

NATIONAL PARKS IN THAILAND

Northern

North Thailand is home to a total of 59 national parks. The parks typically cover a rugged mountain area northward from Phetchabun province. They function as watershed for several rivers and habitat of wildlife.

Northeastern

The Northeast region covers an area south and east from Nakhon Ratchasima province where it is characterized by a high plateau to the north and surrounding Loei province. Currently there are 25 national parks in this region. All of these national parks are worth a visit. The contrast between them will satisfy the visitor who is naturebound for the beauty, or the backpacker who seeks to trek to the top for upmost views, but all are places to discover and enjoy.

Central & Eastern

A total of 20 national parks have been designated in Central and Eastern Thailand. These national parks' terrains include steep mountain ranges, fertile forests and an abundance of wildlife habitats, which will be trademarks to this region.

Southern

This region covers the South an area from Prachuap Khiri Khan province southward with 43 national parks in total. Several mountain ranges that lie along the south peninsula inter-connected throughout its length separate the narrow coastal plains along the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea.

National Parks *in Thailand*



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Preface

At the end of World War II, there was a series of attempts to establish national parks in Thailand, some of which were successful. These attempts were made following 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 Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation 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 22nd September 1961.

According to the Act, a national park is defined as land, which includes mountains, creeks, swamps, canals, marshs, basins, waterways, lakes, islands and seashores 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. Currently, Thailand has a total of 147 national parks of which 127 parks have already been gazetted and 20 sites are in the process of being established, covering an area of 70,038.65 square kilometers or 13.64 percent of the total land area of the country.

Nipon Chotibal
Director General

Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation

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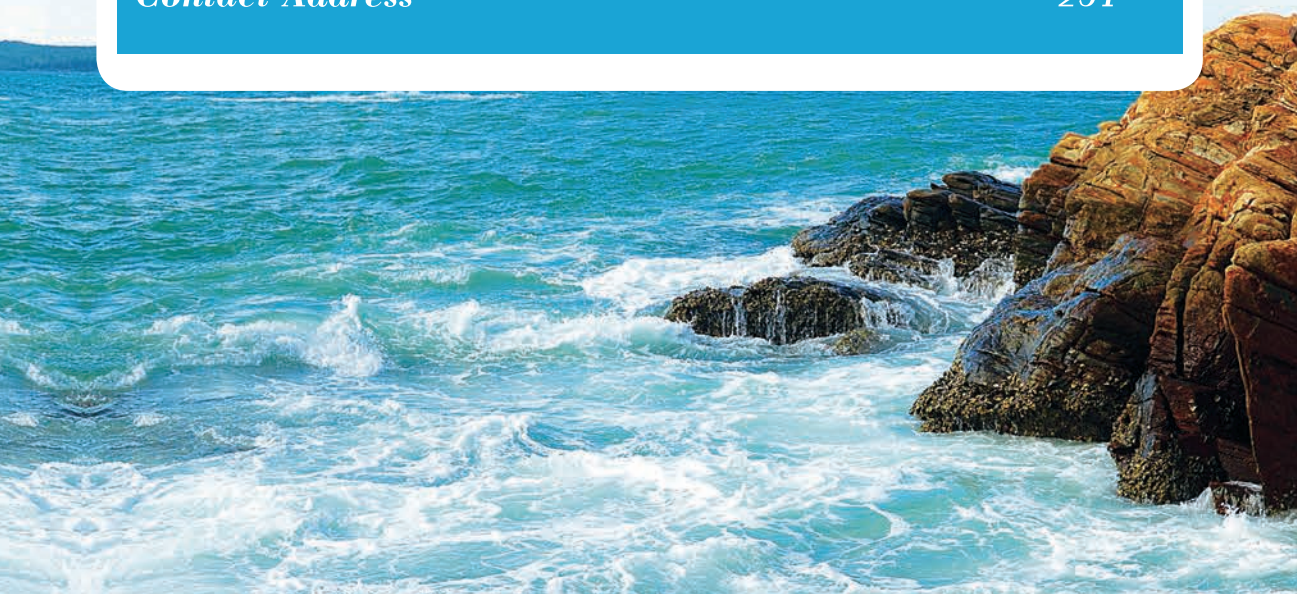
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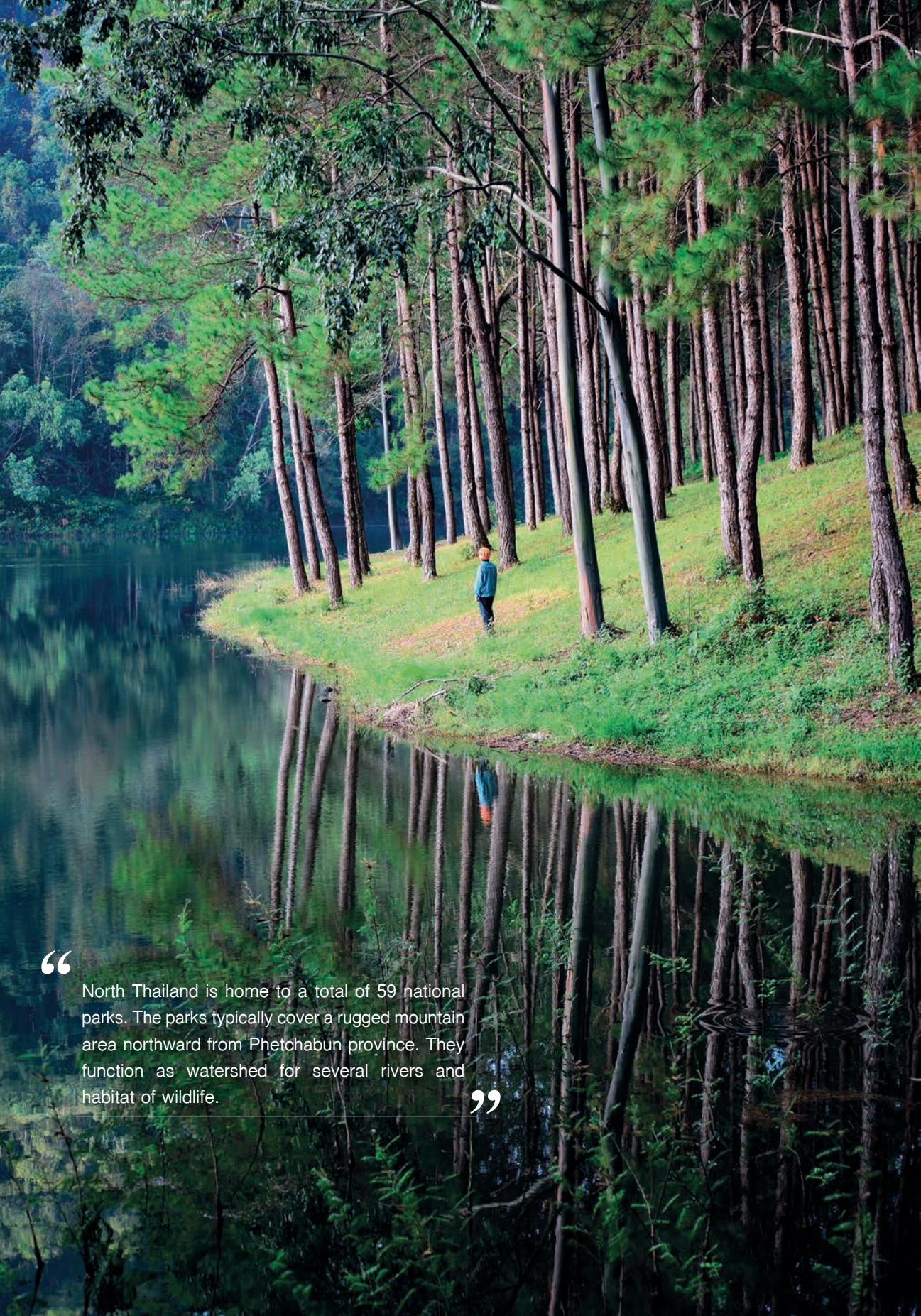
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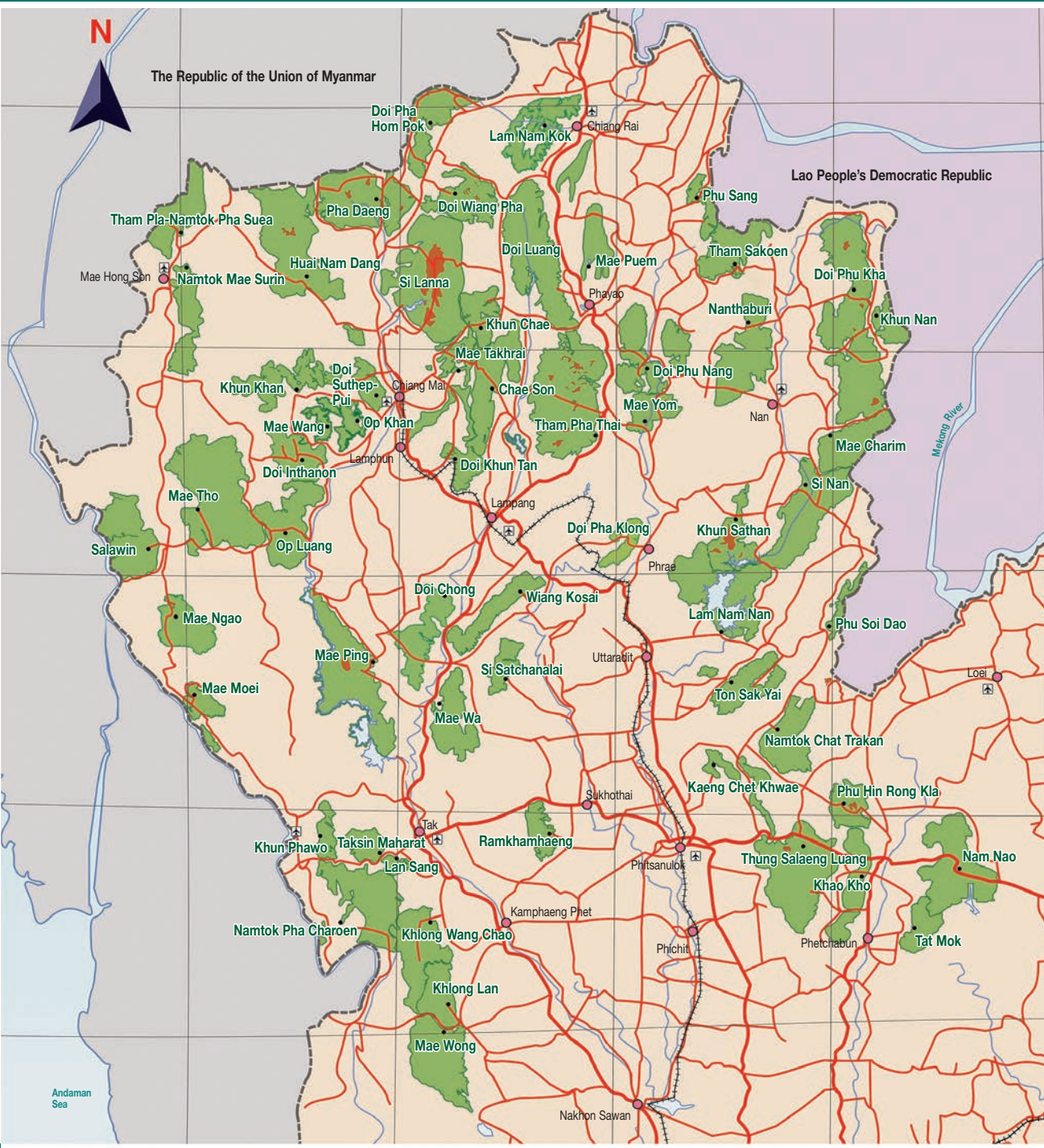




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National Parks in the
Northern

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 not only waterfalls but also hot springs which illustrate the high temperatures that exist beneath the earth's surface. Since 1988, it has been known as the 58th national park of Thailand.

Geography

The national park is a mountainous area with 81 degree Celsius hot springs cascading over rocky terrain, providing misty and picturesque scenery.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

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

The park is home to mammals such as Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Wild Boar, Asian Golden Cat, Siamese Hare, Southwest China Serow, Sunda Flying Lemur, Phayre's Leaf-monkey, Malayan Porcupine, Finlayson's Squirrel and Northern Treeshrew.

Various kinds of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Red Junglefowl, Woodpeckers, Hawks, Bulbuls, Barbets, Tailorbirds, Green Pigeons, Warblers and Babblers can be seen in the park.

Annually, a number of Cicadas congregate near the hot springs. People believe that they come to consume mineral water here.

Attractions

◆ **Chae Son Waterfall**, originating from Lamnam Mon (Mon Stream) is full of water all year round. The 6-level waterfall cascades down the cliff to large natural pools on each level. It is not far from the park office-only a kilometre walk from the parking area.





Getting There

- The national park is about 75 kilometres from the district town of Lampang. From Lampang's town, take Highway 1035 (Lampang-Chae Hom route) for 58 kilometres and then proceed on a sub-route heading to Mueang Pan district for a 17 kilometres distance.

◆ **Mae Mon Waterfall** is just 5 kilometres from the National Park Headquarters. The scenery is breathtaking, especially when watching the massive volume of water flowing from the high cliffs into the deep valley below.

◆ **Mae Khun Waterfall** is located near Mae Mon Waterfall. Water cascades from the 100 metres high cliff onto the plain below and later joins the Mae Mon Waterfall.

◆ **Mae Piak Waterfall**, one of the beautiful waterfalls, is the 3-level waterfall 100 metres high. It is easily accessed and is just 3 kilometres from the national park headquarters.

◆ **Hot Springs**, covering an area of about 4,800 m², are popular among tourists. Most of the hot springs emit a mild Sulphur scented steam. You usually enjoy bringing eggs to boil here.

◆ **Warm Basin** is located near the hot springs. Since the basin originated from the hot springs and Chae Son Waterfall, it provides warm water and bath facilities.

◆ **Mineral Bathing Facilities.** Each room is supplied with natural mineral water, between 39 degree Celsius and 42 degree Celsius, sourced directly from the Geyser. It is believed that this mineral water can relieve some skin problems and illness as well as being well known for relaxation and recreation.

◆ **Pha Ngam Cave** is approximately 60 kilometres from the national park ranger station.

Doi Chong National Park

Doi Chong National Park covers an area of 346.18 square kilometres in Sop Prap, Thoen and Mae Phrik districts of Lampang, Li and Thung Hua Chang districts of Lamphun. The national park offers mountainous areas and a range of deciduous forests. The highest point, Doi Jong is 1,379 metres above mean sea level.



Geography

The national park features a beautiful rugged mountain range. Elevations are between 270 to 1,300 metres above sea level. The park is origin to the main tributaries of Maenam Wang, which is the major river in Lampang and most important water source of Mae Prap, Huai Mae Pu, Mae Thai, Mae Yong and Mae Kat reservoirs. Granite, limestone, zinc and gemstones can be found here.



Getting There

- From Mueang district in Lampang, take the Highway 1 (Phahonyothin road) for about 45 kilometres to reach the Sop Prap government office, then turn right to Ban Lai-Ban Kaen route and proceed to Na Daeng Nuea village, continue for 8 kilometres and then turn left and continue for 5.4 kilometres reach headquarters.



Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous and deciduous dipterocarp forests blanket the national park. It is home to a variety of wildlife such as Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Northern Treeshrew, and Common Palm Civet including various kinds of birds such as Barbets, Bulbuls and Babblers.



Attractions

◆ The national park offers spectacular scenery, particularly its cliffs. The ideal viewpoint for sunrise and sunset along with 360 degree panoramic views is at the top of the mountain, which is 1,379 metres above mean sea level. Many varieties of orchids are in blossom from October to January. This viewpoint can only be accessible by a 7 kilometres hike beginning at the national park headquarters.



Doi Inthanon National Park

Amidst its rugged mountains, the national park contains the country's highest peak Doi Inthanon. Its mountain range is a watershed from which many rivers originate, as well as Ping River that fills power - generating Bhumibol Dam. In its lush jungles, the park has many natural attractions including Mae Ya Waterfall, which is considered the country's most beautiful waterfall. Doi Inthanon National Park covers a total area of 481.89 square kilometres, including parts of Chom Thong, Mae Chaem, Mae Wang and Doi Lo districts of Chiang Mai province. Doi Inthanon is one of the first of fourteen forests of Thailand the government decided to declare as a national park on October 7, 1959. The establishment of this national park was completed in 1972.

Geography

Rugged mountains envelop 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 in the park at 2,330 metres above mean sea level. Doi Inthanon is a watershed jungle that fills up numerous rivers including the Mae Klang, Mae Malo, Mae Pan, Mae Hoi, Mae Ya, Mae Cham, Mae Khan and a tributary of the Mae Ping River that fills the power-generating Bhumibol Dam.

Climate

Due to its elevation, it is rather cool all the year round. As the humidity is very high, setting a fire is quite difficult on the mountain. At the top, the temperature drops below zero in winter and is quite comfortable in summer.

Flora and Fauna

Due to deforestation by hill tribes, some empty plains appear interrupting the jungle while treeless hills can be seen along both uphill slopes. Doi Inthanon National Park comprises many forest types including montane rain forest, pine forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and mix deciduous forest. They are home 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 with plenty of wild flowers such as *Vanda coerulea*, *Rhynchosstylis gigantea*, *Rhododendron moulmianense* and sphagnum moss can be found at the highest elevation.

Depleted by hunting and badly affected by deforestation caused by hill tribes, the number of wildlife in the park has fallen and large mammals have become extinct in this forest. The remaining wildlife includes Tiger, Southwest China Serow, Chinese Goral and Northern Red Muntjac. Special kind of birds such as Green-tailed Sunbird, Chestnut-tailed Minla, Babblers, Dark-throated Thrush, Chestnut Thrush, Ashy Woodpigeon, Eurasian Woodcock, Rusty-naped Pitta and Ashy-throated Warbler.

Attractions

◆ **Doi Inthanon Peak.** Presently, the road to the mountain top allows visitors to access the highest peak conveniently by car. Additionally, naturalists who want to experience the conventional way to explore the Doi Inthanon 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 the trunks of all the trees, making the forest look quite prehistoric.

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

◆ **Mae Ya Waterfall** is situated in the southern part of the park. This big waterfall cascades over 260 metres high cliffs from Mae Ya Stream. It can be accessed via a sub road, off Chom Thong-Hot Road.

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

◆ **Vajirathan Waterfall or Tat Khong Yong Waterfall** is a 70-metre high waterfall, originating from the Mae Klang Stream and situated at the 22nd kilometre of Chom Thong-Doi Inthanon Road.

◆ **Kio Mae Pan Nature Trail,** One of the most beautiful nature trails in Thailand. The trail passed montane rain forest and sub-alpine forest with many fern, flowers, birds, mammals, insect, waterfall and great viewpoint.

Getting There

- From Chiang Mai, take the Chiang Mai-Hot route. After reaching the 58th kilometres, before Chom Thong Market, turn right onto the Chom Thong-Doi Inthanon Road, Doi Inthanon is 48 kilometres further on.



Doi Khun Tan National Park

This tranquil national park is home to various plants as well as Thailand's longest railway tunnel. Doi Khun Tan National Park covers a total area of 255.29 square kilometres and lies within parts of Mae Tha district of Lamphun Province, and Hang Chat and Mueang districts of Lampang Province.

History

The forest of Doi Khun Tan is one of 14 forests the government declared as a national park in 1959. The survey conducted in 1974 and 1975, found this forest rich in natural resources; namely, economic plants, orchids, herbs, wildlife, shady forest and where the country's longest railway tunnel stands. The forest was upgraded from a reserved forest to Thailand's 10th national park in 1975.

Geography

A rugged mountain range blankets most of the area, leaving the remaining area to plains along the mountain shoulder. The park is watershed for significant rivers, including the Mae Tan and Mae Tha. Doi Khun Tan is the highest peak at 1,373 metres above mean sea level. The national park comprises of moist and montane rain forests that occupy areas

above 1,000 metres elevation. Its pine and mixed deciduous forests can be found above 700 metres elevation.

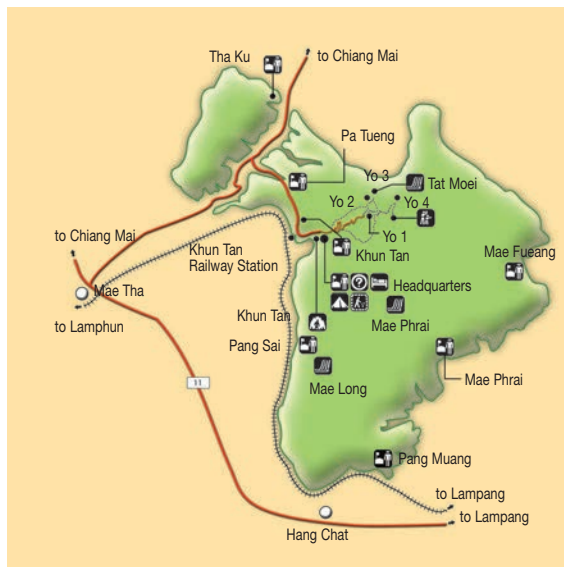
Climate

Climate in Doi Khun Tan National Park can be divided into three seasons. Summer is from February to April and most comfortable with warm breeze. Rainy season is from May to October and can be heavy in July and August. Winter is from November to January and cool.



Getting There

- Take northern railway and get off at Khun Tan Railway Station. From there, walk for 1.3 kilometres to the park headquarters.
- From Bangkok, take highway no.11. At km. 46-47, Mae Tha district of Lamphun province, turn right and continue for 18 kilometres to the park headquarters.



Flora and Fauna

The park contains various types of forests, including tropical rain forest, montane rain forest, mixed deciduous forest and pine forest. Its significant plants include *Tectona grandis*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Toona ciliata*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Michelia* sp., *Mangifera* sp., *Pinus merkusii*, *P. kesiya*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* and *Schleichera oleosa*.

The national park has wildlife in the area, which includes Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Phayre's Leaf-monkey, Wild Boar and many species of birds such as Lineated Barbet, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Collared Scops-owl, Black-naped Oriole and Little Bunting.

Attractions

◆ **Khun Tan Tunnel.** Thailand's longest railway tunnel is 1,352 metres long. At the entrance, is the Chao Pho Khun Tan shrine where it is believed to hold protective spirits of the forest. There is a monument in honor of a German who overlooked the tunnel construction.

◆ **Mountain peaks.** The mountain peaks in Doi Khun Tan National Park are nice places for camping. Tourists can relax in a resort of the State Railway of Thailand, or visit pine forest where a resort is near the location of M.R. Kukrit Pramoj's house. The house is decorated with temperate plants and a lychee garden where His Majesty the King had paid a visit. About 3.5 kilometres walk from the house, through shady beautiful scenery, is the highest peak of Khun Tan range from where the provincial town of Lampang can clearly viewed. On the way, there are 7 resorts which belong to missionaries. The resorts are available for rent. Contact Payap University in Chiang Mai.

◆ **Mae Long Waterfall.** The famous and beautiful waterfall is situated among lush vegetation, 10 kilometres south of Khun Tan Railway Station. You can get off at Mae Tan Noi Station and walk 3 kilometres.

◆ **Tat Moei Waterfall.** The entrance to the waterfall is between the M.R. Kukrit 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 1,169.48 square kilometres within the Mae Suai, Phan and Wiang Pa Pao districts in Chiang Rai Province, and nearby Wang Nuea and Ngao districts in Lampang Province, including Mae Chai and Mueang districts in Phayao Province. Doi Luang was declared the 61st national park of Thailand on April 16, 1990.

Geography

The mountainous areas lie from north to south. The highest peak is “Doi Luang” and is 1,694 metres above mean sea level. On the upper level of the mountain range, the soil is a mixture of rock and gravel with sandstone and fertile black soil in the deep valley.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp, and evergreen forests blanket the national park. Within are various plants, including *Lagerstroemia tomentosa*,

Getting There

- From Mueang district, Phayao Province, take Highway 1. At km. 773-774, turn right to Pu Kaeng village and drive about 9 kilometres to the park's headquarters.



L. speciosa, *Hopea odorata*, *Irvingia malayana*, *Toona ciliata*, *Mesua ferrea*, *Shorea obtusa*, *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus* and varieties of Bamboo. It is home to animals such as Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Common Palm Civet, Sunda Flying Lemur, Asiatic Black Bear, Siamese Hare, Tiger, Pig-tailed Macaque, including many species of birds such as Vernal Hanging-parrot, Partridges, Richard's Pipit, Sooty-headed Bulbul and Blue-winged Pitta.

Attractions

◆ **Pu Kaeng Waterfall** originates from limestone accumulation from the water. It creates spectacular stalagmite and stalactite, including many caves. The beautiful waterfall is located in Pu Kaeng village, Phan district of Chiang Rai province. It flows abundantly all year-round.

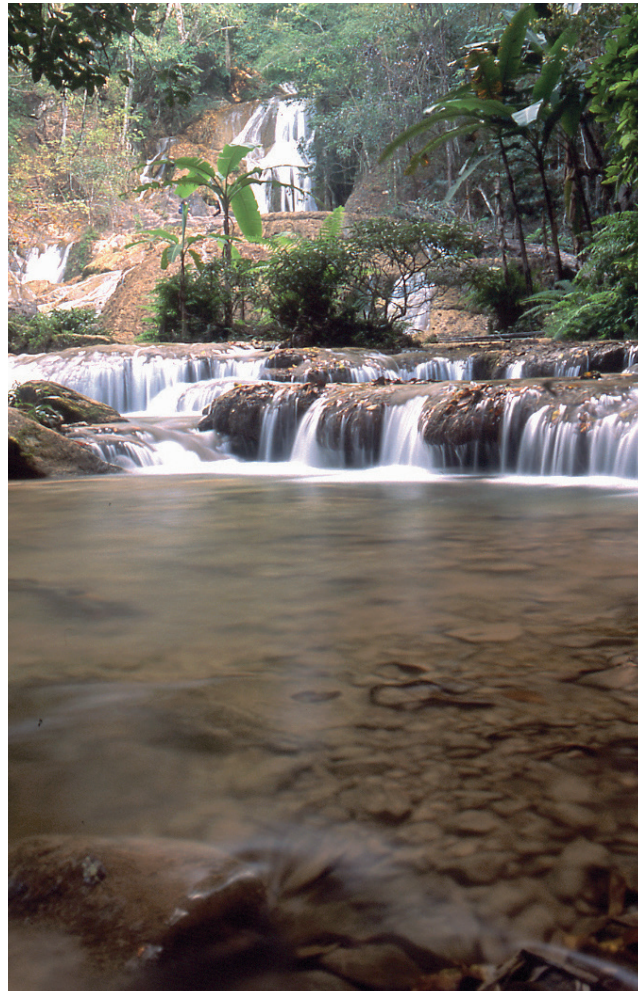
◆ **Champa Thong Waterfall** is beautiful and tall and offers clean water supply.

◆ **Pha Klet Nak Waterfall** generates spectacular views when the sun reflects from its currents. From Tom village, take the 4-kilometre walkway to reach the waterfall.

◆ **Wang Kaeo Waterfall** is one of the most beautiful waterfalls in Doi Luang National Park. Originating from limestone accumulation, the 102 levels waterfall offers spectacular scenery and flows abundantly all year round.

◆ **Doi Nok Viewpoint.** It is a nice place and specific mountain with cow's horn shape. You can watch spectacular views including sea of clouds in winter season.

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



Doi Pha Hom Pok

National Park

Acquiring about 524 square kilometres in Fang, Mae Ai and Chai Prakan districts of Chiang Mai Province, Doi Pha Hom Pok was declared as Thailand's 97th national park in 2000. The park is well respected by many divers for its beautiful waterfalls and hot springs.



Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp, evergreen, pine and virgin forests cover the national park with various types of vegetation such as *Hopea odorata*, *Baccaurea* sp., *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Tectona grandis*, *Michelia floribunda* and *Phyllanthus emblica*. Including rare vegetations such as *Impatiens jurpioides* and *Hypericum hookerianum* are found on the top of Doi Pha Hom Pok.

Wildlife found in the national park include Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, as well as different kinds of birds such as Cutia, Purple Cochoa, Green Cochoa and rare butterflies such as Brown Gorgon, Common Birdwing and Kaiser-I-Hind.

Attractions

◆ **Hot Springs.** The hot springs originate from simmering granite with temperatures ranging from 90-130 degree Celsius. Popular site among tourists.

◆ **Geysers.** The geysers spew into the air 50 metres high from the ground for a few minutes about every 25 minutes.

◆ **Huai Mae Chai.** Located 300 metres from Hot Springs. The currents run clear, clean and abundant all year-round.

Geography

The national park is located on the Phi Pan Nam mountain range. The mountain is 400 to 2,285 metres above mean sea level. The highest peak, "Doi Pha Hom Pok" is the second highest mountain in Thailand and the origin for main tributaries of Maenam Fang.

Climate

Average temperature is 25.4 degree Celsius. Winter season is from November to February when temperature is 13.7-19 degree Celsius; rainy season is from May to September with average rainfall 1,183.5 mm. yearly. In April, the temp is generally upper 39 degree Celsius.

◆ **Huai Bon Cave.** The Huai Bon Cave offers fantastic views of stalagmite and stalactite. Located 12 kilometres from Fang district.

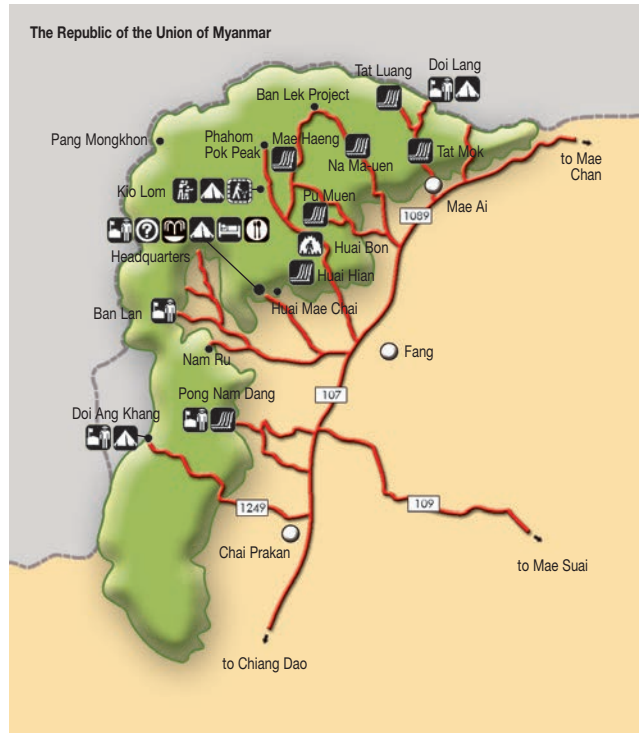
◆ **Pong Nam Dang Waterfall** has a large amount of water supply bringing one of the beautiful waterfalls to see.

◆ **Huai Hian Waterfall** has three levels and located 3 kilometres from Huai Bon cave.

◆ **Tat Mok Waterfall** offers spectacular views of the waterfall. Located 4 kilometres from Mae Ai district.

◆ **Na Ma-uen Waterfall** has three levels and located in the jungle of Mae Ai district.

◆ **Doi Pha Hom Pok** is the second highest peak of Thailand. The peak sits 2,285 metres high where you have spectacular views of sea mist along where Thailand and Myanmar border.



Getting There

- From Chiang Mai, take Highway 107 to Fang district then turn left to the Fang-Mon Pin route and continue for 3 kilometres then turn right to the local road No.4055. Park headquarters where the Hot Springs located is 8 kilometres further on.

Doi Pha Klong National Park

Doi Pha Klong National Park was established in 2007 as Thailand's 107th national park. It covers an area of 188.77 square kilometres within Long, Mueang and Sung Men districts in Phrae province. Amidst lush green trees in the park lies a wonder natural rock named the "Suan Hin Maharat."



Geography

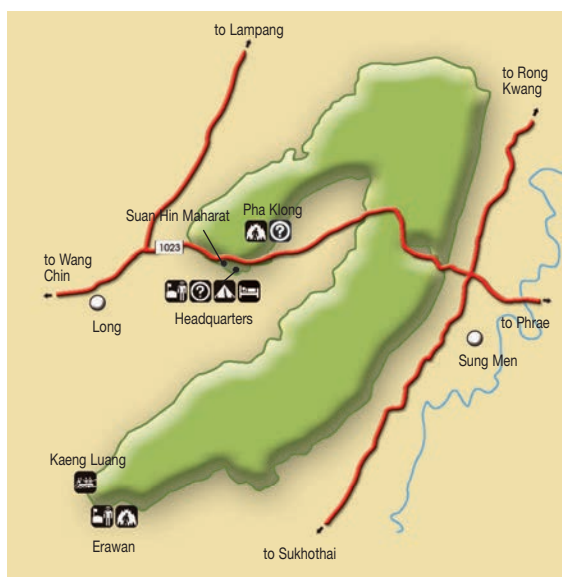
The national park features a rugged mountain range. There are plains in some mountainous area and natural rocky outcrops. The national park is the origin for main tributaries of Maenam Yom, which consists of Huai Khamin, Huai Pha Kham, Huai Bia, Huai Nam Rin, Huai Mae Ta and Huai Mae Sang.

Climate

The national park is located in a steep mountainous range where various kinds of vegetation exists. The temperature is approximately 8-12 degree Celsius in winter season; while the average temperature is about 30 degree Celsius in summer.

Getting There

- From Phrae Province, take Highway 1023 to Long for 25 kilometres. The road is paved in good condition to reach the national park all year-round. You also can take a bus from Phrae to Long district.





Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous and deciduous dipterocarp forests make up the national park with various plants such 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 Southwest China Serow, Northern Red Muntjac, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Wild Boar, Common Palm Civet, Finlayson's Squirrel, Northern Treeshrew, Kloss's Mole, Cobras including various kinds of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Greater Coucal, Red Junglefowl, Scaly-breasted Munia, Crested Serpent-eagle, Greater Flameback and a variety of fishes.

Attractions

◆ **Suan Hin Maharat** offers natural rocky outcrops in various animal shapes such as crocodiles, dinosaurs, and some like primitive animals. Visitors can imagine a fairy tale existence.

◆ **Khao Hin Pakarang** is a beautiful limestone mountain which has been carved by nature look like coral reef.

◆ **Erawan Cave.** Tham Erawan or Erawan Cave is a very beautiful cave with 200 metres in depth. There are numerous magnificent stalactites and stalagmites within the cave. One of them resembles Erawan Elephant. So, the cave is named "Erawan".



Doi Phu Kha National Park

Doi Phu Kha National Park covers a mountain range area of 1,704 square kilometres within Pua, Chiang Klang, Thung Chang, Mae Charim, Tha Wang Pha, Santi Suk, Bo Kluea and Chaloem Phra Kiat districts in Nan Provinces. Doi Phu Kha was declared a national park in 1999 and is the 94th national park in Thailand. It offers endemic and rare plants, scenic views of Doi Phu Kha, including many lovely waterfalls.

Geography

The national park features rugged mountain range. The highest peak is Doi Phu Kha and sits 1,939 metres above mean sea level. Doi Phu Kha is also the major symbol of Nan Province. The terrain is mainly forested land on a limestone mountain range and also the source of several streams, which flow into the Nan River.

Climate

Rainy season is from May to October. Winter is from November to February. Weather is cool from December to January with average temperature 5 degree Celsius. Summer is from March to April with average temperature 30 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous and deciduous dipterocarp forests as well as grassland blanket the national park with various types of vegetation such as *Lithocarpus* sp., *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. obtusifolius*, *Hopea odorata*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Xylia xylocarpus*, *Tectona grandis*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. roxburghii* and *Thelypteris* sp.

The park is also home to Sambar, Asian Elephant, Guar, Northern Red Muntjac, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Wild Boar, Southwest China Serow, Lar Gibbon, Phayre's Leaf-monkey, Common Palm Civet and Eurasian Otter including various species of birds such as Red Junglefowl, Indian Roller, Pin-striped Tit-babbler, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Lineated Barbet, Blue Magpie, Scarlet Minivet, Common Myna, Scaly-breasted Munia, Trogon, Greater Coucail, Green-billed Malkoha and Yuhina.

Getting There

- From Nan, take Highway 1080 (Nan-Thung Chang) for 60 kilometres. At Pua district, turn right to Highway 1256 and continue for 25 kilometres to park headquarters.





Attractions

◆ **Doi Phu Kha.** The national park offers spectacular views of Doi Phu Kha, in particular, Doi Phu Kha peak, which is covered by clouds in the winter and rainy seasons.

◆ **Attractive Waterfalls.** A number of scenic waterfalls are present throughout the national park. These include Phu Fa Waterfall, Sila Phet Waterfall, Mae Charim Waterfall, Ton Tong Waterfall, Tat Luang Waterfall and Wang Pian Waterfall.

◆ **Caves.** There are many large and beautiful caves in the national park. The most beautiful cave is Pha Kao Cave located in Pua district.

◆ **Than Nam Lot.** This is a wondrous phenomenon and so-called “Nam Ok Ru.” There is a stream underneath the mountain where the water comes up and flows out from the cave underneath. This action makes the sound to the likes of a waterfall’s rushing water.

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

◆ **Palm Primitive Forest.** This is one of the largest palm forests in Thailand located near Doi Phu Wae.

Doi Phu Nang National Park

The national park covers an area of 859.88 square kilometres in Dok Kham Tai, Pong and Chiang Muandistricts of Phayao Provinces. There is an abundance of wildlife and diverse forests, which are nourished by many nearby rivers. Doi Phu Nang was declared the 127th national park of Thailand on June 13, 2012.

Geography

The national park features rugged mountain range from north to south, while Mae Yom, Mae Tam and Mae Rong Khui forests stretch themselves in a horseshoe shape. Doi Phu Nang is the highest peak at 1,222 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

The highest temperature is around 31.3 degree Celsius, while low temperature is 20.2 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp and evergreen forests make up the national park with various plants such as *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* and *Azelia xylocarpa*.

The national park is home to wildlife such as Fishing Cat, Asiatic Black Bear, Wild Boar, Northern Red Muntjac, Common Palm Civet, and various types of birds and lizards.

Attractions

◆ **Fang Ta.** Aesthetically, it looks similar to Phae Mueang Phi Canyon in Phrae.

◆ **Than Sawan Waterfall.** The waterfall has 4-level. The current of the first level flows down to limestone terrain, which is 150 metres wide.

◆ **Na Bua Waterfall.** The waterfall has 3-level. The current flows down limestone terrain and water level is high all year-round.

◆ **Huai Ton Phueng Waterfall.** The waterfall has 7-level. the current flows down from the cliff, which is 80 metres high from the ground.

◆ **Pha Tang Cave.** is one of the most beautiful caves in this park. It offers spectacular views of stalagmite and stalactite.



Getting There

■ By car: From Phayao, take Highway 1021 to Dok Kham Tai district. Turn right to Highway 1251 and continue for 45 kilometres and turn right heading to Bo Bia village for 4 kilometres you will reach the park headquarters.

Alternatively, take Highway 1120 (Phrae-Chiang Muan), then turn to Highway 1091 and Highway 1251. The Park headquarters is 15 kilometres further on.

■ By bus: From Bangkok take a bus to Phayao province. At Phayao Maket, there are mini buses to Doi Phu Nang National Park from 9.00 am. to 11.00 am. It takes about 1-2 hours.

Doi Suthep-Pui National Park

Doi Suthep Mountain was formerly known as Doi Oi Chang. Its present name comes from a hermit who practiced meditation in this mountain a thousand years ago. The forest was combined with 13 more forests nearby. In 1981, it was declared Thailand's 24th national park. A year later, more area was united along the park's boundary.

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

Geography

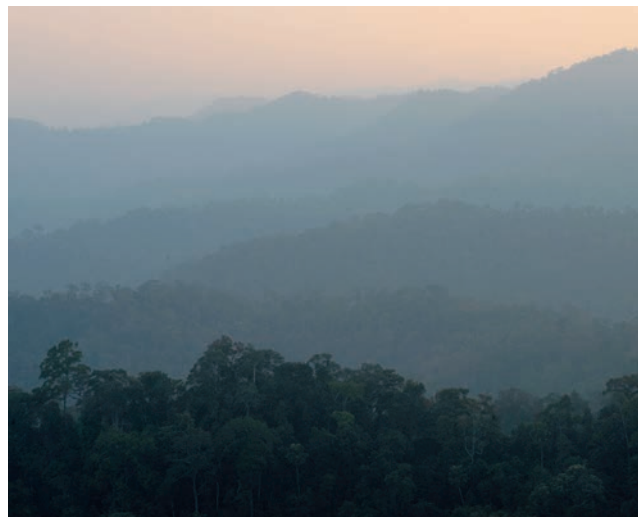
As part of the upper Phi Pan Nam range, the national park features rugged mountain range. Significant peaks include Doi Suthep, Doi Buak Ha, and the highest, Doi Pui, sits at 1,685 metres above mean sea level. The watershed mountain range originates streams namely Huai Kaeo, Huai Chang Khian and Huai Mae Hia, which are tributaries of the Mae Ping River.

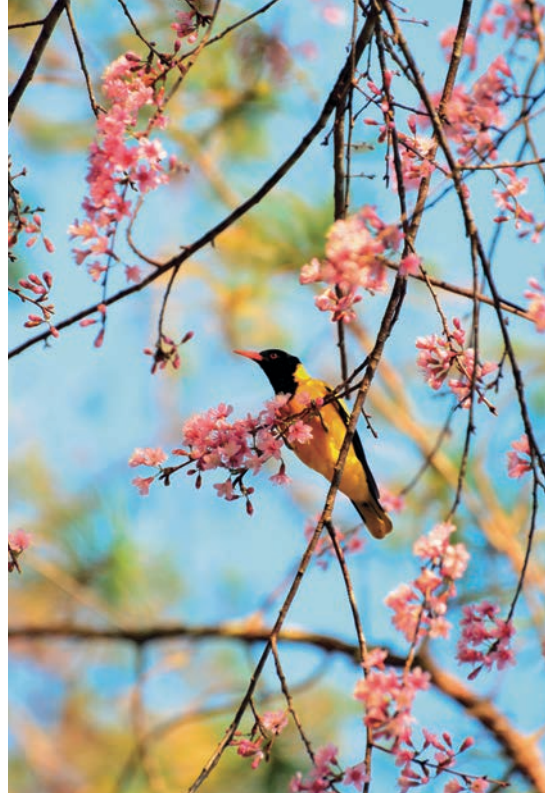
Climate

The average temperature is 16 degree Celsius. Winter season is cold and summer season is comfortable.

Getting There

- The park's headquarters on the Huai Kaeo Road, which is located at the foot of Doi Suthep Mountain, opposite Khru Ba Siwichai Monument and near Chiang Mai Zoo.





Flora and Fauna

The park features montane rain forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest, mixed deciduous forest and pine forest. The lush forests comprise of various plants such as *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Lagerstroemia tomentosa*, *Dalbergia* sp, *Hopea odorata* and *Pinus kesiya*.

At present wildlife in the park is interrupted by local people and hill tribes. However, one can often find Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Phayre's Leaf-monkey and over 200 species of bird such as Large Hawk-cuckoo, Mrs Hume's Pheasant, Red Junglefowl, Silver Pheasant, Black-naped Oriole, Vernal Hanging-parrot, Asian Paradise-flycatcher and Scarlet Minivet.

Attractions

◆ **Bhubing Palace.** Famed for its remarkable beauty, the hilltop palace is the northern royal palace for His Majesty the King and the royal family. The palace was built in 1961 and its architecture is Thai style. Nature around the palace remains highly conserved while the palace gardens contain various types of beautiful flora. The palace is 17 kilometres from the park headquarters.

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

◆ **Khruba Siwichai Monument.** The monument was built to commemorate Khru Ba Siwichai, a Buddhist monk, who led the local people and helped to build the 12 kilometres uphill road to Phra That Doi Suthep Temple in 1934.

◆ **Huai Kaeo Waterfall.** Huai Kaeo stream flows from Doi Suthep and cascades through Huai Kaeo waterfall. Not far upstream is Wang Bua Ban, where the legendary love story of Chiang Mai lady occurred.

◆ **Montha Than Waterfall.** The 3 steps waterfall is the most beautiful one in the park.

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

Doi Wiang Pha National Park

Doi Wiang Pha National Park covers an area of 356.78 square kilometres in Chai Prakan and Fang districts of Chiang Mai Province and Mae Suai district of Chiang Rai Province. Doi Wiang Pha is in the process of being listed as a national park of Thailand.



The national park is home to wildlife such as Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Southwest China Serow, Malayan Porcupine, Siamese Hare, Common Palm Civet, Treeshrew, Macaque and Squirrel, as well as various species of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Thick-billed Green-pigeon, Eastern Spotted Dove, Crested Serpent-eagle, Scarlet Minivet and Red Junglefowl.

Attractions

- ◆ **Huai Sai Khao Waterfall.** Located 300 metres away from the national park headquarters. The small 3-level waterfall originates from Huai Sai Khao.
- ◆ **Doi Wiang Pha Waterfall.** Located 8 kilometres from the national park headquarters. This waterfall is about 18 metres high.
- ◆ **Mae Fang Luang Waterfall.** The waterfall is 10 metres high.
- ◆ **Doi Wiang Pha Viewpoint.** The viewpoint offers spectacular views of the natural landscape.

Getting There

- From Chiang Mai, take Highway 107 to Chai Prakan district. At km.125 (Mae Khilai Fang village), turn right and continue for 12 kilometres to Doi Wiang Pha National Park.



Geography

The national park features rugged mountain range. The highest peak, Doi Wiang Pha is 1,834 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Rainy is from May-October. Summer is from March-April, and winter is from November-February. The ideal time to visit the park is in the winter.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp and evergreen forests cover the national park with various plants such as *Tectona grandis*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Michelia floribunda* and *Pinus merkusii*, including various kinds of moss, fern and orchids.

Huai Nam Dang

National Park

Huai Nam Dang National Park was established in 1995 as Thailand's 81st national park. It covers an area of 1,252.12 square kilometres in Mae Taeng and Wiang Haeng districts, Chiang Mai provinces and Pai district, Mae Hong Son provinces. The national park offers scenic views of the natural mountain range and early morning sea of clouds can be seen from this viewpoint.

Geography

The mountain range is mostly highlands of verdant forests that are the source of tributaries and various streams. The national park is origin to a number of streams such as Huai Mae Yen Luang, Huai

Mae Hi, Huai Mae Ping, Huai Mae Chok Luang, Huai Nam Dang and later join to the Pai, Mae Ping Noi and Nam Dang rivers.

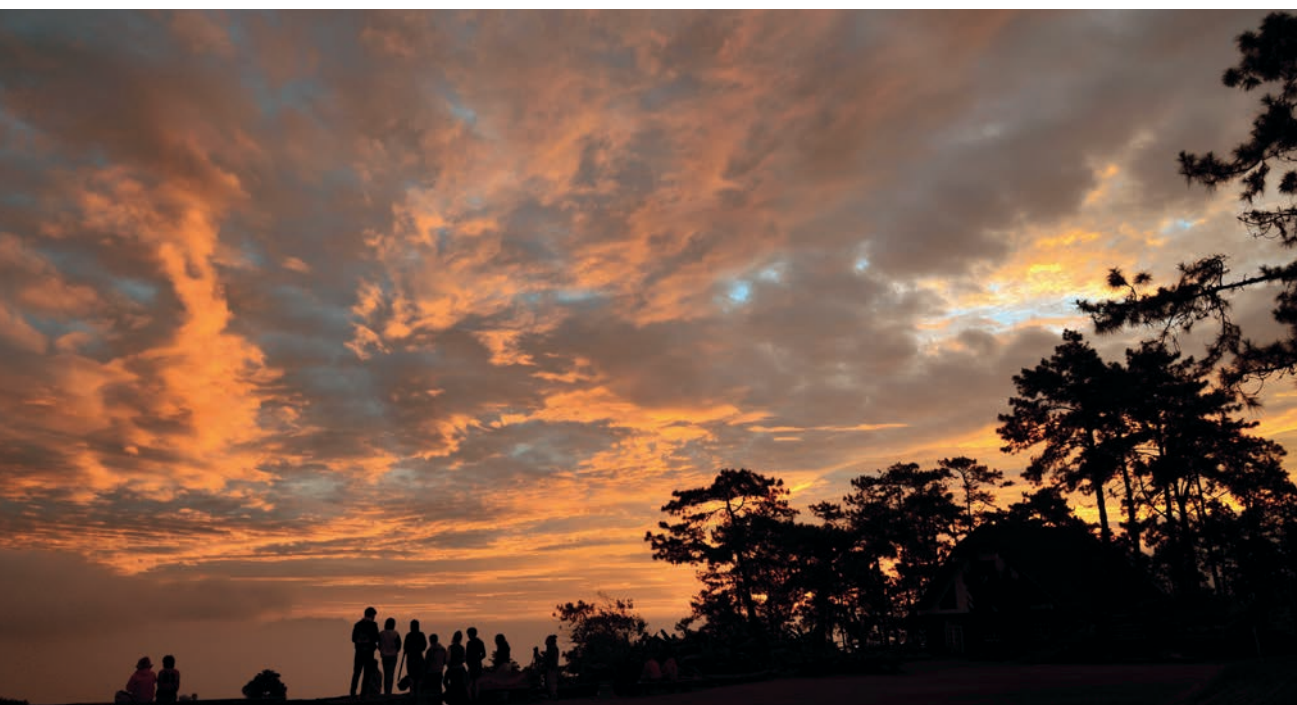
Climate

There are three seasons being rainy season from May to October, winter from November to February, and summer from March to April.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp, and evergreen forests make up the national park with various plants such as *Hopea odorata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Toona ciliata*, *Mangifera* sp., *Ailanthus triphysa*, *Lagerstroemia tomentosa*, *L. calyculata*, *Alphonsea glabrifolia*, *Xylia xylocarpa* and *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*.

Huai Nam Dang national park is home to wildlife such as Asian Elephant, Sambar, Tiger, Malayan Porcupine, Common Palm Civet, Wild Boar, as well as many species of birds such as Thick-billed Green-





pigeon, Vernal Hanging-parrot, Richard's Pipit, Rufous-throated Partridge, Hill Myna, Ashy Bulbul, Black-crested Bulbul and Striped-throated Bulbul.

Attractions

◆ **Doi Kio Lom Viewpoint** offers spectacular scenery of Doi Chiang Dao from this stop. You enjoy watching the 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 can only be accessible by four-wheel drive vehicles. The scenic views of the natural mountain range and early morning sea of clouds can be seen from this stop.

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

◆ **Mae Yen Waterfall.** A large waterfall with abundance of water all year-round. It originates from Huai Mae Yen Luang.

◆ **Rafting on the Mae Taeng River.** From both sides of the Mae Taeng River exist various plants and a number of bird species such as Kingfisher, Wagtail, Coucal, Malkoha, Minivet, Bulbuls, Swallow, Sunbird and Raptors. You can take a rafting trip down the river. The total trip takes about 3 to 4 hours, beginning

at Pang Pa Kha village or Pa Khao Lam village and ends at Sop Kai village.

◆ **Pong Nam Ron Tha Pai or Tha Pai Hot Spring.** This warm pool is located at Pai district, Mae Hong Son province. The 80 degree Celsius pool is about 30 kilometres from the national park headquarters.

◆ **Pong Nam Ron Pong Dueat or Pong Dueat Hot Spring.** The warm pool is located at Mae Taeng district of Chiang Mai province, in an area that consists of 3 to 4 large warm pools with temps from 90-99 degree Celsius. The nature trail or natural study route is approached about 1,550 metres distance.

◆ **Mae Lat Waterfall.** Being 40-50 metres high, Mae Lat waterfall is located at Saen Hai sub-district, Wiang Haeng district in Chiang Mai provinces.

◆ **Mae Hat Waterfall.** The waterfall is 40-50 metres high from ground level. The 4 levels waterfall is located at Mueang Haeng sub-district, Wiang Haeng district.

Getting There

■ From Chiang Mai take Highway 107 for 30 kilometres. At Mae Malai junction turn left to Highway 1095 (Mae Malai-Pai route) to between km. 65-66, then turn right and take a 6 kilometres road accessing to park headquarters.



Kaeng Chet Khwae National Park

Kaeng Chet Khwae National Park covers an area of 224.87 square kilometres in Wat Bot, Chat Trakan, Nakhon Thai and Wang Thong districts of Phitsanulok Province. The national park offers verdant forests and scenic natural views, including Kaeng Chet Khwae where seven streams meet.



Geography

The national park features rugged mountain range covered with a variety of vegetation and forests.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and evergreen forests cover the national park with various plants such as *Atzelia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Hopea odorata* and *Dipterocarpus alatus*.

The national park is home to wildlife such as Macaques, Northern Red Muntjac, Langurs, Palm Civets and many species of birds.

Attractions

◆ **Kaeng Chet Khwae.** Rocky stone terrain spreads under the river. In the rainy season, strong currents form making the area beautiful in nature.

◆ **Phu Daeng Ron Waterfall** is a 9-step waterfall located just 6 kilometres off Highway 12 at Phu Daeng Ron Ranger Station in Kaeng Sopha sub-district, Wang Thong District of Phitsanulok Provinces. The best time to visit the waterfall is during the rainy season, between June and September.

◆ **Ha Chan Waterfall** (5-step waterfall) is situated approximately 500 meters away from Phu Daeng Ron Waterfall. There is a nature trail where visitor can closely enjoy the waterfall and virgin forests.

◆ **Kaeng Suea Waterfall and Kaeng Pu Ten Waterfall.** Kaeng Suea is a tiered waterfall on the Khwae Noi River. Nearby is a sand beach where camping ground can be arranged for tourists. While, there is a wide open space at Kaeng Pu Ten Waterfall.

◆ **Huai Sam Takhian Waterfall** is a beautiful tired waterfall located at the park headquarters in Khan Chong

sub-district, Wat Bot District. The waterfall is much more beautiful in the rainy season than other periods of time.

◆ **Ban Nong Hin Viewpoint.** Located at Phu Daeng Ron Ranger Station, the 6.5 meters wide and 31 meters long stone field offers spectacular views of Khwae Noi River and Kaeng Sopha sub-district area. It can be accessed by the Phitsanulok-Nakhon Thai Route to Yaeng village, 10.5 kilometres.

◆ **Khwae Noi Bamrung Daen Dam** is located on Chong Khao Khat, Wat Bot District of Phitsanulok Province. It consists of 3 dams, Khwae Noi, Santakhian and Chong Khao Khat Dam. Khwae Noi Dam is a concrete face rock fill dam with 73 meters high and 570 meters long, sandstone was used for rock fill zone. Santakhian is an earth core rock fill dam with 80 meters high and 1,270 meters long. The last dam, Chong Khao Khat dam is an earth fill dam with 23 meters in height and 790 meters long.

Getting There

■ Kaeng Chet Khwae National Park is 450 kilometres from Bangkok. From Phitsanulok, take Highway 12 for 6 kilometres. Turn left to Highway 11 (Phitsanulok-Uttaradit route) and drive 25 kilometres. When reach Wat Bot District, turn right to Highway 1220 and continue another 15 kilometres to Na Kham village. Then, turn right and go 9 kilometres to the park. Total distance is 55 kilometres. Alternatively, take Highway 12 Phitsanulok-Lom Sak) to Sap Phraiwan village to park headquarters. This route is 97 kilometres from Phitsanulok's town.

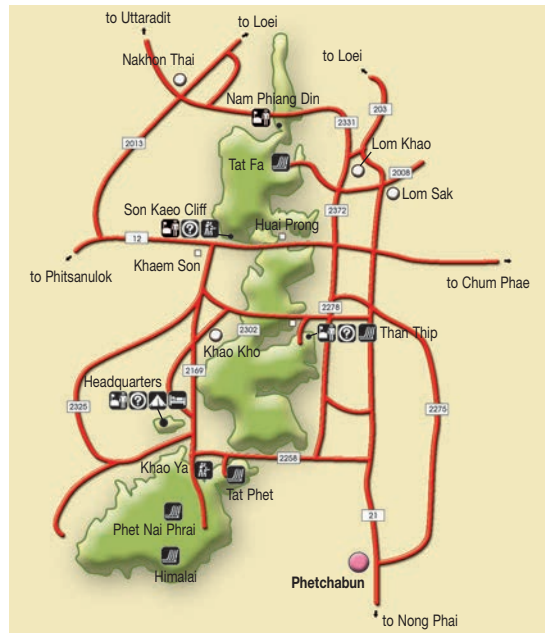




Khao Kho

National Park

Khao Kho National Park covers an area of 482.72 square kilometres in Lom Kao, Khao Kho, Lom Sak, Mueang and Wang Pong districts of Phetchabun province. It offers a diverse collection of plants and wildlife. There are natural sites such as waterfalls, cliffs, nice scenic views including a historic monument from the civil war era.



Geography

With elevations ranging between 500-1,708 metres above mean sea level, the park is the origin to main tributaries of Pa Sak, Yom and Nan rivers. Khao Kho resembles beautiful slopes of Switzerland while the sea provides a pleasant coolness on the mountain range year round.

Flora and Fauna

The forests of Khao Kho consist of mixed deciduous, dry dipterocarp and tropical rain forests. *Dipterocarpus* sp., *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Shorea obtusa* and *S. siamensis* exist here. The park is home to many animal species. They include the Asian Elephant, Asian Golden Cat, Wild Boar and Red Junglefowl.

Attractions

- ◆ **Than Thip Waterfall.** The waterfall has one level, 26 metres high and 30 metres wide.
- ◆ **Wang Nam Rin Waterfall.** This is a small waterfall about 5 metres high.
- ◆ **Khan Bandai Waterfall.** The waterfall consists of about 20 steps like that of a staircase.

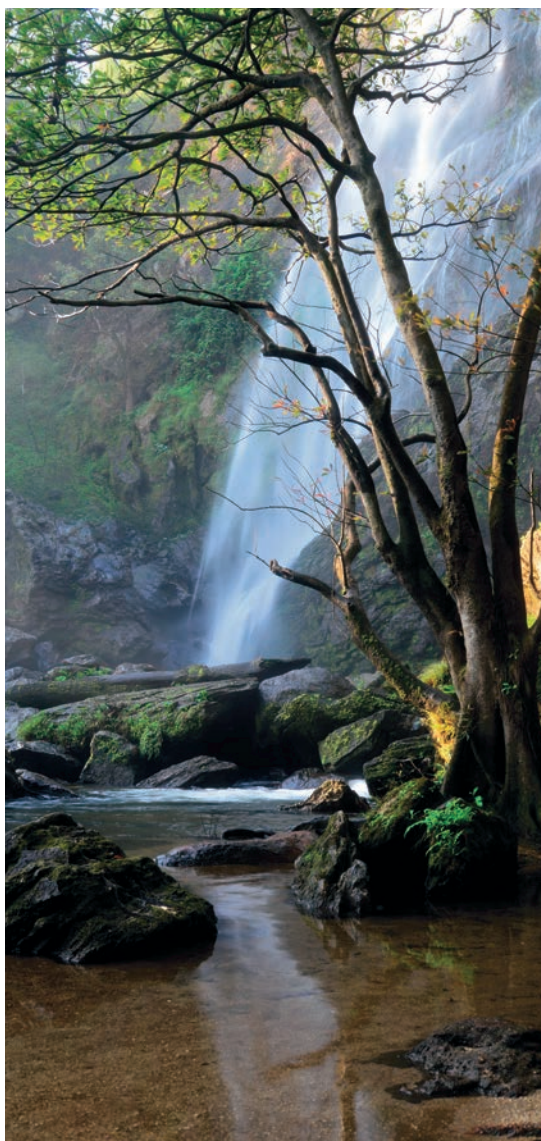
Getting There

- From Bangkok, take the highway 1 to Saraburi Province and Phu Khae Botanical Garden. At the junction of 125 km point, turn right to the highway 21 (Saraburi-Lomsak) and drive further for 221 kilometers to Phetchabun Province, 346 kilometers in total. From Phetchabun city center, drive along the highway 21 (Saraburi-Lomsak), Phetchabun-Lomsak route for about 14 kilometers. At the junction of 236 km point, Na-Ngua junction, turn left to the highway 2258 (Na-Ngua-Nong Mae Na) and drive further for about 25.5 kilometers. Drive along until passing the junction to Khao Kho royal palace for approx. 500 meters and reaching the Park headquarters, located 12 kilometers away from Khao Kho district and 40 kilometers away from Phetchabun province.

- ◆ **Kaeng Liang Pha.** A beautiful waterfall with a large stone yard and high-sloped cliff.
- ◆ **Tat Fa Waterfall.** This is the largest waterfall in Khao Kho National Park.
- ◆ **Pha Lat Waterfall.** The waterfall is off a cliff and appeals to adventurous tourists.
- ◆ **Huai Yai Waterfall.** A large sized waterfall about 20 metres high.
- ◆ **Tham Yai Nam Ko.** There is an image of Buddha revered by the local people.

Khlong Lan National Park

The park covers parts of Khlong Lan district within Kamphaeng Phet. It is the last lush jungle of the province. Featuring a rugged mountain range, the park is origin to many streams and rivers such as Khlong Khlung and Khlong Suan Mak, which are tributaries of Ping River. Established in 1982 as Thailand's 44th national park and acquires a total area of 300 square kilometres.



Geography

Lush forests blanket the rugged mountain range. Its watershed fills up streams such as Khlong Suan Mak, Khlong Khlung and Khlong Lan. The highest peak towers at 1,439 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

The park has an average temperature of 23 degree Celsius and average rainfall is 978 millimetres per year. It is quite a comfortable to visit during winter.



Flora and Fauna

As the last lush forest of lower northern region, the park contains a variety of forests, including deciduous dipterocarp forest, mixed deciduous forest, dry evergreen forest and tropical rain forest. The vegetation of the forests consists of several types such as *Tectona grandis*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *S. roxburghii*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Hopea odorata*, *H. ferrea*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *T. bellirica*, *T. alata* and *Toona ciliata*.

Due to invasion and deforestation, the wildlife has been driven into the vast jungle of Um Phang Wildlife Sanctuary of Tak and Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary of Uthai Thani. Today, the remaining wildlife includes Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Black Giant Squirrel and great variety of birds such as Red-headed Trogon, Large Hawk-cuckoo, Red Junglefowl, Hawks, Common Hoopoe, Flameback, Black-naped Oriole, Collared Scops-owl and Large-tailed Nightjar.



Getting There

■ From Bangkok, take Highway 1 through Nakhon Sawan, turn left at kilometre 346, Ban Khlong Mae Lai Market, and head for Um Phang. Continue for 46 kilometres, turn right at the Khlong Lan Market intersection. The park is 4 kilometres away.



Attractions

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

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

◆ **Kaeng Ko Roi.** The rapids on Khlong Suan Mak Canal feature rugged rock terrace surrounded by a crystal clear stream. The rapids are on Um Phang-Khlong Lan Road.

Khlong Wang Chao

National Park

Khlong Wang Chao national park covers an area of 747 square kilometres in Khlong Lan and Kosamphi Nakhon districts in Kamphaeng Phet and Wang Chao district in Tak. The parks offers scenic views, including a wildlife sanctuary. In 1990, it was declared as Thailand's 63rd national park.

Geography

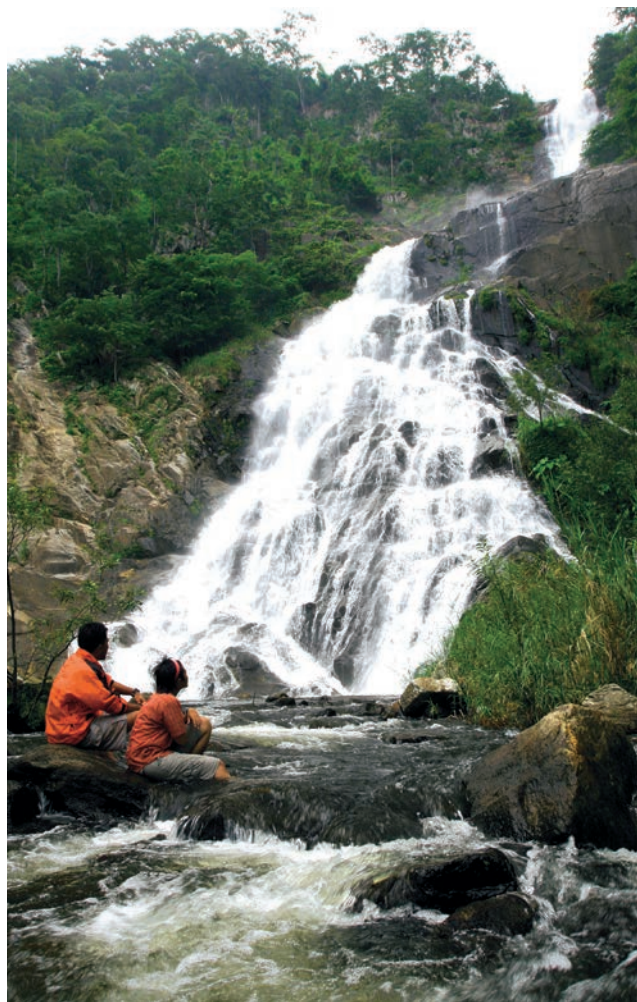
The national park is part of the Thanon Thongchai range and rests from north to south. There is a small plain in the center providing two small basins, both 3.2-8 square kilometres, respectively. Major mountains are Khao Yen, Khao Tao Dam, Khao Son, Khao Khanun, Khao Wang Chao and Doi Luak. The highest peak is in the western mountain and sits 1,898 metres above mean sea level. Generally, the terrain varies from 200 to 1,898 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp, dry evergreen and pine forests blanket the national park with a variety of plants such as *Tectona grandis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Atzella xylocarpa*, *Hopea odorata*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *L. tomentosa*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Diospyros mollis*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. tuberculatus*, *D. obtusifolius*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *Pinus merkusii*, *P. kesiya*, *Shorea obtusa* and *S. siamensis*.



The national park is home to a number of wildlife species, including Southwest China Serow, Asian Elephant, Sambar, Asiatic Black Bear, Tiger, Macaque, Siamese Hare, Finlayson's Squirrel, Northern Red Muntjac, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Wild Boar, Hog Badger, Phayre's Leaf-monkey and Lar Gibbon. There are various types of birds such as Great Hornbill, Grey Peacock-pheasant, Blue-bearded Bee-eater, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Pin-striped Tit-babbler, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker and Red Junglefowl.



Getting There

- Take Highway A1, Kamphaeng Phet to Tak and turn left before the intersection of Wang Chao village and go to Lokho village for 28 kilometres will reach National Park's headquarters.



Attractions

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

◆ **Pak Khlong Na Khiri.** This contains a natural reef with a number of white granite rocks.

◆ **Khlong Samo Kluai Waterfall.** The waterfall has 3 levels and is yellow in color. The first level is 40 metres high and flows to the lower level at a 90-degree angle.

◆ **Tao Dam Waterfall.** The large waterfall has 2 levels and offers breathtaking scenery when watching the strong current flow from the upper levels to the lower levels. Most spectacular, the current from the third level is 270 metres high to the bottom at a 90-degree angle.

◆ **Pong Nam Ron or Hot Spring.** The hot spring is 50-70 degree Celsius and approximately 1.5 kilometres from Tao Dam Waterfall and covers an area of 1,600 square metres. It is home to wild animals such as Muntjac and Deer.

◆ **Khlong Pong Waterfall.** Only one slate rockcliff-waterfall in Thailand with large 4 levels and 100-metre high.

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

◆ **Pha Klom.** This cliff sits at a 360 degree angle. The peculiar scenery is like a gigantic pencil plunged down on earth.

◆ **Nam Khao Ru.** This stream of water runs through a hole and named by the local people since the current from Lam Huai Lokho flows through this area and then disappears into the mountain, about 1 kilometre, after that, reappears on the other side of the mountain.

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

◆ **Khao Phanang Cave.** A large cave situated along Khlong Suan Mak. Offers scenic views of stalagmite and stalactite.

◆ **Thep Phanom Cave.** A large cave is similar to Khao Phanang Cave. It is home to a number of bats.

Khun Chae National Park



The Khun Chae National Park covers an area of 270 square kilometres in Wiang Pa Pao district of Chiang Rai. Since 1995, it was declared the 80th national park of Thailand. The national park is origin to main tributaries of a number of rivers, which form the beautiful waterfall of Khun Chae.

Flora and Fauna

The variety of ranges in altitude gives the national park an enormous wealth of plant species. These include bamboo forest and various trees growing in the altitudinal range 300–800 metres above mean sea level, deciduous dipterocarp forest growing in the range 800–1,000 metres, pine forests and evergreen forest growing in the range from 1,000–1,500 metres and montane rain forest growing in the range upper 1,500 metres and groundcover of orchids, ferns and moss.

Attractions

◆ **Mae Tho Waterfall.** The 7-level waterfall has an abundance of water year round with its highest level reaching 40 metres high. The best time to visit is during the rainy season. It is accessible by car from the park headquarters to the entrance (30–40 minutes). There, take the 2-hour walkway to reach the waterfall.

◆ **Khun Chae Waterfall.** This beautiful 6-level waterfall cascades from the cliffs. Camping and gears are available near the waterfall.

◆ **Doi Langka** is a 2,031 metres above mean sea level. It offers diversify of plants and spectacular scenery. You should plan to spend 3–4 days here.

◆ **Doi Mot** is home to rainforest vegetation which blanket along the route to the top. From there, you can view the towns of Chiang Mai and Chiang Rai.

◆ **Ficus tree.** This large tree is located near the national park's headquarters. The tree is outstanding

Geography

Geologically, the mountain formations are covered by igneous rock and sedimentary rock, including granite. Volcanoes around this area produce basalt over the region. Most of the park area is very rugged with steep valleys and offer 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.



Getting There

- From Chiang Mai, take the daily bus service along the Chiang Mai-Doi Saket-Chiang Rai route. Alternatively, from Chiang Rai can take a daily bus service to reach the national park. The total distance is 129 kilometres.



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 gigantic trees.

◆ **Doi Pha Ngom** is a mountain range in the middle of the area that lies from west to east with an erected cliff protruded to the west. The highest peak is 1,500 meters above mean sea level. From foothill, it takes about an hour walk to reach the top of the mountain to enjoy seeing the scenery of Khun Chae national park.

◆ **Mae Chang Khao Reservoir**. This is a wonder recreational attraction for picnics.

Khun Khan National Park

Khun Khan National Park covers an area of 207.93 square kilometres in Samoeng district of Chiang Mai. Several ecosystems such as montane rain forests and dry evergreen forests can be found in the park area. Khun Khan was declared the 126th national park of Thailand in 2012.



Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Malayan Porcupine and Southwest China Serow.

Attractions

- ◆ **Samoeng forest Viewpoint.** The sightseeing spot is located at km. 24-25 of the Samoeng-Mae Rim route.
- ◆ **Luang Mae Sap Cave** offers spectacular views of stalagmite and stalactite.
- ◆ **Huai Tat Waterfall**, a 2-level waterfall is situated at Mae Sap sub-district.
- ◆ **Huai Mae Na Poe Waterfall**, a 7-level waterfall. Is 10-30 metres in height and abundant water flow all year round.
- ◆ **Samoeng and Mae Chaem Forests** offer viewpoints located on both sides of Samoeng-Wat Chan Route (km. 33-km. 55)
- ◆ **Pha Sam Na** is situated at Sop Pha Luang village. A 3 sided cliff located on top of a 1,253 metres high mountain.

Geography

The Park features a rugged mountain range with elevations ranging between 500-1,708 metres above mean sea level. The highest peak is Doi Pung Kia.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

There is an enormous wealth of plant species growing within the montane rain forests, mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp, dry evergreen and pine forests blanket the national park, along with a variety of plants such as *Pinus merkusii*, *P. kesiya*, *Schima wallichii*, *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Anneslea fragrans*, *Hopea odorata*, *Bischofia javensis*, *Terminalia chebula* and *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*. The park is home to wildlife such as

Getting There

- From Chiang Mai, take Highway 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang) for 16 kilometres. After reaching Mae Rim, turn left onto Highway 1096 (Mae Rim-Samoeng) and continue for 35 kilometres to Samoeng. Alternately, take Highway 108 (Chiang Mai-Mae Sariang) for 10 kilometres. Before arriving Hang Dong district, turn right onto Highway 1269 and proceed for 43 kilometres to Samoeng. From the district of Samoeng, take the Samoeng-Ban Wat Chan route for 15 kilometres to Khun Khan National Park.



Khun Nan National Park

Khun Nan National Park was established in 2009 as the 111st national park in Thailand. It covers an area of 246.3712 square kilometres in Doi Phu Kha and Pha Daeng forests, Bo Kluea district of Nan. The national park offers impressive adventure activities with spectacular scenery as well as an abundance and diversity of Flora and Fauna.



Getting There

- From Nan, take Highway 1080 (Nan-Thungchang) for 59 kilometres. After reaching Pua, turn right onto Highway 1256 (Pua-Bo Kluea) and continue from Bo Kluea to Highway 1081 (Bo Kluea-Chaloem Phra Kiat) for 6 kilometres turn right for 500 metres to park headquarters.

Geography

Phi Pan Nam's highest peak is 1,747 metres above mean sea level and located in Dong Phaya sub-district. The park consists of Phu Fa, Khun Nam Wa Noi, Nam Wa Klang and Phi Pan Nam mountains.

Climate

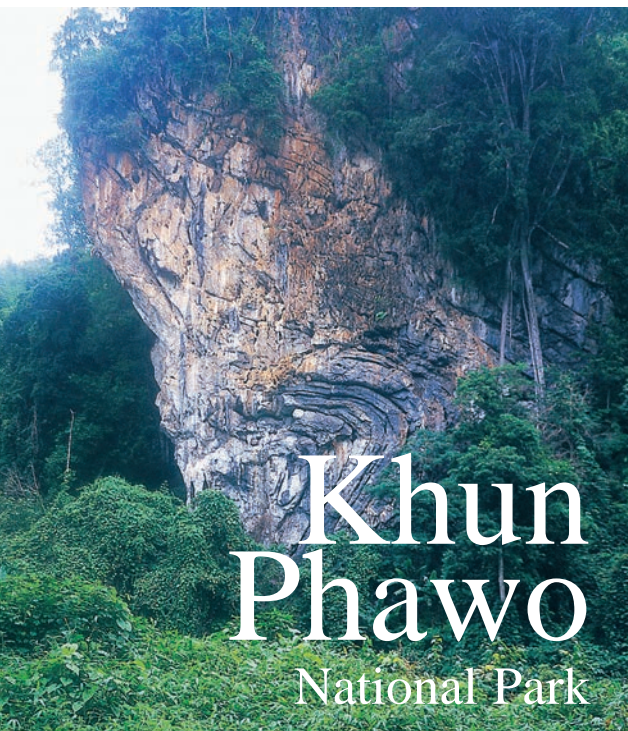
The weather is usually very comfortable all year round. It is clean, fresh and pure.

Flora and Fauna

Montane rain forest and Tropical rain forest make-up the park with various plants and wildlife.

Attractions

- ◆ **Sapan Waterfall** is located in Sapan village. The 3-level waterfall has water all year-round. The surroundings are still in perfect natural condition.
- ◆ **Huai Ti Waterfall** is located in Huai Ti village. The 6-level waterfall is plentiful all year-round. It is a perfect place for you to immerse themselves in its natural beauty.
- ◆ **Ban Den Waterfall.** This medium waterfall has water all year-round. The 3-level waterfall is surrounded by lush green trees and located in Ban Sapan.
- ◆ **Huai Ha Waterfall.** The 3-level waterfall is located in Na Bong village. It offers spectacular views of its current flowing down into each stair. There is an abundance of water year round and is surrounded by pleasant forests scenery.



The park evolves from several already existing conservation areas, Mae Lamao forest, Mae Ramat forest, Sam Muen forest in Mae Sot and Mae Ramat districts. To preserve a natural balance, educational research, including the development to be a recreational attraction, the national park was established in 2009 as the country's 115th national park. It comprises an area of 396.73 square kilometres in Tak province.

Geography

The park features rugged mountain range. The altitude ranges from 350-905 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forests, deciduous dipterocarp, and evergreen forests blanket the national park.

Numerous plant species include *Tectona grandis*, *Toona ciliata*, *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Millettia leucantha* var. *buteoides*.

The park is home to wildlife such as the Southwest China Serow, Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Siamese Hare and Red Junglefowl.

Attractions

- ◆ **Khun Phawo Waterfall**, a medium sized fall with 70 metres high and flowing water throughout the year. It is manned by hesh evergreen forest.
- ◆ **Hup Pha Phawo** offers a spectacular view of sea of clouds in the morning.
- ◆ **Huai Mae Lamao**. A large stream surrounded by lush green trees with abundance of water all year round.
- ◆ **Pa Mak Waterfall** is a medium waterfall with 60 metres in height and full of water all year round.
- ◆ **Pha Prong and Viewpoint**. Here, one can see 70-year old Cycas trees (*Cycas pectinata*) growing everywhere.
- ◆ **Pha Phueng Cave** is one of the beautiful caves here. You can view the great natural basin.

Getting There

- From Tak province, take Highway 105 (Tak-Mae Sot) to Mae Sot. Turn right to Highway 106 (Mae Sot-Tha Song Yang) until you reach Mae Ramat, turn right to Highway 1175 and continue for 16 kilometres. Then turn right again. The park headquarters is 1.5 kilometres off the main road.



Khun Sathan

National Park

At present, the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, offered to the committee of national parks on February 15, 2003, for instating this area of 404.52 square kilometres in the districts of Na Noi and Na Muen districts, Nan Province to be a national park of Thailand.

Geography

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

Getting There

■ By car, take Highway 101 (Yontrakit Koson Road) which is the route from Phrae for 50 kilometres. At the crossing, turn right at Huai Kaet village along Highway 1216, then pass Khun Sathan village and go about 24 kms to the national park headquarters.



Climate

Summer months are March to May, rainy begins June to October and winter from November to February.

Flora and Fauna

Most of the areas are covered with a variety of forests, including mixed deciduous forest, dry dipterocarp forest, pine forest, tropical rain forest and dry evergreen forest. Plant species include *Mesua ferrea*, *Garcinia speciosa*, *Pinus merkusii*, *P. kesiya*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D. costatus*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *Gigantochloa albociliata* and *Bambusa bambos*.

Wildlife species found here are the Tiger, Asiatic Black Bear, Northern Red Muntjac, Siamese Hare, Hill Myna, Racket-tailed Drongoes and Butterfly Lizards.

Attractions

◆ **Sirikit Dam** has beautiful sceneries of nature and views of the dam.

◆ **Tat Mok or Ban San Waterfall.** This large size waterfall consists of 3 levels, with a total height of 50 metres.

◆ **Doi Ku Sathan.** A mountain about 1,630 metres above mean sea level. There is an astonishing viewpoint. Weather can be chilly throughout the year.

◆ **La-ong Cave.** A large-sized cave with a length about 1.8 kilometres. Inside the cave, a stream flows, along with astonishing sights of stalagmite and stalactite.

◆ **Doi Mae Chok.** A scenic viewpoint and enjoyable place for a holiday. It is located at the summit of the mountain about 1,424 metres above mean sea level. Weather can be chilly all year long.

◆ **Khun Li Waterfall** is a large-sized waterfall with 3 levels. The most beautiful one is 25 metres high.

◆ **Scenery Views.** Go along Highway 1216, between Khun Sathan village and San village.



Lam Nam Kok National Park

In 2002, the Royal Forest Department has appended and declared the area of Namtok Khun Kon Forest Park, Namtok Huai Kaeo-Bo Namron Huai Mak Liam Forest Park and Namtok Pong Phra Bat Forest Park, which have the site in the vicinity boundary, in Chiang Rai province as a national park, namely Lam Nam Kok. Located in Mae Chan, Mueang, Mae Suai and Mae Lao districts, the park covers an area of 634.86 square kilometres.

Geography

Topography of Lam Nam Kok National Park is high sloped mountainous range with alternate narrow plains. Elevations are between 500 and 1,720 metres above mean sea level. Doi Chang is the highest mountain in the national park.





Climate

Summer months are March to May, rainy season begins June to October and winter from November to February.

Flora and Fauna

Lam Nam Kok National Park is composed of dry dipterocarp forests, montane rain forests and mixed deciduous forests.

Attractions

◆ **Khun Kon waterfall.** The waterfall is higher than 70 metres above from ground.

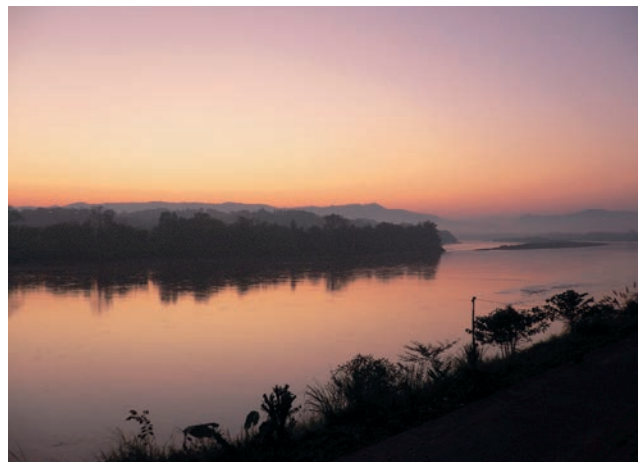
◆ **Huai Kaeo Waterfall.** A 3-level waterfall. The second level is the highest with 40 metres. It is born from Huai Kaeo stream and tributary to Kok River.

◆ **Pong Phra Bat Waterfall.** A waterfall with fast flowing water.

◆ **Huai Mae Sai.** This waterfall has 2 levels. The first is 15 metres high, while the other is 20 metres in height.

◆ **Pang Sa Waterfall.** This waterfall has a total of 7 levels.

◆ **Huai Mak Liam Hot Spring.** The water temperatures range from 50-70 degree Celsius. The hot spring is located near the Kok River.



Getting There

- The national park is about 19 kilometres from Chiang Rai province. You can drive on the Chiang Rai-Ban Denha junction route to Khai Mengrai Maharat (Mengrai Maharat Camp). Then, continue to Doi Hang sub-district and Pha Soet village. The national park headquarters is about 1.5 kilometres further. Alternatively, you can raft along the Kok River to the national park. The total trip is about 20 kilometres. It begins at Lam Nam Kok Bridge in Chiang Rai and ends at Huai Mak Liam village.

Lam Nam Nan National Park

Lam Nam Nan National Park covers an area of 999.15 square kilometres in Mueang district of Phrae province and within Tha Pla and Nam Pat districts of Uttaradit Province. The national park is origin to main tributaries of the Yom River in Phrae Province. In 1998, it was declared the 84th national park of Thailand.

Geography

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 abundant with forests and wildlife.

Climate

Because of history of monsoon winds, Thailand's tropical climate temperatures are usually a little higher and more humid in daytime. Rainfall is more likely during the summer months from May through October with average rainfall at 1,440 mm. per year. During the winter months, in the northern mountains, temperatures are cool enough for tourism.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forests dominate the national park, including types of plants *Tectona grandis*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* and *Shorea obtusa*.

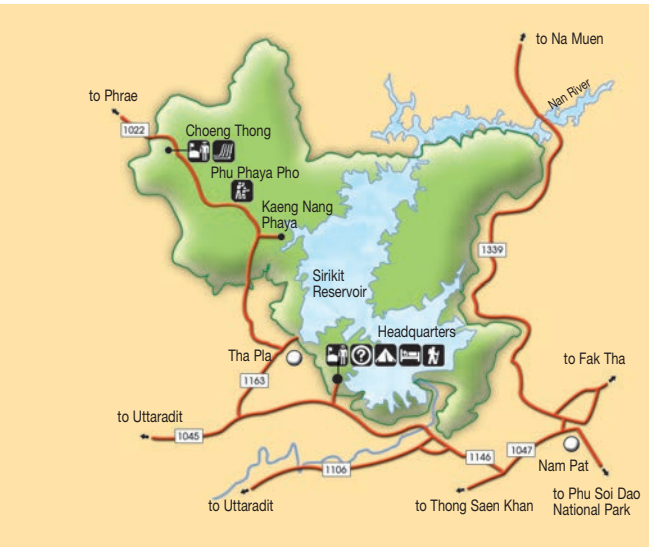
The national park is a safe sanctuary for wildlife such as several mammal species as Sambar, Southwest China Serow, Wild Boar, Asiatic Black Bear, Sun Bear, Common Palm Civet, Malayan Porcupine, Fishing Cat, as well as different kinds of birds such as Chinese Pond-heron, Red-wattled Lapwing, Eastern



Spotted Dove, Plaintive Cuckoo, Green-billed Malkoha, Barbets, Bulbuls and Larks.

Attractions

◆ **Sirikit Dam.** A large lake that originated when the Sirikit irrigation was built into the Nan River. Here, a number of islet and reefs are found in the reservoir. The dam offers spectacular views, in particular, when viewing on the boat trip. To Sirikit Dam, take Highway 1045 (Uttaradit-Sirikit Dam) via the entrance to Tha Pla district and proceed to Huai Charoen village. Then, take a laterite road for another 4 kilometres to reach the national park's headquarters located near the reservoir.



Getting There

- Take Highway 1045 (Uttaradit-Sirikit Dam) via Ruam Chit intersection (entrance to Tha Pla district) and head to Huai Charoen village. Proceed further for 4 kilometres to the park.



◆ **Choeng Thong Waterfall.** The small fall year round is located near the road and about 9 kilometres from Phra That Chohae, Mueang of Phrae.

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

◆ **Phu Phaya Pho.** This is the highest point of Lam Nam Nan national park at 1,350 metres above mean

sea level. Spectacular views of the mountain range and abundant forests can be seen. This point is also a sacred place and respected by residences nearby.



Lan Sang National Park

Lan Sang National Park is rich in diversity of plants, wildlife and natural attractions. In particular, is Lan Sang waterfall, popular among locals and tourists. A beautiful place worth a visit. The park covers 104 square kilometres area in Mueang district of Tak Province. It was established in 1979 as the country's 15th national park.



Geography

Rugged mountains dominate most areas of the park. The Khao Luang range divides the boundary in half in the northwest and southeast directions. Khao Um Yom is the second highest peak at an elevation of 1,065 metres above mean sea level. Slopes gradually cover the northwest area of the park around Lan Sang waterfall.

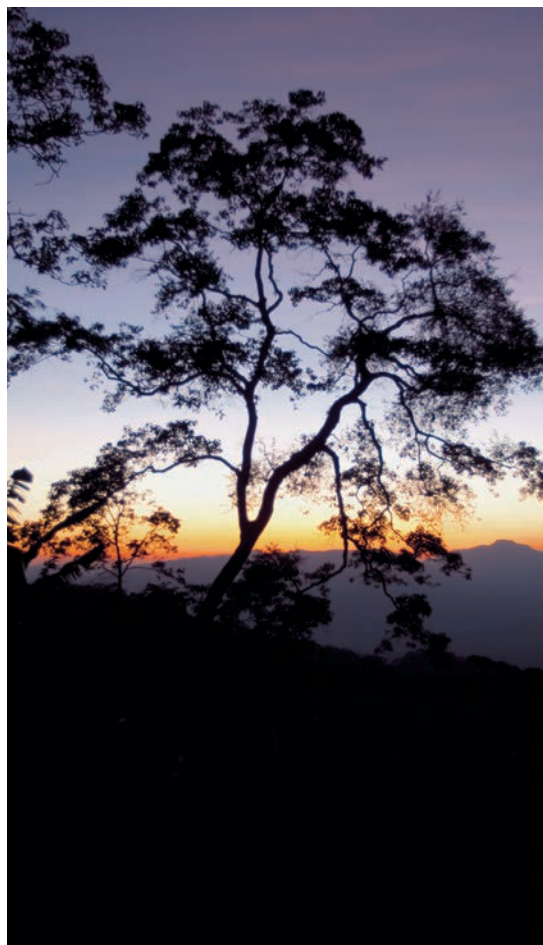
Climate

There are three seasons. The rainy season is from May to October. Winter is from November until January and summer is from February to April. The highest temperature is 43 degree Celsius and the lowest is 7 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

The park contains a diversity of forests. At the elevation, above 700 metres, exists pine forest, which dominates the park. The prominent plant is the *Pinus* sp., along with *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius* and *D. tuberculatus*. Montane rain forest can be found on rugged mountains. There is also tropical rain forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and mixed deciduous forest. These forests are home to various bamboo, *Tectona grandis*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Dalbergia* sp. and *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*.

Wildlife include the Sambar, Southwest China Serow, Northern Red Muntjac, Asian Golden Cat, Siamese Hare and Malayan Porcupine.





Attractions

◆ **Pha Lat Waterfall.** The Huai Lan Sang stream runs over a large slope of rock terrace, coating the rock at 25 metres wide and 40 metres long. Pha Lat is situated 1 kilometre from Highway 105, same being to the national park's headquarters.

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

◆ **Lan Sang Waterfall.** Very popular for its beauty and scenery, Lan Sang waterfall is situated 2 kilometres upstream from Lan Liang Ma waterfall. From a 40-metre

high cliff, the falls run through 3 levels into a pool of the Lan Liang Ma waterfall.

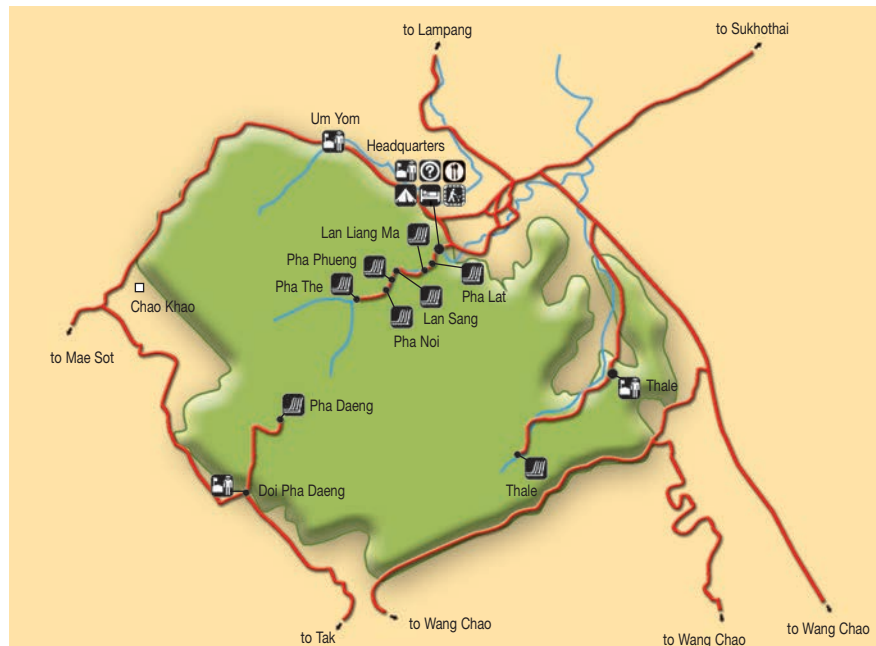
◆ **Pha Phueng Waterfall.** Huai Pha Phueng stream falls from a 30-metre high cliff of natural caves and formations of stalagmite and stalactite. The waterfall runs only in rainy season and winter.

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

◆ **Pha The Waterfall.** The waterfall drops from a 25-metre high cliff. Located about 1.2 kilometres from Pha Noi waterfall.

Getting There

■ The park is 430 kilometres from Bangkok. Take Highway 1 and turn left 7 kilometres before Tak province to Highway 105 to Mae Sot. Turn left at 12 kilometres. The national park is 3 kilometres off main road.



Mae Charim National Park

Mae Charim National Park is a collection of various nature reserves and forests. It was declared in 2007 as the country's 106th national park covering an area of 432 square kilometres in Mae Charim and Wiang Sa districts of Nan province. Actually, this is a haven for adventurers who love rafting along the river amidst "paradise".



Geography

The national park features a rugged mountain range. With 300-1,652 metres above mean 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 Khun (1,307 metres) respectively.

The park is the origin for main tributaries of the Nan River and several streams such as Huai Sai Mun, Huai Sasi, Huai Bai Noi, Huai Bai Luang, Huai Nam Phang and Lam Nam Paeng.



Climate

The summer season is from March to May, while the rainy season is from June to October. The winter is from November to February. Average rainfall is about 1,206 millimetres per year.

Flora and Fauna

There are various plant communities with in the park. These include pine, montane rain, dry evergreen, tropical rain, mixed deciduous and deciduous dipterocarp forests.

The forested area is habitat of different wildlife species such as Asian Elephant, Tiger, Asiatic Black Bear, Common Palm Civet and Giant Asian River Frog. 365 species of bird are also found in the National Park.

Attractions

◆ **Rafting along Lam Nam Wa.** This is the most fantastic recreational activity in the Mae Charim National Park and Nan province. Rafting along Nam Wa river, it begins at Nam Pu village, Nam Paeng sub-district, Mae Charim district and ends up at Hat Rai village, Ban Na Nong Mai sub-district, Wiang Sa district of Nan province. Total distance for rafting is 15.2 kilometres.

◆ **The Mae Charim National Park,** offers a good opportunity for rafting using rubber inflatable boats along the river in the lush forests.



Getting There

- From Mae Charim in Nan Province, take Highway 1243 (Ban Nasia-Nam Muap route) for about 13 kilometres to Huai Sai Mun village. Then continue another 4 kilometres. to the national park headquarters.



Mae Moei National Park



Geographically, the national park borders on Myanmar in the west for a distance 50 kilometres and offers scenic view amidst various vegetations. In 1999, it was gazetted in 1999 as the 92nd national park in Thailand and covers an area of 185.28 square kilometres in Tha Song Yang district of Tak province.

Geography

The Mae Moei National Park features rugged mountain range and little plain. With its average 680 metres high above mean sea level and a 1,250 metres peak, it gave birth to the main tributaries of Mae Song, Mae Usu, Mae Salit Luang and Moei rivers.

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

Dry evergreen forest, mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp forest, pine forest and montane rain forest blanket the park with various kinds of plants such as *Ficus* sp., *Tectona grandis*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Shorea obtusa* and *Xylia xylocarpa*.

The national park is home to wildlife such as Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Common Palm Civet and Squirrels as well as various kinds of birds as Barbets, Babbler, Bulbuls, Bee-eaters, Minivets, Trogons, Thrushes, Tailorbirds, Shrikes, Sunbirds and Flowerpeckers.



Attractions

◆ **Mae Usu Cave.** Very beautiful 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 you have to take a 3 kilometres walk to reach there.

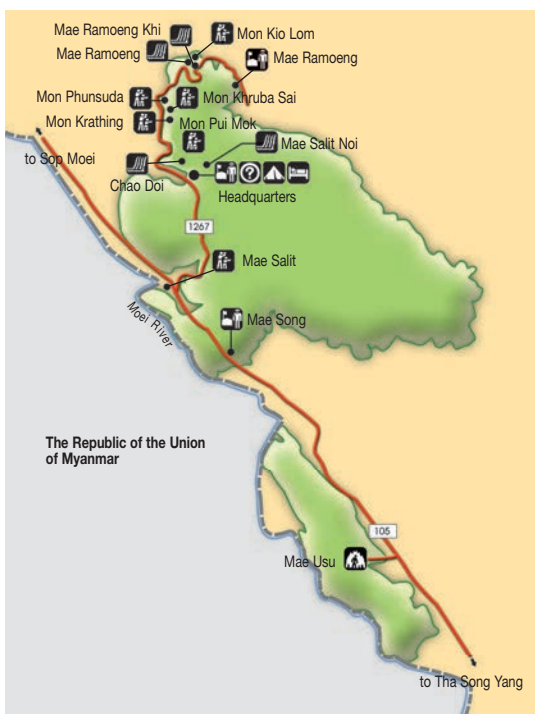
◆ **Chao Doi Waterfall,** a medium waterfall, is required only one kilometre walk to access the waterfall.

◆ **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 mean sea level, the viewpoint offers the best attraction for watching sea of clouds including sunrise and sunset views. You have to take a 4 hours walk to access the viewpoint and staying overnight is required.

◆ **Mon Khruba Sai and Mon Phunsuda.** 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

■ From Tak province, drive on Highway 105 (Mae Sot-Mae Sariang route) for about 84 kilometres, then continue driving for about 13 kilometres and turn left to Mae Usu Cave. Alternatively, drive on Highway 105 for about 30 kilometres and take a turn right to Highway 1267 (Mae Salit-Om Koi route) and continue for about 11 kilometres until reaching the Mae Moei National Park headquarters.

Mae Ngao National Park



The national park covers an area of 412.24 square kilometres in Chiang Mai, Mae Hong Son and Tak. The park offers breathtaking views of natural scenery, waterfalls and cliffs amidst scenic mountains and teak forests.



Geography

The national park features rugged mountain range and origin to the tributaries of the Salawin River. Most rivers are abundant of water all year round.

Climate

The rainy season is from June to October, winter month are November to February and summer is March to May.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous and dry evergreen forests blanket the park with various kinds of plants such as *Tectona grandis*, *Shorea* spp., *Lagerstroemia* spp. and *Azelia xylocarpa*.

The park is home to wildlife such as Wild Boar, Asiatic Black Bear, Northern Red Muntjac, Macaque, Gibbon, Giant Asian River Frog and various kinds of birds as Indian Roller, Drongo, Red Junglefowl and Blue Magpie.

Attractions

◆ **Mae Ngao River.** Very beautiful river for watching plants and hill tribes. The best season for rafting from June to January.

◆ **Mae Wa Luang Waterfall.** A beautiful waterfall. The multi levels waterfall is 35 metres high.

◆ **Mae Chae Waterfall,** originates from Huai Mae La Khi. The waterfall can be reached by taking the Mae Sot-Mae Sariang route. It is accessible by a 1 kilometre walk.

◆ **Mae La-o Waterfall,** originates from Huai Mae La-o. It is located near Mae Sot-Mae Sariang. The waterfall

is one of the most beautiful waterfalls in the national park.

◆ **Mae Om Ki Cave.** It offers spectacular views of stalagmite and stalactite.

◆ **Burana Prapha Waterfall,** originates from Huai Thipoekro. It is accessible by a 500 metres walk.

Getting There

- From Chiang Mai, take Highway 108 to Highway 105 at Mae Sariang. Proceed 25 kilometres to Sop Moei and go 15 kilometres to Mae Ngao village, then take a left turn and proceed another 5 kilometres to the national park headquarters.



Mae Ping

National Park

Situated on the left side of the Mae Ping River which fills up Bhumibol Dam, the picturesque park is rich of forest and wildlife. Its rugged mountain range and crisscrossing streams cover parts of Doi Tao district of Chiang Mai, Li district of Lamphun and Sam Ngao district of Tak. Established in 1981, Thailand's 31st national park covers a total area of 1,003.75 square kilometres.



Geography

Rugged mountains cover most part of the park where the attitudes from 400 to 800. 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.

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 percents of the total area, covering sandy soil mountain at elevation less than 1,000 metres. The remaining 20 percents area are valleys and creeks blanketed by evergreen forest. The significant plants include *Tectona grandis*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Terminalia alata*, *Hopea ferrea*, orchids and fern.

Wildlife is often found along the Mae Ping River. They include Northern Red Muntjac, Southwest China Serow, Chinese Goral, Fishing Cat, Small Indian Civet, Macaque, Siamese Hare and Black Giant Squirrel. Great amount of resident and migration birds such as Great Crested Grebe, Little Grebe, Asian Brown Flycatcher, Brown Shrike, Black-naped Oriole 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 Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar and Siamese Hare. It is a nice place for naturalist. Ko Noi Waterfall, 9 kilometres from the grassland, is a cute place for relaxing.

Getting There

■ The park's headquarters is located in Mae Lan sub-district and Li district of Lamphun. From Li district take highway 1 and get on highway 1087. The headquarters is on the left side of kilometre 20-21. You can cruise from Doi Tao Reservoir of Chiang Mai to Reservoir of Bhumibol Dam in Tak province.

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

◆ **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 very big limestone cave, decorated beautifully by formation of stalagmites and stalactites, is home to insect-eating bats. Around the cave is beautiful pine forest that always satisfies the adventurous naturalist.

◆ **Kaeng Ko.** The scenic reservoir is very nice for relaxing. Rafts/guestroom are available for tourists. As Kaeng Ko is situated at the mid of reservoir of Bhumibol 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 Puem National Park

Stretching across Chiang Rai and Phayao provinces, the national park occupies 350.8256 square kilometres area in Mueang, Phan and Pa Daet districts of Chiang Rai, and Mae Chai, Phu Kamyao and Mueang districts of Phayao. Spectacular scenery, recreational activities and a rich variety of Flora and Fauna are found here. The park was established in 2009 as the 120th national park in Thailand.



Geography

Rugged mountains run from north to south through the park and range in elevation from 400 metres to more than 900 metres above mean sea level. The Mae Kaeo and Mae Puem River originate in these mountains.

Climate

The southwest monsoon brings the rainy season from May to October and in November to January temperatures average 25 degree Celsius.

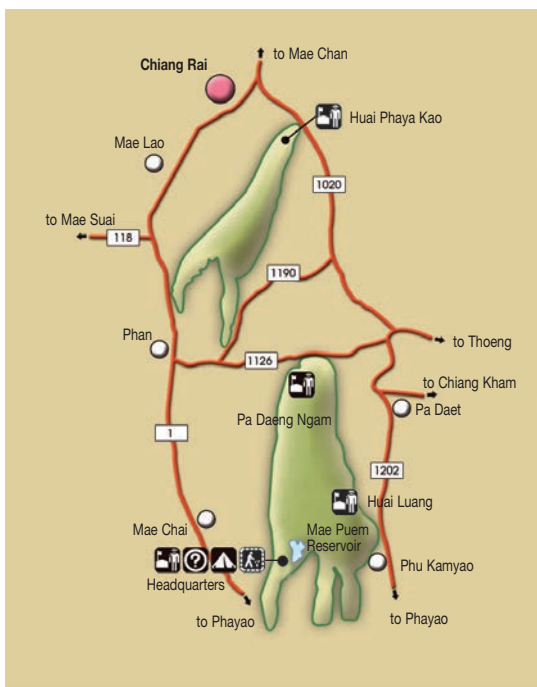
Flora and Fauna

Four types of forests are found within the park. They are dry evergreen, deciduous dipterocarp, pine and mixed deciduous forests. A wide variety of plants, including *Pterocarpus*, *Azalia*, *Dalbergia* and *Shorea* grow here. The national park is home to more than 40 bird species.

Attractions

◆ **Mae Puem Reservoir**, offers spectacular scenery and views. Water activities include canoeing, kayaking and swimming.

◆ **Doi Hua Ngom**, offers sightseeing on the mountaintop similar to Phu Kradueng. There are excellent views of sunrise and sunsets. In an adjoining area, wild orchids grow on trees and thick moss covers cracked stones on the ground for pleasant nature walks. Camping is available.



◆ **Phra Bat Tak Pha**. There are two gigantic shaped rocks. One is like a footprint of Buddha and the other is shaped like a straw board for hanging wet clothes.

Getting There

■ The park is located in the Mae Puem Reservoir. From Phayao city, take Highway 1 (Phayao-Chiang Rai) and turn right at km. 754. Follow to the park headquarters. Total distance is 23 kilometres.

Mae Takhrail

National Park

Covering an area of 356.66 square kilometres in San Kamphaeng, Doi Saket and Mae On districts of Chiang Mai province along with Ban Thi and Mueang districts of Lamphun, Mae Takhrail National Park is origin to the main tributaries of the Ping River. The national park offers scenic views such as waterfalls, cliffs and hot springs. Presently, it is in the process of being a national park of Thailand.

Geography

The park features rugged limestone mountain range between 400-2,031 metres above mean sea level. The region is mostly comprised of deciduous dipterocarp forests.

Climate

The rainy is from May-October and winter from November-February. Summer months are March-April.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous and deciduous dipterocarp forests blanket the national park with various plants, including *Tectona grandis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Shorea siamensis*, *Diospyros pubicalyx*, *Vitex* sp. and *Calamus* sp. There are *Pinus merkusii* and *P. kesiya* plants spreading along the upper line of the mountain.

The national park is home to wildlife such as Macaque, Sambar, Tiger, Siamese Hare, Gibbon, Northern Red Muntjac, Southwest China Serow and various species of birds such as Parrots, Egrets, Bulbuls, Hawks and Owlets.

Attractions

◆ **Reservoirs and Dams** include Mae Takhrail Reservoir, Mae Kuang Udom Thara Dam and Mae Tip-Mae San Dam.



Getting There

- From Chiang Mai, take Highway 118 to Doi Saket district. Continue 15 kilometres to the national park office located between km. 33-34.



◆ **Tat Moei Waterfall.** Soaring 15 metres in height, Tat Moei is very spectacular, especially in the rainy season when its flow is swollen with runoff. The waterfall is about 16 kilometres away from Park headquarters and reaching it requires a 3 kilometres hike through forests.

◆ **Mae Takhrail waterfall.** This is a single-level waterfall, 6 kilometres way from Park headquarters. Along the way, there are various kinds of plants, mushrooms and wild flowers.

◆ **Doi Langka.** With an altitude of 2,030 metres above mean sea level, this is the fifth-highest mountain in the country. The climate is fresh and cool all year round. Wide open grassy plains sweep across the mountain top. The area is especially beautiful between February and March, when *Rhododendron* sp. is in full bloom. Phu Langka Luang lies 50 km. north of Park headquarters.

Mae Tho National Park

Mae Tho National Park covers an area of 490.77 square kilometres in Hot and Mae Chaem districts of Chiang Mai. This area was once reclaimed by local people, but later was rehabilitated by the Royal Forest Department. The national park offers scenic views of mountain range and spectacular forests.

Getting There

- Mae Tho National Park is 160 kilometres from Chiang Mai town. Drive along the Chiang Mai-Hot route (Highway 108) for 89 kilometres to Hot. Proceed to Hot-Mae Sariang route (Highway 108) for another 54 kilometres, passing through Op Luang National Park until reaching Kong Loi village. Turn right onto the Ban Kong Loi-Ban Mae Tho route (Highway 1270) and continue for 16 kilometres to the park headquarters.

Geography

Features rugged mountain range with the highest peak, Doi Kio Rai Mong, at 1,699 m. above mean sea level.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp forest blanket the national park with various plants, mammals, birds and insects.

Attractions

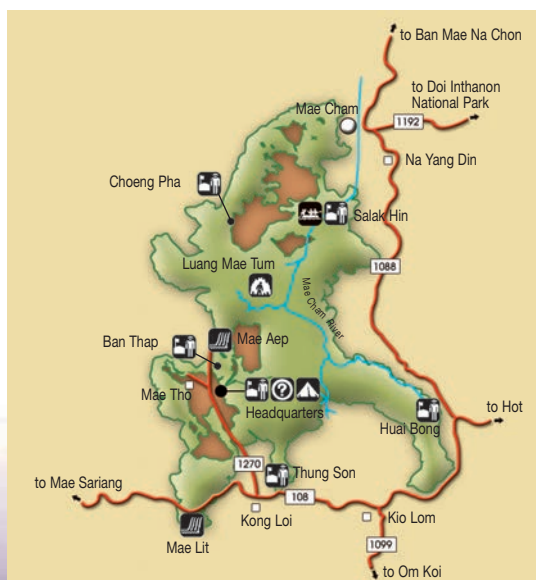
- ◆ **Mae Tho Viewpoint** is where visitors can view sea of clouds and the highest peak of Doi Inthanon.

- ◆ **Mae Aep Waterfall** is located 9 kilometres from the national park office.

- ◆ **Mae Lit Waterfall** offers spectacular scenery. The waterfall is 6-8 metres wide and 10-12 metres high.

- ◆ **Mae Ping Noi-Sop Mae Tum-Sop Huai Kong Pae** offers scenic views of various vegetation and adventurous travel.

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



Mae Wa National Park

Mae Wa National Park covers a mountainous area of 582.68 square kilometres in Thoen, Mae Phrik districts of Lampang province, Sam Ngao and Ban Tak districts of Tak province. The park is abundant in natural surroundings of animals, streams, trees and verdant hills. In 2000, Mae Wa was declared a national park of Thailand. It is Thailand's 101st national park.



Geography

The national park features rugged mountain range with steep slopes. The central to southern regions are flat plains on top and pine forests that span over the mountain range. The area to the west is 300-400 metres high above mean sea level and covered by limestone.

Climate

Rainy season is from May-September. Monsoon winds have impacted the region. Winter is from October-February and summer from February-May.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp, evergreen and pine forests blanket the park with a variety of plants such as *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Spondias bipinnata*, *Chukrasia tabularis*, *Terminalia alata*, *Careya sphaerica*, *Hopea odorata* and *Pinus merkusii*.

The national park is home to wildlife such as Tiger, Guar, Asiatic Black Bear, Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Siamese Hare, Common Palm Civet and Malayan Porcupine. Also, bird species here include Hawks and Owls.

Attractions

◆ **Mae Wa Waterfall.** The waterfall creates spectacular views and each levels of the 7 levels has its own unique flow. Set amidst steep mountains, the waterfall originates from Doi Prae Luang and finally joins to Maenam Wang.



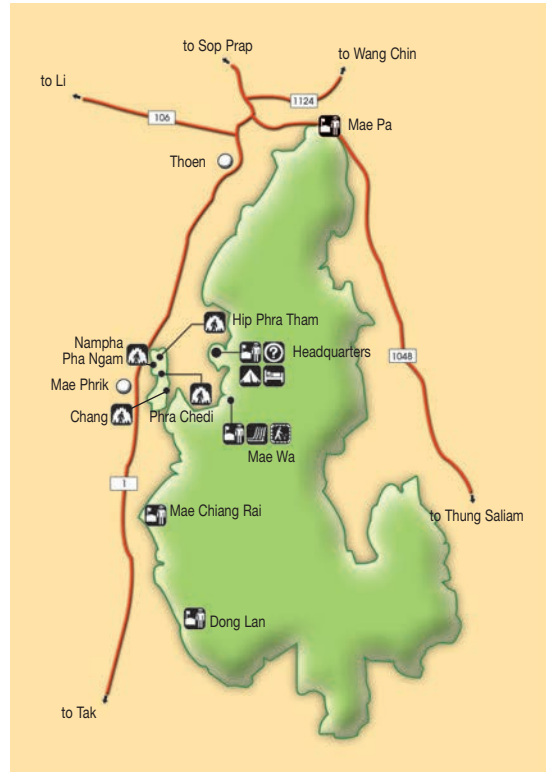
◆ **Phra Chedi Cave.** The limestone cave offers scenic views of pagoda-shaped stalagmite inside. It is located in Thoen district, Lampang.

◆ **Nampha Pha Ngam Cave.** The large limestone cave offers views of stalagmite and stalactite. It is located in Mae Phrik district of Lampang. Nearby another cave renders sights of mixed pine forests, grove vegetations and grassland that blanket most of the central and southern areas of the park.

◆ **Scenery and Forest at Doi Khun Huai Pong, Doi Kio Khot and Doi Ta Chi,** offer 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 1 (Lampang-Tak route) and turn to junction at km. 498-499. Proceed 10 kilometres to the park entrance.



Mae Wang National Park



Established in 2009, Mae Wang National Park is the 112nd national park in Thailand and covers an area of Doi Lo, Chom Thong and Mae Wang districts in Chiangmai with 119.6256 square kilometers. Covering with various types of forest as mixed deciduous forest, Deciduous dipterocarp forest, montane rain forest and pine forest.

Geography

Complex mountainous of Thanon Thongchai hill range that is lying along north-south line 400-1,960 metres above mean sea level. The park's forest feeds Mae Cham, Mae Wang and Mae Tuen rivers, which are tributaries of the Mae Ping River. The watershed forest feeds main tributaries of the Mae Wong River

Flora and Fauna

Forest types of the park include mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest, pine forest and montane rain forest. There are lots of *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Tectona grandis*, *Shorea obtusa* and *S. siamensis*.

Attractions

- ◆ **Doi Pha Tang.** At 1,960 metres above mean sea level. It is chilly throughout the year.
- ◆ **Mae Puai Waterfall** is about 25 metres high and 35 metres wide with the flowing water throughout the year.
- ◆ **Pha Mon Waterfall.** It is a large size and beautiful waterfall with 3 levels, 30 metres high and 25 metres wide.
- ◆ **Pla Duk Daeng Waterfall**, a one step waterfall with 10 metres high and 30 metres wide.
- ◆ **Pha Cho.** It is a great cliff with 30 metres high, situated at Yang Khram sub-district, Doi Lo district.
- ◆ **Kio Suea Ten.** Very nice place like Pha Cho but smaller and lower than Pha Cho. Only 1 kilometre from Pha Cho.



Getting There

- From Chiang Mai, take Highway 108 (Chaing Mai-Hot) for 40 kilometres to Fa Lang temple. Then take a u-turn in front of the temple and continue for 300 metres to Chan Tip Market. Turn left to Santisuk-Pong Cho Reservoir Route, the park is 10 kilometres further on.

Mae Wong National Park



Mae Wong National Park is the 54th national park of Thailand in 1987 and covers an area of 894 square kilometres in Pang Sila Thong district of Kamphaeng Phet Province, including Mae Wong and Mae Poen districts of Nakhon Sawan Province. The watershed forest feeds main tributaries of the Mae Wong River, which is one of the most significant rivers in the region of Nakhon Sawan. The surroundings are still in perfect natural condition and make a worthwhile visit to see the waterfall and cliffs within the park.

Getting There

- By car, take the Bangkok-Kamphaeng Phet-Khlong Lan route, or the Bangkok-Nakhon Sawan-Lat Yao-Khlong Lan route. Then turn on Highway 1117 (Khlong Lan-Um Phang route) to km. 65.

Geography

The national park is located in Thanon Thongchai mountain range and the highest peak, Mokochu, is 1,964 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Summer season is from March to May, rainy season from June to October. Winter is most desirable time to visit during months of November to February.

Flora and Fauna

Most of the mountain range is covered with forests. Within are a variety of plants, including *Tectona grandis*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Invingia malayana*, *Mangifera* sp., *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Tarenna hoaensis*, *Hopea odorata*, *Lithocarpus* sp., *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius* and *D. tuberculatus*.

Such forests are home to wildlife such as Guar, Asian Elephant, Tiger, Sambar, Asiatic Black Bear, Siamese Hare, Black Giant Squirrel, Large Brown Flying Squirrel, Malayan Porcupine, Common Palm Civet, Malayan Tapir and Phayre's Leaf-monkey.

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

Attractions

◆ **Mae Krasa waterfall.** The waterfall has 9 levels and acclaimed to be one of the most beautiful waterfalls in this region. It is 700 metres in height and accessible from the highway by a 18 kilometres walk.

◆ **Mae Rewa Waterfall.** The waterfall features a basin 40 metres wide and 30 metres long. Note to reach the waterfall takes 11 hours by foot.

◆ **Mae Ki Waterfall.** Distinguished as the most beautiful waterfall in Asia in 1975 by Asean Magazine, the 9-level waterfall is 200 metres high and very active all year round. To get there is a 10-hour walk.

◆ **Kaeng Pha Khoi Nang.** The large limestone reef is a scenic natural attraction and located approximately a kilometre from the national park headquarters along Khlong Lan-Um Phang route. It offers many recreational opportunities such as picnics in mild weather.

◆ **Viewpoint at km. 81 and km. 89.** You can drive on the Khlong Lan-Um Phang route to reach this attraction. From the national park headquarters it is about 16 kilometres.

◆ **Chong Yen.** Located at km. 93. You can drive on the Khlong Lan-Um Phang route. It is located at km. 93 and about 28 kilometres from the national park headquarters. It is named “Chong Yen” (fresh and mild place) for its crisp air. Among a variety of plants, include orchid and tree fern. There are rare species of birds such as Rufous-necked Hornbill and Burmese Yuhina.

◆ **Mokochu Peak.** Located 27 kilometres from Mae Wong National Park and is 1,964 metres above mean sea level. It is also a popular destination among tourists.



Mae Yom National Park

The second national park of Phrae is home to a massive teak forest. Established in 1986, Thailand's 51st national park covers a total of 454.75 square kilometres area in the Ngao district of Lampang and Song district of Phrae.



On the higher elevations, montane rain forest occupies the area with *Pinus kesiya* and *Castanopsis acuminatissima*.

A mixed deciduous forest is home to *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata* and *Tectona grandis*.

Deciduous dipterocarp forest and secondary forest can also be found on the hills and some plateaus with *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius* and *D. tuberculatus* the major plants.

Geography

Rugged mountain ranges dominate both the eastern and western extremities of the park's boundary. Its watershed jungle feeds many streams which are tributaries of the Yom River.

Climate

The rainy season is from June to September. The 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 time for tourists to visit the national park.

Flora and Fauna

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

Getting There

- The park is 70 kilometres from Phrae. From Phrae, use Phrae-Nan Road to Rong Khem Intersection. Turn left into Rong Kwang-Ngao Road and follow this road for 26 kilometres to Song district. The park is 20 kilometres further on.



Such wilderness is home to Northern Red Muntjac, Southwest China Serow, Asiatic Black Bear, Wild Boar, Siamese Hare, Bengal Slow Loris and various kinds of birds such as Bulbuls, Barbets, Babblers, Bee-eaters, Kingfishers, Owls, Owlets, Asian Koel, Cuckoos, Roller and Flycatchers.

Attractions

◆ **Dong Sak Ngam.** The very dense teak forest covers the banks of the Yom River. The beautiful teak forest is in full bloom in October and November, giving the forest a beautiful light yellow hue. The teak forest is 13 kilometres from the park's headquarters and can be accessed by foot only.

◆ **Kaeng Suea Ten.** An area known as the rapids stretch for 4 kilometres along the Yom River, Kaeng Suea Ten or "Dancing Tiger Rapids", is named after a rock found in the rapids on which tiger's foot print can be easily seen. Wide beaches along the river make it a delightful place for camping. The rapids begin in front of the park headquarters.

◆ **Lom Dong.** The natural hill-top pond, around 100 metres wide, is filled with water all the year round. It is believed that the pond is a sinkhole. Now it is an important water source for local wildlife. The pond, with an excellent viewing point nearby, is 10 kilometres from the park's headquarters. A comfortable camping ground is available for visitors.

Nam Nao National Park

One of the country's finest national parks, the mountainous forest of Nam Nao borders the North and Northeast. Its tropical forest, with network of small river tributaries, blankets Mueang, Lom Sak and Nam Nao districts of Phetchabun province as well as Khon San district of Chiyaphum province. This picturesque forest covers a total area of 966 square kilometres. The 5th national park of Thailand, it was established in 1972.

Geography

Bordering the North and Northeast of Thailand, Phetchabun Range in Nam Nao National Park stretches across Chiyaphum and Phetchabun. Phu Pha Chit and Phu Kum Khao are significant landmarks. Deep within the forest, many streams originate which continually replenish Pa Sak, Phong and Loei Rivers, Khon Kaen Stream, Ubolratana and Chulabhorn Dams.

Climate

The temperate climate on this mountain range allows visitors to explore the park comfortably with an average temperature of 25 degree Celsius all the year round.

Flora and Fauna

The vast forests of Nam Nao comprise various varieties of forests 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*, *Dipterocarpus alatus* and *Hopea odorata*.

Mixed forest, vast fields and tropical jungle are nourished by network of streams. So this park is a paradise for a diversity of wildlife such as Asian

Elephant, Guar, Banteng, Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Asiatic Black Bear, Southwest China Serow and Tiger.

The park is home to over 200 species of birds, whose colourful plumage and habits always delight and entertain naturalists and ornithologists. The spectacular and intricate wings of butterflies, including Hornbills, Barbets, Woodpeckers and Bulbuls, with over 340 species in all, add to the beauty of this park.

Attractions

◆ **Pha Hong Cave.** Tham Pha Hong is situated among bamboo groves and sharp rocky cliffs, this small cave is naturally decorated with interesting formations of stalagmites and stalactite.

◆ **Ban Paek Pine Forest (Dong Paek).** The picturesque landscape of Dong Paek comprises the realm of *Pinus merkusii* or Son Song Bai with grassy fields of carpeting beneath.

◆ **Phu Kum Khao Pine Forest.** The scenic landscape of the pine forest around Phu Kum Khao is a restful place where tourists can enjoy the changing hues of nature in different seasons. Without any other kind of trees present, the realm of pines covering 10 sq. kilometres area raises its canopy as high as 30-40 metres, leaving the land beneath to the grassland. During the monsoon, greenery blankets the whole area, while wild flowers scattered all around blossom in a myriad of beautiful colours. In the midst of this landscape, you can view and fully appreciate the beauty of the region from a hill called Phu Kum Khao. This landmark hill is at an altitude 880 metres.





Getting There

■ The park's headquarters of Nam Nao National Park is 103 kilometres from downtown Khon Kaen and 55 kilometres from Lom Sak district of Phetchabun. Motorist can travel on 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.



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

◆ **Sai Thong Waterfall.** Which is 30 metres wide and 4 metres high is only 500 metres from Heo Sai Waterfall.

◆ **Phu Pha Chit (Phu Dan I Pong).** A remote flat top peak, it can be reached after 7 hours trekking. Its crest, at 1,271 metres, is the highest peak of the park.

◆ **Pha Lom Pha Kong.** The limestone mountain at 1,134 metres offers a spectacular scenic view point on the top. From this lookout tourists have an excellent view of picturesque cliffs nearby. These cliffs are called Pha Klang Lon, 850 metres high and Pha Ton Hom which is 900 metres in height.

◆ **Yai Nam Nao (Phu Nam Rin) Cave.** This big cave is situated in Limestone Mountain with a 955 metres peak. Its stunning beauty, created by the formation of stalagmites and stalactites in the cave, always fascinates cave lovers. The cave complex also has a subterranean river.

◆ **Tat Phranba Waterfall.** Choen Stream cascades over 2 steps, creating this 20 metres high.

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

Namtok Chat Trakan

National Park

Namtok Chat Trakan National Park is the 55th national park of Thailand, established in 1987 and covering a total area of 543 square kilometres in Chat Trakan and Nakhon Thai districts in Phitsanulok province. Generally it provides nice surroundings, scenic viewpoint and the first historic art of human being, the animal symbols carved.



Geography

Overall, the Namtok Chat Trakan National Park features rugged mountain ranges with the highest peak, “Phu Kai Hoi”, towers at 1,277 metres above mean sea level. The watershed gives birth to the main tributaries of the Phak and Lam Khwae Noi rivers. The vast rocky formations mainly consist of sandstone.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous and deciduous dipterocarp forests can be found in the national park including *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *S. obtusa*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Lithocarpus* sp., *Mangifera* sp. and *Calamus* sp. as well as various kinds of bamboo.



The national park is home to small animals such as Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Black Giant Squirrel, Northern Treeshrew and various kinds of birds such as Crested Serpent-eagle, Asian Barred Owlet and Olive-backed Pipit.



Getting There

■ From Phitsanulok, take the Phitsanulok-Lom Sak route. Turn left into Nakhon Thai district before arriving at Chat Trakan district. Continue a further distance of 2 kilometres along the route of the Namtok Chat Trakan National Park. The total distance is 145 kilometres.

■ Alternatively, take Asia-Phitsanulok-Uttaradit route. Turn into Thong Saen Khan district of Uttaradit and Chat Trakan district (1 km), then continue a further distance of 12 kilometres along the route of the Chat Trakan National Park. The total distance is 160 kilometres.

Attractions

◆ **Chat Trakan Waterfall.** The most beautiful waterfall in the national park, cascades down the cliffs over 7-level with dense forest on either side. Large natural pools form on each level. The spectacular attraction is the stream which cascades for 15 metres in the first basin covering 800 sq. metres. Some tiny but beautiful beaches have also been created.

◆ **The Waterfall's Cliffs,** illustrate the vivid colours of sandstone. From January to June, a swarm of bees and butterflies usually construct their beehives and cocoons in this area.

◆ **The First Historic Art of Human,** beings was found at Khao Kradan Lek (Pha Kradan Lek). Here, the animal symbols carved by human beings, are a significant historic discovery.



Namtok Mae Surin

National Park

Situated in remote jungle amidst rugged mountains in the Khun Yuam and Mueang districts of Mae Hong Son, the park stretches over 396.60 square kilometres. An aerial survey has found that the forest around Mae Surin Waterfall is rich and dense. The coneshaped Doi Pui Mountain has a unique landscape with flat-top summit which is blanketed with cold weather all the year round. Its waterfalls, Mae Surin and Pha Bong, are major natural attractions. Thus, Thailand's 37th national park was established in 1981.

Geography

Most of the park is made up of rugged ranges, rocky mountains and towering cliffs particularly at Doi Khun Nam Rin and Doi Pui. The vast wilderness is the watershed of many tributaries that contribute to the Pai River.

Climate

It is quite cold during the winter. Heavy rains occur in the rainy season. So, winter and summer are the best times to make a visit to the park.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous and deciduous dipterocarp forests blanket low land by the streams whose high moisture nourishes the trees. Its major plants include *Dipterocarpus alatus* and *Terminalia bellirica*. Pine forest covers most steep ridges where *Pinus merkusii* and *P. kesiya* can be found.

Numerous kinds of wildlife can be found here such as Bears, Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Common Palm Civets, Civets, Macaques, Langurs, Gibbons and Tiger as well as different kinds of birds.

Attractions

◆ **Mae Surin Waterfall.** It is one of the highest waterfalls in Thailand. Mae Surin Stream crashes onto the cliffs and rocks 180 metres below. Situated 38 kilometres from Khun Yuam district, it can be accessed during the dry season only.

◆ **Pha Bong Waterfall.** Dam Khon Stream falls through 2 levels from 30 metres. It is 12 kilometres from Mae Hong Son.



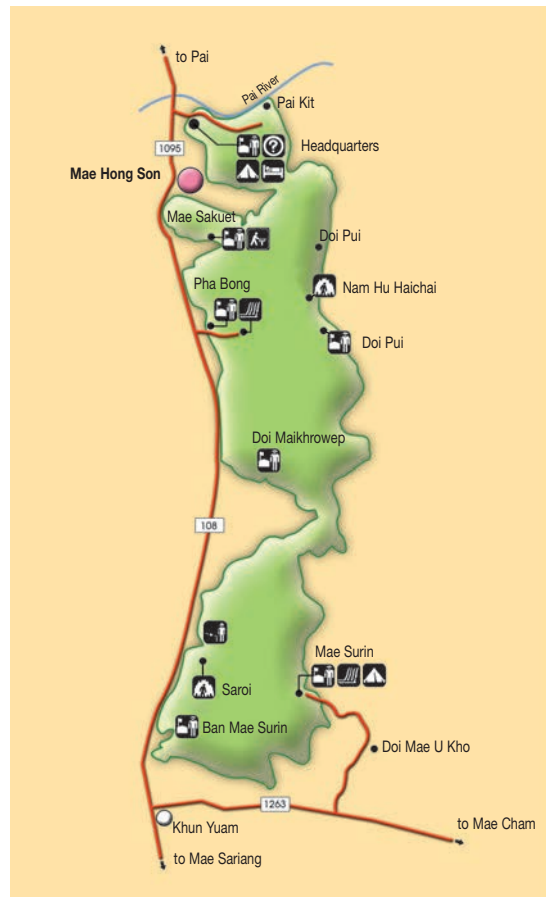


◆ **Pai River.** The river has a lovely beach which is a perfect place for camping. An exciting white water rafting tour is available on this river.

◆ **Nong Khiao.** The vast plain situated on the ridge is covered with pine forest. You need to trek 2 hours from Mae Surin Waterfall to reach this area.

◆ **Doi Pui Peak.** Famous for its 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 expels water from the holes on its surface. It is assumed that such an occurrence is a result of water pressure built up deep underground. The cave is in Pha Bong district. To reach the cave, you are required to walk for 3-4 hours from Ban Huai Nam, Mae Saku.



Getting There

- From Mae Hong Son, use highway 1095 for 9 kilometres to Pai. Then turn right and continue for 3 kilometres to the park's headquarters. To Mae Surin waterfall from Mae Hong Son, take highway 108 (Mae Hong Son-Khun Yuam) for 63 kilometres. Mae Surin waterfall is 38 kilometres from Khun Yuam district.

Namtok Pha Charoen National Park

Acquiring about 855 square kilometres in Mae Sot, Phop Phra and Mueang districts of Tak, Namtok Pha Charoen National Park offers spectacular scenic views in addition to numerous beautiful waterfalls.

Getting There

- From Tak Province, take Highway 105 to Mae Sot and turn left onto Highway 1090 (Mae Sot-Um Phang route). Continue to km. 37. The national park headquarters can be accessed via a 700 metre sub-road, off the highway.

Geography

The national park features rugged mountain range with the highest peak at 1,765 metres above mean sea level. The range originates various streams, namely Mae Lamao, Um Piam, Mae Sot, Mae Tao and Phak Kut.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp forest blanket the area, along with various types of plants such as *Tectona*, *Shorea*, *Azelia*, *Toona* and *Chukrasia*.

The national park is home to wildlife such as Guar, Sambar, Bear, Tiger, Northern Red Muntjac, Common Palm Civet and Lar Gibbon.

Bird species include Eastern Spotted Dove, Thick-billed Green-pigeon, White-rumped Shama, Pin-striped Tit-babbler, Greater Coucal, Olive-backed Sunbird, Great Barbet, Puff-throated Babbler and Blue-throated Flycatcher.

Attractions

- ◆ **Pha Charoen Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall has a limestone backdrop with some 97 levels and amazing views.

- ◆ **Sai Fa Waterfall,** offers spectacular views of spectrum in the sunlight.



- ◆ **Pha Charoen Hot Springs.** Three hot springs have been developed to make this a tourist destination to relax and photograph.

- ◆ **Pa Wai Waterfall.** The waterfall has a limestone backdrop and an amazing 100 levels with spectacular views.

- ◆ **Huai Tapu Kho Waterfall.** This very beautiful waterfall is along this route.

- ◆ **Viewpoint.** Located at km. 50 on Highway 1090. The viewpoint sits at 1,018 metres above mean sea level.

Nanthaburi National Park

Nanthaburi National Park covers an area of 453.31 square kilometres in Tha Wang Pha, Mueang and Ban Luang districts of Nan Province. The national park offers great habitat diversity, including fantastic natural attractions.

Geography

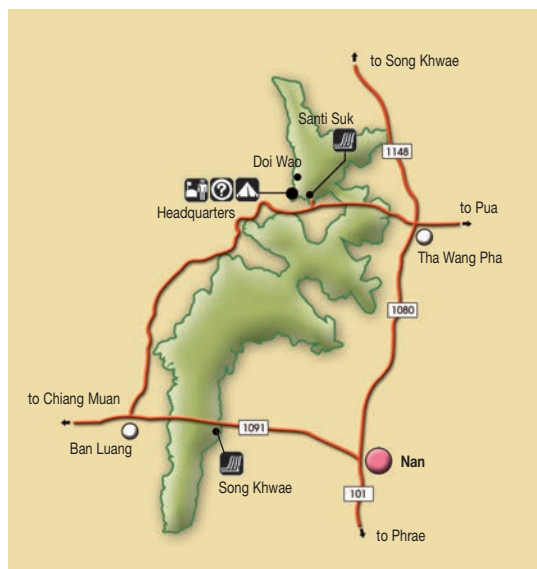
The national park mountain range is from 300 to 1,674 metres above mean sea level. The highest peak is Doi Wao at 1,674 metres. It is the source of various tributaries of the Nan and Yom rivers.

Climate

The average low temperature is 8.4 degree Celsius and the highest temperature is 40.8 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

The park comprises of mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forests, including numerous plant species such as *Tectona grandis*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Hopea odorata*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Gmelina arborea*, *Schima wallichii*, various moss, ferns and orchids.



Getting There

- From Nan Province, take Highway 1080 (Nan-Thung Chang) to Tha Wang Pha district. Turn onto Highway 1148 (Tha Wang Pha-Song Khwae) for 1.5 kilometres, then proceed along the Na Nun-Sop Khun route to km. 27. Turn right and proceed 3.5 kilometres to the national park headquarters.

Attractions

- ◆ **Santi Suk Waterfall.** This medium-sized waterfall has 3 levels and water all year round.
- ◆ **Song Khwae Waterfall.** A small waterfall within a very nice forested area.
- ◆ **Huai Phrik Waterfall.** This medium sized waterfall has 4 levels and offers scenic views.
- ◆ **Tat Fa Rong Waterfall.** A medium sized waterfall with 3 levels.
- ◆ **Doi Mok Waterfall** is a medium sized waterfall with water all year around.
- ◆ **Doi Wao Viewpoint.** Doi Wao, the highest peak of Nanthaburi National Park, is 1,647 metres above mean sea level. Montane rain forests make this point a very nice place for naturalists and birdwatchers.

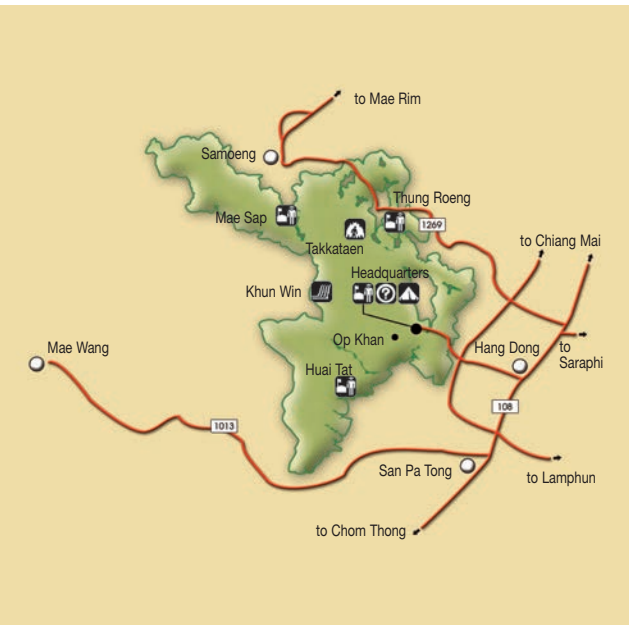




Op Khan

National Park

Op Khan National Park covers an area of 236.11 square kilometres in Samoeng, Hang Dong and Mae Wang districts of Chiang Mai Province. There are beautiful breathtaking views of natural scenery, including waterfalls, cliffs and caves set amidst scenic mountains. Today, Op Khan's area is in the process of being named as a national park of Thailand.



Geography

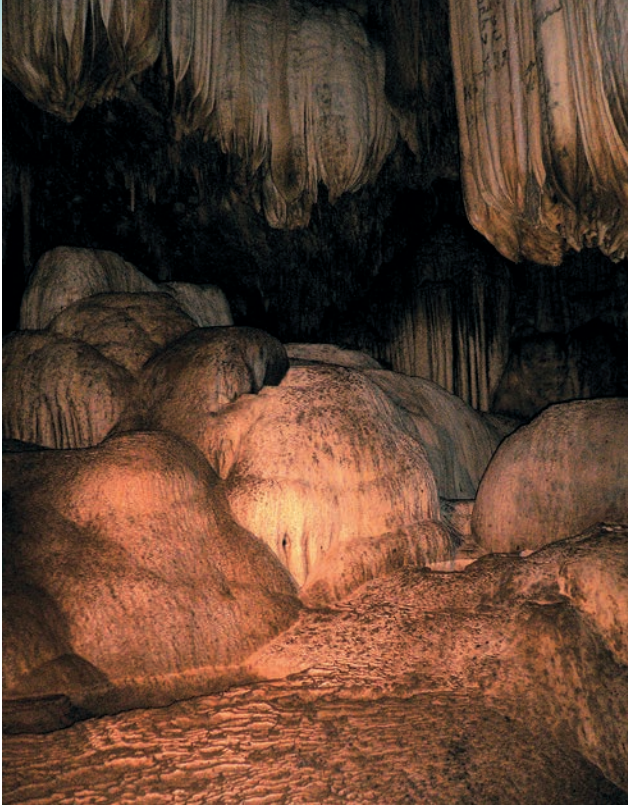
The national park features rugged mountain range. The highest peak, Khun Tian Sung is at 1,550 metres above mean sea level. The range feeds many rivers, namely Mae Khan, Mae Wang, Mae Tian and Mae Win.

Climate

Generally, the temperature is highest and more humid in the summer months and much lower in the

Getting There

■ From Chiang Mai, take Highway 108 (Chiang Mai-Hot) for 11 kilometres. Turn right at the Hang Dong District Office to Nam Phrae-Op Khan road. Follow for 11 kilometres to the national park headquarters.



◆ **Mae Tian Waterfall.** This waterfall has one level. Nearby are Mae Sapok and Khun Win waterfalls, the latter has 3 levels and 60 metres high.

◆ **Mae Sapok Waterfall,** a small waterfall with a nice picnic area.

◆ **Khun Win Waterfall,** a beautiful waterfall with 3 levels. The first level is 10 metres high and the third level is 15 metres high.



winter season. The rainy season (monsoon) is a short period.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forests make up the national park where various plants such as *Invingia malayana*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Tectona grandis*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Schleichera oleosa* and various types of bamboo are present.

Many wildlife species can be found such as Southwest China Serow, Northern Red Muntjac, Fishing Cat, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Common Palm Civet, Wild Boar, Small Asian Mongoose, Finlayson's Squirrel, Pig-tailed Macaque and Malayan Porcupine as well as various types of birds such as Indian Roller, Coppersmith Barbet, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Green-billed Malkoha, Greater Coucal, Scally-breasted Munia and Asian Brown Flycatcher.

Attractions

◆ **Op Khan.** A small, natural river which flows through s-curves along a picturesque gorge.

◆ **Op Hai.** A small, natural river like the Op Khan.

◆ **Takkataen Cave.** The large cave offers spectacular views of stalagmites. Also nearby are Nam Sum and Huai Hok caves.



Op Luang National Park

Op Luang 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. Covering a total area of 553 square kilometres, the park covers areas in Chom Thong, Hot and Mae Chaem districts of Chiang Mai. It was declared the 68th national park of Thailand in 1991.

Geography

Op Luang National Park is located on the Thanon Thong Chai range which runs from north to south. The area consists of high, steep cliffs with a narrow passage or canyon, creating strong currents and powerful echoes. The mountain ranges were all formed by the same folding event in the Cretaceous and Triassic periods creating granite, granodiorite and Mitmatile granite.

Climate

The 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, deciduous dipterocarp, evergreen and pine forests blanket the national park with various plants such as *Tectona grandis*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Hopea odorata*, *Toona ciliata*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Diospyros mollis*, *Terminalia alata* and *Lagerstroemia speciosa*.

The national park is home to wild animals such as Tiger, Sambar, Asiatic Black Bear, Southwest China Serow, Wild Boar, Northern Red Muntjac, Sunda Pangolin, Common Palm Civet and Phayre's Leaf-monkey.

Different birds have their habitat here including Vernal Hanging-parrots, White-rumped Shama, Scarlet Minivet, Woodpeckers, Greater Coucal, Hill Myna, Shikra, Red Junglefowl, Lineated Barbet, Red-whiskered Bulbul, Sooty-headed Bulbul and Puff-throated Babbler.

Attractions

◆ **Op Luang**, the Great Canyon, is located at the 17th kilometre of Highway 108. It covers the areas of Hot and Chom Thong district. It offers a



breathtaking view of the natural scenery of a steep river valley surrounded by scenic mountains and Teak or *Tectona grandis* forests.

◆ **Mae Bua Kham Waterfall**, originates from Huai Mae Bua Kham in Hang Dong sub-district.

◆ **Mae Chon Waterfall** originates from Huai Mae Chon Luang in Chom Thong. It is a large waterfall crashing down onto several rock formations below creating spectacular views of currents flowing like translucent fibers over cliffs and terrain.

◆ **Mae Tia Waterfall**, one of the beautiful waterfalls, is located in Chom Thong. It cascades from a 80 metres cliff onto the plain below. An 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 is black in color. Its shape is like a gigantic seated elephant Doi Pha Chang.

◆ **Thep Phanom Hot Spring** is located in Mae Cham district, 14 kilometres from Op Luang.

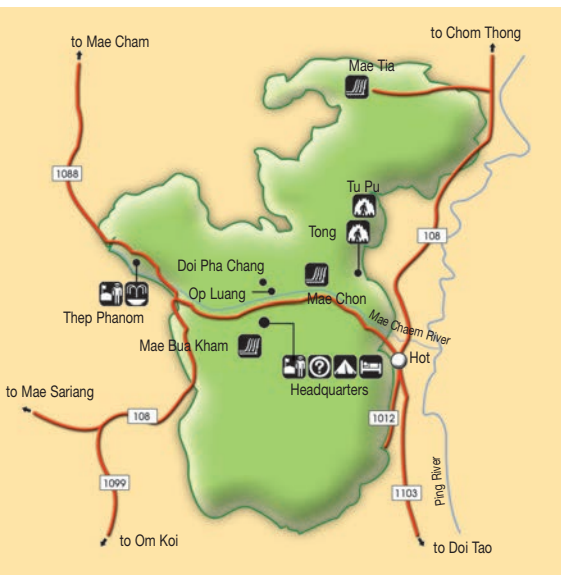
◆ **Tong Cave** is an interesting limestone and granite cave.

◆ **Tu Pu Cave**, a small cave, offers a scenic view of stalagmites and stalactites.

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

Getting There

■ Op Luang National Park is located 105 kilometres from Chiang Mai town along Highway 108 (Chiang Mai-Hot-Mae Sariang)



Pha Daeng National Park

Pha Daeng National Park covers an area of 1,123.34 square kilometres between Chiang Dao Wildlife Sanctuary and Doi Pha Hom Pok National Park in Chiang Mai. It has an abundance of wildlife and verdant forests, which are the source of the main tributaries of the Ping and Mae Taeng rivers. Also, an interesting historic archaeological site is located in the Park. The park was declared as Thailand's 99th national park in 2000.

Geography

Pha Daeng features rugged mountain ranges. Most eastern areas are limestone mountains including Doi Tham Klaep, Doi Hua Tho, Doi Khun Huai Sai, Doi Pha Daeng, Tham Ngop, Dan Fak and most western mountains are covered by tropical forest including Doi Kam Phra, Doi Puk Phak Ka, Doi Lek Chi, Doi San Kio Khom Phra, Kio Hu Lom, Doi Thuai and Doi Yang Klo.

Climate

In winter, the highest temperature is about 27 degree Celsius and the lowest temperature is about 8 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp and tropical rain forests spread over the national park with various plants such as *Michelia floribunda*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Cinnamomum iners*, *Schima wallichii*, *Pinus* sp., *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Morinda coreia*, *Lagerstroemia tomentosa*, *L. venusta*, *Chukrasia tabularis*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Cratoxylum maingayi*, *Terminalia chebula*, *Careya arborea* and *Bambusa bambos*.

Many different species 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, Flycatchers, Pipits, Bulbuls, Hawks, Eagles and Barbets.

Attractions

◆ **Sri Sangwan Waterfall**, a medium fall, is 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 only 35 kilometres from Chiang Dao district.

◆ **Pang Tong Waterfall**, a medium fall, hides itself amidst lush green forest. Originating from Khun Mae Ngai river, the waterfall has a special characteristic as its current flows beneath the mountain for a distance of 50-60 metres before later emerging through and flowing out of holes to the waterfall's cliffs.

◆ **Klaep Cave**, A medium size cave is 10 metres wide. Inside, it is home to a community of Insect-eating Bats. Also a number of monkeys live on the mountain. The place offers spectacular view of stalagmites and stalactites and is located close (only 1.5 kilometres) to kilometres 99 of the Highway 107 (Chang Mai-Fang).



Getting There

- Take Highway 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang) and take a turn to the junction of Tap Tao village at Km. 118 (Chai Prakan sub-district.)
- Take Highway 1178 (Mueang Ngai's Km. 79 - Ban Na Wai's Km. 24) for 24 kilometres and take the Ban Na Wai Km. 24 Ban Mueang Na route for 134 kilometres.

◆ **Tap Tao Cave**. Situated in Tap Tao village, this cave is smaller than Tham Chiang Dao. It is set amidst large trees and has various types of vegetation. It is very easy to access.

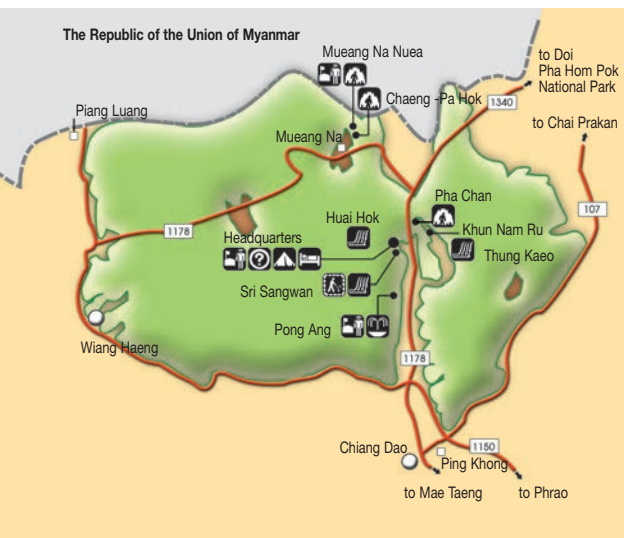
◆ **Doi Pha Tang**. The high rock mountain has as its special feature, a gigantic round stone standing in the air. It is located at km. 93 of the Highway 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang)

◆ **Doi Pha Daeng**, a rocky mountain, offers a spectacular view. It is located at km. 98 of the Highway 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang).

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

◆ **A Viewpoint** at the peak located at km. 45 of Mae Cha-Piang Luang route gives views over the Khun Khong Watershed Management Unit. From here, visitors can have a spectacular view of both Chiang Dao Wildlife Sanctuary and Pha Daeng National Park.

◆ **A Viewpoint** at the top of Doi Thuai. This place gave birth to Khun Ping, which is the beginning point of Ping River. You can enjoy scenic panoramas of both Thailand and Myanmar.



Phu Hin Rong Kla

National Park

Phu Hin Rong Kla National Park was once home to a battlefield. The mountain range served as a stronghold for the communist during 1968–1982. In 1984, it was established as the 48th national park of Thailand. The total area is 307 square kilometres in Dan Sai district of Loei province, including Nakhon Thai district of Phitsanulok province.

Geography

Rugged and steep mountains dominate most of the region. Phu Man Khao is the highest peak at 1,820 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

The park has mild climate year round with temperatures between 18–25 degree Celsius. During winter months, fog can develop and temperatures drop between 0–4 degree Celcius.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp forest dominate the area, while the dry areas are covered by *Shorea* sp. and *Dipterocarpus* sp. Evergreen forests encompass the high elevations, while the plateaus are covered by pine forest.

Wildlife include Tiger, Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar and Bear, along with many species of birds.

Attractions

The park features historical attractions, namely the communism era of the late 60s.

◆ **Political and Military School.** The school comprises of 31 small buildings and once served as venue to communists for training and education.



Getting There

■ From Phitsanulok, head to Lomsak for 68 kilometres. Turn right at Ban Yaeng Intersection to Nakhon Thai district, about 29 kilometres. From Nakhon Thai, the park is 31 kilometres distance. A local bus is available at Nakhon Thai district. The park can also be accessed from Phetchabun via Lom Kao district.



Situated amidst lush forests, the school is 6 kilometres from park headquarters.

◆ **Communist Headquarters.** The aged office building once served as headquarters of administrative work of the communist government.

◆ **Village.** Dao Daeng and Dao Chai villages are of several which depict the lifestyle of communists during civil war time. Each village comprises of 40-50 houses, which were built with air raid shelters.

◆ **Hospital.** The building once served as the only hospital during the civil war. The hospital was well-equipped with rooms for recuperation and medicine compound areas, along with ample medicine supplies. It is 2 kilometres from the building that housed communist headquarters.

◆ **Turbines.** Located opposite to the Political and Military School, the water-powered turbines were used for pounding rice to feed thousands of people.

◆ **Lan Hin Taek.** The broken rock terrace was probably due to the earth shifting. The depths of these cracks, both narrow and wide, remain doubtful. The area is covered by moss, lichen, ferns, and a variety of orchids. The terrace is 300 metres from Thai Army Base.

◆ **Lan Hin Pum.** The field of rock is believed to be a result of physical and chemical erosion. The scenic rock terrace once served as a resting place for the communist patients.

◆ **Pha Chu Thong (Flag Cliff).** The cliff offers magnificent views. It was once the place where after each victory, the communist army would fly their flag.

◆ **Man Daeng Waterfall.** The large waterfall cascades through 32 levels.

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

◆ **Si Phatcharin Waterfall.** The waterfall is 5 kilometres from park headquarters, however, it is not ready for not visitors as not accessible by car.

◆ **Pha Lat and Tat Fa Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfalls are situated at the foot of Phu Hin Rong Kla Mountain, 5 kilometres from Huai Nam Sai village.

Phu Sang National Park

Phu Sang National Park covers an area of 284.8794 square kilometres in Thoeng district of Chiang Rai Province and Chiang Kham and Phu Sang districts in Phayao Province. Phu Sang National Park was declared a national park in 2000. It is the 98th national park in Thailand.

Geography

With elevations between 440-1,584 metres high, the features rugged mountain range. Geographically, it borders between Laos and Thailand. The range originates various rivers namely Lao, Nam Ngao, Nam Pueai, Nam Bong and Nam Yuan.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, dry dipterocarp forest, montane rain forest and pine forest blanket the

national park. There is a variety of vegetation such as *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. turbinatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Toona ciliata*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *L. tomentosa*, *Artocarpus lacucha*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Tectona grandis*, *Dillenia* sp., *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Schleichera oleosa*, *Terminalia bellirica*, *Irvingia malayana*, *Lithocarpus* sp., *Mangifera* sp. and various kinds of bamboo.





The park is home to wildlife, including Sambar, Northern Pig-tailed Macaques, Siamese Hare, Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Langur, Lar Gibbon, Jungle Cat, Malayan Porcupine, Common Palm Civet, Black Giant Squirrel, Large Brown Flying Squirrel, Crab-eating Mongoose and Dhole. Many species of birds including Asian 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.** This scenic waterfall is located 20 kilometres north of Chiang Kham on

Highway 1093. The surroundings are still in perfect natural condition. Phu Sang is unique from other waterfalls. It is fed by a hot spring on the mountain, which flows into a brook before cascading over the waterfall.

◆ **Phu Sang Warm Pool.** The pool is the source of Phu Sang Waterfall and is an average 35 degree Celsius temperature.

◆ **Nam Dan Cave.** The large cave provides spectacular views of waterfalls. Stalagmite and stalactite can be seen within the cave.

◆ **Doi Pha Dam.** The limestone mountain has large cliffs for spectacular scenic views.

◆ **Pha Dan Cave.** The large cave offers picturesque views of nearby waterfalls. Stalagmite and stalactite can be seen within.

◆ **Nam Lot Cave.** The small cave offers great views. There are several rooms within the cave.

Getting There

- From Phayao, take the Phayao-Chun-Chiang Kham district/Phu Sang Waterfall route. Total distance is 104 kilometres. Alternatively, from Chiang Rai Province to Thoeng district through Chiang Kham district to Phu Sang Waterfall. Total distance is 124 kilometres.



Phu Soi Dao National Park

The park covers a mountainous area of 340.2128 square kilometres. in Ban Khok and Nam Pat districts of Uttaradit and Chat Trakan district of Phitsanulok province. Phu Soi Dao was established as the 109th national park of Thailand in 2008. Its rich and fertile forests are habitats to a variety of plants. It also offers fantastic views of Nam Tok Phu Soi Dao, a 5 level waterfall covering 1.6 square kilometres in the park.

Geography

The altitude ranges from 500 to 2,102 metres above mean sea level. Most of the area is covered by mountains and forests and some narrow plains. The park is origin for main tributaries of the Khwae Noi and Pat rivers.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

Among the mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp, pine forest and montane rain forest there is an enormous wealth of plant species growing in the



park such as *Pinus kesiya*, *Betula alnoides*, *Schima wallichii*, and *Shorea siamensis*.

Attractions

◆ **Pine Forest on Phu Soi Dao.** The terrain on Phu Soi Dao is an impressive sight at 1,800 metres above sea level and its 1.6 square kilometres canopy like forest covering. Pine forests and grasslands blanket the region. The rainy season, in particular, is beautiful in nature and when many types of flowers can be seen.

◆ **Phu Soi Dao Waterfall.** This is a 5-level waterfall.

◆ **Sai Thip Waterfall.** This is a 7-level waterfall with water all year round.

◆ **Rock Terrain.** The bank of Lam Nam Phak is a natural rock terrain and is 10-15 metres wide and 100 metres long. It situated at Bo Phak sub-district of Chat Trakan district.



Getting There

■ From Phitsanulok, take Highway 11 and turn into Highway 1246. When arriving into Phae village, take Highway 1143 (via Chat Trakan) and turn onto Highway 1237 (via Bo Phak village) to access Highway 1268, then proceed to the park. Total distance is 199 kilometres.



Ramkhamhaeng National Park

Besides historical artifacts from the Sukhothai Kingdom, the national park features lush forests and beautiful natural attractions such as the Sai Rung Waterfall. The national park covers a total area of 341 square kilometres. over parts of Ban Dan Lan Hoi, Khiri Mat and Mueang districts of Sukhothai.



History

According to the Royal Forest Department, a policy is in order to establish additional wildlife sanctuaries and national parks in the forest reserve of Khao Luang in Sukhothai. It became established in 1980 and Thailand's 18th national park.

Geography

Rugged mountain range towers in the center of the park like "Chom Pluak" or home of the white ant of the

lower northern region. Khao Luang Range comprises of Khao Narai, Khao Phra Chedi, Khao Phra Mae Ya, and Khao Phu Ka. The highest peak is 1,200 metres above mean sea level. The forest is origin to many tributaries of the Yom River.

Climate

Summer is from March to May. Rains are heavy from August to September. The most comfortable period is from December to January.



Getting There

- From Bangkok, take Highway 100 to Khiri Mat district and turn in the park at km. 414. The park is 1 kilometre off the main road. From Phitsanulok, take Highway 117 to Sukhothai, then head to Khiri Mat.

Flora and Fauna

Dry evergreen forest dominates the park. In addition, there is mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and grassland. There is a variety of herbs, particularly around the Suan Kaeo Suan Khwan area. Among the plantlife in the region include *Hopea odorata*, *Toona ciliata*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *S. roxburghii*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* and *Xylia xylocarpa*.

The wildlife found in the park includes Asian Elephant, Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar and Lar Gibbon. Also you can fine birds such as Hawks, Leafbirds, Sunbirds, Flowerpeckers, Mynas, Starlings, Woodswallows, Pipits, Larks, Trogons, Laughingthrushs, Flycatchers, Shrikes, Hoopoe, Indian Roller, Barbets, Bulbuls, Pheasants, Munias, Swallows, Tailorbirds and Woodpeckers.

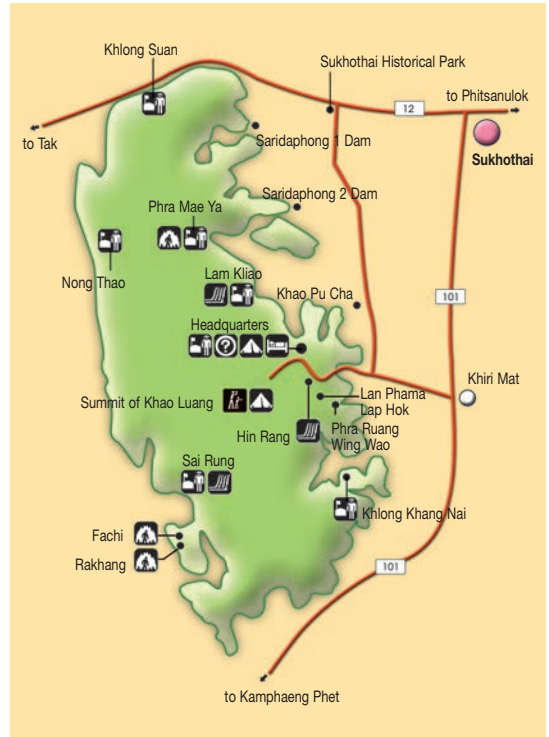
Attractions

- ◆ **Khao Luang.** Lying to the south of Sukhothai, the mountain range. 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 have the highest peaks at 1,200 metres elevation. Interesting, one resembles a woman lying down.

- ◆ **Grassland.** Covering an area of 4.8 square kilometres, the grassland composes of a variety of grasses carpets the mountain peaks. Herbs can be found particularly around Suan Kaeo Suan Khwan area where a huge banyan tree resides. The tree makes a nice shady place to rest for visitors.

- ◆ **Herbs.** The park is home to countless herbs such as *Cinnamomum iners*.

- ◆ **Sai Rung Waterfall.** In rainy season, the Phai Na canal from Khao Phra Chedi falls over a steep cliff and is over 100 metres deep at its base.



Salawin National Park

Salawin national park covers an area of 721.52 square kilometres through Sop Moei and Mae Sariang districts of Mae Hong Son province. In 1994, the national park was declared the 78th national park of Thailand. It offers spectacular scenery and recreational attractions. Former name was Salawin.





Getting There

- Travel 5 kilometres from Mae Sariang on Highway 1194, then turn right and continue another 5 kilometres to the national park headquarters.

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

Attractions

◆ **Salawin River.** An enjoyable river. Calm and soft sand beaches along its banks are great to stroll. Usually fog covers the river in winter mornings, but this also creates spectacular scenery. You can take a boat trip to see the beauty of Maenam Salawin. A stay overnight along the riverbank is permitted.

◆ **Cruise on Salawin River.** A popular choice for tourists. Plan about one hour for the cruise.

Geography

The park features a rugged mountain range. The highest peak, “Doi Khun Mae Kon”, is 1,109 metres above mean sea level. The mountain ranges are origin to main tributaries of the Salawin River.

Climate

Summer season is from March to May, rainy season is June to October and winter is from November to February. Winter is best time for visitors who enjoy nature in the chilly temperatures.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous and deciduous dipterocarp forests blanket the national park along with various plants such as *Tectona grandis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Hopea odorata*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis* and *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*.

The national park is also home to wild animals such as Southwest China Serow, Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Bears, Tiger, Gaur, Siamese Hare, Black Giant Squirrel, Northern Treeshrew and Common Palm Civet. There are also various species of birds and butterflies such as White Wagtail, Common Kingfisher, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Dollarbird, Brown Shrike, Dark-necked Tailorbird, Common Mormon,



Si Lanna National Park

Declared as the 60th national park of Thailand in 1989, Si Lanna National Park partially covers areas in Chiang Dao, Phrao and Mae Taeng districts in Chiang Mai with an area of 1,406.6926 square kilometres.

Geography

The national park features rugged mountain range. It is the source of various tributaries of the Ping River and Mae Ngat River. Elevations range between 400 to 1,718 metres. The highest peak is Doi Chom Hot. Its rich and fertile forests are home to a variety of plants. The rock formations in the park consist of sandstone, limestone and shale.

Climate

Winter months are November to February, while summer is from March to April. The rainy season is May to October.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forests, deciduous dipterocarp forests, montane rain forests and pine forests blanket 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 bamboos, ferns and palms can be found in the low areas of the national park.

Wildlife includes several mammals including Tiger, Sambar, Asiatic Black Bear, Macaques, Wild Boar, Siamese Hare and Northern Red Muntjac, along with types of birds such as Ducks, Coucals, Bulbuls, Egrets and Barbets.



Attractions

◆ **Mon Hin Lai Waterfall.** The waterfall is situated at Huai Mae Paeng in Chiang Mai. The 9-level waterfall is abundant all year-round making it a spectacular vision anytime to visit.

◆ **Mae Ngat Irrigation Reservoir.** The reservoir covers an area of the Mae Taeng and Mae Ngat forests. The reservoir is surrounded by beautiful natural scenery and makes an ideal place for recreation and relaxing.

◆ **Distinct Forests.** Along Highway 1150 in Phrao, Chiang Dao district in Chiang Mai province, you can appreciate scenic views of Doi Pha Sam Sao Mountain Range.

◆ **Nong Pha Cave.** This large limestone cave is located 14 kilometres from Pang Mayao Ranger Station. With beautiful stalactite and stalagmite, the cave has a large room and a 800-metre passage. Many bats species inhabit in the cave.

Getting There

- To reach the national park, take Highway 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang route) to Km. 41, then turn right to Mae Ngat Irrigation Reservoir and continue for another 12 kilometres to park headquarters.





Si Nan

National Park

Si Nan National Park has an abundance of wildlife and verdant forests. This park is the source of various tributaries of Nan River and covers an area of 1,024.38 square kilometres in Na Muen, Na Noi and Wiang Sa districts of Nan. It was established as Thailand's 104th national park in 2007.

Geography

The national park features rugged mountain ranges. Doi Kham is the highest peak at 1,294 metres above mean sea level. About 60 kilometres of the Nan River runs through the middle area of the park.

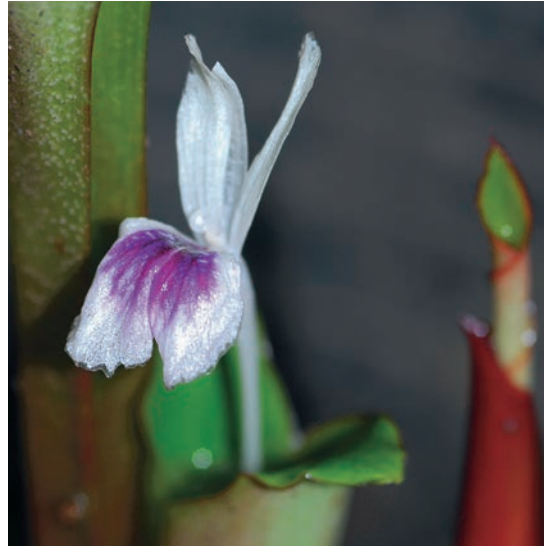
Climate

Summer season is from February to April. The rainy season is from May to October and winter is from November to January.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forests blanket the national park with various plant species such as *Anisoptera costata*, *Hopea odorata*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Afzella xylocarpa*, *Toona ciliata*, *Tectona grandis*, *Pinus kesiya*, *P. merkusii*, *Shorea siamensis*, *S. obtusa* and an assortment of bamboo and orchids.

There are several kinds of mammals and birds such as Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Common Palm Civet, Jays, Pheasants, Nightjars and Coucals.



Getting There

- From Bangkok, drive on the Nakhon Sawan-Phitsanulok-Phrae route and proceed onto Highway 101 to Wiang Sa district. Turn right onto Highway 1026 (Wiang Sa-Na Noi route), about 35 kilometres. Turn left onto Highway 1083 (Na Noi-Pang Hai route) and continue for another 20 kilometres to the national park headquarters.



Attractions

- ◆ **Sao Din Na Noi and Khok Suea**, feature canyons similar to the Grand Canyon of United States of America and Phae Mueang Phe Canyon of Phrae province.
- ◆ **Pak Nai**, is a forested area flooded after the construction of Sirikit Dam. Pak Nai is the largest fishery area of Nan Province and a fishery village is located nearby.
- ◆ **Kaeng Luang**, originates from rocky outcrops spreading into the Nan River.
- ◆ **Doi Pha Chu Viewpoint**, is a gigantic cliff. You can view and appreciate the spectacular and beautiful scenery from this point.
- ◆ **Pha Hua Sing**. From the cliff, visitors can watch spectacular views including sea of clouds in the mornig. It is situated in the south-west of park headquarters.

Si Satchanalai National Park

Si Satchanalai National Park covers an area of 213.20 square kilometres in Si Satchanalai and Thung Saliam districts of Sukhothai Province. It was declared the 26th national park of Thailand in 1981.

Geography

Rugged mountain ranges and rock cliffs dot the area. The highest mountains, Doi Mae Wang Chang and Doi Mae Mok lie from north to south on its western edge with elevations ranging between 300-1,200 metres above mean sea level, leaving the plain at the Yom River. Its forest is a watershed from which many streams originate, including Huai Sai Khao, Huai Mae Tha Phae, Huai Mae San, Huai Pha Cho and Huai Manao.

Climate

The climate within the park is similar to the nearby area with hot summers and wet rainy seasons. During the winter, the coldest months are between December and February.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forest covers 93.4 percents of the total area, blanketing steep valleys, slopes and alongside the creek. The remaining area includes a deciduous dipterocarp forest which is home to *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Schleichera oleosa*; and a montane rain forest where *Castanopsis acuminatissima*, *Dipterocarpus turbinatus* and *Helicia* sp. are found.

Lush forest, rugged mountain range and crisscrossing streams make the park a perfect habitat for wildlife. Commonly found wildlife include Northern Treeshrew, Wild Boar, Finlayson's Squirrel, Macaques,



Asian Golden Cat, Chestnut-headed Bee-eater, Hawks and Bats. Some rare animal species also inhabit the park include Southwest China Serow, Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Malayan Porcupine, Big-headed Turtle, Tiger, Great Hornbill, Langur and

Lar Gibbon. Endangered species such as Asian Elephant and the Guar can also be found, but are declining in number.

Attractions

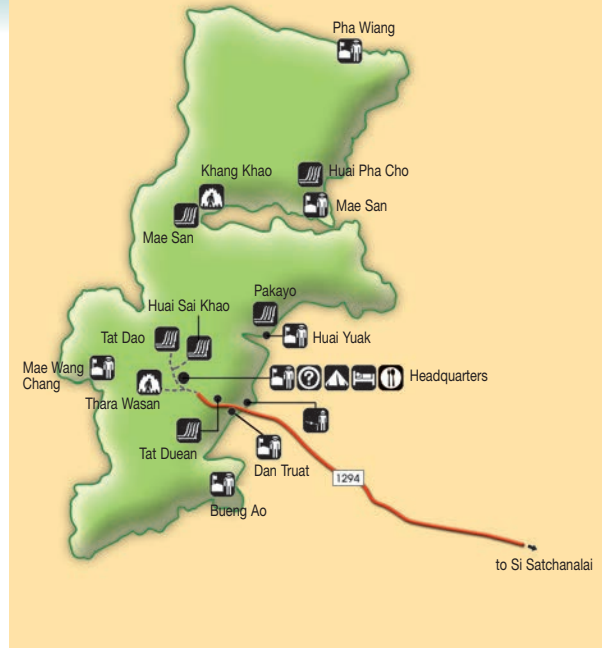
◆ **Tat Dao Waterfall.** This beautiful waterfall originates from the Huai Mae Tha Phae River and falls 50 metres through 3 steps to a deep pool below. The waterfall is located 3 kilometres from the park headquarters.

◆ **Tat Duean Waterfall.** This small waterfall is some 10 metres high, followed by a stream that snakes into a deep pool where people can enjoy swimming. It is only 300 metres from the park headquarters.

◆ **Huai Sai Khao Waterfall.** The 7-level waterfall is situated in a tranquil valley, 3 kilometres from the park headquarters.

◆ **Thara Wasan Cave.** Situated only 1.5 kilometres from the headquarters, this cave has beautiful formations of stalagmite and stalactite. An abundance of Flora and Fauna such as Chan Pha or *Dracaena cochinchinensis* and Southwest China Serow are found in this area.

◆ **Khang Khao Cave.** This beautiful cave is home to hundreds of thousands of bats. It is 20 kilometres from the park headquarters. Moreover, the park features many natural attractions such as Huai Pha Cho Waterfall and Doi Mae Wang Chang Viewpoint.



Getting There

From Sukhothai, there are two main routes:

- Take Highway 12 for 15 kilometres and turn right onto Highway 1113. At San Chit junction turn left to Highway 1294 and continue to the national park headquarters. The park is 100 kilometres from the center of Sukhothai.
- Alternatively, take Highway 101 for 68 kilometres to Si Satchanalai. Turn left at Si Satchanalai Hospital onto Highway 1035 and then take Highway 1294 to the park. This route is 122 kilometres.



Taksin Maharat National Park

Featuring lush jungle and abundant wildlife, this park is a unique landscape of stone arches and home to Thailand's largest tree, the Krabak tree. Historians assumed that ancient armies once roamed the area during the wartime. Established in 1981, the 38th national park of Thailand was initially named Ton Krabak Yai National Park thanks to the park's most important landmark, the huge Krabak tree, or great *Anisoptera costata*. It was renamed Taksin Maharat National Park in 1986 to honour King Taksin the Great who once ruled Tak Province. The national park covers a total area of 149 square kilometres.



Geography

Situated on Thanon Thongchai Range, the park features rugged mountainous landscape and tiny plains. At its central region, the highest peak towers 1,027 metres above mean sea level and slopes down in all directions.

Climate

The park is quite comfortable all year round with an average temperature of 22 degree celcius. Heavy rains fall from August till October. During the winter months from November to January the temperature can drop as low as 6 degrees.

Flora and Fauna

Dry evergreen forest, mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocap forest cover the area around the Great Krabak tree and Natural Stone Arch. Major plants species include *Anisoptera costata*, *Baccaurea ramiflora* and *Toona ciliata*. Pine forest is found at higher elevations above 700 metres.

A wide diversity of wildlife is found in the park such as Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Common Palm Civet, Wild Boar, Squirrels, Mongooses, and Treeshrews. Numerous bird species include Green Pigeons, Ashy Drongos, Scarlet Minivets, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Black-naped Orioles, Great Barbet, Plaintive Cuckoos, Barn Swallows, Eastern Spotted Doves, Greater Coucals, Collared Scops-Owls, Olive-



ต้นกระบากใหญ่
Anisoptera sp.
เป็นต้นไม้ที่สวย ที่ใหญ่ที่สุด ในเมืองไทย



backed Sunbirds, Oriental White-eye, including butterfly species such as Common Birdwings, Common Mormon, Common Rose, Paris Peacock and Common Mime.

Attractions

◆ **Sam Muen Thung Waterfall.** The big waterfall is 50 metres high. Its originated from Sam Muen Thung Luang Stream.

◆ **Pang A Yai Waterfall.** A 3-level waterfall is 80 metres in height.

◆ **Pang A Noi Waterfall.** The medium size waterfall is 8 metres wide and 20 metres high.

◆ **Mae Ya Pa Waterfall.** With 3 levels, this is one of the most beautiful waterfalls in the park. Accessible only by a 2-kilometre walkway.

◆ **Pha Khao-Pha Daeng Waterfall.** Situated at Phawo sub-district, Mae Sot district. A 2-level waterfall

Getting There

- From Tak, take Highway 105 (Tak-Mae Sot route) for 26 kilometres. Turn right and continue for only 1.5 kilometres to the national park headquarters.

is 10 metres wide and 30 metres high. Take for 35 kilometres from the park headquarters.

◆ **Nature Rock Bridge.** is a natural stone formation 25 metres in height and 30 metres in length. For 10 kilometres far from the park headquarters.

◆ **Krabak Yai Tree or Great Krabak (*Anisoptera costata*).** The largest Krabak tree in Thailand with 50 metres in height.

Tat Mok National Park

Tat Mok National Park covers an area of 290 square kilometres in Mueang District, Phetchabun Province. It was declared the 87th national park of Thailand in 1998. Tat Mok National Park features a huge stream-fed waterfall flowing down cracks and crevices of the mountains creating a beautiful scenic area.



◆ **Song Nang Waterfall.** The waterfall forms a natural border between Tat Mok National Park and Nam Nao National Park and flows to meet Maenam Pa Sak. It is surrounded by lush vegetation and various tree species.

Getting There

- To access the park from Phetchabun, drive east 12 kilometres to Chaliang Lap village. Turn right onto Highway 2275 (Ban Nam Ron). After traveling a short distance (200 metres) take a left at the fork leading to the Chaliang Lap village route. Continue for 19 kilometres to a car park. A 2-kilometre walkway leads to the waterfall.

Geography

The national park features a rugged mountain range with elevations between 300-1,500 metres above mean sea level. It is also the origin of main tributaries of the Maenam Pa Sak and Chi.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and dry evergreen forest blanket the national park with a variety of plant species 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 Southwest China Serow, Wild Boar, Northern Red Muntjac and various birds species such as Drongos, Barbets, Doves, Indian Roller, Bulbuls and Nightjars.

Attractions

◆ **Tat Mok Waterfall.** A very beautiful waterfall originating from Tat Mok Mountain. It is a one level waterfall 200-300 metres high.





Tham Pha Thai

National Park



The mountain range covers an area of 1,220.94 square kilometres in Mueang, Chae Hom, Mae Mo and Ngao districts of Lampang. It offers spectacular views of waterfalls and caves, including some archaeological evidence.

◆ **Mae Chae Fa Waterfall** has 9-level. It is located at Tat Moei Ranger Station, 8 kilometres from Thung Hang village, Thung Phueng sub-district, Chae Hom district of Lampang Province.

Geography

The park features rugged mountain range and is also the source of the Wang and Ngao rivers. Doi Mae Khwan is the highest peak at 1,253 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Summer is March-May and the rainy season is from May-October. Winter is November-February.

Flora and Fauna

The park is comprised of a variety of forests, including mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and dry evergreen forest. Various plant species such as *Pterocarpus*, *Azalia*, *Lansea*, *Dalbergia* and *Haldina* exists within this area. A number of wildlife inhabit here such as Guar, Macaque, including types birds and lizards.

Attractions

◆ **Pha Thai Cave** originates from a limestone mountain. The cave is in the walking distance from the park headquarters. It goes underground more than 1 kilometre from its entrance, 400 metres of which can be accessible. A lot of stalactites and stalagmites are found in the cave.

◆ **Lom Phu Khiao** is a bright green water hole on the mountain which resembles a volcano chimney. It is located about 20 kilometres from the highway 1 Phahonyothin road.



Getting There

■ The national park is located at Km. 665 on Highway 1 (Lampang to Chiang Rai); or, alternatively, can take the Phrae-Ngao-Chiang Rai route and turn left to Lampang Province before reaching Ngao.

Tham Pla- Namtok Pha Suea National Park

Tham Pla-Namtok Pha Suea National Park, the 116th national park of Thailand, was established in 2009 and covers an area of 630.5920 square kilometres in Mueang, Pang Mapha districts of Mae Hong Son. The national park has many interesting areas, particularly for tourism.



Geography

Because of its steep mountains, the national park features a wave like mountain range. Doi Lan is the highest peak at 1,918 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp, pine and evergreen forests blanket the park with various plants, mammals, birds and insects.

Attractions

◆ **Pla Cave** is a fantastic cave. A number of large fish “Pla Mung” or “Soro Brook Carp” (*Neolissocheilus soroides*) can be easily seen.

◆ **Pha Suea Waterfall** originates from the Mae Sa-nga River, above the Mae Sa-nga Dam. It is 10 metres wide and 15 metres high.

◆ **Mae Sa-nga Dam**, is an earth dam with 37 metres high and 160 metres long.

◆ **Mae Sa-nga Klang Waterfall**. The waterfall is 15 metres high. Huai Pong On waterfall is nearby and is 7 metres high and 5 metres wide.

Getting There

- From Mae Hong Son take Highway 1095 (Mae Hong Son-Pai) for 18 kilometres and turn left to the park’s headquarters.

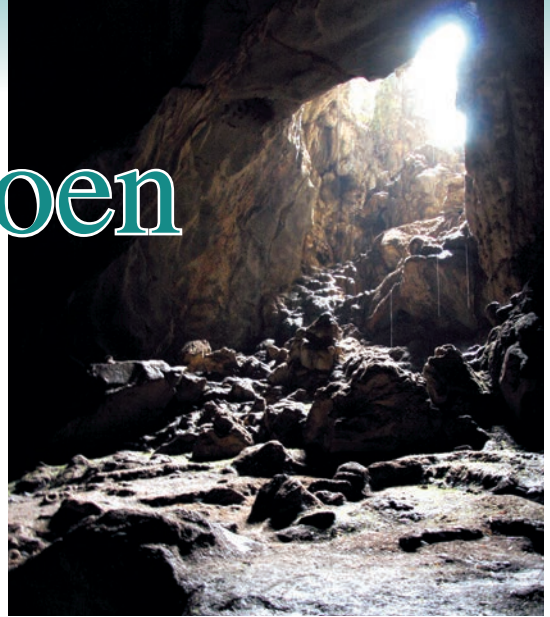


◆ **Pha Daeng Cave**. This is a beautiful limestone cave and 1 kilometre deep.

Tham Sakoen

National Park

Tham Sakoen National Park covers an area of 251.80 square kilometres in Tha Wang Pha, Chiang Kham and Pong districts of Phayao, and Song Khwae district of Nan Province, including Chiang Kham and Pong districts of Phayao Province. The area contains excellent examples of forest ecosystems. The impressive scenery, diversification, and abundance of Flora and Fauna will bring a sense of adventure to visitors here.



Geography

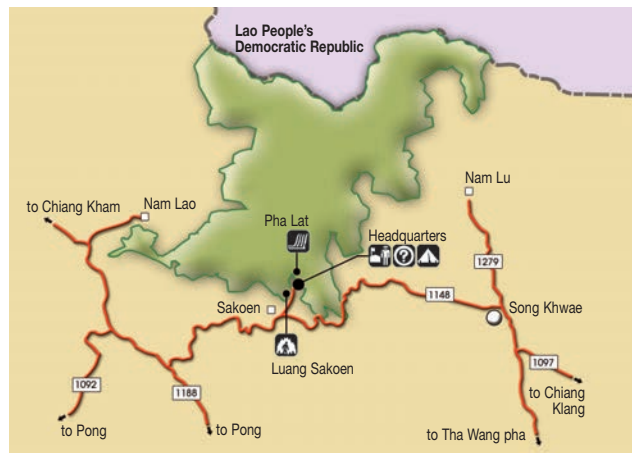
The park ranges from 300 to 1,752 metres above mean sea level and the highest peak is 1,752 metres at Yot Doi Chi. Its mountain range is a watershed from which many rivers originate as well as the Yom and Nan rivers.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forest and evergreen forest blanket the national park with different kinds of plants



such as *Prunus cerasoides*, *Cinnamomum iners*, *Dipterocarpus alatus* and *Tetrameles nudiflora*.

Many types of wildlife, including reptiles and different species of birds inhabit the forests. These are Tiger, Southwest China Serow, Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Treeshrews, Dhole, Hawks, Mynas, Doves, Pigeons, Bulbuls, Barbets, Red Junglefowl, Coucals, Munias, Ioras and Wagtails.

Attractions

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

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

◆ **Luang Sakoen Cave.** The cave is 600 metres long and offers spectacular views of stalagmites and stalactites. There are many bats inside.

◆ **Pla Kang Cave.** This is a small cave located in Song Khwae district of Nan Province.

Getting There

■ From Nan town, take Highway 1080 (Nan-Thung Chang) for 42 kilometres. Turn left to Highway 1148 (Tha Wang Pha-Song Khwae) when arrive to Tha Wang Pha district and proceed 33 kilometres. Then, turn left to Highway 1097 (Song Khwae-Chiang Kham) for a 38 kilometres to arrive to Song Khwae district. You will reach Sakoen village, Yot sub-district, and Song Khwae district. Here, turn right and proceed passed the village for 6 kilometres to the national park.



Thung Salaeng Luang

National Park

Thung Salaeng Luang National Park covers an area of 1,262.40 square kilometres in Wang Thong, Nakhon Thai and Noen Maprang districts of Phitsanulok and Khao Kho and Wang Pong districts of Phetchabun. This park features many beautiful natural attractions such as caves, grasslands, waterfalls and many types of Flora and Fauna. Thung Salaeng Luang was declared the 3rd national park of Thailand on January 29, 1963.

Geography

Rolling hills cover most areas of the park with the western edge changing to a rugged limestone range running north to south. Khao Khae is the highest peak with an elevation of 1,028 metres above mean sea level. The watershed forest is the source of many streams including Huai Khek Yai, Huai Khek Noi, Lam Nam Thum, Khlong Chomphu and Khlong Wang Thong.

Climate

March to June is the hottest period with a maximum temperature of 29 degree Celsius. The rainy season is from July to October with an average annual rainfall of 1,700 millimetres. The winter season, from November to February, is the perfect time to enjoy the natural beauty of the park.

Flora and Fauna

The majority of the park is comprised of evergreen forest, dry evergreen forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest, pine forest and mixed deciduous forest, occasionally interrupted with vast grasslands and flower fields. The forests of Thung Salaeng Luang have a significant variety of plant species including *Pinus merkusii*, *Lithocarpus* spp., *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Mangifera* sp., *Pometia pinnata*, *Azelia* sp., *Tectona grandis* and *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*.

Wildlife found in the park include Asian Elephant, Tiger, Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Phayre's Leaf-monkey, Wild Boar and a great variety of birds such as Ashy Drongo, Green-legged Partridge, Common Kingfisher, Oriental Turtle-dove and Sooty-headed Bulbuls.



Getting There

- From Bangkok to Thung Salaeng Luang, starting from Phitsanulok follow motorist route 12 (Phitsanulok-Lom Sak) for 80 kilometres to the park headquarters.



Attractions

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

◆ **Phra Wang Daeng Cave** is located at Chom Phu Ranger Station, Noen Maprang district of Phetchabun. There is a water way passing through the cave with 13.5 kilometres long. Its two entrances are at the middle and the end. Many bats and 3 species of blind fish inhabit here.

◆ **Thung Salaeng Luang.** This vast savanna covering 10 square kilometres is always decorated with beautiful wild flowers. Wildlife is abundant within the mixed deciduous forest. Savanna and pine forest are also found at Nang Phaya Field and Non Son Field. These two fields share the entrance with Thung Salaeng Luang.



Ton Sak Yai National Park

Ton Sak Yai national park (formerly known as Khlong Tron national park) covers an area of 518.79 square kilometres in Thong Saen Khan, Tha Pla, Mueang and Nam Pat districts in Uttaradit province. The park was established in 2003. It is the 103rd national park in Thailand and offers natural scenery of waterfalls, caves, cliffs, plants, mammals and birds. It is easily accessible.



Geography

Ton Sak Yai national park features rugged mountain range comprising of Khao Phu Miang, Khao Kwam Ruea, Khao Ngai Ruea, Khao Sam Liam, Khao Thanon, Khao Daet, Khao Mai Pha, Khao Tak Bon, Khao Nam Yoi, Khao Phak Khuang and Khao Chan. Phu Miang mountain's highest peak is 1,500 metres above mean sea level. It is origin for main tributaries of the Nan River.

Climate

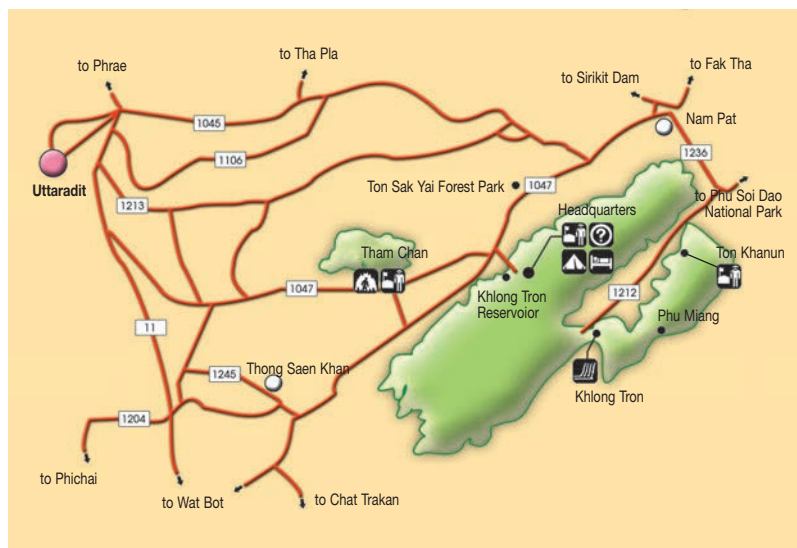
Summer season is from March to April, the highest temperature is 42.6 degree Celsius and the lowest is 12.9 degree Celsius. Winter season is from October to February. Heavy rains occur in the rainy season.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp, and evergreen forests cover the national park with various plants such as *Invingia malayana*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Phyllanthus emblica*, *Michelia floribunda*, *Tectona grandis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *L. venusta*, *Vitex pinnata*, *Terminalia chebula*, *Shorea obtusa* and *Cratoxylum maingayi*, including *Lithocarpus* sp.

Getting There

■ From Mueang district in Uttaradit Province, take Highway 11 to Nam Ang village, Tron district to Highway 1047 to Nam Pat district. Total distance is 70 kilometres.





It is home to various kinds of wildlife, including Asiatic Black Bear, Southwest China Serow, Asian Slow Loris, Northern Red Muntjac, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Wild Boar, Clouded Leopard, Fishing Cat, Palm Civets, Siamese Hare, Mongooses, Black Giant Squirrel and Malayan Porcupine. Different species of birds include Silver Pheasant, Blue-winged Pitta, Richard's Pipit, Thick-billed Green-pigeon and Eastern Spotted Dove.

Attractions

◆ **Khlong Tron Waterfall.** Originating from Huai Khlong Tron, there are two waterfalls. One is a 4 levels waterfall and 20 metres in height; the other waterfall is 30 metres in height. These two waterfalls can only be accessible by walkways.

◆ **Huai Sai Waterfall.** Originating from Huai Sai, it has only one level and 35 metres in height. It can only be accessible by walking.

◆ **Phu Miang Waterfall.** Originating from Huai Miang, this waterfall has 11 levels and heights of 30-45 metres. The waterfall is located between Bang Kham Pom village and Huai Khom village. It is about a 2 kilometres walk from both villages.

◆ **Huai Khom Waterfall.** Located in Huai Khom village, Nam Pat district. It consists of three waterfalls. One has 11 levels with heights of 15 metres; a 2 level with height of 15 metres; and a 1 level with heights of 20 metres. It can be accessed by walking.

◆ **Huai Niam Waterfall.** Originating within Huai Sap (Huai Niam), the waterfall has 3 levels with 5 metres in height. It is accessible by the 3 kilometres walkway from Huai Niam village.

◆ **Pha Phu Miang.** One of the most beautiful cliffs. There is spectacular panoramic view of Ton Khanun village and Bang Kham Pom village. The cliff can only be accessible by walking.

◆ **Chan Cave.** Tham Chan located in the forestry preservation of Phak Khwa and Thong Saen Khan sub-districts, the cave is 200 metres deep and 15 metres wide.

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

◆ **Khao Chedi.** A rocky mountain shaped like a pagoda. It is approximately 500 metres far from Tham Chan.



Wiang Kosai National Park

Established in 1981, the first national park of Phrae features rugged mountains and lush forest in Long and Wang Chin of Phrae and Thoen, Sop Prap and Mae Tha of Lampang. Among its 409.785 square kilometres, you 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 steep valleys and a rugged mountain range with average inclines of up to 80 degrees. Situated at an elevation of 800 metres above mean sea level, the park's highest peak measures 1,267 metres. Its rugged mountain range is blanketed by dry evergreen forest and mixed deciduous forest which are origin to many rivers, namely Mae Koeng, Mae Chok, Mae Sin and Mae Pak.

Climate

Summer is from March to May with April being the hottest month reaching a maximum temperature at 39 degree Celsius. June to October is the rainy season and winter is from November to February. December is the coldest month, temperatures may drop to 13 degree Celsius.

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* and *Xylia xylocarpa* species.

The park once was habitat for Tiger and Asian Elephant, both now extinct after heavy hunting. Today, only small animals remain such as Northern Red Muntjac. Different bird species such as Sooty-headed Bulbul, Coppersmith Barbet, Common Tailorbird, Common Kingfisher and Oriental Magpie-robin occupy the valleys and water sources.



Attractions

◆ **Mae Koeng Luang and Mae Koeng Noi Waterfalls.** These beautiful falls cascade through 7 levels from the mountain Doi Mae Koeng, which in the local dialect translates to “The Stair Mountain.” The waterfalls are tributaries of Mae Yom River.

◆ **Mae Chok Hot Spring.** The 80 degree Celsius hot spring is situated adjacent to Ban Mae Chok School in Mae Pak sub-district, Wang Chin district of Phrae province.

◆ **Pan Chen Waterfall.** A small waterfall situated 7 kilometres from the park headquarters.

◆ **Dong Takhian.** The dense forest of Iron Wood trees (*Hopea odorata*) surprises you by their gigantic size. These towering trees are more than a hundred years old. This impressive forest is 15 kilometres away from the national park office and is accessible by trekking only.

◆ **Mae Sin Waterfall.** The small waterfall is situated 4 kilometres from the park headquarters by trekking. The park is home to many beautiful waterfalls including Mae Chok, Mae Pak, Mae Rang and Khun Huai.

Getting There

- From Bangkok, take the Nakhon Sawan, Phitsanulok, to Den Chai district of Phrae route, continuing onto Phrae-Lampang Road. Travel to Wang Chin district for another 13 kilometres and turn to the park entrance, 1.3 kilometres from the main road. Total distance is 594 kilometres from Bangkok.

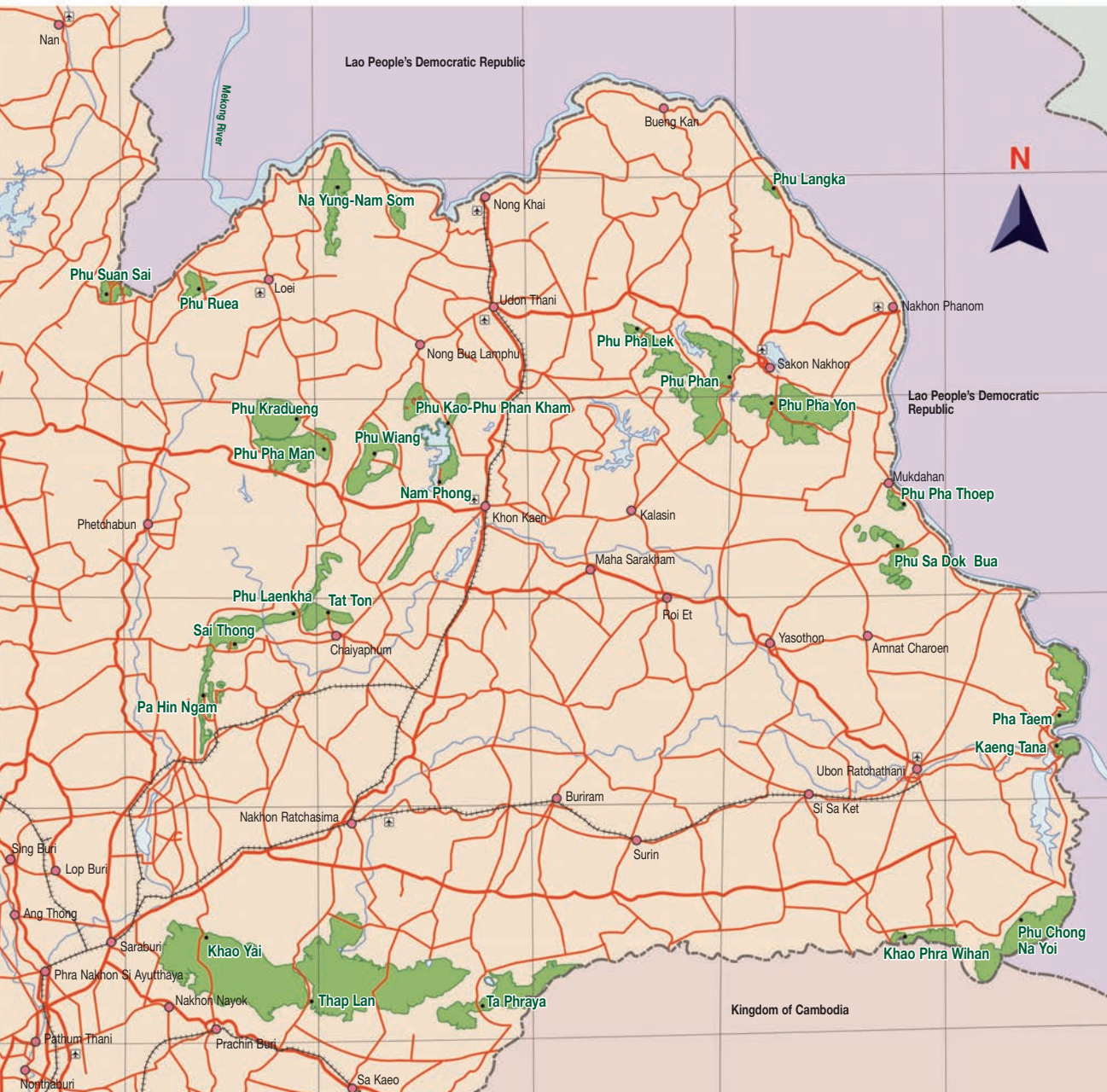


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The Northeast region covers an area south and east from Nakhon Ratchasima province where it is characterized by a high plateau to the north and surrounding Loei province. Currently there are 25 national parks in this region. All of these national parks are worth a visit. The contrast between them will satisfy the visitor who is naturebound for the beauty, or the backpacker who seeks to trek to the top for upmost views, but all are places to discover and enjoy.

”





National Parks in the
Northeastern



Getting There

- The national park is 90 kilometres away from the provincial town of Ubon Ratchathani. As the park is divided by the Mun River, tourists can get to the park by 2 routes.
- To the right side of Kaeng Tana, you can take Highway 217 through Warin Chamrap to Phibun Mangsahan. Take Highway 2173; then to Highway 2296 reach to the park. This route is 90 kilometres distance.
- To the left side of Kaeng Tana, you can cross the 200-year old Phibun Mangsahan Bridge to Khong Chiam and turn right to the park about 4 kilometres before Khong Chiam district.

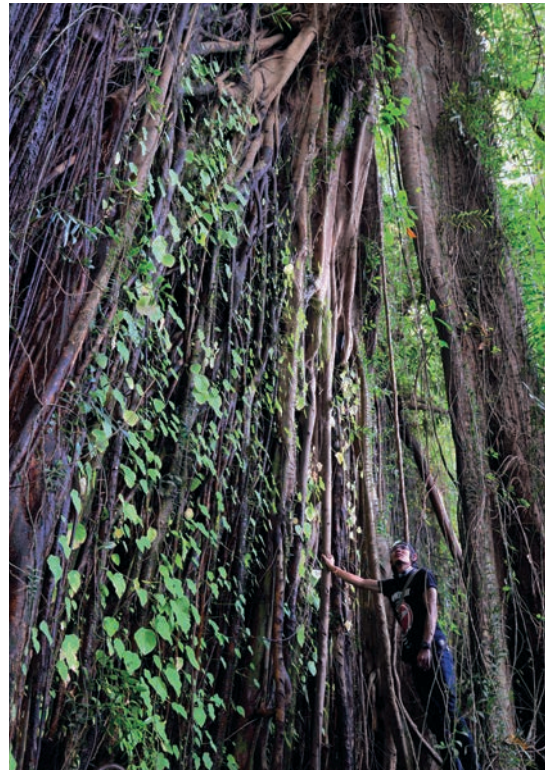
Wildlife in the park include Wild Boar, Northern Red Muntjac, Common Palm Civet, Northern Pig-tailed Macaque and Javan Mongoose. There are different species of birds such as Barbets, Bulbuls, Tailorbirds and Owls.

Attractions

◆ **Kaeng Khan Heo** in the Mun River is 300 metres wide and 1-kilometre length and packed with various types of rocks and beaches along its banks. The river's rapids are enlivened by floods during the winter season, especially in December.

◆ **Don Tana.** The hill in the middle of Mun River divides the river into two arms. The hill (450 metres wide and 700 metres length) has a beach, which makes it a delightful place for a picnic.

◆ **Kaeng Tana.** The whole Mun River becomes a large rapid after it has passed Don Tana and the two arms come together once more. There are many submerged caves populated by a great number of freshwater fish.



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

◆ **Huai Mak Swamp and Waterfall.** At Huai Mak village, where a large pond supplies water to a cascading stream.

◆ **Huai Kwang.** The waterfall is situated next to Khong Chiam district.



Khao Phra Wihan

National Park

Bordering Thailand and Cambodia, the park is quite rich in forests, wildlife, scenery and cultural attractions. As Thailand and Cambodia have agreed on tourism cooperation, Khao Phra Wihan National Park plays a significant role as a gateway to visit Prasat Khao Phra Wihan or Preah Vihear Temple, the cliff-top Khmer Ruins on Cambodian soil. Khao Phra Wihan National Park was established in 1998 and is the 83rd national park of Thailand. It covers a total area of 130 square kilometres in Ubon Ratchathani and Si Sa Ket provinces.

Geography

The park features plateaus and rolling hills with an elevation range between 200-500 metres from mean sea level. There are many rivers, among which are the Huai Bon and Huai Ta Maria.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forests, deciduous dipterocarp forests, and dry evergreen forests blanket most areas of the park. There are a large variety of plants such as *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Shorea obtusa*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* and *Xylia xylocarpa*.

Between the Thailand and Cambodia, wildlife migrates such as Wild Boar, Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Squirrels, Hawks, Doves and Drongos.

Attractions

◆ **Mo I Daeng Cliff.** Exactly on the Thai-Cambodia border, the cliff offers nice scenery of the Cambodian countryside and Prasat Khao Phra Wihan.

◆ **Don Tuan Khmer Ruins.** The cliff-top Khmer Ruins are located right on the Thailand-Cambodia border. This 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 the Mo I Daeng cliff. With interesting designs from another era, the sandstone stupas have a rectangular-base and round tops.

◆ **Low Relief.** The artistic relief of three gods in Khmer style is carved on Mo I Daeng Cliff.

◆ **Sa Trao Pool.** Skillfully built of sandstone in Khmer style, the pool has been renovated and now functional again to serve tourists.

◆ **Rock-Cutting Site.** The site once served as a rock-cutting place for the pool. Both finished and unfinished rocks remain here.

◆ **Ruesi Cave.** Situated west of Sa Trao and close to the Preah Vihear Khmer Ruins. The cave served as a monastery for monks for awhile.

◆ **Ta Thao Checkpoint.** The small channel on the Phanom Dongrak Range allows people to cross the border quite comfortably. However, tourists should be aware that the area remains dangerous because of land mines.

◆ **Phoi Checkpoint.** The channel in Ubon Ratchathani leads to the Cambodian border. The area has a pleasant waterfall with nice scenery making a good place to visit.



◆ **Khun Si Cave and Waterfall.** Situated west of Sa Trao, the large cave can accommodate quite a few people. It is believed to have been the accommodation of Khun Si, who supervised rock-cutting work to build Prasat Khao Phra Wihan.

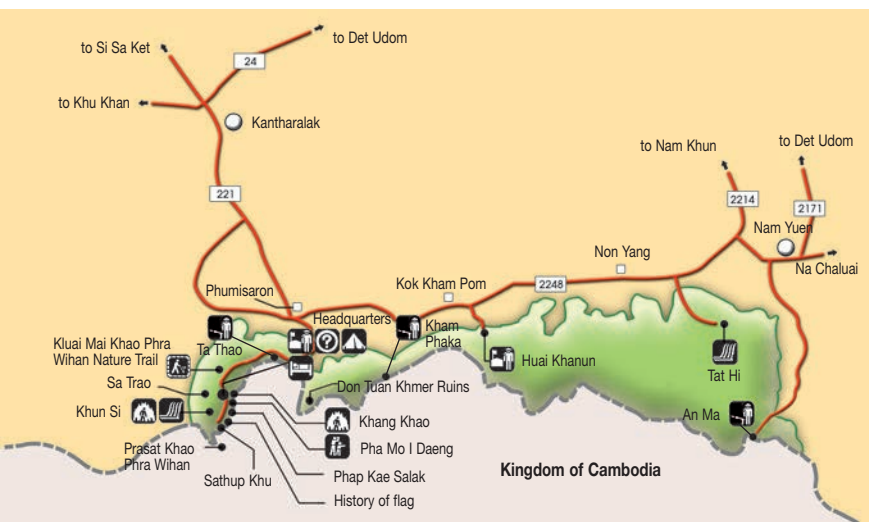
◆ **Huai Ta Waterfall.** The small waterfall is close to the road to Mo I Daeng. There is a nature trail where tourists can admire different types of birds, trees, herbs and orchids.

◆ **Satta Som Mountain.** The cliff next to the Thailand-Cambodia border is a very nice location for sunset views. Tourists can see the Mo I Daeng Cliff or Pha Mo I Daeng and the Preah Vihear Khmer Ruins from here.

◆ **Huai Khanun Dam.** Surrounded by greenery, this reservoir is a nice place to relax and camp.

◆ **Sai Yoi Waterfall.** The small waterfall is situated in Nam Yuen district.

◆ **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, motorists can take Highway 221 through Phayu, Si Rattana and Kantharalak districts. The route is a total of 87 kilometres distance.

Khao Yai National Park

Khao Yai National Park was established as the first national park of Thailand in 1962. The national park covers a total area of 2,165.55 square kilometres in the four provinces of Nakhon Nayok, Prachin Buri, Nakhon Ratchasima and Saraburi. Consisting of large forested areas, scenic beauty and biological diversity, Khao Yai National Park, together with other protected areas within the Dong Phrayayen mountain range, are listed as a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Khao Yai or “Big Mountain” is home to a great diversity of flora and fauna, as well as pure beautiful nature.



Geography

A rugged mountain range dominates most areas of the park. Khao Rom is the highest peak towering at 1,351 metres above mean sea level. The region is the source of five main rivers, the Prachin Buri, Nakhon Nayok, Lam Ta Khong, Lam Phra Phloeng and Muak Lek stream.

Climate

The weather is warm all year round with an average temperature of 23 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forest occupies the northern part of the park with elevations ranging between 200–600 metres. It is home to *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Anogeissus*

acuminata, *Vatica odorata*, *Shorea henryana*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *Pterocymbium tinctorium* and *Nephelium hypoleucum*.

Such rich wilderness is home to a large amount of wildlife such as Asian Elephant, Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Tiger, Guar, Southwest China Serow, Bears, Porcupines, Gibbons, Black Giant Squirrel, Small Indian Civet and Common Palm Civet.

There are over 200 bird species, including Great Hornbill, Wreathed Hornbill, Tickell's Brown Hornbill, Hill Myna, Blue Magpie, Scarlet Minivet, Blue Pitta, Green-eared Barbet, Bronzed Drongo, Siamese Fireback and Grey-capped Emerald Dove.

Attractions

A huge watershed forest originates over 30 beautiful waterfalls.

◆ **Nang Rong and Sarika Waterfalls.** These waterfalls are notable for its beautiful views and lush nature. Both are situated in Nakhon Nayok province.

◆ **Kong Kaeo Waterfall.** The small waterfall is quite beautiful during the rainy season. It is 100 metres only from the park headquarters and visitor center.

◆ **Pha Kluai Mai Waterfall.** This medium height waterfall can be accessed easily by car. About 7 kilometres from park headquarters. The *Renanthera coccinea*, a symbol of the waterfall, decorates the compound.

◆ **Heo Suwat Waterfall.** The distinct flow from the falls is symbolic of the park. The waterfall is 20 metres high. A large pool makes it a nice place to swim. The area can be accessed easily by car.

◆ **Heo Narok Waterfall** is the largest and highest waterfall in the national park and situated at the south end of the park. A flow falls deep into the valley below. There are three tiers, which combined reach 150 metres in height.





◆ **Nong Phak Chi Watch Tower.** The watch tower is located near Phak Chi Pond, next to vast grassland and salt lick. The entrance is at km. 35-36 of Thanarat Road. You can walk 1 kilometre from the main road to reach the tower.

◆ **Mo Singto Watch Tower.** Located by the Mo Singto Reservoir, grassland and salt lick, the watch makes a nice place to view wildlife. The tower is 500 metres away from the park headquarters.

◆ **View Point at km. 30.** On Thanarat Road, tourists can see the great forest of Khao Yai.

◆ **Khao Khieo or Pha Trom Chai.** One of the most beautiful view points in the northeast region.

◆ **View Point at km. 9.** Located on Thanarat Road, the viewpoint is the highest peak of Khao Khieo.

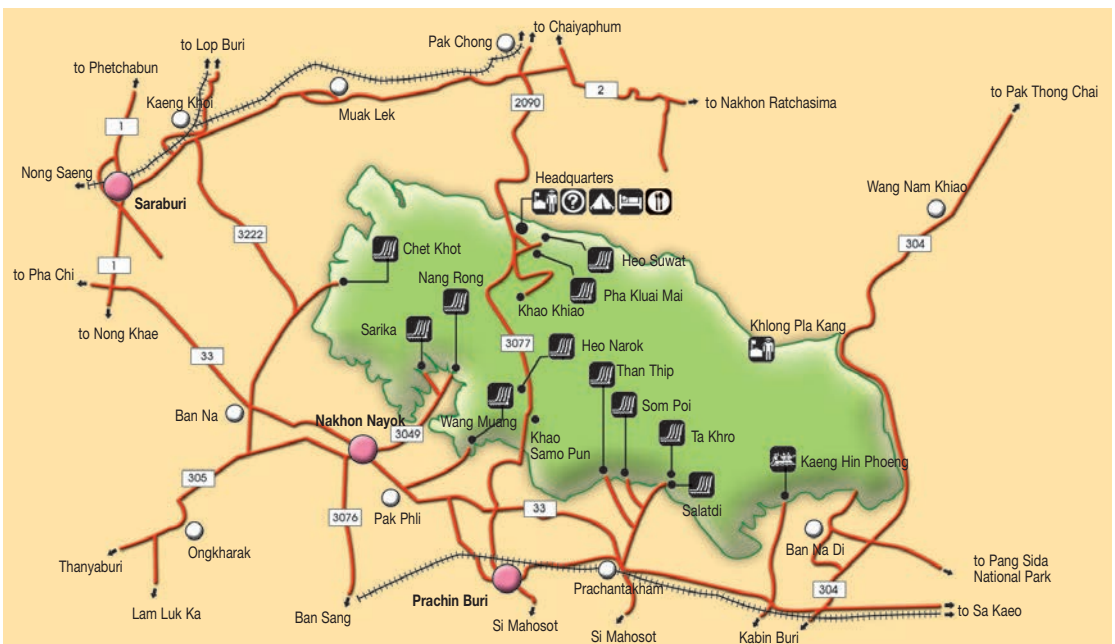
In addition, the national park has many attractions to explore for nature lovers. You can enjoy a night safari, trek along various nature trails and include birdwatching.



Getting There

■ Khao Yai National Park is a 3-hour drive from Bangkok. Motorists can head north via Phahonyothin Highway to Hin Kong, Saraburi. Then, turn right onto Highway 305 to Prachin Buri and then left to Khao Yai. The route is 190 kilometres distance.

Alternative route, you can take the Phahonyothin Highway to Rangsit, turn right onto Highway 305 to Nakhon Nayok. Drive to Highway 33 to the Noen Hom intersection, then turn left to Khao Yai. The route is total of 160 kilometres distance.



Na Yung-Nam Som National Park

After the forest officer had surveyed the forest area in Na Yung district, which is on the boundary of Phu Phan range, found it is specific outstanding on the mountain ridge of the area that is beautiful and the waterfall is much more beautiful, proper improvement to be a relaxing place.



Total area about 402.14 square kilometres in the three provinces of Loei, Nongkhai and Udonthani. Abundant forest condition and beautiful natural, it is 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 Celcius between March to May. Rainy season runs in June to October.

Flora and Fauna

Forest condition is deciduous 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 kilometres then turn left to Nam Som district, 12 kilometres before to Nam Som turn right to Na Yung district about 15 kilometres, then turn right at the signboard of Na Yung-Nam Som, 2 kilometres to headquarters.



Attractions

- ◆ **Namtok Yung Thong.** Very beautiful in rainy season, flow from height slope cliff about 25 metres.
- ◆ **Pha Daeng Viewpoint.** Follow the Namtok Yung Thong sand stone slope cliff nature trail can see large beautiful scenery down.
- ◆ **Namtok Yung Thong Nature Trail** is a walking trail for natural study within the national park.
- ◆ **Namtok Than Thip** is a waterfall in the boundary of Nongkhai province close the Mekong River.



Nam Phong National Park

Situated close to Ubolratana Dam, west of Khon Kaen, the national park covers an area of 197 square kilometres over the Khon Kaen and Chaiyaphum provinces. It was declared as Thailand's 100th national park in 2000.



Geography

Like most mountain ranges in the Northeast, Nam Phong National Park features an elevated sandstone range. The range lies in the north-south direction parallel with the reservoir of Ubolratana Dam. The Phu Phan Kham range occupies the north and Phu Meng range is to the south. There are steep slopes and cliffs toward the west and a plain at the mountain base in the east. Here, elevation is 600 metres above mean sea level.

Flora and Fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp forest blankets the majority of the park, leaving the rest to mixed deciduous forests and grassland. A dry evergreen forest occupies the middle area, supplying water to Ubolratana Dam. Plant types such as *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Iringia malayana*, *Parinari anamensis*, *Hopea ferrea* and *Cycas* sp.

The remote forests of Khao Meng range are a sanctuary for wildlife. There are small to medium animals such as Wild Boar, Northern Red Muntjac, Porcupines, Pangolins and Siamese Hare. There are a variety of birds such as White Wagtail, Grey Wagtail, Richard's Pipit, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Common Kingfisher and Munias.

Attractions

◆ **Ubolratana Reservoir.** Near park headquarters and the reservoir, there are many nice places to relax amidst the impressive scenery and easy lifestyles of

Getting There

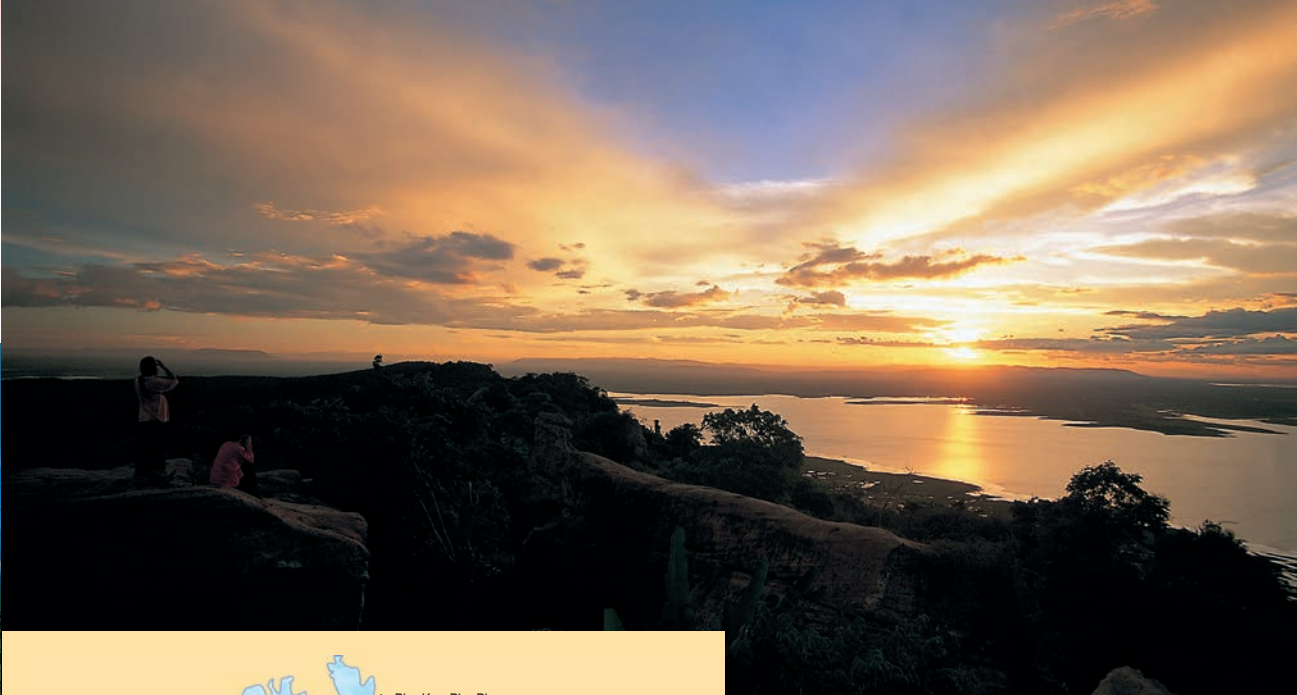
- From Khon Kaen, motorists can take Highway 12 towards Chum Phae district and turn right at Km. 30. Go another 19 kilometres to park entrance. The route is 49 kilometres distance. Alternatively, tourists can take Highway 2 from Khon Kaen and turn left to Ubolratana district. There, turn right onto Nong Saeng-Tha Ruea Road. Continue along the reservoir for 20 kilometres to the park. The route is 65 kilometres distance.

local fishermen. Equipped with the necessary facilities, this makes an idea area for camping and recreational activities.

◆ **Hin Chang Si Viewpoint.** The section of large rocks in the jungle is the best place to get spectacular views of the sunrise and sunsets. Asian elephant love to scratch their ribs against these rocks, leaving dry mud on the rock as evidence. The large rocks are close to a hilltop rock terrace with a skull-shaped rock as a landmark. From the terrace, tourists can enjoy a stunning view of Khon Kaen city, the reservoir of Ubolratana Dam, Phu Wiang and Phu Kao. Prehistorical paintings can be found nearby.

◆ **Phalan Chat.** The rock terrace is located a 30 minutes walk from Hin Chang Si and offers a nice view of the Nam Phong forest.

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



◆ **Pha Sawan.** The cliff-top rock terrace offers a very beautiful view. It is 3 kilometres north of Hin Chang Si. The trail is quite difficult and best for visitors to plan a stay overnight.

◆ **Phu Meng Summit.** Situated south of the park headquarters, lush deciduous dipterocarp forest and dry evergreen forest blanket most of the mountain range. There is abundance of wildlife and herbs. The mountain is also watershed by a stream coming from the Nam Phong forest. This is an ideal place for

those interested in studying nature and various kinds of herbs.

The park has many cliffs along the trail leading from Kham Phon through Phalan Chat to Hin Chang Si. Most cliffs allow tourists to enjoy views of the reservoir, forests, and mountain ranges. It takes 3-4 hours to access along the trails. In addition, tourists can enjoy exploring archeological sites in the park or cruising the reservoir.



Pa Hin Ngam National Park

*The watershed forest in Thep Sathit district of Chaiyaphum is well-noted for its dream-like flower field of Kra Chiao (*Curcuma* spp.). The forest fills up both the Chi and Pa Sak rivers. The area covers 99.9 square kilometres.*

Geography

The park features rugged mountains at an elevation between 200-800 metres above mean sea level.

Flora and Fauna

The forest of Pa Hin Ngam is largely comprised of deciduous dipterocarp forest. Its major plants include *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *S. roxburghii*, *Invingia malayana* and *Dillenia obovata*.

The national park is home to wildlife such as Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Siamese Hare, Sunda Pangolin, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Brown Shrike and White-rumped Shama.

Attractions

◆ The field of Kra Chiao or *Curcuma* spp. Seasonal flowers blanket the rocky plains of Lan Hin Ngam and stretch for 1 kilometre. The flowers cover the plains in shades of pink and purple from June to August each year.



◆ **Lan Hin Ngam.** The rocky plain is beautified with interesting rock formations, which experience seasons of long erosion. Is accessible by car.

◆ **Sut Phaendin Viewpoint.** The peak of Khao Phang Hoei mountain range towers at 846 metres above mean sea level. This area was created by a continental drift phenomenon that lifted the whole northeastern plateau. The highest peak stands exactly at the edge of the central and northeast regions and is called “Sut Phaendin”.

Getting There

■ From Bangkok, motorists can head north via Highway 1. Turn right at Phu Khae Intersection to Highway 21. Turn right at Lam Narai village to Highway 205 and connect with Highway 2354. Continue for 15 kilometres and turn left toward Rai village. From there, go 14 kilometres to reach the national park.

Pha Taem National Park

Prehistorical paintings on the long cliff, which date back some 4,000 years, make the park's main point of interest. Furthermore, its stunning nature such as waterfalls, rock formations, caves and picturesque views of the Mekong River that borders Thailand and Laos add charm to this national park. Pha Taem is Thailand's 74th national park in 1991 and acquires a total area of 340 square kilometres in Khong Chiam, Si Mueang Mai and Pho Sai districts of Ubon Ratchathani province.

Geography

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

Climate

Each season is very different from the next. The park has a very wet rainy season from June to September. Cold and dry winter months from October to February, and a hot summer from March to May.

Flora and Fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp forests blanket most the national park. Thus dwarf trees in strange shapes can easily be found. There are many types of plants such as *Shorea siamensis* and *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*. The forest is carpeted with color from fields of wildflowers such as *Drosera indica*, *Phalaenopsis pucherrima* and *Eriocaulon henryanum*.

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

The forests of the park are home to small animals like Common Palm Civet, Siamese Hare, Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar and Black Giant Squirrel.

A variety of birds include Hill Myna, Green Peafowl, Hawks, Green-billed Malkoha, Blue Magpie, Rufescent Prinia, Indian Roller, Olive-backed Sunbird, White Wagtail and Common Kingfisher.





During dry season when water in the Mekong River descends, there are some Wild Boar and Southwest China Serow that cross the river into the park.

Attractions

◆ **Pha Taem.** The cliff lining the Mekong River, houses prehistorical paintings, over 300 paintings on 180 metres length. This is probably the largest group of prehistorical paintings found in the world.

◆ **Pha Chek-Pha Moei.** Like Pha Taem, the cliff houses prehistorical paintings but in a lesser number and different way of painting.

◆ **Phu Pha Kham and Sandstone Mountain.** The flat-top mountain has prehistorical paintings.

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

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

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

◆ **Dong Natham.** The pine forest occupies the cliff, with the backdrop of mountain range of Laos.

◆ **Soi Sawan Waterfall.** 2 streams fall and join to each other in the valley, making it a picturesque place to relax.

◆ **Saeng Chan Waterfall or Lot Ru Waterfall.**

You can enjoy many other waterfalls, cruising and landscape.



Getting There

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



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 and Huai Luang.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

Montane rain forest, dry evergreen forest, mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp forest occupy around 75% of the park's area. Its significant 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, Streak-eared Bulbul, Grey Wagtail, Scaly-breasted Munia, Oriental Magpie-robin, Asian Green 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. A 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.** The viewpoint is southwest of Phalan Yao Rock Terrace. You can enjoy scenery of both Kingdom of Cambodia and Lao People's Republic Democratic. There is a small cave with very beautiful rock formations nearby.

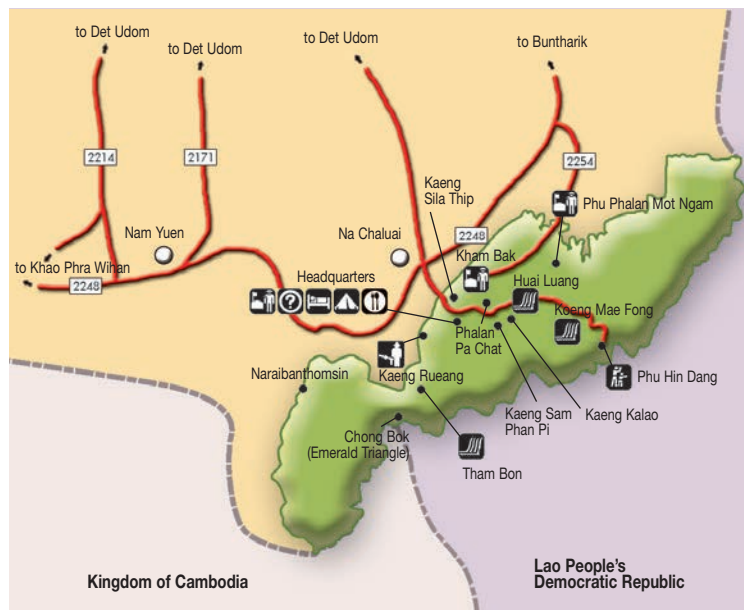


◆ **Pha Ta Luem.** The cliff is situated on Phu Wang Yao Mountain. There is well of capillary water nearby.

◆ **Phalan Yao Rock Garden.** The 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 this provincial town, take the bus to Na Chaluai district for another 100 kilometres. Motorists can use the 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 forests within its 318.3568 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 Range consists of 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 has some plains.

Phu Phan Kham is part of Phu Phan Range. The range stretches from northeast to southwest. In the southwest the vast plain of Lam Nam Phong is situated in a huge valley, which is now a reservoir, formed by the 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 arborea*, *Cycas* sp., *Vietnamosasa pusilla* 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 calyculata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Azalia 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.

Getting There

- From Udon Thani, motorists can head for Non Sang on Udon Thani-Non Sang Road for 86 kilometres, turn left at Kutku village. The park is 17 kilometres away.
- From Khon Kaen, motorists can use Khon Kaen-Ubolratana Road to Ubolratana Dam which is 50 kilometres away. From the dam, the park is another 6 kilometres.

Attractions

- ◆ **Scenery of reservoir over Ubolratana Dam.** The reservoir is suited for cruising and camping. You can visit fishery village and enjoy buying fresh fish.
- ◆ **Archeological Site.** Artifacts of ancient hunting communities are found in Ban Chiang Era. There are paintings and carving in the many caves including Suea Tok, Phalan Hai and Chek.
- ◆ **Ham Tang.** The mushroom rocks are amazingly created by erosion of wind, water and sunlight.



- ◆ **Tat Fa Waterfall and Tat Hin Taek Waterfall.** Both waterfalls, is situated on Phu Kao Mountain are quite beautiful during the rainy season.





Phu Kradueng National Park

The picturesque national park is a favorite among naturalists and teenagers who search for romantic scenery among beautiful nature. The forests in temperate climate such as pine forest, maple and colourful blossom have long maintained this splendor. The park in Phu Kradueng district, Loei province acquires a total area of 348.122 square kilometres. The national park was established in 1962 as Thailand's second national park.

Geography

The national park is actually a leveled sandstone mountain interrupted by small rolling hills. The highest peak is Phu Kum Khao at 1,350 metres above mean sea level. It comprises of Lower montane coniferous

forest of Lower montane scrub and grassland. There are waterfalls, crystal clear streams and rock terraces. The watershed forest originates from the Nam Phong stream, which flows to the Ubolratana Dam and Nong Wai Dam in Khon Kaen.

Flora and Fauna

Phu Kradueng comprises of many forest types namely deciduous dipterocarp forest, mixed deciduous forest, montane rain forest, Lower montane coniferous forest and lower montane scrub. Also, a variety of plants within the forests are *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Toona ciliata*, *Diospyros mollis*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Terminalia alata*, *Magnolia baillonii*, *Schima wallichii*, *Acer calcaratum*, *Pinus merkusii* and *P. kesiya*.

Season months of November to December brings beautiful flowers such as *Rhododendron ciliicalyx* subsp. *lyi*, *Curcuma aeruginosa*, *Nepanthes smilesii*, *Drosera burmannii*, *D. indica*, *D. peltata*, *Eriocaulon henryanum*, *Caulokaempferia thailandica*, *Phalaenopsis pulcherima*, *Eria lasiopetala* and Sphagnum moss.



The national park is also home to wildlife and bird species such as Asian Elephant, Tiger, Asiatic Black Bear, Southwest China Serow, Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Wild Boar, Black Giant Squirrel, Dhole, White-rumped Shama, Siamese Fireback, Common Iora, Chinese Francolin, Red Junglefowl, and a rare freshwater turtle as Big-headed Turtle.

Attractions

◆ **Nok Aen Cliff.** 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's viewpoint offers great views of the sunrise and vast fields along the mountain range.

◆ **Lom Sak Cliff.** The cliff has a section of rock that juts out, making it a special viewpoint to lookout at the rugged mountain range in Phetchabun. This is one of the best places to view the sunset in Phu Kradueng National Park. The cliff is a 9-kilometre walk from the park's headquarters.

◆ **Anodat Pool.** The large pool is lined with dense pine trees and a rock terrace on its bank. Enjoyable for swimming.

◆ **Sa Kao.** The large natural pool offers impressive crystal clear water. Nearby, a rock terrace leads to scenic floral fields that stretch to Pha Na Noi.

◆ **Phen Phop Mai Waterfall.** There are many scenic views from Phen Phop Mai. The waterfall flows through a crescent-shaped cliff. During winter season, the red leaves of maple trees blanket lush green of moss of this region.

◆ **Tat Hong Waterfall.** The waterfall stream, Phong flows into a deep cliff and fills the whole valley with echo. The waterfall is 20 kilometres from the park's headquarters.

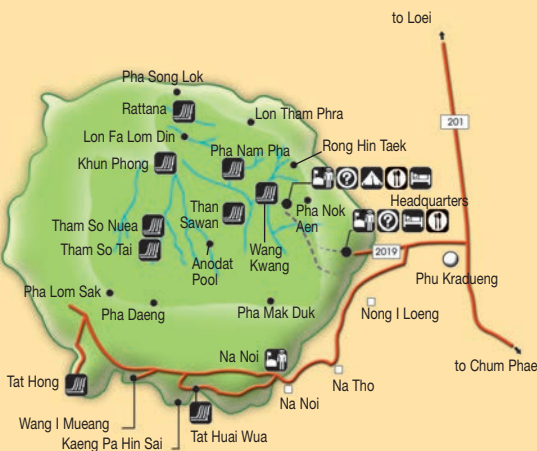
◆ **Wang Kwang Waterfall.** Situated only 750 metres from tourist accommodations. The falls cascade into a pool where a herd of deer can be seen. There are many places along the waterfall to relax.

◆ **Tham Yai Waterfall.** Early January brings beautiful color to the waterfall. Lush scenery of the red leaves from maple trees among the green jungle offers stunning views of nature. It is 1 kilometre from Phen Phop Mai Waterfall.

The national park has many waterfalls, including Than Sawan Waterfall, Phon Phop Waterfall, Phra Ong Waterfall as well as numerous attractions. To see them all, visitors should allow at least 3 days in the national park.

Getting There

- You can catch the train to Khon Kaen, then take the bus to Phu Kradueng district. There, take local bus another 5 kilometres to the park's headquarters. The accommodation is 5 kilometres uphill and 4 kilometres through grassland. Porter service is available and a fee will be charged by kilogram.



Phu Laenkha National Park

The forest areas of Phu Laenkha National Park are home to many amazing natural attractions. The park covers an area of 200.50 square kilometres in Ban Khwao, Nong Bua Daeng and Kaset Sombun districts of Chaiyaphum. Established in 2007, it is the country's 108th national park.

Geography

The park features rugged mountain range and a plateau at an elevation between 200-725 metres from mean sea level. The highest peak is at 669 metres and stands in the northwest. The Phu Laenkha mountain lies in the northeast. Its highest peak is 725 metres.

Climate

Summer months are February to May. The rainy season is March to September and winter from October to January.



Flora and Fauna

The national park is comprised mainly of deciduous dipterocarp forest, dry evergreen forest and mixed deciduous forest. A variety of plants within include *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis* and *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*.

Among the wildlife that exists in the area include Siamese Hare, Wild Boar, Large Brown Flying Squirrel and Common Palm Civet.

The park is also home to many species of birds such as Black-crested Bulbul, Plain Prinia, Paddyfield Pipit, Barn Swallow, Brown Shrike, Ashy Woodswallow, Greater Coucal and Cisticolas.

Attractions

◆ **Hin Ngam Chan Daeng Forest**, Hin Rong Kla Viewpoint, Pa Hin Prasart Viewpoint, Orchid Cliff, *Curcuma* spp. in Hin Ngam Thung Khlong Chang Forest, and Sa Kaeo pand are among the highlights of the beautiful picturesque scenery.

◆ **Mo Hin Khao**. 3 groups of sand stone rock, one of them is large size with white colour. It is a very nice place and specific mountain of Chaiyaphum.

◆ **Thep Bucha Viewpoint**. Situated nearby the Thep Bucha Monk Sanctuary and 700-800 metres high with the spectacular views.

◆ **Phu Khi**. The highest peak of Phu Laenkha National Park at 1,038 metres above mean sea level. The view point offers spectacular views of the natural landscape.



Getting There

■ Chaiyaphum is about 312 kilometres from Bangkok. Motorists can head North on Highway 1 through Pathum Thani, Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya and Saraburi. Then, take Highway 2 to Sikhio district. There, take Highway 201 to Chaiyaphum. Take Highway no. 2159 for 33 kilometres, turn left to the park headquarters.

Phu Langka National Park

The reserved forest of Phu Langka comprises of several forest types and natural attractions such as cliff, caves, and waterfalls. The park covers 50 square kilometres area in Bueng Khong Long district of Bueng Kan province and Ban Phaeng and Na Thom districts of Nakhon Phanom province. Phu Langka was established as Thailand's 117th national park on December 23, 2009.



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.

Geography

There are many small rugged mountains lines the Mekong River. The highest peak is at 563 metres above mean sea level. The forest blanketing these mountain ranges feed many streams that are lifeline to nourish agricultural communities before flowing into the 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.

Flora and Fauna

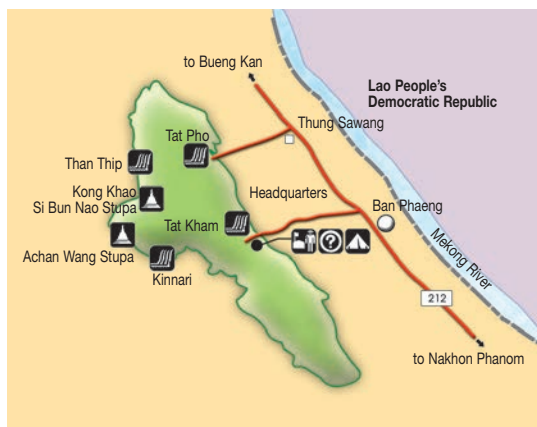
The national park is rich in flower, particularly *Paphiopedilum* spp. which was brought for export until it is almost extinct. Moreover, *Musa acuminata*, *Calamus* sp. and *Phalaenopsis pucherrima* can be found. The park is a significant source of herbs. According to local people, there are great deals of mammals.

Attractions

◆ **Tat Kham Waterfall.** The small waterfall is situated among nice setting, with comfortable rock

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 and Ban Phaeng.



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.

Phu Pha Lek National Park

As the only watershed forest in the upper Northeast region, the park whose boundary covers parts of three provinces: Song Dao, Waritchaphum, Nikhom Nam Un and Kut Bak districts of Sakon Nakhon province; Wang Sam Mo district of Udon Thani province; and Somdet and Kham Muang districts of Kalasin province. The national park was established as the country's 118th national park on December 23, 2009. Its forest, which acquires total 404.3792 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 mean sea level.

Climate

It is quite hot during summer. Winter, the temperature will be 15-20 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp, mixed deciduous and dry evergreen forests occupy around the mountain's foot and ridge. Its major plants include *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis* and *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*.

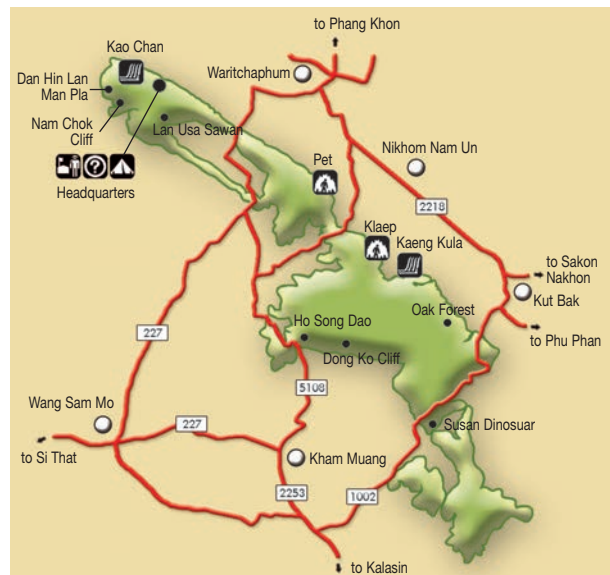
The wildlife found in the park include mammals and different birds such as Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Wild Boar, Lineated Barbet, Scaly-breasted Munia, Barn Swallow, Red Junglefowl, Common Barn-owl, Greater Coucal, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Plain Prinia and Indian Roller.

Attractions

◆ Suriyan Cliff, Lon Ko Cliff, Nam Chok Cliff, Ho Song Dao, Kao Chan Waterfall, Di Mi Waterfall, Kaeng Kula Waterfall, Hin Dan Man Pla Forest, Lan Usa Sawan, Dinosaurs Grave and Pha Phak Waen Prehistoric Wall Painting.

Getting There

■ Phu Pha Lek National Park's Headquarters 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 - Sakhon 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 kilometres. It is approximately 82 kilometres from Udon Thani.



Phu Pha Man National Park

Phu Pha Man is named after a landmark mountain range, which towers majestically with its large rock covering. Once rich in flora and fauna, the national park's wildlife and forests have shrunk due to the increasing logging activity. Still to be appreciated are beautiful caves, waterfalls, and the watershed forest. The government has been urged to place the park under high conservation. It was established in 1991 as Thailand's 72nd national park. It acquires a total area of 350 square kilometres in Chum Phae district, Khon Kaen and Phu Kradueng district of Loei province.



Geography

The rugged mountain of limestone dominates the park. Elevations range from 200 to 800 metres above mean sea level. The watershed forest fills up many streams that are tributaries of the Nam Phong River, Huai Phuhi, Huai Chomphu, Huai Chok and Huai Khahao.

Climate

The national park can get hot with temperatures at 39 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

The park is largely made up of montane rain forest, dry evergreen forest, mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp forest. A variety of plants include *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S.*

siamensis, *Alpinia malaccensis*, *Vietnamosasa pusilla*, *Calamus* spp. and *Musa acuminata*.

Among the wildlife that exists in the area are Southwest China Serow, Wild Boar, Northern Red Muntjac, Siamese Hare, Malayan Porcupine and Common Indian Monitor. There are over 200 species of birds such as Lineated Barbet, Black-crested Bulbul, Tailorbirds, Coucals and Malkohas.

Attractions

◆ **Pha Phuang Cave.** Formations of stalagmite and stalactite beautify the cave. A chimney leads to the mountain summit where trekkers can witness the stunning view.

◆ **Phaya Nakkharat Cave.** The most beautiful cave in the national park. Inside the chambers, one can view glittering stalagmites and stalactites.

◆ **Lai Thaeng Cave.** Within the cave, an ancient painting can be seen. The size of the art is 2 metres

Getting There

- Buses leave the Northeastern Bus Terminal in Bangkok for Loei and Chiang Khan every day. Exit at km. 112-113 off Highway 201. The park is 5 kilometres off the main road. A bus from Khon Kaen is also available.



by 2 metres and assumed to be a treasure map of the past. The painting comprises of 70 pictures of men and animals in red color. Its age is being estimated.

◆ **Phu Ta Lo Cave.** The large cave has flat floors and can accommodate up to 1,000 people. It is very high ceilings are beautified by natural rock formations. The entrance and facilities development is in process.

◆ **Tat Hong Waterfall.** The stream originated from Phu Kradueng and flows in the deep valley below some 70 metres before reaching a section of rock; then, filling up the forests with echo. While the forests

are in good condition, the trail leading to the waterfall is difficult to task.

◆ **Tat Fa Waterfall.** The waterfall is 30 metres high and most vibrant during the rainy season. About 8 kilometres from the waterfall is Huai Mo Taek and Huai Hin Lat waterfalls.

◆ **Phalan Thong Waterfall.** The small waterfall is 10 metres high and situated 1 kilometre from the park's headquarters.

◆ **Tat Yai Waterfall.** The big waterfall cascades through many tiers, up to 80 metres high, into Nam Choen stream. The waterfall is very beautiful to view, in particular, during the rainy season. It is accessible by car.



Getting There

■ The park is located near Phu Pha Thoep, 17 kilometres from Mukdahan. You can use Mukdahan-Don Tan road and turn left onto lateristic road.

◆ **Fa Mue Daeng Cave.** The small rock shelter is about 3 metres by 60 metres and is beautified by several prehistoric cave paintings of hands. The paintings can be dated back to 3,000 years.

◆ **Wang Duan Ha.** Situated close to the Phu Pha Thoep National Park, the natural reservoir offers visitors a place to enjoy and relax.

◆ **Tham Lot.** The boulder is on the way to Phu Lak Se and Phu Nang Hong. Ancient artifact items were found here.

◆ **Phu Mano.** The mountain, south of Mukdahan, offers very nice views of the town, the Mekong River, and Savannakhet of Laos.

◆ **Streams and Capillary Water Sources.** The national park fills up many streams such as the Huai Ta Lueak, Huai Sing, Huai Saphai and Huai Ruea.





Phu Pha Yon National Park

Phu Pha Yon National Park features plateau and sandstone mountain range covering 828.56 square kilometres. Encompasses parts of Phu Phan, Khok Si Suphan, Tao Ngoi districts of Sakon Nakhon Province; and also Na Kae district of Nakhon Phanom; and Dong Luang and Khamcha-i districts of Mukdahan. Nature is abundant and amazes with the waterfalls, caves, scenic cliffs, rolling hills, reservoir and diversity of wildlife. Phu Pha Yon National Park was established in 1988 as Thailand's 57th national park. It is one of five national parks established to celebrate the 60th anniversary of His Majesty the King in the year 1987.

Geography

Most areas are plateau and sandstone range with elevations between 300 to 600 metres above mean sea level. The mountain range embraces a 10-kilometre long plateau. The forest is watershed and fills the stretch of streams, rivers and 19 reservoirs, including Huai Huat and Tao Ngoi reservoirs.

Climate

Rainy season is from May to October, with August as the wettest month. Winter is from November to January. December can be chilly when temperatures

can drop to 16 degree Celsius. Summer is February to April with average temperature 32 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

From 400 meters above mean sea level, the vegetation ecosystems of the Park include mixed deciduous forest, dry dipterocarp forest, and dry evergreen forest. Mixed deciduous forest occupies riparian areas and gentle slopes above 400 m MSL. (metres above mean sea level). Tree species commonly found *Hopea ferrea* and *Azelia xylocarpa*. The middle layer is dominated by bamboos. Dry dipterocarp forest occupies foothill and

hillside with sandy and lateritic soil containing low nutrient. Tree species commonly found in this forest type are *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus* and *Schleichera oleosa*. Ground cover are usually grasses. Dry evergreen forest can also be seen in valley and riparian areas above 400 m MSL. Vegetations consist of *Hopea* sp., *Dipterocarpus* spp., *Lagerstroemia* sp., *Irvingia malayana*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus* and *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*. Bamboo and rattan exhibit ground cover.

Phu Pha Yon is home to varieties of middle include Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Siamese Hare, Kloss's Mole, Sunda Flying Lemur, Northern Treeshrew, Squirrel, Parakeet, Hill Myna, Hawk, Swallow, Drongo, Kingfisher, Dove, King Cobra, Reticulated Python, Monocled Cobra, Reeves' Butterfly Lizard and Bengal Monitor Lizard. Fish found in the park include Scissortail Rasbora, Siamese Mud Carp, Barb and Walking Catfish can be found in water area.

Attractions

◆ **Huai Huat Reservoir.** The reservoir has many interesting rock formations. Located in Tao Ngoi district of Sakon Nakhon, it is a nice place to picnic and enjoy.

◆ **Dong Noi Reservoir and Phra Wet Cave** are located in Na Kae district of Nakhon Phanom.

◆ **Hip Phu Pha Nang Cave and Saowapha Cave.** These caves are situated in Tao Ngoi district of Sakon Nakhon.

◆ **Pha Noen Hin.** The cliff and rock terrace are covered with many flowers.



◆ **Kham Nam Sang Waterfall.** The waterfall is Phu Pha Yon's highest waterfall at 20 metres high. It is located 1,800 metres from park headquarters.

◆ **Phu Pha Yon.** The mountain offers picturesque scenery and a cliff carving dating back 3,000 years. This acclaimed artifact is the richest among seven sites in the Northeast region. Phu Pha Yon can be accessed by taking Tao Ngoi-Siwicha Road.

◆ **Phaya Tao Ngoi Cliff.** The cliff is origin to a tortoise-shaped rock. The rock is 5 metres in length and can be seen as you head to the Nam Phung River. Locals believe the tortoise means "prosperity".

◆ **Kaeng Pho Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall is 14 metres wide and 10 metres high. There are many camping sites, which can accommodate 1,000 tourists. It is situated 32 kilometres from the park headquarters.



Getting There

- From Sakon Nakhon, motorist can head east on the Highway 223 and then turn right, via to Tao Ngoi district to the Phu Pha Yon National Park. A total 35-kilometre distance.

Phu Phan National Park

The national park acquires a total area of 664.7024 square kilometres in Phanna Nikhom, Mueang, Kut Bak and Phu Phan districts of Sakon Nakhon, Somdet and Huai Phueng districts of Kalasin. It was established in 1972 as Thailand's 7th national park.

Geography

Most of the region is limestone mountain range. Many streams such as Huai Lao, Huai I Khok, Huai Khae, Huai Saen Kong, Huai Phrik and Huai Sai originated here. The streams are tributaries of the Un, Phung, Lam Pao and Yang rivers.

Climate

Summer months are March to May. The rainy season is from June to October. Most comfortable is winter season, November to February.

Flora and Fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp forest exists among varieties of plant types as *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Terminalia alata*, *Dillenia obovata*, *Irvingia malayana*, *Shorea obtusa* and *S. siamensis*. There is dry evergreen forest, which densely occupies the banks of the river, along with variety of plants such as *Hopea odorata*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *Xylia xylocarpa* and *Peltophorum dasyrrhachis*.





There is numerous wildlife such as Phayre's Leaf-monkey, Sunda Flying Lemur, Malayan Porcupine, Fishing Cat, Common Palm Civet, Sambar, Tiger, Northern Red Muntjac and Wild Boar.

Various species of birds are the Hill Myna, Black Drongo, White-rumped Shama and Richard's Pipit.

Attractions

◆ **Kham Hom Waterfall.** The distinct waterfall is well known to Sakhon Nakhon and its nearby province.

◆ **Phrathat Phu Phek.** The Khmer-era pagoda is located on Phu Phan Mountain Range and 544 metres above mean sea level. A Buddha image can be seen in the pagoda.

◆ **Pricha Suksan Waterfall.** The flow slopes over a 15-metre wide rock terrace that rotates 40 degrees. The amazing flat rock makes it a natural slider.

◆ **Thang Phi Phan.** The stone arch also known as the Nature Bridge is 1.5 metres wide and 8 metres long.

◆ **Serithai Cave.** The cave once served as armour storage of the Serithai when fighting against the Royal Japanese Army during World War II.

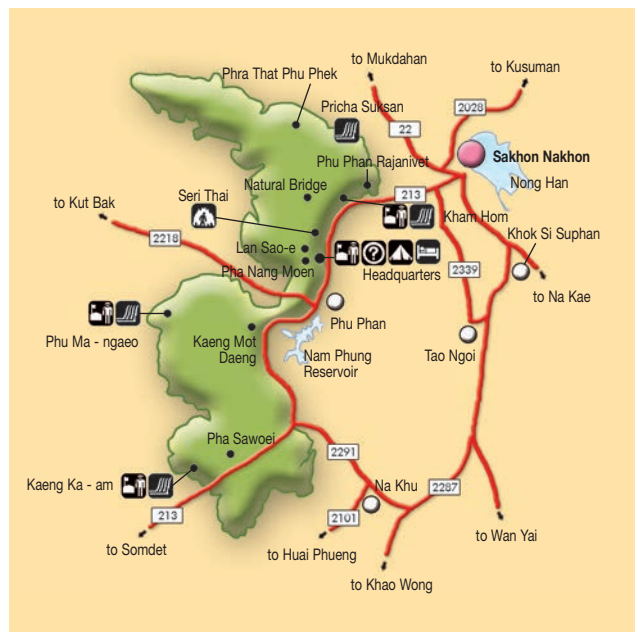
◆ **Pha Nang Moen.** Facing west, the cliff is a distinct viewpoint for sunsets.

◆ **Pha Sawoei.** Facing the south, the cliff was once a lunch venue for His Majesty the King.

◆ **Phu Phan Mountain.** The mountain range borders Sakhon Nakhon and Kalasin. This scenic

Getting There

- From Mueang district, take Highway 213 and pass the Phu Phan Rajanivet Palace. The park headquarters is located on the Highway.



area is rich with tropical forests, mountains and a beautiful waterfall.

Phu Ruea National Park

The boat-shaped rock on the Phu Ruea Mountain most appears in the mist year-round. It was established in 1979 as the 16th national park of Thailand. The park is a total of 120.84 square kilometres within Phu Ruea and Tha Li districts, Loei province.

Geography

The park features rugged sandstone mountain range, interrupted with granite, making the plateau a mixed texture. Phu Ruea is the highest peak with an elevation of 1,365 metres above mean sea level. Phu Son is the second highest peak at 1,035 metres above mean sea level. Many streams originate from this region such as Huai Nam Dan, Huai Bong, Huai Thiang Na, Huai Sai Khao, Huai Tio and Huai Phai, which run through a beautiful waterfall.



Climate

Loei is the coolest province in Thailand. The Phu Ruea mountain area is cold year round. In winter, temperatures go below zero and freeze the dew sometime.

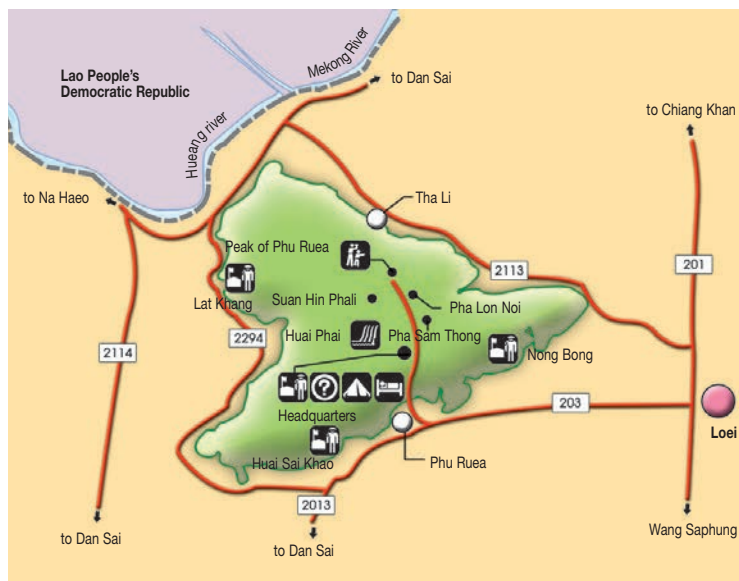
Flora and Fauna

The park comprises of various forest types, including mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest, dry evergreen forest and lower montane coniferous forest. The lower montane coniferous forest along the summit is broken up by rocks, bushes and grassland. Plants include *Phalaenopsis pulcherrima*, *Vanda* sp., *Rhynchostylis retusa*, *Dendrobium chrysotoxum*, *D. lindleyi* and *D. draconis*, which beautify the forest year-round.



Getting There

Loei is 558 kilometres from Bangkok. From Loei, tourists can reach Phu Ruea via Highway 203, which is 48 kilometres distance. From Phu Ruea district, the park is 4 kilometres.



The park has a great deal of wildlife such as Sun Bear, Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Wild Boar, Dhole, Black Giant Squirrel, Siamese Hare, Red Junglefowl, Siamese Fireback, Yellow-vented Bulbul, Greater Coucal, Plain Prinia, Coppersmith Barbet, Asian Barred Owlet and Big-headed Turtle. In winter, there are always birds migrating from China.

Attractions

◆ **Pha Loan Noi.** The mountain is a very nice scenic point for sunrises where you can see three mountains, namely Phu Luang, Phu Pha Sat and Phu

Khrang. This is very beautiful. The viewpoint is 3 kilometres from the park headquarters.

◆ **Pha Sam Thong.** The towering cliff is blanketed by golden colour lichen. It is 2.5 kilometres from park headquarters.

◆ **Huai Phai Waterfall.** The waterfall is 30 metres high and situated 2 kilometres from park headquarters.

◆ **Phu Ruea Summit.** The summit's cliff is 1,365 metres above mean sea level. From there, tourists can witness panoramic views of the Hueang and Mekong rivers that border Thailand and Laos.

Phu Sa Dok Bua

National Park

The park area covers Nikhom Kham Soi and Don Tan districts of Mukdahan and Loeng Nok Tha district of Yasothon, and includes Chanuman and Senangkhanikhom districts, Amnat Charoen province. The total area is 231 square kilometres. Phu Sa Dok Bua National Park was established in 1992 as the country's 75th national park.

Among the forests, wildlife home to the park are Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Common Palm Civet and Sunda Flying Lemur.

Many species of birds seen include Siamese Fireback, Silver Pheasant, Red Junglefowl and Sooty-headed Bulbul.

Attractions

◆ **Phu Pha Taem.** The 60-metre long cave in the mountain is origin to prehistorical paintings of the same era to those in Phu Pha Thoep, Pha Taem and Phu Sa Dok Bua National Parks.

Geography

Rugged mountain range lies northwest to southeast direction. A large rock terrace surrounds the area. Phu Krasa is the highest peak at 481 metres above mean sea level. Other peaks reach 350 to 450 metres high. Lush forests blanket the park along with many streams originating from the area such as Huai Thom, Huai Kabok, Huai Kan and Lueang. These streams aid agricultural communities surrounding the park.

Flora and Fauna

Mix deciduous forest and dry evergreen forest blanket the range with many plant species such as *Azolla xylocarpa*, *Sindora siamensis*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *D. cochinchinensis*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Hopea odorata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus* and *Anisoptera costata*.





◆ **Pha Maklua.** The shady rock terrace by the cliff, close to Phu Pha Taem, is a nice place to relax and enjoy. It is reserved as a venue for religious rites for the local.

◆ **Phu Pha Hom.** Situated 386 metres above mean sea level, the viewpoint on Phu Pha Taem offers panoramic views of the mountains of Phu Mu, Phu Phaeng Ma, Phu Mai Sang, Phu Khong and Phu Akkara Chat.

◆ **Phu Sa Dok Bua.** The mountain is 423 metres high and situated along the border of three provinces, namely Mukdahan, Yasothon and Amnat Charoen. On its summit, there are six rock ponds, each of which is a few metres wide. These rocky ponds are packed with water lilies and have abundant water all year-round. Nearby is a cave that once served as accommodation for communists. The cave can hold up to 100 people.

◆ **Phu Pha Tak.** The viewpoint offers picturesque scenery of Phu Pha Thoe National Park.

◆ **Rock Terrace.** There are many large rock terraces surrounded by beautiful dwarf-size deciduous dipterocarp forests. Such areas can be found at Phu Wat, Phu Pha Hom, Phu Kabok and Phu Hua Nak.



Getting There

- From Mukdahan, take Highway 2034 to Don Tan Junction, turn right to Highway 2277 and continue for 26 kilometres. The park entrance is located on the right of the highway, about 1- kilometre distance.

Phu Suan Sai National Park



Acquiring a total area of 117.16 square kilometres, the reserved forests in Na Haeo district, Loei province was benefited in 1994 as Thailand's 79th national park.

Geography

The park features rugged mountain and a plateau sloping from 2 to 50 degrees at elevations between 600 and 1,408 metres above mean sea level. The steep area to the west is blanketed with large forests. The slope area to the east comprises of plains at the mountain's base.

Climate

From the lush forests, the park has comfortable weather all year round.

Flora and Fauna

The park is covered by dense tropical rainforests, which is habitat to the wildlife such as Southwest

Getting There

- From Loei, take Highways 203, 2031 and 2113 to Na Haeo district. Continue 4 kilometres to Mueang Phrae village. Turn left to Highway 1268 and turn right at km. 0 post. From there, the park is 3-kilometre distance.
- From Lomsak of Phetchabun, motorists can take Highways 203, 2014 and 2113 for 32 kilometres to Na Haeo district.
- From Phisanulok, take Highway 1237 and turn right at km. 50 to Highway 1268.



China Serow, Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Wild Boar, Bears, Tiger, Dhole, Common Palm Civet, Sunda Flying Lemur and Variable Squirrel.

Bird species found include Hawks, Common Tailorbird, Barbets, Western Koel, Red Junglefowl, Silver Pheasant, Great Hornbill, Ashy Drongo, Streak-eared Bulbul and Sooty-headed Bulbul.

Moreover, you can spot the Tao Pulu or Big-headed Turtle, types of lizards, Salamanders, Skinks, Common Indian Monitor and Snakes.

Attractions

◆ **Khing Waterfall.** Phrae stream cascades through 5 level tiers. Nearby is a royal pavilion built to welcome the 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 tier 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 waterfall is situated close to Saeng Pha village.

◆ **Hin Si Thit or Four direction stones.** The four sacred stones south of the foothills of Suan Sai are worshipped as gateway to the mountain. These sacred stones are worshipped every three years.

◆ **Hin Kuai Lo.** The amazing isolated sandstone in Phu Suan Sai resembles a large mushroom. It is 19 metres in circumference and 4 metres high. The rocks form gullies around the amazing sandstone.

◆ **Hill 1408 Viewpoint.** Located at the heart of the park, the area makes a nice location for sunrises.

◆ **Hill 1255 Viewpoint.** The scenic lookout offers panoramic views of Huai Nam Phak village, Phu Soi Dao and Phu Wiang mountains to the north of Laos.



Phu Wiang

National Park

Artifacts, namely a skeleton of an ancient man, together with various tools in bronze, and a reclining Buddha image from Dhavaravadhi. In cave are pre-historical paintings. The forest of Phu Wiang once was the location of ancient settlement thousands of years ago. Dinosaur fossils and footprints, which date back almost 200 million years add to the significance of this park. It is Thailand's 71st national park and acquires total area of 325 square kilometres. It was declared as a national park in 1991.



Geography

Phu Wiang region is distinguished by volcanic shapes encircling the mountain range. There are plains scattered at the mountain base.

Climate

The park has a monsoon climate. Summer is March to July. Rainy season is August to November and winter from December to February.

Flora and Fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp, mixed deciduous and dry evergreen forests dominate the park. The vegetation of the forests consists of several types such as *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Chukrasia tabularis*, *Nephelium hypoleucum*, *Cycas* sp., *Vietnamosasa pusilla*, *Musa acuminata*, *Vitex* sp., bamboo and many ferns.

The forests inhabit wildlife such as Northern Red Muntjac, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Southwest

China Serow, Common Palm Civet, Fishing Cat, Leopard and Wild Boar.

Species of birds include Siamese Fireback, Silver Pheasant, Hill Myna, Blue Magpie, Streak-eared Bulbul, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Common Kingfisher and Coppersmith Barbet.

Attractions

◆ **Dinosaur Fossils.** In 1976, the first discovery of a dinosaur knee bone was found here.

◆ **Phra Phutthasaiyat.** The carved Buddha image is 3.75 metres long and situated on the summit of the Phu Wiang Mountain.

◆ **Fa Mue Daeng Cave.** The cave is 50 metres long and shelters prehistorical paintings in the shape of 7 silhouette hands on a red background.

◆ **Khon Non Cave.** The cave shelters prehistorical paintings of lines, dots and crosses on sandstone.

◆ **Thap Phaya Suea Waterfall.** The 2-level waterfall is a nice place to visit.

◆ **Sam Champa Waterfall.** The medium-sized waterfall is more active in the rainy season.

Getting There

■ Phu Wiang district is 56 kilometres from Khon Kaen. The park is 4 kilometres from Phu Wiang. Motor tricycle service is available.

◆ **Thung Kukti.** The vast field sits on a hilltop over a 3-sq. kilometre area and offers nice scenic views.

◆ **Tat Klang Waterfall.** The large waterfall is situated in Nai Mueang sub-district of Phu Wiang.

◆ **Tat Fa Waterfall.** The large waterfall is 25 metres high and makes a nice place to camp.

◆ **Thung Yai Sao Aram.** The vast field on Phu Wiang Mountain is a favorite among naturalists for its scenic views of the grassland.

◆ **Hua Phu Chon.** The large rock terrace is beautified naturally with interesting rock formations.

◆ **Chan Gully.** The gully on Phu Wiang Mountain is like a giant hermit sculpture. This area is good to relax and enjoy the views.

◆ **Hin Lat Kok Kum.** The large rocky terrace has interesting rock formations. The area is beautified with wild orchids. You can enjoy the scenic view.



Sai Thong National Park

Established in 1992, the park acquires a total area of 319 square kilometres in Nong Bua Rawe, Thepsathit, Phakdi Chumphon and Nong Bua Daeng districts of Chiayaphum province. It is the country's 77th national park.

Geography

Deciduous dipterocarp forests occupy the southern area while dry evergreen forests blanket along the streams and summits. The steep slopes in the north and west are occupied by deciduous dipterocarp forest, bamboo and rich mixed deciduous forest.

Flora and Fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp forest blankets the majority of the park. Its major plants include *Dipterocarpus*

obtusifolius, *D. alatus*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. roxburghii*, *S. siamensis*, *Dillenia obovata*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Sindora siamensis* and *Xylia xylocarpa*.

Among the forests, wildlife home to the national park are Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Siamese Hare, Sambar, Common Palm Civet. Bird species such as Indian Roller, Greater Coucal, Eastern Spotted Dove, Lineated Barbet, Red Junglefowl, Black-winged



Getting There

- Sai Thong National Park is 70 kms. from Chiyaphum. You can take Highway 225. The national park is 7 kilometres distance.



Kite, Plain Prinia, Olive-backed Sunbird, Plain-throated Sunbird, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker, Common Tailorbird, Streak-eared Bulbul and Sooty-headed Bulbul.

Attractions

- ◆ **Sai Thong Waterfall.** The waterfall is 80 metres wide and 5 metres high. It is close to park headquarters. The waterfall is more active during the rainy season. You can enjoy swimming in the big pool. Going upstream there is a large pool called Wang Ngueak, which supplies water to Sai Thong Waterfall.

- ◆ **Chuan Chom Waterfall.** It is only 2 kilometres from nature trail and upstream from Sai Thong Waterfall. The shady waterfall is 20 metres high and 50 metres wide.

- ◆ **Bua Sawan Field.** Flora of *Curcuma* spp. or Kra Chiao in pink and white colours blankets the western ridge of Khao Phang Hoei 10 kilometres from the park headquarters. The flowers are in full bloom from June to mid-August each year.

- ◆ **Khao Phang Hoei Viewpoint.** The viewpoint is located at km. 70 on Highway 225.

- ◆ **Khao Lang San Viewpoint.** The peak of Khao Phang Hoei is 1,008 metres above mean sea level. Temperatures are cool all year round. Camp grounds and accommodations are available.

- ◆ **Khlong Sai Waterfall.** A small waterfall along the route in Phakdi Chumphon district. During rainy season it is more active.



Ta Phraya National Park



Lush forests cover the area within Ta Phraya, Sa Kaeo, Ban Kruat, Lahan Sai and Non Din Daeng districts, Buri Ram province. The park's boundary also connects with Cambodia forests. Ta Phraya National Park acquires a total area of 594 square kilometres in Khorat Plateau, which is part of the Phanom Dongrak Range. Established in 1996 as Thailand's 82nd national park.

Geography

The park features high mountains of the Banthat region, which connects to Phanom Dongrak Range. Elevations are between 206-579 metres above mean sea level. Khao Phran Nut is the highest peak at 579 metres. To the southeast, close to Khorat Plateau, it is 100-200 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Summer is from February to April. Rainy season from May to October and winter is November to January. On average, the park's maximum temperature is 39.8 degree Celsius and lowest is 14.3 degree Celsius.



Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forest can be found at 400 metres elevation on the north and northeast corners of the park. Significant plants are *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata* and *Xylia xylocarpa*.

Dry evergreen forests cover the plains in the north and northeast. Elevations are between 100-400 metres above mean sea level. Significant plants are *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Shorea roxburghii* and *Hopea odorata*.

Deciduous dipterocarp forests occupy both the south and north areas of the park. The forest consists of various species of plants such as *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis* and *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*.

There are a variety of wildlife, including Southwest China Serow, Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Sun Bear, Langurs, Gibbons, Palm Civets, Asian Golden Cat, Fishing Cat, Banteng, Guar, Dhole, Jungle Cat, Hog Badger, Siamese Hare and Northern Treeshrew.

The bird species found include Scarlet Minivets, Blue Magpie, Parrots, Grey-capped Emerald Dove, White-rumped Shama, Common Flameback, Hawks, Asian Barred Owlet, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Western Koel, Red Junglefowl, Silver Pheasants and Hill Myna. There are also types of amphibians and fishes in the national park.

Getting There

- The park is 250 kilometres from Prachin Buri and 140 kilometres from Buri Ram. It is accessible via Highway 3198 and 2121.



Attractions

- ◆ **Huai Yang Reservoir.** Located amidst lush dry evergreen forests, the large reservoir in Thap Rat sub-district is favorite place to relax.
- ◆ **Lam Chang Han Reservoir.** The large reservoir has beautiful scenery making it a great place to relax.
- ◆ **Mi Akson Shrine.** The shrine is home to original handwritings of King Rama V.
- ◆ **Lam Patia Reservoir.** The medium sized reservoir in Nong Waeng sub-district has pleasant scenery.
- ◆ **Khao Lon Khmer Ruins.** The Khmer Ruins are located in Thap Rat sub-district of Ta Phraya district of Prachin Buri.
- ◆ **Mekha Reservoir.** The large reservoir is a nice place to relax along picturesque lush forests.
- ◆ **Lan Hin Tat.** The vast field in Prasart sub-district and Ban Kruat district offers natural scenic beauty.
- ◆ **Lan Kra Chiao.** The field is enriched with *Curcuma* spp. or Kra Chiao among lush forests.
- ◆ **Bai Baek Khmer Ruins.** Located in Chanthop Phet sub-district and Ban Kruat district.
- ◆ **Laeng Lohakam.** The place houses numerous items of Khmer artifacts and antiques.

Tat Ton National Park

Tat Ton National park comprises beautiful waterfalls which are main attractions surrounded by lush forests. Established in 1980 as Thailand's 23rd national park, the park covers an area of 217.18 square kilometres in Mueang district, Chaiyaphum province.

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 Pathao, 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 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 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

Dry evergreen forest can be found by the stream, valley and mountain summit. Its significant plants include *Calophyllum polyanthum*, *Iringia 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 siamensis* and *Vietnamosasa pusilla*.

The national park is home to small animals such as Squirrels, Treeshrews and various birds as Red Junglefowl and Bulbuls.



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 you 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.

◆ **Pha Koeng.** The cliff is the highest point on Chaiyaphum-Nong Bua Daeng Road. At km. 27, the viewpoint offers scenery of Nong Bua Daeng, mountain range and Phu Khiao Wildlife Sanctuary.

◆ **Pha lang Waterfall.** The waterfall is situated amidst lush dry evergreen forest. It can be accessed through Chilong Nuea village, 3 kilometres off Highway 2159. Tourist requires to trek for 3 kms.

◆ **Pha Song Chan Waterfall.** The 2 tiers waterfall is around 5 metres high. It is situated upstream of Pha lang Waterfall.



Getting There

- From Chiyaphum, use Highway 2051 which leads directly to Tat Ton Waterfall for 21 kilometres. Chartered vehicle or private car is recommended.



Thap Lan National Park

*This lush forest stretches over Pak Thong Chai, Wang Nam Khiao, Khonburi, Soeng Sang districts of Nakhon Ratchasima and Na Di 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 2,235.80 square kilometers, the country's 40th national park was established in 1981 in a bid to preserve the forest of Lan whose number is shrinking fast by the expansion of agriculture.*

Geography

The park features rugged mountainous area with the highest park, Khao Lamang at 992 metres above mean 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 and Huai Suan Nam Hom. These streams are tributaries to the Mun and Bang Pakong rivers.

Climate

The 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 forests dominate most area of the park with *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus*, *D. alatus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, *D. oliveri*, *Hopea odorata*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Magnolia* sp., *Lagerstroemia calyculata* 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, Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Tiger, Asiatic Black Bear, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Common Palm Civet, Leopard, Jungle Cat, Siamese Hare and Wild Boar.

Various kind of birds such as Rufescent Prinia, White-rumped Shama, Green-billed Malkoha, Greater Coucal and Scaly-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.

Getting There

■ The park is located on Highway 304, only 197 kilometres from Bangkok. Motorist can use Highway 33 and turn left into Highway 304 to the park.



◆ **Huai Kham Phu Waterfall.** The waterfall cascading into a reservoir is a very nice place to visit and relax. Its situated at Thung Pho sub-district, Na Di District.

◆ **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 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 Udom Sap

sub-district, Wang Nam Khiao district, is 5 kilometres off Highway 304.

◆ **Lam Mun Bon Dam.** The reservoir over the Lam Mun Bon Dam is a nice place to relax among scenery. It is located on Highway 304 in Khon Buri district, Nakhon Ratchasima province.

◆ **Lam Praeng.** The eco-tourism attraction is suit for camping, observing wildlife, and trekking into Pang Sida National Park. It is 35 kilometres from Khon Buri district.

◆ **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 Soeng Sang district.





Kaeng Tana National Park

Situated in Khong Chiam district of Ubon Ratchathani, Kaeng Tana National Park features plateaus and small hills, as well as the Mun and Mekong rivers, which run along the northern boundary of Thailand and Laos. The park is well known for its unnerving and raging river rapids. It was established in 1981 as Thailand's 33rd national park and covers a total area of 80 square kilometres.

Geography

The park's mean elevation is 200 metres above mean sea level. Plains and small hills along the banks of the Mun and Mekong rivers encompass most of the area. Khao Banthat, which is the highest peak, towers at 543 metres. The Kaeng Tana

national park is covered mainly by secondary forests. Dry evergreen forests can be found only along the large creeks.

Climate

The park has monsoon climate; however, the two large rivers keep the temperature rather stable. It is comfortable in both summer and winter seasons. In summer, temperature varies between 25-29 degree Celsius. Tourists can visit the park all year round.

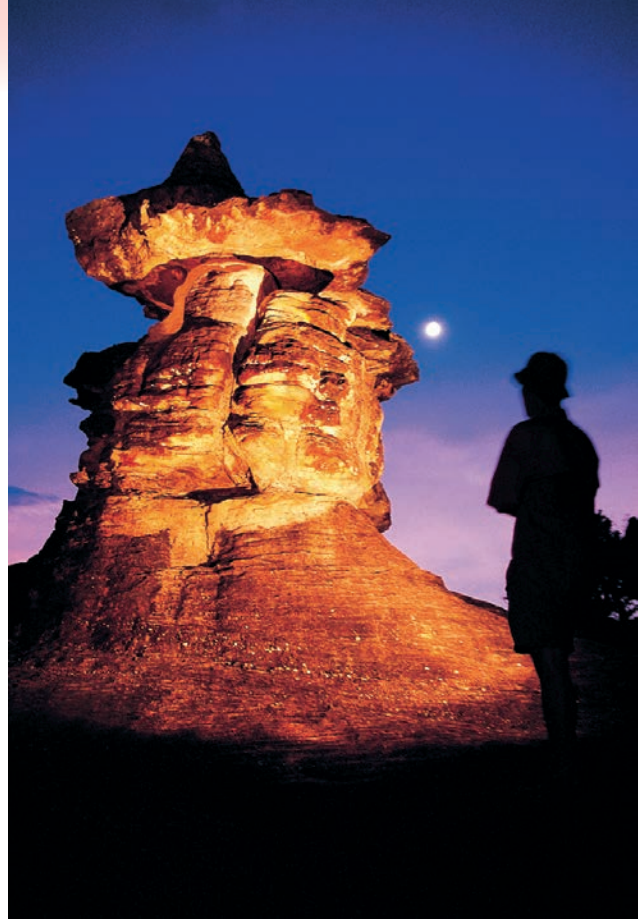
Flora and Fauna

Deciduous dipterocarp forests cover most areas of the park. There are a number of *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius* and *D. tuberculatus* species in dwarf size. Dry evergreen forests are found near the large creeks and on the summit of Don Tana Hill with *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Tectona grandis*, *Dipterocarpus alatus* and grasslands.

Phu Pha Thoep

National Park

Strange rock formations, lush fields of flowers, forests and wildlife make up this small national park. The area acquires about 48.3931 square kilometres in Mueang and Don Tan districts of Mukdahan province. This is a good place to relax and visit. Previously, Phu Pha Thoep National Park was known as Mukdahan National Park. In 1988, it was established as Thailand's 59th national park.



Geography

The national park features rugged mountain range and comprises of numerous mountains, including Phu Nang Hong, Phu Tham Phra, Phu Lang Se, Phu Hin Thoep and Phu Mano. The highest peak, Phu Chom Si is 420 metres above mean sea level. The mountains define the park with high cliffs and rocky landscapes.

Climate

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

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forests and deciduous dipterocarp forests blanket the park with various plants including *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *S. obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*, *D. oliveri*, *D. obtusifolius*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Irvingia malayana*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Dillenia* sp., *Barringtonia* sp., *Cratoxylum* sp., *Michelia floribunda* and *Toona ciliata*.

The national park is home to small mammals like Wild Boar, Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Golden Jackal, Pig-tailed Macaque and Common Palm Civet.

Attractions

◆ **Phu Pha Thoep.** The group of interesting rock formations and compositions are main attractions of the park. Some lie close together creating a shape like a natural sculpture. The natural rock garden is surrounded by deciduous dipterocarp forest whose trees grow in dwarf shape. In early winter, the area will be blanketed by wild flowers in full bloom.

◆ **Phu Tham Phra.** The area contains a well that supplies capillary water all year round. Such water is enough to cascade into the Tham Phra Waterfall. Nearby, a sacred cave exists where inside can view a large amount of wooden Buddha images and animal replicas.

◆ **Phu Nang Hong.** The rock terrace is beautiful by a natural swan-shaped rock in the center. Surrounding are various rock formations to see.

◆ **Phu Lak Se.** The mountain offers a viewpoint in the secondary forest.



“ A total of 20 national parks have been designated in Central and Eastern Thailand. These national parks’ terrains include steep mountain ranges, fertile forests and an abundance of wildlife habitats, which will be trademarks to this region.

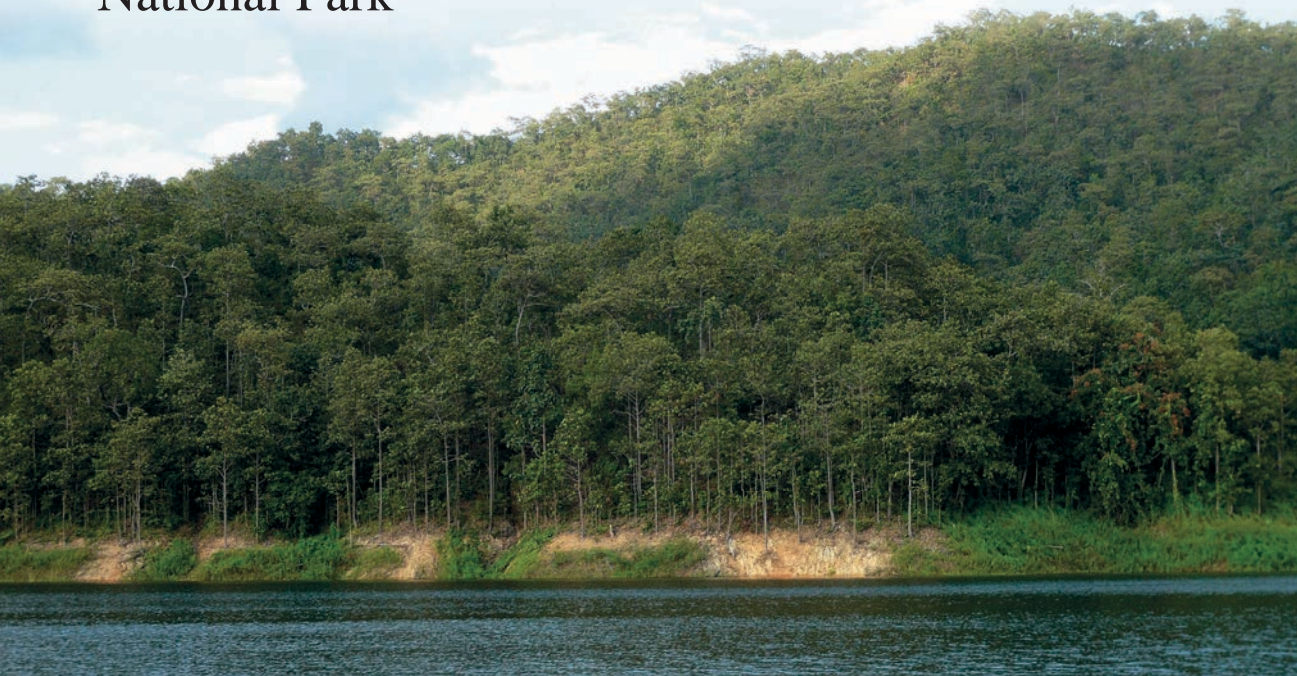
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National Parks in the
Central and
Eastern

Chaloem Phrakiat Thai Prachan

National Park



The area of Chaloem Phrakiat Thai Prachan National Park, 328.7422 square kilometres, is part of national reserve forests that are located on the left bank of the Phachi River in Yang Hak, Ang Hin, Thung Luang sub-districts of Pak Tho district and Nong Phan Chan, Ban Bueng, Ban Kha subdistricts of Ban Kha district, Ratchaburi Province. It was declared as Thailand's 124th national park in 2012.



Geography

The highest peak of the mountain is Khao Yuet or Khao Phra Rop with an elevation of 834 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Summer months are from late March to June. Rainy season begins July to October and winter months are November to February.

Flora and Fauna

The natural character of plant community within Chaloeam Phrakiat Thai Prachan National Park comprises of mixed deciduous forest and dry evergreen forest.

The national park is habitat to wildlife such as Sambar, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Northern Red Muntjac, Gaur, Wild Boar, Asiatic Black Bear, Siamese Hare, Malayan Porcupine and Small Indian Civet.

Bird species include Black-crested Bulbul, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Greater Coucal, Green-billed Malkoha, Red Junglefowl, Common Tailorbird, Asian Barred Owlet and Lineated Barbet.

Butterfly species such as Great Mormon, Paris Peacock, Lesser Zebra, Golden Birdwing, Magpie Crow, Painted Jezebel, Chocolate Albatross, Common Tiger, Dark Blue Tiger, Common Sailor and Color Sergeant.



Getting There

- From Bangkok, take Highway 4 (Phetkasem Road) or Thonburi-Pak Tho route to Ratchaburi province, 100 kilometres distance. Alternatively, take a train from Hua Lam Phong Station to Ratchaburi Station.
- From Ratchaburi, follow Phetkasem Road for 20 kilometres. Turn right onto Highway 3206 for 45 kilometres. Turn left to Thai Prachan Village for 5 kilometres to park headquarters.



Attractions

◆ **Thai Prachan Waterfall.** The scenic waterfall has 11 levels and flows year round.

◆ **Trok Thio Phai.** The area is at 1,300 metres above mean sea level. The beautiful stream and picturesque hilltops offer views of scenic nature. Within a 400 to 950 metres walk are three interesting points, namely Trok Saeo Sawan, Trok Bang Phrai and Trok Lila.

◆ **Pong Krathing Hot Spring.** The hot spring is located at Phu Nam Ron Village in Ban Kha district.

◆ **Viewpoint.** There are many reservoirs near the park area, which allow for beautiful scenic pictures and suitable for water sports.

Chaloem Rattanakosin National Park

Although the park is small, a total of 59 square kilometres, it is unique by its scenic nature and remarkable geographical wonders. Within are waterfalls, cliffs and an enormous cave where a river streams through as well as a natural bridge undermined by the river make the park a remarkable place to visit. Artifacts of the Burmese and Japanese armies found also added historical value to this park.

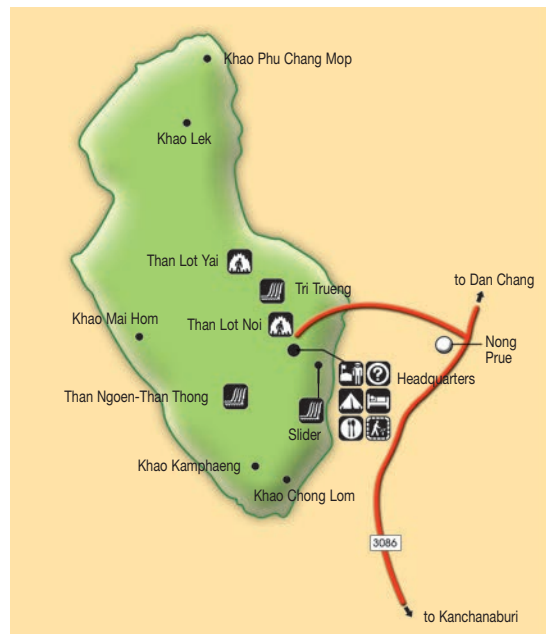
History

After establishing the Tham Than Lot Forest Park in 1974, the Royal Forest Department has surveyed and amazingly found that this park has distinguished landscape, particularly the cave undermined by the river. In addition to the number of wildlife along with historical artifacts from the Burmese and Japanese armies, the region was upgraded to Thailand's 17th national park in 1980.

King Rama I, founder of the Chakri Dynasty, led his army to fight against the Burmese troops in Kanchanaburi province. To honor him, the national park board has approached his Majesty the King Bhumibol requesting his royal permission to rename the park after King Rama I. Permission was granted and today known as Chaloem Rattanakosin National Park.

Geography

The region is limestone mountain range. The crest, Khao Kamphaeng is the highest elevation at 1,260 metres above mean sea level. The watershed forest is origin to the Mae Klong River.



Climate

In summer months, March to April, temperatures can rise to 38 degrees Celsius. In winter months, December to January, temperatures can fall to 17 degree Celsius.



Getting There

- The park is a total of 196 kilometres from Bangkok. From the town of Kanchanaburi, motorists can head for Srinagarindra Dam. Then, turn right at the Lat Ya Market head to Bo Phloi district, about 16 kilometres. Continue for 32 kilometres until you reach Nong Prue. From there, the park is 18 kilometres distance.

Flora and Fauna

Tropical evergreen forest, mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and bamboo forest occupy most of the region. The lush and rich forests are home to a variety of plants including *Hopea odorata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Afzelia xylocarpa* and *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*.

Wildlife that inhabit the area are Bears, Serows, Northern Red Muntjac, Asian Elephant and great variety of birds such as Pheasants, Partridges, Drongos and Bulbuls.

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 beautify the entire cave. The stream running through the cave keeps temperatures cool and comfortable to visit. The trail here leads to Than Lot Yai Cave.

◆ **Than Lot Yai Cave.** The 2-kilometre trail on a natural bridge from Than Lot Noi Cave leads to this larger cave. Many ancient skeletons can be found proving that once ancient people lived here.

◆ **Waterfalls.** There are many beautiful waterfalls in the national park such as Tri Trueng Waterfall that cascades through 3 levels. The waterfall is 1.5 kilometres from the park's headquarters. Another scenic waterfall is Than Ngoen, which flows down 7 levels.

◆ **Ancient Weapons.** Skeletons and sacred items can be found within the park proving that the Burmese army once passed through this area to defeat the Ayutthaya kingdom. During World War II, the Imperial Japanese army used this route as well.

Erawan National Park

Erawan National Park is origin to one of the most well known waterfalls in Thailand. The enormous region has impressive scenic nature and always fascinates naturalists. The park occupies a total area of 549.9760 square kilometres and comprises of mountains, cliffs and a beautiful waterfall. The area covers Mueang, Si Sawat and Sai Yok districts of Kanchanaburi province.



History

In 1975, the area became established as Thailand's 12th national park. Picturesque natural beauty and precious natural resources were found within the park's region.

Getting There

- From Kanchanaburi, take Highway 323 and turn to Highway 3199 to Srinagarind Dam and cross the bridge to the market to the park entrance. The park headquarters is 66 kilometres from Kanchanaburi.
- From Sai Yok, motorists can take a shortcut from Wang Yai village, 6 kilometres south of Sai Yok Noi Waterfall to Pong Pat village near Tha Thung Na Dam. The route is 19 kilometres long. Turn left onto Highway 3199 and continue to park headquarters, 30 kilometres distance.

Geography

There are several peaks with elevations between 165 to 996 metres above mean sea level. The remaining areas are plains and numerous streams.

Climate

Rainy season begins in May until October. Winter months cool down the forest through January. Summers are dry until April.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forest dominates most of the region. There are many types of trees such as *Azalia*, *Terminalia*, *Vitex* and *Bambusa*. Other areas are covered by deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forests. Plant varieties include *Shorea*, *Xylia*, *Phyllanthus*, *Polyalthia* and *Chukrasia*.





The park is habitat to five groups of wildlife namely mammals, reptiles, amphibians and birds. Many of them can be seen including Asian Elephant, Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Lar Gibbon, Siamese Hare and Finlayson's Squirrel.

Attractions

◆ **Erawan Waterfall.** The long waterfall cascades through 7 levels and stretching 1,500 metres long. Within each level, lush forests and abundance of rich flora beautifies the area. While birds and a number of streams please visitors with the natures surrounding, the area makes an enjoyable place to admire. At the highest level of the waterfall, there is an elephant head shaped rock that turns vibrant when water cascades over it. This is the reason why the waterfall is sometimes referred to Hindu God Indri's heavenly elephant.

◆ **Pha Lan Waterfall.** The rainy season especially makes this single level waterfall a refreshing place to visit.

◆ **Phra That Cave.** This beautiful cave is 790 metres above mean sea level and within can be seen natural stalagmite and stalactite.

◆ **Wang Badan Cave.** Although a small entrance, the cave surprises visitors with several chambers beautified by stalagmite and stalactite in different shapes such as a delicate curtain or a huge needle. A stream runs through its lower chamber where some sea creatures exist.

◆ **Ta Duang Cave.** The cave contains a special painting in the shape of humans and trees at its entrance. Artifacts such as broken bowls and jars indicate the cave was once inhabited by humans since the Neolithic Age.



◆ **Mi Cave.** The word "Mi" means bear referring to the legend that the cave once was occupied by bears. The large cave has good air ventilation and comprises of eight chambers which walls are naturally beautified by different shapes. To reach the cave, you can take Highway 3199 from Kanchanaburi province and turn left at Tham Phra That village to Sai Yok district. Continue until you reach Thap Sila village at kilometre 10 to Soi Samakkhi Tham 10. There, will lead to the Takhian Canal.

◆ **Ruea Cave.** The cave is unique by a wooden tank from ancient era. The boat shaped tank was hollowed from a whole log. A figure head is carved in the image of a human's face with two ears to support the tank. To reach the cave, as like Mi Cave, it can be accessed from Thap Sila village. From there, take Samakkhi Tham 10 across Takhian Canal for about 200 metres and turn right. Continue another 300 metres. Then trek for 1 kilometre.

Kaeng Krachan National Park

Thailand's largest national park covers a huge area of 2,914.70 square kilometres. It is distinguished with several natural landmarks such as a lake, waterfalls, caves and beautiful cliffs. The vast territory stretches over Kaeng Krachan and Nong Ya Plong districts, Phetchaburi and including Hua Hin districts of Prachuap Khiri Khan. The watershed forest is origin to the Phetchaburi and Pranburi rivers, which are significant to both provinces.

History

When His Majesty the King spent his day at Klai Kang Won, the summer palace of Prachuap Khiri Khan on October 29, 1979, he made a remark to the Director General of the Royal Forest Department and requested for a devotion to protect and preserve the watershed forest of Phetchaburi. As a result, the park was preserved from future deforestation and drought. In 1981, it was established as Thailand's 28th national park.

Geography

Average elevation is 500 metres above mean sea level. The mountain range is granite and limestone. Khao Nga-ngan Nik Yuak Tong is the highest peak and towers 1,513 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Tropical rain forests blanket most areas due to heavy rainfall and high humidity.

Flora and Fauna

Tropical rain forest, mixed deciduous forest and deciduous dipterocarp forest make ideal origin to a variety of plants such as *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *L. tomentosa*, *Spondias pinnata*, *Shorea obtusa* and *Azalia xylocarpa*.

The preserved wilderness of Kaeng Krachan National Park is rich in diversity of birds and large mammals such as Asian Elephant, Guar, Tiger, Gibbons,





Bears, Hornbills, Pheasants, Partridges, Broadbills, Hawks, Eagles as well as reptiles, amphibians and the endangered Siamese *Crocodile*.

Attractions

◆ **Khao Phanoen Thung.** The peak rises to 1,207 metres above mean sea level. From the mountain's crest lay panoramic views each morning of the fog that blankets the forest up to the horizon.

◆ **Tho Thip Waterfall.** Enveloped among lush jungle and watershed of the Phetchaburi River, it cascades through 18 levels.

◆ **Pha Nam Yot.** Here, the high cliff sprays water into the Phetchaburi River year round. During the rainy season, the cliff is covered with green moss.

◆ **Huai Pa Lao Waterfall.** This beautiful area comprises four groups of waterfalls.

◆ **Than Thip Waterfall.** The area has three scenic waterfalls with the Than Thip that cascades over 7 levels, Hin Lat Waterfall over 5 levels and Pranburi Waterfall over 3 levels.

◆ **Mae Saliang Waterfall.** The 3-level waterfall is a relaxing place for naturalists who enjoy camping.

◆ **Khang Khao Cave.** Naturally characterized by its chambers and chimney, it is a very nice place to visit.

◆ **Wiman Cave.** The cave is very beautified by stalagmite. Good ventilation allows tourists to comfortably visit its chambers where broken ceramics of ancient era were found as well as a stone axe in

the area nearby Huai Pla Kang Waterfall, which cascades over 3 levels is within this area.

◆ **Huai Pla Kang Waterfall**, a beautiful fall which cascades through 3 levels.

◆ **Hanuman Terrace** or **Khao Pakarang**. The scenic hill is covered by coral like rock.

◆ **Pa La-u Waterfall**. This scenic and beautiful waterfall cascades over 16 levels year round. Some facilities are available and ideal to relax and picnic.

◆ **Chonlanat Waterfall**. The waterfall's flow falls from a 200-metre high cliff. It is the highest waterfall in the national park.



◆ **Cruise Trip.** The boat trip is along the Phetchaburi and Bang Kloi rivers. Scenic lush vegetation can be seen on both sides of the rivers.

◆ **Sightseeing.** Along the route to Wang Won and Tho Thip Waterfall, many types of wildlife can be seen.



Getting There

- Phetchaburi is 115 kilometres from Bangkok. From Phetchaburi, tourists can get to the park via Highway 4. Turn right at the Khuean Phet intersection and continue for 38 kilometres via Chong village and Kaeng Krachan Dam. Regular buses leave Phetchaburi Bus Terminal for Chong village and Kaeng Krachan. The park is 4 kilometres distance from there where motorcycle taxis or chartered buses are available.



Khao Chamao- Khao Wong National Park

Evergreen forests blanket over 83.68 square kilometres of the rich wilderness and natural scenic region. The park offers many attractions for naturalists. The area of Khao Chamao - Khao Wong National Park covers parts of Klaeng district in Rayong province and Kaeng Hang Maeo in Chanthaburi province.



History

In 1974, during when the government was considering to establish Khao Chamao - Khao Wong National Park, the idea was fully supported by world-renowned biologist and conservationist, Dr. Boonsong Lekagul, who was Secretariat of the Association of Conservation of Wildlife and Natural Resource Conservation Club of Srinakharinwirot University - Pratumwan Campus and a column published by the Siamrat Daily Newspaper. Shortly, it became Thailand's 13th national park in 1975.

Geography

The mountain range of Khao Chamao has a peak elevation at 1,024 metres above mean sea level. The watershed forest is origin to the Prasae River, a significant lifeline of Rayong province. The Khao Wong forest region encircles the range with very beautiful scenic cliffs into nearby Chanthaburi province.

Climate

Heavy rains from May to October bring an annual rainfall of 3,000 millimetres to the entire region. Winter months from November to February bring cooler temperatures making the park quite comfortable to visit. Summer months of March and April are quite warm with temperatures at 26-27 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

The Evergreen forests in Khao Chamao - Khao Wong National Park is ideal for a variety of many plants including *Irvingia malayana*, *Chukrasia tubularis*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Peltophorum dasyrachis*, *Markhamia stipulata* and *Syzygium* sp. as well as wild orchids. Plants that grow in the dense shrub layers are *Calamus* sp., *Bambusa bambos* along with different kinds of ferns.

The forest is home to many wildlife species including Asian Elephant, Guar, Southwest China Serow, Sun Bear, Wild Boar, Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar and Pileated Gibbon.

Many bird species can be seen such as Hill Myna, Red Junglefowl, Silver Pheasant, Common Iora, Black Drongo, Rufescent Prinia, Greater Coucal, and Lineated Barbet.

Attractions

◆ **Khao Chamao Waterfall.** This waterfall is quite close to the office and a kilometre from main road. The crystal-clear stream cascades for 3 kilometres through many steps and pools.



Getting There

- From Bangkok, motorists can take Highway 3. After passing through Ban Khao Din Market, turn left to Highway 3377 (Ban Khao Din-Phatthana Intersection). The park's entrance is at km. 17 and the park headquarters is 1 kilometre from the main road.



There are many beautiful corners nice for picnic such as Wang Matcha, Wang Morakot, Pha Kluaimai, Namtok Hok Sai and Pha Sung. At Wang Matcha, you can enjoy the clear stream and bigschool of Soro Brook Carp living densely there.

◆ **Pha Sawan.** The towering cliff is just ahead of Khao Chamao Waterfall. Its 900 metres trail is beautified by various kinds of flora and fauna.

◆ **Khlong Pla Kang Waterfall.** The waterfall is one of the most beautiful in the area. Surrounded by rich wilderness and densely blanketed by ferns and wild orchids.

◆ **Khao Wong Cave.** The small cave can be divided into 80 chambers, each of which has unique styles. For example, some chambers are shaped like a priest, theatre, diamonds and a pagoda. Today, sixteen chambers are opened for the public to see. The mountain is habitat for large gatherings of Serow.

Khao Wong is 18 kilometres from Na Yai Am Market in Tha Mai district, Chanthaburi province.

Khao Khitchakut

National Park



Three crests line harmoniously at an elevation of 700 metres above mean sea level. A remarkable Buddha footprint on the mountain's peak is an amazing feature of Khao Khitchakut National Park. The Khao Khitchakut National Park, total area covers 58.31 square kilometres and its region blankets the entire forest of Khao Khitchakut and Khao Phra Bat in Makham district and Khao Khitchakut district of Chanthaburi province.

History

In 1957, the Association of the Conservation of Wildlife approached the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives with a request to spare the lush forest of Khitchakut in the Chanthaburi province due to its wildlife habitat. The forest was then combined with 14 other nearby forests. In 1977, it became Thailand's 14th national park.

Geography

Mountain range dominates most area of this watershed forest which supplies water for Chanthaburi River, leaving small room for its plains in the western corner. Khao Phra Bat, the highest peak at 1,085 metres above mean sea level. The mountains are characterized from three large round rocks on its crestline.

Climate

Rainy season begins from May to October. This is a quite comfortable time to visit the park.

Flora and Fauna

Tropical rain forest, Montane rain forest and deciduous forest characterize this park. Natural species of plants and herbs within the park include *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Dalbergia cochinchinensis* and *Lagerstroemia calyculata*.

There is also a great number of wildlife that inhabit the park such as Asian Elephant, Guar, Asiatic Black Bear, Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Southwest China Serow, Hooded Pitta, Blue-winged Pitta, Oriental Magpie-robin and Asian Koel.

The water streams below contain varieties of fish including Yellow Mystus, Spiny Eel and Black Spot Long Torn.

Getting There

■ From Bangkok, motorists can go via the Bang Na -Trat Highway. Turn left at km. 248 at Khao Rai Ya Intersection and onto Bamrat Naradun Road. There, continue for 24 kilometres. The park entrance is close to Kasetsart University - Chanthaburi campus. The park headquarters is located 1.5 kilometres from the main road.

Attractions

◆ **Krathing Waterfall.** The waterfall is originating from the Khitchakut Mountain Range, the waterfall cascades through 13 levels and naturally scenic with pools.

◆ **Phra Bat Peak.** A geographical phenomenon distinguishes the peak similar to the religious legends in Buddhism. At the peak there are rock pagodas, a Buddha's footprint, the shape of an upside down monk rice bowl, a hermit dwelling, Hindu god Indra's racing track and two gigantic rocks in the shape of an elephant and tortoise.

Each year, from the first day of the waxing moon of the third lunar month or if February, till the new moon of the fourth lunar month, the peak turns vibrant during a religious festival. Pilgrims can be seen roaming the peak night and day to worship the Buddha footprint and to celebrate.

The Peak is a splendid area for visitors to see landmarks of the Sa Bap Mountain Range, Sukim Mountain, Nom Sao Island and the town of Chanthaburi. The area is 16.5 kilometres east of park headquarters. You can bound for Wat Phluang and walk uphill about 6.5 kilometres.

◆ **Khlong Chang Se Waterfall.** The waterfall cascades from a very high cliff and flows year round. There is a camping ground and nature trails in the area for tourists to enjoy. For safety reasons, it is required to be accompanied by a park official. The waterfall lies in the valley about 2 kilometres from Khao Phra Bat Ranger Station.



◆ **Khlong Phaibun Waterfall.** The waterfall has enjoyable shady surroundings and makes it ideal for a swim and picnic. It is close to Khlong Phaibun Ranger Station, about 8 kilometres from the park headquarters.

Khao Laem National Park

With a total area of 1,496.9339 square kilometres, the territory of the park covers lush forests that encompasses the reservoir of Khao Laem Dam, which is part of Sangkhla Buri and Thong Pha Phum districts of Kanchanaburi. Rich in wildlife and natural attractions to enjoy and study, Khao Laem National Park is one of five national parks established in celebration of 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, a total of five nationwide to honor the 60th anniversary of His Majesty the King. The Royal Forest Department has proposed the

forest area around Khao Laem Dam. There are many unique forests in the area as well as the reservoir over Khao Laem Dam making it quite beautiful. Khao Laem was completely established in 1991 as Thailand's 67th national park.

Geography

Tenassarim Range lies in a north to south direction with average elevation at 950 metres above mean sea level. Most are limestone and laterite mountain ranges with elevations between 100 to 1,700 metres. The park is watershed that fills up the Khwae Noi River, a major water source of Khao Laem Reservoir. There are many 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.

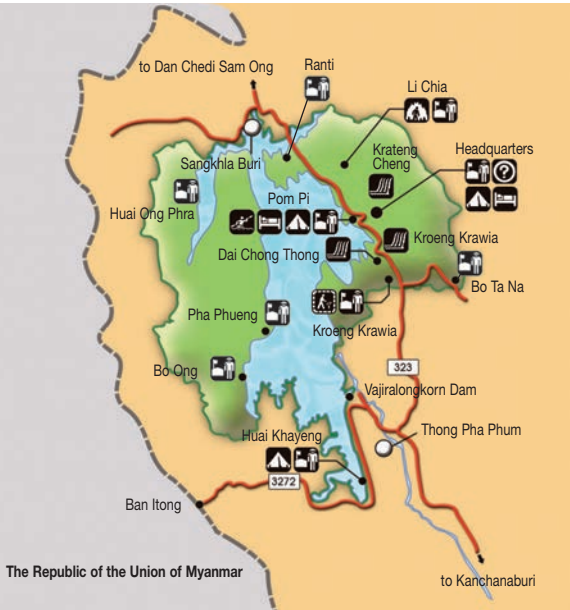
Climate

Rainy season begins in June to October. Heavy rain soaks the park in July and August. Winter begins in November and a cool breeze can be felt until January. During such time, temperatures can drop to 10 degree Celsius. Summer starts since February and last until May.



Getting There

- From Kanchanaburi, motorists can travel via Kanchanaburi-Thong Pha Phum-Sangkhla Buri Highway. The park is 190 kilometres from Kanchanaburi. From Bangkok, allow a day.



Flora and Fauna

Forests in Khao Laem National Park comprise of mixed deciduous forest and tropical rain forest. Significant plants include *Lagerstroemia loudonii*, *Stereospermum fimbriatum*, *Terminalia bellirica*, *Parkia sumatrana*, *Nephelium hypoleucum*, *Xylia xylocarpa* and different kinds of bamboos.

There is great variety of wildlife living in the park namely Northern Red Muntjac, Lar Gibbon, Wild Boar, Siamese Hare, Asian Small-clawed Otter, Common Palm Civet and various birds such as White-rumped Shama, Oriental Magpie-robin, Streak-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 offer great views, making it nice for a boat cruise.

- ◆ **Kroeng Krawia Cave.** Decorated beautifully with formations of stalagmite and stalactite, the 300- 400 metres depth cave has a subterranean river. The cave is situated north of Kroeng Krawia Village.

- ◆ **Kroeng Krawia Waterfall.** The small waterfall is only 5 metres high, but the shady surroundings and scenic rock makes a nice place to visit. The waterfall flows year round.

- ◆ **Dai Chong Thong Waterfall.** The small beautiful waterfall is 15 metres high. It is situated 47 kilometres from Thong Pha Phum district. Its entrance is just 1.5 kilometres from Kroeng Krawia Waterfall and requires a walk about 500 metres.

- ◆ **Bo Ong Pagoda.** Mon or Myanmar style pagoda is located on a small hill near center of a large pond where various kinds of colourful lotus grow. Pilgrimage takes place on the full moon of the fourth lunar month.

- ◆ **Krateng Cheng Waterfall.** The waterfall flows from a 30-metre high limestone pillar and cascades through steps into a pond below. The waterfall is 4 kilometres from park headquarters. The park's trail can be confusing so having a staff guide to accompany one is recommended. 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 lovers. It is a stronghold for many kinds of birds such as Lesser Whistling-duck, White-breasted Waterhen and Common Moorhen. The surrounding grassland is home to the Coucal and Bee-eater. The jungle is habitat of the Bulbul, Woodpecker, Barbets and Great Hornbill. The swamp's entrance is just before entrance to the waterfall.





Khao Laem Ya-Mu Ko Samet National Park

The park acquires a total area of 131 square kilometres of land and sea, covering Khao Laem Ya Hill, Mae Ramphueng Beach, famous Ko Samet, Ko Kudi, Ko Thai Khang Khao, Ko Kruai, including six islands in Rayong. The park was established in 1981 as the 34th national park of Thailand.

Geography

Its marine boundary covers 123 square kilometres about 94 percents of its total area, leaving the remaining to seaside hill and sandy beach.

Climate

Heavy rains are from December to March. Temperatures can get hot during March to June and cool from November to January.

Flora and Fauna

The dry evergreen forest that once blanketed Khao Laem Ya, Khao Plet and Khao Thian is now

treated by deforestation and invasion. Most islands feature a high mountain range and coastal land, rocky cliffs and sandy beaches. Limestone forest covers Ko Kudi, Ko Kruai and Ko Plai Tin.

Beach forest can be found along sandy soil regions. Influenced by sea breeze, some areas are not suited for large trees, but nice for grassland. Plant growth include *Thespesia populnea*, *Xylocarpus rumphii*, *Terminalia catappa*, *Casuarina equisetifolia*, *Pandanus odorifer* and *Ipomoea pes-caprae*.

The wildlife survey found the park is home to 70 animal species such as Macaques and Black Giant Squirrels as well as various kinds of birds.

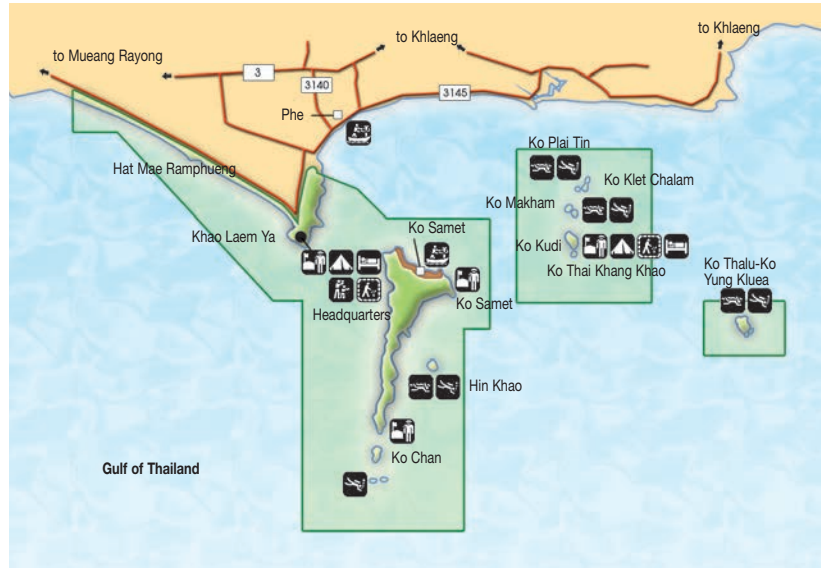
Getting There

■ 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 reach Khao Laem Ya takes 7 minutes by motorcycle taxi.

Ko Samet, Ko Kudi and Ko Thalu are lined by various coral reef. 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 origin to the Coral and Clown Anemonefish.

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 side is a small hill blanketed with vast grassland. There are nice view points.
- ◆ **Ko Samet.** Situated 6 kilometres off shore from Ban Phe Pier, the island features high cliffs to the west and to its north and east are very beautiful



beaches. Well known for its vast white, powderlike sandy beach, the island is called “Ko Kaeo Phitsadan”.

◆ **Ao Klang.** The one-kilometre long bay with a white sandy beach is situated at the north end of the island.

◆ **Sai Kaeo Beach.** Some 300 metres from the village, this is one of the most beautiful beaches on the island.

◆ **Ao Phai.** A beautiful small bay connected to the Sai Kaeo Beach.

◆ **Ao Khok or Ao Wong Duean** is distinguished for its crescent beach that stretches 500 metres long.

◆ **Ao Wai, Ao Kio, Ao Pakarang and Ao Thian.** The small bays lie next to each other and are beautified by prestige beaches and coral reef.

◆ **Ao Phrao.** A quiet and clean beach is a nice place to hideaway among a coconut plantation.

◆ **Ko Kudi.** This small island is a tranquil place where tourists can enjoy the sandy beach, snorkeling and camping. Its southern cliff is nice a viewpoint where there are panoramic views of the sea.

◆ **Ko Kruai, Ko Makham and Ko Plai Tin.** Ko Makham and Ko Plai Tin have nice beaches for camping. You can enjoy snorkeling here.

◆ **Ko Chan.** At the southern end of the island, the park is a nice dive site.

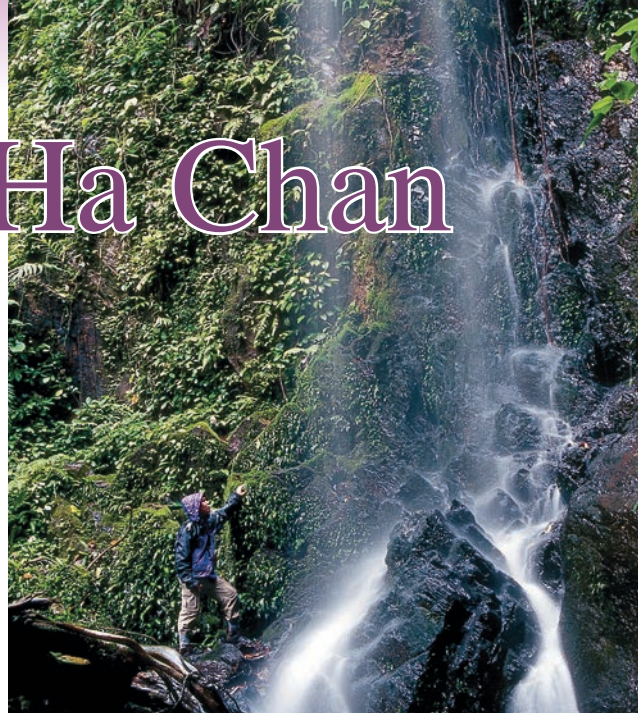
◆ **Ko Thalu.** Because the area is wilderness in nature, the island is a favored nesting place for Gull, Sea Turtle and habitat of Island Flying Fox. Two beaches on the east and the south coasts allow tourists enjoyable camping sites. A big coral reef off the eastern beach offers a nice dive site.



Khao Sip Ha Chan

National Park

The total area covers about 117.9664 square kilometres in Kaeng Hang Maeo district of Chanthaburi province. Surrounding the waterfall are evergreen forests and beautiful scenic viewpoints amid high biodiversity. Making an interesting place for those who love to research this topic. Khao Sip Ha Chan became the 122nd National Park in Thailand on December 25, 2009.



Climate

Winter is from October to February, the coldest month being January. Summer begins from February to May and rainy season is from May to October.

Flora and Fauna

The forests of this region are namely evergreen forest, Dry evergreen forest and Deciduous dipterocarp forest. The park is also habitat to a variety of wildlife such as Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, and Common Palm Civet.

Many species of birds include Sooty-headed Bulbul, Black-crested Bulbul, Plain Prinia, Greater Coucal, Plaintive Cuckoo, Common Tailorbird, Dark-necked Tailorbird, Red Junglefowl, Coppersmith Barbet, Asian Koel and Green-billed Malkoha.



Getting There

■ From Bangkok, take Highway 3 and to Highway 3406 to Kaeng Hang Maeo District about 10 kilometres to Khun Song sub-district. Total distance is 250 kilometres. Alternatively, can take Highway 3 and to Highway 3406. Continue to Wang Chan-Nong Chek Soi route to Kaeng Hang Maeo. Total distance is about 200 kilometres.

Geography

Mostly consists of plains. The summit of Khao Sip Ha Chan is on the west side, 802 metres above mean sea level.

Attractions

◆ **Khlong Saba Waterfall.** The small waterfall has 6 levels and located 6 kms to the east of the national park.

◆ **Khao Sip Ha Chan Waterfall** or Namtok Khao Sip Ha Chan (name is Namtok Nampen or Namtok Khlong Sai) is a moderate sized waterfall with 23 levels and flows all year. Accessibility and travel is only during the dry period. There is a nature trail of 4.8 kms. for walking.

◆ **Maduea Khu Camping Area.** Visitors are welcomed to stay overnight to enjoy and relax the area. Enjoy the night sky of stars and take in the pleasant nature.

Khuean Srinagarindra National Park

Situated close to Erawan and Sai Yok National Park, Khuean Srinagarindra National Park features beautiful natural landmarks and the scenic reservoir over Srinagarind Dam. The park acquires a total area of 1,532 square kilometres covering parts of Sai Yok, Si Sawat and Thong Pha Phum districts of Kanchanaburi.

History

The watershed forest feeds into the reservoir of Srinagarind Dam and remain untouched. The mountain range is stronghold for wildlife and origin to natural landmarks such as Huai Mae Khamin Waterfall, a hot spring, caves and reservoir. The area became Thailand's 39th national park in 1981.

Geography

Tropical rain forest and mixed deciduous forest blanket the limestone mountain range. The average elevation is 400 metres above mean sea level. The highest peak towers at 1,200 metres. The watershed forest feeds into the Khwae Yai River and fills up the reservoir of Srinagarind Dam.

Climate

The national park has high humidity due to the remarkable annual rainfall. The average temperature is 29 degree Celsius making it a comfortable place to visit. Notably, the temperature can drop to 8 degree Celsius in winter months.

Flora and Fauna

Rich dry evergreen forest and mixed deciduous forest is home to a wealth of plants such as *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Schleichera oleosa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Dalbergia oliveri*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata* and *Tetrameles nudiflora*. The region produces honey and types of minerals.

The park is habitat of various wildlife species such as Asian Elephant, Guar, Tiger, Sambar, Lar Gibbon and Phayre's Leaf-monkey. Species of birds include Red Junglefowl, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Thick-billed Green-pigeon, Scarlet-backed Flowerpecker, Olive-backed Sunbird and Scaly-breasted Munia.

Freshwater fish include Yellow Mystus, Transverse-bar Barb, Ocellated Featherback, Giant Snakehead and Greater Brook Carp.





Attractions

◆ **Scenic reservoir.** The reservoir offers impressive images of nature. There are many picturesque views on the cruise trip along the 100 kilometres surrounding the lake. A superb trip for naturalists.

◆ **Huai Mae Khamin Waterfall.** Cascading through many levels, this is one of the most beautiful waterfalls in the Kingdom of Thailand.

◆ **Pha Tat Waterfall.** A beautiful scenic waterfall in Thong Pha Phum district. The lush forest is origin with abundant various plants.

◆ **Neramit Cave.** The limestone cave has a very beautiful dome decorated with formations of stalagmite.

◆ **Phra Cave.** The cave houses an ancient Buddha image. Once, the cave served as refuge for the Siamese Army defeated by the Burmese in the 13th century.

◆ **Nam Chon.** A scenic reservoir.

◆ **Hot Spring.** These are visible along roadside.



Getting There

■ Kheuan Srinagarindra National Park is 105 kilometres from the town of Kanchanaburi. Motorists can travel via Highway 3199 bound for Srinagarind Dam. From there, it takes 2 hours to reach park headquarters on the road. Huai Mae Khamin Waterfall is on this route. A chartered boat is available at Srinagarindra Dam Market or Tha Kradan Market of Si Sawat district. The boat trip takes one hour.

Lam Khlong Ngu

National Park

The lush tropical jungle is attached to Thung Yai Naresuan Wildlife Sanctuary, Khao Laem and Khuean Srinagarindra National Park, so it is very rich in bio-diversity both flora and fauna. The region is a total 672.60 square kilometres.

History

The Royal Forest Department has set up a National Forest Reserve covering a large area of 672.60 square kilometres in Khao Phra Ruesi and Bo Rai in Thong Pha Phum. It became the 123rd National Park in Thailand on December 25, 2009.

Geography

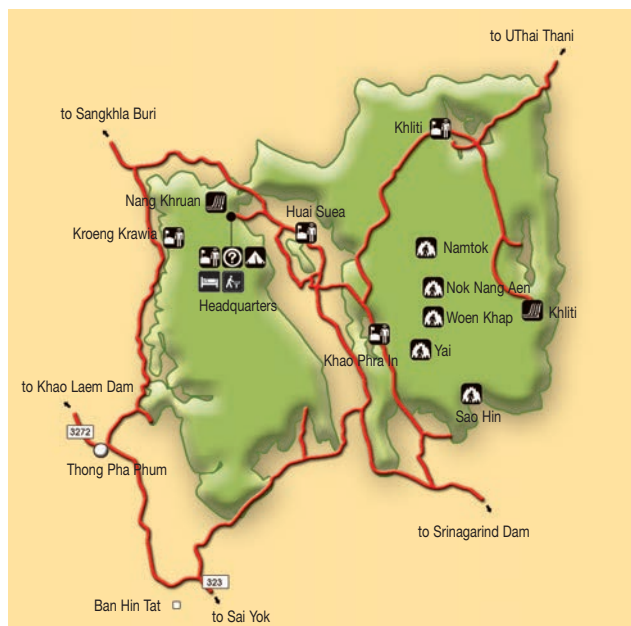
As part of the Tenasserim Range, most of the region has elevations between 100 and 1,000 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Summer months are March to May. Rainy season begins from June to October and winter season is November to February.

Flora and Fauna

Wildlife that habit in the area include Southwest China Serow, along with protected mammals such as



Getting There

- From Kanchanaburi, take Highway 323 (Kanchanaburi-Thong Pha Phum) until you reach Phuttho Junction, then turn right and drive for a further 12 kilometres. Turn right again and keep going for 4 kilometres to Lam Khlong Ngu National Park.
- The park can be reached by boat from the Reservoir of Srinagarindra Dam. The boat can reach Nam Chon Pier at Khlong Ngu Canal, then you need to walk for 6 kilometres along the cascading canal to Lam Khlong Ngu waterfall and Sao Hin Cave.



the Asian Elephant. Bird species include Pheasants and Great Hornbill.

Attractions

- ◆ **Sao Hin Cave.** A cave with a subterranean river. It houses a huge limestone pillar that has been forming for the last million years.
- ◆ **Tham Nok Nang Aen or Swallow Cave.**
- ◆ **Namtok Cave.**
- ◆ **Nang Khruan Waterfall.** This waterfall also is near Khao Paet Roi, Chai streams and Khлити Waterfall.

Mu Ko Chang National Park

The national park is a big archipelago of over 40 islands in Trat province. It became established in 1982 as Thailand's 45th national park. The total area is 650 square kilometres of which two-thirds is marine area.



Dipterocarpus alatus, Anisoptera costata, Hopea odorata, Terminalia catappa, Calophyllum inophyllum and Acanthus ebracteatus.

The park's wildlife includes 29 mammal species, 74 types of birds and 42 kinds of reptiles such as Ko Chang Frog (*Limnonectes kohchangae*), the endemic animal of Ko Chang.

Attractions

◆ **Than Mayom Waterfall.** The waterfall is well known for visitations by 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.

◆ **Khlong Phlu Waterfall.** The large waterfall is only 3 kilometres from the Ao Khlong Phrao community.



Geography

The park's boundary covers only parts of Ko Chang, which is Thailand's third largest island. The huge island is actually high mountain range with the highest peak at 743 metres above mean sea level.

Flora and Fauna

Tropical rain forest, mangrove forest, and beach blanket the island. There are many plants, including

◆ **Khlong Phrao Beach and Chaiyachet Cape.** The beach stretches to connect with Kai Bae Beach. At the northern end, Chaiyachet Cape offers very nice views.

◆ **Kai Bae Beach.** The beautiful and tranquil beach connects to Khlong Phrao Beach. It is a favorite among sea lovers who prefer a quiet beach.

◆ **Ko Chang.** There are numerous attractions such as Khlong Nonsi Waterfall and Sai Daeng



Beach at the northeast end of the island. Khlong Son Beach is located in the north and Sai Khao Beach in the northwest. Khiri Phet Waterfall, Bang Bao Beach and Sai Yao Beach are located in the south.

◆ **Ko Laoya.** A large bay in the south lined by coral reef.

◆ **Ko Wai.** The large island has a rocky beach and origin to some beautiful coral reef. The area is south of Ko Laoya.

◆ **Mu Ko Rang.** The small archipelago west of Ko Mak is lined by colourful coral reef. The area is part of bird's nesting site.

◆ **Along the Park 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 outside the park.



Getting There

- The boat to Ko Chang and Laem Ngop, which is 16 kilometres from the provincial town of Trat takes 45 minutes and up to 5 hours depending on the destination. Although monsoon season at the park is from May to October and can make it difficult to get around. The shuttle boat to Ko Chang remains operational.

Namtok Chet Sao Noi National Park

The national park has a scenic waterfall with an interesting past. The name of waterfall comes from a story about the people in the area. Long ago, seven women drowned together in the waterfall. Another story tells that it comes from a village named Ban Sao Noi and later renamed to Chet Sao Noi. The national park covers a total of 40.89 square kilometres.



Geography

Mostly rugged mountain range with elevations between 180 to 402 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Rainy season is start from May to October. Winter months are November to February and summer period is from February to April.

Flora and Fauna

Evergreen and Mixed Deciduous forest blanket the park with various species of plants. The park is home to mammals and birds such as Siamese Hare, Malayan Porcupine, Grey-capped Emerald Dove and Richard's Pipit.

Attractions

◆ **Chet Sao Noi Waterfall.** The waterfall has 7 levels, each about 2-5 metres high. The stream flows like a whirlpool, but there are shallow pools where one can enjoy a swim. The most beautiful level is the fourth, especially in the months between November and April when the clear waters are safe for visitors. Between May and October can bring rather torrential flows along its current.

◆ **Muak Lek Stream.** The river runs all year along a distance of about 15 kilometres.

◆ **Tree Tunnel.** This is an astonishing scenic sight on Highway 2089. The tree tunnel occurred from covering of a tree crown parallel to the road. A beautiful experience for visitors.

Nearby are two more waterfalls to the west of the Namtok Chet Sao Noi National Park. The first waterfall is about 4 metres from the ground and the second waterfall is about 20 metres high. Huai Laeng is the source of both waterfalls, which flow only in the rainy season.



Getting There

- From Bangkok travel along Highway 1 for about 108 kilometres. Follow the train line northwest about 113 kilometres. From the city of Saraburi, take the main route, Highway 2. The distance from the city of Saraburi to the crossroad of Province Highway 2224 is about 41 kilometres. This crossroad to Namtok Chet Sao Noi National Park is about 12 kilometres on the right, opposite Namtok Chet Sao Noi Temple.

Namtok Khlong Kaeo National Park



In a bid to protect the forest from illegal logging in Khao Saming of Trat, the Royal Forest Department has planned to upgrade the forest reserve, namely Khao Cha Om, Khao Khlong Puk and Khao Mapring in the Khao Saming and Bo Rai areas of the national park.

History

As part of Khao Saming Forest Reserve, Namtok Khlong Kaeo National Park will acquire a total area of 197.92 square kilometres. On December 25, 2009 the area of Namtok Khlong Kaeo was established as Thailand's 121st National Park.

Geography

Most of the area is mountain range with elevations between 100 to 836 metres above mean sea level. Khao Ta Bat is the highest peak at 836 metres.

Climate

Summer months are from February to April. The rainy season is May to October. Winter season is November to January.

Flora and Fauna

The major plants within the moist evergreen forests are *Hopea ferrea*, *Dipterocarpus dyeri* and *Anisoptera costata*. The rare and localized orchid, *Paphiopedilum* sp. can be found among tall trees.

Wildlife found in the park include Sambar, Tiger, Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Sun Bear, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Indochinese Lutung, Squirrels, Common Palm Civet, White-rumped Shama, Black-crested Bulbul and Western Koel.

Attractions

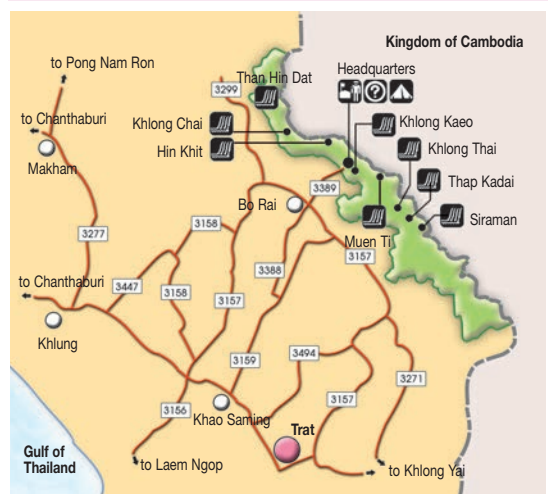
The park has rich wilderness packed with great bio diversity of flora and fauna. Its lush watershed jungle feeds many streams and creates some natural attractions.

◆ **Khlong Kaeo Waterfall.** The waterfall has 7 levels and situated among scenic natural wilderness. Its crystal clear water allows visitor to observe schools of fish.

◆ **Than Hin Dat Waterfall.** The small waterfall has 3 levels and it is an interesting place for naturalists.

Getting There

- The Khao Kaeo Forest and Khao Ta Bat is on the left of Highway 3157. Turn left 3 kilometres prior to Bo Rai district and head for the Border Police Patrol, Company 116. Continue for 5 kilometres, then turn left. Khlong Kaeo Waterfall and the park headquarters of Namtok Khlong Kaeo is 4 kilometres distance.



Namtok Phlio National Park

The mountainous landscape and watershed of this national park acquires a total area of 134.50 square kilometres and blankets areas in Mueang, Laem Sing, Khlung and Makham districts of Chanthaburi. Its tropical watershed is origin to many streams, including Phlio Waterfall, a landmark of Chanthaburi province.

History

In 1959, Thailand combined fourteen forests in the Chanthaburi region. In 1975, it was established as Khao Sa Bap National Park, Thailand's 11st national park. Phlio Waterfall is a well-known major tourist attraction and considered as a landmark of the forest. The park was renamed in 1982.



Geography

A mountainous range with elevations of 20 to 924 metres above mean sea level. The highest peak, Khao Map Wa Krok is at 924 metres. Its tropical watershed and rain forest supply water to various canals such as Sa Bap, Narai, Trok Nong and Makok.

Climate

Summer brings drought conditions to the forests from February to April. Monsoon season is from May to October. Between November and February is the most comfortable period to visit the park.

Flora and Fauna

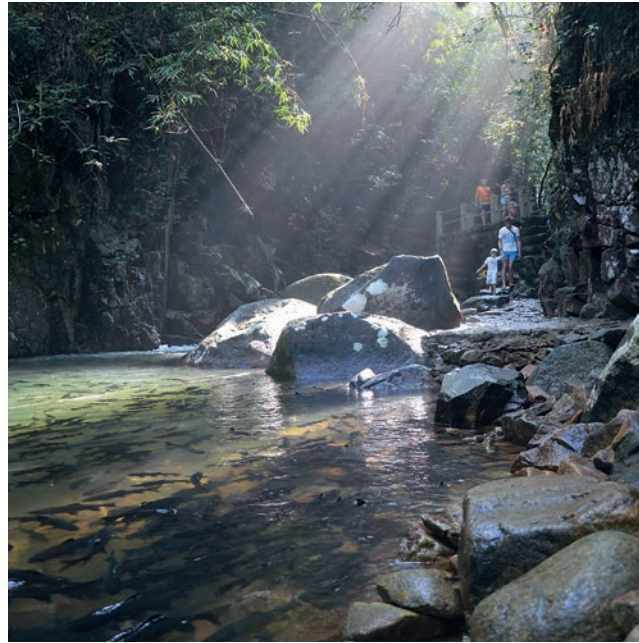
Tropical rain forests blanket the entire region. There is a significant abundance of plants such as *Aquilaria crassna*, *Garcinia speciosa*, *G. cowa*, *Dipterocarpus turbinatus*, *Shorea henryanum*, *Hopea ferrea* and *Pterocymbium tinctorium*.

The lush forests provide food and water sources to a number of wildlife. These include Southwest China Serow, Northern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Pig-tailed Macaque, Lar Gibbon, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Sunda Pangolin and Common Palm Civet.

Rare species of birds include Silver Pheasant, as well as 90 species of local birds such as Green-backed Heron, Brahminy Kite, Shikra, Crested Serpent-eagle, Besra, Thick-billed Green-pigeon, Green Imperial-pigeon, Red Turtle-dove, Grey-capped Emerald Dove, Red-breasted Parakeet, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Black-crested Bulbul, Red-headed Trogon, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Lineated Barbet, Brown Shrike, Grey-capped Woodpecker and White-rumped Shama.

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 Trat.



◆ **Phranang Ruea Lom Stupa and Alongkon Pagoda.** Located near Phlio Waterfall, the stupa and pagoda were built during the reign of King Rama V (Alongkon Pagoda : 1876, Stupa : 1881) to commemorate his Queen HRH Princess Sunandha Kumariratana, who was impressed by natural beauty of the waterfall during her visit in 1874. The pyramidshape stupa houses her ashes.

◆ **Khlong Narai Waterfall.** The waterfall is in Khlong Narai sub-district, 6 kms. from downtown Chanthaburi, two kilometres 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, Wild Boar, Civet, Hog Badger, Mongoose and Northern Red Muntjac 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 Trok Nong sub-district. Motorist can head to Phlio Waterfall, turn left at Khlung intersection and keep on Khlung-Makham Road for 10 kilometres, then turn left at Trok Nong market, heading to Trok Nong Waterfall for 2 kilometres. The first step is Mai Si Waterfall, the middle section is Klang waterfall and Trok Nong is on the top.

Attractions

◆ **Phlio Waterfall.** The word “Phlio” means sand or sandy beach comes from dialect of the Chong people, a local ethnic group. Some say that Phlio Waterfall is named after a climbing plant that grows well on sandy soil. When in bloom, the Phlio plant flowers a bouquet of orange tiny fruit, the size of a raisin. It is widely found in this area.

The waterfall flows year round. When the sun illuminates through the crystal clear water to the sandy floor at over 2 metres depth is quite beautiful. Schools of fish, particularly the Soro Brook Carp, in the waterfall and canal nearby make the place even more fascinating.

Phlio Waterfall is the main attraction of the park as well as the picnic venue makes an enjoyable visit for locals and tourists.

Namtok Sam Lan

National Park

The rich forests of Khao Sam Lan along with its beautiful waterfall and easy accessibility from Bangkok provide a visitor with a destination of scenic nature and beauty that can only be found within a national park. You should allow a full day to admire the many attractions. The total area is 44.57 square kilometres and includes areas of Kaeng Khoi, Nong Khae, Wihan Daeng and Mueang districts of Saraburi province.

History

During World War II, the forest of Khao Sam Lan was once occupied by the Imperial Japanese Army

because of its strategic location. During this time, the large forested region deteriorated due to the pavement of roads, building of air-raid shelters and outdoor kitchens.

After the war, some 24 square kilometres were declared as the Namtok Sam Lan Forest Park. In 1960, reforestation began and the region gradually recovered. By 1981, the park was upgraded to a national park and named Khao Sam Lan National Park. It is the 27th national park in Thailand. Later it was renamed to Namtok Sam Lan National Park in year 2006.

Geography

Rolling hills and valleys characterize the national park, including watershed forests that originate many waterfalls and streams that nourish the plantations nearby. Khao Khrok is the highest peak and towers at 329 metres above mean sea level. The elevation offers panoramic views of Saraburi town and nearby communities. The peak lies on a shale layer of clay and sandy soil and covers most of the area.



Climate

The mild climate makes it enjoyable to visit the national park year-round. From February to April, temperatures can be warm and be very humid. Monsoon season brings heavy rains during May to September. Winter months from October to January offer the most pleasant time to visit.

Flora and Fauna

The park is combined of mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp and dry evergreen forest. There are over 800 types of plants such as *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Hopea odorata*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Tectona grandis* and *Lagerstroemia calyculata*. The plants in the dense shrub level areas include bamboo, rattan and wild orchid.

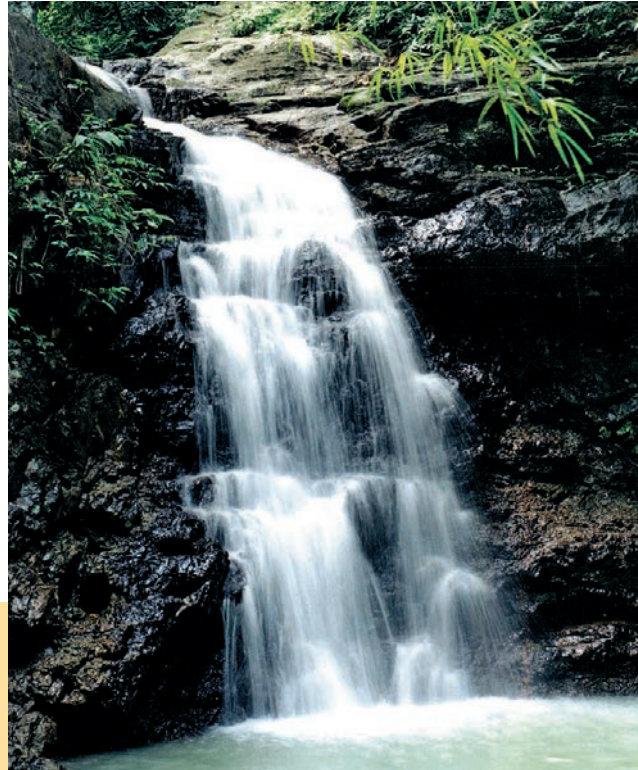
Small wildlife found in the park include Northern Red Muntjac, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Pig-tailed Macaques, Wild Boar, Finlayson's Squirrel and Northern Treeshrews.

Among the species of birds are Streak-eared Bulbul, Sooty-headed Bulbul, Green-billed Malkoha, Oriental Magpie-robin, Western Koel, Plaintive Cuckoo, Greater Coucal, Red Junglefowl, Brown Shrike, Long-tailed Shrike, White-rumped Shama, Plain Prinia, Javan Pond-heron and Puff-throated Babbler.

Attractions

◆ **Sam Lan Waterfall.** The waterfall cascades over 3 levels of rock terrace. Each level is 5 metres high. The area makes an enjoyable place to picnic and enjoy the scenery.

◆ **Pho Hin Dat Waterfall and Ton Rak Sai Waterfall.** Very nice for scenery and nice place to relax and picnic.



Getting There

- Motorists can take Highway 1 north to Saraburi province. Then, turn right at km. 104, which is 3 kilometres before reaching Saraburi. The park's headquarters is 9 kilometres off the main road. Alternatively, scheduled buses leave at the Northern Bus Terminal regularly for Saraburi. At Saraburi station, there are plenty of chartered buses too.

Pang Sida National Park



The national park features has many natural resources along with lush forests and attractions such as Pang Sida and Pha Takhian Waterfalls and unique river rock formations. The park covers a total area of 844 square kilometres within Mueang and Watthana Nakhon districts in Sa Kaeo province and Na Di district in Prachin Buri province.

History

Established in 1978 by the Royal Forest Department for its lush scenic forests. The park's mountain range generates many streams which are origin to waterfalls such as Pang Sida and feeds into the Bang Pakong River. In 1982, it became Thailand's 41st national park.

Geography

Dense forests blanket most of the mountain slopes and towering cliffs making for many scenic waterfalls and tributaries of the Bang Pakong River.

Climate

The rainy season starts from June and lasts until November. Winter is from December to February and the summer months are March until May.

Flora and Fauna

Pang Sida National Park comprises of tropical rain forest, dry evergreen forest, montane rain forest, mixed deciduous forest, and deciduous dipterocarp forest. Many significant plants grow in this region namely *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Aquilaria crassna*, *Schima wallichii*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Spondias pinnata*, *Dillenia obovata*, *Canarium denticulatum* and *Dalbergia cochinchinensis*. Plants at the shrub level include types of herbs and beautiful

terrestrial orchids such as *Habenaria rhodocheila* and *Dendrobium ellipsophyllum*.

Wildlife include the Asian Elephant, Guar, Banteng, Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Southwest China Serow, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Tiger and Pileated Gibbon.



There are many species of birds such as White-breasted Waterhen, Greater Coucal, Austen's Brown Hornbill, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Great Hornbill, Hill Myna, Zebra Dove and Eastern Spotted Dove, along with a rare and endangered reptile, the Siamese Crocodile.

Attractions

◆ **Pang Sida Waterfall.** The stream spills over a 10-metre high rock surface into a large pool and rock terrace. The area is comprised of scenic nature and enjoyable areas to relax and picnic. Pang Sida Waterfall is located 1.5 kilometres from park headquarters.

◆ **Pha Takhian Waterfall.** The stream that originates Pang Sida Waterfall arrives here and cascades from a 10-metre high and 20-metre wide rock cliff. Here, the water roars loud and sprays the entire area. The waterfall is only 2.4 kilometres from park headquarters. You can enjoy walking the shady trail to reach the waterfall.

◆ **Tha Krabak Waterfall.** The waterfall is close to Ta Krabak Reservoir, only 5 kilometres from the park headquarters.

◆ **Khwaë Makha Waterfall and Suan Man Suan Thong Waterfall.** Both waterfalls are 15 kilometres from park headquarters. Because of difficult accessibility, you should allow to an overnight stay to camp in the jungle.

◆ **Chedi Mountain.** The pagoda-shaped rock is 4 metres high and 25 metres in circumference and naturally beautified. The rock is 40 kilometres from park headquarters.

Getting There

■ You can take the Bangkok -Aranyaprathet coach that regularly leaves from Mo Chit 2 or take the Northeast Bus Terminal in Bangkok for Sa Kaeo, which is 256 kilometres distance. From Sa Kaeo, a regular bus leaves for the park headquarters via Highway 3462. Alternatively, can go by train and travel from Bangkok to Aranyaprathet. The train leaves Bangkok station at 6:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. Upon arrival, take a local bus to the park's entrance.



Phu Toei National Park

Among tall mountain slopes with steep valleys, the Thewada crest is the highest peak at an elevation of 1,123 metres above mean sea level. The watershed forests of Phu Toei also feature a large area of scenic pine forests. The total area is 317.4752 square kilometres situated over Dan Chang of Suphan Buri.

History

In 1998, it was established as Thailand's 86th national park. The multiple natural resources of plants and wildlife, along with its expansive forests distinguish this beautiful region.

Geography

The mountain range consists of steep slopes and watershed forests, which feed into many streams nearby namely Lam Taphoen, Lek Lai, Ong Khot, Ong Phra, Tha Duea and Khamin.

Climate

Early months of each year are always warm and followed by the rainy season. Heavy rains come in August through October.

Flora and Fauna

Lush tropical jungle blanket most of the region such as *Azalia xylocarpa*, *Pinus merkusii*, mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest, which share the area with dry evergreen forest. Plants prominently in the park include *Dipterocarpus obtusifolius*, *Xylia xylocarpa* and *Dalbergia oliveri*.

The park is habitat to a variety of wildlife due to its abundance of water and food sources such as Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Lar Gibbon, Asiatic

Black Bear, Bengal Slow Loris, Malayan Porcupine, Finlayson's Squirrel and Wild Boar.

Attractions

◆ **Two Needle Leaf Pine Forest** or *Pinus merkusii* **Forest.** The large pine forest amazes most visitors to this region. Each tree is over 2 metres in circumference and estimated to be 200 to 300 years old. From the hilltop, there is spectacular panoramic mountain scenery.

◆ **Phu Krathing Waterfall.** The waterfall can be reached via a dirt road from Khlong Lek Lai village. Then, go to Wang Hora village. Phu Krathing Ranger Station can provide safety and assistance to the tourists.



◆ **Taphoen Khi Waterfall.** The famous waterfall is situated next to Phu Krathing Waterfall. From Thung Makok, head for Pa Phak village and then turn left uphill to Taphoen Khi village, an ancient Karen village. The weapon-free village is located on a buffer zone of the UNESCO's World Heritage site, the Huai Kha Khaeng Wildlife Sanctuary. The waterfall flows year-round. Nearby is Thewada crest at 1,123 metres high from mean sea level.

◆ **Nakhi Cave, Mi Noi Cave, Hoi Raya Cave and Pha Yai Cave.** The caves is close to park headquarters at Pa Khit village. The caves are beautified naturally with formations of stalagmites and stalactites. The areas around the caves are habitat to wildlife such as Malayan Porcupine, Bamboo Rats, Golden Jackal, Wild Boar, Northern Red Muntjac, and Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Green-billed Malkoha, White-rumped Shama, Black-crested Bulbul and a number of Insect-eating Bats. The caves are part of Tuti mountain range and consist of *Dracaena loureiri*.

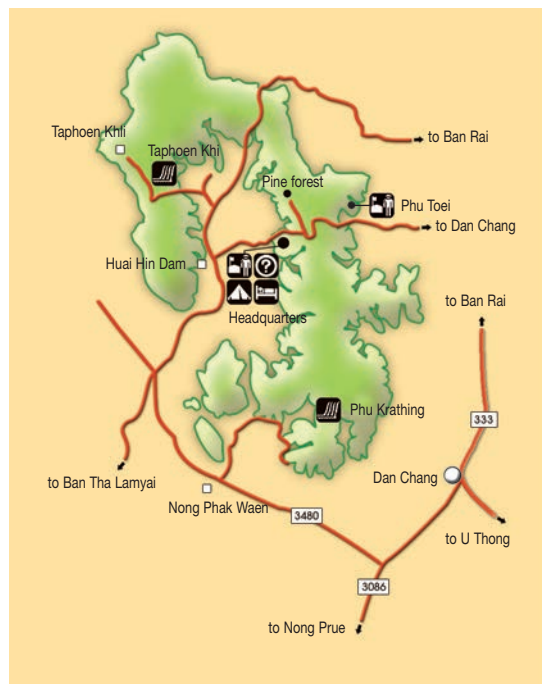
◆ **Tat Yai Waterfall.** The large and shady waterfall is covered with green layers of moss and fern. Abundant step rocks and shallow pools allow tourists to walk freely. A camp ground is available. The entrance is at the Lauda Air Spirit House.

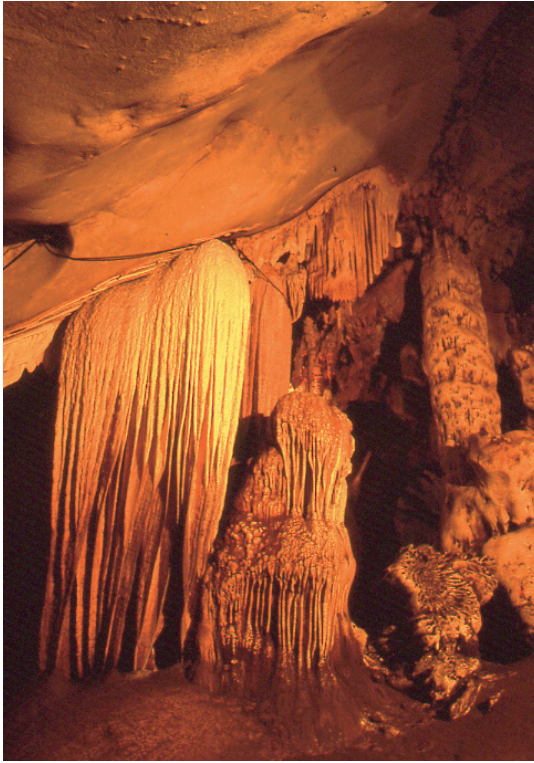
◆ **Pha Yai.** The towering cliff is part of Tuti Mountain. There is a beautiful cave which houses unique formations of stalagmites and stalactites. The cave is 2 kilometres from park headquarters. The trail is steep and can be difficult.



Getting There

- From Bangkok, motorists can take Highway 340 to Doem Bang Nang Buat district, 150 kilometres distance. Turn left and continue 33 kilometres. Then, turn right onto Highway 333 and head toward Dan Chang district, 40 kilometres.
- Alternatively, from Bangkok, can take Highway 4 to Nakhon Pathom and turn right at Malaiman Intersection to Highway 321 toward U Thong district, 70 kilometres distance. From U Thong, take Highway 333 to Dan Chang district in Suphan Buri province for 50 kilometres.
- From Dan Chang take Highway 333 (Dan Chang-Ban Rai) for 15 kilometres to the asphalt road at Wang Khan village bound for Pakhi village, 15 kilometres distance. The park entrance is 3 kilometres from Pakhi village via dirt road.





One of the park's features is the picturesque Sai Yok Waterfall, well known for over a century. Part of history, King Rama the V once visited the waterfall and spent the day to relax and swim among the shady forest. Sai Yok National Park today occupies a vast area of 500 square kilometres, including some areas of Thong Pha Phum and Sai Yok of Kanchanaburi province.

History

After surveying, the Royal Forest Department found the forests rich in natural beauty. The park encompasses many beautiful waterfalls, caves and historic evidence from World War II. From 1939 to 1941, the Imperial Japanese Army initiated a railway project to join Thailand and Burma known as Death Railway. Allied POWs were forced to work in the area, which included some parts within the park and origin of the Sai Yok Waterfall. Large stoves

Sai Yok

National Park

belonging to the Japanese Army remain scattered around. Because of its unique abundance of natural beauty and significant historic artifacts, the area was declared Thailand's 19th national park in 1980.

Geography

The limestone mountain range stretches from a north to south direction forming the border of Thailand to Myanmar in the west. The highest peak is Khao Khwae at 1,327 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

During winter months, the park can be damp from December to February. Rainy season is between May and October. Summer months become hot and dry until April.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous forest, deciduous dipterocarp forest and tropical rain forest dominate most of the area. The rest of the park is covered by bamboo forests, which include *Bambusa bambos*, *Xylia xylocarpa*, *Walsura robusta*, *Dialium cochinchinense* and *Shorea obtusa*.

The park is habitat for a variety of wildlife including Asian Elephant, Northern Red Muntjac, Malayan Tapir, Lar Gibbon, Pheasants, Coucals and Bulbuls.

Attractions

◆ **Sai Yok Waterfall.** The stream divides before it cascades directly into the Khwae Noi River. The stream to the north crosses a large rock 8 metres high. The stream to the south cascades from higher elevations over many steps into the river. An enjoyable way to admire the waterfall is by walking over the bridge or views from a cruise boat.

◆ **Sai Yok Noi Waterfall.** The famous waterfall originates from a stream which flows through shady forests and cascades over limestone rock.



Getting There

- By train. A daily train leaves Thonburi Station for Namtok Station (Sai Yok Noi). Then, take the minibus for 34 kilometres. The park entrance is located at Km. 97 on the Kanchanaburi-Thong Pha Phum Road. The waterfall is 3 kilometres off the main road.
- By bus. Many buses leave the Southern Bus Terminal in Bangkok for Kanchanaburi. Take a Thong Pha Phum Bus to the park entrance. Motorcycle taxis are available to reach the park entrance.

◆ **Khwae Noi River.** The Khwae Noi River runs through scenic landscapes unique to the islands, along with deep limestone canyons, rapid waters, and sandy beaches. This is an ideal area for rafting.

◆ **Daowadueng Cave.** One of the most famous and beautiful caves in Thailand. The white cave was discovered in 1972 by hunter, Samli Khuha. This 100 metres deep cave can be divided into 8 chambers, each named after its appearance such as the chandelier chamber and the curtain chamber.

◆ **Lawa Cave.** Although a small entrance, the cave surprises visitors with its huge chambers inside. Naturally beautified with stalagmite and stalactite, the large chamber resembles a huge theatre. Situated on the south side of the park, the cave is 20 kilometres from Sai Yok Waterfall on the water way.

◆ **Kitti's Hog-nosed Bat.** Thailand's smallest bat, it was discovered in 1973 by Thai biologist, Kitti Thonglongya and given the scientific name of *Craseonycteris thonglongyai*. The bat is the world's smallest mammal and weighs only 1.5-2.0 grams and 2.5-3.0 centimetres in length with a 10-centimetre wingspan. The Kitti Hog-nosed Bat can be found only in caves within this park.

There are many other caves in the park worth to visit which are rich in natural beauty and historical value. Archeological artifacts of human activity from the last geological era can be seen in Phra Cave, Lawa Cave and Sai Yok Cave.



Thong Pha Phum

National Park

In a bid to protect and develop the forests in the western region, the Government has initiated a project to protect all the forests along the entire length of the Thailand-Myanmar border in order to save the ecological system which is a significant genetic source for the area's flora and fauna. In addition, plans are set to add additional parks in the region.

History

The park covers a total area of 1,235.5428 square kilometres covering Thong Pha Phum and Sangkhla Buri districts in Kanchanaburi province. It became the 114th National Park in Thailand on December 23, 2009.

Geography

As part of the Tenasserim Range, elevations are between 100 to 1,249 metres. Its highest peak, Khao Chang Phueak towers 1,249 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

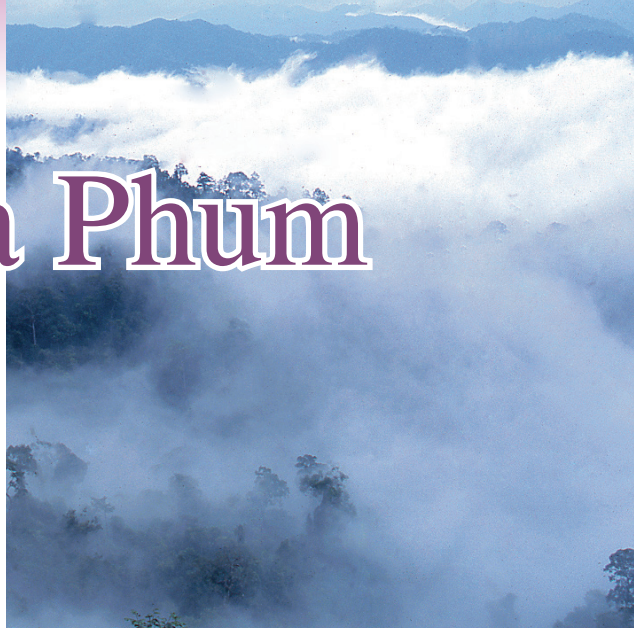
Rainy season is from May to September. Winter is primarily in January and summer months are February to April.

Flora and Fauna

Many species of wildlife can be seen in the park such as Wild Boar, Northern Red Muntjac, Hornbills, Swallows, Hawks, Owls, Bulbuls and Coucals.

Attractions

- ◆ **Khao Yai Waterfall.** The large waterfall has 3 levels and flows year round.
- ◆ **Nam Dip Yai Waterfall.** Situated next to Khao Yai Waterfall its cascades flow year round among the lush forest.



Getting There

- The surveyed area is 175 kilometres from downtown Kanchanaburi via Highway 323. The survey team station is at Huai Pak Kok Village, only 30 kilometres distance from Thong Pha Phum.



- ◆ **Chok Kradin Waterfall.** The stream cascades off a cliff offering a scenic picture and sprays the entire valley some 30 metres below.
- ◆ **Bi Teng Waterfall.** With an abundance of pools, the waterfall is situated among lush forests and lovely nature.
- ◆ **Sao Thong Hill.** The hilltop flag pole is located exactly on the Thailand-Myanmar border.
- ◆ **Huai Mueang Waterfall.** The waterfall flows year round even when the forest nearby has been degraded by the mining concession.
- ◆ **Khao Khat Viewpoint.** The windy mountain top area offers picturesque panoramic views and assessable year round. The famous viewpoint offers a nice view of Thong Pha Phum.
- ◆ **Khao Laem Reservoir** and located at Km. 15.
- ◆ **Khao Noi Cave.** A very beautiful cave, which houses Buddha images.



National Parks in the
Southern

“

This region covers the South an area from Prachuap Khiri Khan province southward with 43 national parks in total. Several mountain ranges that lie along the south peninsula inter-connected throughout its length separate the narrow coastal plains along the Gulf of Thailand and the Andaman Sea.

”



Ao Manao-Khao Tanyong National Park

Her Royal Highness, Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn visited the people of the island's neighborhood at Bang Manao village in Narathiwat province. She started projects in areas addressing the economy, education, culture and promotion of tourism.



Getting There

- The national park is about 1,150 kilometres from Bangkok. Motorists can take Highway 4 to Highway 42 to Narathiwat province. Then, change to Highway 4084 to the park headquarters.



director newly named it Ao Manao-Khao Tanyong National Park.

Flora and Fauna

The park is home to various forest types and rich with high density of a number of plants and wild animals such as mammals, birds and reptiles.

Attractions

◆ **Ao Manao-Khao Tanyong**, highlight is Manao Bay on Tan Yong Mountain near the park headquarters. Here, a white sand beach overlaps clouds of stone field that are surrounded by a high hill range along the area of the palace. The scenery is very beautiful with the variety of tropical plants within the beach forests. Besides the area forest near the sandy beach is a waterfall with a pool ideal for swimming. The Royal Forest Department named the waterfall Thara Sawan meaning origin to the high mountain in the region of the palace and streams into the Gulf of Thailand.

The director of the Royal Forest Department inspected Narathiwat province policy regarding Ao Manao forest park to classify the forest park to a national marine park since the total area consists of nature resources of pristine white sand beaches and beautiful overlapping rocky seashore. The result confirmed to the officers to take a field trip and carry out more surveys of the area around Ao Manao and establish it as a national park. Results found the area of Manao and surrounding condition of nature resources is very good. The Royal Forest Department agreed to establish it as a national park and the

Ao Phang-nga National Park

The geological phenomenon of land subsidence has created numerous caves, bays and towering limestone islands scattered across the provinces of Phangnga, Krabi, Trang and Satun.

Ao Phang-nga was established in 1981, covering an area of 400 square kilometres in Mueang, Takua Thung and Ko Yao districts of Phangnga province. It comprises of mangrove forests and 42 islands. Ao Phang-nga was declared the 25th national park of Thailand

Geography

There are prehistorical artifacts found around Khao Tao within the park boundary, which indicated

that human occupied the caves and cliffs in Phangnga and Krabi 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-at Thao. Cave paintings in Ao Phang-nga appear in different patterns and shapes such as man carrying fish, crab, langur, bird, elephant, alphabetlike shape arrow, fishing tool and boat.



Flora and Fauna

Ao Phang-nga is one of the best and big mangrove forests 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*, *Bruguiera*, *Xylocarpus* and *Avicennia* sp.

On land, tropical rain forest occupies plain and valley with deep rich soil where *Hopea*, *Artocarpus*, *Acacia*, *Garcinia*, *Morinda* and *Colocasia* sp. The tropical rain forest is found also on limestone islands, which are occupied by *Euphorbia*, *Pandanus*, *Cycas*, *Zingiber* 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. Mammals such as Dusky Leaf-monkey, Smooth-coated Otter and Crab-eating Macaque are in treated status. Birds found in the park include Pacific Reef Egret, White-bellied Sea-eagle, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Brahminy Kite and Swiftlets.

In the sea, many species of fishes and marine life such as Ray, Mullet, Coral Rockcod, Damsel fish, Bannerfish, Sea Crab, Brain Coral, Sea Cucumber, Sea Fan and Shark and are widely found.



Attractions

◆ **Ko Phanak.** The big island with plenty of cave is situated on the cruise line between Phuket and Phang-nga. 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 where a 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 that 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 numerous ancient painting that can be dated back to over a thousand years.



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.

Bang Lang National Park

The park acquires a total area of 261 square kilometres in Bannang Sata, Than To, and Betong districts of Yala. By its lush forest and scenic reservoir, the park was established in 1999 as one of the five national parks established to celebrate the 60th anniversary of His Majesty the King on December 5, 1987. Bang Lang was declared the 88th national park of Thailand

Geography

With an elevation at 600 metres above mean sea level, the national park features various landscapes, ranging from rugged mountains to hills and some plain.

The park slopes down from south to north. It is watershed area that feeds many tributaries of the Pattani River such as the 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 year. In summer, from January to April, the average temperature is 29 degree Celsius.



Flora and Fauna

Tropical rain forest densely carpets the park. Its significant plants include *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Hopea odorata*, *Johannesteijsmannia altifrons*, *Phanera aureifolia* and *Mesua nervosa*.

Wildlife found in the park include Asian Elephant, Southern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Sumatran Serow, Wild Boar, Stump-tailed Macaque, Banded Surili, Lar Gibbon, Malayan Porcupine, Guar, Malayan Tapir and Banteng.

There are different kinds of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Red - whiskered Bulbul, and 9 species of Hornbills 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 dam is located at Bang Lang village, Bacho sub-district, on Highway 410, about 50 kilometres from Mueang Yala, then turn left and continue 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 about 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. You can walk up to the top level which is 500 metres from the lowest level. There are pavilions for tourist can relax. Shady natural setting makes it a nice place for bird watching. The waterfall is 4 kilometres from Than To district and 16 kilometres from Bannang Sata district. You can use Highway 410, Yala-Betong Road. The waterfall is at the 56th mile marker.

◆ **La-ong Rung Waterfall.** It is an extremely high waterfall that sprays the valley. Under sunshine, its spraying water makes rainbow. It is situated at km. 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 and Southern Red Muntjac. 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.



Getting There

- The park headquarters is located at Than To Waterfall, Tham Talu sub-district, Bannang Sata district of Yala, at km. 56 of Highway 410.



Budo-Su-ngai Padi

National Park



The wilderness in the Budo-Su-ngai Padi Range once was stronghold of terrorists. After the region return peace and safety, its natural beauty was witnessed. His Majesty the King visited the area on September 7, 1981 and mentioned that the Budo-Su-ngai Padi Range, which is the highest peak of Narathivat at 600 metres above sea level, is a significant watershed feeding 3 streams. The park was established in 1999 with a total area of 341 square kilometres covering parts of Narathivat, Yala and Pattani provinces. It was declared the 96th national park of Thailand

Geography

The park features rugged mountains. Tawe is the highest peak at 548 metres above mean sea level. The forest stretches in north-south direction. It is watershed of many streams such as Sai Buri River, Bang Nara River and Khlong Tan Yong Mat.

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 faguetiana*, *Parashorea stellata*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Mesua nervosa*, *Dyera costulata* so very rare and endangered plants of rattan and palm such as *Calamus*, *Johannesteijsmannia* and *Bauhinia*. Such endemic plants are found only in deep jungle on high mountains.

Wildlife found includes Southern Red Muntjac, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Sumatran Serow, Sunda Flying Lemur, Wild Boar, Banteng, Pig-tailed Macaque, Malayan Tapir, Black Giant Squirrel and Dusky Leaf-monkey. Birds species such as Green-backed Heron, Ferruginous Partridge, Blue-crowned Hanging-parrot, Thick-billed Pigeon, Red-whiskered Bulbul, Plain-pouched Hornbill, Maroon Woodpecker, White-rumped Shama, Bushy-crested Hornbill, Oriental Bay-owl, Rhinoceros Hornbill, Wreathed Hornbill and Red Junglefowl.

Attractions

◆ **Pacho Waterfall.** The large waterfall is 60 metres high. It was awarded the 5th best tourist attractions in the remote South. The waterfall is situated in Pacho village, Bacho district of Narathiwat, 2 kilometres from Pattani-Narathiwat Road.

◆ **Chat Warin Waterfall.** The 7-level waterfall is well known among the local and Malaysian tourists. It is situated in Phlong village, To Deng sub-district, 5 kilometres from Su-ngai Padi district of Narathiwat.



Getting There

■ From Pattani province, motorist can use Highway 42 to Bacho district. The park's headquarters is another 2 kilometres from the intersection.



◆ **Phu Sadet Waterfall.** The 4-level waterfall is quite high. Its second level is the most beautiful spot where the stream cascades from a 12-metre high cliff to a large pool. The waterfall is 10 kilometres from Bacho district.

◆ **Champa Ko Waterfall.** The waterfall is situated in Champa Ko village, Kayomati sub-district, 16 kilometres from Bacho district.

◆ **Khu Waeo Waterfall.** The beautiful 4-level waterfall is located in Barae village, Palu Ka Sano sub-district, Bacho district of Narathiwat.

◆ **The Royal Pavilion.** 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 a total area of 230.8678 square kilometres in Sikao and Kantang districts of Trang. It plays a significant role in conserving Trang's coast, which stretches for 120 kilometres and is a stronghold for the threatened Dugong or Sea Cow, one of the 15 reserved animals of Thailand. It was declared the 36th national park of Thailand

Geography

The parks 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

Trangs Sea is at its most beautiful period without monsoon from December to April of each year.

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*, *Hopea*, *Rhizophora* and *Xylocarpus*.

These forests are habitat for Black-necked Stork, Crab-eating Macaque, Dusky Leaf-monkey and Dugong. The park's marine boundary covers a total area of 137.22 square kilometres, serving to protect coral reef around 4 islands including 8 kinds of Sea Grass, the main food for Dugong.

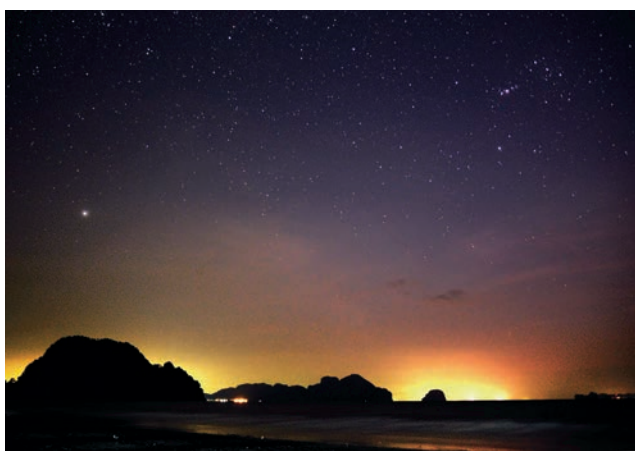
Attractions

Trang's sea always chramful for tourist and attractive 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**, is another tourist pier to reach different attractions in Trang's Sea

◆ **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 large island, occupying a total area of 7.7 square kilometres, is special with Tham Morakot or Emerald Cave where winding tunnel leads to a beautiful beach peacefully hides in the embrace of high cliff. You 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 consists of soft coral reef and sea fan on the south. Most corals are Brain Coral and Staghorn Coral.

◆ **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 containing a great variety of biological diversity. The island has a small cave where diver or boat can get through during low tide. The cave is a habitat to many bats. There is also a small beach inside the cave.

◆ **Ko Waen.** The island is in concession for collecting birds nest. Around the island, particularly on the eastern side, is a large coral colony in great condition. At the depth between 10-20 feet, divers can witness Sea Fan, Sae Whip, Neptunes's Cup Sponge and Brain Coral.

◆ **The Park Headquarters.** Situated on Chang Lang Beach, the headquarters is enveloped with beach and lush vegetation 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. Large rock, look like a lying man, is its outstanding landmark.

Getting There

■ From Trang, motorist can take Highway 4046 and turn left to Highway 4162 to the park headquarters. It takes about an hour from downtown Trang.



Hat Khanom- Mu Ko Thale Tai

National Park

Initially surveyed in 1990 to establish as a national park, the park covers a total area of 315 square kilometres. The park boundary covers various landscapes of forested areas in Sichon and Khanom Districts of Nakhon Si Thammarat and Don Sak District of Surat Thani.

Geography

The park is abundant with lush tropical rainforest, which is watershed of many rivers and streams.

Climate

There are two main seasons in the national park, which are summer from February to April and rainy from May to January.

Flora and Fauna

The park features tropical rain forest including flourishing plants of *Intsia palembanica*, *Hopea odorata*, *Parashorea stellata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus* and *Salacca wallichiana*.

The park is habitat to numerous wildlife species such as Crab-eating Macaque, Dusky Leaf-monkey,





Sumatran Serow, Southern Red Muntjac, Sun Bear, Tiger, Southern Pig-tailed Macaque, Lar Gibbon, Thick-billed Green-pigeon, Western Koel, Oriental Magpie-robin, Nicobar Pigeon and Gulls.

Attractions

The national park features diverse landscapes namely limestone mountain range, mangrove forest, archipelago and beaches. This diversity makes the area a worthwhile place to visit and explore.

◆ **Khao Dat Fa Viewpoint.** From the viewpoint, you can be impressed by beautiful picturesque sunrises and panoramic views of Ko Taen archipelago.

◆ **Khao Wang Cave.** The cave is naturally beautified by unique shaped formations of stalagmites and stalactites.

◆ **Nan Phai Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall runs through 3 tiers to a large deep pool below.

Getting There

- Situated 15 kilometres from Khanom district, the beach of Hat Khanom can be accessed via Highway 4014. The road runs along three connecting beaches, including Hat Nai Pret, Hat Nai Phlao and Hat Paknam. The long stretch of beach are called Hat Na Dan meaning whole and interrupted only by headlands.



◆ **Archipelago.** The park has eight islands where there is beautiful beaches and colorful coral reef.

◆ **Mangrove Forest.** The park has a very rich mangrove forest whose ecological system remains in perfect condition.

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. The park acquires a total area of 387.90 square kilometres in Mueang district of Krabi. Its coastal area features rugged limestone mountains with Khao Hang Nak, the highest peak at 498 metres above sea level. There are several beach types in the park such as sandy, muddy and rock beaches. These beaches include 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 parks boundary except Khao Klom 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 to rare mammals such as Indo-Pacific Bottlenose Dolphin, Spinner Dolphin, Striped Dolphin and Indo-Pacific Finless Porpoise and Rough-toothed Dolphin.

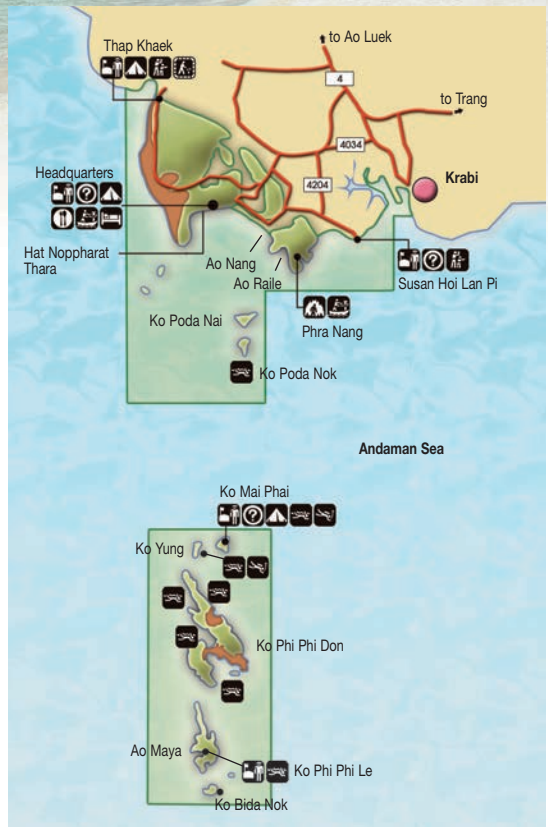
Birds such as White-bellied Sea-eagle, Brahminy Kite, Frigatebird and many kinds of Gulls.



The sea and its stunning coral reefs is rich in marine life such as numerous kinds of coral including Spiny Coral, Finger Coral and Staghorn 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 parks 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 islands 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 that 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 Phaya Nak Cave, referring to Naga like rock in the cave. Hat Noppharat Thara-Mu Ko Phi Phi National Park.

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. You can get around via beach to Ao Nang and Fossil Shell platform.



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 a total area of 38 square kilometres of which 40 percents is land and beaches in Mueang and Thap Sakae districts 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 large water source. Blocking canal creates a reservoir. 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 that comprise of *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Azella 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, Drongos, Indian Roller, Red-wattled Lapwing, Eastern Spotted Dove, Streak-eared

Getting There

- The park can be accessed via Phetkasem Road, 23 kilometres south of the provincial town of Prachuap Khiri Khan. The park 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.

Bulbul, White-breasted Kingfisher and Swiftlets. Furthermore, mammal such as Common 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 viewpoint where tourist can enjoy seascape. The cliff stretches from Wang Duan village 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-nest Swiftlet (*Aerodramus fuciphagus*) and the bird nest concessionaire does not allow visitors to get close to.



Kaeng Krung National Park

Situated in Tha Chana, Chaiya, Tha Chang and Vibhavadi districts 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 a total area of 541 square kilometres, Thailand's 69th national park was established in 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 mean sea level.



Climate

Tropical rain forest attracts rain to soak the park all 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 plant species. Its major plants include *Intsia palembanica*, *Magnolia champaca*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, Fern and Vine. Tree in various sizes make the forest quite dense.

Wildlife found in the park include Asian Elephant, Tiger, Sun Bear, Guar, Banteng, Malayan Tapir, Gibbons, Crab-eating Macaque, Southern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Wild Boar, Stump-tailed Macaque, Dusky Leaf-monkey, Sunda Pangolin, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain and Siamese Hare.

Various kinds of bird such as Streaked Bulbul, Helmeted Hornbill, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Great Hornbill, Crow-billed Drongo, Asian Fairy-bluebird, Red-billed Malkoha, as well as insects reptiles and amphibians.

Attractions

◆ **Bang Hoi Waterfall.** The 3-level waterfall is in Bang Hoi sub-district of Tha Chang district. It is never dry up.

◆ **Bang Cham Waterfall.** The medium size waterfall is very beautiful in rainy season. It is in Takuk Nuea sub-district of Vibhavadi district.

◆ **Khlong Pha Waterfall.** The medium size waterfall cascades through 7 levels. It can be visited all the year round. The waterfall is in Khlong Pha sub-district of Tha Chana district.

◆ **Hot Spring.** Situated in Takuk Nuea sub-district of Vibhavadi district, the hot spring covers almost half a hectare area. It is surrounded by saltlick, so wildlife such as Wild Boar, Southern Red Muntjac, Green-pigeons, Parrots and Doves are always seen.

◆ **Khlong Yan or Yan Canal.** The beautiful stream is equipped with rapids. It is a nice rafting route.

◆ **Khlong Sa.** It is an additional nice and exciting stream for rafting.



Getting There

- Surat Thani is 600 kilometres from Bangkok. From Surat Thani, head to Vibhavadi district and Than Phu Ying village. The park headquarters is a 54 kilometre distance.



Khao Lak-Lam Ru

National Park

Famed for its peaceful beach that stretches kilometres on Andaman coast, the park acquires a total area of 125 square kilometres, covering parts of Takua Pa, Kapong, Thai Mueang and Mueang districts of Phangnga. The country's 66th national park was established in 1991.



main plants are *Dipterocarpus*, *Parashorea*, *Shorea*, *Anisoptera*, *Alstonia*, *Parkia* and *Mesua*.

Beach forest occupies small area by the sea where *Casuarina equisetifolia* and *Pandanus odorifer* are found.

Wildlife found in its lush forest includes Asian Tapir, Tiger, Serow, Banded Surilli, Gibbons, Sambar, Southern Red Muntjac, Wild Boar, Asiatic Black Bear, Black Giant Squirrel, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain and Common Treeshrew.

Different kinds of bird such as Great Argus, Great Hornbill, Maroon Woodpecker, Red Junglefowl, Ashy Drongo, Common Myna, Hill Myna, Malay Brown Barbet, Scarlet Minivet and Streaked Bulbul.

Attractions

Lined by Phetchakasem Highway and the Andaman Sea, attractions in the national parks boundary can be



Geography

The park features rugged mountains, the highest peak at 1,077 metres above mean sea level.

Flora and Fauna

As vast majority is rugged and steep mountains, the area is dominated by tropical rain forest whose

accessed easily. Its headquarters is located nearby the road for 50 metres only, 33 kilometres south of Takua Pa district.

◆ **Lam Ru Waterfall.** The medium size waterfall cascades delicately through 5 steps.

◆ **Ton Chong Fa Waterfall.** This 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 Lam Ru Yai.** The canal comprises many tributaries, each of which runs through beautiful waterfall. It is lifeline of Thai Mueang district.

Only 10 kilometres from the headquarters is Thap Lamu Pier where the 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 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. In 1961, the forest was declared a National Permanent Forest and became a national park in 1986 as Thailand's 52nd national park. The national park offers both stunning waterfalls within its lush forest as well as long stretches of beach to impress the sea admirer.

Geography

The park covers a total area of 71.92 square kilometres in Phangnga province, which cuts through the Phetkasem Highway and divides into two areas, the beach of Hat Thai Mueang and the tropical rain forest of Khao Lampi. Khao Lampi acquires a total area of 57.85 square kilometres. The mountain range lies in a north to south. Khao Khanim is the highest peak at 622 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

The highest temperature is 34.7 degree Celsius while low temperature can be 20.9 degree Celsius. From December to April, calm sea and bright blue skies make this an ideal period to visit the park.



Flora and Fauna

The forest is a watershed that fills up many streams, which flow into the Andaman Sea. They include Khlong Khanim, Lampi, Lam Lang and Phlu. The tropical rain forest is made up of *Dipterocarpus*, *Anisoptera*, *Heritiera*, *Payena* and *Calamus*. On the western side, Hat Thai Mueang acquires an area of 14.15 square kilometres. The beautiful beach stretches 13.6 kilometres along the coast from Thai Mueang to Laem Ao Khao Na Yak. Some areas are occupied entirely by beach forest with *Nypa fruticans*. There is *Casuarina*, *Terminalia* and *Scaevola* sp. in the heart of the area. Peat swamp forest, where *Melaleuca cajuputi* grows densely, occupies the fresh water swamp which acquires an area of 1.6 square kilometres.

Wildlife found commonly in the park includes Wild Boar, Common Palm Civet, Asiatic Black Bear, Southern Red Muntjac, Sambar and Dusky Leaf-monkey. Bird species include Oriental Magpie-robin, Common Kingfisher, Common Myna, Thick-billed Green-pigeon and Hill Myna.

Attractions

◆ **Lampi Waterfall.** Originating from Lampi mountain range, the waterfall cascades through 4 tiers into a large pool. The popular waterfall is situated 1.8 kilometres off Phetkasem Road. Its entrance is opposite Lampi village.

◆ **Ton Phrai Waterfall.** The large waterfall drops from a 50-metre high cliff to a large pool below creating it a nice place to swim. The waterfall is situated among the park's lush nature. The park's entrance is 7 kilometres off Phetkasem Road opposite to Tha So village.

◆ **Ton Bang Po.** The remote waterfall winds through lush forest. It is 25 kilometres from park headquarters and not accessible by car.

◆ **Hat Thai Mueang.** The long beach stretches from Thai Mueang to Khao Na Yak. It is a favored place for turtles to lay eggs during November to March each year. However, the steep beach makes it unsafe to swim during monsoon season.

◆ **Thung Samet.** The sandy field covers an area of 1.6 square kilometres with a stand of *Melaleuca cajuputi* and located in the center of Hat Thai Mueang.

Getting There

- From Thai Mueang municipality, motorists can go direct on the asphalt road to park headquarters about 6.5 kilometres distance. Scheduled buses are available from Khok Kloi intersection to Thai Mueang Market. The trip takes 20 minutes. From the market, it takes 10 minutes by motorbike to the park.



Khao Luang National Park

*The forest of Khao Luang, along with the highest peak in south Thailand is one of the native and most beautiful places in the region. The park is significant for its many streams, which are lifelines of the region. It contains great biodiversity and has a remarkable abundance of plants such as *Cyathea podophylla*, a tree fern and scenic waterfalls. The national park is a worthwhile visit for its natural beauty and attractions. Established in 1974 as Thailand's 9th national park, it acquires a total area of 570 square kilometres.*

Geography

A rugged mountain range and part of the Nakhon Si Thammarat mountain range. Khao Luang is the highest peak towering at 1,835 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

In December, the low temperatures are 15-17 degree Celsius. The warmest month is April when temperatures can rise to 28-30 degree Celsius.





Flora and Fauna

Montane rain forest occupies the land from 1,000 metres elevation to the mountain summit. Its major plants include *Styrax*, *Helicia*, *Mesua*, *Dipteris* and *Calamus*. Tropical rain forest blankets most of the national park. Major plants include *Dipterocarpus* and *Hopea*. There are over 300 orchid species, including some endemic such as *Bulbophyllum smitinandii* and *Didymoplexiopsis khiriwongensis*.

Khao Luang is habitat for some 327 animal species such as Malayan Tapir, Clouded Leopard, Leopard, Tiger, Malay Crested Fireback and Great Argus.

Attractions

◆ **Karom Waterfall.** The very beautiful waterfall cascades through 19 tiers and can only be viewed from the 7th tier called Nan Dat Fa. The park headquarters is located in the waterfall compound.

◆ **Phrom Lok Waterfall.** The waterfall cascades through 50 tiers and can only viewed from the 4th tier. It is situated in Phrom Lok sub-district.

◆ **Ai Khiao or Nai Khiao Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall cascades through over 100 tiers. Tourists are allowed to view up to the 9th tier only. It is situated on the same route 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 suit plant studies and bird watching. With the impressive tier, Fon Saen Ha, is very scenic and beautiful.

Getting There

■ Nakhon Si Thammarat is 800 kilometres from Bangkok. Various modes of transport are available from Bangkok. From Nakhon Si Thammarat, motorists can take Highway 4015 bound for Lan Saka district. The park is another 20 kilometres.

■ Krung Ching Waterfall is 62 kilometres from Nakhon Si Thammarat. Motorists can take Highway 4016 and turn left at Na Reng Intersection, then take Highway 4188 at Huai Phan village. The waterfall's forestry unit is 8 kilometres more.

◆ **Tha Phae Waterfall.** The waterfall flows through 10 tiers. It is 6 kilometres from Karom Waterfall.

◆ **Suan Ai Waterfall.** The small waterfall cascades through 5 tiers. It is situated in Chawang district, 60 kilometres from Nakhon Si Thammarat.

◆ **Kaeo Surakan Cave.** The 700-metre long cave is beautified by unique rock formations. It is located in Khao Kaeo sub-district about 3 kilometres before the park's entrance.

◆ **Viewpoint on Khao Luang Summit.** Towering at 1,835 metres, the summit is an ideal place for those who want to explore hill evergreen forest or study a variety of plant species. It is a very sensitive area from a biological aspect and not suitable for most tourists.

Khao Nam Khang

National Park

For many years, Khao Nam Khang has been well known for its cool weather and the moisture that soak the mountain tops by noon. Along with its many beautiful waterfalls, the park also houses evidence of the long battle between the Thai army and the Chinese communist terrorist in the region. Established in 1991, Khao Nam Khang is Thailand's 65th national park. It acquires a total area of 212 square kilometres in Na Thawi and Sadao districts of Songkhla province.

Geography

A rugged mountain range stretches to the Thailand Malaysia border. The most significant peaks include Khuan Saya and Khuan Khao Mai. Khao Nam Khang is the highest peak at 710 metres above mean sea level. The watershed 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 areas of the park. Its precious plants include *Intsia palembanica*, *Hopea odorata*, *Shorea roxburghii*, *S. farinosa*, *S. leprosula*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Magnolia champaca*, *Parashorea stellata*, *Swintonia* sp., *Cratoxylum maingayi*, *Cynometra iripa*, *Payena acuminata*, *Mangifera* sp., *Calamus* sp., *Salacca wallichiana*, *Musa* sp., fern and moss.

Wildlife found in the park includes Wild Boar, Sun Bear, Southern Red Muntjac, Sumatran Serow, Pig-tailed Macaque, Gibbons, Malayan Tapir, Leopard, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain and Common Palm Civet. The species of birds such as Hornbills, Great Argus, Pheasants, Chestnut-necklaced Partridge, Common Myna, Oriental Magpie-robin and Gold-whiskered Barbet.

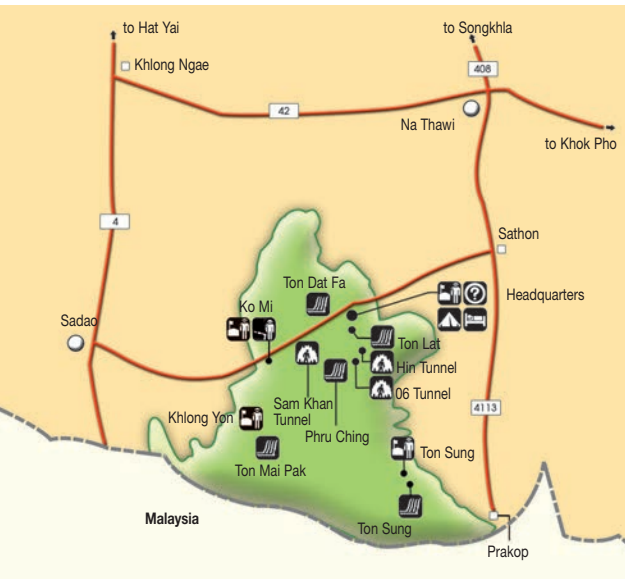
Attractions

◆ **Ton Lat Waterfall.** The waterfall flows over a slope that is covered by thick green moss. Since the park has low visitation during the year, its nature



remains in very good condition. The waterfall is 5 kilometres from Na Prang Village.

◆ **Ton Dat Fa Waterfall.** The stream falls from a high cliff covered by a roof-like rock. The 20-metre high waterfall is situated in a nice surrounding of lush vegetation. Song from Gibbon and other birds can be heard.



Getting There

■ Khao Nam Khang National Park can be accessed from Na Thawi district of Songkhla province. Motorists can head for Sathon village via Na Prang village and Lum village to the park. At times, to cope with the steep uphill road that can be in bad condition, a four wheels drive vehicle is recommended.

◆ **Khao Nam Khang Tunnel.** This tunnel complex was built by communist terrorist during the war and once served as a main camp. There can be seen armory and food storage chambers. The Khao Nam Khang tunnel is a nice place to study. Its eastern entrance leads to a beautiful scenic waterfall called Namtok Phru Ching.

◆ **Phru Ching Waterfall.** Situated 4 kilometres from the park headquarters and is the highest waterfall in the park.

◆ **Ton Mai Pak Waterfall.** The waterfall drops from a high cliff onto a log nailed to the ground below. It is quite a remote attraction. To reach this unique place, plan on a whole day walk to get there. A leading staff or ranger officer is required.

◆ **Wang Luang Phrom Waterfall.** The small waterfall is divided into two streams by a large rock at the center. With little disturbance, the deep pool is abundant with large fishes.

◆ **Mueang Luk Nueng.** Large rock close to the summit of Khao Nam Khang resembles a wall. A group of rocks nearby looks like the remains of an ancient city.



Khao Nan National Park

Khao Nan National Park blankets rugged mountains that lie in a north to south direction. The tropical forest links Khao Luang and Tai Rom Yen National Parks together creating a large jungle region in Nakhon Si Thammarat. The jungle is significant watershed for wildlife. The park was established on December 23, 2009 as Thailand's 113rd national park acquiring a total area of 409.7936 square kilometres.



Geography

The mountains are part of Nakhon Si Thammarat range. The highest peak is Khao Yai with an elevation of 1,438 metres above mean sea level.

Flora and Fauna

Tropical rain forest occupies over 90 percent of the park. The precious plants include *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Insia palembanica*, *Hopea odorata*, *Parashorea stellata* and *Elateriospermum tapos*. The jungle of Khao Nan is habitat to a variety of wildlife namely Sumatran Serow, Malayan Tapir, Civets as well as many birds, reptiles and amphibians.

Attractions

There are many beautiful waterfalls in the park such as Sunantha Waterfall, Krung Nang Waterfall, Khlong Thalik Waterfall, Khlong Phian Waterfall,

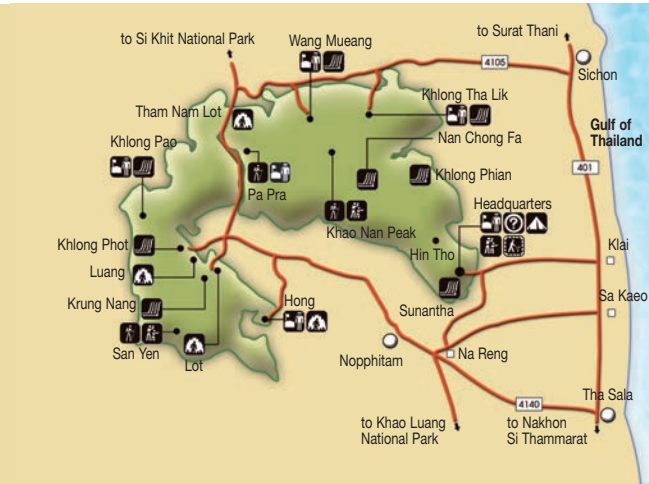
Khlong Pao Waterfall, Nan Chong Fa Waterfall and Khao Dai Waterfall.

◆ **Fantastic Caves.** Caves include Hong Cave, Than Nam Lot Cave, Luang Cave and others.

◆ **Sunantha Viewpoint.** The viewpoint features a nice place to observe a sunrise over the Gulf of Thailand. At night, lights glitter from fishing boats afar. Trekking to Khao Nan Summit is reach from a trail. The peak of Khao Nan is at 1,438 metres elevation.

◆ **Bua Chaek Yai Nature Trail.** The trail leads to Bua Chaek Yai where the *Cheiropleuria*, an ancient fern which dates back to 230 million years ago.

◆ **Pa Pra.** The forest of the *Elateriospermum tapos* acquires nearly 8 square kilometres. The area turns a stunning red from February to April each year by its young leaves.



Getting There

- The park is situated 744 kilometres from Bangkok. From Surat Thani, motorists can take Highway 401 via Kanchanadit district to Nakhon Si Thammarat. Turn right at km. 110 at Ban Klai Intersection and continue 15 kilometres to park headquarters.



The lush forest is home to wildlife such as Southwest China Serow, Wild Boar, Leopard, Clouded Leopard, Asiatic Black Bear, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Dusky Leaf-monkey, Lar Gibbon, Stump-tailed Macaque, Dhole, Black Giant Squirrel, Malayan Tapir, Civet and Greater Slow Loris.

Many species of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Helmeted Hornbill, Great Hornbill, Wreathed Hornbill, Bushy-crested Hornbill, Barred Buttonquail, Crested Partridge, Pheasants, Red Junglefowl, Collared Scops-Owl, Large-tailed Nightjar and Blyth's Hawk-eagle.

Attractions

◆ **Huai To Waterfall.** One of the most magnificent waterfalls in the national park with 11 tiers that origin from a stream from Khao Phanom Bencha Mountain. One tier is 80 metres high. There are lots of large pools where tourists can enjoy swimming. The waterfall is 500 metres from the park headquarters.

◆ **Huai Sakhe Waterfall.** The 3 tiers waterfall is close to Huai To Waterfall. It is 1.2 kilometres from park headquarters.

◆ **Khao Phueng Cave.** Situated 3 kilometres from park headquarters, the large cave comprises 5 caves

within its chambers. These are home to unique rock formations in different shapes like mushroom, pagoda and curtains. Some turn a beautiful glitter under the light.

◆ **Khao Phanom Bencha.** The highest peak is 1,397 metres above mean sea level and offers a scenic view of Krabi town. The trail leading to the peak cuts through lush tropical forests. A staff guide is required.

Getting There

- From Ban Talat Kao intersection in Krabi, take Si Trang Road for 1 kilometre then turn left to Ban Talat Kao-Ban Huai To Road. The park is another 20 kilometres. Local buses leave Ban Talat Kao for Huai To waterfall.



Khao Pu-Khao Ya

National Park

Its lush evergreen forest all year round makes the park debut and named as the “virgin forest”. Among the embrace of Banthat range, its plains lie in the center of the national park along with houses streamside and treetops that resemble “Tarzan” huts. Such accommodations have become a symbol of the park.

The park acquires a total area of 694 square kilometres covering parts of Nakhon Si Thammarat, Trang and Phatthalung. Established in 1982 as the 42nd national park of Thailand.

Geography

The park is situated on a plateau in the valley surrounded by a rugged mountain range such as Banthat, Nakhon Si Thammarat, Khao Pu-Khao Ya, and Khao Sam Roi Yot. The lush forest feed many beautiful streams such as Khlong Lamai, Khlong Mai Siap, Khlong Nam Sai, Khlong Lam Phu Ra and Khlong Lamo.

Climate

Lush tropical rain forest along with an abundant rainfall feeds the fruits of the national park. Fruit season is from April to August, which also the best

time to visit the park. You can enjoy various fruits such as Mangosteen and Longkong.

Flora and Fauna

The vast tropical rain forest has major plants including *Hopea*, *Intsia*, *Dipterocarpus*, *Calamus*, *Musa* and *Parashorea*.

The park is located near the Khao Banthat Wildlife Sanctuary. There are many wildlife roaming between the two places including Sumatran Serow, Malayan Tapir, Sun Bear, Southern Red Muntjac, Great Hornbill and Hill Myna.

Attractions

◆ **Ruen Thep Nimit Cave.** The beautiful cave in Khao Pu Mountain is beautified by natural rock formations in different shapes including an elephant rock in green. Khao Pu is considered a holy place.

◆ **Wang Nai Phut Cave.** The huge cave is actually a tunnel and is 100 metres wide and 400 metres long. There are fascinating rock formations to view. Its many chambers are home to thousands of bats. The cave is 70 kilometres from park headquarters.

◆ **Riang Thong Waterfall.** Its 13th tier is the most beautiful one. There are camping grounds near the waterfall and offers great views of Thale Noi Lake and Khao Pu-Khao Ya mountains within Sam Roi Yot range. It is 7 kilometres from Khao Pu Market.

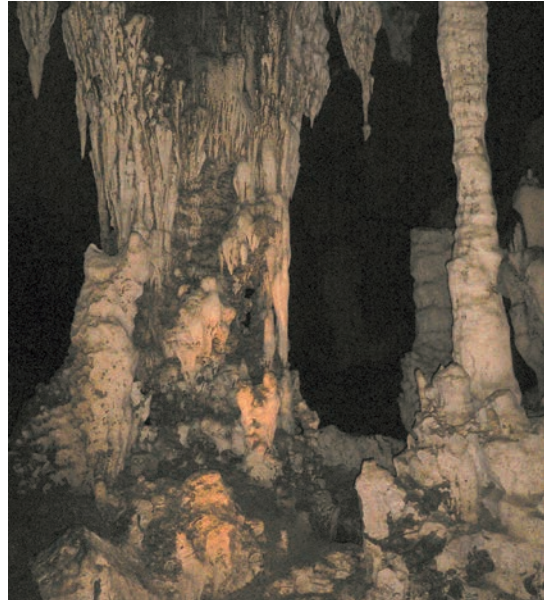
◆ **Khao Khram Waterfall.** Cascading through 9 tiers, the waterfall flows into a large pool that is abundant with many fish. It is located in Khao Khram Forest and 7 kilometres from Phetkasem Road.

◆ **Matcha Pla Won Cave.** The medium size cave has a pool that is 100 square metres that is home to a large pool of Pla Mat (Slender Walking Catfish). The cave is also home to different species of bat such as Round leaf Bat and Horseshoe Bat. The cave is 2.5 kilometres from park headquarters.

◆ **Pha Phueng Viewpoint.** Situated only 300 metres from park headquarters, the cliff offers a picturesque scene of green nature. From February to April, the cliff is covered with hundreds of beehives.

◆ **Pak Chaem Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall is situated in Huai Yot district of Trang.

◆ **Nan Plio Waterfall.** The small waterfall is blanketed by Pra (*Elateriospermum tapos*), the ginger



family plant that paints the whole area red every dry season.

◆ **Thara Warin Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall is situated in Thung Song district of Nakhon Si Thammarat.

◆ **Nan Khwai Phlat Waterfall.** The waterfall is situated in Mueang district of Trang.

◆ **Nan Sawan Waterfall.** The stream that feeds into the waterfall comes from the Huai Nam Sai Reservoir.



Getting There

■ From Phatthalung, motorists can take Khuan Khanun-Khao Pu Road for 14 kilometres. The park entrance is opposite from Huai Nao village. From there, the park is another 4 kilometres.



Khao Sam Roi Yot

National Park

As Thailand's first marine national park was established in 1966. Located on the west coast of the Gulf of Thailand. The park features various landscapes such as towering limestone mountains, freshwater marsh, coastal plains, sea and offshore islands. The park covers a total area of 98.08 square kilometres in Kui Buri and Sam Roi Yot districts of Prachuap Khiri Khan.

Geography

Within its borders are various ecosystems namely mangrove forest, limestone forest and aquatic ecosystem. The towering limestone mountain range has one of the highest peaks at 605 metres above mean sea level. The 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 Kaeo Cave, Sai Cave and Phraya Nakhon Cave.

Flora and Fauna

Beach forest, mixed deciduous, and mangrove forest blanket the national park. Major plants include *Thespesia*, *Azelia*, *Manilkara*, *Diospyros*, *Terminalia*, *Wrightia*, *Aquilaria* and *Avicennia*. The plants found in the freshwater marshes are *Neyraudia*, *Arundo*, *Saccharum*, *Nelumbo*, *Marsilea* and *Eleocharis*. The freshwater marsh on the western side of the park acquires an area of 36.8 square kilometres and is a natural reservoir filled by many streams from the Tenasserim range. The marsh is a stronghold for birds, freshwater fish and other aquatic animals.

Such abundant varieties in ecosystems make Khao Sam Roi Yot an ideal habitat for aquatic animals as well as animals which feed on it. There are





Getting There

- From Bangkok, motorists can take Highway 4 to Pranburi intersection in Pranburi district of Prachuap Khiri Khan. Turn left onto Pak Nam Pran Road and go 4 kilometres, then turn right and continue for 31 kms. to reach park headquarters. Alternatively, motorists can turn left at km. 286.5 at Samrong village and continue 14 kilometres to park headquarters.
- Regular buses and air-conditioned coaches leave the Southern Bus Terminal in Bangkok for Pranburi. From Pranburi bus station, there are buses and chartered autos to Bang Pu and to the park headquarters.

up to 296 species of common and migratory birds such as Purple Heron, Marsh Sandpiper, Far Eastern Curlew, Asian Dowitcher, Peregrine Falcon, Little Tern, Malaysian Plover and White-bellied Sea-eagle.

Its limestone mountains are home to Southwest China Serow, Northern Red Muntjac and Dusky Leaf-monkey.

Attractions

◆ **Khao Daeng.** The viewpoint on the crest of Khao Daeng is 157 metres above mean sea level and offers a beautiful view of the sunrise over Khao Daeng village and picturesque scenery. Wildlife such as White-bellied Sea-eagle, Brahminy Kite, Crab-eating Macaque, Leaf-monkey can be seen early mornings.

◆ **Khao Daeng Canal.** You can cruise from Khao Daeng Temple to enjoy the scenery of mangrove forest and bird watching along the canal. It takes an hour to cruise the 4 kilometre long canal.

◆ **Sam Phraya Beach.** Situated 5 kilometres north of park headquarters, the remote 1-kilometre long beach is lined with casuarinas trees. Camping is allowed and restaurants are available.

◆ **Kaeo Cave.** In Chan Valley, the cave features an impressive formation of translucent stalagmites and stalactites. To explore the untouched cave remains difficult as the floor is paved with large rocks. A good torch and park staff is required. Allow 2 hours for the trip. The cave is 16 kilometres from park headquarters.

◆ **Laem Sala Beach.** The u-shaped sandy beach is secluded and cannot be accessed by car. Beach



lovers can charter a boat from Bang Pu village or walk from Khao Thian about 4 kilometres from Bang Pu village or 13 kilometres from park headquarters. Climb the stairway from Khao Thian that leads to the remote beach. The walk is about 20 minutes.

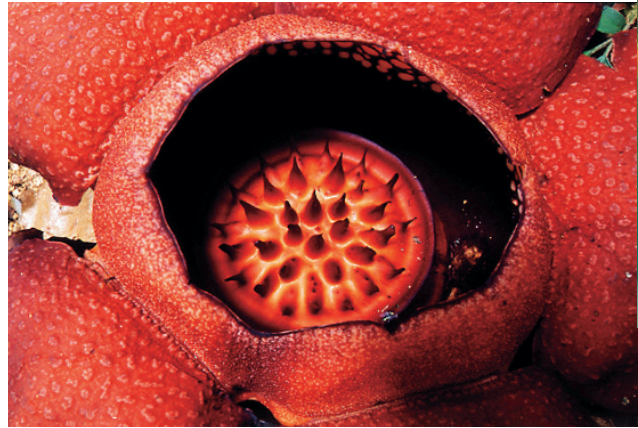
◆ **Phraya Nakhon Cave.** The large three chamber cave is special as it houses the royal pavilion of King Rama V who visited the cave on June 20, 1890. Two of its three caves have a chimney allowing vegetation to grow at incredible heights. The cave is 430 metres from Laem Sala Beach via an uphill trail.

◆ **Sai Cave.** The unique rock formations in the cave make it a worthwhile visit. The tour takes about an hour. A lamp is available for rent at Khung Tanot village.

◆ **Thung Sam Roi Yot.** The vast freshwater marsh has a rich variety of animals and plants. It is home to a great number of birds both common and migrating birds such as Egret, Heron, Eagle, Ducks, Stilts, Rails and Coucals, which makes it an ideal place for bird watching.

Khao Sok National Park

Well known for its unique landscape of limestone cliffs towering up from a reflecting reservoir, the park features a rugged mountain range with a small plain. The beautiful nature and abundant wildlife make the park a worthwhile visit. It became established in 1980 as Thailand's 22nd national park and acquires a total 738.74 square kilometres in Phanom and Ban Takhun districts of Surat Thani.



Flora and Fauna

Khao Sok houses both plant species from the Indochina and Indomalayan eco-regions. Tropical rain forest blankets the park with *Dipterocarpus gracilis*, *Hopea odorata* and the unique *Rafflesia kerrii*.

The park habitats a variety of wildlife such as the Asian Elephant, Gaur, Banteng, Fea's Muntjac, Tiger, Malayan Tapir, Leopard and Sumatran Serow. There are many species of birds. In addition, there are rare species like the Giant Asian River Frog.

Attractions

◆ **Wing Hin Waterfall.** The 20-metre high waterfall has numerous rocks that allow people to walk across the canal.

◆ **Tang Nam.** The stream has eroded the towering cliff. Cutting it in half and making it two cliffs facing each other. Khlong Sok below is home to numerous fish. The cliff is 6 kilometres from park headquarters and 3.2 kilometres from Wing Hin Waterfall. To reach the area requires a 3.2 kilometres trek.

◆ **Ton Kloi Waterfall.** Originating from Khlong Sok, the waterfall entertains visitors all year round. A large rock terrace makes the area a good choice to enjoy the nature and relax. The waterfall is 9 kilometres from park headquarters.

◆ **Ton Sai Waterfall.** The small waterfall is 11 kilometres from park headquarters.

Geography

The park features soil and rugged limestone mountains with unique landscape. There is a small plain in the park. The average elevation is 200 metres above mean sea level and the highest peak is 960 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Rainy season begins in April until December. From May to November is the wettest period. Ideal months to visit the park are April and December.



◆ **Than Sawan Waterfall.** The rainbow-like waterfall is situated 9 kilometres from park headquarters and 3 kilometres from Tang Nam.

◆ **Sip-et Chan Waterfall.** Khlong Bang Lan cascades through 11 tiers into a large pool. Lots of rock levels make it a nice place to sit back and relax. Tourists are required to trek 4 kilometres from park headquarters.

◆ **Mae Yai Waterfall.** The 30 metres high waterfall is situated at 113 kilometres on Surat Thani-Takua Pa Road. The waterfall is very beautiful during the rainy season when the cliff is hidden by a curtain of mist and spray.

◆ **Khang Khao or Bat Cave.** The cave with beautiful rock formations and chambers is habitat for numerous bats. It is 21 kilometres from park headquarters.

◆ **Ratchaprapha or Chiao Lan Dam.** The 700-metre long multi purpose dam blocks Khlong Phra Saeng, which floods the whole valley each year. Situated in the large rugged mountain range, the

reservoir covers 165 sq. kilometres. Over 100 peaks become islands amidst the picturesque reservoir. The channel at Khao Kalo Mountain is one of the most beautiful places to see.

◆ **Nam Thalu Cave.** The 500-metre long tunnel is origin to a subterranean river that runs through beautified formations of stalagmites and stalactites. You are required to take a boat from Khuean Ratchaprapha 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 province and Takua Pa district of Phangnga province. The entrance is at Km. 109, 1.5 kilometres off the main road. The entrance is at km. 52-53 and to km. 67-68 where it leads to the reservoir about 14 kilometres.



Khlong Phanom

National Park

The national park is located on a vast limestone mountain range and is wet all year round from annual heavy rains. Tropical rain forest is watershed that feeds the Tapi River, the only significant lifeline of Surat Thani province. Established in 2000, the park acquires a total area of 410.40 square kilometres over Phanom region. It is the country's 102nd national park.

Geography

Rugged and steep mountains dominate most of the park area in the northern region. The limestone mountain range goes from a east to west direction. The highest peak at the center of the park is 870 metres mean sea level. Plains occupy about one-fourth of the park and mostly in the valley region with elevations at 200 metres above sea level.

Climate

Like most parts of south Thailand, the national park receives monsoon winds year round from the northeast and southwest. Dense forest attracts rain in the high mountains 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 abundant in tropical flora like *Parishia*, *Hopea*, *Dipterocarpus*, *Barringtonia*, *Mesua*, *Salacca*, *Cynometra* and different kinds of climbing plants.

The lush forest is home to wildlife including Asian Elephant, Sambar, Malayan Tapir, Tiger, Bears, Sumatran Serow, Wild Boar, Lar Gibbon, Southern Pig-tailed Macaque, Dusky Leaf-monkey, Southern Red Muntjac, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain and Squirrels.

The many species of birds include 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, Malay Brown Barbet and Greater Coucal.

Attractions

◆ **Khao Wong Camp.** Established in 1969, the camp was once frontline of the Communist party in Thailand. Evidence of records can be found within cave walls of former camps. Plan on a trek along the 8 tiers of Khao Wong Waterfall, a former plantation of the communist and another trek of 45 minutes





Getting There

- The park headquarters is located via Highway 401 between Phanom and Takua Pa districts.

and Gauva remain in the area. The stream runs through a tunnel or the Khiri Wong cave, which is the only entrance to the Khao Wong Camp. The cave houses beautiful formations of stalagmites and stalactites. There is also vegetation growing and

takes 45 minutes to available Jack Fruit, Guava and Lemon through the tunnel. A flashlight is highly recommended.

◆ **Chong Yung Waterfall.** Situated amidst lush jungles, the waterfall cascades into a large swamp. Among its vast jungle, the park houses various waterfalls, including caves and towering cliffs at 100-150 metres high. There are two caves, Non Cave and Man Cave where formations of meika make the cave glittering.

through a tunnel with subterranean stream to the hidden camp. In the embrace of the mountain, there are many caves that served for various purposes of the past conflict such as the cave for the army general, a meeting cave and an armory cave. You will see a once occupied canteen, takraw court, a basketball court along with a field for marshalling forces.

◆ **Khiri Wong Waterfall and Khiri Wong Cave.** The large waterfall cascades through 8 tiers into a creek below before flowing through the plantation area of Khao Wong Camp. Many trees such as Lime





Kui Buri

National Park

In order to protect the forest from encroachment, it became declared the 90th national park of Thailand in 1999. The national park acquires a total of 969 square kilometres area in Pran Buri, Sam Roi Yot, Kui Buri and Mueang districts of Prachuap Khiri Khan province.



Getting There

- Motorists can head south via Highway 4 to Mueang district of Prachuap Khiri Khan. Turn right at km. 320 to Highway 3217 to the park entrance.

Leopard, Lar Gibbon, Southern Pig-tailed Macaque, Dusky Leaf-monkey, Southwest China Serow, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Common Palm Civet, Wild Boar and Siamese Hare.

The species of birds include Great Hornbill, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Red Junglefowl, White-rumped Shama, Eastern Spotted Dove, Green-billed Malkoha and Streak-eared Bulbul.

Attractions

◆ **Huai Dong Mafai Waterfall.** The stream of Kui Buri Phraek Khwa cascades through 15 tiers. Shady natural settings and crystal clear pools attract tourists to relax and enjoy the surrounding scenic nature.

◆ **Pha Ma Hon Waterfall.** The stream of Kui Buri Phraek Sai cascades through 3 steep cliffs. There is a large pool at the middle tier. The waterfall is quite nice with shady forests of fern and palms to relax within its nature.

◆ **Wildlife Watching.** Elephant and Gaur watching is the famous activity in this National Park.

Geography

The rugged mountain range is part of the Tenasserim range, which lies in a north to south direction. The average elevation is 750 metres above mean sea level. Most rolling hills are encroached and replaced by pineapple, sugarcane and vegetable plantations.

Climate

There are heavy rains in the month of May, including August to November. The average rainfall is 1,178.8 millimetres per year. Its lowest temperature is 25.3 degree Celsius and high temps can reach an average of 29.3 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

The park has lush dry evergreen forest and tropical rain forest. Its significant plants include *Dipterocarpus tuberculatus*, *Dialium cochinchinense*, *Blachia siamensis*, *Canarium denticulatum*, *Hopea ferrea*, *Baccaurea* sp. and different kinds of palm such as *Calamus* sp., *Caryota maxima* and *Zingiber officinale*.

With plenty of natural vegetation and water, the national park is habitat for an abundant wildlife such as Asian Elephant, Guar, Banteng, Sambar, Sun Bear, Northern Red Muntjac, Malayan Tapir, Tiger,





Laem Son National Park

The picturesque marine national park acquires a total area of 315 square kilometres. The park's boundary includes parts of Mueang, Kapoe and Suk Samran of Ranong and Khura Buri districts of Phangnga Provinces. Established in 1983 as Thailand's 46th national park.

Getting There

■ Laem Son is located on Bang Ben Beach. From Ranong, use Phetkasem Road and turn right at km. 657 to Kapoe. The park headquarters is 10 kilometres off the main road. The bus from Ranong takes 1-1.30 hrs. to Ban Samnak intersection. From there, continue 30 minutes by motorbike to the park.



Geography

The majority of the park's boundary is marine region, which represents 85 percent of the total area. This region includes 60 kilometres long the coast, two archipelagoes including eight islands. Ko Kham Yai has the highest peak which is 296 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Rainy season is from mid-May until mid-October, and rains are heavy from June to September. Winter season begins October to February.



Flora and Fauna

Tropical rainforest covers most areas in Khao Bang Ben and nearby islands of Piak Nam Yai, Piak Nam Noi, Thao, Kam Yai, Kam Nui. Khai Yai, Lan and Khang Khao. Major plants include *Dipterocarpus* and *Dracontomelen*.

There are 30 kinds of mammal including Sunda Pangolin, Crab-eating Macaque, Banded Surili, Greater Oriental Chevrotain, Black Giant Squirrel, Grey-bellied Squirrel and Asiatic Bush-tailed Porcupine. The park has an abundant variety of birds that migrate annually such as Brahminy Kite, Greater Coucal, Indian Roller, Barn Swallow, Yellow Wagtail, Grey Wagtail, Common Myna and Olive-backed Sunbird.

There are also 23 reptile species such as Geckos, Skinks, Lizards, Sea snakes and Snakes, as well as seven amphibian species such as Toads, Tree frogs and types of Frog.

The mangrove forest and coral reef is habitat and sanctuary for various aquatic animals such as Sea Turtle, Mullet, Ray, Needlefish, Rockcod, Butterflyfish, Sea Crab, Sea Cucumber, Sea Star and Sea Fan.

Attractions

◆ **Hat Bang Ben.** With a large shady Casuarina forest as backdrop, the scenic beach stretches along the coast to where the park headquarters is located.

◆ **Hat Laem Son.** Situated 4 kilometres from Bang Ben Beach, the white sandy beach is habitat for many varieties of bird making it ideal place for bird watching enthusiasts.

◆ **Ko Kam Yai.** The crescent-shaped white sand beach and coral reef is a very nice place for a secluded weekend hideaway. A boat from Bang Ben Beach takes one hour to reach the island.

◆ **Khang Khao.** The island is a great place to relax on the remote white sandy beach and coral reef. It takes 40 minutes from Bang Ben Beach to reach the area.

◆ **Ko Kam Nui.** Close to Ko Kam Yai, the island has a long stretch of beach along many small islands.

◆ **Hat Praphat.** Situated behind Kamphuan village, the long stretch of beach among Casuarina forest is a tranquil and secluded place to relax.

◆ **Hat Ao Khoei.** The long tranquil beach is a beautiful place to visit and enjoy. The beach forest and tropical rainforest is precious in natural scenic beauty. The beach is close to Khao Pak Triam, south of Hat Praphat.

◆ **Ko Khai Yai.** The island offers great views for underwater snorkeling where there is an abundance of large sea fans. The island is 30 minutes from Praphat Beach by boat.

Lam Nam Kra Buri

National Park

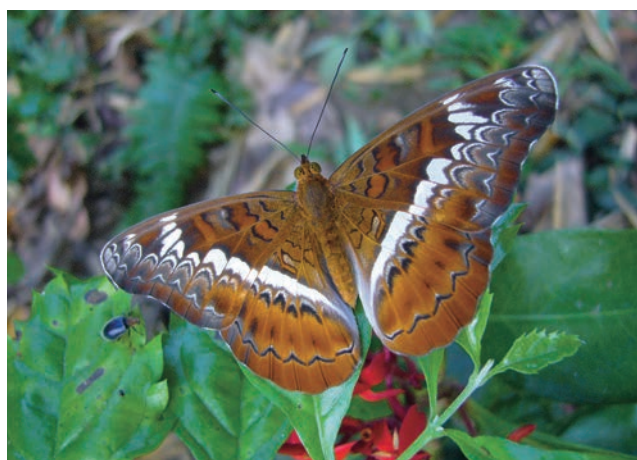
Bordering Myanmar along the Kra Buri River, the national park was established in 1999 as the 91st national park of Thailand and acquires a total of 160 square kilometres of land and sea. The park boundaries cover Kra Buri River, an archipelago, mangrove forests along the Kra Buri River as well as many reserved forests in Kra Buri and Mueang districts of Ranong province.

Geography

The boundary covers parts of the Kra Buri River and six islands surrounding the river in addition to 64 square kilometres of marine region. Khao Mueang Sung is the highest peak. Among its vast boundary lie a rich variety of forests. Tropical rain forest blankets Khlong Set Kuat including the Khao Hin Chang Forest, Khao Sam Laem Forest, Pa La-un Forest and Ratchakrut Forest. The endemic plant is Khun mai or *Nageia wallichiana* whose trunk shoots up right. The large tree gives fruit that resembles the cashew nut is found near Punyaban Waterfall, La-un Forest and Ratchakrut Forest.

Flora and Fauna

Mangrove forests can be found at the river mouth of La-un Canal and nearby island as well as the banks of the Kra Buri River. Major plants include *Rhizophora mucronata*, *R. apiculata*, *Ceriops tagal*, *Xylocarpus moluccensis* and *X. granatum*. The grassland behind park headquarters covers 1.6 square kilometres area. The area once served as a forestation venue, but fires continually to destroy this area each year.



Getting There

- The park headquarters is 18 kilometres from Ranong. The distance from Chumphon to the park entrance is 90 kilometres.

Wildlife common to the park include Tiger, Clouded Leopard, Sun Bear, Wild Boar, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Crab-eating Macaque, Common Palm Civet, Dusky Leaf-monkey and Masked Palm Civet. There is a variety of birds such as Greater Coucal, Hill Myna, Oriental Magpie-robin, Oriental Pied Hornbill and plenty of Red Junglefowl.

Attractions

◆ **Kra Buri River.** The 60-kilometre long river borders between Thailand and Myanmar. Within the 6-kilometre width there are islands and lush mangrove forest making it ideal to enjoy cruising and rafting.

◆ **Islands along the Kra Buri River.** The islands of Ko Siat, Ko Khwang, Ko Yao, Ko Chon, Ko Pling and Ko Nok Plao are blanketed by remarkable lush mangrove forest.

◆ **Punyaban Waterfall.** The large waterfall is located near Phetkasem Highway, 2 kilometres from park headquarters. This waterfall is a major attraction, which brings thousands of visitors each year.

◆ **Set Kuat Cape.** The cape is blanketed by lush mangrove forest.

◆ **Tham Yipun or Japan Cave.** The cave on Ko Khwang was once used as a camp for the Japanese army during World War II.



◆ **Ton Mai Pak Waterfall.** The 4-tier waterfall is situated 3 kilometres from Hat Yai Ranger Station.

◆ **Ban Hat Yai Hot Spring.** The hot spring is located near Hat Yai Ranger Station.

◆ **Viewpoint.** The viewpoint of Khao Hin Chang near the park headquarters offers picturesque river views of the countryside of Myanmar.



Mu Ko Ang Thong

National Park

The archipelago was once a restricted area controlled by the Navy. After its beautification and high conservation values were realised, the Royal Forest Department proposed the archipelago as a marine national park. Later, it was established in 1980 Thailand's 21st national park.



Flora and Fauna

Mu Ko Ang Thong features rugged and steep limestone mountains. The erosion caused by subterranean water resulted in sinkholes, caves, natural formations of stalagmites and stalactites, subterranean rivers and scenic inland marine lakes. There are three marine lakes, two on Ko Wua Talap and one on Ko Mae Ko.

With an average water depth of 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 areas behind the northeast monsoon barrier. The coral reef is habitat to a variety of aquatic mammals like Butterflyfish, Parrotfish, Stingray, Shark and Rockcod. The inner area, where the current is slow, is habitat for Sea Cucumber and Sea Crab.

Within the deep waters of the island, the sunlight becomes dim resulting in low coral growth. There is Sea Fan, Sea Whip and Comb Sea Fan, which dominate these parts. The muddy water is rich in nutrition and filters feeds such as Sea Shell and Soft Coral.

Dry evergreen forest covers the mountains and flourishes the streams on nearby islands. Significant plants include *Memecylon* and *Manikara*. Beach forests are scattered along and are habitat to *Barringtonia* and *Hydnocarpus*. The limestone mountain range is significant to plants such as *Euphorbia*.

These rugged mountains within the small islands can sustain only a limited range of large mammals. There are only 16 mammals found in the park, including Langur and Crab-eating Macaque. There are also 52 species of bird along with various amphibians.

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 percents is terrestrial (island). The park comprises of 42 islands, including Ko Phaluai, Ko Wua Talap, Ko Mae Ko, Ko Sam Sao, Ko Hin Dap, Ko Nai Phut and Ko Phai Luak. The highest peak is on Ko Phaluai and 396 metres above mean sea level.

Climate

Average temperature is 23 degree Celsius. The most ideal time to visit the park is February to April when heavy rains are least expected.



Getting There

- The park can be seen in a day, but there is overnight accommodations are available. There are three cruise companies that offer day trips from Samui. Samui can be accessed from Surat Thani by ferry. The boat trip normally takes 4 hours and the night boat will take 7 hours. From Samui, boats to Ko Wua Talap are available from Na Thon and Bo Phut. The cruises take 2 to 2.30 hours.

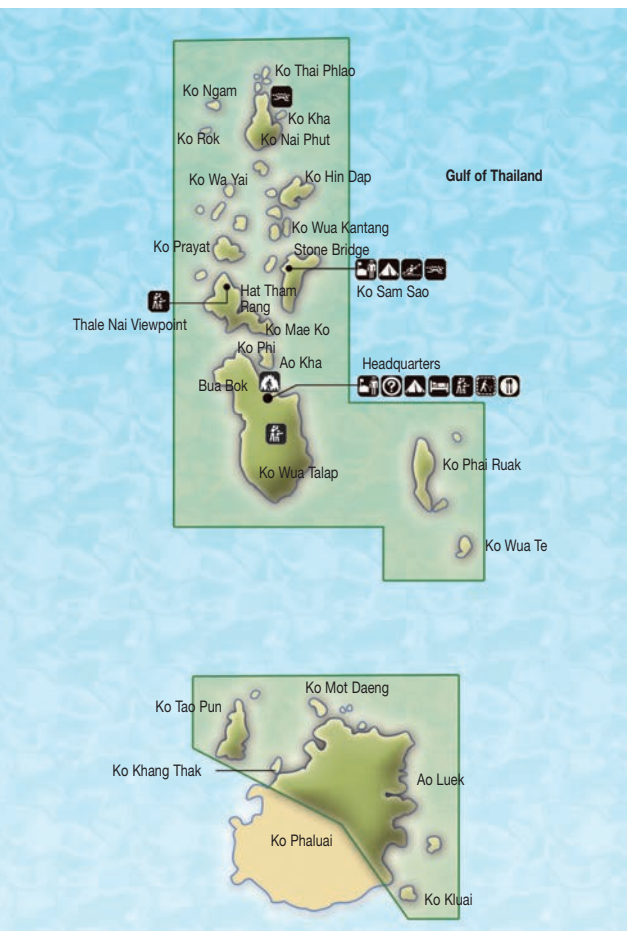
Attractions

◆ **Ko Wua Talap.** The remote island is home to the park headquarters. Its white sand beach offers panoramic views of the archipelago and other islands. Nearby is Bua Bok Cave, which comprises of unique lotus shape stalactite formation.

◆ **Thale Nai.** The marine lake is 200 metres wide and about 4,000 sq. metres in area and 20 metres deep. The area is nestled among a limestone mountain and connects to the sea by a cave.

◆ **Ko Sam Sao.** The island has a line of beautiful coral reef and a natural stone arch.

◆ **Ko Thai Phlao and Ko Wua Kantang.** The islands have beautiful coral reef and white sand beach to relax.



Mu Ko Chumphon

National Park

In 1986, the Royal Forest Department conducted a survey of the seascape of Chumphon to look into the stretch of beach, bays and nearby islands that are rich in natural resources and scenic beauty. In 1999, the park was established and originally named Hat Sai Ri. The national park is a total 317 square kilometres over areas of Pathio, Mueang, Sawi, Thung Tako and Lang Suan districts of Chumphon. It was declared the 89th national park of Thailand

Geography

Mu Ko Chumphon has mixed types of landscape that include marine, sandy beach, bays, mangrove forest, mountains as well as an archipelago of 41 islands. The park's boundary stretches from Ko Chorakhe in Pathio and covers areas of Ko Ngam Yai, Ko Ngam Noi, Ko Samet, Ko Maphrao, Archipelago in Sawi to Ao Thong Khrok in Lang Suan.

Flora and Fauna

The park is home to numerous kinds of forest including a large variety of wildlife and marine life. Mangrove forests cover the coast as well as the river mouth with fertile soil. Around Ao Thung Kha and Ao Sawi, the lush forest blankets 27.8 square kilometres of the region. Though *Avicennia* plays an important role of pioneer species, its major plants include *Rhizophora*, *Bruguiera*, *Avicennia* and *Xylocarpus*. The forest has drought-resisting slow-growing plants such as *Guettarda*, *Clerodendrum* and *Vitex*. Tropical rain forest occupies the islands of Khao Phongphang, Khao Chong Hiang and Khao Bo Kha.

The park is habitat to water birds, which can be seen in the mangrove and strand forest as well as on the islands. They include the Pacific Reef-egret, Collared Kingfisher and Large-tailed Nightjar. Other animals include Island Flying Fox, Dusky Leaf-monkey and Crab-eating Macaque.

Around the coral reef and submerged rocks is abundant marine life. The shallow water reef is at Mattra, Thong Lang, Kula, Lawa, Rang Ka Chio and



Lak I Raet Rock. The colorful deep water coral reef makes it excellent for experienced divers to discover sea nature at Ngam Yai, Ngam Noi and Thalu. The Chumphons Sea is popular for its abundant marine life. Amazing and well known for its variety of beautiful coral, both hard and soft, Anemone Fish, Butterflyfish, Damselfish and Cardinalfish. On seasons, you will view and enjoy the sights of precious dolphin and whale.

Attractions

Chumphon features 222 kilometres of scenic coastline along the park's boundary. The area is ideal to enjoy and relax its beautiful beach and tropical forest.

◆ **Ao Thung Makhm Noi and Ao Thung Makhm Yai.** Located in Mueang district, the beautiful joining bays are 1-3 kilometres long.

◆ **Hat Sai Ri Sawi.** The beautiful beach is a very nice place in Sawi district.

Getting There

■ Chumphon is 500 kilometres from Bangkok. Motorists can take Highway 4 to Chumphon then to rd. 4001 and transfer to rd. 4098, which will go to the park about 21 kilometres. There are many buses that leave the Southern Bus Terminal from Bangkok for Chumphon each day.

◆ **Hat Arunothai.** The lengthy beach gradually slopes down to the water's edge. The area is a very nice place for swimming. Among the 40 islands, tourists can enjoy the abundant scenic nature and beauty.

◆ **Ko Chorakhe.** Damage that resulted from a large storm a decade ago can still be seen on the island.

◆ **Ko Ngam Yai and Ko Ngam Noi.** Tourists can enjoy the area excellent for diving and snorkeling.

◆ **Ko Mattra, Ko Lawa and Ko Kula.** The islands are great places for snorkeling.

◆ **Ko Thong Lang.** The island offers a very nice beach to relax.

◆ **Ko Rang Ka Chio.** The small rocky island is characterized by a pristine collection of coral. The area is excellent for beginners and advanced divers.



Khao Phanom Bencha

National Park

A scenic mountain range with lush forest, along with abundant wildlife, the national park is a significant natural site in Krabi province. The park acquires a total of 50.12 square kilometres in Ao Luek and Khao Phanom and Mueang districts of Krabi. In 1981, it became established as the 29th national park of Thailand.

Geography

The rugged mountain range lies in a north to south direction. It comprises regions of Khao Phanom and Khao Phanom Bencha with the highest peak at 1,397 metres above mean sea level. These mountains feed many streams and canals such as Khlong Bang San, Khlong Pakasai, Khlong Thap Hua Ka, Khlong Ya, Khlong Haeng, Huai Niang and Huai Phai. The streams are lifelines of the people of Krabi province.

Climate

Southwest and northeast monsoons blow through the park bringing warm temperatures and wet year round. Summer season is from January to April and is the most ideal period to visit. Rainy season is from May to December. From June to October is the wettest period.

Flora and Fauna

Tropical rain forest blankets the entire park resulting in wet and humid conditions bringing an array of plants such as *Hopea odorata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Magnolia champaca*, *Parkia speciosa*, *Baccaurea* sp., *Calamus* sp. and rattan.





Mu Ko Lanta National Park

The national park comprises of different archipelagoes namely Rok, Ngai, Ha and Lanta islands. The park covers a total area of 134 square kilometres of which 81 percent is marine ecosystem in Ko Lanta district of Krabi province. It became established in 1990 as Thailand's 62nd national park.

Geography

Most of region is rugged limestone mountain range with steep cliffs that interrupt over the small plain. The landscape brings plenty of water to areas on Ko Lanta Yai. The mountain range supplies water to Khlong Chak, Khlong Nam Chuet and Khlong Nin year round.

Flora and Fauna

There are a variety of forest types including beach forest, which comprises mostly of *Terminalia*. The mangrove forest is home to *Rhizophora*, *Xylocarpus* and *Avicennia*. The limestone forest can be found on dry, low quality and thin-layer soil of Ko Rok and Ko Ha. The forest scatters around the steep

slope with plants of *Ficus racemosa* and *Dracaena cochinchinensis*. Tropical rain forest is found on Lanta range in the south of Ko Lanta Yai and Ko Ngai. Various plants are abundant such as *Shorea* and *Anisoptera* sp.

The park comprises of small islands making habitat for only small mammals such as Wild Boar and Dusky Leaf-monkey. Bird watchers will view many species including Pacific Reef-egret, Common Tern and Brahminy Kite.

There is rich marine life on Ko Lanta, particularly, in the coral reef like Damselfish, Parrotfish, Butterflyfish, Rockcod, Sea Turtle, Sponge, Sea Fan and Sea Whip.

Attraction

◆ **Ko Lanta** has been settlement for sea gypsies who call the island “Satak”, which means “very long beach” to serve as a landmark for fishermen. The sea gypsies enjoy nomad life and always hop around to different islands. In the past, they spent most of their life on a boat. Twice a year during full moon on the 6th and 11th lunar month they hold a traditional ceremony to leave the boat, which is believed to carry bad luck into the sea.

◆ **Mu Ko Rok.** The small archipelago is well known for incredible clear waters. It comprises of two islands namely Ko Rok Nok and Ko Rok Nai where white sand beaches always lures the sea lover.

◆ **Coral.** Coral colony comprises of staghorn coral, table coral and brain coral.

◆ **Laem Thong.** The cliff is situated at the northern tip of Ko Rok Nai. It is a landmark where tourists can get impressive sunset views through its channel.

◆ **Hat Thalu.** The beach on Ko Rok Nok is amazing by its white powder sand that leads way to a crescent bay and another side of the island.

◆ **Ao Man Sai.** A bay of Ko Rok Nok, which is named after a large banyan tree whose aerial roots serve as a 5 metres wide natural curtain. The bay has shallow waters which allow tourists to enjoy swimming.

◆ **Ao San Chao.** The bay on Ko Rok Nok houses a spiritual shrine which is worshiped among local fishermen. There is a source of capillary water streams during dry periods.

◆ **Thailand Boundary Post.** The post is located at the southern tip of Ko Rok Nai. There are many picturesque views of the beautiful seascape.



◆ **Ko Ha or Ko Tukon Lima.** The archipelago comprises five small islands. There is a sail-shaped island where an underwater cave leads to a unique chimney inside.

◆ **Ko Ngai.** The island has a secluded and long stretch of beach for snorkel.

◆ **Ko Talabeng.** The limestone island with small beaches and many caves habitat to Swiftlet.

◆ **Ko Lanta Yai.** The beaches on the western side offer the sea lover a serene area to linger and relax. The park headquarters is located at Laem Tanot. The island is considered as the capital to the sea gypsies.



Getting There

Ko Lanta National Park can be accessed by car or boat.

■ By car from Krabi to Laem Tanot is 120 kilometres. Sala Dan village to Laem Tanot is 27 kilometres.

■ By boat from Bo Ang village to Laem Tanot is 28 kilometres. Sala Dan to Laem Tanot is 27 kilometres. Pak Meng village to Laem Tanot is 50 kilometres.

■ Charter boats to Ko Rok, Ko Ngai and nearby islands is available at Laem Tanot.

Mu Ko Phetra National Park

Mu Ko Phetra is an archipelago in the beautiful Andaman Sea where islands scatter from Palian district of Trang province south to Thung Wa and La Ngu districts of Satun province. Acquiring a total area of 494.3792 square kilometres, the park comprises of 22 islands within its boundary. The main islands are 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 became established in 1984 as Thailand's 49th national park.

Geography

The park landscape features beautiful beaches in La Ngu district and nearby islands with views of steep limestone mountains and small plain valleys.

Flora and Fauna

Tropical rain forest blankets most islands in the park. The lush canopy is comprised mostly of *Hopea odorata*, *H. ferrea*, *Dipterocarpus alatus* and *Calamus* sp. On the smaller beaches, the forest is dominated by *Casuarina equisetifolia* and *Terminalia catappa*. Mangrove forest can be found along the shore and river mouth. Major plants include *Rhizophora mucronata*, *R. apiculata*, *Ceriops* sp., *Xylocarpus granatum* and *Bruguiera parviflora*.

The marine national park comprises of many small islands. The biological diversity is very limited. The park is home to Wild Boar, Crab-eating Macaque, Banded Surilli, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Common Treeshrew and Squirrels .

Bird species such as White-bellied Sea-eagle, Brahminy Kite, Wreathed Hornbill, Great Hornbill, Collared Kingfisher, Asian Fairy-bluebird, Pacific Reef-egret and Plain-throated Sunbird can be seen.

The underwater world is home to an abundant marine life. Coral reef can be seen in the shallow waters of the marine national park.

There is also a sea gypsy settlement on Ko Bulon. The nomad tribes can be seen travelling between Ko Bulon Don, Ko Bulon Le, Ko Lipe in Tarutao National Park and Ko Lanta of Krabi.



Getting There

- The park headquarters is located 58 kilometres from the town of Satun about 1.5 kilometres to Pak Bara Pier.

Attractions

◆ **Ao Nun.** Near the park headquarters and 7 kilometres from La Ngu district is the picturesque bay of Ao Nun. The park headquarters provide visitors with an introduction to available accommodations, pavillion, and nature trails leading to explore the beach.

◆ **Ko Lidi.** A towering cliff and unique caves on the island make an ideal place for you to see nature in its natural beauty. You can enjoy the white sand beach and tranquility of the 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 natural rock areas and a stone arch. The island is 3 kilometres from Pak Bara Pier. Nearby is Ao Kam Pu, a tranquil bay where there is a small waterfall. The crescent-shaped beach is 700 metres wide and habitat to coral reef where pinnacles of rock appear during low tide. The area is a favored place for turtle egg laying.

◆ **Ko Bulon.** The island is well known for serene white sand beach and crystal clear waters allowing beginners and advanced divers to view these parts. To reach the island is 22 kilometres from Pak Bara Pier.

◆ **Hat Rawai.** The tranquil beach is lined with Casuarina forest that is scenic in nature and ideal for camping. This region is located in Khon Khlan sub-district, Thung Wa district of Satun province and 26 kilometres from district's office.

◆ **Ko Phetra and Ko Lao Liang.** The islands are home to the Edible-nest Swiftlet making available to many other bird nest collections. The beach along both sides of the island faces to the east. During low tide, the beaches are beautified by hard coral where it pinnacles appear above the water's surface.



Mu Ko Ranong National Park

The national park is situated beside the Andaman Sea. The park features ecological diversity and lush nature that can greatly support ecotourism and nature study. The area acquires a total of 356.7008 square kilometres in Mueang district of Ranong. It was established as the 119th national park in Thailand on December 23, 2009.

Geography

The park features a large plain by the Andaman Sea, which can be divided into three areas. The coastal region includes 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 the islands are covered densely with mangrove forest. The islands are Ko Chang, Ko Thalu, Ko Ta Khрут, Ko Mo, Ko Pring, Ko Rai and Ko Fai Mai. They are blanketed with tropical rainforest and lined by coral reef.

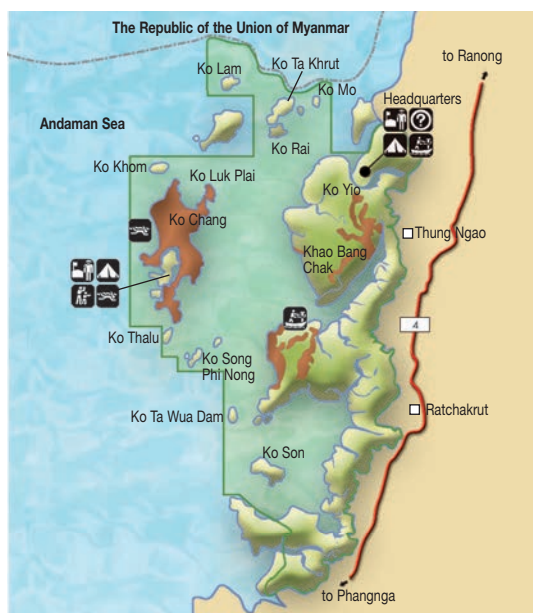
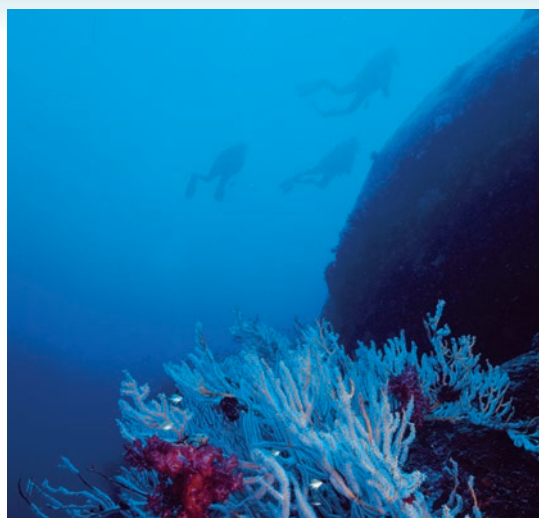
Flora and Fauna

Mangrove forest, beach forest and grassland blanket the park with rich species of plants, insects, fish, birds and mammals.

Attractions

The park features various unique natural attractions. At the northern tip of Ko Yio is Thailand's last group of very high *Rhizophora apiculata*. Ko Ta Wua Dam's beach is red in red color, which was created by broken sea shells.

◆ **Ao Po.** The bay at the southern tip of Ko Sai Dam has an impressive beach that always fascinates island hoppers by its untouched nature.



◆ **Hat Hin Ngam.** Ko Fai Mai is quite unique with the rock beach where millions of round-shaped rocks shine when wet. The stone arch and rugged rock on Ko Thalu offer nice views of the sea.

Such resources allow nature lovers and tourists to enjoy numerous activities from bird watching, cruising, exploring nature, snorkel and camping.

Getting There

- The park headquarters is 20.5 kilometres from Ranong or 612 kilometres from Bangkok.
- From Ranong, you can take the Ngao village bus for 20 kilometres. Then take a local bus to the park, about 5 kilometres. A boat to the islands is available at the fishing pier Paknam sub-district in Mueang district of Ranong.

Mu Ko Similan National Park

The archipelago of Ko Similan is home to some of the most pristine coral reefs in Thailand. Similan is Malaysian word meaning “nine”, which refers to the 9 islands that lie in a north to south direction in the Andaman Sea namely Ko Bon, Ko Ba Ngu, Ko Similan, Ko Payu, Ko Ha, Ko Miang, Ko Payan, Ko Pa Yang and Ko Hu Yong.

The archipelago was declared as a national park in 1982 and covers 128 square kilometres off Phang-nga coast. Ko Ta Chai was annexed to a marine park in 1998. The total area is 140 square kilometres in Khura Buri district, Phangnga province. It is the 43rd national park of Thailand.

Climate

Ideal period to visit the national park is from December to mid-April, but any season is very worthwhile to experience this region.



Flora and Fauna

Similan has great biological diversity within its coral, including species that cannot be found anywhere else except around Ko Surin. Among the unique coral there are varieties of marine life such as Sponge, Sea Fan, Squid, Lobster and Sea Crab. Also, are more than 50 species of fish have been observed around the Similan coral reef.

On land, the park comprises of beach forest, which comprises of *Terminalia catappa*, *Barringtonia asiatica*, *Calophyllum inophyllum* and *Manikara littoratis*, a rare tree, usually found only on western islands. The survey conducted in 1992 found at least 39 bird species in the park such as the Pacific Reef-egret and Beach Thick-knee.

As the archipelago comprises small islands with limited fresh water there is also a small range of



Getting There

- From Bangkok, you can either fly direct to Phuket (1-1.30 hrs.) or option to bus going to Phuket and get off at Thap Lamu Pier. The trip takes 12 hrs. From the pier, chartered boats to the park are available. The boat trip takes 4 hrs. to Ko Si from the mainland.

mammals. The park is home to 30 species of reptile and four amphibians. A unique is the Hairy Leg Mountain Crab, which always lives in the forest around water sources.

Attractions

◆ **Ko Similan.** The largest 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.** The large rock known as “Kalok” or “skull” rock is an attraction. Divers can enjoy this great site where rock walls and valleys are blanketed with coral. Dolphins can often be seen.

◆ **Ko Hu Yong.** The area is a nesting place for sea turtles along the long stretch of beautiful sandy coastline.

◆ **Ko Si or Ko Miang.** Crystal clear waters and beautiful stretch of white sand beach make this area a nice to relax and enjoy. It is also the best place to see the Pied Imperial-pigeon, Green Imperial-pigeon and Nicobar Pigeon.

◆ **Dive Sites on Ko Similan.** The best sites to snorkel include Ao Hin Ruea Bai, Ao Kwang En, Hin Dokmai and behind Ko Miang. Most favored diving location are the areas of Ko Bon, Christmas Point, Fantasea Reef, Ao Kwang En, Laem Praphakhan, Hin Pusa, Hin Sam Kon, Hin Dokmai, Ko Hua Miang, Suan Pla Lai, San Chalam and Kamphaeng Mueang Chin.



Mu Ko Surin National Park

Isolated in the Andaman Sea, Mu Ko Surin was designated the 30th national park of Thailand on July 9, 1981. It covers a total area of 135 square kilometres of which 80 percents is marine. The archipelago comprises of five Islands namely Surin Nuea, Surin Tai, Ri, Klang and Khai. In 2007, the nearby Richelieu rock, which covers an area of 6.25 square kilometres, was appended into the park's boundary.

Geography

Surint Islands comprise of five main islands, including 2 large islands consisting of the northern surint island and southern surint island which located very adjacent like the twin island. They are separated by the 200 meters width shallow sea. In the low tide period, you can walk across to the other island or so-called "cutted channel bay". The other three islands are the rock islands with some dwarf trees. Plants that found here are the rainforest plants. They are one source of the big and best fertile shallow coral reef of Thailand.

Flora and Fauna

The park is habitat to the most beautiful coral reef in Thailand. For several thousand years, the new coral reef piles up along the past reef that collapsed

until pinnacles surface where one can view at low tide. The reef colony spreads from the shore and slopes to the depth of 20 metres. Along the natural hard coral is a variety of marine life including Soft Coral, Feather Star, Coral Rockcod, Butterflyfish, Bannerfish, Damsel Fish, Cardinal Fish, Stingray and Shark. Rare animals such as Whale Shark and Sea Turtle can often be seen.

Also, it is interesting that the park also houses rich forest where *Dipterocarpus*, *Dracontomelon*, *Anisoptera*, *Hopea* and *Alstonia* grow on the beach. The mangrove forest is home for *Rhizophora apiculata*. The tropical forest is habitat to various small wildlife such as Southern Pig-tailed Macaque and over 80 bird species such as Pied Imperial-pigeon, Nicobar Pigeon and Gulls.



Attractions

◆ **Ko Surin Nuea.** The beautiful island has scenic beaches and bays and is where the park headquarters and tourist facilities are located. There is camping grounds, accommodations, restrooms, restaurants, as well as a royal residence.

◆ **Ao Mae Yai.** The largest bay houses a stunning colony of hard coral. Recently, the bay is going under coral rehabilitation and not open to the public.

◆ **Ao Mai Ngam.** The bay with a beautiful beach is a nice site to snorkel.

◆ **Ao Chong Khat.** Situated by national park accommodations, the bay is a shallow strait between two islands where tourists can walk across during the low tide. An ideal place to snorkel.

◆ **Ao Sai En.** The large bay is beautified by sea grass and coral reef.

◆ **Ko Surin Tai.** The island is habitat to the Moken or “sea gypsies” who live thru fishing trade. The nomad tribe travels around between India and Indonesia.

◆ **Ao Suthep.** The large bay is lined with vivid coral reef.

◆ **Ao Bon Yai.** The bay was once habitat to the Moken before they moved. There is a beautiful reef at the bay’s front.

◆ **Ao Phak Kat.** The small bay south of Surin Tai is abundant with beautiful coral reef and a great site to snorkel.

◆ **Hin Phae.** The submerged rock whose pinnacle appears above the water’s surface is rich with a variety of fish among the large group of Staghorn Coral. The rock is situated in the bay south of Ko Surin Nuea.

◆ **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 a submerged round-based mountain covered with Staghorn Coral. During low tide, a sandy beach appears on the eastern side.

◆ **Ko Ri or Ko Stork.** Equipped with the Navy’s leading light, the tiny island on the northern most corner of Surin Nuea is a favored nesting place for sea turtles.

Getting There

- You can fly direct to Phuket or take a bus from the Bangkok Southern Bus Terminal. The journey takes 11 hrs. to reach Khura Buri district in Phangnga. A charter boat is available at Khura Buri Pier. The trip takes 4 hrs. to the island. Since there is much to explore and enjoy, tourists should spend at least 2 nights in the marine park. Snorkelling is popular here. There is also long-tailed boat service available at park headquarters.



Namtok Huai Yang

National Park

The park covers 161 square kilometres in Bang Saphan and Thap Sakae districts of Prachuap Khiri Khan. There are many natural attractions such as beautiful waterfalls, a pristine beach, lush tropical forest and abundant wildlife. It became established as Thailand's 70th national park in 1991.

Geography

As part of Tenasserim range, the national park features long mountainous landscape. Most area is watershed hill at elevations between 100 to 1,200 metres above mean 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 surrounds the scenic waterfalls. The lower area is occupied by tropical rain forest. Plants include *Hopea odorata*, *Lagerstroemia tomentosa*, *L. calyculata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. grandiflorus*, *Toona ciliata*, *Ailanthus triphysa* and *Vitex glabrata*.

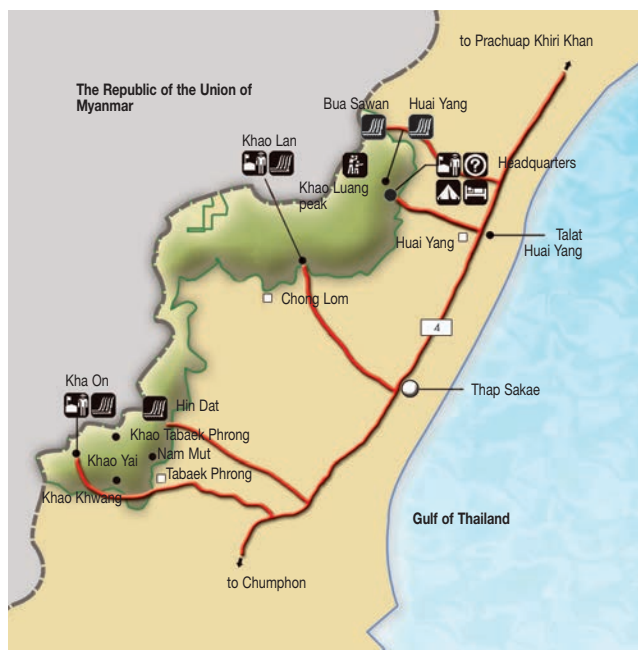
The park is home to numerous wildlife such as Southwest China Serow, Leopard, Dusky Leaf-monkey,

Lar Gibbon, Wild Boar, Malayan Porcupine, Northern Red Muntjac and Squirrels.

Various species of bird including Red Junglefowl, Great Hornbill, Green-pigeon, Hill Myna, Pheasants, Barbets and Bulbuls.

Getting There

- The park is in Huai Yang sub-district, Thap Sakae district of Prachuap Khiri Khan and about 300 kilometres from Bangkok. By such distance and easy road, a day trip from Bangkok can be arranged.





Attractions

◆ **Huai Yang Waterfall.** The waterfall cascades through 9 tiers. The 5th tier is a nice fall where the stream drops from a 15 metres high cliff. You are required to climb over rocks. The other tiers are only 2-5 metres high. There is a trail leading to viewpoint where there are views of the sunrise as well as the sea.

◆ **Khao Lan Waterfall.** The stream drops from a 50 metres high cliff. The top tier has a large pool making it enjoyable for swimming. Its entrance is 14 kilometres off Highway 4 at Thap Sakae district. From the national park's unit, you will need to walk along the stream for 1 kilometre to reach the waterfall.

◆ **Khao Luang Peak.** Towering at 1,251 metres above mean sea level, the highest peak of Namtok Huai Yang National Park is blanketed by montane rain forest. Cold weather enables thick moss to cover the tree trunks. There is a field of Dok Kra Chiao or *Curcuma sessilis* with as backdrop of Tenasserim range.

◆ **Namtok Kha On or Thap Mon Waterfall.** The waterfall has 9 tiers, which are 2 to 5 metres high



above the ground except the 5th tier, which is 15 metres high. From Phetkasem Road, you can take Nong Hoi-Ban Tabaek Phrong Road or Nong Ya Plong-Ban Nong Bon Road to the waterfall.

◆ **Hin Dat Waterfall.** The 10 tiers waterfall is located in a steep valley. From Phetkasem Road, you can reach the waterfall via Nong Hoi-Ban Nong Makha Road.

Namtok Ngao National Park

The national park became established since 1978. There is lush tropical forest on the rugged mountain landscape. The area was formerly called Khlong Phrao National Park. After combining Namtok Ngao Forest Park into its boundary in 1994, the park was renamed to Namtok Ngao. It was designated the 93rd national park of Thailand in 1999. Today, its boundary stretches over 668 square kilometres in Ranong and Chumphon provinces.

The dense jungle is habitat to Malayan Tapir, Guar, Leopard, Bears, Northern Red Muntjac, Pig-tailed Macaque, Dusky Leaf-monkey, Wild Boar, Binturong, Southwest China Serow, Black Giant Squirrel and Soft-shelled Turtles. Variety of birds includes Red Junglefowl, Bulbuls, Drongos, Barbets and Great Hornbil. There are also two herds of Asian Elephant in the area. In addition, the Panda Crab or *Phricotelphusa sirindhorn*, an endemic freshwater crab of Namtok Ngao exists here.

Geography

With a small plain, the park features rugged mountains that lie in a north to south direction. Mountain range covers Khao Daen, Khao Huai Siat, and the highest peak Khao Nom Sao at 1,089 metres above mean 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 monsoon climate. Heavy rains are from May to December. During January to April is the most ideal period to visit the park.

Flora and Fauna

The national park features moist evergreen forest. Its boundary is abundant with *Hopea odorata*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Magnolia champaca*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. grandiflorus*, *Mesua ferrea*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *L. speciosa*, *Schima wallichii*, *Anisoptera costata*, *Hopea sangal*, *Tetrameles nudiflora*, *Payena acuminata*, *Parashorea stellata*, *Calamus* sp., *Salacca wallichiana* and bamboo.





Getting There

- The park headquarters is located close to Ngao Waterfall. From Ranong, motorist can travel south via Highway 4 for 13 kilometres. The park is 700 metres off the main road.
- To reach Khlong Phrao Waterfall, motorists can take Highway 41. From Lang Suan market continue for 10 kilometres and turn left at Sam Mai Intersection. The waterfall is another 15 kilometres and can be seen in the distance.

Attractions

◆ **Ngao Waterfall.** The waterfall is a well known attraction of Ranong. It is situated in Ngao sub-district, 13 kilometres south of Mueang district and 1 kilometre off Highway 4. The wide waterfall cascades from a high rock cliff.

◆ **Khlong Phrao Waterfall.** The beautiful 3 tiers waterfall cascades year round. Its third tier, where the stream drops from a 36 metres high cliff is the highest. It is 15 kilometres off Highway 41.

◆ **Bang Rin Waterfall.** The picturesque waterfall cascades from a very high cliff. It is situated in Bang Rin sub-district, Mueang district of Ranong.

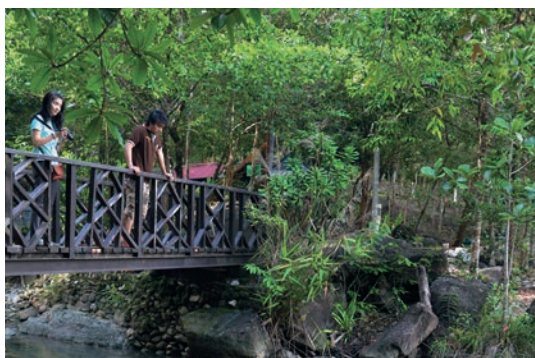
◆ **Chiao Khlai Rapids.** It is located in Bang Phra Nuea sub-district of La-un district.

The park has many remote waterfalls such as Huai Khon Waterfall, Heo Muang Waterfall, Heo Phrao Waterfall and Khlong Rang Waterfall.

◆ **Panda Crab (*Phricotelpusa sirindhorn*).** The Panda Crab was found for the first time at Ngao Waterfall. It has unique characters, which differ from other freshwater crab such as its white shell and claws, along with purple eye sockets and legs. The crab specie is rare and endemic to Thailand.

◆ **Ueang Komasum or Ueang Ngoen Luang (*Dendrobium formosum*)** is a symbolic flower of Ranong province. Generally, its characteristics are similar to the Cataliya orchid. It has white sepals and petals, white lip with yellow blotch with a delicate fragrance. The blooming season is from October to December. The flower can be found easily among the forest especially at Namtok Ngao National Park.

◆ **Bua Phut (*Rafflesia kerrii*)** is the world's new fauna species and largest flower and is parasitic in *Rafflesia*. The flower normally lies underground and shows its red cabbage like shape on the ground during rainy season only.



Namtok Sai Khao

National Park

The national park acquires lush forest on Sankala Khiri Range and covers parts of Pattani, Yala and Songkhla with a total area of 69.5712 square kilometres. It was designated the 110th national park of Thailand in 2008.

Geography

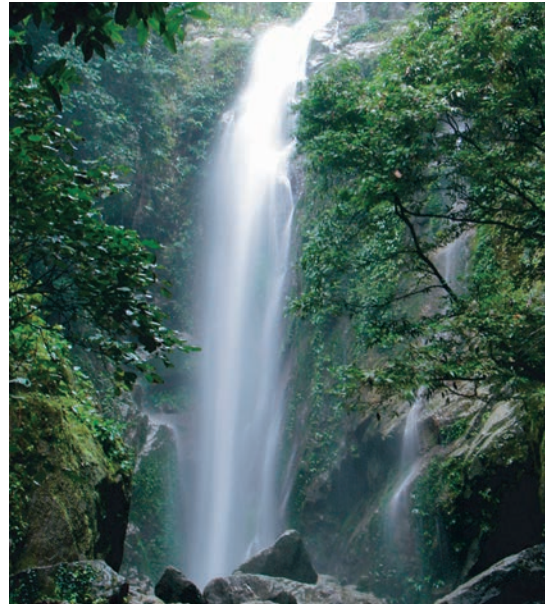
The national park is located on Sankala Khiri range. Khao Nang Chan is the highest peak. The mountainous landscape slopes to west, leaving the area to hills and plain. The ground comprises of sand soil, limestone and granite.

Climate

There are heavy rains from October to December. The best time and most comfortable is summer from February to April.

Flora and Fauna

The park comprises of tropical rain forest. There are significant plants, birds, mammals, fish and butterfly. Plants include Fern and Orchid. Bird species include Chestnut-naped Forktail, Gold-whiskered Barbet, Little Spiderhunter, Banded Woodpecker, Lesser Oriental



Chevrotain, Southern Red Muntjac, Birdwings and Swallowtails.

Attractions

◆ **Sai Khao Waterfall.** The waterfall cascades over a 30-metre high cliff for 700 metres through the lush and shady forest. It is located at Na Pradu sub-district off Highway 409 or Khok Pho-Yala Road. The waterfall is excellent place for butterfly watchers.

◆ **Phong Phong Waterfall.** The waterfall cascades through 7 tiers into a pool. It is embraced by shady vegetation. The beautiful waterfall is located at Pak Lo. You can reach the area by Khok Pho-Yala Road or Highway 409.

◆ **Phra Mai Phai Waterfall.** The small waterfall cascades over a 10-metre high cliff before reaching the wide rock terrace and finally joining the Thepha River. There is a Buddha image near Phra Weluwan. The area is 12 kilometres from Sai Khao Waterfall and located on Sai Khao- Saba Yoi Road.

◆ **Aran Warin Waterfall.** The 6-tier waterfall cascades into a large pool below. The 1st is over 30 metres high from the ground. The small waterfall is situated in Khok Pho district of Pattani province.



Getting There

■ The national park is located in Sai Khao sub-district, Khok Pho district of Pattani.



Namtok Si Khit

National Park

To protect the lush watershed forest from encroachment, the park was established in 1999 as the 95th national park of Thailand. It acquires a total area of 145 square kilometres and covers part of Kanchanadit district of Surat Thani and Sichon district of Nakhon Si Thammarat.

Geography

The park features plains and rugged mountain range, which is part of the Nakhon Si Thammarat range. The mountains are at the center of the park and lie in a north to south direction with slopes going from east to west. Most of the plains are on the eastern side. Khimot is the highest peak at 1,303 metres elevation.

The average elevation is 700 metres above mean sea level. There are many valleys that feed streams and waterfall. The limestone mountain is origin to many beautiful caves such as Khao Phap Pha Cave, Than Lot Cave and Suan Prang Cave.

Flora and Fauna

Tropical rain forest, montane rain forest and secondary forest blanket the national park along with various plants. There is a variety of mammals, birds, amphibians, reptiles and fish.

Attractions

◆ **Si Khit Waterfall.** The beautiful waterfall originated from a high mountain. It cascades from a 60 metres high cliff and continues for 12 kilometres over 100 tiers. The stream surrounds much of area creating 4 islands on its way.

◆ **Samnak Nian Waterfall.** The large waterfall cascades over 4 tiers. The place is a nice place to view nature and relax. The southern area is 25 kms. from Chom Phibun Intersection.



◆ **Khao Phap Pha Cave.** The 50 metres long cave has beautiful rock formations. It is home to the Asian Giant Toad, which weighs about 1 kilogram. The cave is in the eastern part of the park.

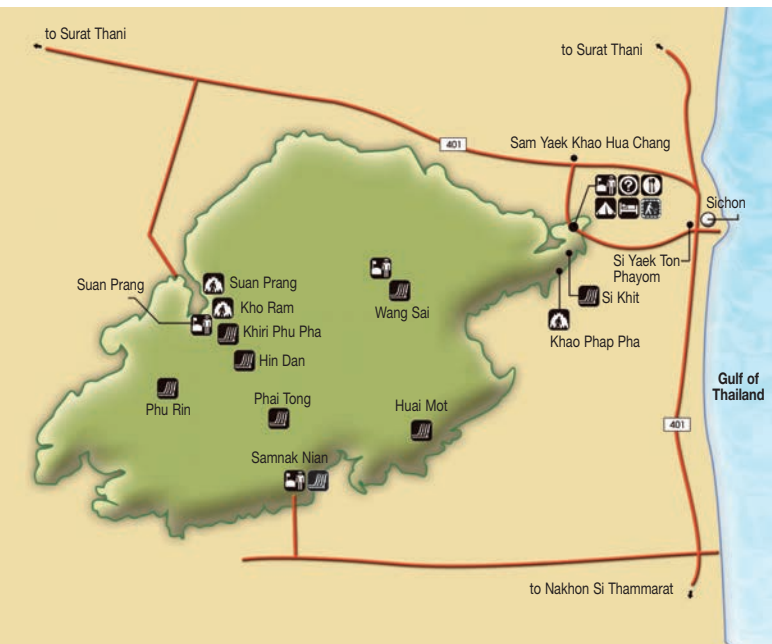
◆ **Phu Rin Waterfall.** The waterfall cascades through a limestone mountain and cave. There are unique rock formations in the cave along with bats and various fish. It is 2 km. from Suan Prang Cave.

◆ **Suan Prang Cave.** The cave is in the eastern part of the national park. The 300 metres long cave is beautified by unique rock formations. It is home to numerous bats.

◆ **Kho Ram Cave.** Located on a high cliff, the limestone cave has large entrance from where tourist can enjoy beautiful forest scenery. The forest is habitat to a rare animal called Sumatran Serow (*Capricornis sumatraensis*) or the Kho Ram in dialect. The park's ranger station is located nearby.

◆ **Khao Nang Range.** The summit of Khao Nang mountain is home of the "Nang" tree. To reach the area, tourists need to trek for 10 kilometres from the Suan Prang Ranger Station.

◆ **Khimot Range.** The rugged mountain range is located in the heart of the park. Its beautiful landscape comprises of waterfalls, caves and cliffs. Its watershed tropical rain forest and montane rain



Getting There

- From Nakhon Si Thammarat, motorists can take Highway 401, then turn left at Ton Phayom Intersection. The park is another 15 kilometres.



forest is home to a large number of wildlife such as Tiger, Malayan Tapir, Sumatran Serow, Southern Red Muntjac, Sambar, and Malayan Porcupines along with numerous kinds of bird such as Kingfishers, Barbets and Bulbuls. The area is quite nice for trekking and camping.

◆ **Phai Tong Waterfall.** The waterfall is located in Khao Noi sub-district, Sichon district of Nakhon Si Thammarat. It sits amidst dense tropical rain forest and cascades through 7 tiers. The Samnak Nian Ranger Station is located nearby.



Namtok Sipo National Park



The national park's lush forest is habitat to a great variety of wildlife as well as natural attractions such as the Ai Suedo and Yaka Bo-ngo waterfalls. The region acquires a total area of 288.83 square kilometres covering parts of Rueso, Ra-ngae, Si Sakhon and Chanae districts of Narathiwat.

Geography

Steep and rugged mountains lie in a north to south direction. Khao Mae Tae is the highest peak at 819 metres above mean sea level. There are scenery plains where good agriculture grows.

Climate

Rainy season begins from April to November and summer from December to March.

The park's highest temperatures can reach 31 degree Celsius and lowest temps can get to 23 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

The area to Sai Buri River's right side is blanketed by tropical rain forest. Lush forest carpets the upper regions of the mountain. A variety of plants include *Intsia palembanica*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Hopea odorata* and different kinds of *Calamus* sp.

These lush forests are habitat to a number of wildlife such as Macaques, Langurs, Southern Red Muntjac, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Sambar, Porcupines, Greater Slow Loris, Black Giant Squirrels, Hornbills, Hill Myna, Hawks, Koel and many aquatic animals.

Attractions

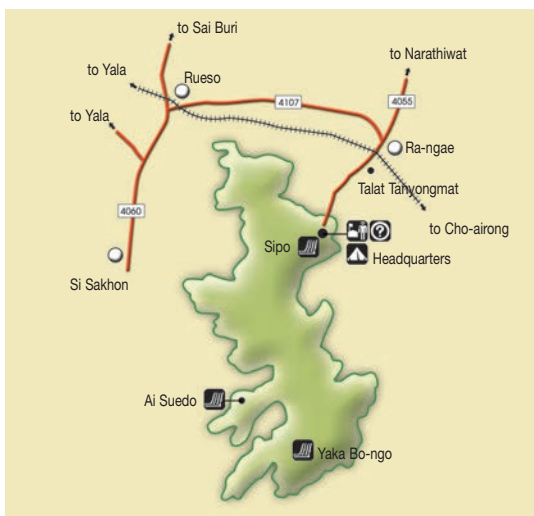
◆ **Sipo Waterfall.** The large waterfall has 7 tiers. The top tier is the most beautiful one where the stream flows over a 30-metre high cliff to a large pool below. The local people use the water to nourish their Longan plantation.

◆ **Ai Suedo Waterfall.** Cascading through 7 tiers, the waterfall flows for 200 to 300 metres distance.

◆ **Yaka Bo-ngo Waterfall.** Two streams combine before falling to a 60-metre high cliff. The waterfall is very beautiful during the rainy season.

Getting There

- From Ra-ngae district of Narathiwat, motorists can take the Ra-ngae-Sako Road past the Tanyongmat Market for 2 kilometres then change to Thano-Baluka Road. The road continues to Ban Sipo for 1.5 kilometres to park headquarters.



Namtok Yong National Park

In 1991, the park became Thailand's 64th national park and covers parts of Lan Saka, Ron Phibun, Chang Klang, Na Bon and Thung Song districts of Nakhon Si Thammarat. The total area is 205 square kilometres. The park is rich with lush tropical forest and scenic waterfalls.

Geography

The average elevation is 600 metres above mean sea level. The park is embraced by rugged mountain range that lies in a north to south direction. The major mountains include Khao Men, Khao Thong, Khao Wang Hip, Khao Phra and Khao Luang. These mountains are significant watershed that feed many important streams such as Khlong Kui, Khlong Chang, Khlong Wang Hip, Khlong Namtok Yong and Khlong Pak Phraek.

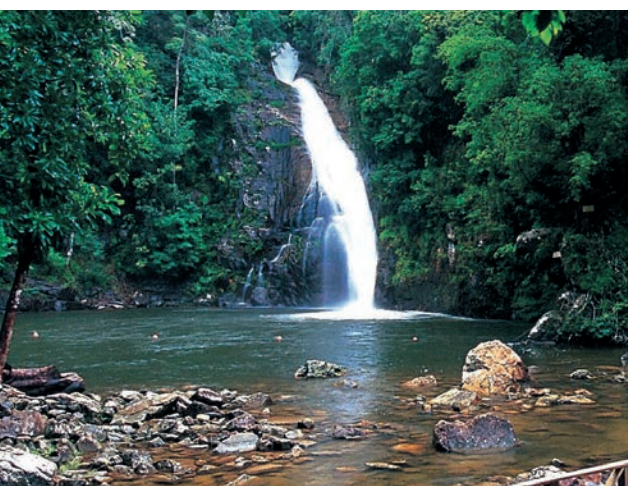
Climate

The park is situated on a peninsula where monsoons are year round on both sides of the island. Temperatures are cool from May to December. During the summer months from January to April, temperatures average 26 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

The park is mostly tropical rain forest. There are many significant trees such as *Dipterocarpus alatus*,





Intsia palembanica, Hopea odorata, Mesua nervosa, Anisoptera costata, Heritiera sumatrana, Horsfieldia glabra, Cinnamomum parthenoxylon, Artocarpus rigidus, Magnolia champaca, Payena acuminata, Lithocarpus sp., Gluta compacta, Sandoricum koetjape, Parkia timoriana, fern, wine and bamboo.

A survey found the park habitat to wildlife such as Panther, Southern Red Muntjac, Sumatran Serow, Malayan Porcupine, Wild Boar, Greater Oriental Chevrotain, Leopard Cat, Masked Palm Civet, Banded Surili and Lar Gibbon. There are many species of birds such as Great Argus, Red Junglefowl, Thick-billed Green-pigeon, Dark-throated Oriole and many species of Babblers, Woodpeckers and Sunbirds.

Attractions

◆ **Yong and Yong Noi Waterfall.** The waterfall cascades from 15-metre high to a swamp below making this a beautiful place to relax among its

scenery. Yong Noi Waterfall cascades in two streams, which meet at the foot of the cliff.

◆ **Khao Men.** The highest peak of the Namtok Yong National Park at 1,307 metres above mean sea level offer very nice view of mountain range. It is home of rare plants, wild orchids, insects, birds and mammals.

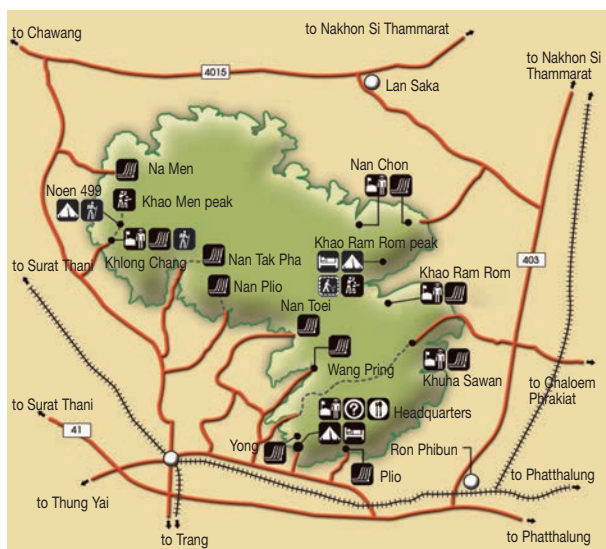
◆ **Khlong Chang Waterfall.** The waterfall originated from the Wang Hip range. The waterfall cascades over 2 tiers through beautiful creeks to the village below.

◆ **Nan Plio Waterfall,** is the 3-level waterfall with full of water all year-round. The most beautiful and highest is 3rd level with 20 metres high.

◆ **Plio Waterfall.** The waterfall is one of the most beautiful in the park. The water cascades through 7 tiers that are about 15-18 metres wide and 25 metres high. Each tier is quite high and sprays along its streams.

Getting There

- From Bangkok, motorists can go south on Highway 41 to Thung Song district of Nakhon Si Thammarat for 774 kilometres away. From Thung Song district, turn left at Sai Yai village to the park and go another 3.5 kilometres.
- By train, get off at Thung Song Station. From there, a local bus is available.



San Kala Khiri National Park

The park features lush forests and covers a total area of 215.36 square kilometres in Saba Yoi of Songkhla. The national park is rich of tropical plants, wildlife and many natural and beautiful attractions like waterfalls, caves, watershed forest and peat swamp.

Geography

The park features rugged mountain range that borders Thailand and Malaysia. Its main watershed forest feeds the Thepha River.

Climate

Rainy season begins from April to November and summer from December to March.

Flora and Fauna

Tropical rain forest blankets the park with *Hopea* and *Intsia*. The forest is home to medium and small mammals, birds, reptiles and insects.

Getting There

- Motorists can take Highway 43 also called Songkhla-Pattani Road through Thepha in the Saba Yoi district and Yala, and then continue on the Ban Bahoi route. The park is 40 kilometres distance.

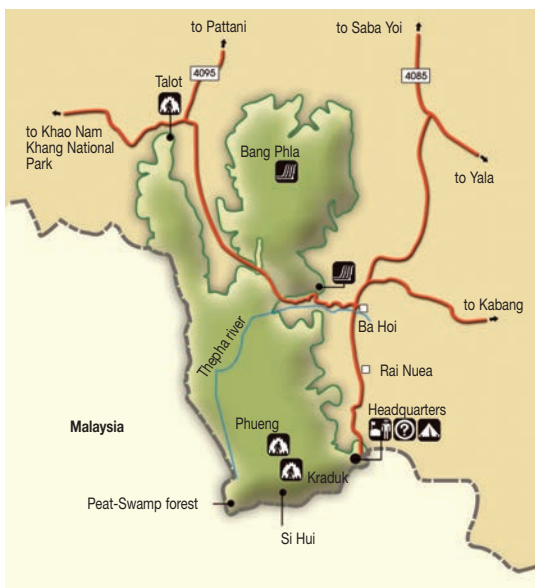
Attractions

◆ **Ban Si Hui.** This area is a community of Thai people who migrated from Malaysia over 100 years ago. Located amidst vast fields, mountains and streams, the community became deserted from an 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 Si Hui village.

◆ **Phueng Cave.** Each year, the cave roof is consumed with numerous beehives. It is situated among a nice natural setting.

◆ **Bang Thepha.** The long stretch of beach has two canals namely Lam Lot and Thepha Canal, which meet and fill up the area with sand.



Si Phang-nga National Park

Acquiring a total area of 246.08 square kilometres in Khura Buri and Takua Pa district of Phangnga, 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.

Geography

The park features rugged mountains that line along with the coast in a north to south direction. It comprises of beautiful waterfalls and a 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 year round. There is only two seasons. Summer is from January to April and the rainy season is from May to December. Temperature ranges from 26 to 29 degree Celsius.



Getting There

- The park entrance is located at km. 756 (Tamnang village's entrance) of Highway 4. The park is 6 kilometres off the main road.

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, Southwest China Serow, Asian



Elephant, Northern Red Muntjac, Sambar, Sun Bear, Tiger, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Lar Gibbon, Dusky Leaf-monkey, Banteng and Wild Boar.

The species of birds include Parrots, Hornbills, Drongos, Bulbuls, Barbets as well as many reptiles and amphibians.

Attractions

◆ **Tamnang Waterfall.** The waterfall cascades from a 60-metre high cliff to a large pool below. The area is accessible by car. The scenic high waterfall is a very nice place to swim amidst the nature.



◆ **Ton Ton Sai Waterfall.** Surrounded by lush vegetation and many Sai or *Ficus* tree, the waterfall is around 20 metres high. The area is not accessible 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, Leafbirds, Red-throated Barbet, Green-pigeons, Flowerpeckers and many more can be spotted. From park headquarters, a 30-minute trek is required. Note, however, it cannot be accessed during rainy season.

◆ **Nature Trails.** The 2-kilometre long trail cuts through tropical rain forest to a viewpoint where you can enjoy scenery of Khlong Tamnang as it flows among the mangrove forest. During season, there is ripe fruit from the Banyan tree. You can see many birds such as Oriental Pied Hornbill, rare Helmeted Hornbill, White-crowned Hornbill and Black Hornbill. Rare plants such as *Sapria himalayana* and *Rafflesia kerrii* can be found on the way. The trail cuts through Ton U and Ton Deng Waterfalls before leading back to the starting point.



Sirinath National Park

By 1990, the national park acclaimed more of the beautiful area within its boundary. To celebrate the 60th anniversary of Her Majesty the Queen in 1992, the park was renamed into Sirinat.

Getting There

- From Thalang district intersection, motorists can go north to the airport via Highway 402, then turn left to Highway 4026. The park is 2 kilometres away.
- From the Phuket bus terminal, the journey takes about 1 hour. From air transfer, the trip is only 10 minutes from Phuket International Airport.



In 1977, the government planned this region to promote Phuket for a tourist destination. The pristine beach of Nai Yang had been a safe nestling venue for sea turtles. Two coral reefs added more significance to the beach, along with the nearby forests that were combined and declared as Nai Yang National Park. Established in 1981, the country's 32nd national park acquires a total area of 90 square kilometres in Thalang of Phuket province.



Flora and Fauna

Only 24 percents of the park's boundary is land, leaving the vast majority of its area to marine. The narrow area stretches 23 kilometres along the coast and 5 kilometres into the sea. There are only three forest types in the park, including tropical rain forest, beach forest and mangrove forest.

Tropical rain forest is found in the small areas of *Payena*, *Parashorea* and *Morinda* can grow. The forest is home to a variety of birds and reptiles.

Beach forest lines the coast along 2 square kilometres and tropical plants are *Casuarina*, *Thespesia* and *Terminalia*.

The beach is origin to Hawksbill Turtle and Olive Ridley Turtle nests, including the Mole Crab.

The mangrove forest in this region is most extinct of its kind in Phuket and occupies most canals. The forest acquires area of 1.28 square kilometres and serves for different animals such as Collared Kingfisher, White-bellied Sea-Eagle, Brahminy Kite, Rockcod, Croaker, Catfish, Sea Turtle, Sea Shrimp and Sea Crab. The major plants in the mangrove forest include *Rhizophora*, *Ceriops*, *Avicennia* and *Lumnitzera*.

Attractions

The park is attractive by its shady beach with pines and lush vegetation. Its long and white sandy



beaches stretches for 13 kilometres and its fringing reef is an ideal sanctuary for numerous kinds of marine life. Nai Yang beach, is significant venue where turtles nest from November to February.

◆ **Sai Kao Beach and Tha Chatchai.** A lush mangrove forest connects Sai Kao Beach to Mai Khao Beach. Situated by Sarasin Bridge, which links Phuket to Phangnga province, the area is a very nice place to picnic and relax.

◆ **Mai Khao Beach.** The beach is Phuket island longest beach and home to the rare Mole Crab, a shrimp-like marine life at the size of thumb.

◆ **Nai Thon Beach.** Situated 5 kilometres south of park headquarters, the crescent-shaped beach offers great tranquility to relax and enjoy the sea.

Tai Rom Yen National Park

The rugged mountain range around the forest of Khao Chong Chang was once stronghold of the Communist Party who fought against the Thai government over a decade. After the end of the battle in 1982, peace allowed the park to reestablish its natural beauty and for locals and visitors to take in the stunning natural beauty of the area. It was declared the 73rd national park of Thailand.

Tai Rom Yen was established in 1991 and covers areas of Ban Na San and Wiang Sa of Surat Thani. The national park acquires a total area of 425 square kilometres.

Geography

The rugged limestone mountain range feeds many streams, canals and caves.

Climate

Rainy is from May-December. The ideal time to visit is the summer season from January-April.

Flora and Fauna

Tropical rain forest, montane rain forest and secondary forest cover the park. The park is origin to many plants, mammals, birds, reptiles and amphibians.

Attractions

◆ **Dat Fa Waterfall.** The waterfall is the most largest and highest in Surat Thani and cascades through 22 tiers. The highest tier is over 80 metres high.

◆ **Mueang Thuat Waterfall.** The well-known waterfall in Ban Na San district of Surat Thani is about 20 metres high. Natural shady surroundings make the area a very nice to visit.

◆ **Sam Ha Chet Waterfall.** This beautiful waterfall is 25 metres high. To reach the area takes a 3-kilometre trek.

◆ **Khlong Nam Thao Waterfall.** The waterfall is 35 metres high. You will need to walk 900 metres to reach the waterfall.

◆ **Khlong Khan Bet Waterfall.** The 7 tiers waterfall is 20 metres high. You need to walk 500 metres to reach the area.



◆ **San Yen.** The eastern ridge of the park is 40 kilometres long. From afar, the ridge looks very smooth with elevations from 1,000 to 1,300 metres. The region is home to a variety of animals and plants, which can be seen in the lower areas.

◆ **Khao Nam Toei Nature Trail.** The trail is 2 kilometres long and leads to a study of the ecological system of tropical rain forest and the biological diversity of plants.

During the 30 minutes excursion, tourists can see *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Baccaurea* sp., *Calamus* sp., *Salacca wallichiana* and Fern.



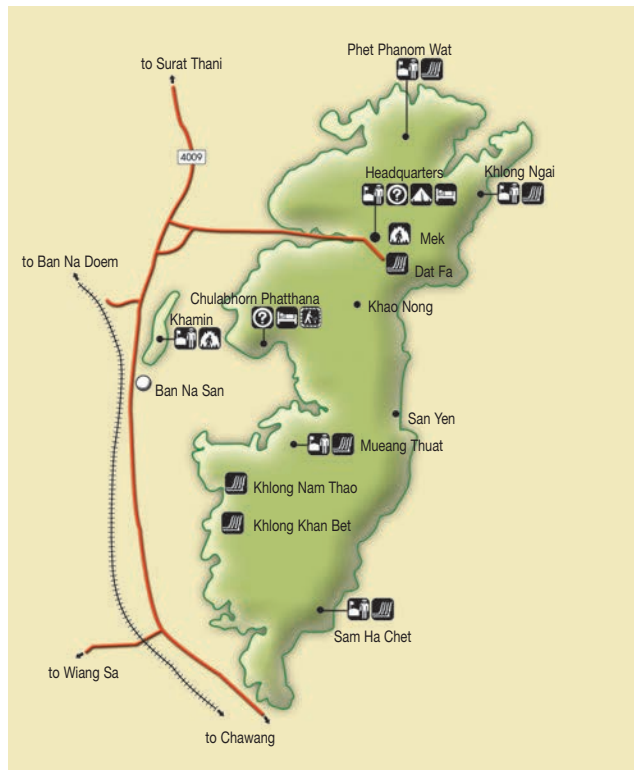
◆ **Mek Cave.** The high ceiling of the narrow cave is occupied by a number of beehives of the Giant Honey Bee each year. The cave is nearby to Dat Fa Waterfall.

◆ **Men Cave.** The large complex cave is beautified naturally with unique rock formations. It is habitat to many bats.

◆ **Khao Nong.** The highest peak of Surat Thani is 1,530 metres above mean sea level. Most of the year the area is misty and cool. Tree trunks on the summit are blanketed with thick moss. There is a 5-kilometre pool on the summit. The mountain contains plants deriving from both tropical rain forest and montane rain forests.

Getting There

- The park is 45 kilometres from Surat Thani. Motorists can take Highway 4009 from Surat Thani. Continue 30 kilometres and turn left at Chiang Phra village, opposite to Khuan Suban School. The park is another 15 kilometres.





Tarutao National Park

The archipelago of Tarutao comprises of 51 islands scattering in Malacca Strait of the Andaman Sea. Bordering Malaysia, the archipelago is only 4.8 kilometres from Langawi Island of Malaysia. Until 1974, Tarutao and Adang Rawi archipelago were declared as Thailand's 8th national park covering a total area of 1,490 square kilometres of Mueang district, Satun. In 1984, it was honored as an ASEAN Heritage Parks and Reserves.

Geography

The main islands comprise of Tarutao, Adang Rawi, Lipe, Klang, Batuang and Bissi. All of the islands can be divided into two regions, Tarutao and Adang Rawi archipelago.

Climate

Monsoons come to Tarutao and its nearby island for six months each year allowing tourists to enjoy its prestige nature from November to April.

Flora and Fauna

Tarutao national park is rich with diverse tropical plants. Numerous species occupy the different ecosystems such as *Hopea odorata*, *Intsia palembanica*, *Terminalia catappa*, *Thespesia populnea*, *Nypa fruticans* and *Rhizophora mucronata*.

A number of wildlife are found in the park including the Crab-eating Macaque, Banded Surili, Cream-coloured Giant Squirrel and Island Flying Fox.

Bird species include Oriental Pied Hornbill, Brahminy Kite, Japanese Sparrowhawk, Pacific Reef-egret, Pied Imperial-pigeon, Green Imperial-pigeon, Black-naped Oriole and White-bellied Sea-eagle.

The sea is habitat to an abundance of marine such as Dolphins and Whales. The pristine remote beaches of Ko Khai are a favored venue for the Sea Turtle to nest. Besides the submerged pinnacles, coral reefs around the archipelago are ideal sanctuary for beautiful marine life such as Sea Fan, Crown Anemonefish, Parrotfish and Butterflyfish to flourish.

The island is also settlement for 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 headquarters is situated on Phante Malacca Bay whose white sand beach always fascinates sea lover. You can enjoy swimming, camping and trekking to explore the lush scenic nature.

◆ **Klang and Khai Island.** Khai means “egg” referring to a favored place for turtles to nest on the white sand beach.

◆ **Adang Island.** The white sand beaches by the shady pines are a nice place to relax and enjoy.

◆ **Lipe Island.** The small island is home to sea gypsies who originally settled there over a hundred years ago.

◆ **Hin Ngam Island.** The small island beaches are covered with black rocks that impressively show their hue and pattern in wet conditions. The landscape of Adang-Rawi is rich with coral reef and colorful marine life.

◆ **Snorkeling and diving** are ideal activities around Klang and Khai islands including Adang, Chabang, Hin Ngam and Yang islands.



Getting There

- From Hat Yai, Take a Hat Yai-Pak Bara (Satun) bus at the bus terminal in front of Hat Yai Clock Tower, or those who travel by train can easily take a van to Pak Bara Pier (Satun) from railway station.
- There are both speed and ordinary boats available at Pak Bara Pier. Boat cruises from Pak Bara to Tarutao National Park (Phante Malacca bay and Tarutao) offers a return trip daily. Rental long-tailed boat are available too.
- From Satun, use Provincial Highway 4183 to Tammalang Pier. Then take a boat to Tarutao Adang-Rawi-Lipe. The boat trip is available only once a day.



Thale Ban National Park

The park is named after the fresh water swamp called “Thale Ban”, which derives from the Malay word meaning “sinking land”. Within the park’s boundary, a geological phenomenon of land subsidence occurred and became filled up with water becoming a large pool. Geologists assume that the swamp replaced a large burrow.

Geography

Thale Ban National Park was established in 1980 as Thailand’s 20th national park. It acquires a total area of 196 square kilometres covering parts of Khuan Don and Mueang districts of Satun. The park features rugged mountain landscape. Khao Chin is the highest peak at an elevation of 756 metres.

Flora and Fauna

Thale Ban National Park has several types of forests. Most of the region is covered with tropical rain forest that is habitat to many plant species and incredible level of plant canopies. The major plants found in the tropical rain forest include *Dipterocarpus*, *Hopea*, *Shorea*, *Parashorea*, *Alstonia*, *Caryota* and *Calamus*. Mixed deciduous forest, which is rarely found in South Thailand, occupies the middle region of the park, including plant varieties of *Caryota*, *Lagerstroemia*, *Pterocymbium*, *Vitex*, *Schima* and *Dillenia* sp. are found in the forest. Mangrove forest is along the coastal southwest area. The coastal forest is home to many plant species such as *Rhizophora mucronata*, *R. apiculata*, *Bruguiera cylindrica* and *Avicennia* sp.

The survey found that the park is habitat to some 406 animal species, including 64 mammals, 282 birds, 40 reptiles and 20 amphibians. The mammals in this region include Marbled Cat, Tiger, Leopard Cat, and Sun Bear. It is also home to 8 of 13 Hornbill species



found in Thailand. There are Chestnut-bellied Malkoha, Orange-breasted Trogon, Peregrine Falcon, Gould's Frogmouth, Blue-wing Pitta, Blue-crowned Hanging-parrot, White-crowned Hornbill, Oriental Pied Hornbill, Brown Boobook, Black-and-red Broadbill, Asian Green Broadbill, Banded Broadbill and Hill Myna. In addition, Sunburst Turtle, Soft-shelled Turtles, Common House Gecko, Large Forest Gecko, Blue-headed Dragonfly, Reticulated Python, King Cobra, Giant Toad, Asian Giant Frog and White-lipped Tree Frog.



Thale Ban National Park is also home to Sagai, a unique tribe who live harmoniously within the forest. The Sagai are keen in utilizing everything from the jungle for living. They know the herbs and easy ways to cultivate wild fruit and food. Today, there are only nine Sagai who live within the park boundary. Their lifestyle is changing after learning about the city life and deforestation.

Attractions

◆ **Thale Ban Swamp.** The swamp acquires a total area of 0.20 square kilometres along with a large pool sandwiched between two mountains. Enveloped within lush forest as well as *Hanguana malayana*, the swamp is home to numerous aquatic mammals. It is also home to *Rana* sp.

◆ **Ya Roi Waterfall.** The 5-tier waterfall originates from the Khao Chin mountain range. It is situated 6 kilometres away from park headquarters.

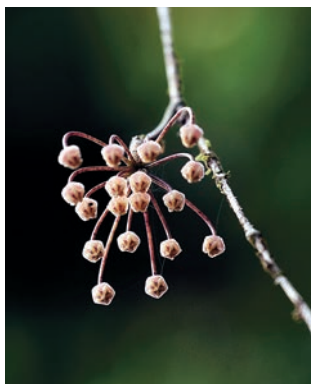
◆ **Ton Din Cave.** The 700-metre deep cave with a subterranean river is only 2 kms. from park headquarters. Mine tools from World War II remain in the cave.

◆ **Wang Pra Grassland.** The vast grassland in the valley is home to wildlife such as Porcupine, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain and Red Junglefowl. The area is on the west side of the park.

◆ **Lot Puyu Cave.** The area resembles Tham Lot of Ao Phang-nga National Park with its natural tunnel and subterranean river beautified by unique rock formations. The canal leads to a cave situated among lush mangrove forest. It can be accessed by boat from Tammalang Pier, 9 kilometres from park headquarters. In addition, you can enjoy Huai Ching Rit Waterfall, Pha Diao Cave, Khang Khao Cave, Khonthan Cave and Pratmana Island.

Getting There

- Scheduled bus and van services leave Hat Yai for Khuan Sato district regularly. From there, a bus to the park is available.
- From Hat Yai Bus Terminal, regular buses leave for Saun from 6:00 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. There are also air-conditioned van leave to Satun every hour between 6:00 a.m.- 7:00 p.m. Take the bus or van and get off at Khuan Sato district. Then take a minibus (Song Thaeo) to the park headquarters.



Than Bok Khorani

National Park

Than Bok Khorani National Park, the country's 85th national park, in Krabi province has very unique landscape of turquoise colored subterranean river that flows out of a cave and cascades through various pools under a shady canopy. The island has a natural chamber formed within and is a well known attraction for sea lover.

Geography

Due to additional forest area acquired, the national park became established in 1998. The total area is 104 square kms. and covers the area Ao Luek and Mueang districts of Krabi province including some of the surrounding islands. The rugged mountain range lies in a north to south direction. Some areas have Karst topography with sinkholes and subterranean river. Rolling hills and limestone rock appear in the form of a towering cliff surrounding the region. The cave formations and cliff include Sa Yuan Thong, Khuan Song, Thalu Fa, Khao Chong Lom and Khao Tham Lot Tai. Another part of this region is an archipelago in the Andaman Sea along with six islands.

Flora and Fauna

Forest in the park is watershed that fills up many streams of Ao Luek such as Marui, Klang, Namtok, Ao Luek and Karot. Its tropical rain forest, which blankets the rugged mountain range that comprises *Intsia*, *Hopea*, *Cotylelobium*, *Lagerstroemia*, *Saraca*, *Mangifera*, *Ternstroemia*, *Salacca*, *Calamus* and *Bambusa*.

Mostly mangrove forests comprise the areas of Khao Tham Lot Tai, Ao Nam, and some area of Ko Karot, *Rhizophora mucronata*, *R. apiculata*, *Xylocarpus moluccensis*, *X. granatum*, *Bruguiera Cylindrica*, *B. parviflora*, *Avicennia marina*. A small peat swamp forest is at the southern tip of Khao Chong Lom.



Since most of the park boundary has little forest, wildlife include the Wild Boar, Fishing Cat, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Lar Gibbon, Crab-eating Macaque, Dusky Leaf-monkey, Malayan Porcupine, Sunda Pangolin, Small-clawed Otter, Indomalayan Bamboo Rat, Small Asian Mongoose and Sunda Flying Lemur can be found.

Bird watcher might spot Asian Koel, Spotted Dove, White-rumped Shama, Oriental Magpie-robin, Grey Wagtail and Bulbuls.

The canal area is habitat to Yellow Mystus, Red-cheek Barb, Transverse-bar Barb, Common Silver Barb, Common Climbing Perch and Eel. Also, the park has numerous marine life namely Rockcod, Red

Rockcod, Butterflyfish, Parrotfish, Damselfish, Sea Cucumber, Sea Star, Sponge and Coral.

Attraction

The park amazingly houses numerous prehistorical cave art. Other artifact found on the ground and the cave floors make assumption that these were not used as habitat.

The cave painting may be part of rites, belief or other meaning. The cave paintings found are in the shape of humans, animals, hands and geometry. Such ancient paintings are found at Tham Phi Hua To, Laem Fai Mai, Laem Chao Le, Tham Chao Le and Laem Thai Raet.



Getting There

- The park headquarters is 48 kilometres from Krabi. Motorists can take Highway 4 to Ao Luek intersection and then take Highway 4039 and continue 2 kilometres. Otherwise, use Highway 4035 and continue to Highway 4039. Alternatively, buses and taxis are available from the Krabi Bus Terminal.

The park is ideal place for day trips. Most tourists come to enjoy a swim in Than Bok Khorani or its river along with exploring the sea, caves as well as prehistorical attractions. 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.

Than Sadet-Ko Pha-Ngan National Park

The national park is situated on Ko Pha-ngan, an island 100 kilometres away from Surat Thani's coast and occupies a total area of 44.99 square kilometres.

Geography

The national park has maintained the wilderness of the island on its rugged and steep mountain range. Khao Ra is the highest peak at an elevation of 627 metres.

Climate

The Than Sadet-Ko Pha-Ngan maintain a pleasant climate year round with consistent temperatures from season to season making it comfortable to visit any time.

Flora and Fauna

Tropical rain forest dominates the island. The major plants include *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. grandiflorus*,



Getting There

- Ko Pha-ngan is about 1 hour boat ride from Ko Samui. It is 80 kilometres from Surat Thani Pier and takes 4 hrs. from this point. The evening boat trip is 6 hours. The ferry is available from Don Sak Pier. Most roads are soiled roads. Trekking is required to get around the islands.

Hopea odorata, *Ternstroemia wallichiana*, *Mesua nervosa*, *Parkia timoriana*, *Calamus* sp. and *Salacca wallichiana*.

According to locals and field trip surveys, Ko Pha-ngan is habitat to many species of birds and mammals such as Common Palm Civet, Asian Red-cheeked Squirrel, Southern Pig-tailed Macaque and Pigeons.

Attractions

◆ **Than Sadet Waterfall.** Local people honor the island's largest waterfall here.

◆ **Ao Than Sadet.** Connecting to a waterfall, the bay has a beautiful beach with white sand and crystal clear waters to relax.

◆ **Than Praphat and Than Prawet Waterfall.** Named by King Rama V when he visited Ao Ban Don in 1889. Phaeng waterfall falls from a very high cliff.

◆ **Khao Ra.** This is the highest peak in the national park with an elevation of 627 metres above mean sea level and offers picturesque panoramic views of the whole island.



Contact Address

National Parks in the Northern

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Chae Son	343 Mu 11, Chae Son sub-district, Mueang Pan district, Lampang 52240	0-5438-0000, 08-9851-3355
Doi Chong	Mu 6, Na Mai Daeng village, Na Yang sub-district, Sop Prap district, Lampang 52170	08-1951-3624
Doi Inthanon	Km.31, Chom Thong district, Chiang Mai 50160	0-5328-6728-29
Doi Khun Tan	Mu 8, Tha Pladuk sub-district, Mae Tha district, Lamphun 51140	0-5354-6335, 08-1032-6341
Doi Luang	Mae Yen sub-district, Phan district, Chiang Rai 57280	0-5316-3363
Doi Pha Hom Pok	224 Mu 6, Pong Nam Ron Sub-district, Fang district, Chiang Mai 50110	0-5345-3517-8
Doi Pha Klong	Mu 7, Taphamok sub-district, Long district, Phrae 54150	0-5455-6789
Doi Phu Kha	Phu Kha sub-district, Pua district, Nan 55120	0-5470-1000, 0-5473-1623
Doi Phu Nang	Mu 6, Bo Bia village, Ban Mang sub-district, Chiang Muan district, Phayao 56160	0-5447-6302, 08-7181-5365
Doi Suthep-Pui	Huai Kaeo road, Suthep sub-district, Mueang district, Chiang Mai 50200	0-5321-0244
Doi Wiang Pha	P.O. Box 14, P.O. Chai Prakan, Chai Prakan district, Chiang Mai 50320	08-7186-2118, 0-5331-7535
Huai Nam Dang	Mu 5, Kit Chang sub-district, Mae Taeng district, Chiang Mai 50150	0-5324-8491, 08-4908-1531
Kaeng Chet Khwae	Mu 1, Khan Chong sub-district, Wat Bot district, Phitsanulok 65160	0-5531-6605
Khao Kho	Sadao Phong sub-district, Khao Kho district, Phetchabun 67270	08-1284-5223
Khlung Lan	Mu 8, Khlung Lan Phatthana sub-district, Khlung Lan district, Kamphaeng Phet 62180	0-5576-6425
Khlung Wang Chao	446 Mu 22, Kosamphi sub-district, Kosamphi Nakhon district, Kamphaeng Phet 62000	0-5571-9318-9
Khun Chae	Mu 7, Mae Chedi Mai sub-district, Wiang Pa Pao district, Chiang Rai 57260	0-5316-3364, 08-4366-5213
Khun Khan	Mu 1, Mae Sap sub-district, Samoeng district, Chiang Mai 50250	08-1883-7800
Khun Nan	Dong Phaya sub-district, Bo Kluea district, Nan 55220	08-4483-7240
Khun Phawo	Mu 3, Nong Luang village, Mae Ramat district, Tak 63140	0-5657-7447, 08-9157-1246
Khun Sathan	3 Mu 3, Santha sub-district, Na Noi district, Nan 55150	08-7173-9549
Lam Nam Kok	Mu 6, Doi Hang sub-district, Mueang district, Chiang Rai 57000	0-5360-9238
Lam Nam Nan	95 Mu 8, Pha Lueat sub-district, Tha Pla district, Uttaradit 53190	0-5541-9236, 0-5543-6751
Lan Sang	Mae Tho sub-district, Mueang district, Tak 63000	0-5557-6080, 0-5557-7207
Mae Charim	35 Mu 5, Nam Pai sub-district, Mae Charim district, Nan 55170	0-5473-1757 08-0679-9070
Mae Moei	Mae Song sub-district, Tha Song Yang district, Tak 63150	0-5557-6452-3, 0-5557-7409

Contact Address

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Mae Ngao	Mu 8, Mae Suat sub-district, Sop Moei district, Mae Hong Son 58110	0-5307-1471, 0-5307-1429, 0-5329-4493
Mae Ping	81 Mu 6, Mae Lan sub-district, Li district, Lamphun 51110	0-5354-6336, 08-1951-1319
Mae Puem	Mu 8, Pa Tueng village, Mae Chai sub-district, Mae Chai district, Phayao 56130	08-0671-5033
Mae Takhrai	Pa Miang sub-district, Doi Saket district, Chiang Mai 50220	08-9555-8256
Mae Tho	Bo Sali sub-district, Hot district, Chiang Mai 50240	0-5381-8348
Mae Wa	Mu 8, Mae Wa sub-district, Thoen district, Lampang 52230	08-1112-2855, 08-6429-5219
Mae Wang	Mu 7, Santisuk sub-district, Doi Lo district, Chiang Mai 50160	08-0491-8591, 08-2765-8524
Mae Wong	Pang Ta Wai sub-district, Pang Sila Thong district, Kamphaeng Phet 62120	09-0457-9291, 0-5576-6436
Mae Yom	Sa-lap sub-district, Song district, Phrae 54120	0-5455-6537
Nam Nao	Nam Nao district, Phetchabun 67260	08-1962-6236
Namtok Chat Trakan	Mu 3, Pak Rong village, Chat Trakan sub-district, Chat Trakan district, Phitsanulok 65170	0-5523-7216, 0-5590-6522
Namtok Mae Surin	Mu 1, Pang Mu sub-district, Mueang district, Mae Hong Son 58000	0-5306-1073
Namtok Pha Charoen	Mu 6, Chong Khaep sub-district, Phop Phra district, Tak 63160	0-5550-0906
Nanthaburi	Mu 7, Si Phum sub-district, Tha Wang Pha district, Nan 55140	08-9999-2420
Op Khan	Nam Phrae sub-district, Hang Dong district, Chiang Mai 50230	08-6181-1068
Op Luang	226 Mu 1, Hang Dong Sub-district, Hot district, Chiang Mai 50250	0-5331-5302, 08-1602-1290
Pha Daeng	Mu 3, Nawai village, Mueang Na sub-district, Chiang Dao district, Chiang Mai 50170	0-5304-6370-1
Phu Hin Rong Kla	Noen Phoem sub-district, Nakhon Thai district, Phitsanulok 65120	0-5523-3527, 0-5535-6673
Phu Sang	146 Mu 8, Phu Sang sub-district, Phu Sang district, Phayao 56110	0-5440-1099
Phu Soi Dao	Mu 6, Huai Mun sub-district, Nam Pat district, Uttaradit 53110	0-5543-6001-2
Ramkhamhaeng	124 Mu 2, Si Khiri Mat sub-district, Khirimat district, Sukhothai 64160	0-5591-0000-1
Salawin	Mu 8, Mae Khong sub-district, Mae Sariang district, Mae Hong Son 58110	0-5307-1429, 0-5329-4493
Si Lanna	Ban Pao sub-district, Mae Taeng district, Chiang mai 50150	0-5347-9079, 0-5347-9090
Si Nan	Mu 9, Si Sa Ket sub-district, Na Noi district, Nan 55150	0-5473-1714
Si Satchanalai	Mu 6, Ban Kaeng sub-district, Si Satchanalai district, Sukhothai 64130	0-5591-0002-3
Taksin Maharat	69 Mu 10, Mae Tho sub-district, Mueang district, Tak 63000	0-5551-1429
Tat Mok	P.O. Box 4, Mueang district, Phetchabun 67000	08-8278-7108
Tham Pha Thai	Mu 3, Huai Thak village, Ban Huat sub-district, Ngao district, Lampang 52110	08-9952-3829
Tham Pla-Namtok Pha Suea	70 Mu 1, Huai Pha sub-district, Mueang district, Mae Hong Son 58000	08-2191-1746, 08-5706-6663

National Park**Addresses****Telephone**

Tham Sakoen	Mu 1, Sakoen village, Yot sub-district, Song Khwae district, Nan 55160	08-9045-9831
Thung Salaeng Luang	Mu 9, Ban Yaeng sub-district, Nakhon Thai district, Phitsanulok 65120	0-5526-8019
Ton Sak Yai	Mu 3, Nam Khrai sub-district, Nam Pat district, Uttaradit 53110	0-5543-6752
Wiang Kosai	Mu 7, Mae Koeng sub-district, Wang Chin district, Phrae 54160	0-5455-6768, 08-1030-8663

National Parks in the Northeastern**National Park****Addresses****Telephone**

Kaeng Tana	Khong Chiam district, Ubon Ratchathani 34220	0-4540-6887-8
Khao Phra Wihan	Sao Thong Chai sub-district, Kantharak district, Si Sa Ket 33110	0-4581-8021
Khao Yai	P.O. Box 9, Pak Chong district, Nakhon Ratchasima 30130	0-3735-6037
Nam Phong	Ban Phuea sub-district, Nong Ruea district, Khon Kaen 40240	0-4335-8074
Nayung-Nam Som	Mu 2, Sawang village, Nayung sub-district, Nayung district, Udonthani 41380	08-1380-4240
Pa Hin Ngam	Ban Rai sub-district, Thep Sathit district, Chaiyaphum 36230	0-4489-0105
Pha Taem	Nong Phue Noi, Huai Phai sub-district, Khong Chiam district, Ubon Ratchathani 34220	0-4531-8026 0-4525-2581
Phu Chong Na Yoi	Kaeng Rueang village, Na Chaluai sub-district, Na Chaluai district, Ubon Ratchathani 34280	0-4541-1515, 0-4521-0706
Phu Kao-Phu Phan Kham	Tha Sala village, Ban Kho sub-district, Non Sung district, Nong Bua Lam Phu, 39140	0-4295-6528, 08-1221-0529
Phu Kradueng	Mu 1, Si Than village, Si Than sub-district, Phu Kradueng district, Loei 42180	0-4287-1333 0-4281-0833
Phu Laenkha	Huai Ton sub-district, Mueang district, Chaiyaphum 36000	0-4481-0902-3
Phu Langka	Na Pho village, Phai Lom sub-district, Ban Phaeng district, Nakhon Phanom 48140	0-4481-0802-3 08-4792-3505
Phu Pha Lek	Tha Wat village, Pathum Wapi sub-district, Song Dao district, Sakon Nakhon 47190	0-4272-7003
Phu Pha Man	Na Nong Thum sub-district, Chum Phae district, Khon Kaen 40290	0-4321-0163
Phu Pha Thoep	25 Mu 5, Na Si Nuan sub-district, Mueang district, Mukdahan 49000	0-4267-6474, 0-4260-1753
Phu Pha Yon	Mu 4, Huai Huat village, Chan Phen sub-district, Tao Ngoi district, Sakon Nakhon 47260	0-4272-6615
Phu Phan	Huai Yang sub-district, Mueang district, Sakon Nakhon 47000	0-4272-6616, 0-4270-3044
Phu Ruea	Nong Bua sub-district, Phu Ruea district, Loei 42160	0-4281-0965, 08-8509-5299
Phu Sa Dok Bua	Nong Mek village, Pa Rai sub-district, Don Tan district, Mukdahan 49120	0-4267-6472
Phu Suan Sai	Saeng Pha sub-district, Na Haeo district, Loei 42170	0-4280-7616
Phu Wiang	Nai Mueang sub-district, Phu Wiang district, Khon Kaen 40150	0-4335-8073, 08-5852-1771

Contact Address

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Sai Thong	81 Mu 10, Wang Nam Khiao village, Wang Takhe sub-district, Nong Bua Rawe district, Chaiyaphum 36250	08-9282-3437
Ta Phraya	72 Mu 5, Thap Rat sub-district, Ta Phraya district, Sa Kaeo 21780	0-3724-7932
Tat Ton	Na Fai sub-district, Mueang district, Chaiyaphum 36000	0-4485-3333
Thap Lan	520 Mu1, Bu Phram sub-district, Na Di district, Prachin Buri 25220	0-3748-6771

National Parks in the Central & Eastern

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Chaloem Phra Kiat	110 Mu 5, Thai Prachan village, Yang Hak sub-district, Pak Tho district, Ratchaburi 70140	08-7165-3278
Chaloem Rattanakosin	Mu 4, Khao Chot sub-district, Si Sawat district, Kanchanaburi 71220	0-3454-7020
Erawan	Mu 4, Tha Kradan sub-district, Si Sawat district, Kanchanaburi 71250	0-3457-4222, 0-3457-4288
Kaeng Krachan	Mu 8, Kaeng Krachan sub-district, Kaeng Krachan district, Phetchaburi 76170	0-3243-3658, 0-3245-9291
Khao Chamao- Khao Wong	Nam Pen sub-district, Khao Chamao district, Rayong 21110	09-1586-2009, 0-3889-4378
Khao Khitchakut	34/7 Mu 10, Phluang sub-district, Khao Khitchakut district, Chanthaburi 22210	0-3945-2074
Khao Laem	55 Mu 4, Prang Phle, Sang Khla Buri district, Kanchanaburi 71240	0-3454-6819, 08-6131-3443
Khao Laem Ya - Mu Ko Samet	79 Mu 1, Kon Ao village, Hat Mae Ramphueng-Phe Rd., Phe sub-district, Mueang district, Rayong 21160	0-3865-3034
Khao Sipa Chan	Mu 11, Pong Ket village, Khun Song sub-district, Kaeng Hang Maeo district, Chanthaburi 22160	08-2217-5575
Khuean Srinagarindra	Mu 7, Dan Mae Chalaep sub-district, Si Sawat district, Kanchanaburi 71250	0-3453-2027, 08-1010-6966
Lam Khlong Ngu	Mu 1, Huai Suea village, Chalaie sub-district, Thong Pha Phum district, Kanchanaburi 71180	08-4913-2381
Mu Ko Chang	23/7 Mu 3, Ko Chang sub-district, Ko Chang district, Trat 23170	0-3951-0927-8
Namtok Chet Sao Noi	Mu 9, Kaeng Lu village, Muak Lek sub-district, Muak Lek district, Saraburi 18180	0-3672-1230, 0-3622-6431
Namtok Khlong Kaeo	Mu 2, Bo Phloi sub-district, Bo Rai district, Trat 23140	08-1380-4240
Namtok Phlio	41 Mu 12, Phlio sub-district, Laem Sing district, Chanthaburi 22190	0-3943-4528
Namtok Sam Lan	53 Mu 1, Nong Pla Lai sub-district, Mueang district, Saraburi 18000	0-3671-3830
Pang Sida	Tha Yack sub-district, Mueang district, Sa Kaeo 27000	0-3724-6100, 0-3736-3034
Phu Toei	Mu 9, Muang Pae village, Wang Yao sub-district, Dan Chang district, Suphan Buri 72180	0-3544-6237, 08-1934-2240
Sai Yok	Mu 7, Sai Yok sub-district, Sai Yok district, Kanchanaburi 71150	0-3468-6024, 08-9028-1958

National Park**Addresses****Telephone****Thong Pha Phum**Mu 1, Pi Lok sub-district, Thong Pha Phum district,
Kanchanaburi 711800-3451-0979,
08-1382-0359**National Parks in the Southern****National Park****Addresses****Telephone****Ao Manao-Khao Tanyong**

Mu 12, Kalu Wo Nuea sub-district, Mueang district, Narathiwat 96000

—

Ao Phang-nga80 Mu 1, Tha Dan village, Ko Pan Yi sub-district, Mueang district,
Phangnga 82000

0-7648-1188

Bang Lang

Mu 5, Tham Thalu sub-district, Bannang-Sata district, Yala 95150

0-7320-6119,
0-7329-7099**Budo-Su-ngai Padi**67 Mu 4, Phiphit Pacho Road, Bacho sub-district, Bacho district,
Narathiwat 96170

0-7353-6076

Hat Chao MaiMu 5, Chang Lang village, Mai Fat sub-district, Si Kao district,
Trang 92150

0-7520-6508

Hat Khanom-**Mu Ko Thale Tai**Mu 1, Khanom sub-district, Khanom district,
Nakhon Si Thammarat 80210

08-6475-8392

Hat Noppharat Thara-**Mu Ko Phi Phi**79 Mu 5, Khlong Haeng village, Ao Nang sub-district,
Mueang district, Krabi 81000

0-7566-1145

Hat WanakonMu 7, Huai Yang sub-district, Thap Sakae district,
Prachuap Khiri Khan 771300-3251-0272,
0-3261-9030**Kaeng Krung**

Mu 8, Takuk Nuea sub-district, Vibhavadi district, Surat Thani 84180

0-7791-8063,
0-7720-5677**Khao Lak-Lam Ru**

Mu 7, Khuek Khak sub-district, Takua Pa district, Phangnga 82190

0-7648-5243

Khao Lampi-**Hat Thai Mueang**60/10 Mu 5, Thai Mueang sub-district, Thai Mueang district,
Phangnga 82120

0-7641-7206

Khao LuangMu 4, Ron village, Khao Kaeo sub-district, Lan Saka district,
Nakhon Si Thammarat 80230

0-7530-0494

Khao Nam Khang115 Mu 1, Khlong Kwang sub-district, Na Thawi district,
Songkhla 90160

0-7453-1696

Khao NanMu 8, Taling Chan sub-district, Tha Sala district,
Nakhon Si Thammarat 8016008-6479-4376,
0-7546-6108**Khao Phanom Bencha**

170 Mu 4, Thap Prik sub-district, Mueang district, Krabi 81000

0-7566-0716

Khao Pu-Khao Ya

60 Mu 9, Khao Pu sub-district, Si Banphot district, Phatthalung 93190

0-7468-9194-5

Khao Sam Roi YotMu 2, Khao Daeng village, Khao Daeng sub-district, Kui Buri district,
Prachuap Khiri Khan 77150

0-3282-1568

Khao Sok

Mu 6, Khlong Sok sub-district, Phanom district, Surat Thani 84250

0-7739-5154,
0-7739-5139**Khlong Phanom**

107 Mu 4, Khlong Sok sub-district, Phanom district, Surat Thani 84250







































0-7791-8559

Kui BuriMu 9, Yan Sue village, Hat Kham sub-district, Kui Buri district,
Prachuap Khiri Khan 771500-3264-6292,
08-6628-8872

Contact Address

National Park	Addresses	Telephone
Laem Son	36/6 Mu 4, Bang Ben village, Muang Kluang sub-district, Kapoe district, Ranong 85120	0-7786-1431-2
Lam Nam Kra Buri	130 Mu 3, Hin Chang village, Phetkasem Road, Paknam sub-district, Mueang district, Ranong 85000	0-7787-0238 0-7798-9817
Mu Ko Ang Thong	145/1 Talat Lang road, Talat Lang sub-district, Mueang district, Surat Thani 84000	0-7728-6025, 0-7728-0222
Mu Ko Chumphon	1/4 Mu 5, Hat Sai Ri sub-district, Mueang district, Chumphon 86120	0-7755-8144
Mu Ko Lanta	59 Mu 5, Laem Tanot village, Ko Lanta Yai sub-district, Ko Lanta district, Krabi 81150	0-7566-0711-2
Mu Ko Phetra	298 Mu 4, Talo Sai village, Paknam sub-district, La-ngu district, Satun 91110	0-7478-3074
Mu Ko Ranong	192 Mu 4, Ngao sub-district, Mueang district, Ranong 85000	0-7781-3828 08-1898-4758
Mu Ko Similan	93 Mu 5, Thap Lamu village, Lam Kaen sub-district, Thai Mueang district, Phangnga 82210	0-7645-3272-3
Mu Ko Surin	Khura sub-district, Khura Buri district, Phangnga 82150	0-7647-2145-7
Namtok Huai Yang	Mu 11, Huai Yang sub-district, Thap Sakae district, Prachuap Khiri Khan 77130	0-3264-6291, 08-4701-2795
Namtok Ngao	76/5 Mu 1, Ngao sub-district, Mueang district, Ranong 85000	0-7784-8181
Namtok Sai Khao	Mu 5, Sai Khao sub-district, Khok Pho district, Pattani 94120	0-7346-7485
Namtok Si Khit	Mu 2, Si Khit sub-district Si Chon district, Nakhon Si Thammarat 80120	0-7547-0708
Namtok Sipo	Mu 3, Chaloeam sub-district, Ra-ngae district, Narathiwat 96130	—
Namtok Yong	Mu 7, Tham Yai sub-district, Thung Song district, Nakhon Si Thammarat 80110	0-7535-4967
San Kala Khiri	Mu 2, Ba Hoi sub-district, Saba Yoi district, Songkhla 90210	0-7432-9644-5
Si Phang-nga	65/16 Mu 2, Bangwan sub-district, Khura Buri district, Phangnga 82150	08-6952-5246, 0-7648-0722
Sirinat	89/1 Mu 1, Nai Yang village, Sakhu sub-district, Thalang district, Phuket 83140	0-7632-8226
Tai Rom Yen	Mu 1, Lamphun sub-district, Ban Na San district, Surat Thani 84120	0-7791-8611, 0-7734-4633, 0-7478-3597
Tarutao	Pak Bara sub-district, La-ngu district, Satun 91110	0-7478-3597
Thale Ban	Mu 4, Wang Prachan sub-district, Khuan Don district, Satun 91160	08-3533-1710
Than Bok Khorani	2/2 Mu 2, Namtok village, Ao Luek Tai sub-district, Ao Luek district, Krabi 81110	0-7568-1096
Than Sadet-Ko Pha-ngan	Mu 5, Ban Tai sub-district, Ko Pha-ngan district, Surat Thani 84280	0-7723-8275

Legends

- | | | | |
|--|-------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
|  | International Boundary |  | Headquarters / Ranger Station |
|  | National Park Boundary |  | Visitor Center / Information Center |
|  | Road |  | Accommodation / Facilities |
|  | Railway |  | Camping Site |
|  | River / Stream / Maenam |  | Youth Hosts |
|  | Seaway |  | Food Services |
|  | Nature Trail |  | Checkpoint |
|  | National Park Area |  | Pier |
|  | Out Site of National Park |  | Ferry |
|  | Reservoir / Dam / Ang Kep Nam |  | Scenic Point / View Point |
|  | Sea / Gulf |  | Watching Tower |
|  | Airport |  | Waterfall / Namtok |
|  | Province |  | Cave / Tham |
|  | District / Amphoe |  | Hot Spring |
|  | Village / Ban / Mu Ban |  | Pagoda |
| | |  | Nature Trail / Interpretive Trail |
| | |  | Hiking Trail / Trekking Trail |
| | |  | Bicycle Trails / Bicycling |
| | |  | Rafting |
| | |  | Kayaking / Canoeing |
| | |  | Snorkelling / Skin Diving |
| | |  | Scuba Diving |
| | |  | Mooring Buoy |



National Park Office
 Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation
 61 Phahonyothin Road, Chatuchak, Bangkok 10900
 Tel. / Fax 0-2562-0759
 Making reservation via on-line service
<http://www.dnp.go.th>