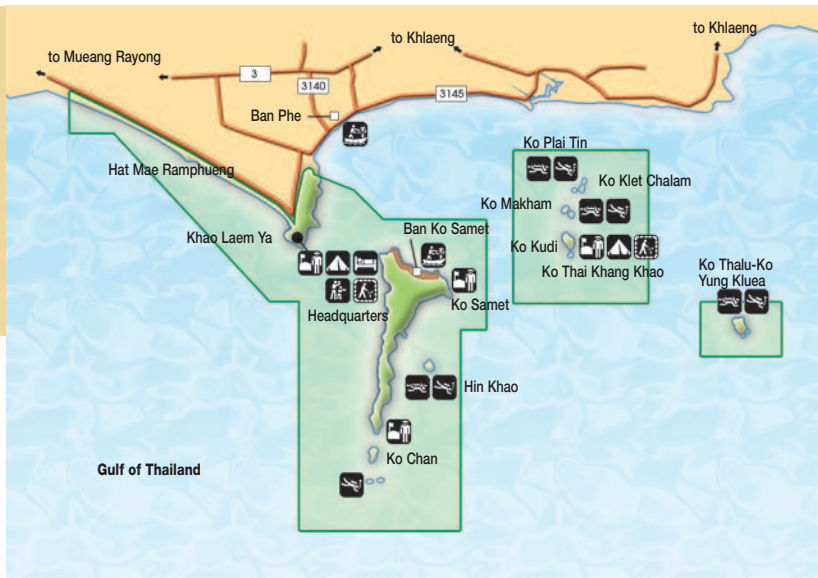
- Mu Ko Samet is situated 6.5 kilometres off Ban Phe shore. Shuttle boat is available at Ban Phe Pier and it takes 45 minutes to the island. To Khao Laem Ya, it takes only 7 minutes by motorcycle taxi.

The wildlife survey in 1993 had found that the park was home to 70 animal species such as Fishing Cat, Civet, Palm Civet, Crab-eating Macaque, Mongoose, Giant Squirrel, as well as various kinds of bird.

Ko Samet, Ko Kudi and Ko Thalu are ringed by coral reefs. The coral colonies in great condition are found at Khanna Rock, Ao Phai Rock, Ao Chek, Ao Kio Ko Plai Tin, Ko Kudi and Ko Thalu. Khanna Rock is colony of Coral and Clown Anemone Fish.

Attractions

- ◆ **Mae Ramphueng Beach.** This white sandy beach is the longest in the eastern part of Rayong.
- ◆ **Khao Plet** and **Khao Laem Ya.** Laem Pradap or Laem Ya on the south is a small hill blanketed with vast grassland. The hill offers nice view point.
- ◆ **Ko Samet.** Situated 6 kilometres off shore from Ban Phe Pier. The island features high cliff on the west, leaves its north and east to very beautiful beaches. Famed for its extreme white, powder-like sandy beach, the island is called "Ko Kao Phitsadarn".
- ◆ **Ao Klang.** The one-kilometre-long bay with



white sandy beach, is situated at north of the island.

- ◆ **Sai Kao Beach,** some 300 metres from the village, is the most beautiful beach on the island.
- ◆ **Ao Phai** is a beautiful small bay connected to the Sai Kao Beach.
- ◆ **Ao Khok** or **Ao Wong Duan** is famed for its crescent beach that stretches 500 metres long.
- ◆ **Ao Wai, Ao Kio, Ao Pakarang, Ao Tian.** These small bays lie next to each other is beautified by prestige beaches and coral reef.
- ◆ **Laem Yai Chong Ko Chan.** The headland at the most southern tip of the island.
- ◆ **Ao Phrao.** This quiet and clean beach is a nice place to hideaway among coconut plantation.
- ◆ **Ko Kudi.** The small island, is a tranquil place where tourist can enjoy sandy beach, snorkeling and camping. Its southern cliff is nice view point where tourist can witness panoramic seaview.
- ◆ **Ko Kruai, Ko Makham and Ko Plai Tin.** Ko Makham and Ko Plai Tin have nice beaches for camping. Tourist can enjoy snorkeling here.

◆ **Ko Chan.** The most southern island of the park is a nice dive site.

◆ **Ko Thalu.** Remaining in wilderness, the island is favoured nestling place for Gull, Sea Turtle and habitat of Island Flying Fox. Two beaches on the east and the south allow tourist enjoy camping. A big coral reef off the eastern beach makes it a nice dive site in the region.



Khuean Srinagarindra National Park

Situated close to Erawan and Sai Yok National Park, Khuean Srinagarindra National Park features beautiful natural landmarks such as waterfall, hot spring and scenic reservoir over Srinagarindra Dam. The park acquires total area of 1,532 square kilometres, covering part of Amphoe Sai Yok, Si Sawat and Thong Pha Phum of Kanchanaburi.

History

The watershed forest that feeds reservoir of Srinagarindra Dam remained untouched. The mountain range was stronghold for wildlife and featured many

natural landmarks such as Huai Mae Khamin Waterfall, hot spring, caves and reservoir. Therefore, the cabinet decided on January 9, 1979, to reserve the area for national park. And the country's 38th national park was completely established in 1981.

Geography

Tropical rain forest and mixed deciduous forest blanket limestone mountain range. Among the average height 400 metres above mean sea level, the highest peak towers at 1,200 metres. This watershed forest feeds Khwae Yai River and fills up reservoir of Srinagarindra Dam.

Climate

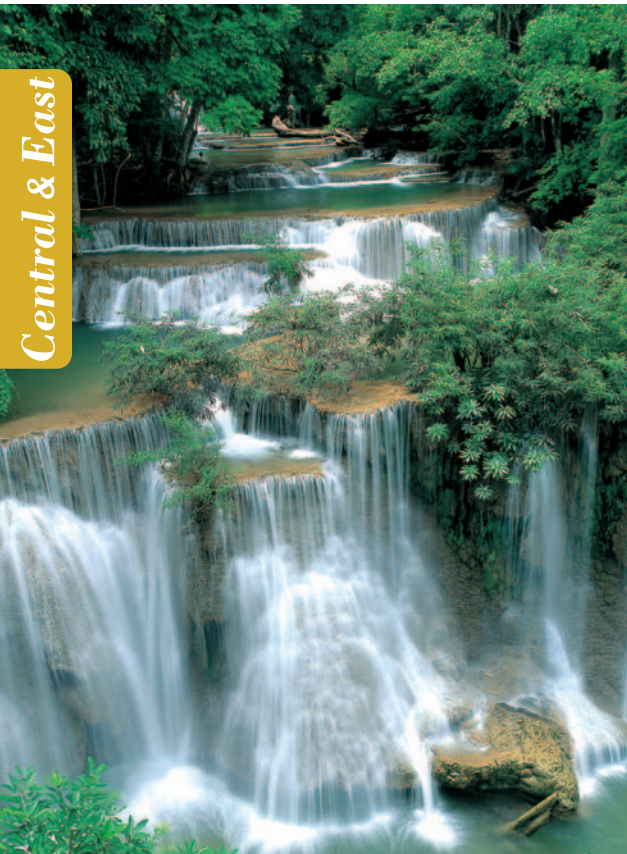
The park is characterized by high humidity and remarkable high annual rainfall. Average temperature at 28.8 degrees Celsius makes it a comfortable place to visit. However, the temperature may drop to 8 degrees in winter.

Flora and fauna

Rich Dry evergreen forest and mixed deciduous forest is perfect home to various plants such as *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Azela xylocarpa*, *Schleichera oleosa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata* and *Tetranules nudiflora*. Wild produces such as honey and minerals are also available.

The park is habitat of various wildlife such as Asian Elephant, Guar, Tiger, Sambar Deer, White-handed Gibbon and Phayer's Langur. Different birds such as Red Junglefowl, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Thick-billed Pigeon, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker, Olive-backed Sunbird and Scally-breasted Munia.

Freshwater Fish such as Yellow Mystus, Transverse-bar Barb, Spotted Featherback, Giant Snake-headed Fish and Greater Brook Carp.





Attractions

◆ **Scenic reservoir.** The scenery around the reservoir always impresses people who come to enjoy the nature. Its picturesque view makes the cruise trip, over 100 kilometres around the lake, a superb trip for naturalist.

◆ **Huai Khamin Waterfall.** Cascading through many steps, it is one of the most beautiful waterfall in Kingdom of Thailand.

◆ **Neramit Cave.** The limestone cave has beautiful dome decorated with formations of stalagmite.

◆ **Phra Cave.** The cave houses an ancient Buddha image. Once, this cave was served as refuge for Siamese Army defeated by the Burmese that attacked Ayutthaya in the 13th Century.

◆ **Nam Chon.** The scenic reservoir.

◆ **Hot Spring,** there are 2 hot springs on the road-side.

◆ **Pha Tat Waterfall.** It is one of the most beautiful waterfall in Amphoe Thong Pha Phum. The lush forest houses various kinds of plants.



Getting there

■ Khuean Srinagarindra National Park is 105 kilometres from downtown Kanchanaburi. Motorist can travel via highway 3199 bound for Srinagarindra Dam. From there, it takes two hours to access the park headquarter via soil road. Huai Khamin Waterfall is on the way. Chartered boat is available at Srinagarindra Dam Market or Tha Kradan Market of Amphoe Si Sawat. The boat trip takes one hour.

Mu Ko Chang National Park

The national park is a big archipelago of over 40 islands in Trat province. Established in 1981, the country's 45th national park acquires total area of 650 square kilometres, of which 458 square kilometres is marine. Its main islands include Ko Chang Noi, Ko Chang, Ko Khlum, Ko Wai, Ko Laoya, Ko Mai Chi and Mu Ko Rang.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest, beach and mangrove forest blankets the whole island and the main plants include *Dipterocarpus alatus*. A survey conducted in 1992 has found that in the parks, there were 29 mammals species, 74 bird species and 42 reptiles species which also include *Rana kohchangae*, the endemic animal of Ko Chang and nearby area.



Geography

The park boundary covers only part of Ko Chang, which itself is the country's third largest island. The huge island is actually high mountain range with the highest peak at 743 metres above sea level.

Attractions

◆ **Than Mayom Waterfall.** It had been visited by many members of the royal family such as King Rama V in 1876, King Rama VI in 1922, King Rama VII in 1927 and Her Majesty the Queen of King Rama VII in 1973.



Getting there

Boat to Ko Chang and around is available to Laem Ngop, 16 kilometres from the provincial town of Trat. The boat trip takes 45 minutes upto 5 hours depending on the destination. Although monsoon blowing the park from May to October may add difficulty for getting around, shuttle boat to Ko Chang remains operational.

Ko Mak is ringed by colourful coral reef. The area is part of bird's nest concession.

◆ **In the park's boundary**, there are many interesting islands such as Ko Yuak, Ko Man Nai and Man Nok, as well as Ko Phrao.

Mu Ko Chang National Park does not provide tourist facilities. However, there are numerous resorts and tour operators operating outside the park's boundary.

◆ **Khlong Phlu Waterfall.** The big waterfall is only 3 kilometres from Ao Khlong Phrao community.

◆ **Khlong Phrao Beach** and Chaiyachet Cape. The very long beach, where tourist can enjoy, connects to Kai Bae Beach. At its northern end, Chaiyachet Cape offers nice view.

◆ **Kai Bae Beach.** The beautiful and tranquil beach connects to Khlong Phrao Beach. It is a favoured place for sea lover who prefer lonely beach.

◆ **On Ko Chang**, there are numerous of attractions such as Khlong Nonsi Waterfall and Sai Daeng Beach at the northeast of the island, Khlong Son Beach at the northern tip, Sai Khao Beach at the northwest, Khiri Phet Waterfall, Bangbao Beach and Sai Yao Beach at the south.

◆ **Ko Laoya.** Its big bay at the south is carpeted by coral reef.

◆ **Ko Wai.** The big island with rock beach houses beautiful coral reef. It is south of Ko Laoya.

◆ **Mu Ko Rang.** The small archipelago west of



Namtok Phlio National Park

The Mountainous landscape and watershed of this national park acquires total area of 134.50 square kilometres, blanketing some area in Amphoe Mueang, Laem Sing, Khlung and Makham of Chanthaburi. Its watershed tropical originates many streams, including Phlio Waterfall which is landmark of Chanthaburi province.

History

In 1959, the cabinet had resolution to combine 14 forests in Chanthaburi together. The national park was well established in 1975 as Khao Sa Bap National Park. As the beautiful nature at Phlio Waterfall became major tourist attraction and considered as landmark of the forest, the park was renamed into Namtok Phlio National Park in 1982.

Geography

Mountainous landscape at altitude range between 20-924 metres above sea level, occupies most area of the park, with the highest peak, Khao Map Wa Krok, at 924 metres elevation, leaving the rest to some plains on mountain shoulder and slopes in the south. Its watershed tropical rain forest supplies water to various canals such as Sa Bap, Narai, Trok Nong and Makok Canal.

Climate

Summer heat always dries up the forest from February to April, then monsoon rain soaks it all from May until October with average annual rainfall upto 3,000 millimetres per year. Between November and February is the most comfortable period in the park with average temperature of 26 degrees Celsius.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest carpeting the whole park is home of plenty important plants such as *Aguilaria*



crassna, Gareinia speciosa, G.cowa, Dipterocarpus turbinatus, Shorea henryanum, Hopea ferrea and Pterocymbium tinctorium.

Rich forest with food and water sources scattering around is a stronghold for abundant wildlife including Southern Serow, Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Pig-tailed Macaque, White-handed Gibbon, Squirrel, Mouse Deer, Sunda Pangolin and Common Palm Civet.

Rare birds found in the area include Silver Pheasant spp. *Iewisi* as well as 90 species of local birds such as Little Heron, Brahminy Kite, Shikra, Crested Serpent-Eagle, Besra, Thick-billed Pigeon, Green Imperial Pigeon, Red Turtle-Dove, Emerald



Dove, Red-breasted Parakeet, Red-headed Trogon, Pied Hornbill, Lineated Barbet, Brown Shrike, Woodpecker, Ashy Drongo, Hill Myna and White-rumped Shama.

Freshwater Fish such as Soro Brook Carp, Jullien's Mud Carp, Armed Spiny Eel and Striped Snake-headed Fish can be also found.

Attractions

◆ **Phlio Waterfall.** The word "Phlio" means sand or sandy beach, comes from dialect of "Chong" people, local ethnic group here. Some say that Phlio Waterfall is named after a climbing plant that grows well on sandy soil. Phlio plant flowers in bouquet and gives orange tiny fruit at the size of raisin. It is widely found easily in the area.

This big waterfall never dries up. Its crystal clear water allows sunshine to get through and illuminate the sandy floor at over 2 metres depth. Schools of fish, particularly Soro Brook Carp, in the waterfall and canal nearby make the place even more fascinating.

Phlio Waterfall is main attraction of the park as well as most well known picnic venue for the local and tourists.

◆ **Phra Nang Ruea Lom Stupa and Alongkon Pagoda.** Located nearby the Phlio Waterfall, the stupa and pagoda were built during the reign of King Rama V (Alongkon Pagoda:1876, Stupa: 1881) to

Getting there

■ From Bangkok, motorist can use Bangkok-Trat highway and turn left at kilometre 347 to the park's headquarters, 2 kilometres off the main road. The national park is 14 kilometres from downtown Chanthaburi and 55 kilometres from Trad.

commemorate his queen HRH Princess Sunandha Kumariratana, who was impressed by natural beauty of the waterfall during her visit in 1874. The pyramid-shape stupa houses her ashes.

◆ **Khlong Narai Waterfall.** The waterfall is in Tambon Khlong Narai, 6 kilometres from downtown Chanthaburi, two kilometers off the Chanthaburi-Trat Road. It is a nice place for naturalists who loves trekking and exploring the flora kingdom.

◆ **Trok Nong Waterfall.** This waterfall is well known for its beautiful surround. Lush and shady trail leading to the waterfall cuts through beautiful forest and habitat of wildlife such as Bear, Common Wild Boar, Civet, Hog Badger, Mongoose and Common Muntjak whose footprints always scatter around. Great variety of bird could be spotted.

Nearby is a mountain called Phra Chedi or Pagoda Mountain on whose shoulder houses a big pagoda-shape rock.

◆ **The waterfall** is in Tambon Troknong. Motorist can head to Phlio Waterfall, turn left at Amphoe Klung intersection and keep on Khlung-Makham Road for 10 kilometres, then turn left at Trok Nong market, heading to Troknong Waterfall for 2 kilometres. The first step is Mai Si Waterfall, the middle section is Klang waterfall and Torknong is on the top.



Namtok Sam Lan National Park



Rich forest of Khao Sam Lan, beautiful waterfall and easy access from Bangkok by car make this park famous among tourists for seeks for one day trip. This park occupies total area of 44.57 square kilometres, acquiring area in Amphoe Kaeng Khoi, Nong Khae, Wihan Daeng and Mueang of Saraburi.

History

During the World War II, the rich forest of Khao Sam Lan was occupied by the Imperial Japanese Army which used the area as strategic location. The forest deteriorated as it was paved for air raid shelter, roads and kitchens. After being declared as Namtok Sam Lan Forest Park, with 24 square kilometres area, as part of Phra Phutthachai Forest Reserve, reforestation in 1960 helped it gradually recovered.

In 1981, it was upgraded into national park called “Khao Sam Lan National Park” and renamed into “Phra Phutthachai National Park” to mirrors archeological and historic aspect of the park in 2000. Now, the name change to “Namtok Sam Lan” in 2006.

Geography

Rolling hills and valley characterizes the park whose watershed feeds many waterfalls and streams that nourish plantations around. Khao Khrok, the highest peak at 329 metres above sea level, offers panoramic view of Amphoe Mueang Saraburi and nearby communities. Lying on shale layer, clay and sandy soil carpets most area.

Climate

Easy climate allows tourist to visit the park all year round. Hot and humid climate heats up the park



Getting there

- Motorist can head north for Saraburi province via highway 1, turn right at kilometre 104, 3 kilometres before reaching Saraburi Province. Namtok Sam Lan National Park's office is 9 kilometres off main road.
- Schedule buses leave at Northern Bus Terminal regularly for Saraburi. At Saraburi station, plenty of chartered bus is available.

from February to April. Monsoon carries heavy rain to soak it up from May to September. Winter, from October to January, is the ideal period to visit the park.

Flora and fauna

Mix deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forest houses over 800 kinds of plant such as *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Shorea obtusa*, *Shorea siamensis*, *Hopea odorata*, *Azalia xylocarpa*, *Tectona grandis* and *Lagerstroemia calyculata*. The plants at shrub level include different kinds of Bamboo, Rattan and Wild Orchid.

Small wildlife found in the park include Common Muntjak, Mouse Deer, Pig-tailed Macaque, Common Wild Boar, Squirrel and Treeshrew.

Variety of birds and insects such as Streak-eared Bulbul, Green-billed Malkoha, Oriental magpie-Robin, Greater Coucal, Red Junglefowl, Brown Shrike, Long-tailed Shrike, White-rumped Shama, Javan Pond-Heron and Puff-throated Babbler

Insect species such as Butterfly, Dragonfly, Moth and Beetle.

Attractions

- ◆ **Sam Lan Waterfall.** The waterfall cascades

over 3 steps of rock terrace, each step is 5 metres. Picnic tables and benches around the area allow tourist to enjoy the day.

- ◆ **Pho Hin Dat Waterfall** and **Ton Rak Sai Waterfall** are also nice place for picnic.



Pang Sida National Park



The national park features prosperous natural resources, lush forest and attractions such as Pang Sida and Pha Takhian Waterfall and strange formation of river rocks. The park acquires total 844 square kilometres area in Amphoe Mueang, Wathana Nakhon of Sa Kaeo and Amphoe Na Di of Prachinburi.

History

Pang Sida Waterfall was part of Royal project of His Majesty the King. The project aimed to establish a watershed forest that could both conserve the nature and allow people to enjoy. So, the Royal Forest Department has established Pang Sida Forest Park in 1978. The survey conducted later found that the nearby area was also a lush scenic forest. The mountain range generates many streams that ran through waterfalls such as Pang Sida, Natro, Pha Noi and fed Bang Pakong River.

Eventually, the country's 41st national park was established in 1982.

Geography

Lush jungle covers rolling hills that stretch over the area. Dense forest blankets most mountain slope and towering cliff, creating many waterfalls and distributaries of Bang Pakong River such as Chomphu, Suan Nam Hom, Sarika and Wang Muet.

Climate

Jungle and monsoon supports season to work quite punctual in park. The rainy season starts from June and last until November. The winter, from December to February, draws the temperature down to 8-15 degrees Celsius. Summer period is from March to May.

Flora and fauna

Pang Sida National Park comprises tropical rain forest, tropical evergreen forest, hill evergreen forest, mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp. Many important plants namely *Dipterocarpus alatus*,

Getting there

- By car, Bangkok-Aranya prathet coach regularly leaves from Mo Chit 2 or Northeast Bus Terminal in Bangkok for Sa Kaeo, which is 256 kilometre away. From Sa Kaeo, regular bus leaves for the park headquarters via highway 3462.
- By train, from Bangkok to Aranyaprathet train leaves Bangkok station at 6.00 am and 1.00 pm. Then take the bus to the park.



Anisoptera costata, *Afzelia xylocarpa*, *Aguilaria crassna*, *Schima wallichii*, *Terminalia bellarica*, *t.alata*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *L. tomentosa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Spondias pinnata*, *Dillenia obovata*, *Canarium denticulatum*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* and *D.oliveri* can be found in different areas. Plants in the shrub level are rattan, wine, fern, moss, herb and very beautiful terrestrial orchid such as *Habenaria rhodocheila*, *Paphiopedilum concolor* and

Pileated Gibbon.

Great variety of bird such as White-breasted Waterhen, Greater Coucal, Brown Hornbill, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Great Hornbill, Hill Myna, Zebra Dove, Spotted Dove, with the rare and endangered of reptile as Siamese Crocodile.

Attractions

◆ **Pang Sida Waterfall.** The stream overflows from 10 metres high rock face into large pool and rock terrace. Around the waterfall is nice setting, quite good for picnic. Pang Sida Waterfall is situated 1.5 kilometres from the park's headquarters.

◆ **Pha Takhian Waterfall.** The stream that creates Pang Sida waterfall arrives here and cascades from 10 metres high and 20 metres wide rock cliff, roaring loud and spraying the whole area. The waterfall is 2.4 kilometres from the headquarters, tourists can enjoy shady trail along the way to the waterfall.

◆ **Tha Krabak Waterfall.** The waterfall is close to Ta Krabak reservoir, only 5 kilometres from the headquarter.

◆ **Khwae Makha Waterfall and Suan Man Suan Thong Waterfall.** The both waterfalls are 15 kilometres from headquarters. Due to difficult access, the trekker requires to camping overnight in the jungle.

◆ **Pagoda Mountain.** The pagoda-shape rock, at 4 metres high and 25 metres in circumference, is naturally decorated by cracked rocks. The rock is 40 kilometres from the headquarters.



Dendrobium ellipsophyllum.

Lush forest and rolling hill that generates many stream, the park is habitat of mammal at various sizes and over 200 species of bird. The wildlife found in the park include Asian Elephant, Guar, Banteng, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Southern Serow, Mouse Deer, Tiger, Oriental small-clawed Otter and

Phu Toei National Park

Among towering mountain range with steep valleys, the “Thewada Crest” or Dheva Peak is the highest peak at 1,123 metres above sea level. Besides the watershed forest, Phu Toei also features picturesque forest of *Pinus merkusii*, whose fascinating surround makes it a nice place to visit. The park acquires total area of 317,475 square kilometres, covering many forests in Amphoe Dan Chang of Suphan Buri.

History

Aiming to conserve the forest, the Royal Forest Department decided to upgrade forest reserves of Ong Phra, Phu Rakam and Khao Huai Phlu in Amphoe Dan Chang of Suphan Buri to the park.

After the survey, the department realised that such forests were rich of natural resource, plants, wild produces, wildlife and scenery. So, such forests declared as Thailand's 85th national park in 1998.

Geography

High mountain range with steep slope is watershed that feed many streams namely Lam Taphoen, Huai Lek Lai, Huai Ong Khot, Huai Ong Phra, Huai Tha Duea and Huai Khamin.

Climate

In early months of each year it is always hot, then it enters rainy season. Heavy rain comes in August till October, filling up the stream and enlivening the waterfalls.

Flora and fauna

Lush jungle carpets most area of park which features forest of *Azela xylocarpa*, *Pinus merkusii*, mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest which shares area with dry evergreen forest. Major plants in the park include *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D.tuberculatus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Pinus merkusii* and different kinds of Bamboo.

Great deals of wildlife enjoy rich water and food sources, so Tiger, Common Muntjak, White-handed Gibbon, Bear, Slow Loris, Porcupine, King Cobra, Common Wild Boar, Palm, Palm Civet and Macaque can be found.

Attractions

◆ **Forest of *Pinus merkusii*.** The forest of giant pine surprises visitor with its huge size, each is over two metres in circumference. Total 1,376 pines tree are estimated to be around 200-300 years old. Picturesque mountain view from the hill top pine



forest and refreshing mountain breeze always entertains tourists.

◆ **The forest blankets a hill on Phu Toei Range**, some 7 kilometres from Ban Pa Khit and the park's headquarters. On the way, there is a spirit house built to commemorate those who passed away from Lauda Air accident whose crashing killed 223 passengers.

◆ **Phu Krathing Waterfall.** The waterfall can be reached via soil road from Ban Khlong Lek Lai, next to Ban Wang Hora. Unit 2 of the park stations in the area to provide safety and assistance to the tourists.

◆ **Taphoen Khli Waterfall.** The famous waterfall is situated next to Phu Krathing Waterfall. From Thung Makhok, bound for Ban Pa Phak and then turn left up hill to Ban Taphoen Kli, an ancient Karen village. This weapon-free village is located on buffer zone of the UNESCO's World Heritage site Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary. The waterfall, which never dries up, The Thewada Crest, which is 1,123 metres, can be seen from the waterfall.

◆ **Nakhi Cave, Mi Noi Cave, Hoi Raya Cave and Pha Yai Cave.** The cave is close to the park's headquarters at Ban Pa Khit. The beautiful caves are decorated naturally with formations of stalagmites and stalactites.

Around the area of caves is a stronghold of wildlife like Bear, Porcupine, Bamboo Rat, Golden Jackal, Common Wild Boar, Common Muntjak,



Green-billed Malkoha, White-rumped Shama and a number of Insect-eating Bat. The caves are part of Tuti Mountain on which *Dracaena loureiri* are densely found.

◆ **Tat Yai Waterfall.** The big and shady waterfall is covered with green layers of moss and fern. Its steps and shallow pools allow tourist to enjoy lush nature safely. Camping ground is available. Its entrance is at Spirit House of Lauda Air's passenger.

◆ **Pha Yai.** The towering cliff is part of Tuti Mountain. The mountain has a cave which is beautified by glittering stalagmites and stalactites. The cave is just 2 kilometres from the headquarters, but the trail is steep and difficult.

Getting there

- From Bangkok, motorist can travel via highway 340 to Amphoe Doembang Nangbuat, 150 kilometres away, then turn left. Keep going for other 33 kilometres and turn right into highway 333, bound for Amphoe Dan Chang 40 kilometres away.
- From Bangkok, use highway 4 to Nakhon Pathom and turn right at Malaiman intersection to highway 321 for Amphoe U-Thong, 70 kilometres away. From Amphoe U-Thong, use highway 333 to Dan Chang of Suphan Buri for other 50 kilometres.
- From Amphoe Dan Chang of Suphan Buri, use highway 333 (Dan Chang-Ban Rai) for 15 kilometres, then get on asphalt road at Ban Wang Khan, bound for Ban Pakhi 15 kilometres away. The park is 3 kilometres from Ban Pakhi by dirt road.



Sai Yok National Park

Melancholy song of “Khmer Sai Yok” describes impressive beauty of Sai Yok Waterfall and made the name of Sai Yok debut for decades. Actually, the picturesque waterfall Sai Yok has been well known for over a century ago. King Rama V once paid a visit to the waterfall and spent relaxing day swimming among the shady forest. Sai Yok National Park today occupies vast area of 500 square kilometres, acquiring some area of Amphoe Thong Pha Phum and Sai Yok of Kanchanaburi province.

History

Wang Yai Forest, Noi River Forest and Huai Kayaeng Forest were declared for forest reserve in 1969 and 1976 respectively. After surveying in depth, the Royal Forest Department has found the forests were rich in world wide natural beauty. The area was

dotted by waterfalls, caves and historic evidences during World War II.

In 1939-1941, the Imperial Japanese Army had initiated railway project to join Thailand and Burma on what was known as the Death Railway.

Allied POWs were driven to work in the area, including some part of the park and lived around the origin of Sai Yok Waterfall. Big stoves of Japanese Army remained scattering around. By such natural beauty and important historic evidences, the area declared for Thailand's 19th national park by 1980.

Geography

Limestone Mountain range stretches in North to South direction, bordering Thailand from Union of Myanmar on the west. The highest peak is Khao Khwae that towers at 1,327 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

On average, the park has temperature between 25 and 30 degrees Celsius. It has misty and chilling winter from December till February and rainy months between May and October. Then, hot and dry summer heats up the park until April.

Flora and fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and tropical evergreen forest dominate most area, leaving the rest to bamboo forest which is home to *Bambusa bambos*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Walsura robusta*, *Dialium cochinchinense* and *shorea obtusa*.

The park is habitat for great variety of wildlife. Footprints of deer and barking deer often found in the park and caves. According to local people, many kinds of wildlife including Asian Elephant, Common Muntjak, Malaya Tapir, Gibbon, Pheasant, Greater Coucal, Tailorbird, Sooty-headed Bulbul always roam around and across Thailand-Myanmar border.



Attractions

◆ **Sai Yok Waterfall.** The stream divides into two lines before cascading directly the Khwae Noi River. The northern stream jumps from big rock at 8 metres high. The southern stream cascades from higher elevation through steps into the river. Crossing the river to the other side by hinging bridge or viewing from the boat are nice ways to admire the waterfall. Winter breeze and beautiful mountain range fascinates most tourists to visit there in winter.

◆ **Sai Yok Noi Waterfall.** The famous waterfall is originated from a spring, flowing through shady



forest and cascades over limestone rock under shady trees.

◆ **Khwae Noi River.** The river runs through different landscapes, from strange-look islands, deep limestone canyon and sandy beach and rapids. Thus, it become a nice place for rafting through.

◆ **Daowadueng Cave.** One of the most famous and beautiful cave in Thailand, the white cave was discovered in 1972 by the hunter, Mr. Samlee Kuha. This 100 metres deep cave can be divided into 8 chambers, each are named after its look such as chandelier chamber, pagoda chamber and curtain chamber.

◆ **Lawa Cave.** Although it has tiny entrance, the cave surprises visitors with huge chambers inside. Naturally beautified with stalagmite and stalactite, its big chamber is decorated like a big theatre. Situated on the south of the park, the cave is 20 kilometres from Sai Yok Waterfall on water way.

◆ **Kitti's Hog-nosed Bat.** Thailand's smallest bat, with scientific name *Craseonycteris thonglongyai*, is named after Thai biologist, Kitti Thonglongya who discovered it in 1973. This world's smallest mammal is only 1.5-2.0 grams weight and 2.5-3.0 centimetres in length and 10 centimetres wingspan. With big ears and hog nose, it is the only known species in its genus *Craseonycteris*. Kitti's Hog-nosed bat can be found in caves, but it always flee imidiately om human's bother. Nowadays, it can be found only in the park.

Furthermore, many caves in the park are rich in nautral beauty and historical value. Archeological artifacts of human from the last era were found in Phra Cave, Lawa Cave and Sai Yok Cave.

Getting there

- From Bangkok, the park can be accessed both by car and bus.
- By train, daily train leaves Thonburi Station for Namtok Station (Sai Yok Noi). Then takes minibus for other 34 kilometres. The park's entrance is located on kilometre 97 of Kanchanaburi-Thong Pha Phum Road. The waterfall is 3 kilometres off main road.
- By bus, many buses, both normal and air-conditioned ones, leave Southern Bus Terminal in Bangkok for Kanchanaburi. Take Thong Pha Phum Bus to the park's entrance. Motorcycle taxi is available to get to the park.



Chaloem Phrakiat Thai Prachan National Park

The area of Chaloem Phrakiat Thai Prachan National Park is a part of National reserved forest that located on the left bank of Phachi river in Yang Huk sub district, Pak Tho district, Tanaosi sub district and Tha Khoei sub district, Suan Phueng district, Ban Kha sub district and Ban Bueng sub district, Ban Kha district, Ratchaburi province.

Geography

The highest peak of the mountain is Khao Yuet or Khao Phra Lop with high 834 metres from mean sea level.

Climate

Summer runs in late March-June, a rainy season starts in July-October and a winter starts from November to February.

Flora and fauna

The general characteristic of plant community in Chaloem Phrakiat Thai Prachan National Park comprises mixed deciduous forest and Dry evergreen forest. So, this offers chance for wild animal to migrate regularly. For example, the animals that are often seen are Zambian deer, mouse deer, common muntjac, gaur, wild boar, Asian black bear, langur, monkey, civet, porcupine and siamese hare etc.

Getting there

■ By cars from Bangkok to Ratchaburi on Highway 4 (Phetchakasem road) or Thonburi-Pak Tho route about 100 km. By train from Hua Lam Phong station to Ratchaburi station. Then follow Phetchakasem road for 20 km. turn right to highway 3206 for 45 km. Turn left to Thai Prachan village for 5 km. only, you will reach the park headquarters.



Attractions

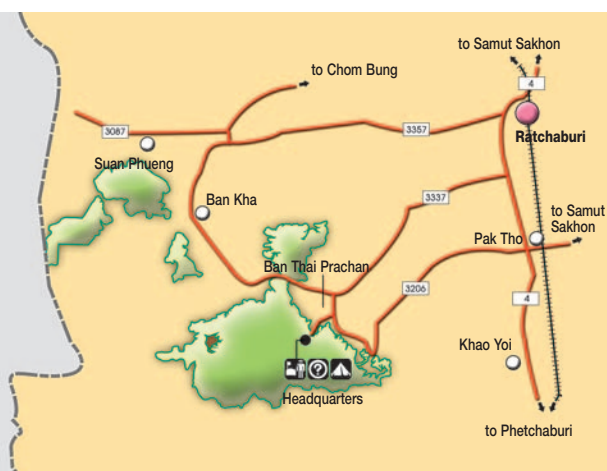
◆ **Thai Prachan Waterfall**, has 11 tiers with stream all round year.

◆ **Trok Tio Phai**, about 1,300 metres and you will see a beautiful stream and picturesque hillocks.

There will be three other interesting spots namely Trok Saeo Sawan, Trok Bang Sai and Trok Lila when you walk further 600, 400 and 950 metres.

◆ **Pong Krathing Hotspring**. A hot spring is located at Phu Nam Ron village in Ban Kha district.

◆ **Viewpoint**. There are many reservoirs nearby the park area, reservoirs which have beautiful scenery and appropriate for relaxation and water sport.



Khao Sip Ha Chan National Park

With about area 120 sq.km. Highlight trait is evergreen forest in the plain area with the waterfall, beautiful scenery view point in high biodiversity. So it appropriate to be a relaxing place, visiting place or the research in the fitting area. By use the name of Khao Sip Ha Chan National Park.

Geography

Mostly is vast plain area and the summit of Khao Sip Ha Chan is in the West Side with 802 metres high above mean sea level.



Climate

Winter runs from October to February, the coldest month is January. Summer runs from February to May and Rain runs from May to October.

Flora and fauna

The forest can classify into 3 types as Evergreen forest, Dry evergreen forest and Dry dipterocarp forest. Also the park is habitat for great variety of wildlife such as Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Civet, Palm Civet and great variety of birds as Bulbul, Prinia and Malkoha.

Getting there

- From Bangkok, use highway numbers 3 and keep part to highway no. 334 to Kaeng Hang Maeo district about 10 kms to Khunsong sub-district. Total distance is 250 kms or use highway number 3 and keep part to highway no.334 then keep part to Wang Chan-Nong Chek Soi route and keep going to Kaeng Hang Maeo with distance about 200 kms.



Attractions

◆ **Khlong Saba Waterfall.** The small sized waterfall with 6 levels, is about 6 km on the east of National Park.

◆ **Khao Sip Ha Chan Waterfall** or Namtok Khao Khao Sip Ha Chan (name is Namtok Nampen or Namtok Khlong Sai) is the moderate sized waterfall with 23 levels with stream all year. Access and travel is only in dry period.

There is natural trail for study that was prepared by National park with about 4.8 km.

◆ **Madueaku camp area.** Able to pitch a tent for relaxing, watching the star and enjoy the nature due to this area is near Khao Ang Ruenai Wildlife Sanctuary so a lot of wildlife.

Lam Khlong Ngu National Park

This lush jungle is attached to Thung Yai Naresuan Wildlife Sanctuary, Khao Laem National Park and Khuean Srinagarindra National Park, so, it is very rich in biodiversity of both flora and fauna. The parks also features Thailand's highest limestone mountain. Lam Khlong Ngu National Park acquires total 600 square kilometres.

History

Realising importance of rich watershed forest and its natural beauty, the Royal Forest Department to set up Forest Reserve covering 300,000 rais area of Khao Phra Rusei, Bor Rai in Amphoe Thong Pha Phum. Now, the establishment of this national park is in the process.

Geography

As part of Tanao Si Range, most mountain ranges at elevation between 100-1,000 metres.

Climate

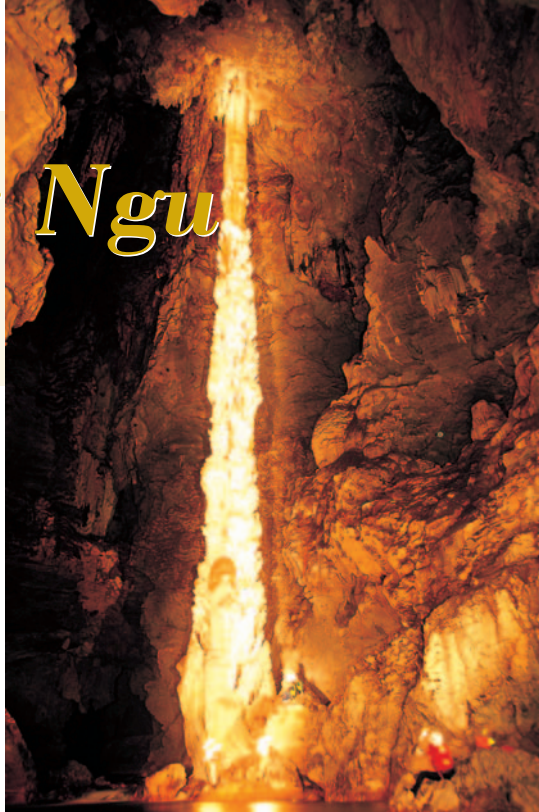
Summer is from March-May. Rainy season from June-October. Winter is November-February.

Flora and fauna

Mammals found in the area include Serow which is protected animal as Asian Elephant, Sambar Deer,

Getting there

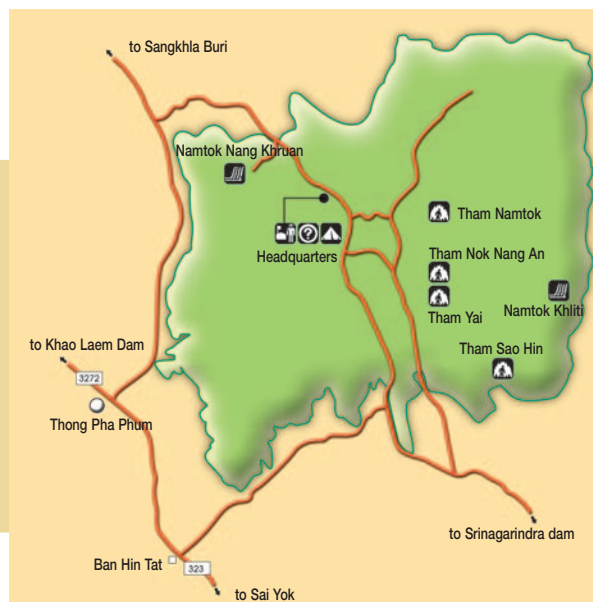
- The park can be reached by boat from Reservoir in Srinagarindra Dam. The boat can reach Pae Nam Jone Pier at Klong Ngu Canal, then tourist need to walk for 6 kilometres along the cascading canal. Some wildlife can be spotted along the way. At present, there are some tourists visiting the park in group and tourist arrivals tend to rise in the future. Tourism management and zoning is required to limit impact to the ecology.



Clouded Leopard, Tiger, Langur and Gibbon.

Attractions

- ◆ **Sao Hin Cave**, the cave with a subterranean river houses a huge limestone pillar that has grown up since million years ago.
- ◆ **Tham Nok Nang An** or Swallow Cave.
- ◆ **Nam Tok Cave** and Yai Cave.
- ◆ **Nang Khruan Waterfall**, Khao Paet Roi and Cha-i Stream and Khiliti Waterfall.



Namtok Chet Sao Noi National Park



The name of Namtok Chet Sao Noi is from the story of the people in the area. For along time, seven ladies tourist drowned together in this waterfall. And another story believed that it came from a village's name "Ban Sao Noi" and it became "Ban Sao Noi" until present.

National Park office considered and approved to determine this area to be a national park with approximately area 28.06 sq.km.

Geography

The most area is ruggedly mountainous with, height above mean sea level is 180-402 metres.

Climate

On May-October has rainy. On November-February to the winter and summer in February-April.

Attractions

◆ **Chet Sao noi Waterfall**, has 7 levels shortly waterfall, each levels about 2-5 metres height, the stream flows witharm like a wild pool. There are the shallow pools can play, the most beautiful level is on the fourth, especially in the month of November-April, because of clear water and safety for the tourists; with not torrential stream as May-October.

Getting there

■ From Bangkok along highway no.1, about 108 km and follow train route in the northwest about 113 kms. From the city of Saraburi use the main route, high way no. 2, takes distance from the city of Saraburi to crossroad into province highway no. 2224 about 41 km, from this way crossroad into Namtok Chet Sao Noi National Park about 12 kms on right hand, opposite Wat Namtok Chet Sao Noi.



◆ **Muak Lek Stream** the river with stream all year-round, along the river takes distance about 15 km.

◆ **Tree tunnel**, is the beautiful astonishing scenery on highway number 2089. Tree tunnel occurs from the covering of tree crown along parallel road bring the pleasant and the beautiful to the tourists. Moreover found 2 waterfalls in the west of the area, first highs about 4 metres and the second is about 20 metres, Huai Laeng is the source of this both waterfall which has waterway only in rainy season.

Namtok Khlong Kaeo National Park

In a bid to protect the forest from illegal logging in Amphoe Khao Saming of Trat, the Royal Forest Department has planned to upgrade forest reserve namely Khao Cha Om Forest, Khao Khlong Puk Forest and Khao Mapring Forest in Amphoe Khao Saming and Bor Rai to forest park or national park. The project to establish national park was approved by the year 2000.

As part of Khao Saming forest reserve, Namtok Khlong Kaeo National Park will acquire area of 200 square kilometres. Now, the survey is in the process for establishing the national park further.

Geography

The most area is mountain range at elevation between 100 to 836 metres high above sea level. Khao Ta Bat is the highest peak at 836 metres.

Climate

Summer starts from February to April. Rainy season to October. Winter from November to January.

Flora and fauna

The major plants are Moist evergreen forest as *Hopea ferrea*, *Dipterocarpus dyeri* and *Anisoptera costata*. Wildlife found in the park includes Sambar Deer, Tiger, Common Muntjak, Wild Boar, Bear, Mouse Deer, Gibbon, Macaque, Langur, Squirrel, Civet, Palm Civet, Shama, Hill Myna and Bulbul.

Getting there

■ Khao Kaeo Forest and Khao Ta Bat, is on the left on highway 3157. Turn left at 3 kilometres prior to Amphoe Bo Rai and bound for Border Police Patrol, Company 116. Keep going for 5 kilometres then turn left Khlong Kaeo Waterfall and temporary office of Namtok Khlong Kaeo National Park is 4 kilometres away.



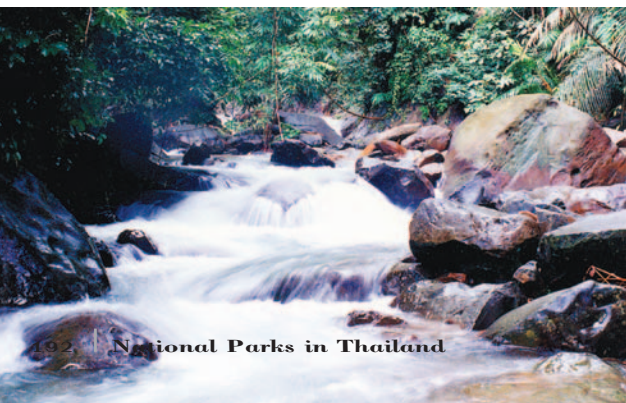
Attractions

The park has rich wilderness packed with great biodiversity of both flora and fauna. Its lush watershed jungle feeds many streams and creates attractions as following:

◆ **Khlong Kaeo Waterfall.** The 7 steps waterfall is situated among natural beauty and real wilderness. Its crystal clear water allows visitor to witness school of fish.

◆ **Salat Dai Waterfall.** The small waterfall is a nice place for naturalist. Camping ground with toilet is available for tourist.

◆ ***Paphiopedilum* sp..** The rare and localized orchid can be found on some tall tree.



Thong Pha Phum National Park

In a bid to protect and develop forest on the western region of Thailand, the Secretariat of the Prime Minister has initiated the project to protect all the forests on Thailand-Myanmar border as a whole, for securing the ecological system and the major genetic source for Thailand's flora and fauna in the future. The cabinet has approved the project to set up additional national park in the region.

The park covers total 1,120 square kilometres, covers in Amphoe Thong Pha Phum and Sangkhla Buri of Kanchanaburi.

Geography

As part of Tanao Si Range, with 100-1,249 metres above sea level and Khao Chang Phueak towers its peak to 1,249 metres mean sea level.

Climate

Rain, from May to September, winter to January and Summer from February to April.

Flora and fauna

Plenty kinds of wildlife can be spotted in the park. They include Wild Boar, Common Muntjak, Hornbill, Swallow, Hawk, Owl, Bulbul and Coucal.



Getting there

■ The surveyed area is 175 kilometres from downtown of Kanchanaburi via highway 323. The surveyor team stations at Huai Pak Kok Village, only 30 kilometres far from Amphoe Thong Pha Phum.



Attractions

◆ **Khao Yai Waterfall.** All the year round, the big waterfall runs through 3 steps.

◆ **Nam Dip Yai Waterfall.** Situated next to Khao Yai Waterfall, this waterfall cascades all the year round among the lush forest.

◆ **Chok Kradin Waterfall.** The stream jumps off the cliff, spraying the whole valley 30 metres below, making it quite a high waterfall.

◆ **Bi Teng Waterfall.** With lots of pool, the waterfall is situated among the forest of huge trees and nice nature.

◆ **Sao Thong Hill.** The hill-top flag pole is located exactly on Thailand-Burma border.

◆ **Huai Mueang Waterfall.** This waterfall flows all the year round although the forest nearby deteriorate by mining concession.

◆ **Khao Khat Viewpoint.** This windy mountain top viewpoint offers quite a picturesque panoramic mountain view and around.

Viewpoint Kilometres 15. The famous viewpoint offers nice view of Khao Laem Reservoir.

◆ **Khao Noi Cave.** The beautiful cave, which houses Buddha images.





“The South An area from Prachuap Khiri Khan province southward is covered by this region. There are totally 35 national parks and 9 areas in establishment process. Several mountain ranges that lie along the south peninsula interconnected throughout its length separate the narrow coastal plains along the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea.”



National Park in The South



Ao Phang-nga National Park

The geological phenomenon of land subsidence has created numerous caves, bays, and towering limestone islands scattered across the province of Phangnga, Krabi, Trang and Satun.

By its prestige landscape and lush forest, Ao Phang-nga National Park was established in 1981, covering 400 square kilometres area of Amphoe Mueang, Takua Thung and Ko Yao-Phangnga which comprises mangrove forest and 42 islands such as Ko Khao Tao, Ko Hong, Ko Panyi and Khao Phing Kan.

Geography

In the park's boundary, pre-historical artifacts found around Khao Tao indicated that the caves and cliffs in Phang-nga and Krabi were occupied by human since 10,000 years ago.

The archeologists had found rock tools, broken ceramic in different patterns. Rough ceramics, parts of stone axe and sharpened fish bone were found at Ko Phra Art Thao. Cave paintings in Ao Phang-nga appear in different patterns and shapes such as man carrying fish, crab, langur, bird, elephant, alphabet-like shape arrow, fishing tool and boat.

Flora and fauna

Ao Phang-nga is one of the best and big mangrove forest in Thailand. The forest plays significant role in coastal ecosystem. It serves as natural storm



barrier, species bank of the plants, and nursery for aquatic animals. The major plants in the mangrove forest include *Rhizophora mucronata*, *R. apiculata*, *Bruguiera cylindrica*, *B. pavitlora*, *Xylocarpus grana-*



Getting there

- From provincial town of Phangnga, motorist can head south via highway 4 for 8 kilometres and get on highway 4144 to the park, which is located 4 kilometres from the main road. It is only 20 minutes by bus.
- It takes 3 hours for boat trip from Ban Tha Dan or Kasom Pier to Ao Phang-nga.

tum, *X.moluccensis*, *Avicennia alba* and *A.officinalis*.

On land, tropical rain forest occupies plain and valley with deep rich soil where *Hopea ferrea*, *Parkia timoriana*, *Artocarpus lacucha*, *Acaeia catechu*, *Garcinia cowa*, *Morinda coreia*, *Calamus* sp., *Colocasia gigantea* and different kinds of orchids.

The tropical rain forest is found also on limestone island which is occupied by *Euphorbia* sp., *Pandanus monothecus*, *Cycas pectinata*, *Zingiber officinale*, terrestrial orchids and *Colocasia gigantea*.

The survey conducted in 1991 found that the park is home to 206 animal species, including 17 mammals, 88 birds, 18 reptiles, 3 amphibians, 24 fishes and 45 other aquatic animals.

Mammal species such as White-handed Gibbon and Serow are extinct from the national park by human disturbance and habitat invasion. Spectacled Langur, Smooth-coated Otter and Crab-eating Macaque are in treated status.

The birds found in the park include Pacific Reef-Egret, White-bellied Sea-eagle, Asian Dowitcher, Kingfisher, Southern Pied Hornbill, Brahminy Kite and Edible-nest Swiftlet.

The reptiles and amphibians include Mangrove Snake, Yellow-collared Snake, Tree Frog and Salt-water Frog.

In the sea, many species of fishes and marines life such as Ray, Mullet, Coral Rockcod, Damselfish, Bannerfish, Sea Crab, Brain Coral, Sea Cucumber, Sea Fan, Shark, Butterflyfish and Staghorn Coral are widely found.

Attractions

◆ **Ko Phanak.** The big island with plenty of cave is situated on the cruise line between Phuket and Phangnga. By kayak, tourists can explore its marine lake inside.

◆ **Ko Hong.** The limestone island houses many chamber connecting together.

◆ **Ko Thalu Nok.** The limestone island has a tunnel which small boat can get through.

◆ **Khao Tapu-Khao Phing Kan.** The famous landmark, where giant rock cliffs lean against each other, is a must for all tourists. The nail shape mountain, known as James Bond Island, is situated nearby.

◆ **Ko Panyi.** The fishery village which builds the whole community on elevated platform on stilt over the sea.

The park also features many attractions such as Ko Lawa Yai, Khao Machu, Ko Khai, many caves, and many ancient painting which can be dated back to over a thousand years.



Bang Lang National Park

The park acquires 261 square kilometres area in Amphoe Bannang Sata, Than To, and Betong of Yala. By its lush forest and scenic reservoir, the park was included among 5 national park established to celebrate the 60th anniversary of His Majesty the King on December 5, 1987. It was established in 1991.

Getting there

- The park's headquarter is located at Tha To Waterfall, Tambon Tham Talu, Amphoe Bannang Sata, Yala, at kilometres 56 of highway 410.



Geography

The park features various landscapes, from rugged mountains, hills, and some plain. Situated at the elevation 600 metres above sea level.

The park slopes down from south to north. It is watershed that feeds many tributaries of Pattani River such as Sai Buri River, Khlong Tomo, Khlong Hala and Khlong Kabu.

Climate

Eastern Monsoon carries rains to soak the park from May to December. From September to November is the wettest period. Its mean rainfall is 2,200 millimetres per annum. In summer, from January to April, the average temperature is 29 degrees Celsius.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest densely carpets the park. Its significant plants include *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Hopea odorata*, *Johannesteijsmannia altifrons*, *Bauhinia auriflora* and *Mesua nervosa*.

Wildlife found in the park include Asian Elephant, Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Serow, Common Wild Boar, Macaque, Langur, Gibbon, Malayan Porcupine, Guar, Sumatra Rhinoceros, Malayan Tapir and Banteng.

Different kinds of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Whiskered Bulbul, and 9 species of Hornbill such as Great Hornbill and Wreathed Hornbill.

Attractions

◆ **Bang Lang Dam.** Completed in May 1981, the dam is 85 metres high and 422 metres long. It can generate 72,000 kilowatts of electricity. The Bang Lang dam is located at Ban Bang Lang, Tambon Bacho, on Highway 410, about 50 kilometres from Amphoe Mueang Yala, then left for 12 kilometres.



◆ **Than To Lake.** The reservoir over Bang Lang Dam offers scenic view of lake and many islands. Ko Hua Lan is the island at the mid of the reservoir. It acquires a square kilometre area. The reservoir is around 2 kilometres wide and 6 kilometres long.

◆ **Than To Waterfall.** It is a large and very beautiful waterfall cascading through 9 levels with

pools for swimming. Tourist can walk up to the top tier which is 500 metres from the lowest tier. There are pavilions for tourist can relax. Shady natural setting makes it a nice place for bird watching. The waterfall is 4 kilometres from Amphoe Than To and 16 kilometres from Amphoe Bannang Sata. Tourist can use highway 410, Yala-Betong Road. The waterfall is at kilometre 56.

◆ **La-ong Rung Waterfall.** It is a very high waterfall that sprays the valley. Under sunshine, its spraying water makes rainbow. It is situated at kilometre 40 of highway 410.

◆ **To Mo Waterfall.** The waterfall is around 100 metres high. Nearby is Ching Chok Waterfall, Ban Kao Waterfall and 4-5 saltlicks. It shares entrance with Bang Lang Dam.

◆ **Hala-Bala Forest.** The lush forest is part of Hala-Bala Wildlife Sanctuary. It is home to Hornbill and other wildlife such as Guar, Asian Elephant, Sambar Deer and Common Muntjak. It can be accessed through Chulabhorn Phatthana 9 Village, behind Bang Lang Dam. The winding road from the village leads to the viewpoint of reservoir.



Budo-Su-ngai Pa Di National Park

The wilderness in the Budo-Su-ngai Pa Di Range once was stronghold of terrorists. After the government has return peace and safety to the area, natural beauty in the jungle was witnessed. His Majesty the King has visited the area on September 7, 1981, and mentioned that the Budo-Su-ngai Pa Di Range, the highest peak of Narathivat at 600 metres above sea level, is a significant watershed that feeds 3 streams. It should be seriously preserved. Thus, the national park was established in 1999, total 341 square kilometres area, and covering parts of Narathivat, Yala and Pattani.



Geography

The park features rugged mountains. Tawe is the highest peak at 548 metres above sea level. The forest stretches in north-south direction. It is watershed of many streams such as Sai Buri River, Khlong Bacho and Khlong Kayang.

Climate

The rainy season is from May to December and summer is from January to April.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest blankets all the range with big trees such as different kinds of *Hopea odorata*, *Shorea faguettiana*, *Parashorea stellata*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Mesua nervosa*, *Dyera costulata* so very rare and endangered plants of Rattan and Palm such as *Calamus caesius*, *Johannesteijsmannia altifrons* and

Getting there

■ From Pattani province, motorist can use highway 42 to Amphoe Bacho. The park's headquarters is another 2 kilometres from the intersection.





Bauhinia auriflora.

Such endemic plants are found only in deep jungle on high mountain.

Wildlife found includes Common Muntjak, Mouse Deer, Serow, Malayan Flying Lemur, Common Wild Boar, Banteng, Macaque, Malayan Tapir, Sumatran Rhinoceros, Black Giant Squirrel, Flying Squirrel and Dusky Langur.

Birds species such as Little Heron, Ferruginous Wood Partridge, Blue-crowned Hanging-Parrot, Thick-billed Pigeon, Whiskered Bulbul, Plain-pouched Hornbill, Maroon Woodpecker, White-rumped Shama, Bushy-crested Hornbill, Bay Owl, Rhinoceros Hornbill, Wreathed Hornbill and Red Junglefowl.

Attractions

◆ **Pacho Waterfall.** The big waterfall is 60 metres high. It was awarded the 5th best tourist attractions in the remote South. The waterfall is situated in Ban Pacho, Amphoe Bacho of Narathiwat, 2 kilometres from Pattani-Narathiwat Road.

◆ **Chat Warin Waterfall.** The 7 tiers waterfall is well known among the local and Malaysian tourists. It is situated in Ban Phlong, Tambon To Deng, 5 kilometres from Amphoe Su-ngai Padi of Narathiwat.

◆ **Phu Sadet Waterfall.** The 4 tiers waterfall is quite high. Its second tier is the most beautiful spot where the stream cascade from 12 metres high cliff into the big pool. The waterfall is 10 kilometres from Amphoe Bacho.

◆ **Champa Ko Waterfall.** The waterfall is situated in Ban Champa Ko, Tambon Kayomati, 16 kilometres from Amphoe Bacho of Narathiwat.

◆ **Khu Waeo Waterfall.** The beautiful 4 tiers waterfall is in Ban Bacho, Tambon Palu Ka Sano, Amphoe Bacho of Narathiwat.

◆ **The Royal Pavillion.** The “Sala Than That” pavilion once was used to welcome King Rama VII during his royal visit to Narathiwat.

Actually, there are more waterfalls and abandon terrorist bases waiting for survey, however, the remote area of the park is not totally safe.

Hat Chao Mai National Park

Established in 1981, Hat Chao Mai National Park acquires total area of 230.868 square kilometres in Amphoe Sikao and Kantang. It plays significant role in conserving Trang's coast that stretches for 120 kilometres where is a stronghold for the threatened Dugong, one of 15 endangered animals of Thailand.

Geography

The park's boundary can be divided into two main areas. Its land including seashore, as well as Ko Muk, Ko Kradan, Ko Waen, Ko Chueak, Ko Pling, Ko Chao Mai and Ko Meng.

Climate

From December to April of each year, Trang's Sea is at its most beautiful period without monsoon.

Flora and fauna

These lands are rich in plant diversity in tropical rain forest, mangrove forest, Beach forest, and limestone forest. Its major plants include *Dipterocarpus Chartaceus*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Rhizophora apiculata*, *Xylocarpus granatum*,

Terminalia catappa, *Casuarina equisetifolia*, *Thespesia populnea*, *Phoenix paludosa* and *Euphorbia* sp..

These forests are habitat for Black-necked Stork, Crab-eating Macaque, Dusky Langur, Common Wild Boar, Pangolin, Little Heron, White-bellied Sea-eagle, Beautiful Lizard and Giant Toad.

The park's marine boundary covers total area of 137.22 square kilometres, protecting coral reef around Ko Waen, Ko Chueak, Ko Kradan and Ko Muk, as well as 8 kinds of Sea grass or *Echinochloa* sp. which is main food for Dugong.

Attractions

Trang's sea always charming for tourist and cute resorts are available on Ko Kradan, Ko Muk, and Ko Ngai. Pak Meng Pier, 40 kilometres from provincial town of Trang, is the main pier to the Ko Kradan, Ko Muk, Ko Waen, and Ko Chueak.

◆ **Hat Yao Pier**, on Trang-Katang Road, is another tourist pier to different attractions in Trang's Sea

◆ **Khuan Daeng Hotspring**, gives hot water at 70 degrees celcius.





◆ **Chao Mai.** The beautiful seascape of Chao Mai comprises island, canal, cliff, beaches, and bays. Long stretching beach of Hat Yao is a nice place for camping, but its fierce wave can harm swimmer. Shallow beach of Chao Mai is good for swimming and relaxing. Small bay of Ao Po, via Chao Mai Canal, leads to beautiful cave called Chao Mai Cave whose entrance allows boat to get in.

◆ **Yong Ling-Hat San Beach.** South of Hat Yao Beach is Yong Ling Beach. Lined with *Casuarina*, the crescent beach stretches to the cliff where lots of caves are situated in.

◆ **Ko Muk.** The big island, occupying 7.7 square kilometres, is special with Emerald Cave where winding tunnel leads to a beautiful beach peacefully hides in the embrace of high cliff. The tourist can swim through the 80 metres long tunnel which at first thrills the swimmers by complete darkness, then delight them with emerald-colour light through the sea.

◆ **Ko Kradan.** The island has soft coral reef and sea fan on the south. Most corals are Brain Coral and Staghorn Coral. The island, where the park's unit is located on, provide camping ground for 40 tourists. Electricity and freshwater is available.

◆ **Ko Chueak.** The small island, actually two islands lying together, is between Ko Muk and Ko Kradan. Without any plain, the island is ringed with coral reef which contain great variety of biological diversity namely Sea Fan, Comb Sea Fan, Fire

Coral. The island has a small cave where diver or boat can get through during low tide. Inside the cave, which is bat habitat, there is a small beach.

◆ **Ko Waen.** The island is in concession for collecting bird's nest. Around the island, particularly on the eastern side, is a big coral colony in great condition. At the depth between 10-20 feet, diver can witness Sea Whip, Sea Fan, Black Neptune's Cup and Coral.

◆ **The Park's Headquarters.** Situated on Chang Lang Beach, the headquarters is enveloped with beach and lush vegetable, making it a nice place for camping by the sea. Khao Bae Na on the south houses pre-historical cave painting in red. Chang Lang Canal, at the northern end, offers nice view.

◆ **Pak Meng Beach.** The first beach attraction for Trang people. Big rock, look like a lying man, is its outstanding landmark.

Getting there

■ From Trang, motorist can use highway 4046 and get on highway 4162 to the park's headquarters. The journey takes an hour from downtown Trang.



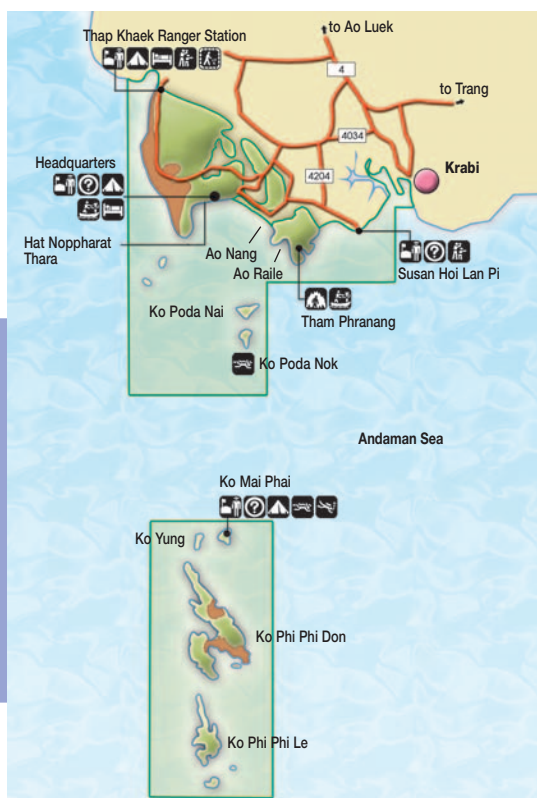
Hat Noppharat Thara-Mu Ko Phi Phi National Park



Established on October 6, 1983, the park is famed for crystal clear water and stunning view for sea lover. Hat Noppharat Thara-Mu Ko Phi Phi National Park acquires total area of 387.90 square kilometres in Amphoe Mueang of Krabi. Its coastal area features rugged limestone mountains with Khao Hang Nak as the highest peak at 498 metres

Getting there

- Regular ferry leaves Chao Fa Pier of Krabi for Ko Phi Phi every day. The cruise takes 90 minutes to 2 hours. Ferry is also available from Phuket and it takes also 2 hours to the island.
- The park's headquarters can be reached by car. From Krabi, motorist can use Nai Mueang-Nai Sa Road to Hat Noppharat Thara. Tourist can get around via beach to Ao Nang and Fossil Shell platform.



above sea level. There are several beach types in the park such as sandy, muddy, and rock beaches such as the beach of Thap Khaek, Khlong Haeng (Noppharat Thara), Ao Nang, Phai Plong, and Tham Phra Nang. Mu Ko Phi Phi is archipelago whose island features rock mountains and towering cliffs. Among such cliffs, there are many picturesque beaches hiding peacefully such as the beaches of Lo Bakao, Lo Dalam, Ton Sai, and Lo Lana.

Among such limestone mountains, there is no water source in the park's boundary except Khao Klong Canal which runs through the mangrove forest of Khao Hang Nak and brackish Khlong Huai Saba at the northeast of the Fossil Shell platform.

Climate

From January to April, blue sky and calm sea always welcome tourist to enjoy the stunning nature in the park.

Flora and fauna

Moist tropical rain carpets rugged mountain at Khao Hang Nak, around Ao Nang, west of Phi Phi Don, and most part of Ko Phi Phi. The major plants include *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *H.ferrea* and *Shorea roxburghii*.

The park is habitat of rare mammals such as Common Malayan Dolphin, Black Finless Porpoise, Rough-toothed Dolphin and White Dolphin.

Birds such as White-bellied Sea-eagle, Brahminy Kite, Frigatebird and many kinds of Gull.

The sea and its stunning coral reefs is rich in marine life such as numerous kinds of coral including Spiny Coral, Finger Coral and Bush Coral.

The coral reef and around is home to many kinds of Shark, Ray, Marlin, Moray Eel and Mullet.

Attractions

The fascinating seascape in the park's boundary always allows the tourist to enjoy sun bathing, snorkeling, cruising or even rock climbing. Besides, there are many remarkable place tourist should not miss namely:

◆ **Fossil Platform.** The fossil of freshwater shell has accumulated and formed a layer. It is estimated that this fossil platform, which is one of

three sites in the world, can be dated back 20-40 million years ago.

◆ **Hat Noppharat Thara.** The picturesque beach, which always serves as film location, is famed for the great amount of Wing Shell (*Strombus canarium*).

◆ **Ao Nang.** The beach is unique with the stunning view of towering cliff and big cave of Tham Phra Nang nearby.

◆ **Mu Ko Poda,** The small archipelago with nice beaches and crystal clear water.

◆ **Mu Ko Phi Phi.** The archipelago of 6 island comprises Ko Phi Phi Le, Phi Phi Don, Bida Nok, Bida Nai, Yung and Mai Phai. Most islands have crescent beach.

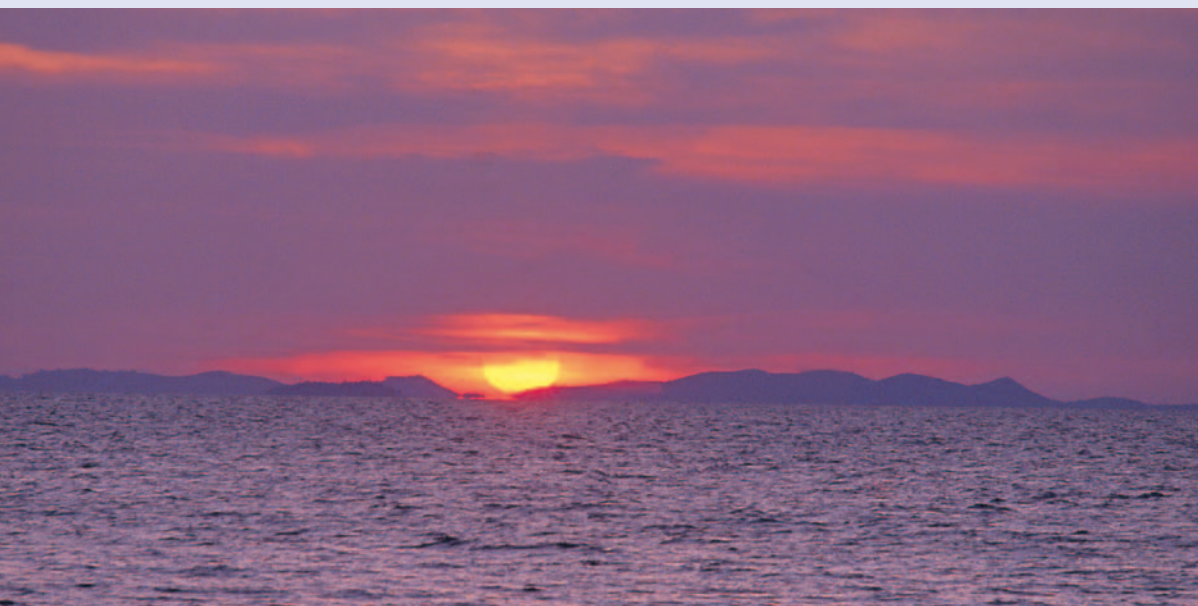
◆ **Ko Mai Phai.** The small island, is famed for its white sandy beach and stunning colorful reef.

◆ **Ko Yung,** the island is famed for its coral reef in great conditioned.

◆ **Phi Phi Le,** the whole island is towering cliffs which hide many beautiful beaches in its embrace such as Ao Pi Le, Ao Maya, Ao Lo Sama and Viking Cave of the northeast. The cave houses ancient paintings featuring ships, hunting men, and some characters. His Majesty the King has visited the cave and renamed it in to "Phraya Nak Cave", referring to Naga-like rock in the cave.



Hat Wanakon National Park



The tranquil sandy beach behind the line of shady pine trees makes the park famous among solitaire. Hat Wanakon National Park acquires total area of 38 square kilometres of which 40 percent is land and beaches in Amphoe Mueang and Thap Sakae of Prachuap Khiri Khan. The country's 76th national park was established in 1992. Situated close to community, the scenic and clean beach which is rich in natural resources is a nice place to relax.

Geography

The park features plain and beach by the Gulf of Thailand. Its boundary also includes 2 small islands, namely Ko Chan and Ko Thaisi. Due to its small area, the park does not have a big water source. A reservoir is created by blocking canal. However, the canals running through the park provide limited amount of water and run dry during the dry season.

Flora and fauna

The park located once was served as offices of many forestry-related bodies, thus, some original

forests which comprises *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Sindora siamensis* are maintained.

But most trees are planted later such as *Casuarina equisetifolia* and *C.junghuhniana*.

There is handful of wildlife, most of them are birds such as Common Myna, Black-naped Oriole, Pacific Reef-Egret, Drongo, Indian Roller, Red-wattled Lapwing, Spotted Dove, Streak-eared Bulbul, White-throated Kingfisher and Edible-nest Swiftlet.

Furthermore, mammal such as Rat, Palm Civet, Siamese Hare, Porcupine and Lizard can be found. Coral reef can be found nearby Ko Chan and Ko Thaisi.

Attractions

◆ **Hat Wanakon.** The famous beach of Prachuap Khiri Khan Stretches 7 kilometres long, interrupted by rock head land. Lined by *Casuarina equisetifolia* and *C. junghuhniana*, the beach is quite a relaxing place as it gradually slopes, stretching for 150 metres into the sea. This untouched beach is a perfect place for nature lover.

◆ **Ao Makha.** The seaside cliff is a nice

Getting there

■ The park can be accessed via Phetkasem Road, 23 kilometres south of the provincial town of Prachuap Khiri Khan. The park's headquarters is 3 kilometres off the highway. By train, tourist can get off at Wang Duan or Huai Yang station. From there, chartered car or motorcycle taxi is available.

viewpoint where tourist can enjoy seascape. The cliff stretches from Ban Wang Duan to the mouth of Khlong Nam Chuet. Very nice for camping during the dry season.

◆ **Ko Chan** and **Ko Thaisi**. Ko Chan is charming by 100 metres long beach and coral reef at its back. The both islands are habitat to Edible-nested Swiftlet and the bird nest concessionaire does not allow visitors to get close to.



Kaeng Krung National Park

Situated in Amphoe Tha Chana, Chaiya, Tha Chang, and Vibhavadi of Surat Thani province, Kaeng Krung National Park is another nice place to relax among its impressive nature such as waterfalls, streams, hot spring, mountains, and scenery. Its lush forest feeds streams for both Surat Thani and Chumphon. Acquiring total area of 541 square kilometres, Thailand's 69th national park was established since 1991.

Geography

Two ranges line in parallel in north-south direction, leaving the valley in the mid for lush forest

which is watershed area for Lang Suan of Chumphon in the north and Khlong Yan in the south. Its highest peak towers at 849 metres above sea level.

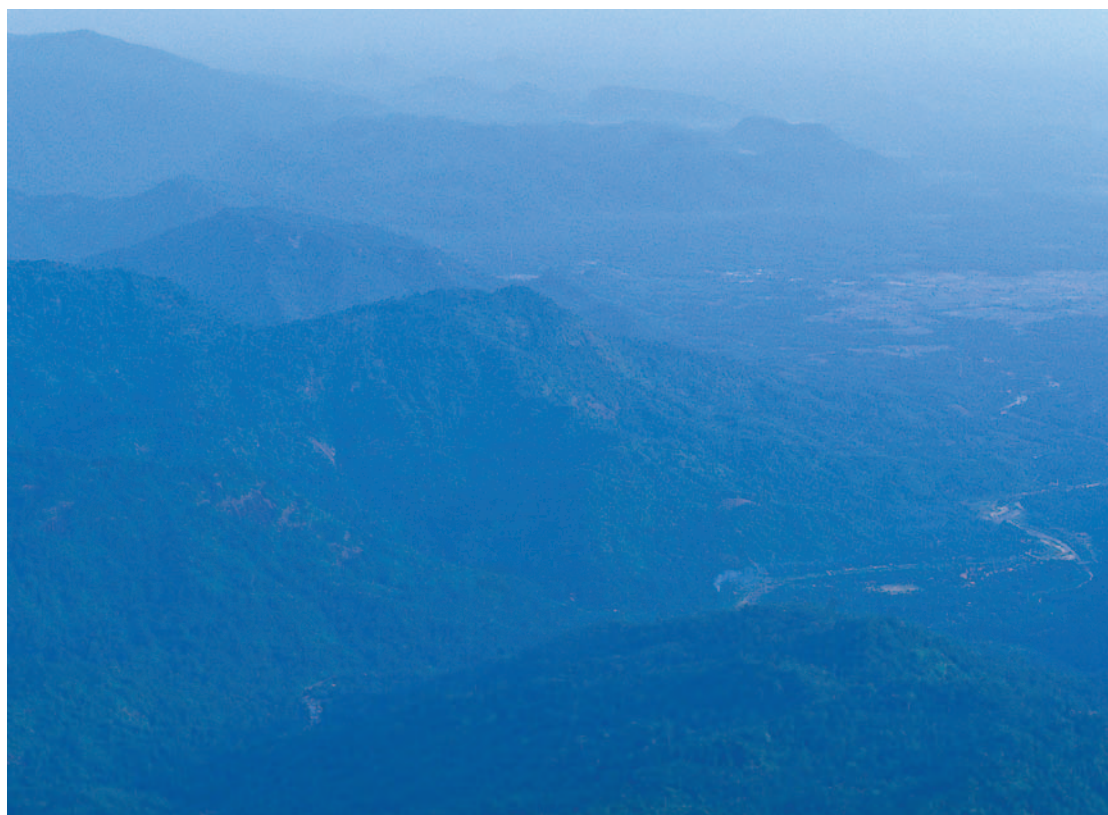
Climate

Tropical rain forest attracts rain to soak the park all the year round. As a result, the park is rather cold.

Flora and fauna

Rugged mountains and heavy rain is an ideal place for tropical rain forest which is home to numerous plants species.

Its major plants include *Intsia palembanica*,



Getting there

■ Surat Thani is 600 kilometres from Bangkok. from Surat Thani by road to King Amphoe Wiphawadhi and passed King Amphoe, passed Mu Ban Than Phu Ying, then reached to Headquarters. Total distance 54 kilometres.



Michelia champaca, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, Fern and Wine. Tree in various sizes make the forest quite dense.

Wildlife found in the park include Asian Elephant, Tiger, Malayan Sun Bear, Guar, Banteng, Malayan Tapir, Gibbon, Crab-eating Macaque, Spectacled Langur, Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Common Wild Boar, Stump-tailed Macaque, Dusky Langur, Pangolin, Mouse Deer and Siamese Hare.

Various kinds of bird such as Bulbul, Helmeted Hornbill, Southern Pied Hornbill, Great Hornbill, Crow-billed Drongo, Asian Fairy-bluebird as well as reptiles and amphibians.

Attractions

◆ **Bang Hoi Waterfall.** The 3 tier waterfall is in Tambon Bang Hoi of Amphoe Tha Chang. It is never dry up.

◆ **Bang Cham Waterfall.** The medium size waterfall is very beautiful in rainy season. It is in Tambon Takuk Nuea of Amphoe Vibhavadi.

◆ **Khlong Pha Waterfall.** The medium size waterfall cascades through 7 tiers. It can be visited all the year round. The waterfall is in Tambon Khlong Pha of Amphoe Tha Chana.

Hot Spring. Situated in Tambon Takuk Nuea of Amphoe Vibhavadi, the hot spring cover almost half a hectare area. It is surrounded by saltlick, so wildlife such as Wild Boar, Common Muntjak, Pigeon, Parrot and Dove is always seen.

◆ **Khlong Yan** or Yan Canal. The beautiful stream in Tambon Takuk Nuea of Amphoe Vibhavadi is equipped with rapids. It is a very nice route for rafting.

◆ **Khlong Sa.** It is another nice and exciting stream for rafting.

Khao Lak-Lamru National Park



Famed for its peaceful beach that stretches kilometres on Andaman coast, the park acquires total area of 125 square kilometres, covering parts of Amphoe Takua Pa, Kapong, Thai Mueang, and Mueang of Phangnga. The country's 66th national park was established in 1991.

Geography

The park features rugged mountains, the highest peak at 1,077 metres above sea level.

Flora and fauna

As vast majority is rugged and steep mountains, the area is dominated by tropical rain forest whose main plants are *Dipterocarpus baudi*, *Parashorea*

stellata, *Shorea foxworthyi*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Alstonia scholaris*, *Parkia speciosa*, *P.timoriana* and *Mesua ferrea*.

Beach forest occupies small area by the sea where *Casuarina equisetifolia* and *Pandanus odoratissimus* are found.

Wildlife found in its lush forest includes Malayan Tapir, Tiger, Serow, Crab-eating Macaque, Langur, Gibbon, Sambar Deer, Common Muntjak, Common Wild Boar, Asiatic Black Bear, Black Giant Squirrel, Mouse Deer, Treeshrew, Spine-necked Monitor and Water Monitor.

Different kinds of bird such as Great Argus, Great Hornbill, Maroon Woodpecker, Red Junglefowl, Ashy Drongo, Common Myna, Hill Myna, Golden-throated Barbet, Minivet and Bulbul.

Attractions

Lined by Phetchakasem Highway and Andaman Sea, attractions in the national park's boundary can be accessed easily. Its headquarters is located nearby the road for 50 metres only, 33 kilometres south of Amphoe Takua Pa.



◆ **Lam Ru Waterfall.** The medium size waterfall cascades delicately through 5 steps.

◆ **Ton Chong Fa Waterfall,** very beautiful waterfall is a nice place to visit.

◆ **Lam Phrao Waterfall** and Hin Lat Waterfall. Plai Bang To Canal flows through the both waterfalls respectively.

◆ **Khao Lak coast.** The long untouched beach, is quite fascinating by calmness. Coral reef is under recovery process after long affect by mining in the sea. The viewpoint on the cliff offers great scenery around.

◆ **Khlong Lamru Yai.** The canal comprises many tributaries, each of which runs through beautiful waterfall. It is lifeline of Amphoe Thai Mueang.

Only 10 kilometres from the headquarters is Thap Lamu Pier where headquarters of Mu Ko Similan National Park is located.

The pier is major transportation hub for tourist going to Mu Ko Similan and Mu Ko Surin National Park. Chartered boats, resorts, and restaurants are available.



Getting there

■ Regular buses are available from Amphoe Takua Pa and Phuket. It takes 30 minutes and 2 hours respectively.

Khao Lampi-Hat Thai Mueang National Park



The forest of Khao Lampi and Hat Thai Mueang has been famed for its high and beautiful waterfall called Lampi. The forest was declared as National Permanent Forest since 1961. It was upgraded into Forest Park and eventually national park in 1986 as the country's 52nd national park. The national park offers both stunning waterfall in lush forest as well as long beach to impress sea lover. The parks covered area in Amphoe Thai Mueang of Phangnga.

Geography

Acquiring total area of 72 square kilometres in Phangnga province, the park was cut through in the middle by Phetkasem Highway which divided it into two areas, the Beach of Hat Thai Mueang and the

tropical rain forest of Khao Lampi.

On the eastern side of the road, Khao Lampi acquires total area of 57.85 square kilometres. The mountain range lies in north-south direction comprises many mountains such as Khao Khanim, Khao Lampi, Khao Lam Lang, Khao Ton Yan Sai. Khao Khanim is the highest peak at the elevation of 622 metres above sea level.

Climate

Its highest temperature is 34.7 degrees Celsius and 20.87 degrees Celsius for the lowest. Calm sea and bright blue sky from December to April makes it an ideal period to visit the park.

Flora and fauna

The forest is watershed that fills up many

streams which flow into Andaman Sea. They include Khlong Khanim, Khlong Lampi, Khlong Lam Lang, Khlong Phlu and etc. The tropical rainforest has *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Hopea odorata*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Heritiera sumatrana*, *Payena acuminata*, *Calamus longisetus* and Bamboo.

On the western side, Hat Tai Mueang acquires 14.15 square kilometres. The beautiful beach stretches 13.6 kilometres along the coast from Amphoe Thai Mueang to Laem Ao Kham or Khao Na Yak. Mangrove forest, where *Rhizophora mucronata*, *R. apiculata*, *Xylocarpus granatum*, *Bruguiera cylindrica* and *Avicennia alba* can be found, blankets sea-side muddy area and canal mouths.

Some areas are all occupied by Beach forest with *Nypa isetus*. There are *Casuarina equisetifolia*, *Terminalia catappa*, *Barringtonia asiatica*, *Hibiscus tiliaceus* and *Scaevola taccada* in the heart of the area.

Peat swamp forest, where *Melaleuca quinquenervia*, grows densely, occupies the fresh water swamp which acquires 1.6 square kilometres.

Wildlife found commonly in the park includes Common Wild Boar, Palm Civet, Asiatic Black Bear, Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer and Dusky Langur.

Birds and other animals such as Oriental Magpie Robin, Common Kingfisher, Common Myna, Thick-billed Pigeon, Hill Myna, Red Junglefowl, Barbet, Bulbul, Dove, Crow, King Cobra, and Reticulated Python.

Attractions

◆ **Lampi Waterfall.** Originated from Lampi Range, the waterfall cascades through 4 steps into



Getting there

■ From Tai Mueng municipality, motorist can directly go through asphalt road to the park's headquarters which is 6.5 kilometres away. Scheduled bus is available from Kok Kloy Intersection to Tai Mueng Market, the journey takes 20 minutes. From the market, it takes 10 minutes by motorcycle to the park.



a big pool. The famous waterfall is situated 1.8 kilometres off Phetkasem Road. Its entrance is opposite Ban Lampi.

◆ **Ton Phrai Waterfall.** The big waterfall drops from 50 metres high cliff to the big pool below, making it a nice place to swim. The waterfall is situated among lush nature. Its entrance is 7 kilometres off Phetkasem Road, opposite to Ban Tha Zo.

◆ **Ton Bang Po.** The remote waterfall snakes through lush forest. It is 25 kilometres from the headquarters and cannot be accessed by car.

◆ **Hat Thai Mueang.** The long beach stretches from Amphoe Thai Mueang to Khao Na Yak. It is a favoured place for turtle to lay egg during November to March of each year. However, its steep beach makes it unsafe to swim during monsoon season.

◆ **Thung Samet.** The sandy field of 1.6 square kilometres are, where is stand of *Melaleuca quinquenervia*, is situated in the mid of Hat Thai Mueang.

Khao Luang National Park

In the southern peninsular of Thailand is lined by rugged mountain range. In Nakhon Si Thammarat Range, Khao Luang National Park is a significant natural heritage. Forest of Khao Luang, the highest peak of southern Thailand, is one of the wildest and most beautiful places in the region. Besides feeding many streams which are lifelines of the region, the park contains great biodiversity. Its outstanding plants such as *Cyathea podophylla* or tree fern, and remarkable waterfalls, and other natural beauties, all shape up it as an important tourist attraction. Established in 1974, Thailand's 8th national park acquires total area of 570 square kilometres, covered in Amphoe Lan Saka, Chawang, Mueang, Phipun, Phomma khiri, King Chang Klang and Nopphitam of Nakhon Si Thammarat.

Geography

Rugged mountain range, which are part of Nakhon Si Thammarat Range. Khao Luang is the highest peak towering at 1,835 metres.

Climate

In December, the lowest temperature is 15-17 degrees Celsius. In the hottest month, April, the temperature rises to 28-30 degrees Celsius.

Flora and fauna

Monsoon from the both sides of peninsular blow the high mountain all the year round, soaking it with rain and moisture. Such condition suits tropical rain forest to prosper. The forest can be divided into two categories.

Hill evergreen forest occupies the land from 1,000 metres elevation to the mountain summit. Its major plants include *Styrax* sp., *Helicia* sp., *Mesua ferrea*, *Goniothalamas expansus*, *Dipteris conjugata*



and *Calamus housigonii*. Tropical evergreen forest Blankets most are of the park. Its major plants include *Dipterocarpus alatus* and *Hopea odorata*.

The park houses probably over 300 orchid species, some are endemic such as *Cirrhopetalum retusiusculum*, *Bulbophyllum smithinandii*, *B. congestum*, *Epipogium roseum* and *Didymoplexiopsis khiriwon-gensis*.

Besides, Khao Luang is habitat for over 327 animal species. Malayan Tapir, Serow, Pig-tailed Macaque, Bush-tailed Porcupine, Clouded Leopard, Common





Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Panther, Tiger, Malayan Sun Bear, Dusky Langur, Crested Fireback, Pigeon, Great Argus, Hornbill and Sunbird can be found.

There are many rare reptiles namely Tao Chak, Ngu Lam Pak Pet (*Python curtus*), Red-headed Krait.

Attractions

◆ **Karom Waterfall.** The very beautiful waterfall cascades through 19 tiers, but it can be visited at the 7th tier namely "Nan Dat Fa", which is the most beautiful part of the waterfall. The park's headquarters is located in the waterfall compound.

◆ **Phrom Lok Waterfall.** The fall cascades through 50 tiers, but tourists can visit up to the 4th tier only. It is situated in Tambon Phrom Lok.

◆ **Ai-Khiao or Nai Khiao Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall cascades through over 100 tiers. Tourist is allowed to visit up to the 9th tier only. It is situated on the same way to Phrom Lok Waterfall.

◆ **Krung Ching Waterfall.** Surrounded with rich biodiversity, the famous waterfall is quite beautiful. Around the waterfall, there are nature trails that suits plant study and bird watching. Its impressive tier,

Getting there

- Nakhon Si Thammarat is 800 kilometres from Bangkok. Various modes of transport are available from Bangkok. From Nakhon Si Thammarat, motorists can use highway 4015 bound for Amphoe Lan Saka. The park is another 20 kilometres.
- Krung Ching Waterfall is 62 kilometres from Nakhon Si Thammarat. Motorist can use highway 4016, turn left at Na Reng Intersection, then get on highway 4188 at Ban Huai Phan. The forestry unit at the waterfall is another 8 kilometres.



"Fon Saen Ha" is so beautiful that it is printed in the 1,000 baht banknote. Area around the waterfall once was used as military base of the communist. Today, some evidences such as shelter cave, storage cave, basketball court, remain around the waterfall.

◆ **Tha Phae Waterfall.** The waterfall flows through 10 tiers. It is 6 kilometres from Karom Waterfall.

◆ **Suan Ai Waterfall.** The small fall cascades through 5 tier. It is situated in Amphoe Chawang, 60 kilometres from Nakhon Si Thammarat.

◆ **Kao Surakan Cave.** The 700 metres long cave is beautified by rock formation. It is in Tambon Khao Kao, 3 kilometres prior to the park.

◆ **Viewpoint** on Khao Luang Summit. Towering at 1,835 metres above sea level, the summit is an ideal place for those who wants to explore Hill Evergreen Forest or study about the plant species. As it is very sensitive area for biological aspect, it is not suit for most tourists.

Khao Nam Khang National Park

Since previous day, Khao Nam Khang is famed for its cold weather and dew drop that soaks the mountain even at noon. Besides a number of beautiful waterfalls, the park also houses evidences of the long battle between Thai government and the Chinese communist terrorist in the area. Established in 1991, Khao Nam Khang National Park is the country's 65th national park. It acquires total area of 212 square kilometres in Amphoe Na Thawi and Sadao of Songkhla.



Geography

The national park is occupied by rugged mountains which stretches to Thailand-Malaysia Border. Its important peaks include Khuan Saya and Khuan Khao Mai.

Khao Nam Khang is the highest peak at 710 metres above sea level. It is watershed that feeds many streams such as Khlong Na Thawi, Khlong Prik, Khlong Thap Chang, and Khlong Sai Khao.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest dominates most area of the park. Its precious plants include *Intsia palembanica*, *Hopea odorata*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *S.farinosa*, *S. leprosula*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Michelia champaca*, *Parashorea stellata*, *Swintonia* sp., *Cratoxylum maingayi*, *Cynometra iripa*, *Payena acuminata*, *Mangifera* sp., *Calamus* sp., *Salacca wallichiana*, *Musa* sp., Fern and Moss.



Getting there

■ Khao Nam Khang National park can be accessed from Amphoe Na Thawi of Songkhla. Motorist can bound for Sathon village, via Na Prang village, and Lum village, to the park. To cope with uphill, steep road in bad condition, four-wheel-drive vehicle is recommended.

built by communist terrorist during the war was served as a main camp in this area. There are armory and food storage chambers. The tunnel is a very nice place to study. Its eastern entrance leads to the most beautiful waterfall called “Namtok Phru Ching”.

◆ **Phru Ching Waterfall.** Situated 4 kilometres from the park's headquarters, it is the highest waterfall in the park.

◆ **Ton Mai Pak Waterfall.** The waterfall drops from high cliff, with a log nailed to the ground below. It is quite a remote attraction. Tourists has to walk the whole day to get there. A leading staff or ranger officer is required.

Wildlife found in the park include Common Wild Boar, Malayan Sun Bear, Common Muntjak, Serow, Pig-tailed Macaque, Gibbon, Malayan Tapir, Panther, Mouse Deer and Palm Civet.

Various birds such as Hornbill, Great Argus, Pheasant, Chestnut-necklaced Partridge, Common Myna, Oriental Magpie Robin and Gold-whiskered Barbet.

Attractions

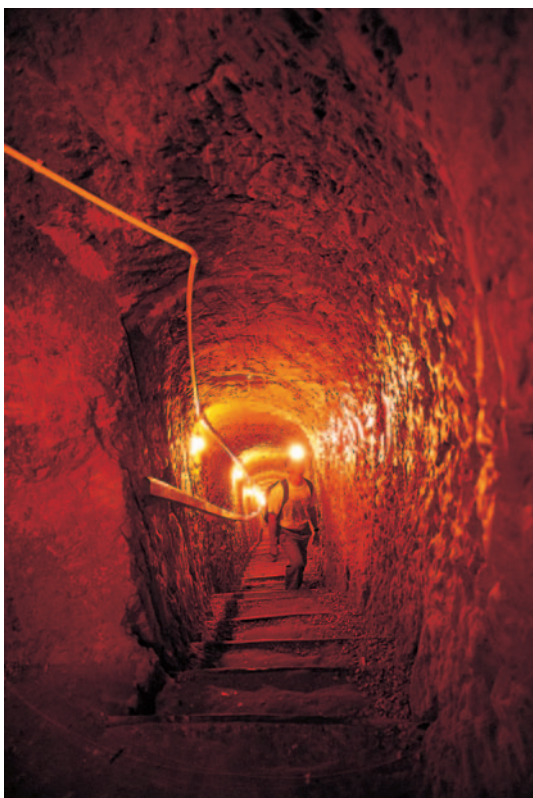
◆ **Ton Lat Waterfall.** The waterfall flows over sloping area which is covered by thick green moss. It is visited by a handful of tourists, so nature remains in excellent condition. The waterfall is 5 kilometres from Na Prang Village.

◆ **Ton Dat Fa Waterfall.** The stream falls from a high block, on top covered by a roof like rock. The 20 metres high waterfall is situated in nice surrounding of lush vegetable. Song from Gibbon and birds can be heard now and then.

◆ **Wang Luang Phrom Waterfall.** The small waterfall is divided into two streams by a big rock at the mid. Without disturbance from human, its deep pool is packed with big fishes.

◆ **Mueang Look Nueng.** Big rock close to the summit of Khao Nam Khang seems like a wall and the group of rock nearby look like the remaining of an ancient city.

◆ **Khao Nam Khang Tunnel.** Tunnel complex



Khao Phanom Bencha National Park



Rich in rugged mountain, lush forest and wildlife, is a very significant natural site of Krabi. Acquiring 50.12 square kilometres in Amphoe Ao Luk, Khao Phanom and Mueang of Krabi, the country's 30th national park was established in 1981.

Geography

The rugged mountain range lies in north-south direction. It comprises Khao Phanom and Khao Phanom Bencha with the highest peak at 1,397 metres above sea level.

These mountains feed many streams such as Khlong Ton, Khlong Krabi Noi, Khlong Photak, Khlong Pakasai, Huai Sakhe, Huai San and Huai Phai. These streams are lifelines of Krabi people.

Climate

Southwest and Northeast Monsoon blow the park, making it warm and wet all the year round. Summer season is from January to April, the best period for visitors to get there and rainy season is from May to December. From June to October is the wettest period.



Flora and fauna

Getting wet all the year round, thus tropical rain forest blankets the whole park with *Hopea odorata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Michelia champaca*, *Parkia speciosa*, *Baccaurea* sp., *Calamus* sp. and Rattan.

The lush forest is home to Serow, Common Wild Boar, Panther, Clouded Leopard, Asiatic Black Bear, Mouse Deer, Dusky Langur, White-handed Gibbon, Stump-tailed Macaque, Dhole, Black Giant Squirrel, Malayan Tapir, Civet and Slow Loris.

Many species of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Helmeted Hornbill, Great Hornbill, Wreathed Hornbill, Bushy-crested Hornbill, Barred Button Quail, Crested Wood-Partridge, Pheasant, Red Junglefowl, Collared Scops-Owl, Large-tailed Nightjar and Blyth's Hawk-eagle.

Attractions

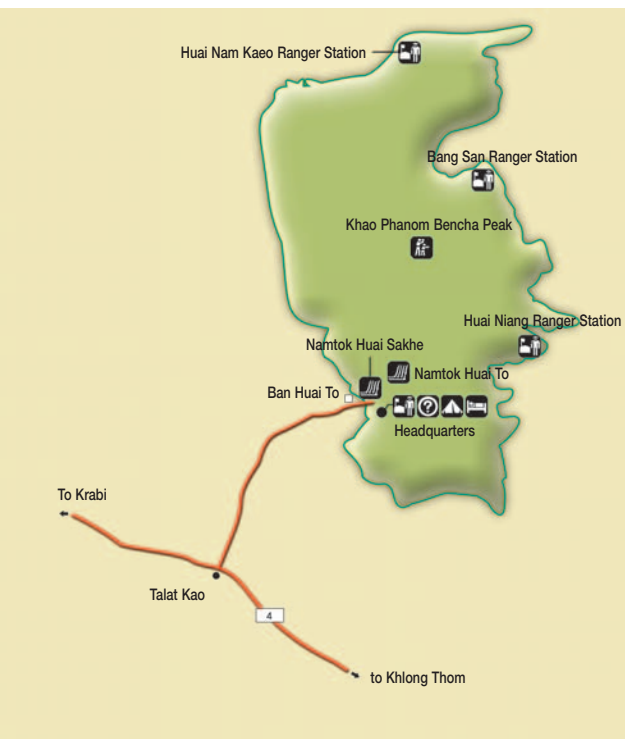
◆ **Huai To Waterfall.** The greatest fall in the park with 11 tier is originated by the stream from Khao Phanom Bencha Mountain. Some tier is 80 metres high. There are lots of big pond where tourist can enjoy swimming. The waterfall is 500 metres from the park's headquarters.

◆ **Huai Sakhe Waterfall.** The 3 tier waterfall is close to Huai To waterfall. It is 1.2 kilometres from the headquarters



◆ **Khao Phueng Cave.** Situated 3 kilometres from the headquarters, the cave complex comprises 5 caves. They houses rock formations in different shapes like mushroom, pagoda, curtains and etc. Some turn beautifully glittering under the light.

◆ **Khao Phanom Bencha.** The peak at 1,397 metres above sea level offer nice view of Krabi town. The trail leading to the peak cuts through lush tropical forest, a guiding staff is required.



Getting there

■ From Ban Talad Kao Intersection is Krabi, use Si Trang Road for a kilometre the turn left to get on Ban Talat Kao-Ban Huai To road. The park is another 20 kilometres. Local bus leaves Ban Talat Kao for Huai To Waterfall. The fare is 15 baht each.

Khao Pu-Khao Ya National Park



Its lush evergreen forest all the year round makes the park debut, and named as the 'Virgin Forest'. Among the embrace of Banthat Range, its plain in the heart of the park houses stream side and tree top "Tarzan Huts". Such cute accommodations become symbol of the park eventually.

Khao Pu-Khao Ya National Park acquires total area of 694 square kilometres, covering parts of Nakhon Si Thammarat, Trang, and Patthalung. The country's 42nd national park was established in 1982.

Geography

The park is situated on plateau in the valley, surrounded by rugged ranges such as Banthat, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Khao Pu-Khao Ya, Khao Sam Roi Yot, and etc. The lush forest feed many clear streams such as Khlong Yai, Khlong Khao-Ta Krai,

Huai Lamliang, Huai Lamsin, Huai Nam Sai, Huai Mut.

Climate

Lush tropical rain forest has drawn lots of rain to the park. Its mean temperature is at 22 degrees Celsius. During the fruit season, from April to August, is the best time to visit the park. Tourist can enjoy various fruits such as Mangosteen, Longan, Rambutan, Durian and Sator.

Flora and fauna

The vast tropical rain forest has major plants include *Hopea odorata*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Calamus* sp., *Musa acuminata*, *Parashorea stellata* and Herbs. As the park is situated by Khao Banthat Wildlife Sanctuary, there are many wildlife roaming between two places. The often

Getting there

- From Patthalung, motorist can use Khuan Khanun-Khao Pu Road for 14 kilometres. The park entrance is opposite to Ban Huai Nao. From there, the park is another 4 kilometres.

found animals include Serow, Malayan Tapir, Bear, Pangolin, Common Muntjak, Mongoose, Macaque, Langur, Great Hornbill, Dove and Hill Myna.

Attractions

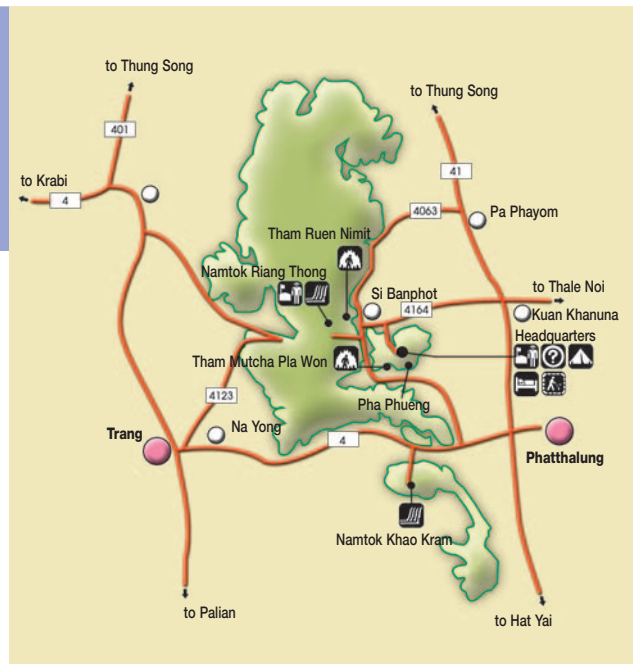
◆ **Ruen Thep Nimit Cave.** The beautiful cave in Khao Poo Mountain is decorated naturally by rock formations in different shapes, including an elephant rock in green. Khao Pu is considered a holy place. The cave is only a kilometre from Khao Pu Police Station.

◆ **Wang Nai Phut Cave.** The huge cave, actually a tunnel, is 100 metres wide and 400 metres long. It is fascinating by rock formations. Its numerous chambers are home to thousands of bat. The cave is 70 kilometres from the park's headquarters.

◆ **Rean Thong Waterfall.** Its 13th tier is the most beautiful one. The camping ground by the waterfall offer great view of Thale Noi Lake and Khao Pu-Khao Ya Mountain in the embrace of Sam Roi Yod Range. It is 7 kilometres from Khao Poo Market.

◆ **Khao Kram Waterfall.** Cascading through 9 tiers, the waterfall finally flows into the big pool which is rich of different fishes. It is situated in Khao Kram Forest, 7 kilometres from Petkasem Road.

◆ **Mathcha Pla Won Cave.** The medium-size



cave has a pool at 100 square metres in size which is home to a big school of Pla mud. The cave is also home to different kinds of bat such as Round leaf Bat and Horseshoe Bat. The cave is 2.5 kilometres from the headquarters.

◆ **Pha Phung Viewpoint.** Situated only 300 metres from the headquarters, the cliff offers scenery of greenery. During February to April of each year, the cliff is packed with hundreds of beehives.

◆ **Pak Chaem Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall is situated in Amphoe Huai Yot of Trang province.

◆ **Nam Plieu Waterfall.** The small waterfall is blanketed by Pra (*Elateriospermum tapos*), the ginger family plant which turns the whole area into red every dry season.

◆ **Thara Warin Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall is situated in Amphoe Thung Song of Nakhon Si Thammarat.

◆ **Nan Kwai Plat Waterfall.** The waterfall is situated in Amphoe Mueang of Trang.

◆ **Nan Sawan Waterfall.** The stream that supplies water to the fall is tributaries of Huai Nam Sai Reservoir.

◆ **Nan Pliw Waterfall.** The waterfall is very high. It is situated in lush forest in Patthalung.

The park has many more attractions include nature trail, caves, mountains and pools.

Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park

The country's first marine national park was established in 1966. Located in the western coast in the Gulf of Thailand, the park features various landscapes such as towering limestone mountain, freshwater marsh, coastal plain, sea and offshore island. Total area 98.08 square kilometres in Amphoe Kui Buri and King Sam Roi Yot, Prachuap Khiri Khan.

Geography

In its total area of 98.08 square kilometres, there are various ecosystems namely mangrove forest, limestone forest, and aquatic ecosystem.

The towering limestone range, with the highest peak at 605 metres above sea level, actually has hundreds of peaks scattered around. Its main peaks

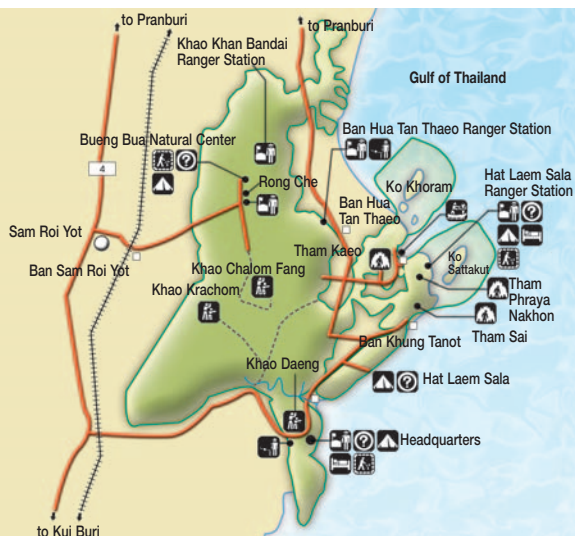
include Khao Yai, Khao Tham Prathun, Khao Daeng, Khao Hup Chan and Khao Khan Bandai. Natural erosion has created some caves and chimneys such as Kao Cave, Sai Cave, and Phraya Nakhon Cave.

Flora and fauna

Beach forest, mixed deciduous and mangrove forest blanket the national parks, major plants include *Casuarina equisetifolia*, *Thespesia populnea*, *Azadirachta indica*, *Manilkara hexandra*, *Diospyros mollis*, *Terminalia catappa*, *Wrightia arborea*, *Agave crassifolia*, *Rhizophora mucronata*, *R. apiculata*, *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Avicennia marina*.

The plants in freshwater marsh are *Neyraudia reynaudiana*, *Arundo donax*, *Saccharum arundinaceum*, *Echinochloa crus-galli*, *Nelumbo nucifera*, *Marsilea crenata*, *Colocasia gigantea* and *Eleocharis* sp..





Getting there

- From Bangkok, motorists can use highway 4 to Pranburi intersection in Amphoe Pranburi of Prachuap Khiri Khan. Turn left and get on Pak Nam Pran Road for 4 kilometres and turn right, keep going for 31 to reach the headquarters.
- Or motorists can turn left at kilometre 286.5 (at Ban Samrong) and keep going for 14 kilometres to the headquarters.
- Regular buses and air-conditioned coaches leave Southern Bus Terminal of Bangkok for Amphoe Pranburi. From Pranburi bus station, there are bus and chartered car to Bang Pu and headquarters.

Freshwater marsh on the western side of the park, acquiring area of 36.8 square kilometres, is a natural reservoir filled up by many streams from Tanaosi Range. The marsh is stronghold for birds, freshwater fishes, and other aquatic animals.

Such rich varieties in ecosystems make Khao Sam Roi Yot an ideal habitat for aquatic animals as well as animals which feed on it. There are up to 296 species of common and migratory birds, such as Purple Heron, Lesser Tree-duck, Garganey, Little Ringed Plover, Lesser Sand Plover, Marsh Sandpiper, Rufous-necked Stint, Far Eastern Curlew, Asian Dowitcher, Slaty-breasted Rail, Purple Swampphen, Peregrine Falcon, Little Tern, Malaysian Plover, White-bellied Sea-eagle and Woodpecker.

Its limestone mountains are home to Serow, Common Muntjak, Crab-eating Macaque, Spectacled Langur, Common Wild Boar, Limestone Rat, Palm Civet, Porcupine and Siamese Hare.

Attractions

◆ **Khao Daeng.** Viewpoint on the crest of Khao Daeng, 157 metres above sea level, offers beautiful sunrise view over Ban Khao Daeng and the surrounding scenery. White-bellied Sea Eagle, Brahminy Kite, Crab-eating Macaque, Leaf monkey can be found in early morning.

◆ **Khao Daeng Canal.** Tourists can cruise from Khao Daeng Temple to enjoy scenery of mangrove forest and bird watching along the canal. It takes an hour for cruising in the 4 kilometres long canal.

◆ **Sam Phraya Beach.** Situated 5 kilometres north of the headquarters, the quiet 1 kilometres long beach is lined with casuquina trees. Camping is allowed and restaurants are available.

◆ **Kaeo Cave.** In Chan Valley, the cave features impressive formation of translucent stalagmites and stalactites. To explore the untouched cave, whose floor is paved with big rocks, remains difficult. Good torch and park staff are required. It takes 2 hours for this cave trip. The cave is 16 kilometres from headquarters.

◆ **Laem Sala Beach.** The u-shape sandy beach is pretty quiet as it cannot be accessed by car. Beach lover can get chartered boat from Ban Bang Pu or walk from Khao Thian, 4 kilometres from Ban Bang Pu or 13 kilometres from headquarters. Uphill stairway from Khao Thian leads to the lonely beach. It takes 20 minutes by walking.

◆ **Phraya Nakhon Cave.** The huge, three-chambered cave is special as it houses royal pavilion of King Rama V who spent a visit the cave on June 20, 1890. Two of its three caves have a chimney, allowing vegetable to grow at incredible height. The cave is 430 metres from Laem Sala Beach, through uphill trail.

◆ **Sai Cave.** Rock formation in the cave makes it worth a visit. The cave tour takes an hour. Lamp is available for rent at Ban Khung Tanot.

◆ **Thung Sam Roi Yot.** The vast freshwater marsh is rich in variety of animal and plants. It is home to great number of birds, both common and migrating birds, makes it a significant place for bird watching.

Khao Sok National Park

Famed for its unique landscape of limestone cliffs towering right up from reflecting reservoir, the park features rugged mountain range with tiny plain. With natural beauty and great deal of wildlife, the park was declared in 1980 as Thailand's 22nd national park. It acquires total 738.74 square kilometres in Amphoe Phanom and Ban Takhun of Surat Thani.

Geography

The park features soil and rugged limestone mountains with unique landscape. There is tiny plain in the park. From the average 200 metres from the sea level, the highest peak rises to 960 metres.

Climate

The rain starts from April to December. May to November is the wettest period. During December and April is the ideal period to visit the park.

Flora and fauna

Khao Sok houses both the plants species from the Indochina and Indomalayan eco-region. Tropical rain forest blanket the park with *Dipterocarpus gracilis*, *hopea odorata* and the unique *Rafflesia kerrii*.

The park is home to numerous wildlife such as Asian Elephant, Gaur, Banteng, Fea's Muntjak, Tiger, Malayan Tapir, Leopard, Serow and different kinds of bird as well as rare animals like Giant Frog.

Attractions

◆ **Wing Hin Waterfall.** The 20 metres high waterfall has numerous rocks which allow people to walk across the canal.

◆ **Tang Nam.** The towering cliff is eroded by the stream, cutting it by half and making it two cliffs facing each other. Khlong Sok below is home to numerous fishes. The cliff is 6 kilometres from the



headquarters and 3.2 kilometres from Wing Hin Waterfall. Visitor requires to trek for 3.2 kilometres.

◆ **Ton Kloi Waterfall.** Originated from Khlong Sok, the waterfall entertains visitor all the year round. There is a rock terrace to relax. It is 9 kilometres from headquarters.

◆ **Ton Sai Waterfall.** The small waterfall is 11 kilometres from the headquarters.

◆ **Than Sawan Waterfall.** The rainbow like waterfall is situated 9 kilometres from the headquarters and 3 kilometres from Tang Nam.

◆ **Sip-et Chan Waterfall.** Khlong Bang Lan cascades through 11 tiers into a big pool. Lots of rock make it a nice place to sit back and relax. Tourist require to trek 4 kilometres from the headquarters.



◆ **Mae Yai Waterfall.** The 30 metres high waterfall is situated at kilometres 113 on the Surat Thani-Takua Pa Road. The waterfall is very beautiful during the cliff is hidden by a curtain of mist and spray in rainy season.

◆ **Tham Khang Khao** or Bat Cave. The cave with beautiful rock formations and chambers is habitat for numerous bats. It is 21 kilometres from headquarters.

◆ **Khuean Ratchaprapha** or **Chiao Lan Dam.** The 700 metre long multi-purpose dam blocks Khlong Phra Saeng which floods the whole valley. Situated in the huge of rugged mountain range, the reservoir covers 165 square kilometres. Over 100 peaks become islands amidst picturesque reservoir. Channel at Khao Kalo Mountain seems to be the most beautiful place.

◆ **Nam Thalu Cave.** The 500 metres long tunnel where subterranean river runs through is beautified formations of stalagmites and stalactites. Tourist requires to take the boat from Khuean Ratchaprapha's reservoir. The cruise takes two hours in the reservoir and another 15 minutes through Khlong Pae Canal. The cave is another 4 kilometres by trekking.

Getting there

■ Located on highway 401, the park can be reached from both Surat Thani and Amphoe Takua Pa of Phang Nga. Its entrance is at kilometre 109, the park is 1.5 kilometres off the main road. The entrance at kilometre 52-53, and 67-68 lead to the reservoir, 14 kilometres away.



Khlong Phanom National Park

Situated on rugged limestone range, the park is soaked all the year round by heavy rain. Thus, its tropical rain forest is watershed that feeds Tapi River, the only lifeline of Surat Thani. Established in 2000, the park acquires total area of 410.40 square kilometres, covered in Amphoe Phanom of Surat Thani.

Geography

Rugged and steep mountains dominate 80 percent of the park's area, mostly in the northern part. There are limestone mountains, towering cliff and mountain range line in east-west direction. The highest peak, at the heart of the park, is 870 metres mean sea level. The plain occupies only 20 percent of the park. They are mostly plains in the valley. On, average, the plain is situated around 200 metres above sea level.

Climate

Like most part of southern Thailand, the park is

blown all the year round by Northeast and Southwest Monsoon. Dense forest on the high mountains attracts rain, soaking the park year round. The rainy season is from May to December and summer is from January to April.

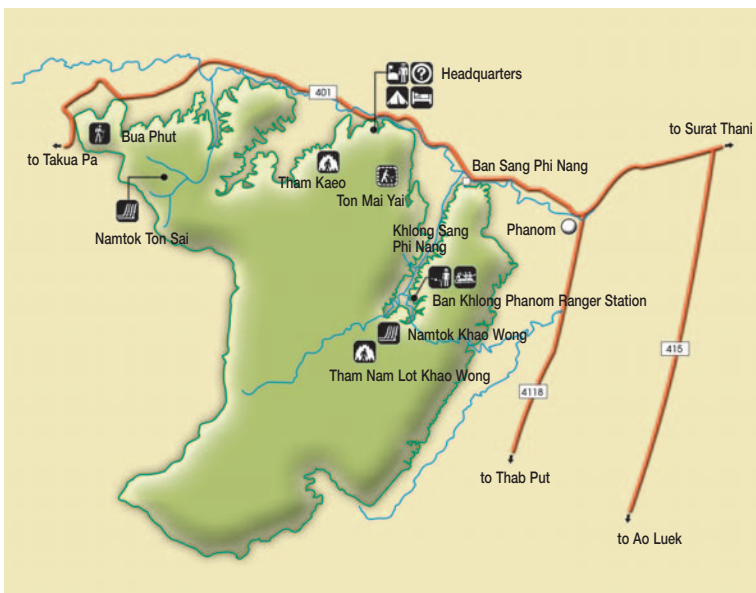
Flora and fauna

The dense jungle of Khlong Phanom National Park is home to numerous plants such as *Parishia insignis*, *Hopea odorata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Barringtonia pendula*, *Lagerstroemia speciosa*, *Mesua nervosa*, *Duabanga grandiflora*, *Toona ciliata*, *Salacca wallichiana*, *Calamus* sp., *Caryota baccensis*, *Thelypyeris* sp., *Cynometra iripa*, Bamboo, Fern and different kinds of climbing plants.

There are some rare plants species such as *Koompassia excelsa*.

Such lush forest is home to various wildlife such as Asian Elephant, Sambar Deer, Malayan Tapir, Tiger, Bear, Serow, Common Wild Boar, White-handed Gibbon, Pig-tailed Macaque, Langur, Squirrel,





Getting there

■ The park's headquarters is located by highway no. 401 between Amphoe Phanom and Amphoe Takua Pa.

stalagmites and stalactites. It takes 45 minutes to Jack Fruit, Guava, Lemon through the tunnel and flash light is greatly required.

◆ Chong Yung Waterfall.

Situated amidst lush jungle, the waterfall cascades into the big swamp.

Common Muntjak and Mouse Deer.

Various kinds of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Olive-winged Bulbul, Barn Swallow, Green-billed Malkoha, Ashy Drongo, Dark-necked Tailorbird, Common Iora, Collared Scops-Owl, Greater Green Leafbird, Gold-whiskered Barbet and Greater Coucal.

Attractions

◆ **Khao Wong Camp.** Established since 1969, the camp is a frontline strong of the Communist Party of Thailand. Records are found on the cave wall in the camp. Visitor requires to trek by 8 tiers Khao Wong Waterfall, former plantation of the communist, and trek for 45 minutes through a tunnel with subterranean stream, to the hidden camp in the valley.

In the embrace of mountain, there are many caves served for various purposes such as the cave for the General, meeting cave, armory cave. There are canteen, takraw court, basketball court, and the field for marshalling forces.

◆ **Khiri Wong Waterfall and Khiri Wong Cave.** The big waterfall cascades through 8 tiers into the creek below before flowing through plantation area of Khao Wong Camp. Many trees such as Lime and Gauva remain in the area. The stream runs through a tunnel or Khiri Wong Cave, which is the only entrance to the Khao Wong Camp.

The cave houses beautiful formations of

Among its vast jungle, the park houses also various waterfalls, caves, and towering cliffs at 100-150 metres high. There are 2 caves, Non Cave and Man Cave, where formation of meika make the cave glittering.



Kui Buri National Park

To protect the forest from encroachment, the park was declared in 1999. Kui Buri National Park acquires 969 square kilometres area in Amphoe Pran Buri, Sam Roi Yot, Kui Buri and Mueang of Prachuap Khiri Khan.

Geography

Rugged mountains, which are part of Tenasserim Range, lie in north-south direction. The rugged mountain with 35 percent rotation is around 750 metres above sea level. Most rolling hills are encroached and replaced by pineapple, sugarcane

and vegetable plantation.

Climate

There are heavy rains in May, and from August to November. The average rainfall is 1,178.8 millimetres per year. Its lowest temperature is 25.3 degrees Celsius and highest at 29.3 degrees on average.

Flora and fauna

The park has lush tropical rain forest and tropical evergreen forest. Its significant plants include *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Dialium cochinchinense*,





Blachia siamensis, *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Canarium denticulatum*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Baccaurea* sp. and different kinds of palm such as *Calamus* sp., *Caryota bacsonensis* as well as *Zingiber officinale*.

With plenty of food and water, the national park has abundant wildlife. They include Asian Elephant, Guar, Banteng, Sambar Deer, Malayan Sun Bear, Common Muntjak, Malayan Tapir, Tiger, Leopard, White-handed Gibbon, Pig-tailed Macaque, Langur, Serow, Mouse Deer, Palm Civet, Common Wild Boar and Siamese Hare.

Variety of birds such as Great Hornbill, Pied Hornbill, Red Junglefowl, Scimitar-Babbler, White-rumped Shama, Spotted Dove, Zebra Dove, Javan Pond-Heron, Green-billed Malkoha, Streak-eared Bulbul and Cinnamon Bittern.

Amphibians such as Turtle, Terrapin, Soft-shell Turtle, Giant Frog, Tree Frog and various kinds of fresh waterfish.

Attractions

◆ **Huai Dong Mafai Waterfall.** The stream of Kui Buri Praek Kwa cascades through 15 tiers. Shady natural setting and crystal clear pools attracts people to enjoy it.

◆ **Pha Ma Hon Waterfall.** The stream of Kui Buri Praek Sai cascades through 3 steep cliffs. It has a big pool at the middle tier. Around the waterfall is quite nice by shady forest of fern and palm.

Getting there

- Motorist can head south via highway no.4 to Amphoe Mueang of Prachuap Khiri Khan. Turn right at kilometre 320 into highway no.3217 to the park.



Laem Son National Park

The picturesque marine national park, whose beautiful beaches and untouched nature always impress visitor, acquires 315 square kilometres area. Its boundary includes part of Amphoe Mueang, Kapoe and Suk Samran of Ranong and Amphoe Khura Buri of Phang Nga. The country's 46th national park was established in 1983.

Geography

Vast majority of the park's boundary is marine, representing 85.25 percent of the total area. That includes 60 kilometres long coast, two archipelagoes and other 8 islands. Ko Kham Yai has the highest peak at 296 metres above sea level.

Climate

The park is rather wet all the year round. It is raining from mid of May until mid of October, and raining heavily from June to September. Winter starts from mid October to February.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest covers most area in Khao Bang Ben and middle area of the islands such as Ko Piaknam Yai, Ko Piaknam Noi, Ko Thao, Ko Kam Yai, Ko Kam Nui, Ko Khai Yai, Ko Lan and Ko Khang Khao. Its major plants include *Dipterocarpus turbinatus*, *D.gracilis* and *Dracontomelen dao*.

The survey found the park is habitat to various kinds of wildlife. It houses 30 kinds mammals including Sunda Pangolin, Common Treeshrew, Crab-eating Macaque, Pig-tailed Macaque, Spectacled Langur, Common Wild Boar, Lesser Mouse Deer, Common Muntjak, Black Giant Squirrel, Grey-bellied Squirrel, Lesser Ricefield Rat, Yellow Rajah Rat and Bush-tailed Porcupine.

There are 175 kinds of resident and migration birds such as Cattle Egret, Brahminy Kite, Barred



Button Quail, Greater Coucal, Indian Roller, Barn Swallow, Yellow Wagtail, Grey Wagtail, Common Iora, Stripe-throated Bulbul, Black Drongo, Common Myna, Olive-backed Sunbird, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Spotted Wood-Owl and Scally-breasted Munia.

Besides, there are 23 reptiles species such as Gecko, Skink, Lizard, Sea snake and Snake, as well as 7 amphibian species such as Toad, Tree frog and Frog.

Its mangrove forest and coral reef is habitat and sanctuary for various aquatic animals such as Sea Turtle, Mullet, Ray, Needlefish, Coral Rockcod, White-collared Butterflyfish, Shrimp, Squid, Sea Crab, Sea Cucumber, Sea Star, Sea Shell, Coral and Sea Fan.

Attractions

◆ **Bang Ben Beach.** With shady *Casuarina* forest as backdrop, the wide beach stretches quite long. From the vast beach, where the park's headquarters is located on, tourist can see its coastal islands obviously.

◆ **Hat Laem Son.** Situated 4 kilometres from Bang Ben Beach, the white sandy beach is habitat for numerous kinds of bird. So, it is a nice place for bird watching camp.

◆ **Ko Kam Yai.** Ringed by white sandy beach and coral reef, the island is a nice place for

Getting there

■ Laem Son National Park is located on Bang Ben Beach. From Ranong, tourists can use Phetkasem Road and turn right at kilometre 657, some 6 kilometres prior to Amphoe Kapoe. The headquarters is 10 kilometres off the main road. The bus from Ranong takes one and a half hours to Ban Samnak Intersection, from there, it takes another 30 minutes by motorcycle to get to the park.

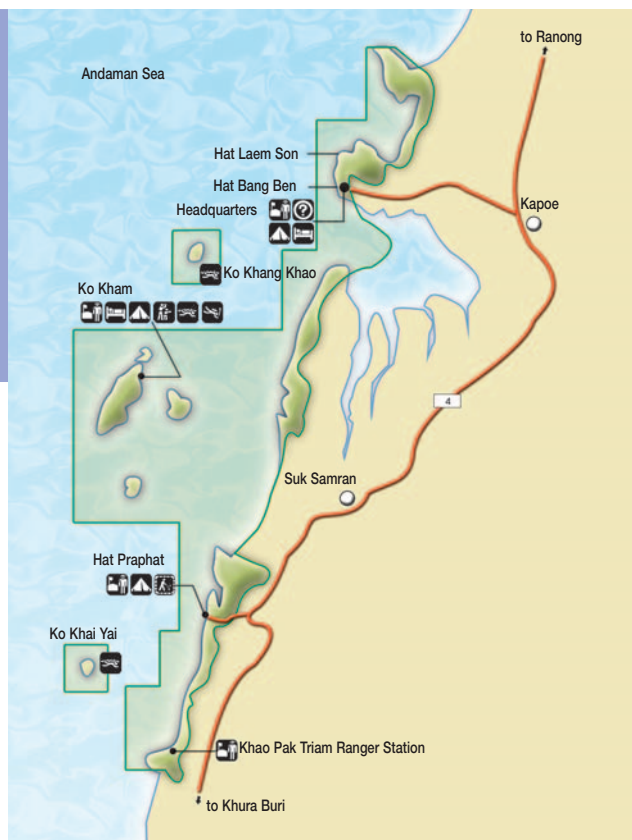
hideaway. Boat from Bang Ben Beach takes one hour to the island.

◆ **Ko Khang Khao.** The island is a nice place to relax among white untouched beach and coral reef. It takes 40 minutes from Bang Ben Beach to Ko Khang Khao.

◆ **Ko Kam Nui.** Close to Ko Kam Yai, the island has only beach. There are also many small islands around.

◆ **Hat Praphat.** Situated behind Kamphuan Village, the big beach amidst shady *Casuarina* forest is a tranquil place to relax although its sand is not very white.

◆ **Hat Ao Khoei.** The big and tranquil beach is quite worth a visit. Its beach forest and tropical rain forest remains lush. The beach is close to Khao Pak Triam, south of Hat Praphat.



◆ **Ko Khai Yai.** The island offers the best site for snorkeling. There are lots of big sea fans around this island. The island is 30 minutes from Praphat Beach by boat.



Lam Nam Kra Buri National Park

Bordering to Myanmar by Kra Buri River, the national park, which acquires total 160 square kilometres of land and sea was established since 1999. Its boundary covers Krabi River, an archipelago, mangrove forests in Kra Buri River, as well as many reserved forests in Amphoe Kra Buri and Mueang of Ranong.

Geography

Its boundary, 6 kilometres wide by 60 kilometres long, covers Kra Buri River and 6 islands in the river as well as 64 square kilometres of marine. Khao Mueang Sung is the highest peak. Among its vast boundary, there are mixed of forest types.

Tropical rain forest blankets Khlong Set Kuat Forest, Khao Hin Chang Forest, Khao Sam Laem

Forest, Pa La-un Forest and Rachakud Forest. Its endemic plant is “Khun” or *Podocarpus wallichianus* whose trunk shoots up right. The big tree gives fruit that looked like cashew nut. It can be found around Punyaban Waterfall, La-un Forest, and Rachakut Forest.

Flora and fauna

Mangrove forest can be found at the river mouth of La-un Canal and its island, as well as the banks of Kra Buri River. Its major plants include *Rhizophora mucronata*, *R.apiculata*, *Ceriops tagal*, *Xylocarpus moluccensis* and *X.granatum*..

Grassland. The grass land behind the park's headquarters, covers 1.6 square kilometres area. It was served as forestation venue, but fire had destroyed it every year.



Wildlife found in the park include Tiger, Clouded Leopard, Malayan Sun Bear, Common Wild Boar, Mouse Deer, Crab-eating Macaque, Palm Civet, Civet, Dusky Langur and Palm Civet.

Variety of birds such as Hawk, Coucal, Large-billed Crow, Hill Myna, Woodpecker, Dove, Magpie Robin, Hornbill and plenty of Red Junglefowl around the headquarters.

Attractions

◆ **Kra Buri River.** The 60 kilometres long river borders between Thailand and Myanmar. In its 6 kilometres width, there are islands and lush mangrove forest that good for cruising and rafting. The cooperation between Thailand and Myanmar to

Getting there

- The park headquarters is 18 kilometres from Ranong. Distance from Chumphon to the park's entrance is 90 kilometres.



promote tourism is expected once the park is well established.

◆ **Islands** in Kra Buri River. The islands, namely Ko Siat, Ko Khwang, Ko Yao, Ko Chon, Ko Pling and Ko Nok Plao are blanketed by remarkable lush mangrove forest.

◆ **Punyaban Waterfall.** The big waterfall is situated by Phetkasem highway, 2 kilometres from the headquarters. It is a major attraction which interest hundred thousands visitor in each year.

◆ **Set Kuat Cape.** The cape, blanketed by lush mangrove forest.

◆ **Tham Yipun** or Japan Cave. The cave on Ko Khwang once was used as a camp for Japanese Army during the World War II.

◆ **Ton Mai Pak Waterfall.** The 4 steps waterfall is situated 3 kilometres from Hat Yai Ranger Station.

◆ **Ban Hat Yai Hotspring.** The hotspring is situated by Hat Yai Ranger Station.

◆ **Viewpoint.** The viewpoint of Khao Hin Chang, by the headquarters, offers picturesque river view as countryside of Myanmar.

Mu Ko Ang Thong National Park



The archipelago once was a restricted area controlled by the Navy. After its beauty and high conservation value were realised, the Royal Forest Department conducted a survey and subsequently proposed the archipelago as a marine national park. Eventually, the country's 21st national park was established in 1980, and covered in Amphoe Ko Samui of Surat Thani.

Geography

Situated in the Gulf of Thailand, Mu Ko Ang Thong National Park is an archipelago with a total area of 102 square kilometres, of which 18 percent is terrestrial (island). The park comprises 42 islands, including Ko Phaluai, Ko Wua Talap, Ko Mae Ko, Ko Sam Sao, Ko Hin Dap, Ko Nai Phut, and Ko Phai Luak. Its highest peak, on Ko Phaluai, is 396 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

The mean temperature is 23 degrees Celsius. The ideal time to visit the park is during the off-monsoon period, from February to April.

Flora and fauna

Mu Ko Ang Thong features rugged and steep limestone mountains. The erosion caused by subter-

anean water results in sinkholes, caves, formations of stalagmites and stalactites, subterranean rivers, and inland marine lakes. There are three marine lakes, two on Ko Wua Talap and one on Ko Mae Ko.

With a mean water depth at 10 metres as well as heavy sediment from the Tapi River, the water has low visibility. The steep shore only allows narrow coral reefs to occupy areas close to the southwestern shore and the area behind the Northeast Monsoon barrier. The main coral species include Brain Coral, on the upper level, leaving the deeper and dimmer area to Coral in the genus *Pavona*. Around such coral reef, divers can find Striped Butterflyfish, Parrotfish, Golden Stingray, Black-tipped Shark and Rockcod. The inner area, where the current is slow, is habitat for Sea Cucumber and Sea Crab.

In the deep waters by the island, where there is insufficient sunlight for coral to grow, Sea Fan, Sea Whip and Comb Sea Fan dominate. The muddy water is rich in nutrients, therefore, filter feeders such as Sea Shell and Soft Coral are abundant. The area is also a nursery for various marine life, particularly Fishes and Squids.

On the land, dry evergreen forest covers the mountains and flourishes by the streams of the bigger islands. Significant plants include *Memecylon ovatum*, *Manikara hexandra* and *M.cyanum*. Beach forest is scattered around with *Barringtonia* sp. and *Hydnocarpus illicifolia*. The limestone mountains are home for small plants such as *Marinda coreia*, *Dracaena loureiri* and *Euphobia* sp..

The rugged limestone mountains on the small islands can sustain only a limited range of large mammals. There are only 16 mammals species found in the park including Langur, Crab-eating Macaque, Otter, Leopard Cat, Fishing Cat, Squirrel and Flying Fox. There are also 52 bird species and 5 species of amphibian found in the Park.

Attractions

◆ **Ko Wua Talap.** The calm island, where the



Getting there

- The park can be visited as a day trip, however, overnight stays are allowed. There are 3 cruising companies offering day-trip programmes from Samui to explore the park. Samui can be accessed conveniently from Surat Thani by ferry. The cruise normally takes 4 hours while the night boat take 7 hours.
- Boats to the park (Ko Wua Talap) are available from Na Thon and Bo Phut. The cruises take 2 hours and 2 hours 30 minutes respectively.

park's headquarters is situated, has white sandy beaches where visitors can relax. It offers panoramic views of the archipelago and other islands. Bua Bok Cave, close to the headquarters, houses a unique lotus shape stalactite formation.

◆ **Thale Nai.** The marine lake, 200 metres wide, approximately 4,000 square metres in area and some 20 metres deep, nestles among limestone mountain and connects to the sea by cave.

◆ **Ko Sam Sao.** The island with beautiful coral reef and a natural stone arch.

◆ **Ko Thai Phlao** and **Ko Wua Kantang.** The islands have coral reef and white sandy beaches.



Mu Ko Chumphon National Park

In 1986, the Royal Forest Department had conducted a survey in seascape of Chumphon to learn that its beaches, bays, and islands are rich in natural resource and beauty. By 1999, the park was established and named initially “Hat Sai Ri National Park”, acquiring vast area of 317 square kilometres in Amphoe Pathio, Mueang, Sawi, Thung Tako, and Lang Suan of Chumphon.

Geography

Situated in the Gulf of Thailand, Mu Ko Chumphon National Park has mixed types of landscape, from marine, beaches, bays, mangrove forest, mountain, as well as archipelago of 41 islands. Its boundary stretches from Ko Chorakhe in Amphoe Pathio, covering Ko Ngam Yai, Ko Ngam Noi, Ko Samet, Ko Maphrao, archipelago in Amphoe Sawi, to Ao Thong Khrok in Amphoe Lang Suan.

Flora and fauna

The park is home to various forest types and great deal of wildlife and marine life. Mangrove forest covers the coast as well as river mouth with fertile soil. Around Ao Thung Kha and Ao Sawi, the lush forest blankets 27.8 square kilometres area. While *Avicennia alba* plays important role of pioneer species, its major plants include *Rhizophora*

mucronata, *R. apiculata*, *Bruguier cylindrica*, *Avicennia marina*, *Xylocarpus granatum*, *Excoecaria algallocha* and *Nypa fruticosa*.

Beach forest can be found on the beach area where is not affected directly by wave but influenced by its salty moisture. It mostly houses the shrub, with winding trunk and lots of branches. *Casuarina equisetifolia*, *Terminalia catappa*, *Derris indica* and *Hibiscus tiliaceus* are mostly found.

Found on Limestone Mountain and cliff, the limestone forest has drought-resisting slow-growing plants such as *Guettarda speciosa*, *Clerodendrum inerme*, *Vitex rotundifolia* and *Dracaena loureiri*.

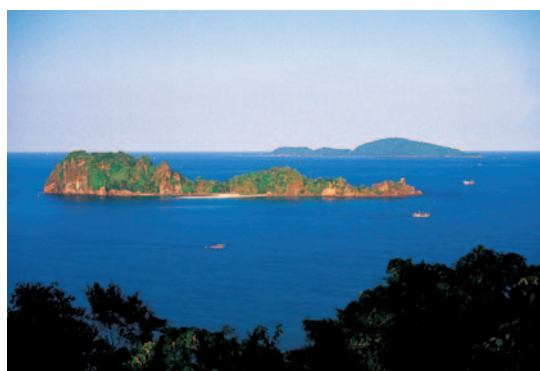
Tropical rain forest can be found on the mountain range such as Khao Phongphang, Khao Pracham, Hiang, Khao Bo Kha and islands. Its major plants as *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Barringtonia macrostachya*, *Schima wallichii*, *Vatica diospyroides* and *Garcinia speciosa* well as different kinds of rattan.

The park is home to numerous water birds which can be spotted in the mangrove and strand forest as well as on the islands. Pacific Reef-Egret, Collared Kingfisher, Terek Sandpiper, Greater Coucal and Lare-tailed Nightjar can be found.

The other animals include Variable Squirrel, Island Flying Fox, Dusky Langur and Crab-cating Macaque.

Around its fringing reef and submerged rocks in the park's boundary is home to abundant of marine life. The shallow-water reef can be found around Ko Mattrra, Ko Thong Lang, Ko Kula, Ko Lawa, Ko Rangka Chio, and Lak Iraet Rock. The colourful deep-water Coral-reef for divers at Ko Ngam Yai, Ko Ngam Noi and Ko Thalu.

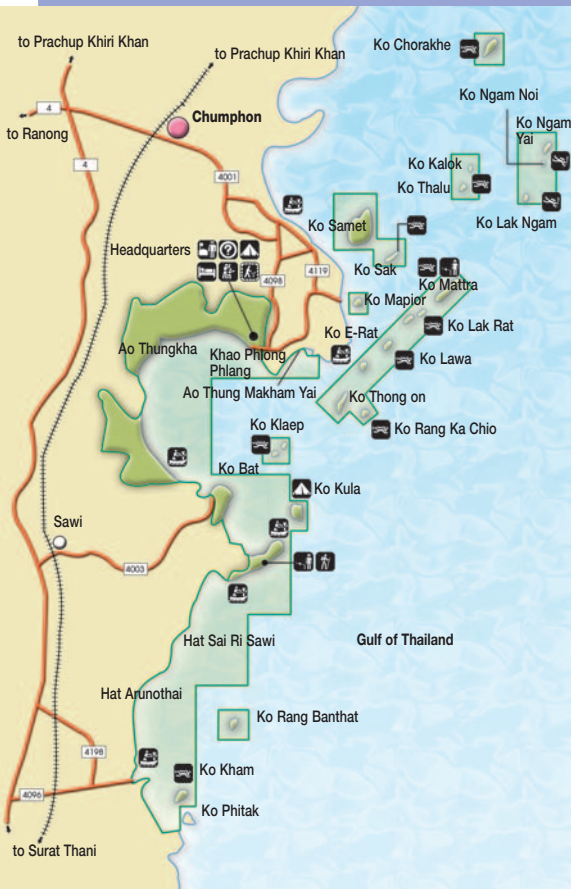
Chumphon's Sea is famed for abundant marine life. Divers are always impressed by different types of coral, both hard and soft coral, Black Coral, Cup Coral, Clown Anemone Fish, Butterflyfish, Blue Damselfish, Cardinalfish and different kinds of shells.





Getting there

■ Chumphon is 500 kilometres from Bangkok. Motorist can travel down south via highway 4 to Chumphon then use 4001, then 4098 to the park, 21 kilometres from the town of Chumphon. Many buses leave Southern Bus Terminal for Chumphon everyday.



Tourists sometime are delighted by the appearance of big animals like Dolphin, Whale, Manta Ray, and Green Turtle.

Attractions

Chumphon has 222 kilometres long coast, half of which is in the park's boundary. Thus, its beautiful beaches and attractions include

◆ **Ao Thung Makham Noi and Ao Thung Makham Yai.** Situated in Amphoe Mueang, the beautiful bays are 1 and 3 kilometres long respectively.

◆ **Hat Sai Ri Sawi.** The beautiful beach is a very nice place in Amphoe Sawi.

◆ **Hat Arunothai,** long beach which gradually slopes down is a very nice place for swimming.

Among its 40 island, tourists can enjoy nature in many islands include:

◆ **Ko Chorakhe,** ruins resulted by big storm a decade remain on the island.

◆ **Ko Ngam Yai** and **Ko Ngam Noi,** the tourist can enjoy diving and snorkeling.

◆ **Ko Mattra,** **Ko Lawa,** and **Ko Kula.** These 3 islands are all nice snorkeling sites.

◆ **Ko Thong Lang.** The island offers a nice beach.

◆ **Ko Ranga Chio.** The island house King Rama V's signature of the rock.

Mu Ko Lanta National Park

The national park comprises different archipelagoes namely Ko Rok, Ko Ngai, Ko Ha, and Ko Lanta. It acquires total area of 134 square kilometres, of which 81 percent is marine. Covered in Amphoe Ko Lanta of Krabi, it was established in 1990.

Geography

Most of its landscape is rugged and steep cliff interrupted with tiny plain. Due to its limestone landscape, there is plenty of water. On Ko Lanta Yai, Lanta Range supplies water to Khlong Chak, Khlong Namchuet, and Khlong Nin all the year round.

Flora and fauna

The park houses different forest types. The Beach forest, which comprises *Terminalia catappa*, *Casuarina equisetifolia*, *Derris indica*, *Thespesia populrea*, *Argusia argentea* and *Ipomoea pes-caprae* can be found around the beaches. The mangrove forest is home to *Rhizophora mucronata*, *R. apiculata*, *Xylocarpus granatum*, *X. moluccensis*, *Avicennia* sp..

The limestone forest can be found on dry, low-quality and thin-layer soil of Ko Rok and Ko Ha. Scattering around on steep slope, the forest is home to *Ficus racemosa*, *Dracaena loureiri* and *Euphorbia antiquorum*.

The tropical rain forest, found on Lanta Range at the south of Ko Lanta Yai and Ko Ngai, houses various plants such as *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. turbinatus*, *Shorea henryana*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Anisoptera costata* and *Parashorea stellata*.

The national park comprises small islands, thus, only small mammals can be found. Tourists can spot Wild Boar, Mouse Deer, Macaque and Dusky Langur. Bird watcher may find both common and migratory birds such as Pacific Reef-Egret, Common Tern, White-throated Kingfisher and Brahminy Kite.

As most of the park's boundary is marine, which quite rich in marine life particularly in the coral reef

such as Damselfish, Parrotfish, Butterflyfish, Rock Cod, Sea Turtle, Shrimp, Sea Shell, Sponge, Sea Fan, Sea Whip, Sea Urchin and Sea Cucumber.

Getting there

- Mu Ko Lanta National Park can be accessed by car and by boat.
- By car. Krabi to Laem Tanot is 120 kilometres. Ban Sala Dan to Laem Tanot is 27 kilometres.
- By Boat. Ban Bo Muang to Laem Tanot is 28 kilometres. Sala Dan to Laem Tanot is 27 kilometres.
- Ban Pak Meng to Laem Tanot is 50 kilometres.
- Chartered boat to Ko Rok, Ko Ngai, and nearby is available at Laem Tanot.





Attraction

◆ **Ko Lanta** is settlement of sea gypsy who calls this island “Satak” which means very long beach which is served as landmark for the fisherman. With headman called “Dato”, sea gypsies enjoy nomad life and always hop around to different islands. In the past, they spent most life on the boat.

Twice a year, in fullmoon of the 6th and 11th lunar month, they hold traditional ceremony to leave a boat, which is believed to carry bad luck, into the sea.

◆ **Mu Ko Rok.** The small archipelago, which is famed for its incredible clear water, comprises two islands namely Ko Rok Nok and Ko Rok Nai whose white sandy beaches always fascinate sea lover. The islands comprise attractions as following:

◆ **Coral.** Coral colony, comprising Staghorn Coral,

Table Coral and Brian Coral.

◆ **Laem Thong.** The cliff is situated at northern tip of Ko Rok Nai. It is landmark where tourist loves to witness impressive sunset view through its channel.

◆ **Hat Thalu.** The beach on Ko Rok Nok is fascinating by its powder-like sand which paves way to crescent bay on another side of the island.

◆ **Ao Man Sai.** Another bay of Ko Rok Nok which is named after a big banyan tree whose aerial roots serves as a 5 metres wide natural curtain. Situated amidst mangrove, and tropical forest, the bay with shallow water allows tourist to enjoy swimming.

◆ **Ao San Chao.** The bay on Ko Rok Nok houses a spiritual shrine which is worshiped among fishermen. There is a source of capillary water during dry season

◆ **Thailand's boundary post.** The post is located at the south of Ko Rok Nai. Around the post is a very nice seascape.

◆ **Ko Ha.** The archipelago comprises five small islands. There is a sail-shape island whose underwater cave leads to a chimney inside.

◆ **Ko Ngai.** The island with peaceful and long beach is a nice snorkeling site.

◆ **Ko Talabeng.** The limestone island with small beaches and many caves is habitat of Swiftlet

◆ **Ko Lanta Yai.** Its western beaches attracts sea lover to linger around and relax. The park's headquarters is located at Laem Tanot. The island is considered as capital of the sea gypsies.



Mu Ko Phetra

National Park

Mu Ko Phetra is an archipelago in romantic Andaman Sea whose islands scatter from Amphoe Palian of Trang, down southwards to Amphoe Thung Wa and La Ngu of Satun. Acquiring total area of 494.38 square kilometres, the park has total 22 islands in its boundary. The main islands include Ko Lao Liang Nuea, Ko Lao Liang Tai, Ko Beng, Ko Phetra, Ko Tak Bai, Ko Kluai, Ko Tungku, Ko Lama, Ko Bulon Khinok, Ko Bulon Yai, Ko Bulon Mai Phai, Ko Khao Yai and Ko Lidi. It was established in 1984.

Geography

The park's landscape features include the beaches in Amphoe La Ngu and islands with steep limestone mountains with tiny plain in valleys above tiny plain on the valley floors below.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest blankets most islands in the park. Among its lush canopy, there are main plants include *Hopea odorata*, *H. ferrea*, *Dipterocarpus alatus* and *Calamus* sp.. In the small beaches, the beach forest dominated by *Casuarina equisetifolia* and *Terminalia catappa*. And mangrove forest can be found around the seashore and river mouth. Its major plants include *Rhizophora mucronata*, *R. apiculata*, *Ceriops* sp., *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Bruguiera paviflora*.

The park comprises small islands scattering around, its biological diversity is quite limited. The

park is home to Common Wild Boar, Crab-eating Macaque, Spectacled Langur, Mouse Deer, Squirrel and Treeshrew.

Birds such as White-bellied Sea-eagle, Brahminy Kite, Wreathed Hornbill, Great Hornbill, Collared Kingfisher, Fairy-bluebird, Pacific Reef-Egret and Brown-throated Sunbird.

The underwater world is a great home to marine life. Coral reef can be found around the park.

There is Sea Gypsy settlement on Ko Bulon. The nomad tribe always travel between Ko Bulon Don, Ko Bulon Le, Ko Lipe in Tarutao National Park and Ko Lanta of Krabi.

Attractions

◆ **Ao Nun.** Around the headquarters, 7 kilometres from Amphoe La Ngu, is picturesque bay of Ao



Getting there

- The park's headquarters is located 58 kilometres from provincial town of Satun, 1.5 kilometres to Pak Bara Pier.



Nun. The headquarters provides interpretation centre, accommodation, pavilion and nature trail leading to explore the beach.

◆ **Ko Lidi.** Towering cliff and caves of this island is home to Swallow Tourists can enjoy white sandy beach and tranquil sea. The 10 square kilometres island is only 7 kilometres from Pak Bara Pier.

◆ **Ko Khao Yai.** Situated north of Ko Lidi, the island is unique with nature made rock castle and stone arch. The island is 3 kilometres from Pak Bara Pier. Ao Kam Pu is a tranquil bay where small waterfall cascades into. Its 700 metres wide crescent bay houses hard coral reef whose pinnacles appear during low tide. It is a favoured place for turtle to lay egg.

◆ **Ko Bulon.** The island is famed for its white sandy beach and crystal clear water which allow diver to witness the underwater world. The Island is 22 kilometres from Pak Bara Pier.

◆ **Hat Rawai.** The tranquil beach lined with *Casuarina*, is a very nice place for camping. It is situated in Tambon Khon Khlan, Amphoe Thung Wa of Satun, for 26 kilometres from Amphoe's office.

◆ **Ko Phetra** and **Ko Lao Liang.** The islands are home to Edible-nest Swiftlet, so they are concession area for bird nest collection. Beaches of both island face to the east. During the low tide, the beaches are decorated by hard coral whose pinnacles appear above water surface.

Mu Ko Similan

National Park

The archipelago of Mu Ko Similan is home to some of the most pristine coral reefs in Thailand. Similan is a Malay word meaning “nine”, referring to the line of 9 islands lying in a north-south direction in Andaman sea namely Ko Bon, Ko Ba Ngu, Ko Similan, Ko Payu, Ko Ha, Ko Miang, Ko Phayan, Ko Pa Yang and Ko Hu Yong.

Geography

The archipelago was declared as national park in 1982, covering 128 square kilometres off Phang Nga's coast. Ko Ta Chai was annexed into the park in 1998. Total area are 140 square kilometres covered in Amphoe Khura Buri, Phangnga.

Climate

The best period to visit the national park is from December to mid-April and March.

Flora and fauna

Similan has great biological diversity in its coral, including species which cannot be found anywhere else except around Mu Ko Surin. Among the coral reefs which surround the islands, there is a variety of marine life such as Sponge, Sea Fan, Squid, Lobster and Sea Crab. More than 50 species of fish have been observed around Similan's coral reefs.

On land, the park comprises beach forest, which contains *Terminalia catappa*, *Barringtonia asiatica*, *Calophyllum inophyllum* and *Manikara littoratis* is a rare tree, usually found only on big western islands.

A survey conducted in 1992 found at least 39 birds species in the park such Beach Thick-knee.

As the archipelago comprises small islands with limited fresh water, there is quite a small range of mammals. Surveys have found 27 mammal species. The park is home to 22 species of reptile and 4





amphibians. An interesting animal is the Coconut Crab or Hairy Leg Mountain Crab, which always lives in the forest around water sources.

Attractions

◆ **Ko Similan.** The biggest island is a landmark of the park with its sail-shaped rock on a cliff overlooking the main bay. It is enveloped by a great underwater world. Its reefs comprise Sea Fan, Lobster and millions of colourful fish. Its small bay on the west houses rocks and coral reef, making a good dive site. North of the bay, divers can find a variety of coral.

◆ **Pusa Rock.** A big rock also known as “Kolok” or Skull Rock. From a certain angle, it looks like a skull. Divers can enjoy this great dive site whose rock walls and valleys are blanketed with coral. Dolphins can often be seen.

◆ **Ko Hu Yong.** With the longest beach in the park, it is a nesting place for turtles.

◆ **Ko Si** or Ko Miang. Home to the park’s head-quarters this island, has fresh water and a beautiful

beach. It is also the best place to see the Nicobar Pigeon.

Main dive sites in Mu Ko Similan.

The best snorkeling sites include Ao Hin Ruea Bai, Ao Kwang En, Hin Dokmai and behind Ko Miang.

The favoured diving location are Ko Bon, Christmas Point, Fantasea Reef, Ao Kwang En, Laem Prapha Khan, Hin Pusa, Hin Sam Kon, Hin Dokmai, Ko Hua Miang, Suan Pla Lai, San Chalam and Khamphaeng Mueang Chin.

Getting there

- From Bangkok, visitors should catch the bus to Phuket and get off at Thap Lamu Pier. The journey takes 12 hours. From the pier, chartered boats to the park are available. It takes 4 hours to get to Ko Si from the mainland.



Mu Ko Surin National Park

Recognising the abundant marine life and pristine natural beauty of the archipelago, the government tried to declare Mu Ko Surin a wildlife sanctuary from 1971 but petroleum concessions in the area made such a protection measure impossible. The project came true in 1981, however, when it was declared the country's 29th national park, covered in Amphoe Khura Buri-Phangnga.

Geography

Isolated in the Andaman Sea, 60 kilometres from Khura Buri Pier at Phangnga, the park covers a total area of 135 square kilometres, of which 102 square kilometres is marine. The archipelago comprises 5 Islands - Surin Nuea, Surin Tai, Ri, Klang and Khai.

To the north, the park borders Myanmar waters. Its southern boundary is very close to Mu Ko Similan. Enveloped with lots of bay, isolation with minimum impact from the mainland, lush vegetation that does not create sediment, and currents that flow into the open sea, such factors make the water in the park very clear at over 20 metres visibility.

Flora and fauna

The park houses abundant coral reef, probably one of the best in Thailand. Fringing reef lines its eastern coast where plenty of bay dots around. For several thousands years, the new coral reef piles up on the past reef that collapsed until its pinnacle pops out of water during the low tide. The reef colony spreads from the shore and slopes to the depth of 20 metres.

Besides the hard coral which can be seen widely, abundant marine life in the park includes Soft Coral, Sea Whip, Sea Star, Feather Star, Lobster, Coral Rockcod, Butterflyfish, Bannerfish, Damselfish, Parrot, Cardinal Fish, Stingray and Shark for instance. Rare animals like Whale Shark and Sea Turtle are often seen.

It is surprising to learn that the park also houses perfect forest where *Dipterocarpus costatus*, *Dracontomelon dao*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Hopea odorata*, *Alstonia macrophylla*, *Goniolobus giganteus*, grow well on the beach. Mangrove forest has *Rhizophora apiculata*. Such wilderness makes the forest in the park home to various animals such as





Pig-tail Macaque, Black-tomb Bat, Squirrel and Shrew. The park is habitat for over 80 bird species such as Hill Myna, Pied Imperial Pigeon, Drongo, Nicobar Pigeon, Gull and Brahminy Kite are seen.

Attractions

◆ **Ko Surin Nuea.** The island enveloped with beaches and bays is where park's headquarters and tourists facilities are located. There is camping ground, accommodations, restrooms, restaurants, as well as royal residence on the hill.

Attractions around the island include

◆ **Ao Mae Yai.** The biggest bay houses a stunning colony of hard coral. However, the bay is under coral rehabilitation and does not open for public.

◆ **Ao Mai Ngam.** The bay with beautiful beach is a nice place for snorkeling.

◆ **Ao Chong Khat.** Situated by the park's accommodation, the bay is shallow strait between two islands where tourist can walk across during the low tide. Tourist can snorkeling but should be careful about the currents

◆ **Ao Sai-en.** The big bay is beautified by sea grass and coral reef.

◆ **Ko Surin Tai** is habitat of Moken people or Sea Gypsies who live by fishing. The nomad tribe travel around between India to Indonesia. Ko Surin Tai has many attractions such as

◆ **Ao Suthep.** The big bay is lined with fringing coral reef.

◆ **Ao Bon Yai.** The bay once was habitat of the Moken before moving to the present place. There is a beautiful reef at the bay's front.

◆ **Ao Phakkat.** The small bay south of Surin Tai is packed with beautiful reef, very nice for snorkeling.

◆ **Hin Phae.** The submerged rock whose pinnacle appears above the surface is rich with abundant fishes among the big reef of Staghorn Coral The rock is situated in the bay, South of Ko Surin Nua.

◆ **Ko Klang** or Pachumba. The small island with a beach on its eastern side is home to soft coral.

◆ **Ko Khai** or Torinla. The small island on the southern most tip of Ko Surin Tai is actually submerged round-based mountain covered with Staghorn Coral During the low tide, sandy beach appears on its eastern side.

◆ **Ko Ri** or Ko Stork. Equipped with Navy's leading light, the tiny island on the northern most corner of Surin Nuea is a favour nest place of the turtle.

Getting there

■ Bus from Bangkok's Southern Bus Terminal takes 11 hours to reach Amphoe Khura Buri in Phangnga. A Chartered boat is available Khura Buri Pier and the cruise trip takes 4 hours to the island. As there is a lot to explore and enjoy, tourists should spend at least 2 nights in the park. Snorkeling is a must. A Long-tailed boat service is available at the headquarters.



Namtok Huai Yang National Park



The park covers 161 square kilometres in Amphoe Bang Saphan, Thap Sakae and Mueang of Prachuap Khiri Khan. Packed with many natural attractions such as beautiful waterfalls, nice clean beach, lush forest and abundant wildlife, it was declared as Thailand's 70th national park in 1991.

Geography

As part of Tenasserim Range, the park features long mountainous landscape. Most area is watershed hill at the elevation 200-800 metres above sea level.

Climate

Summer is from February to April. Rainy season is from May to November. And winter season is from December to January.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest covers around waterfalls. The lower area is occupied by tropical evergreen forest. There are *Hopea odorata*, *Lagerstroemia tomentosa*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. grandiflorus*, *Toona ciliata*, *Ailanthus triphyssa* and

Vitex glabrata.

Wildlife in the park include Serow, Panther, Dusky Langur, Gibbon, Squirrel, Common Wild Boar, Porcupine and Common Muntjak.

Various kinds of bird including Red Junglefowl, Great Hornbill, Green Pigeon, Hill Myna, Pheasant, Barbet and Bulbul.

Attractions

◆ **Huai Yang Waterfall.** The falls cascade through 9 tiers. The 5th tier is a nice fall where the stream drops from 15 metres high cliff. However, tourist require to climb over rocks. The other tiers are only 2-5 metres high. There is a trail leading to viewpoint where tourist can witness beautiful sunrise as well as the sea.

◆ **Khao Lan Waterfall.** The stream drops from 50 metres high cliff. Its top tier has a big pool which allows visitor to enjoy. Its entrance is 14 kilometres off highway 4 at Amphoe Thap Sakae. From the park's unit, tourist require to walk along the stream for a kilometre to the waterfall.

◆ **Khao Luang Peak.** Towering at 1,250 metres above mean sea level, the highest peak of the Namtok Huai Yang National Park is blanketed by hill evergreen forest. Cold weather enables thick moss to cover trunks of most trees. There is some field of

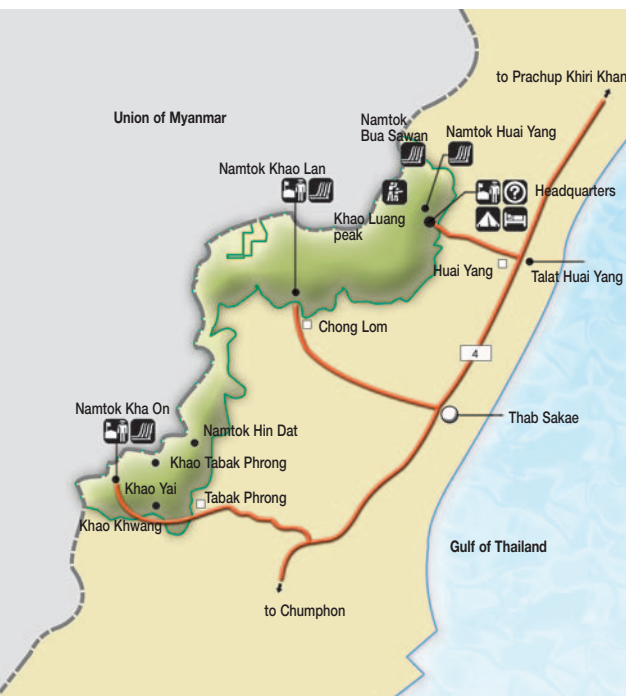


Dok Kra Chiao or *Curcuma sessilis* with backdrop of Tenasserim Range.

◆ **Namtok Kha On** or Thap Mon Waterfall. The waterfall has 9 tiers which are 2-5 metres high above from ground, except its 5th tier which is 15 metres high. From Phetkasem Road, tourist can use Nong Hoi-Ban Tabaek Phrong Road or Nong Ya Plong-Ban Nong Bon Road to the waterfall.

◆ **Huai Hin Dat Waterfall.** The 10 tiers waterfall is situated in steep valley. From Phetkasem Road, tourists can get there via Nong Hoi-Ban Nong Makha Road.

Moreover, the park's attraction also include Bua Sawan, Khao Lan and Huai Yang Waterfalls.



Getting there

■ The park is in Tambon Huai Yang, Amphoe Thap Sakae of Prachuap Khiri Khan, around 300 kilometres from Bangkok. By such distance and easy road, day trip from Bangkok can be arranged.

Namtok Ngao National Park

Established since 1978, this lush forest on rugged mountainous landscape was formerly called Khlong Phrao National Park. After combining Namtok Ngao Forest Park into its boundary in 1994, the park was renamed Namtok Ngao. Today, its boundary stretches over 668 square kilometres in Ranong and Chumphon. It was established in 1999.

Geography

With tiny plain, the park features rugged mountains that lie in north-south direction. Its mountains comprises Khao Daen, Khao Huai Siat, and the highest peak Khao Nom Sao at 1,089 metres above sea level. Its long ridge is natural border between Ranong and Chumphon as well as watershed that feeds important streams of the both provinces.

Climate

The park has monsoonal climate. It has heavy rain from May to December. From January to April is the ideal period to visit the park.

Flora and fauna

The national park features tropical rain forest. Its boundary is packed with *Hopea odorata*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Michelia champaca*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. grandflorus*, *Mesua ferrea*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *L. speciosa*, *Schima wallichiana*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Hopea sangal*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *Payena acuminata*, *Parashorea stellata*, *Calamus* sp., *Salacca wallichiana* and Bamboo.

Such dense jungle is home to Malayan Tapir, Guar, Panther, Bear, Common Muntjak, Pig-tailed Macaque, Dusky Langur, Common Wild Boar, Binturong, Serow, Giant Black Squirrel and Soft-shell Turtle.

Variety of birds such as Red Junglefowl, Bulbul, Drongo, Great Argus and Great Hornbil.

Two herds of Asian Elephant are found. Moreover, the park is home to Panda Crab (*Phricotel phusa sirindhorn*), the endemic freshwater crab of Namtok Ngao.

Attractions

◆ **Ngao Waterfall.** The waterfall is a famous attraction of Ranong. It is situated in Tambon Ngao, 13 kilometres south of Amphoe Mueang and a kilometres off the highway 4. The wide waterfall cascades from high cliff, turning the whole rock cliff into white. It can be seen from distance.

◆ **Khlong Phrao Waterfall.** The 3 tiers waterfall cascades all the year round. Its third tier, where the stream drops from 36 metres high cliff, is the highest. It is 15 kilometres off highway 41.





Getting there

- The park headquarters is located close to Ngao Waterfall. From Ranong, motorists can travel down south via Highway 4 for 13 kilometres. The park is 700 metres off the main road.
- To Khlong Phrao Waterfall, motorists can use Highway 41. From Lang Suan market, keep going for ten kilometres and turn left at Sam Mai Intersection. The waterfall is another 15 kilometres.



◆ **Bang Rin Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall of Ranong cascades from very high cliff. It is situated in Tambon Bang Rin, Amphoe Mueang of Ranong.

◆ **Chiao Khlai Waterfall.** Situated in the valley in Tambon Bang Phra Nuea, Amphoe La-un.

The park has many more waterfalls which can be potential tourist attractions such as Huai Khon Waterfall, Heo Muang Waterfall, Heo Phrao Waterfall, Khlong Rang Waterfall and etc.

◆ **Panda Crab** (*Phricotelphusa sirindhorn* Naiyanet). Found for the first time at Ngao Waterfall, the crab has unique characters which are different from other freshwater crab. It has white shell and claws, with purple eye sockets and legs. This species is rare and endemic to Thailand.

◆ **Gomasum** or Uang Ngoen Luang (*Dendrobium formosum*) is symbolic flower of Ranong Province. Generally, its characteristic is very similar to Catalpa orchid. It has white sepals and petals, white lip with yellow blotch with its delicately fragrant. The blooming season is from October to December. It can be found easily in forest with high moisture, especially at Namtok Ngao National Park.

◆ **Bua Phut** (*Reffesia kerei* Meijer) The world's new fauna species and largest flower, indeed, it is parasitic in Rafflesia. Normally lives underground, the plants show its red cabbage like flower on the ground during rainy season only.

Namtok Si Khit

National Park

To protect the lush watershed forest from encroachment, the park was established in 1999. Namtok Si Khit National Park acquires total area of 145 square kilometres, covering parts Amphoe Kanchanadit of Surat Thani and Amphoe Sichon of Nakhon Si Thammarat.



Geography

The park features plain and rugged mountains which are part of Nakhon Si Thammarat Range that borders Nakhon Si Thammarat and Surat Thani. The mountains, at the heart of the park, lie in north-south direction, sloping down to the east and west. Most of the plains are on the eastern side. Khimot is the highest peak at 1,303 metres elevation.

The park is situated at the average 700 metres elevation above sea level. There are many valleys that feed streams and cascading waterfall. Limestone mountain houses many beautiful caves such as Khao Phup Pha Cave, Than Lot Cave, Suan Prang Cave.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest, hill evergreen forest and secondary forest blankets the national park with various plants and home of wild animal such as mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fishes.

Attractions

◆ **Si Khit Waterfall.** Originated from high mountain, the stream falls from a 60 metres high cliff and cascades further for another 12 kilometres over 100 tiers. The stream surrounds some area, creating 4 islands on its way.

◆ **Samnak Khian Waterfall.** The big waterfall cascading through 4 tiers is a nice place to relax. It is in the southern area of the park, 25 kilometres from Chom Phibool Intersection.

◆ **Khao Phap Pha Cave.** The 50 metres long cave has beautiful rock formations. It is home to Giant Toad which is around a kilogram in weight. The cave is in the eastern part of the park.

◆ **Phu Rin Waterfall.** The waterfall runs through limestone mountain and a cave which houses beautiful rock formations, a number of bat, and various fishes. It is 2 kilometres from Suan Prang Cave.

◆ **Suan Prang Cave.** The cave is on the eastern part of the park. The 300 metres long cave is beautified by rock formations. It is home to numerous bats.

◆ **Khoram Cave.** Situated on high cliff, the limestone cave has big entrance from where tourist can enjoy the forest scenery. The forest around the cave is home to rare animal Sumatra or Southern Serow or the Khoram in dialect. The park's sub unit is located nearby.

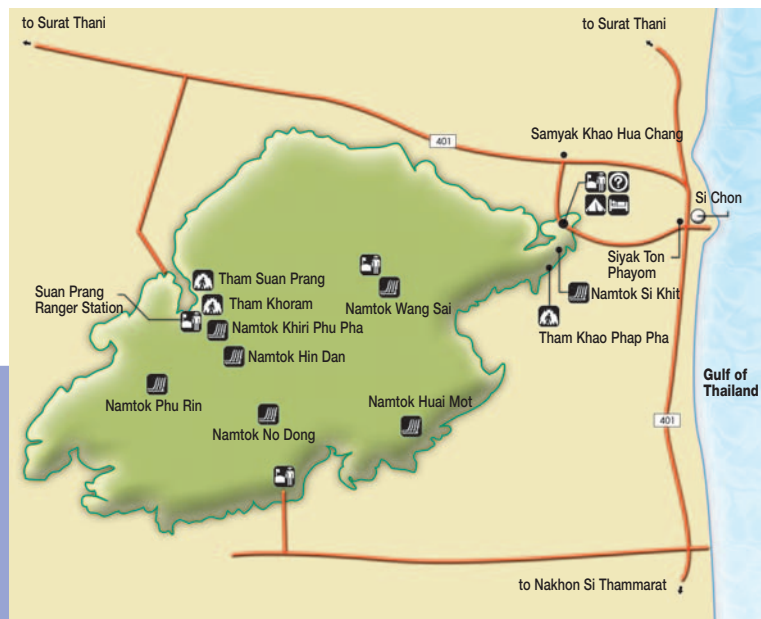
◆ **Khao Nang Range.** The summit of Khao Nang Mountain is home of "Nang" tree. Tourist requires to trek for 10 kilometres from the Suan Prang Ranger Station.



◆ **Khimot Range.** The rugged mountain range is situated in the heart of the park. Its beautiful landscape comprises waterfalls, caves, cliffs. Its watershed tropical rain forest and hill evergreen forest is home to big deal of wildlife such as Asian Elephant, Tiger, Malayan Tapir, Southern Serow, Bear, Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Mouse Deer, Porcupine and numerous kinds of bird such as Kingfisher, Barbet and Bulbul. It is quite nice place for trekking and camping.

◆ **No Tong Waterfall.** Situated amidst dense tropical rain forest, the waterfall cascades through 7 tiers. It is in

Tambon Khao Noi, Amphoe Sichon of Nakhon Si Thammarat. The park's sub unit of Samnak Khien is located nearby.



Getting there

- From Nakhon Si Thammarat, motorist can use Highway 401, turn left at Ton Phayom Intersection. The park is another 15 kilometres.

Namtok Yong National Park

Thailand's 64th national park covers part of Amphoe Lan Saka, Ron Phibun, King Chang Klang, Na Bon and Thung Song of Nakhon Si Thammarat. Packed with lush forest, scenery and beautiful waterfalls, the park acquires total area of 205 square kilometres. Namtok Yong National Park was established in 1991.

Geography

Situated at average elevation of 600 metres above mean sea level, the park is in the embrace of rugged mountain ranges that line in north to south

direction. The major mountains include Khao Men, Khao Thang, Khao Wang Hip, Khao Phra, Khao Luang and etc.

These mountains are significant watershed that feeds many important streams such as Khlong Kui, Khlong Chang, Khlong Wang Hip, Khlong Namtok Yong and Khlong Pak Phraek.

Climate

As the park is situated on peninsular, it is blown all the year round by monsoon from the both sides. Rains soak it almost all the year round.



It is a bit cool from May to December. During summer season from January to April, the temperature is 26 degrees Celsius on average.

Flora and fauna

In general, the park is blanketed by tropical rain forest. It is home to significant trees such as *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Hopea odorata*, *Mesua nervosa*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Heritiera sumatrana*, *Horsfieldia glabra*, *Cinnamomum porrectum*, *Artocarpus rigidus*, *Michelia champaca*, *Payena acuminata*, *Lithocarpus* sp., *Gluta compacta*, *Sandoricum koetjape*, *Parkia timoriana*, Fern, Wine and Bamboo.

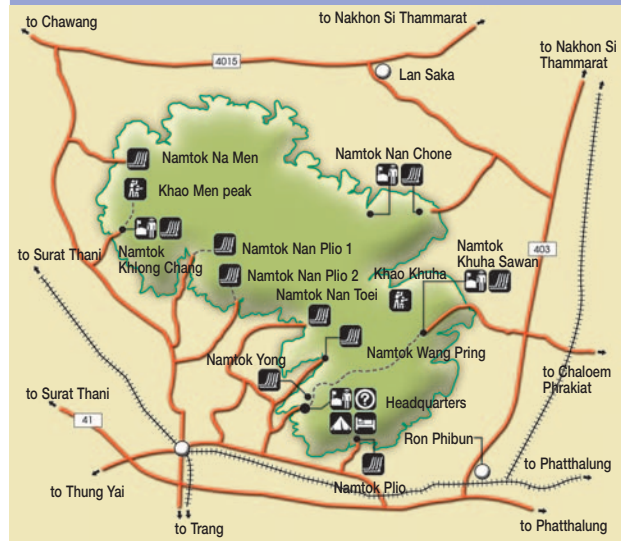
The survey has found that the park is habitat for many wildlife such as Panther, Common Muntjak, Serow, Porcupine, Common Wild Boar, Mouse Deer, Leopard Cat, Palm Civet, Civet, Macaque, Langur, and Gibbon.

This park is great varieties of birds such as Great Argus, Bulbul, Red Junglefowl, Green Pigeon, Oriole and many species of Babbler.



Getting there

- From Bangkok, motorist can head south through Highway 41 to Amphoe Thung Song of Nakhon Si Thammarat which is 774 kilometres away. From Amphoe Thung Song, turn left at Ban Sai Yai to the park which is another 3.5 kilometres.
- By train, get off at Thung Song Station. From there, local bus is available.



Attractions

◆ **Khao Men Waterfall.** The stream drops from 20 metres high cliff into big pool below. Actually the waterfall has 7 tiers, but just two of them can be easily accessed. It is a favoured place for local people.

◆ **Khlong Chang Waterfall.** Originated from Wang Heep Range, the 15 metres high waterfall cascades through beautiful creeks to the village below.

◆ **Nan Plio Waterfall.** Situated among lush wilderness, the falls cascades over 7 metres wide cliff to the pool 20 metres below.

◆ **Plio Waterfall.** One of the most beautiful waterfall in the park, the waterfall cascades through 8 tiers, each of which is around 15-18 metres wide and 25 metres high. As each tier is quite high, the stream falls down like blowing.

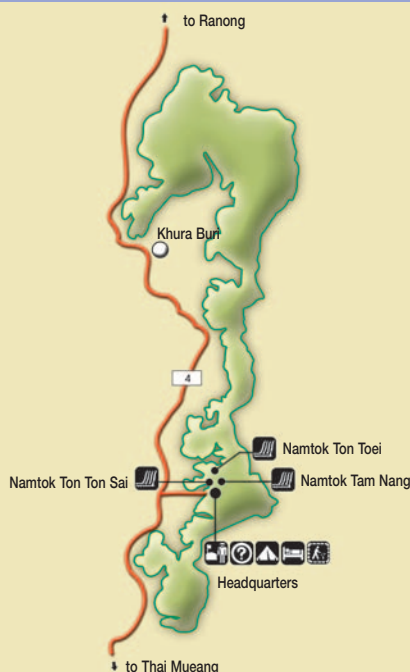
◆ **Yong and Yong Noi Waterfall.** The stream drops from 15 metres high to the swamp below, making Yong Waterfall a beautiful place to relax. Yong Noi Waterfall cascades in two lines to meet at the foot of the cliff.

Si Phang-nga National Park

Acquiring total area of 246.08 square kilometres in Amphoe Khura Buri and Takua Pa of Phang Nga, the park contains natural attractions, wildlife and watershed forest that feeds the nearby area. Established in 1988, it is one of five national parks established to celebrate the 60th anniversary of His Majesty the King on December 5, 1987. Si Phang-nga is the 56th national park of Thailand.

Getting there

- The park entrance is located at kilometres 756 (Ban Tamnang's entrance) of Highway 4. The park is 6 kilometres off the main road.



Geography

The park features rugged mountains that line along with the coast in north-south direction. It comprises beautiful waterfalls and cliff. Its lush forest feeds many streams such as Khlong Khurot, Khlong Tamnang, Khlong Phraek Khwa, Khlong Phraek Sai, Khlong Bang Wan, Khlong Lak Khet and Khlong Bang Yai.

Climate

Under the influence of Southwest and Northeast Monsoon, the park is soaked almost all the year round. It has only two seasons. Summer is from January to April and Rainy season is from May to December. The temperature ranges between 26 to 29 degrees Celsius.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest blankets most part of the park. Its significant plants include *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Parkia speciosa*, *Sandoricum koetjape*, *Heritiera sumatrana*, *Mesua nervosa*, *Calamus* sp., *Salacca wallichiana* and different kinds of bamboo.

Connected to the Khao Sok National Park, the park is habitat for wildlife that escaped the flood of Khuean Ratchaprapha Dam in to the boundary. There are Malayan Tapir, Serow, Asian Elephant, Common Muntjak, Sambar Deer, Bear, Tiger, Mouse Deer, Gibbon, Macaque, Dusky Langur, Banteng and Common Wild Boar.

Birds such as Parrot, Hornbill, Drongo, Bulbul, Barbet as well as many reptiles and amphibians.

Attractions

◆ **Tamnang Waterfall.** The stream falls directly from 60 metres high cliff into the big pool below. Comfortably accessed by car, the high waterfall is a very nice place to swim amidst wilderness.

◆ **Ton Ton Sai Waterfall.** Surrounded by lush vegetable and many "Sai" or Ficus tree, the waterfall is around 20 metres high. It cannot be accessed during the rainy season. There is a bot cave nearby.

◆ **Ton Ton Toei Waterfall.** The 45 metres high waterfall is situated amidst tropical rain forest where Asian Fairy-bluebird, Leafbird, Red-throated Barbet, Green Pigeon, Flowerpecker and many more can



be spotted. It is around 30 minutes trek from the headquarters, however, it cannot be accessed during the rainy season.

◆ **Nature Trails.** The 2 kilometres long trail cuts through tropical rain forest to the viewpoint where tourist can enjoy scenery of Khlong Tamnang flows among the mangrove forest.

If there are ripe fruit from Banyan tree, tourist can spot many birds such as Oriental Pied Hornbill, an rare Helmeted Hornbill, White-crowned Hornbill and Black Hornbill.

◆ **Rare plants** such as *Sapria himalayana*, *Rafflesia kerrii* can be found on the way. The trail cuts through Ton-u and Ton Deng Waterfall before returning to the beginning point.

Sirinath National Park

In 1977, the government planned to promote Phuket as a tourism destination. Nai Yang Beach was a calm prestige beach where has been safe nestling venue for the turtle. Two coral reefs added more significance to the beach, thus, nearby forests were combined and declared as Nai Yang National Park. The park acquired total area of 90 square kilometres in Amphoe Thalang of Phuket.

Geography

By 1990, additional area was combined into the park's boundary. To celebrate the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty the Queen in 1992, the park was renamed into "Sirinat".

Flora and fauna

Only 24 percent of the park's boundary is land, leaving the vast majority of its area to the marine. Its narrow area stretches 23 kilometres along the coast, and 5 kilometres into the sea. So, its land does not contain much variety of biological diversity. There are only three forest types in the park including Tropical rain forest, beach forest, and mangrove forest.

Tropical rain forest is found in small area where *Intsia palembanica*, *Payena acuminata*, *Parashorea stellata* and *Morinda coreia* can grow. The forest is home to some birds and reptiles.

Beach forest lines the beach, acquiring some 2 square kilometres area. Its main plants are *Casuarina equisetifolia*, *Thespesia populnea*, *Terminalia catappa*, *Barringtonia asiatica*, *Melaleuca quinquenervia* and *Ipomoea pes-caprae*.

The park is home to different animals such as Treeshrew, Oriental Magpie Robin, Common Myna, Drongo, Spotted Dove, Bulbul and Black-naped Oriole. The beach, where Hawksbill Turtle and Olive Ridley Turtle nest, is home to Mole Crab.

The mangrove forest, probably the last of its kind

Getting there

- From Amphoe Thalang Intersection, motorist can go up north to the airport via highway 402, then turn left into Highway 4026. The park is 2 kilometres away.
- From Phuket's bus terminal, the journey normally takes an hour, but only ten minutes from Phuket International Airport.





in Phuket, occupies most canals. The forest acquires area of 1.28 square kilometres and serves as a nursery and sanctuary for different animals such as Roseate Tern, Collared Kingfisher, Terek Sandpiper, Whimbrel, White-breasted Waterhen, Slaty-breasted Rail, White-bellied Sea-eagle, Brahminy Kite, Siamese Pit-Viper, Rock Cod, Mullet, Croaker, Catfish, Sea Turtle, Shrimp, Sea Shell and Sea Crab. The major plants in mangrove forest include *Rhizophora apiculata*, *Rhizophora mucronata*, *Ceriops decandra*, *C.tagal*, *Xylocarpus granatum*, *X.moluccensis*, *Avicennia alba*, *Lumnitzera racemosa* and *L.littorea*.

Attractions

The park is attractive by its shady beach with the pines and lush vegetable. Its long, white sandy beaches stretches for 13 kilometres and its fringing reef is an ideal sanctuary for numerous kinds of marine life. On Nai Yang beach, in front of the park's headquarters, is a significant venue where turtles nestle from November to February. The nesting beaches include Nai Yang, Mai Khao, Sakhu and Sanambin.

◆ **Sai Kao Beach** and Tha Chatchai. The tranquil beaches by the mangrove forest connect to Mai Khao Beach. Situated by Sarasin Bridge that

links Phuket to Phang Nga, they are nice places for picnic and relaxing.

◆ **Mai Khao Beach.** Phuket's longest beach is home of Mole Crab, a shrimp-like marine life at the size of thumb.

◆ **Nai Thon Beach.** Situated 5 kilometres south of headquarters, the crescent-shape beach offers great tranquility to relax and enjoy the sea.



Tai Rom Yen National Park



The rugged mountain around the forest of Khao Chong Chang once was a stronghold of Communist Party of Thailand which fought against the Thai government over a decade. After the end of battle in 1982, peace allowed people to witness stunning natural beauty of the area.

Tai Rom Yen National Park was established in 1991, covering natural attractions as the remaining of communist's stronghold in Amphoe Ban Na San and Wiang Sa of Surat Thani. It acquires perfect forest total area of 425 square kilometres.



Getting there

- The park is 45 kilometres from Surat Thani. Motorist can use highway 4009 from Surat Thani. Keep going for 30 kilometres, then turn left at Ban Chaeng Pla, opposite to Kuan Suban School, the park is another 15 kilometres.

Geography

The national park features rugged mountains which feed many streams or canals such as Khlong Chawang, Khlong Lamphun, Khlong King Yao, Khlong Khrae. As there are limestone mountains, some caves are found.

Climate

Rainy season is from May to December and the best time for travellers is summer season is from January to April.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest, hill evergreen forest and secondary forest covers around the park. It is home to plants, mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

Attractions

- ◆ **Dat Fa Waterfall.** The biggest and highest waterfall in Surat Thani cascades through 10 tiers. Its highest tier is over 80 metres high.
- ◆ **Mueang Thuat Waterfall.** The most famous waterfall in Amphoe Ban Na San, Surat Thani is around 20 metres high. Shady surrounding makes it a very nice place to visit.
- ◆ **Sam Ha Chet Waterfall.** The very beautiful waterfall is 25 metres high. Visitor requires to trek for 3 kilometres. Once, the camp of communist was located nearby.
- ◆ **Khlong Nam Thao Waterfall.** The waterfall is 35 metres high. Tourist requires to walk for 900 metres to get to the waterfall.
- ◆ **Khlong Khan Bet Waterfall.** The 7 tiers waterfall is 20 metres high. Tourist requires to walk for 500 metres.
- ◆ **Mek Cave.** High ceiling of this narrow cave is occupied by many beehive of Great Bee every year. The cave is close to Dat Fa Waterfall.



◆ **Men Cave.** The big can complicate cave is decorated naturally with rock formation. It is home to lots of bat.

◆ **Khao Nong.** The highest peak of Surat Thani is 1,530 metres above sea level. It is misty and cold all the year round. Tree trunks on the summit are blankets with thick moss. There is a pond, acquiring 5 rais area on the summit. The mountain contains the plants of both moist evergreen forest and hill evergreen forest.

◆ **San Yen.** The eastern ridge of the park is 40 kilometres long. From distance, it looks a pretty smooth ridge at the elevation 1,000-1,300 metres. It is home to animals and plants which cannot be found on the lower area.

◆ **Khao Nam Toei Nature.** The 2 kilometres trail leads the tourist to study ecological system of tropical rain forest which contain great biological diversity of plants.

During the 30 minutes excursion, tourist can see *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Baccaurea* sp., *Calamus* sp., *Salacca wallichiana* and Fern.

Tarutao

National Park

The archipelago of Tarutao comprises 51 islands scattering in Malacca Strait of Andaman Sea. Bordering to Malaysia, the archipelago is only 4.8 kilometres from Ko Languvi of Malaysia.

Geography

Its main islands comprise Tarutao, Adang, Rawi, Lipe, Klang, Batuang and Bissi. All of its islands can be divided into two groups, Tarutao and Adang-Rawi archipelago.

Until 1982, Tarutao and Adang-Rawi archipelago were declared for the country's 8th national park, covering total area of 1,490 square kilometres of Amphoe Mueang, Satun. In the same year, it was honored as ASEAN Heritage Parks and Reserves.

Climate

Monsoon blows Tarutao and its nearby island for six months in a year, allowing tourist to enjoy its prestige nature from November to April.

Flora and fauna

Tarutao National Park is rich in variety of plant communities. Numerous plant species occupy different ecosystem such as *Hopea odorata*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Terminalia catappa*, *Thespesia populnea*, *Nypa fruticans* and *Rhizophora mucronata*.

A number of wildlife are found in the park area including Crab-eating Macaque, Spectacled Langur, Squirrel and Island Flying Fox.

Birds species such as Pied Hornbill, Brahminy Kite, Pacific Reef Egret, Sparrow Hawk, Pied Imperial



Getting there

- It is safe to travel to Tarutao during off-monsoon season, from December to April. Boat trip to Tarutao is available at Pak Bara Pier.
- Bus leaves Hat Yai's clock tower for Pak Bara Pier 3 times daily at 7.00, 11.00 am. and 3 pm. Airconditioned van leaves Krung Thai Bank on Pipat Uthit Road every hour between 6.00 am.-4.00 pm.
- Taxi from Hat Yai to Amphoe La Ngu is available

at Hat Yai Post Office and President Hotel. Amphoe La Ngu is only 10 kilometres from Pak Bara Pier. Taxi from Satun is available opposite of Bangkok Bank.

- Boat leaves the pier for headquarters on Phante Malacca Bay two times daily. Boat to Adang leaves the headquarters every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday. In return, it leaves Adang every Wednesday, Friday, and Sunday.

Pigeon, Green Imperial Pigeon, Black-naped Oriole and White-bellied Sea-eagle.

Its sea is home to abundant marine life like Dolphin and Whale. The clean lonely beaches of Ko Khai is a favoured venue for the Sea Turtle to nest.

Besides the submerged pinnales, coral reefs around the archipelago are ideal sanctuary for abundant of beautiful marine life such as Sea Fan, Clown Anemone Fish, Parrotfish and Butterflyfish.

Without religion, the sea gypsies believe in ancestral spirits and natural spirits. Twice a year, they organize a spiritual ceremony to float away the boat, which is believed to carry bad luck away.

Attractions

- ◆ **Tarutao Island.** The park's headquarters is



situated on Phante Malacca Bay whose white sandy beach always fascinates sea lover. Tourists can enjoy swimming, camping, or getting around to explore the nature.

- ◆ **Klang and Khai Island.** Khai, means "egg" in Thai, referring as a favoured place for turtle to nest of the white sandy beach.

- ◆ **Adang Island.** Its white sand beach by the shady pines is a nice place to relax.

- ◆ **Liye Island.** The small island is home to sea gypsies who settled there a hundred years ago.

- ◆ **Hin Ngam Island,** the tiny island is special with the black beach of round-shape rock at different sizes. Shining when wet, the rocks impressively show their hue and pattern.

Around Adang-Rawi Island is rich with coral reef and colourful marine life. The best site for snorkeling and diving are ideal activities around Klang and Khai island, as well as Adang, Chabang, Hin Ngam and Yang Island.

Thale Ban National Park



The park is named after the fresh water swamp called “Thale Ban” which may derive from Malay word that means “sinking land”. In the park’s boundary a geological phenomenon of land subsidence occurred and then it was filled up with water, becoming a big pool. Geologist assumed that the swamp has replaced a big burrow.

Geography

Thale Ban National Park was established in 1980. It acquires total area of 196 square kilometres, covering part of Amphoe Khuan Don and Mueang of Satun. Its northern boundary borders to Ton Nga Chang Wildlife Sanctuary and southern boundary borders to Malaysia.

The park features rugged mountainous landscape. Khao Chin is the highest peak at the elevation of 756 metres above sea level.

Flora and fauna

Thale Ban National Park has various forest types.

Most of its area is covered with tropical rain forest which house many plant species and multi level of plant canopies.

The major plants found in the tropical rain forest include *Dipterocarpus costata*, *D.turbinatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *Parashorea stellata*, *Alstonia mmacrophylla*, *Caryota bacsonensis*, *Orania sylvicola* and *Calamus longisetus*.

Mixed deciduous forest, which is rarely found in South Thailand, occupies the middle region of the park. *Carya sphaerica*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Pterocymbium tinctorium*, *Vitex canescens*, *Schima wallichii* and *Dillenia* sp. are found in the forest.

Mangrove forest is found around the coastal area at southwest of the park. The forest is home to many plants such as *Rhizophora mucronata*, *R.apiculata*, *Bruguiera Cylindrica* and *Avicennia* sp..

The survey found that the park is habitat of 406 animal species, including 64 mammals, 289 birds, 40 reptiles, and 20 amphibians. The mammals found in the park include Marbled Cat, Tiger, Leopard Cat, Spectacled Langur and Malayan Sun Bear.

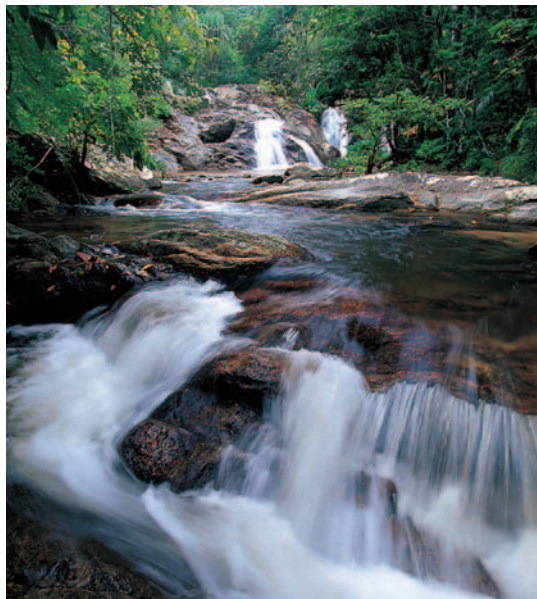
The park is home to 8 out of 12 species of Hornbills found in Thailand. Besides there are Chinese Pond-Heron, Chinese Goshawk, Chestnut-bellied Malkoha, Orange-breasted Trogon, Peregrine Falcon, Gould's Frogmouth, Blue-wing Pitta, Blue-crowned Hanging-parrot, Wreathed Hornbill, White-crowned Hornbill, Brown Wood-owl, Asian Paradise-flycatcher, Hill Myna.

Moreover, Spiny Turtle, Soft-shell Turtle, White-handed Gibbon, Southern Forest Gecko, Blue-headed Dragonfly, Spine-necked Monitor, Reticulated Python, King Cobra, Giant Toad, Giant Frog and Common Tree Frog.

Thale Ban National Park is also home to Sagai, a unique triber who lives harmoniously with forest. Sagai is keen in utilizing everything from the jungle for living. They know the herbs and easy way to cultivate wild fruit and food.

Getting there

- Scheduled bus and van services leave Hat Yai for Amphoe Khuan Sato regularly. From there, a bus to the park is available.



Today, there are only 9 Sagai people live in the park's boundary. Their lifestyle is changing after learning about the city life and deforestation.

Attractions

◆ **Thale Ban Swamp.** Acquiring area of 0.32 square kilometre, the big pool is sandwiched between two mountains. Enveloped with lush forest, as well as *Hanguana malayana*, the swamp is home to numerous fish and mussels. It is also home to *Rana* sp.

◆ **Ya Roi Waterfall.** The 9 steps waterfall is originated from Khao Chin Range. It is situated 6 kilometres away from the headquarters.

◆ **Ton Din Cave.** The 700 metres deep cave with subterranean river is only 2 kilometres from the headquarters. Mine tools from the WWII era remained in the cave.

◆ **Wang Pra Grassland.** The vast grassland in the valley is home to lots of wildlife such as Porcupine, Mouse Deer and Red Junglefowl. It is situated on the west of the park.

◆ **Tham Lot Puyu.** Like Tham Lot of Ao Phang-Nga National Park, the natural tunnel with subterranean river is beautified by formation of rock. The canal leads to the cave is situated among lush mangrove forest. It can be accessed by boat from Tammalang pier, 9 kilometres from the headquarters.

Furthermore, tourist can also enjoy Huai Ching Rit Waterfall, Pha Diao Cave, Khang Khao Cave, Khontan Cave and Pratmana Island.

Than Bok Khorani National Park

The park in Krabi province has a very unique landscape of turquoise coloured subterranean river that flows out of cave and cascades through various pools under the shady canopy. Its island, in which a natural chamber is formed, is also a famous attraction for sea lover.

Geography

More forests were added and it was upgraded to national park in 1998. Acquiring total area of 104 square kilometres, the park covers area in Amphoe Ao Luek and Mueang of Krabi as well as some islands.

Rugged mountains lying in north-south direction dominate most area. Some area has Karst

Topography with sink holes and subterranean river. Rolling hills and limestone monadnock appears in the form of towering cliff dot around. The cave formations and cliff include Tham Sa Yuan Thong Khuan Song, Tham Thalu Fa, Khao Chong Lom, Khao Tham Lot Tai. Another part of its area is archipelago in Andaman Sea including Ko Hong, Ko Lao Ka, Ko Lao Riam, Ko Pak Ka, Ko Lao Lading and Ko Yala Hudang.

Flora and fauna

Forest in the park is watershed that fills up many streams of Amphoe Ao Luek such as Khlong Marui, Khlong Klang, Khlong Namtok, Khlong Ao Luek and Khlong Karot. Its tropical rain forest which blankets rugged mountain comprises *Intsia palembanica*,





Getting there

- The park's headquarters is 48 kilometres from Krabi. Motorists can use Highway 4 to Ao Luek Intersection, turn to Highway 4039 and continue for 2 kilometres. Otherwise, use Highway 4035 and continue by 4039.
- Bus and taxi are available from Krabi Bus Terminal.

Sea Cucumber, Sea Star, Sponge and Coral.

Attraction

The park amazingly houses numerous pre-historical cave art. As none of other artifact was found on the ground and cave's floor, thus, it was assumed that such caves were not used as habitat.

The cave painting may be part of rites, belief, or else. The cave paintings are found in the shape of humans, animals, hands, and geometry. Such ancient paintings are found at Tham Phi Hua To,



South

Hopea odorata, *Cotylelobium* sp., *Lagerstroemia caliculata*, *Saraka indica*, *Mangifera* sp., *Ternstroemia wallichiana*, *Salacca wallichiana*, *Calamus* sp. and *Bambusa bamboos*.

Mangrove forest, found at Khao Tham Lot Tai, Ao Nam, and some area of Ko Karot, *Rhizophora mucronata*, *R. apiculata*, *Xylocarpus moluccensis*, *Xylocarpus granatum*, *Bruguiera cylindrica*, *B. pavi-flora*, *Avicennia alba*. A tiny peat swamp forest is found at the southern tip of Khao Chong Lom.

As the park's boundary is not a single piece of forest, there is not much wildlife. However, Common Wild Boar, Fishing Cat, Lesser Mouse Deer, white-handed Gibbon, Crab-eating Macaque, Dusky Langur, Malayan Porcupine, Pangolin, Small-clawed Otter, Treeshrew, Squirrel, Bamboo Rat, Mongoose and Flying Lemur can be found.

Bird watcher might spot Common Koel, Spotted Dove, White-rumped Shama, Magpie Robin, Grey Wagtail and Bulbul.

Its canal is home to Yello Mystus, Red-cheek Barb, Transvesre-bar Barb, Common Silver Barb, Common Climbing Perch and Tree Eel. Meanwhile, the park has numerous marine life namely Rock Cod, Red Rock Cod, Butterflyfish, Parrotfish, Damselfish,

Laem Fai Mai, Laem Chao Le, Tham Chao Le and Laem Thai Raet.

The park is an ideal place for day trip. Most tourists come to enjoy swimming in Than Bok Khorani or its river, or explore its sea, caves, as well as pre-historical attractions.

The major attractions include Than Bok Khorani, Tham Phi Hua To, Tham Lot Tai, Tham Phet, Tham Sa Yuan Thong, Tham Khao Phra-Khao Rang, Tham Thula Fa, Tham Wari Rin, Ko Chong Lat Tai and Ko Hong.

Ao Manao-Khao Tanyong National Park

Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn to visited the people of a neighborhood at Ban Bang Ma Nao, Narathiwat province. She has developed projects in such as economy, education, culture and promote of tourism.

The director of the Royal Forest Department to inspection at Narathiwat province was policy about Ao Manao forest park, that to classify the above forest park into a national marine park because the total area consists nature resources is quite, white sandy beaches and overlapping rocky seashore are beautiful. And the officers to go on a field trip to carry out a survey on the area of the Ao Manao and area nearly to be the national park. From to result, found the area Manao and surround condition nature resource is quite, that the royal forest department agreed to establish to be national park and the director to new named that "Ao Manao-Khao Tanyong National Park"

Flora and fauna

The park is home to various forest types is quite rich with high species density of plants and wild animals such as mammals, birds and reptiles.

Attractions

Ao Manao-Khao Tanyong National Park Hightlight

Getting there

- The National Park is about 1,150 kilometres from Bangkok. Take highway no.4, and change to highway no.42 until to Narathiwat province, then change again to highway no.4084 will reach to headquarters.



of Ma Nao Bay Tan Yong Mountain is the park head office around is white sandy beach overlapped clouds of stone field the surround by high of hill range along the area of palace, founded plants are the shore forests is quite rich, it looks strange and very beautiful.

Besides the area forest nearby sandy beach can be found the waterfall and the swimming is safe. The royal forest department to named that "Ta Ra Sawan Waterfall", original is high mountain in the area of palace falls to the gulf of Thailand.



Hat Khanom- Mu Ko Thale Tai National Park

Surveyed initially in 1990 to be established as a national park further, the park's boundary will cover various landscapes, forests in Sichon and Khanom of Nakhon Si Thammarat and Samui of Surat Thani.

Geography

The park has very lush and rich tropical rain forest which is watershed of many rivers and streams

Climature

There are 2 main seasons, summer is from February-April and rainy is from May-January.

Getting there

- Situated 15 kilometres from Amphoe Khanom, the beach of Hat Khanom can be accessed via Highway 4014. The road runs along three connected beaches including Hat Nai Praet, Hat Nai Phrao, and Hat Paknam. These long beaches, called as "Hat Na Dan" as a whole, are interrupted only by headlands.



Flora and fauna

The park features tropical rain forest where *Intsia palembanica*, *Hopea odorata*, *Parashorea stellata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Ternstroemia wallichiana*, *Caryota bacsonensis* and *Salaeca wallichiana*.

According to the local people and field trips, the park is habitat to numerous wildlife such as Wild Boar, Macaque, Langur, Squirrel, Serow, Common Muntjak, Sun Bear, Tiger, Gibbon, Green Pigeon, Koel, Magpie Robin, Dove, Nicobar Pigeon and Gull.

Attractions

The National Park features varied landscapes namely mountains, mangrove forest, archipelago, beaches and limestone mountains. Therefore, it houses a number of attractions.

◆ **Khao Dat Fa Viewpoint.** From the viewpoint, tourist can be impressed by picturesque sunrise view, panoramic view of Ko Taen archipelago.

◆ **Khao Wang Cave,** is naturally beautified by formation of stalagmites and stalactites in the shape.

◆ **Nan Phai Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall runs through 3 tiers to the big abd deep pool below.

◆ **Archipelago.** The park has 8 beautiful islands where beaches and colourful coral reef.

◆ **Mangrove forest.** The park has very rich mangrove forest whose ecological system remains in perfect condition.

Khao Nan National Park

As part of Nakhon Si Thammarat Range, the lush tropical rain forest of Khao Nan National Park blankets rugged mountains that lines in north-south direction. The jungle links Khao Luang and Tai Rom Yen National Parks together, creating a big piece of jungle in Nakhon Si Thammarat. Acquiring 436 square kilometres area, the jungle is significant watershed for wildlife. Now, prepare to established for the parks.

Geography

These mountains are part of Nakhon Si Thammarat Range. Khao Yai, 1,438 Mean Sea Level.

Climate

There are always rains, making not too hot.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest occupies over 90 percent of the park. Its precious plants include *Dipterocarpus*



alatus, *Insia palembanica*, *Hopea odorata*, *Parashorea stellata* and *Elaleriospermum tapos*. The jungle of Khao Nan is also home to many wildlife namely Serow, Malayan Tapir, Civet as well as lots of birds, reptiles and amphibians.

Attractions

Many beautiful waterfall in the park such as Sunantha Waterfall, Krung Nang Waterfall, Khlong Thalik Waterfall, Khlong Phian Waterfall, Khlong Pao Waterfall, Nan Chong Fa Waterfall and Khao Dai Waterfall.

◆ **Fantastic caves** such as Hong Cave, Lot Cave, Luang Cave and Krung Nang Cave.

◆ **Sunantha Viewpoint.** It is a nice place to observe sun rises over the Gulf of Thailand and glittering light from fishing boats at night.

Trekking to Khao Nan Summit. The trail to the summit of Khao Nan, at 1,438 metres elevation.

◆ **Bua Chaek Yai Nature Trail.** The trail leads to Bua Chaek Yai (*Cheiropleuria* sp.) the ancient fern which can date back to 230 million years ago.

◆ **Pa Pra.** The forest of *Elaleriospermum tapos*, acquiring nearly 8 square kilometres area, turns red from February to April of each year by its young leaves.

Getting there

- The park is situated 744 kilometres from Bangkok. From Surat Thani, motorists can use Highway 401 via Amphoe Kanchanadit to Nakhon Si Thammarat. Turn right at kilometre 110, at Ban Klai Intersection, and the park is another 15 kilometres.



Mu Ko Phayam National Park

Situated by the Andaman Sea, the national park features ecological diversity and lush nature that could greatly support eco-tourism and nature study. The park acquires total area 364 square kilometres in Amphoe Mueang of Ranong.

Geography

The park features big plain by the Andaman Sea which can be divided into three areas. The coastal land, include beaches and dense mangrove forest which is nourished by many canals such as Khlong Ngao, Khlong Bang Nang, Khlong Ratchakut and Khlong La-un.

The coastal islands include Ko Bang Chak, Ko Yio, Ko Sai Dam, Ko Son and others. Eastern parts of these islands are covered densely by mangrove forest.

Ko Chang, Ko Thalu, Ko Ta Khrut, Ko Mo, Ko Pring, Ko Rai, and Ko Fai Mai. They are blanketed with tropical rain forest and ringed by coral reef.

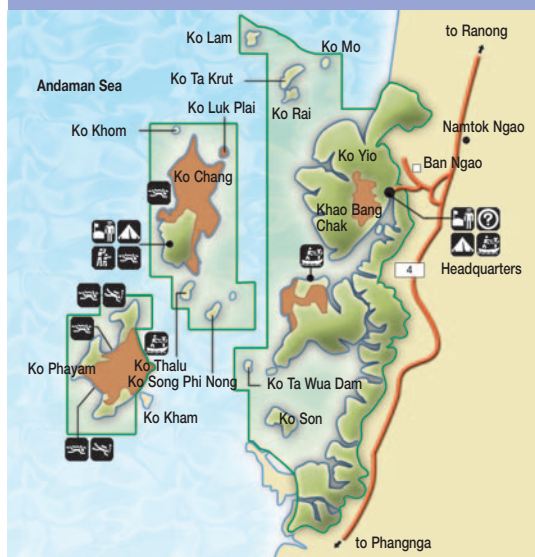
Flora and fauna

Mangrove forest, beach forest and grassland blankets the park with very rich species of plants, insects, sea fishes, birds and mammals.



Getting there

- The park's headquarters is 20.5 kilometres from Ranong, or 612 kilometres from Bangkok.
- From Ranong, tourists can use the Ban Ngao Bus, 20 kilometres away. Then take the local bus to the park a further 5 kilometres. A Boat to the islands is available at the fishery pier, Tambon Paknam, Amphoe Mueang of Ranong.



Attractions

The park houses various unique natural attractions. Northern tip of Ko Yio is home to the country's last group of extra-high *Rhizophora apiculata*. Ko Ta Wua Dam has a special beach in red colour which is created by broken mussel shell.

◆ **Ao Po**, the bay at the southern tip of Ko Sai Dam is an impressive beach that always fascinate island hopper by untouched nature.

◆ **Hat Hin Ngam** of Ko Fai Mai is quite unique by its rock beach where million of round-shape rocks shine when get wet. The stone arch and rugged rock on Ko Thalu offer nice seaview.

Such resources allow nature lovers and tourists to enjoy numerous activities from bird watching, cruising, exploring the nature, snorkeling and camping.

Mu Ko Ra-Ko Phra Thong National Park

Mu Ko Ra-Ko Phra Thong area, covered 642 square kilometres with 296.2 square kilometres on water and 329.7 square kilometres on land, consisted of natural resources and varied types of geography appropriate for declaring a national park.

Geography

Ra Island with the mountains about 235 meters

Getting there

- By car : from Bangkok by using a superhighway no. 4 as far as Amphoe Kuraburi then going to the piers for traveling to other islands.
- By ship : There are many piers such as Nang Yon Pier; nearby Visitor Center of Mu Ko Surin National Park, Ban Nam Khem Pier in Amphoe Takuapa where can go to Ko Kho-Khao for only 30 minutes.



above sea level, Phra Thong Island with plain area, Kho Khao Island with high mountain about 310 meters above sea level.

Climate

Rainy season starts from April to November and summer starts from December to March.

Flora and fauna

The rain forest covered mountainous areas in Ra Island, foothill, and on the ridge, mangrove forest covered along the seashores and in the bays. Wild animals such as Dugong, Lesser Adjutant and Wreathed Hornbill.

Attractions

◆ **Ra Island.** It is a very steep island, most of the land will be closed to the shore. Visitors can walk and study the nature with long and wide beach in the north and west of the island.

◆ **Phra Thong Island.** There is wide land with no mountains. On the east of the island is forest can be able to drive there. It is an area for wildlifes and many kinds of activities such as camping and cycling.

◆ **Pling Island and Phota Island.** Visitors can this area is good for many activities such and sailing the kayak, or cycling. It is also good for eco-tourist.

Namtok Sipo

National Park



On the rugged forest, the park has lush forest which is home to great variety of wildlife as well as natural attractions such as I Suedo and Yaka Bo-ngo Waterfall. Namtok Sipo National Park acquires total area of 288.8 square kilometres in Narathivat.

Geography

Steep and rugged mountains lie in north-south direction. Khao Mae Tae is the highest peak. There are some plain where is quite good for agriculture.

Climate

The park has the highest mean temperature at 31.16 degrees Celsius and lowest at 23.35 degrees.

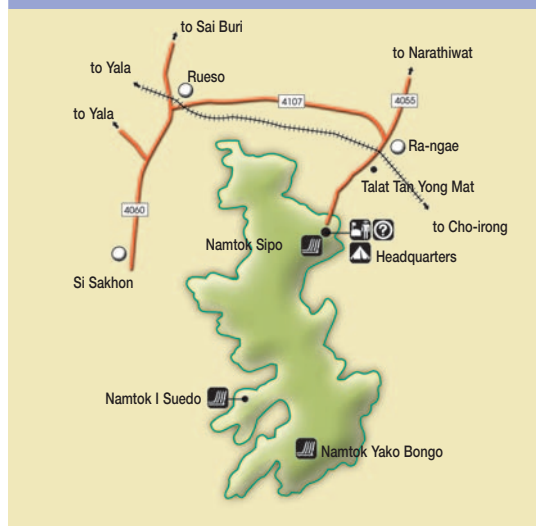
Flora and fauna

The land on the right side of Sai Buri River is blanketed by tropical rain forest. Lush forest also carpet the upper area on the mountain. Its main plants include *Intsia palembanica*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Hopea odorata* and different kinds of *Hopea* spp..

Such lush forest is habitat for a number of wildlife such as Macaque, Langur, Common Muntjak, Mouse Deer, Sambar Deer, Porcupine, Slow Loris, Giant Squirrel, Hornbill, Hill Myna, Hawk, Common

Getting there

■ From Amphoe Ra-ngae of Narathiwat, use motorway Ra-ngae-Sako road, passed Tanyongmat Market for 2 kilometres and then, change to Thano-Baluka road. The road runs to Mu Ban Sipo for 1.5 kilometres only, reaches at headquarters.



Koel and lots of aquatic animals.

Attractions

◆ **Sipo Waterfall.** The big waterfall has 7 tiers. Its top tier is the most beautiful one where the stream flows over 30 metres high cliff into big pool below. Local people use the water from this waterfall to nourish their Longan plantation.

◆ **I Suedo Waterfall.** Cascading through 7 tiers, the waterfall flows for 200-300 metres.

◆ **Yaka Bo-ngo Waterfall.** Two streams combines before falling into 60 metres high cliff. The waterfall is very beautiful during the rainy season.

Namtok Sai Khao National Park

The national park acquires lush forest on Sankala Khiri Range, covering parts of Pattani, Yala and Songkhla. Total area 110 square kilometres

Geography

The park is situated on Sankala Khiri Range. Khao Nang Chan is the highest peak. The mountainous landscape slopes westwards, leaving the western area to hills and plain. The ground comprises sandy soil, limestone and granite.

Climate

There are heavy rains from October to December. The best time and comfortable in summer is from February to April.

Flora and fauna

The park comprises tropical rain forest, it has various significant plants, birds, mammals, snake and fishes.

Getting there

- The national park is located in Tambon Sai Khao, Amphoe Khok Pho of Pattani.



Attractions

◆ **Sai Khao Waterfall.** The stream falls from 30 metres high cliff and cascades for 700 metres through the lush and shady forest. The waterfall is situated on highway 409.

◆ **Phong Phong Waterfall.** Cascading through 7 tiers into the pool, the waterfall is embraced by shady vegetables. The beautiful waterfall is situated by highway 407.

◆ **Phra Mai Phai Waterfall.** The small waterfall cascades from 10 metres high cliff before spreading on wide rock terrace and joining Thepha River finally. There is a Buddha image, Phra Weruwan, placed nearby. It is 12 kilometres from Sai Khao Waterfall.

◆ **Aran Warin Waterfall.** The 6 tiers waterfall cascades into the big pool below. The first tier is over 30 metres high. It is in Amphoe Khok Pho.



San Kala Khiri National Park

The park cover lush forest on 215.36 square kilometres area in Amphoe Saba Yoi of Songkhla. San Kala Khiri National Park is rich of plants, wildlife, and natural attractions such as waterfalls, caves, Thepa watershed forest and peat swamp over 300 square kilometres.



Geography

The park features rugged mountains that borders Thailand and Malaysia. It is main watershed forest that feeds Thepha River.

Climate

The park has two seasons, rainy season and summer.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest blankets the park with *Hopea odorata*, *Intsia palembanica* and etc. The forest is home to medium and small mammals, birds, reptiles and insects. There are rare animals including Guar, Serow, Crested Wood Partridge, Wreathed Hornbill, Rhinoceros Hornbill and Great Hornbill.

Attractions

◆ **Ban Si Hui.** It is the old community of Thai people who migrated from Malaysia over hundred years ago. Located amidst vast field, mountain and stream, the old community was deserted by epidemic.

◆ **Kraduk Cave.** The cave, with large terrace, can accommodate 50 people. It houses ash of people in the last era. It is a kilometre from Ban Si Hui.

◆ **Phueng Cave.** In each year, the cave's ceiling is occupied by numerous beehives. It is situated among nice natural setting.

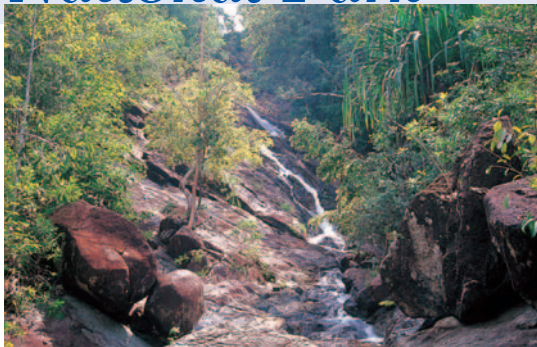
◆ **Bang Thepha.** The vast beach is created by 2 canals, Lam Lot and Thepha Canal, which meet and fill up the area with sand.

Getting there

■ Motorists can use Highway 43, the Songkhla-Pattani Road, through Amphoe Thepha, Saba Yoi, and Yala, and then continue on the Ban Baho route. The park is 40 kilometres away.



Than Sadet-Ko Pha-ngan National Park



Situated on Ko Pha-ngan, an island 100 kilometres away from Surat Thani's coast. Total area 65.93 square kilometres.

Geography

The park has maintained the wilderness of the island on its rugged and steep mountains. Khao Ra is its highest peak at 627 metres.

Climate

Nice year round weather and small difference in temperature in each season all tourists to visit the park comfortably.

Flora and fauna

Tropical rain forest dominates the island. Its major plants include *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. grandiflorus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Ternstroemia wallichiana*, *Mesua nervosa*, *Parkia timoriana*, *Calamus* sp. and *Salacca wallichiana*.

Getting there

- Ko Pha Ngan is around 1 hours boat ride from Ko Samui.
- Some 80 kilometres from Surat Thani Pier, it takes 4 hours. The Night boat takes 6 hours.
- The Ferry is available from Don Sak Pier.
- Most roads are soil roads, trekking are probably requires for getting around and trekking is a good-way of getting around.

According to the native and field trip, Ko Pha-ngan is habitat of various birds and mammals such as Palm Civet, Squirrel, Macaque and Emerald Dove.

Attractions

◆ **Than Sadet Waterfall.** The local people honour the island's biggest waterfall on Ko Pha-ngan.

◆ **Ao Than Sadet.** Connecting to the waterfall, the bay has beautiful beach with white sand and crystal clear water.

◆ **Than Praphat** and Than Prawet Waterfall, to be named by King Rama V when he visited Ao Ban Don in 1889. Phaeng Waterfall, falls from the high cliff.

◆ **Khao Ra.** The highest peak in national park at 627 metres above sea level, offers picturesque panoramic view of the whole island.

◆ **Ko Tung Ku and Tung Ka.** The islands are favoured nesting places for Tern.

◆ **Ko Wao Noi, Ko Wao Yai, and Ko Tao.** These islands are favoured dive sites.



Contact address

National Parks in the North

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Chae Son	Chae Son sub-district, Mueang Pan district, Lampang 52240	0-5422-9000-1
Doi Inthanon	Chomthong district, Chiang Mai 50160	0-5326-8550
Doi Khun Tan	Mu 8, Tha Pladuk sub-district, Mae Tha district, Lamphun 51400	0-5351-9216-7
Doi Luang	Mae Yen sub-district, Phan district, Chiang Rai 57280	0-5360-9042
Doi Phahom Pok	P.O. Box 39, Fang district, Chiang mai 50110	0-5345-3517-8
Doi Phu Kha	Phu Kha sub-district, Pua district, Nan 55120	0-5470-1000
Doi Suthep-Pui	Si Wichai road, Suthep sub-district, Mueang district, Chiang Mai 50200	0-5329-5041
Huai Nam Dang	Mu 5, Kit Chang, Mae Taeng district, Chiang Mai 50150	0-5347-1669-71, 0-5324-8491 0-5571-9304
Khlong Lan	P.O. Box 22, Khlong Lan district, Kamphaeng Phet 62180	0-5571-9318-9
Khlong Tron	P.O. Box 9, P.O. Tha Sao, Mueang district, Uttaradit 53001	0-5360-9262
Khlong Wang Chao	P.O. Box 69, P.O. Kosamphi Nakhon, Kamphaeng Phet 62000	0-5541-9236
Khun Chae	Mae Chedi Mai sub-district, Wiang Pa Pao district, Chiang Rai 57260	0-5551-9278-9
Lam Nam Nan	Pha Lueat sub-district, Tha Pla district, Uttaradit 53250	0-6116-3349
Lan Sang	P.O. Box 8, Mae Tho sub-district, Mueang district, Tak 63000	0-5551-9644-5
Lum Nam Khong	P.O. Box 8, Mae Sariang district, Mae Hong Son 58110	0-5351-8060
Mae Moei	Mae Song sub-district, Tha Song Yang district, Tak 63150	0-9556-1265
Mae Ping	P.O. Box 18, Li district, Lamphun 51110	0-5571-9010-1
Mae Wa	Mu 2, Mae Wa sub-district, Thoen district, Lampang 52000	0-5452-2097
Mae Wong	P.O. Box 29, Khlong Lan district, Kamphaeng Phet 62180	0-5672-9002
Mae Yom	P.O. Box 4, Song district, Phrae 54120	0-5523-7028
Nam Nao	Nam Nao district, Phetchabun 67260	0-5361-2996
Namtok Chat Trakan	Chat Trakan sub-district, Chat Trakan district, Phitsanulok 65170	0-5381-8348
Namtok Mae Surin	P.O. Box 16, Pang Mu Si sub-district, Mueang district, Mae Hong Son 58000	0-5381-8348
Op Luang	Hang Dong Sub-district, Hot district, Chiang Mai 50240	0-5523-3527
Pha Daeng	Mueang Na sub-district, Chiang Dao district, Chiang Mai 50170	0-5440-1099
Phu Hin Rong Kla	P.O. Box 3, Nakhon Thai district, Phitsanulok 65120	0-5561-9200-1
Phu Sang	Phu Sang sub-district, Phu Sang district, Phayao 56110	0-5347-9079
RamKhamhaeng	P.O. Box 1, Khirimat district, Sukhothai 64160	0-5561-9214-5
Si Lanna	Ban Pao sub-district, Mae Taeng district, Chiang mai 50150	0-5551-1429
Si Satchanalai	P.O. Box 10, Ban Kaeng, Si Satchanalai district, Sukhothai 64130	
Taksin Maharat	P.O. Box 10, P.O. Tak, Mueang district, Tak 63000	
Tat Mok	P.O. Box 4, Mueang district, Tak 670000	
Thung Salaeng Luang	P.O. Box 64, Nai Mueang sub-district, Mueang district, Phitsanulok 65120	0-5526-8019
Wiang Kosai	P.O. Box 1, Wang Chin district, Phrae 54160	0-5450-9322

Not designated as National Parks in the North

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Doi Chong	Mu 6, Nayang sub-district, Sop Prap district, Lampang 52170	0-5450-1701
Doi Pha Klong	Tamphabok sub-district, Long district, Phrae 54000	0-5448-9202
Doi Phu Nang	Mu 6, Ban Mang, Chiang Muan district, Phayao 56160	
Doi Wiang Pha	P.O. Box 14, Chai Prakan district, Chiang Mai 50230	0-1962-3578
Kaeng Chet Khwae	Kaeng Sopa, Wang Thong district, Phitsanulok 65220	0-1226-0565
Khao Kho	33 Mu 11, Bung Nam Tao sub-district, Lom Sak district, Phetchabun 67110	
Khun Khan	Mu 1, Mae Sap, Samoeng district, Chiang Mai 50250	
Khun Nan	657 Mu 5 Pha Sing sub-district, Mueang district, Nan 55000	
Khun Phrawo	P.O. Box 11, Mae Ranat district, Tak 63140	0-5470-1121
Khun Sathan	P.O. Box 5, Nanoi district, Nan 55150	0-5360-9238
Lam Nam Kok	Doi Hang sub-district, Mueang district, Chiang Rai 57000	0-5477-9402-3
Mae Charim	35 Mu 5, Nam Pai sub-district, Mae Charim district, Nan 55170	
Mae Ngao	P.O. Box 37, Mae Sariang district, Mae Hong Son 58110	

Contact address

Mae Puem	Mu 8, Mae Chai sub-district, Mae Chai district, Phayao 56130	
Mae Takhrui	Tha Nuea sub-district, Mae On district, Chiang Mai 50130	0-5381-8384
Mae Tho	P.O. Box 10, P.O. Hot, Chiang Mai 50240	0-1960-4143
Mae Wang	Santisuk sub-district, Doi Lo district, Chiang Mai 50360	
Namtok Pha Charoen	Mu 6, Chong Khaep, Phop Phra district, Tak 63160	0-5550-0906
Nanthaburi	P.O. Box 3, Tha Wang Pha district, Nan 55140	
Op Khan	Nam Phrae sub-district, Hang Dong district, Chiang Mai 50230	0-6181-1068
Phu Soi Dao	Huai Mun sub-district, Nam Pat district, Uttaradit 53110	0-5541-9234-5
Si Nan	P.O. Box 14, Na Noi district, Nan 55150	0-5470-1106
Tham Pha Thai	Mu 3, Ban Huat sub-district, Ngao district, Lampang 52110	0-5422-0364
Tham Pla-Namtok Pha Suea	70 Mu 1, Huai Pha, Mueang district, Mae Hong Son 58000	0-5361-9036
Tham Sakoen	P.O. Box 13, Tha Wang Pha district, Nan 55140a	

National Parks in the Northeast

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Kaeng Tana	P.O. Box 6, Khong Chiam district, Ubon Ratchathani 34220	0-45249802, 0-4524-9380, 0-4540-6886-7
Khao Phra Wihan	P.O. Box 14, Kantharalak district, Si Sa Ket 33110	0-4561-9214
Khao Yai	P.O. Box 9, Pak Chong district, Nakhon Ratchasima 30130	0-1877-3127, 0-6092-6531, 0-3731-9002
Nam Phong	Ban Phue sub-district, Nong Ruea district, Khon Kaen 40240	0-4324-8006
Pha Taem	Huai Phai sub-district, Khong Chiam district, Ubon Ratchathani 34220	0-4524-9780, 0-4524-6332
Phu Chong Na Yoi	Na Chaluai district, Ubon Ratchathani 34280	
Phu Kao-Phu Phan Kham	P.O. Box 2, P.O. Ubolratana, Ubolratana district, Khon Kaen 40250	0-1221-0764
Phu Kradueng	Mu 1, Si Than sub-district, Phu Kradueng district, Loei 42180	0-4287-1333, 0-4287-1458
Phu Pha Man	P.O. Box 4, Phu Kradueng district, Loei 42180	0-4324-9050
Phu Pha Thoepr	Na Si Nuan sub-district, Mueang district, Mukdahan 49000	0-4260-1753
Phu Pha Yon	Chan Phen sub-district, Tao Ngoi district, Sakon Nakhon 47260	0-4298-1057
Phu Phan	P.O. Box 70, Huai Yang sub-district, Mueang district, Sakon Nakhon 47000	0-4270-3044, 0-1263-5029
Phu Ruea	Nong Bua sub-district, Phu Ruea district, Loei 42160	0-4288-1716, 0-4288-4144
Phu Sa Dokbua	Pa Rai sub-district, Don Tan district, Mukdahan 49120	0-4261-9077
Phu Suan Sai	Saeng Pha sub-district, Na Haeo district, Loei 42170	0-4281-9340
Phu Wiang	P.O. Box 1, Phu Wiang district, Khon Kaen 40150	0-4324-9052
Sai Thong	P.O. Box 1, Nong Bua Rawe district, Chaiyaphum 36250	0-9282-3437
Ta Phraya	P.O. Box 9, Non Din Daeng district, Buri Ram 31260	
Tat Ton	P.O. Box 22, Na Fai sub-district, Mueang district, Chaiyaphum 36000	0-4485-3333, 0-4485-3293
Thap Lan	P.O. Box 37, Kabin Buri district, Prachin Buri 25110	0-3721-9408

Not designated as National Parks in the Northeast

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Nayung-Nam Som	Nayung sub-district, Nayung district, Udonthani 41380	
Pa Hin Ngam	Ban Rai sub-district, Thep Sathit district, Chaiyaphum 36230	0-4489-0105
Phu Laen Kha	Huai Ton sub-district, Mueang district, Chaiyaphum 36000	0-4481-0902-3
Phu Langka	Phai Lom sub-district, Ban Phaeng district, Nakhon Phanom 48140	
Phu Pha Lek	Pathum Wapi sub-district, Song Dao district, Sakon Nakhon 47190	

National Parks in the Central and East

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Chaloem Rattanakosin	Khao Chot sub-district, Si Sawat district, Kanchanaburi 71220	0-3457-4222
Erawan	Mu 4, Tha Kradan, Si Sawat district, Kanchanaburi 71250	0-3245-9293
Kaeng Krachan	Kaeng Krachan district, Phetchaburi 76120	0-3889-4378
Khao Chamao-Khao Wong	P.O. Box 11, Klaeng district, Rayong 21110	0-3945-2074
Khao Khitchakut	34/7 Mu 5, Khao Khitchakut sub-district, Chanthaburi 22210	0-3453-2099
Khao Laem	Prang Phlae sub-district, Sangkhla Buri district, Kanchanaburi 71240	0-3865-3034,
Khao Laem Ya-	79 Mu 1, Mae Ramphueng beach, Ban Phe, Rayong 21160	0-3865-2136
Mu Ko Samet		0-3451-6667
Khuean Srinagarindra	P.O. Box 1, Si Sawat district, Kanchanaburi 71250	0-3955-5080
Mu Ko Chang	23/7 Mu 3, Ko Chang sub-district, Trat 23170	0-3943-4528
Namtok Phlio	Phlio sub-district, Laem Sing district, Chanthaburi 22190	0-3622-5171-3,
Namtok Sam Lan	P.O. Box 10, Nong Pla Lai, Mueang district, Saraburi 18000	0-1652-5180
Pang Sida	P.O. Box 55, Mueang district, Sa Kaeo 27000	0-3724-6100
Phu Toei	P.O. Box 19, P.O. Dan Chang district, Suphan Buri 72180	0-1934-2240
Sai Yok	Mu 7, Sai Yok, Sai Yok district, Kanchanaburi 71250	0-3451-6163

Not designated as National Parks in the Central and East

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Chaloem Phra Kiat	110 Mu 5, Yang Hak sub-district, Ratchaburi 70140	0-7165-3278
Thai Prachan		
Khao Sipha Chan	Khun Chong sub-district, Kaeng Hang Maeo district, Chanthaburi 22160	
Lam Khlong Ngu	P.O. Box 4, Thong Pha Phum district, Kanchanaburi 71180	0-3465-3454
Namtok Chet Sao Noi	Mu 9, Muak Lek sub-district, Muak Lek district, Saraburi	0-3634-4416
Namtok Khlong Kaeo	Bo Ploi sub-district, Bo Rai district, Trat 23140	
Thong Pha Phum	P.O. Box 18, P.O. Thong Pha Phum district, Kanchanaburi 71180	0-1382-0359

National Parks in the South

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Ao Phang-nga	80 Mu 1, Ko Pan Yi sub-district, Mueang district, Phangnga 82000	0-7641-2188,
Bang Lang	P.O. Box 1, P.O. Than To, Than To district, Yala 95150	0-7641-1136
Budo-Su-ngai Pa Di	67 Mu 4, Bacho district, Narathiwat 96170	0-7329-7099,
Hat Chao Mai	Ban Chang Lang, Mai Fat sub-district, Si Kao district, Trang 92150	0-7320-1716
Hat Noppharat Thara-	79 Mu 5, Ban Khlong Haeng, Ao Nang sub-district, Mueang district	0-7353-6076
Mu Ko Phi Phi	Krabi 81000	0-7521-3260
Hat Wanakon	Huai Yang sub-district, Thap Sakae district, Prachup Khiri Khan 77130	0-7562-7436,
Kaeng Krung	Takuk Nuea subdistrict, Vibhavadi sub-district, Surat Thani 84180 or	0-7569-5345
	P.O. Box 93, Mueang district, Surat Thani 84000	0-3261-9030
Khao Lak-Lam Ru	Mu 7, Khuek Khak sub-district, Takua Pa district, Phangnga 82190	0-7720-5677
Khao Lampi-	Mu 5, Thai Mueang district, Phangnga 82120	0-7942-0243
Hat Thai Mueang		0-7641-7206
Khao Luang	Mu 4, Lan Saka district, Nakhon Si Thammarat 80230	0-7535-4839
Khao Nam Khang	Khlong Kwang sub-district, Na Thawi district, Songkhla 90160	0-7432-9644-5
Khao Phanom Bencha	P.O. Box 26, P.O. Krabi, Mueang district, Krabi 81000	0-7562-9013
Khao Pu-Khao Ya	Mu 9, Khao Pu sub-district, Si Banphot district, Phattalung 93190	0-7468-9194-5
Khao Sam Roi Yot	Khao Daeng sub-district, Kui Buri district, Prachup Khiri Khan 77150	0-3261-9078
Khao Sok	Mu 6, Khlong Sok sub-district, Phanom district, Surat Thani 84250	0-7739-5155,
		0-7739-5139

Contact address

Khlong Phanom	Mu 4, Khlong Sok sub-district, Phanom district, Surat Thani 84250	0-7729-9298
Kui Buri	P.O. Box 10, P.O. Kui Buri, Kui Buri district, Prachuap Khiri Khan 77150	0-9212-7274
Laem Son	Mu 4, Muang Kluang sub-district, Kapoe district, Ranong 85120	0-7782-8073
Lam Nam Kra Buri	Mu 3, Paknam sub-district, Mueang district, Ranong 85000	0-1271-5537
Mu Ko Ang Thong	145/1 Talat Lang road, Talat sub-district, Mueang district, Surat Thani 84000	0-7728-6025, 0-7728-6588, 0-7728-0222 (Ko) 0-7755-8144-6
Mu Ko Chumphon	Mu 5, Hat Sai Ri sub-district, Mueang district, Chumphon 86120 or P.O. Box 8, P.O. Paknam Chumphon, Mueang district, Chumphon 86120	
Mu Ko Lanta	Mu 1, Ko Lanta Yai sub-district, Ko Lanta Yai district, Krabi 81150	0-7562-9018-9
Mu Ko Phetra	Mu 4, Ban Tolosai, Paknam sub-district, La-ngu district, Satun 91110	0-7478-3074
Mu Ko Similan	93 Mu 5, Ban Thap Lamu, Phetkasem road, Lam Kaen sub-district, Thai Mueang district, Phangnga 82210	0-7659-5045, 0-7659-5210, 0-7642-1365, (Ko) 0-7642-2136 (Ko)
Mu Ko Surin	Khura sub-district, Khura Buri district, Phangnga 82150	0-7649-1378, 0-7649-1582-3, 0-7641-9028-9 (Ko)
Namtok Huai Yang	Huai Yang sub-district, Thap Sakae district, Prachup Khiri Khan 77130	0-3261-9743
Namtok Ngao	76/5 Mu 1, Ngao sub-district, Mueang district, Ranong 85000	0-7784-8181
Namtok Si Khit	Mu 2, Si Khit sub-district Si Chon district, Nakhon Si Thammarat 80120	0-7547-0708
Namtok Yong	Tham Yai sub-district, Thung song district, Nakhon Si Thammarat 80110	0-7535-4967
Si Phang-nga	P.O. Box 22, P.O. Takua Pa, Takua Pa district, Phangnga 82110	0-7641-9056
Sirinat	89/1 Mu 1, Sakhu sub-district, Thalang district, Phuket 83140	0-7632-7152, 0-7632-8226
Tai Rom Yen	Ban Nasan sub-district, Ban Nasan district, Surat Thani 84120	0-7734-4633
Tarutao	Paknam sub-district, La-ngu district, Satun 91110	0-7478-3597, 0-7472-8028, 9002
Thale Ban	Mu 4, Wang Prachan sub-district, Khuan Don district, Satun 91160	0-7472-2736-7
Than Bok Khorani	2/2 Mu 2, Ao Luek Tai sub-district, Ao Luek district, Krabi 81000	0-7568-2058, 0-7568-1071

Not designated as National Parks in the South

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Ao Manao-Khao Tanyong	Mu 1, Kalu Wo Nuea sub-district, Mueang district, Narathiwat 96000	
Hat Khanom-	Mu 1, Khanom district, Nakhon Si Thammarat 80210	0-7468-5269
Mu Ko Thale Tai		
Khao Nan	P.O. Box 51, Mueang district, Nakhon Si Thammarat 8000	
Mu Ko Phayam	192 Mu 4, Ngao sub-district, Mueang district, Ranong 85000	0-7781-3840-1
Mu Ko Ra-Ko Phra Thong	Ko Phra Thong sub-district, Khura Buri district, Phangnga 82150	0-7649-1378, 0-7649-1582
Namtok Sipo	Mu 3, Chaloem sub-district, Ra-ngae district, Narathiwat 96130	
Namtok Sai Khao	Mu 5, Sai Khao sub-district, Khok Po district, Pattani 94120	0-7333-9138
San Kala Khiri	Mu 2, Ba Hoei sub-district, Saba Yoi district, Songkhla 90210	
Than Sadet-Ko Pha-ngan	108 Mu 3, Ban Maduea Wan, Ko Phangan District, Surat Thani 84280	0-7723-8275