

The image shows a group of performers in traditional Thai attire, including white shirts, patterned sarongs, and green headbands, dancing at night. They are holding black fans and are surrounded by a large, ornate structure with many small lights. The scene is illuminated by green and yellow lights, creating a vibrant atmosphere. The background is dark, and the overall image has a symmetrical, mirrored effect.

amazing
THAILAND

Nakhon Si Thammarat

Phatthalung



Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan

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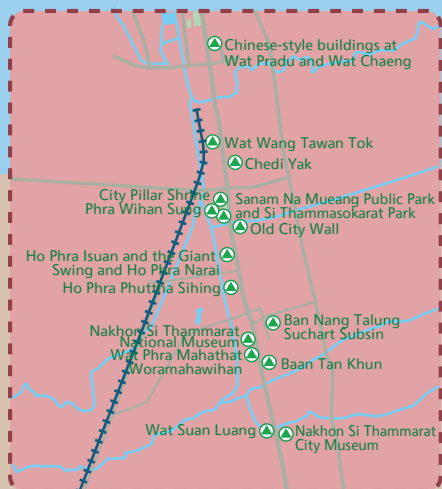
NAKHON SI THAMMARAT

NAKHON SI THAMMARAT

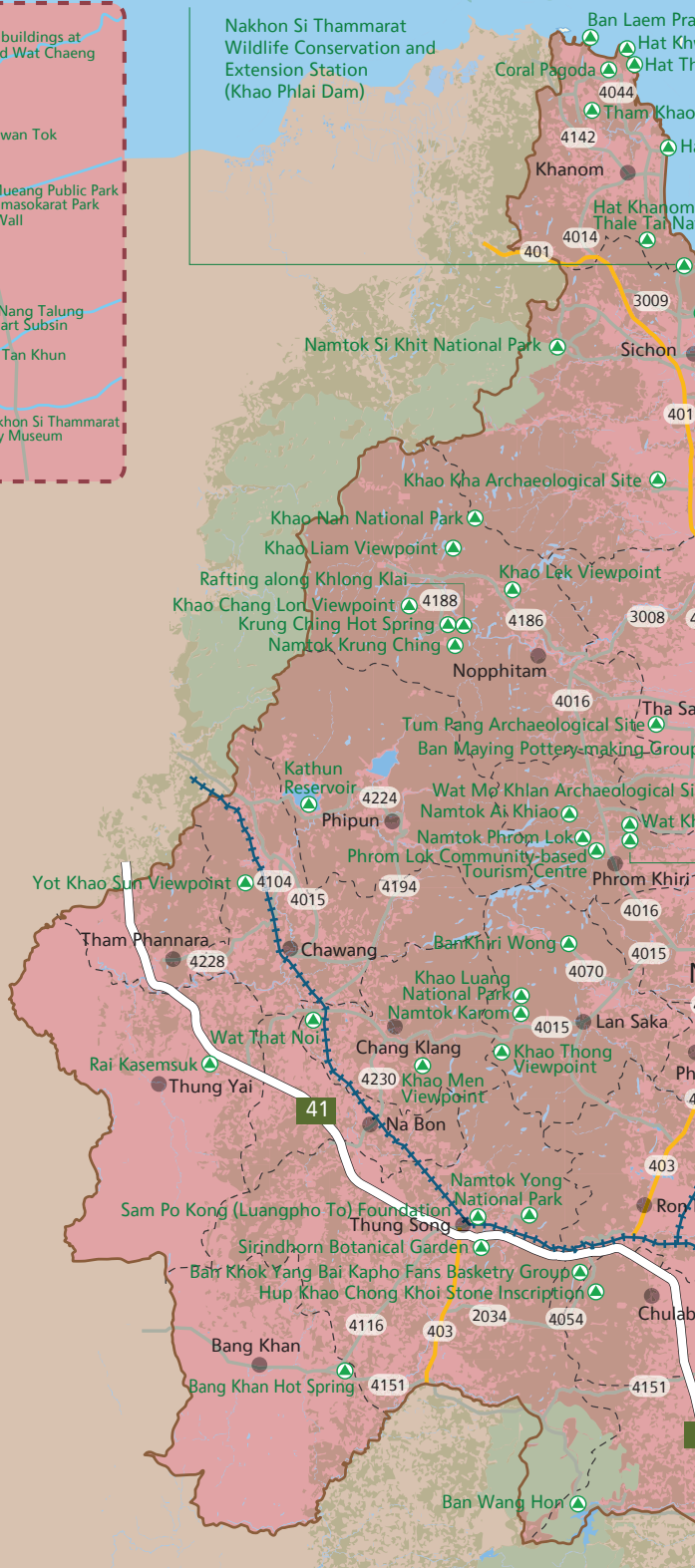


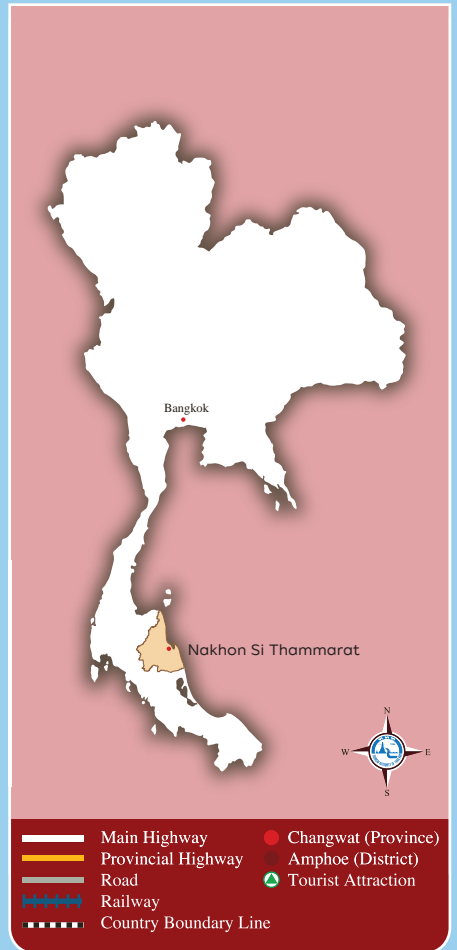
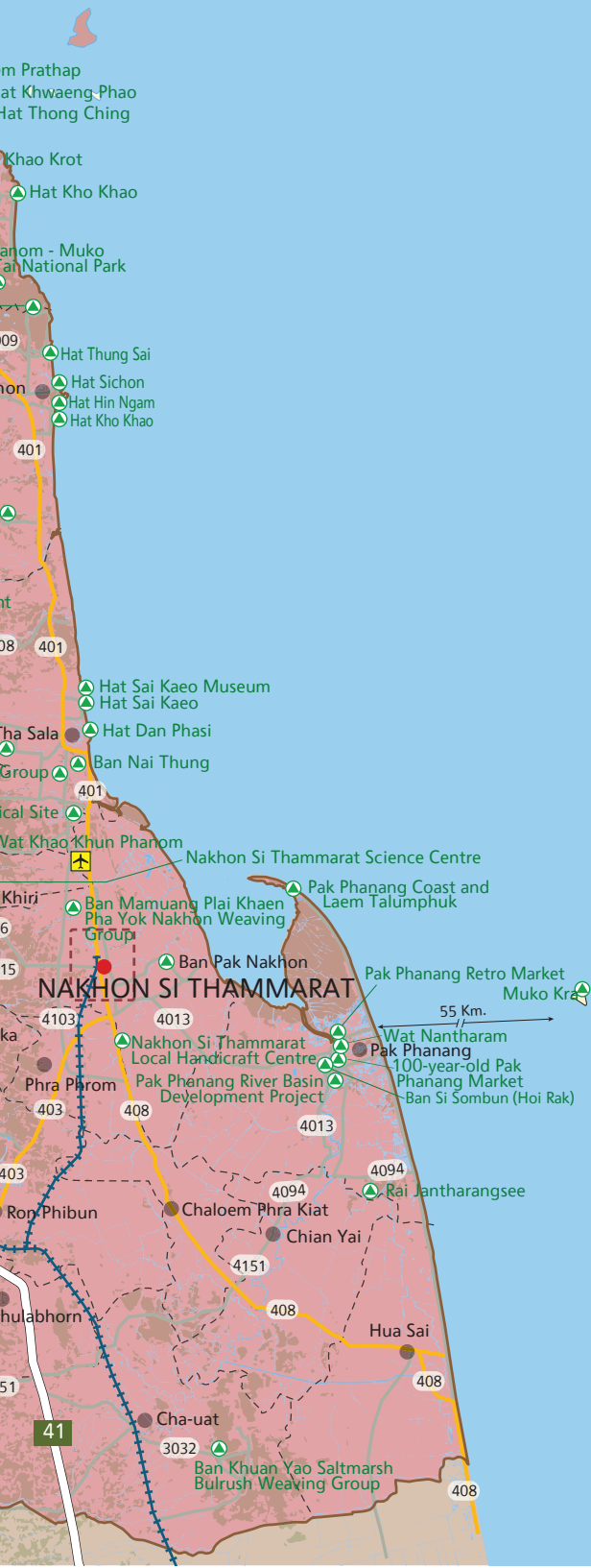


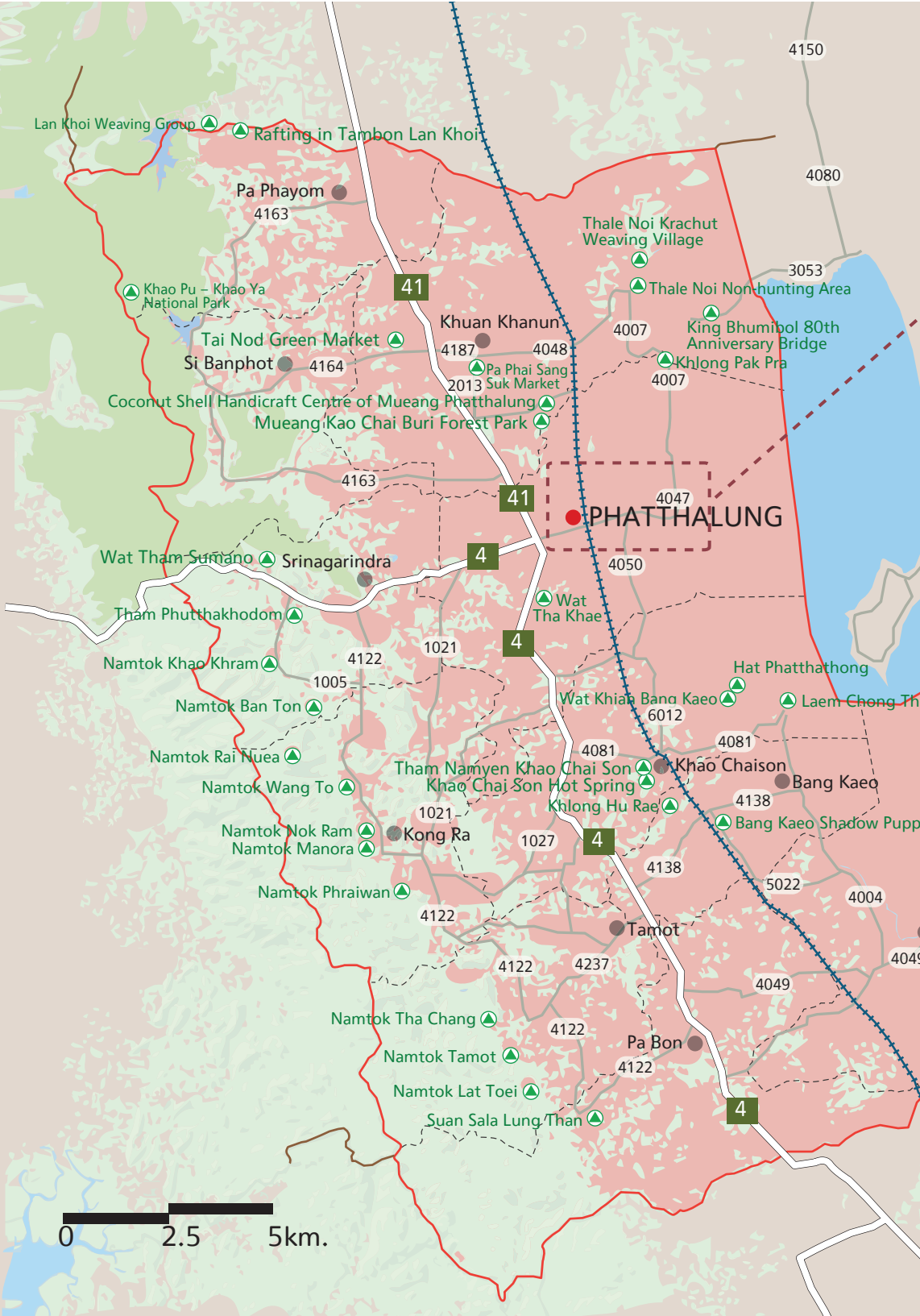
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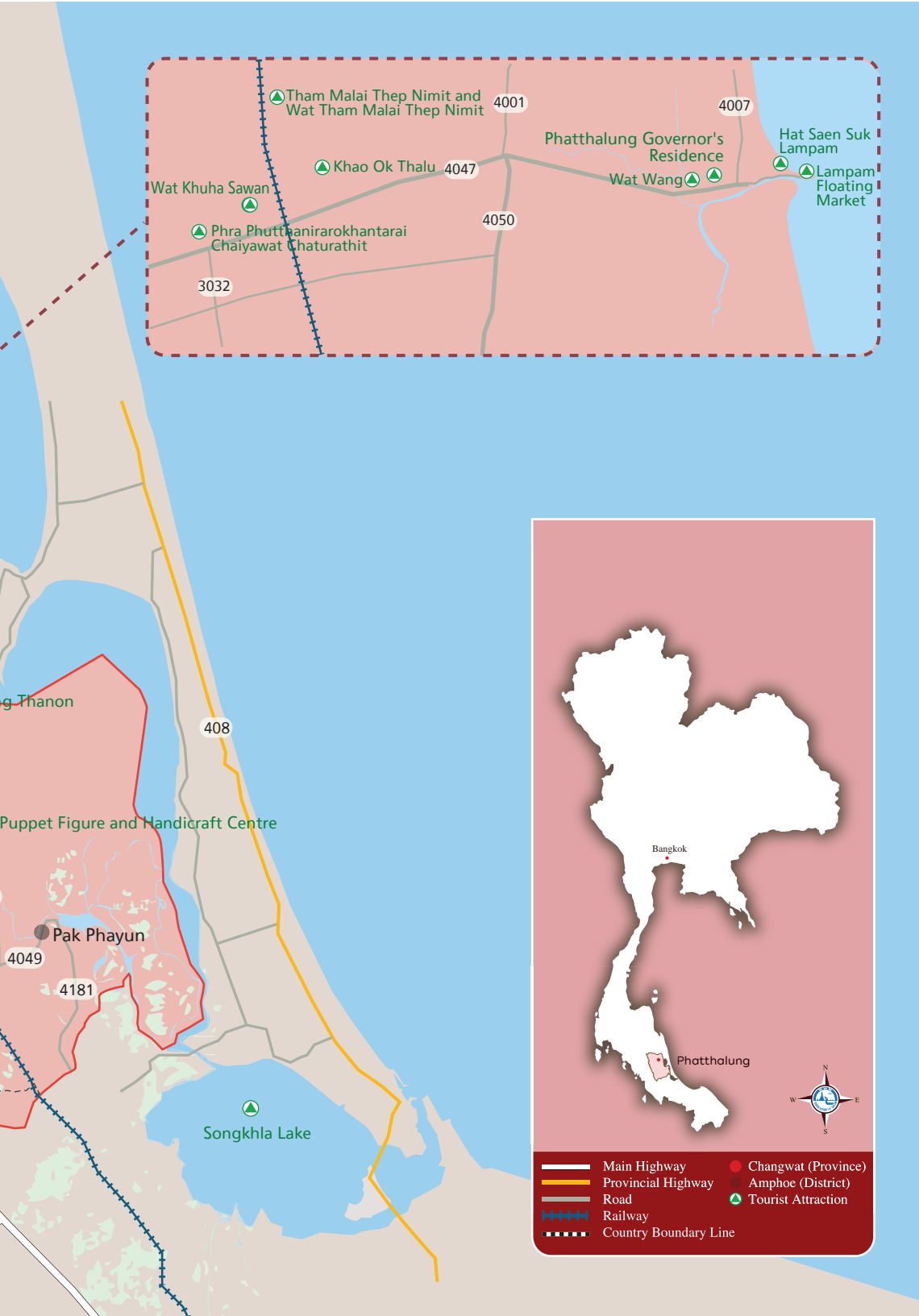


Nakhon Si Thammarat Wildlife Conservation and Extension Station (Khao Phlai Dam)











Nang Talung

NAKHON SI THAMMARAT

Nakhon Si Thammarat is the second largest province and is the heart of history and culture of Thailand's Southern region. Known amongst foreigners as 'Ligor' and often referred to by the locals as 'Mueang Khon', Nakhon Si Thammarat is an ancient city that holds significant historical, cultural, and religious importance.

Dating back to the 2nd century, Nakhon Si Thammarat became a staging post on the trade route linking China with Southern India, and became part of the powerful Srivijaya Empire between the 8th and 13th centuries. When Theravada Buddhism spread to Sukhothai Kingdom in the late 13th century, Nakhon Si Thammarat served as the religious and cultural centre, in which traces of the prosperity and grandeur can still be seen today; such as, the majestic Phra Borommathat Chedi at Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan.

Not only the city is rich with history, Nakhon Si Thammarat is also blessed with unspoiled natural resources, from pristine mountain ranges to dense forests, breathtaking waterfalls, mesmerising caves, and picturesque beaches. The province comprises several national parks; such as, Khao Luang National Park, which is home to Khao Luang, the highest mountain in the Southern region, as well as Hat Khanom – Muko Thale Tai National Park that encompasses a diversity of amazing natural attractions, including islands, mountains, and beaches. On the other hand, Ban Khiri Wong is a great place worth visiting as it is a charming community where visitors can experience a peaceful way of life, immerse in the community's natural beauty, and explore precious local wisdom.

Nakhon Si Thammarat is also a centre for numerous remarkable arts and crafts that reflect the combination of unique culture, time-honoured

local heritage and wisdom, and distinctive way of life; such as, Nang Talung (shadow play puppets), and Pha Yok Mueang Nakhon (a type of ancient hand-woven textile with raised patterns).

Located approximately 808 kilometres from Bangkok, Nakhon Si Thammarat covers an area of 9,942.502 square kilometres and comprises 23 Amphoes (districts).

BOUNDARY

North	Connects to Surat Thani and Gulf of Thailand
South	Connects to Phatthalung and Songkhla
East	Connects to Gulf of Thailand
West	Connects to Trang and Krabi

Distance from Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat to other Amphoes

Lan Saka	22 kilometres
Phrom Khiri	24 kilometres
Phra Phrom	27 kilometres
Tha Sala	27 kilometres
Chaloem Phra Kiat	32 kilometres
Ron Phibun	42 kilometres
Pak Phanang	43 kilometres
Nopphitam	47 kilometres
Chian Yai	51 kilometres
Chang Klang	58 kilometres
Sichon	61 kilometres
Chulabhorn	64 kilometres
Thung Song	64 kilometres
Chawang	70 kilometres
Hua Sai	71 kilometres
Cha-uat	72 kilometres
Na Bon	83 kilometres
Phi Pun	87 kilometres
Khanom	96 kilometres
Bang Khan	100 kilometres



Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan

Thung Yai	105 kilometres
Tham Phannara	115 kilometres

HOW TO GET THERE

By Car

From Bangkok, take Highway 4 (Phetchakasem Road) and turn onto Highway 41 passing Surat Thani province and then take Highway 401 and drive along the coast to arrive in Nakhon Si Thammarat, a total distance of 808 kilometres.

By Bus

Several air-conditioned bus and VIP coaches depart from the Bangkok Southern Bus Terminal (also known as Sai Tai Mai), located on Borommaratchachonnani Road, to Nakhon Si Thammarat daily. The journey takes around 11 hours. For more information, visit www.transport.co.th.

By Train

Trains to Nakhon Si Thammarat leave Hua Lamphong Railway Station in Bangkok several times a day. The journey takes around 15-16 hours, depending on the type of the train. For more information, visit www.railway.co.th.

By Air

Three major airlines operate several flights from Bangkok to Nakhon Si Thammarat. Air Asia (www.airasia.com), Nok Air (www.nokair.com), and Thai Lion Air (www.lionairthai.com) depart for Nakhon Si Thammarat Airport from Don Mueang Airport daily.

Getting around in Nakhon Si Thammarat

There are several kinds of vehicle available; such as, Songthaes (local mini bus), buses, and taxi. Car or motorcycle hire services are also available in the city centre.

ATTRACTIONS

Religious Sites

Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan

Located on Ratchadamnoen Road, Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan is one of the most important historical sites in Thailand. The temple is believed to be constructed along with a small Chedi in AD 311. Later, when Phrachao Si Thammasokarat established the city of Nakhon Si Thammarat, a Sri Lankan style Chedi was



Wat Suan Luang



Ho Phra Phuttha Sihing

constructed over the old one. Today, the magnificent white-coloured bell-shaped Chedi with gilded top named Phra Borommathat Chedi is the most revered Chedi in the Southern region and it also contains the relics of the Lord Buddha. The temple features other important buildings, including Phra Wihan Luang (royal image hall) that enshrines a gigantic Buddha image named Phra Si Sakkayamuni Thammarat, a mondop (square based building with a pyramidal roof) containing the replica of the Lord Buddha's footprint, and Wihan Pho Langka that houses a reclining Buddha image. Visitors can also find a large collection of artefacts displaying in Wihan Pho Langka and Wihan Khian.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 24.750' E099° 57.985'

Wat Suan Luang

Across the road from Nakhon Si Thammarat National Museum is Wat Suan Luang, a temple established in 1318. The temple features a small Ubosot (ordination hall) in which the front door

is adorned with beautiful stucco reliefs crafted by local artisans, and a wooden Wihan (image hall) enshrining Somdet Chao Lao Thong, a Buddha image highly revered by the locals.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 24.022' E099° 58.108'

Ho Phra Phuttha Sihing

Ho Phra Phuttha Sihing, located near the City Hall, enshrines Phra Phuttha Sihing, a sacred Buddha image believed to have been constructed during the Sukhothai period. There are only 3 of the similar Buddha images in Thailand, one of which is at Bangkok National Museum, another one at Wat Phra Sing in Chiang Mai province, and one here at Ho Phra Phuttha Sihing in Nakhon Si Thammarat province.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 25.153' E099° 57.825'

Nakhon Si Thammarat City Pillar Shrine

The Nakhon Si Thammarat City Pillar Shrine, situated on Na Mueang Road, is a compound



Nakhon Si Thammarat City Pillar Shrine



Chedi Yak

comprising five spectacular white buildings. The main shrine at the centre houses the city pillar, while the other four smaller shrines serve as satellite buildings; namely, Phra Suea Mueang Shrine, Phra Song Mueang Shrine, Phra Phrom Mueang Shrine, and Phra Bandan Mueang Shrine. A few steps away from the City Pillar Shrine is Phra Wihan Sung, an image hall situated on a small hill about 2 metres above ground level that houses a plaster Buddha image that is believed to be from the 18th-19th century.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 25.827' E099° 57.729'

Ho Phra Isuan and Ho Phra Narai

Situated on Ratchadamnoen Road, Ho Phra Isuan or the Shiva Shrine is the evidence of the presence of Hinduism in Thailand's Southern region in the past. Within the compound is a Giant Swing, in which it is believed that the Shrine and the Giant Swing were used in ceremonies to pay homage to the Brahman deities. The

Giant Swing is one of the two Giant Swings in Thailand, and although it is smaller than the one in Bangkok but it indicates the prosperity and significance of Nakhon Si Thammarat in the ancient times. Located across the road from Ho Phra Isuan is Ho Phra Narai, another ancient religious site. Enshrined within Ho Phra Narai is the replica of Phra Narai (Lord Vishnu), of which the original sculpture is now kept at the Nakhon Si Thammarat National Museum.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 25.452' E099° 57.822'

Wat Wang Tawan Tok

The temple, located on Ratchadamnoen Road, houses three wooden Thai-style Kutis (monastic residence) that are connected by the same gable roof. The walls of the Kuti feature magnificent carvings and adorned with beautiful decorations, illustrating the unique patterns of Nakhon Si Thammarat. In 1992, the Thai-style Kuti at Wat Wang Tawan Tok was chosen by the Associate of Siamese Architects as the Best Con-



Wat That Noi

served Architectural Building under the sacred place and monastery category.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 26.251' E099° 57.714'

Chedi Yak

Situated near Nakhon Si Thammarat Municipality Office, Chedi Yak or the Giant Chedi is the second tallest Chedi in Nakhon Si Thammarat. Legend has it that this bell-shaped Chedi was constructed by a giant, while Phra Borommathat Chedi was constructed by human. When the giant learned that the humans had finished building Phra Borommathat Chedi, he got angry and kicked the top of the Chedi, resulting in the spire-less Chedi Yak as seen today.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 26.149' E099° 57.815'

Wat That Noi

Wat That Noi was constructed under the wish of Pho Than Khelai, one of the most respected Buddhist monks in Nakhon Si Thammarat province. The temple features an enormous outdoor reclining Buddha image and a gigantic white Chedi in similar shape as Phra Borommathat Chedi at Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan. The 70-metre-high Chedi also houses the mortal remains of Pho Than Khelai in a glass coffin.

Location: Amphoe Chang Klang
GPS: N08° 22.400' E099° 32.561'



Wat Khao Khun Phanom

Coral Pagoda

Situated on the peak of Khao That behind Wat Chan Thatutharam, the Coral Pagoda is an important historical site believed to be over 1,000 years old. Legend has it that the devotees from Chumphon, Prachuap Khiri Khan, and Surat Thani provinces gathered valuable items to be kept inside Phra Borommathat Chedi but their boat capsized during the trip. The survivors therefore built the pagoda with the corals from the sea and placed the remaining valuable items inside the pagoda here instead. Visitors to the Coral Pagoda can also enjoy a panoramic view of Khanom city from the top of Khao That.

Location: Amphoe Khanom

GPS: N09° 16.888' E099° 48.937'

Wat Khao Khun Phanom

Wat Khao Khun Phanom is a temple of historical importance, as it contains Tham Phrachao Tak, a cave that is believed to be where King Taksin the Great used to stay when he was ordained as a monk. A walk up a little over 200 steps of stairs, flanked by Nagas, lead to Tham Phrachao Tak, in which visitors can pay homage to several Buddha images from Ayutthaya period and a replica of the Lord Buddha's footprint.

Location: Amphoe Phrom Khiri

GPS: N08° 32.585' E099° 50.603'

Wat Nantharam

Wat Nantharam houses Luangpho Phut, a red sandstone Buddha image from Ayutthaya period, and a giant Siwalueng (phallic symbol)



Sam Po Kong (Luangpho To) Foundation

made from limestone that is considered one of the most complete ones found in the Southern region. This Siwalueng was discovered at Khao Kha Archaeological Site and is believed to be around 1,200 years old.

Location: Amphoe Pak Phanang

GPS: N08° 21.188' E100° 12.017'

Sam Po Kong (Luangpho To) Foundation

Situated on Muban Phatthana Road in Tambon Pak Phraek, the Sam Po Kong (Luangpho To) Foundation features a beautiful Chinese-style shrine where locals and visitors come to pay homage to Sam Po Kong (Luangpho To). The highlight is the tallest Guan Yin statue in Thailand, which magnificently stands at 19 metres high.

Location: Amphoe Thung Song

GPS: N08° 09.893' E099° 41.371'

Museums, Learning Centres, and Historical Sites

Nakhon Si Thammarat National Museum

The Museum, located on Ratchadamnoen Road, offers a great insight into the art and culture of the Southern region of Thailand, as it houses an extensive collection of valuable artefacts unearthed in the region. The well-organised exhibition is divided into several rooms to display items in relation to Pre-historic period, Brahman and Buddhism in the Southern region, fine arts, as well as local wisdom of Nakhon Si Thammarat. Some of the important displays at the Museum includes archaeological finds,



Old City Wall

ancient Buddha statues, a 2,500-year-old bronze drum, an earthenware jug from the 9th-12th century, and equipment related to the arts and crafts of the region; such as, Yan Liphao basketry and Pha Yok Mueang Nakhon (hand-woven fabric with raised patterns).

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 24.040' E099° 58.165'

Operating Hours: Wednesday – Sunday 9.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. (closed on Monday, Tuesday, and public holiday)

Admission Fee: 150 Baht

Website: www.virtualmuseum.finearts.go.th/nakhonsithammarat/index.php/en/

Contact: Tel. +66 7534 1075

Nakhon Si Thammarat City Museum

Across the road from Somdej Phra Srinagarindra 84 Park (Thung Tha Lat) is Nakhon Si Thammarat City Museum, which is equipped with a variety of multimedia applications where visitors can enjoy exploring a wealth of treasures about Nakhon Si Thammarat including the history, culture, geography, religions, traditions, and way of life.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 27.044' E099° 57.119'

Operating Hours: Every day 8.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Website: <http://museum.nakhoncity.org>

Contact: Tel. +66 7535 8261

Old City Wall

The Old City Wall that can be found on both sides of Ratchadamnoen Road is the remains of the wall that was built when Phrachao Si Thammasarakat established the city of Nakhon Si Thammarat and stood the test of time to prove the prosperity and history of the city in the past. The original earthen wall has been renovated several times, and during the reign of King Narai the Great, the wall has been renovated in Chateau style as seen today.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 25.659' E099° 57.815'

Baan Than Khun

Also known as Ban Than Khun Ratthawut Wichan, Baan Than Khun is located on Ratchadamnoen Road and is a century-old wooden house built in Panya Style (Thai pattern house with a hip roof). The house was once a residence of Khun Ratthawut Wichan, a sheriff of Mueang Klai, and later served as a school for several years before turning into an antique house for visitors to admire the beauty of the house and get a glimpse of the way of life in the past.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 24.570' E099° 58.042'
Operating Hours: Every day 8.00 a.m. – 8.00 p.m.
Website: www.baantankhun.com

Chinese-style buildings at Wat Pradu Phatthanaram and Wat Chaeng Worawihan

Located next to one another on Ratchadamnoen Road, Wat Pradu Phatthanaram and Wat Chaeng Worawihan feature beautiful Chinese-style buildings. Both buildings were constructed during the Rattanakosin period and illustrate outstanding Chinese architecture

in which the length of the building serves as the front. The building at Wat Pradu Phatthanaram boasts intricately carved door in various patterns, whereas the building at Wat Chaeng Worawihan showcases a stunning combination of Thai, Chinese and Western arts.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 27.005' E099° 57.657' (Wat Pradu Phatthanaram)
GPS: N08° 27.056' E099° 57.651' (Wat Chaeng Worawihan)

Nakhon Si Thammarat Science Centre for Education

Nakhon Si Thammarat Science Centre for Education, located on the way to Wat Khao Khun Phanom, is a learning centre that comprises indoor and outdoor exhibitions where visitors can gain knowledge about science and technology in a fun and engaging way. Some of the exhibitions includes the Secret of the Planet, Basic Science, the Hydro Circle, Astronomy and Space, Petroleum, 3D Theatre, Science for Kids, Science Park, Geological World, and Demo Rice Field.

Location: Amphoe Phrom Khiri
GPS: N08° 32.641' E099° 50.615'
Operating Hours: Monday – Friday 8.30 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.
Website: www.nakhonsci.com
Contact: Tel. +66 7539 6363

Hup Khao Chong Khoi Stone Inscription

Found at Hup Khao Chong Khoi (Chong Khoi Valley) in 1979, the Hup Khao Chong Khoi Stone Inscription is 1.60 metres wide, 6.83 metres long, and 1.20 metres thick. Believed to be from the 7th century, the inscription contains 3 parts of writing, all of which are of different sizes but are all written in Pallava Script. The first part is



Khao Kha Archaeological Site

dedicated to Lord Shiva, the second part contains a prayer to Lord Shiva and a message that those who worship Lord Shiva will receive the benevolence from the Lord, and the third part praises good people that they will be granted with happiness wherever they go.

Location: Amphoe Chulabhorn
GPS: N08° 05.730' E099° 48.359'

Khao Kha Archaeological Site

Khao Kha Archaeological Site is situated on Khao Kha, a hill at the height of 76 metres above sea level. It is an ancient city believed to date back some 1,500 years ago, in which at present it comprises ruins of laterite, bricks, and stones scattering around the area. At the top of the hill is the remains of a hilltop shrine, a sacred religious place of the Saiwa Nikai Brahman sect that worships Lord Shiva as the highest god. Several artefacts used in religious rites; such as, phallic symbols, holy water pipes, and a pond are also found here.

Location: Amphoe Sichon
GPS: N08° 52.675' E099° 52.224'

Tum Pang Archaeological Site

Situated within the grounds of Walailak University, Tum Pang Archaeological Site is where the Fine Arts Department first unearthed parts of the statues, and later in 2002 joined hands with Walailak University to carry out more excavation. The excavation revealed 4 brick structures surrounded by boundary wall with a Gopura (entrance gate) and two ponds on the east. The architectural style has led to believe that this site was a Brahman's shrine in the past.

Location: Amphoe Tha Sala
GPS: N08° 38.727' E099° 52.379'

Wat Mo Khlan Archaeological Site

Situated off Highway 4083 in Tambon Mo Khlan, Wat Mo Khlan Archaeological Site used to be a Hindu Sanctuary during the 7th-9th century. At present, visitors can still see traces of beautifully carved stone pillars, stone door frames, Siwalueng (phallic symbol), ancient pond, and an altar for placing Hindu god statues.

Location: Amphoe Tha Sala
GPS: N08° 34.817' E099° 55.839'

Recreational Sites, Local Markets, and Viewpoints

Si Thammasokarat Park and Sanam Na Mueang Public Park

Located near the Old City Wall is Si Thammasokarat Park that enshrines the monument of Phrachao Si Thammasokarat, the King who founded the city of Nakhon Si Thammarat. Nearby is Sanam Na Mueang Public Park, which is the venue for numerous important ceremonies and festivals that take place in Nakhon Si



Pak Phanang River Basin Development Project

Thammarat province. On every last Friday of the month, the area near Si Thammasokarat Park and Sanam Na Mueang turns into ‘Ligor City Market’, where visitors can enjoy exploring local food, handicrafts, and performances.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat
GPS: N08° 25.651’ E099° 57.799’

Pak Phanang Coast and Laem Talumphuk

Pak Phanang Coast is a long beach that stretches along the coastline, whereas Laem Talumphuk is a cape in the shape of a crescent moon that extends into the Gulf of Thailand. Laem Talumphuk carries a historical significance to the country, as it was hit by Tropical Storm Harriet in 1962 that took over 900 lives and leav-

ing over 10,000 people without a home. Today, the coast and the cape are fully rehabilitated and boasted a picture-perfect white sandy beach lined with rows of pine trees. Apart from enjoying the natural beauty from the beach and from Laem Talumphuk Viewpoint, visitors can also explore the fisherman’s village as well as the mangrove forests.

Location: Amphoe Pak Phanang
GPS: N08° 31.113’ E100° 06.949’

Pak Phanang River Basin Development Project

Pak Phanang River Basin Development Project is a project initiated by His Majesty the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej to restore the sustainability of the natural resources of the Pak Phanang



River Cruise along the Pak Phanang River

river basin. Visitors can learn about the development of the irrigation systems and explore the Pak Phanang River Basin area through various places and activities; such as, the King Rama 9 Commemoration Museum that features His Majesty's personal office and an exhibition area that displays the story of Pak Phanang. The highlight is the beautiful Uthokvibhajaprasid Sluice Gates, which are constructed to develop proper irrigation systems for the Pak Phanang river basin to help people by retaining fresh-water for agricultural purposes, be a source of water consumption, and help reduce the effects of floods.

Location: Amphoe Pak Phanang
GPS: N08° 18.997' E100° 12.026'

River Cruise along the Pak Phanang River

People of Pak Phanang have been living their simple way of life closely related to the river for centuries, and a cruise along the river enables visitors to witness fishermen at work on their boats, and observe houses with fish cages on the two sides of the river. Visitors can get on the boat to explore the river-based way of life, shipyard, the ancient rice mill, Uthokvibhajaprasid Sluice Gates, and buildings that are home to the swallows.

Location: Amphoe Pak Phanang
GPS: N08° 20.154' E100° 12.020' (pier for river cruise)

100-year-old Pak Phanang Market

Situated by the Pak Phanang River near the Pak Phanang East Pier on Phanitchasamphan Road, the 100-year-old Pak Phanang Market offers a glimpse of traditional market and way of life of the locals in the past. Visitors are recommended to visit the market in the afternoon when the market becomes lively so they can fully enjoy buying delicious food and snack, as well as watching people selling fresh and dried seafood.

Location: Amphoe Pak Phanang
GPS: N08° 20.832' E100° 11.984'

Pak Phanang Retro Market

Every Sunday afternoon, the area around Pak Phanang Prison is turned into Pak Phanang Retro Market, in which both sides of the Bang Chalak Canal is filled with stalls selling a wide

array of traditional food, snacks, and dessert by vendors who wear traditional Thai clothing. Visitors can also enjoy watching performances by the locals as well as buying local handicrafts as souvenir.

Location: Amphoe Pak Phanang
GPS: N08° 21.338' E100° 11.939'
Operating Hours: Every Sunday 2.00 p.m. – 8.00 p.m.

Khao Thong Viewpoint

Situated at Ban Khao Thong along Highway 4015, Khao Thong Viewpoint is where visitors can enjoy a panoramic view of the natural surroundings and enjoy frolicking in the water at the stream below the viewpoint. Khao Thong Viewpoint is also one of the best spots for pure fresh air in Amphoe Lan Saka.



100-year-old Pak Phanang Market



Krung Ching Hot Spring

Location: Amphoe Lan Saka
GPS: N08° 20.717' E099° 43.192'

Khao Lek Sea of Fog Viewpoint

Embraced by abundant natural surroundings, Khao Lek Sea of Fog Viewpoint stands at 330 metres above mean sea level in Ban Bang Nop in Tambon Krung Ching. A visit to the viewpoint in the early hours enables visitors to enjoy a breathtaking view of sea of fog covering the beautiful valley. Tambon Krung Ching also boasts other viewpoints that offers stunning scenery of sea of fog carpeting the beautiful

natural landscape below; such as, Khao Liam Viewpoint in Ban Huai Phan, and Khao Chang Lon Viewpoint in Ban Phitam.

Location: Amphoe Nopphitam
GPS: N08° 46.583' E099° 43.422' (Khao Lek Sea of Fog Viewpoint)
 N08° 48.825' E099° 39.890' (Khao Liam Sea of Fog Viewpoint)
 N08° 45.578' E099° 37.272' (Khao Chang Lon Sea of Fog Viewpoint)

Yot Khao Sun Viewpoint

Standing at 510 metres above sea level, Yot Khao Sun Viewpoint is where visitors can indulge in the spectacular 360-degree scenery of the vast sea of fog that carpeted the valley down below. Before the sunrise is the best time to visit Yot Khao Sun Viewpoint, as visitors will be able to witness the wonder of nature where the sun rises through the thick and fluffy blanket of fog.

Location: Amphoe Chawang
GPS: N08° 29.077' E099° 28.168'

Khao Men Viewpoint

From Khao Men Viewpoint, visitors can see a panoramic view of Khao Men, a majestic mountain that is the tallest peak of the Namtok Yong National Park. The best time to visit Khao Men Viewpoint is before sunset, because visitors can enjoy viewing the beautiful scenery of Khao Men during the day time as well as catch a glimpse of the colour of the sky behind Khao Men beautifully turns from blue to orange and pink.

Location: Amphoe Chang Klang
GPS: N08° 19.816' E099° 38.587'

Krung Ching Hot Spring

Situated at Wanaram Hot Spring Monastery, Krung Ching Hot Spring is a natural hot spring



Ban Wang Hon

from under the ground with the average temperature of 55 degree Celsius. Visitors are invited to unwind with a body soak or foot soak in the spring water and enjoy the therapeutic benefits of sulfur in the hot spring.

Location: Amphoe Nopphitam
GPS: N08° 44.897' E099° 39.545'

Rafting along Khlong Klai

Visitors to Krung Ching Hot Spring can also enjoy rafting along Klong Klai, a canal that originates from the watershed forest in Khao Luang National Park and Khao Nan National Park. The rafting route is around 4 kilometres and takes approximately 2 hours, and can be done all year round, but between November and December is the best time.

Location: Amphoe Nopphitam

GPS: N08° 44.897' E099° 39.545'

Fee: 250 Baht for adults and 150 Baht for children

Ban Wang Hon

Ban Wang Hon offers to give visitors a memorable experience of bamboo rafting through the wilderness of the lush jungle along the emerald-coloured canal. Visitors can enjoy drifting slowly on the bamboo raft along the bends and curves of the waterway while taking in the beauty of the surroundings, as well as jump into the clear water for a refreshing swim, taste delicious local delicacies, trekking, and jungle camping.

Location: Amphoe Cha-uat

GPS: N07° 54.018' E099° 47.186'

Operating Hours: Every day 9.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Fee: 200 Baht for adults and 120 Baht for children

Contact: Tel. +66 6 3191 6591, +66 8 0695 5656



Ban Nang Talung Suchart Subsin

Sirindhorn Botanical Garden

Sirindhorn Botanical Garden, situated in Tambon Tham Yai, is endowed with a variety of plants, including several species of orchid; such as, wild orchid and lady's slipper. Some of the wild animals that can be found here includes serow, monkey, civet, and junglefowl. Visitors can enjoy strolling along the nature trails to explore the beauty of nature, birdwatching, and riding the bicycle along the bike routes within the garden.

Location: Amphoe Thung Song
GPS: N08° 09.010' E099° 41.806'

Kathun Reservoir

Kathun Reservoir is a gigantic lake surrounded by lush green mountains situated in Ban Ka thun. The reservoir is one of the royal projects initiated by His Majesty the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej that was constructed to solve the problems of floods and to be home for freshwater fish. Visitors to the reservoir can enjoy relaxing and indulging in the beauty of the reservoir and its beautiful natural surrounding or take a long-tail boat for a tour on the reservoir.

Location: Amphoe Phipun
GPS: N08° 35.232' E099° 32.123'

Bang Khan Hot Spring

Located in the grounds of Wat Utthayan Bo Namron in Tambon Wang Hin, Bang Khan Hot Spring comprises 9 tubs, each of which has a diameter of around 3-4 metres. The natural hot spring water at Bang Khan Hot Spring is clear and has no sulfur smell, making it ideal for both body and foot bath.

Location: Amphoe Bang Khan

GPS: N08° 00.988' E099° 34.037'

Local Way of Life and Local Wisdoms

Ban Nang Talung Suchart Subsin

The late Suchart Subsin, a famous Nang Talung (shadow play) performer and maker, established the Ban Nang Talung Suchart Subsin at SiThammasok Road as a museum that serves as a learning centre where visitors can learn about the history, development, and performance of Nang Talung. The highlight of the Museum is the display of ancient Nang Talung puppets from all over Thailand and other countries; such as, India and Indonesia. At present, Suchart's son, Watee Subsin and other family members run the Museum and teach carving and performance techniques to visitors.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat

GPS: N08° 24.881' E099° 58.110'

Operating Hours: Every day 9.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Ban Mamuang Plai Khaen Pha Yok Nakhon Weaving Group

Ban Mamuang Plai Khaen Pha Yok Nakhon Weaving Group is known for the exquisite Pha Yok Mueang Nakhon (a type of ancient hand-woven textile with raised patterns that is the wisdom restricted only to Nakhon SiThammarat province). Weaving Pha Yok Mueang Nakhon



Ban Pak Nakhon

involves a lot of patience and skills, and takes a lot longer to weave than other textiles. Sometimes gold or silver threads are added into the pattern to create more unique designs. Visitors can observe the group members working on the looms as well as support the locals by purchasing the hand-woven fabrics, and products made from Pha Yok Mueang Nakhon; such as, shawls, handbags, and clothing.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat

GPS: N08° 30.057' E099° 57.708'

Ban Pak Nakhon

Situated by Pak Nakhon River not too far from city centre, Ban Pak Nakhon is a community by the river with long history and is where visitors get the opportunity to witness the fisherman's simple way of life. Pak Nakhon River is one of the important rivers in Nakhon Si Thammarat province and was once a route used to transport goods in the past. Visitors are recommended to visit the T-shaped Bridge at Ban Pak Nakhon in

the early hours, as it offers a spectacular view of sunrise above the river.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat

GPS: N08° 28.595' E100° 03.699'

Nakhon Si Thammarat Local Handicraft Centre (Ban Mon)

The Nakhon Si Thammarat Local Handicraft Centre (Ban Mon) is known for their craftsmanship in producing Yan Liphao basketry. Yan Liphao basketry is made from a type of vine that grows in damp places and is durable, making it ideal for making into products; such as, handbag, basket, and accessory box. Visitors to the Centre can explore the exquisiteness of the

Yan Liphao basketry and purchase the products as souvenir.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat

GPS: N08° 17.156' E099° 59.790'

Ban Khuan Yao Saltmarsh Bulrush Weaving Group

Located not far from the Khreng Sub-district Administration Organisation Office, the Ban Khuan Yao Saltmarsh Bulrush Weaving Group is known for using traditional techniques in weaving saltmarsh bulrush into high quality and durable products. Apart from exploring and purchasing products; such as, basket, bag, mat, and box in various patterns, visitors can also



Ban Laem Prathap



Ban Khiri Wong

enjoy a stroll along the 400-metre-long Khuan Khreng Peat Swamp Boardwalk that meanders through the peat swamp from where the villagers collect the saltmarsh bulrushes.

Location: Amphoe Cha-uat
GPS: N07° 55.512' E100° 04.968'

Ban Laem Prathap

Ban Laem Prathap, situated at Ao Thong Nian, is a fisherman's village as well as a pier from which the boat takes visitors to view pink dolphins and discover the beauty of Khanom's sea; such as, Ko Nui and Pancake Rock. Visitors to Ban Laem Prathap can also explore the fisherman's way of life and witness the villagers making Laem Prathap's Kapi (shrimp paste), which is the village's famous product.

Location: Amphoe Khanom
GPS: N09° 18.803' E099° 48.183'

Ban Khiri Wong

A peaceful community located at the foot of Khao Luang, Ban Khiri Wong is a village where villagers live a simple life in harmony with nature. The main occupation of the villagers is growing a variety of crops; such as, mangosteen, rambutan, durian, parkia, and betel nut, in the same orchard. Visitors are able to explore different groups; such as, the Ban Khiri Wong Herbal Group that makes good use of the abundant supplies of mangosteen and manufactures soap, shampoo, and lotions from mangosteen rind. A visit to the Tie-dye Fabric Group and Batik-making Group allows visitors to explore

the art of tie-dyeing and batik-making. Another group is the Lukmai Group that produces jewelry and accessories from natural materials; such as, wax cords, dried fruit shells, and river stones. Visitors can also enjoy soaking in the cool water at the stream, trekking the nature trail to the summit of Khao Luang, and learning the local way of life through a homestay experience.

Location: Amphoe Lan Saka
GPS: N08° 25.953' E099° 46.948'

Phrom Lok Community-based Tourism Centre

Situated near Namtok Phrom Lok, the Phrom Lok Community-based Tourism Centre is where visitors can spend time with the locals through a homestay experience to learn about their simple local way of life. The villagers organically grow plants and fruits using 'Suan Som Rom' method, which is growing mixed fruits in the same orchard. Apart from visiting the orchard, visitors can also learn batik-making, explore the village on a bicycle, visit Namtok Phrom Lok and Phrom Lok Waterfall Nature Trail, hike to Khao Luang Summit, and visit Wat Khao Khun Phanom. A Manora performance by locals can also be organised on advanced arrangement.

Location: Amphoe Phrom Khiri
GPS: N08° 31.553' E099° 48.958'
Contact: Tel. +66 8 1081 9150

Ban Si Sombun (Hoi Rak)

Also known as Khanom La Village, Ban Si Sombun that was once known as Ban Hoi Rak is a community famous for making Khanom La. Khanom La is a traditional dessert of the Southern region and is a famous product of Nakhon Si Thammarat province. It is made by mixing rice flour and sugar together and then

pour the flour using containers with many holes into the pan that is thinly covered by egg yolk to create a golden web and then fold the web into a roll. Khanom La is one of the five desserts used during the Festival of the 10th Lunar Month. A visit to Ban Si Sombun village allows visitors to observe the making of Khanom La as well as purchase the product.

Location: Amphoe Pak Phanang
GPS: N08° 20.051' E100° 11.812'

Rai Jantharangsee

Rai Jantharangsee, in Tambon Khanap Nak, is a centre that aims to share the local wisdom of making nipa palm sugar. Visitors to Rai Jantharangsee can observe the process of producing nipa palm sugar, from collecting the nipa palm sap from the tree to boiling the sap to make the aromatic nipa palm sugar, as well as purchase several products made from nipa palm sugar.

Location: Amphoe Pak Phanang
GPS: N08° 12.109' E100° 14.236'
Operating Hours: Every day 8.30 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.
Contact: Tel. +66 8 5784 5321

Ban Khok Yang Bai Kapho Fans Basketry Group

Situated by Highway 403 in Tambon Ron Phibun, the Ban Khok Yang Bai Kapho Fans Basketry Group is known for weaving fans using Bai Kapho, the leaf of Kapho tree (a kind of palm tree called Golden Licuala). The leaves are dried and woven into a fan, which becomes a popular local product and souvenir. The fans can be purchased from the stalls in the area of Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan as well as other souvenir shops around the province.

Location: Amphoe Ron Phibun
GPS: N08° 08.748' E099° 48.672'



Ban Nai Thung Fishing Village

Ban Nai Thung

Situated around 30 kilometres away from Nakhon Si Thammarat city centre, Ban Nai Thung is a Muslim village where most of the villagers depend on fishing for a living. On their free time, the villagers engage in handicrafts for extra income by making ancient-style coloured-cloth kites and producing bird cage, which is known far and wide for its quality and delicateness. Visitors to the village can explore the simple way of life of the fishermen, as well as the making of these handicrafts.

Location: Amphoe Tha Sala
GPS: N08° 38.308' E099° 57.086'

Ban Maying Pottery-making Group

Located along Highway 307 in Tambon Pho Thong, Ban Maying Pottery-making Group

produces a variety of pottery products, ranging from vases to pots and jars. The potters use local clay that can be found in the area to produce natural-coloured pottery. These pottery products are high in quality and known for its durability, making it an important local product that helps generate income to the community.

Location: Amphoe Tha Sala
GPS: N08° 35.391' E099° 55.330'

Rai Kasemsuk

Just a few kilometres off Highway 4019 in Tambon Prik is Rai Kasemsuk, a learning centre where visitors can learn about agriculture through a variety of hands-on experience, including His Majesty the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej's Sufficiency Economy philosophy and 'New Theory' of land and water manage-

ment. Apart from exploring rice farm, bee farm, and organic vegetable farm, visitors are also invited to spend time taking a stroll along a bamboo boardwalk that meanders through the lush area of the farm.

Location: Amphoe Thung Yai

GPS: N08° 19.078' E099° 25.766'

Operating Hours: Every day 8.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Contact: Tel. +66 8 8382 9552

National Parks

Hat Khanom – Muko Thale Tai National Park

Covering an area of 316 square kilometres in Amphoe Khanom and Amphoe Sichon of Nakhon Si Thammarat province and Amphoe Don Sak and Amphoe Ko Samui of Surat Thani province, Hat Khanom – Muko Thale Tai National Park boasts several beautiful islands, mountains, and beaches. Some of the famous attractions within the Hat Khanom – Muko Thale Tai National Park includes:

Ko Nui Nok

A small island in the midst of Khanom Sea, Ko Nui Nok features a natural well of freshwater that is exposed when the water level is low, but is fully covered by seawater when the water level is high. Situated at the top of the island is the statue of Luangpu Thuat, a highly revered monk who is believed to be able to turn seawater into freshwater just by stepping on it. Visitors can walk up the stairs to pay respect to the statue of Luangpu Thuat and enjoy the scenery of the surroundings from the viewpoint.

Pancake Rocks

Found at Ao Talet, Pancake Rocks or known by the locals as Khao Hin Phappa is a natural phenomenon in which the erosion of the softer



Tham Khao Wang Thong

sediments has caused some portions of the rock formations to collapse and create many layers that look like a stack of pancakes. This amazing natural wonder can be found only at Punakaiki in New Zealand and here in Khanom.

Tham Khao Wang Thong

Tham Khao Wang Thong is a cave with many chambers, all of which comprises astonishing stalactites and stalagmites in a variety of strange shapes; such as, Chedi, dinosaur, waterfall, and custard apple. Visitors are recommended to wear appropriate clothing when visiting this cave, as it requires some climbing and crawling to fully explore the cave.

Hat Nai Phlao and Hat Thong Yi

Located at the southernmost part of Ao Khanom, Hat Nai Phlao is one of the most beautiful beaches in the National Park. The beach is in the shape of a crescent moon and is shaded by a canopy of coconut trees. Visitor can enjoy water activities as well as observing the villagers making Kapi (shrimp paste) using shrimps



Khao Luang National Park

found on shore. Situated to the south of Hat Nai Phlao is Hat Thong Yi, which is ideal for snorkelling activity, as this is where visitors can enjoy observing a variety of corals and sea animals.

Khlong Khanom Mangrove Forest

Khlong Khanom Mangrove forest is endowed with numerous plants, making it a great place for eco-tourism activities. Visitors can enjoy walking along the nature trails to explore the different kinds of plant or take a boat ride to observe the beauty of the mangrove forest on both sides of the canal.

Khao Dat Fa Viewpoint

The viewpoint offers picturesque sight of the sunrise above the water as well as the panoramic view of Taen archipelago.

Location: Amphoe Khanom

GPS: N09° 13.023' E099° 51.301'

Website: <http://park.dnp.go.th>

Contact: Tel. +66 8 6475 8392

Khao Luang National Park

Khao Luang National Park covers an area of 570 square kilometres in Amphoe Lan Saka, Amphoe Nopphitam, Amphoe Phrom Khiri, Amphoe Chawang, Amphoe Phi Pun, Amphoe Chang Klang, and Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat of Nakhon Si Thammarat province. The National Park comprises evergreen forest and tropical rain forest, which is home to a variety of flora and fauna, and is the watershed of more than 15 streams and rivers. Some of the popular attractions within the Khao Luang National Park includes:



Namtok Karom

Khao Luang Summit

Soaring at 1,835 metres above mean sea level, Khao Luang Summit is the highest mountain in the Southern Region and is a part of the Nakhon Si Thammarat Mountain, a subrange of Tenasserim Hills. Trekking to and from Khao Luang Summit takes 3 days and 2 nights or more, but it is worth the effort as visitors can explore the flora, fauna, waterfalls, over 200 types of fern, and ecology of the rainforest along the trail. Once reaching the summit, visitors are greeted with spectacular view of the forested wilderness below.

Namtok Karom

Namtok Karom majestically cascades down 19 tiers but only 7 tiers are open to visitors. The

7th tier named 'Nan Dat Fa' is the most beautiful level as the water falls down at an angle of around 45 degrees to a giant pool below, creating a breathtaking scene like an enormous natural curtain.

Tham Kaeo Surakan

A limestone cave of around 700 metres long, Tham Kaeo Surakan showcases remarkable stalagmites, stalactites, and rock formations in different shapes and sizes, and visitors can also find several Buddha images at the entrance.

Location: Amphoe Lan Saka

GPS: N08° 22.132' E099° 44.129'

Operating Hours: Every day 8.30 a.m. – 3.30 p.m.

Admission Fee: 200 for adults and 100 for children

Website: <http://park.dnp.go.th>

Contact: Tel. +66 7530 0494

Namtok Yong National Park

Namtok Yong National Park covers the area of 205 square kilometres in Amphoe Thung Song, Amphoe Na Bon, Amphoe Lan Saka, Amphoe Ron Phibun, and Amphoe Chang Klang of Nakhon Si Thammarat province. The National Park comprises several amazing attractions, including viewpoints and waterfalls, and is also equipped with nature trails and accommodation. Some of the popular attractions within the Namtok Yong National Park includes:

Yot Khao Men Viewpoint

The tallest peak of Namtok Yong National Park, Yot Khao Men is towering at 1,307 metres above sea level and is where visitors can find several species of orchids that are rare and can only be found at this mountain. The Viewpoint is particularly beautiful in the morning with a carpet of sea of fog but it is only open for public from 1 December to 30 April.

Yot Khao Khuha Viewpoint

Yot Khao Khuha Viewpoint sits at 988 metres above sea level, where the weather is cool all year round. The eastern side of the viewpoint provides visitors with the opportunity to get a view of Nakhon Si Thammarat city centre, Amphoe Ron Phibun, Amphoe Phra Phrom, and Laem Talumphuk, whereas the west offers the scenery of Amphoe Thung Song, the peak of Khao Phra Sumen, and the peak of Khao Wang Hip, while the northern side is where visitors can see the beautiful landscape of Khao Luang.

Yot Khao Ram Rom Viewpoint

Standing at 966 metres above mean sea level, the Yot Khao Ram Rom Viewpoint offers a beautiful scenery of Laem Talumphuk, and Amphoe



Namtok Yong

Chian Yai, Amphoe Ron Phibun, Amphoe Phra Phrom, Amphoe Thung Song, as well as the peak of Khao Men. From this viewpoint, visitors can also enjoy a picturesque sight of sun rising above the sea of fog.

Namtok Yong

Set amidst the verdant forest, Namtok Yong is a magnificent waterfall that flows 7 levels down the steep cliff to the gigantic pool measuring 30 metres wide and 10 metres deep. The waterfall has water running all year round and visitors can enjoy relaxing in the cool water in the pool.



Namtok Si Khit

Namtok Nan Toei

Namtok Nan Toei is a 3-tiered waterfall that flows down the boulders of different sizes to the 5-metre-deep pool. The waterfall is embraced by tropical rain forest and is endowed with moss, fern, and screw pine.

Namtok Khlong Chang

Located in Amphoe Na Bon but is a part of the Namtok Yong National Park, Namtok Khlong Chang cascades down 13 metres of the limestone cliff to the 10-metre-wide pool. Visitors can enjoy frolicking in the pool all year round.

Namtok Khuha Sawan

Situated in Amphoe Ron Phibun but is also a part of the Namtok Yong National Park, Namtok Khuha Sawan is a majestic 7-tiered waterfall with water flowing down on two sides of the cliff. At the top of the waterfall is where visitors can see the view of Amphoe Ron Phibun, Amphoe Phra Phrom, and Amphoe Chian Yai.

Location: Amphoe Thung Song

GPS: N08° 10.274' E099° 44.494'

Operating Hours: Every day 8.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m.

Admission Fee: 100 Baht for adults and 50 Baht for children

Website: <http://park.dnp.go.th>

Contact: Tel. +66 7580 9277

Namtok Si Khit National Park

Namtok Si Khit National Park covers an area of 145 square kilometres in Amphoe Sichon of Nakhon Si Thammarat province and Amphoe Kanchanadit of Surat Thani province. The topography of the National Park is rugged mountains that are part of the Nakhon Si Thammarat Range, with the tallest peak being Khao Khimot that stands at 1,303 metres above average sea level. Some of the popular attractions within the Namtok Si Khit National Park includes:

Khao Nang Range and Khimot Range

Visitors can hike the 10-kilometre-long trek at Khao Nang Range to enjoy the spectacular view of the natural surroundings on top of the mountain, whereas a hike to Khimot Range allows visitors to enjoy camping in the midst of the nature. Some of the wildlife that can be spotted includes serow, tapir, Indian muntjac, dusky leaf monkey, as well as a variety of birds; such as, common emerald dove, green-billed malkoha, chestnut-headed bee-eater, and colored scops owl.

Namtok Si Khit

A spectacular waterfall that originates from a limestone mountain, Namtok Si Khit flows through a series of cascade for 12 kilometres to the several pools of emerald-coloured water. The waterfall is easily accessible as it is where the National Park's Headquarters is located.

Namtok Phu Rin

Originates from a stream in the forest, Namtok Phu Rin falls through 5 tiers of limestone cliff and flows into a cave, which is filled with beautiful stalagmites and stalactites.

Namtok No Tong

Set in the midst of a tropical rainforest, Namtok No Tong cascades down 7 tiers of giant boulders. It is a great place for visitors to spend time relaxing in the cool water under the shades while being surrounded by beautiful and lush forests.

Tham Khao Phappa

A small cave of around 50 metres deep, Tham Khao Phappa features mesmerising stalactites and stalagmites, and is home to 'chong khrong', a kind of big toad that weighs about 1 kilogramme.

Tham Kho Ram

A limestone cave situated on a steep cliff, Tham Kho Ram is home to serows, which is also known as 'kho ram' in local dialect and is a rare reserved wild animal. From the mouth of the cave, visitors can enjoy a spectacular scenery of the forest down below.

Tham Suan Prang

An enormous limestone cave, Tham Suan Prang contains several stalactites and stalagmites of different shapes and sizes, some of which

looks like a picturesque curtain. The cave is also home to numerous bats that makes it earn the nickname 'heaven of bats'.

Location: Amphoe Sichon

GPS: N09° 00.884' E099° 46.273'

Operating Hours: Every day 8.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Admission Fee: 100 Baht for adults and 50 Baht for children

Website: <http://park.dnp.go.th>

Contact: Tel. +66 8 9872 7740

Khao Nan National Park

Khao Nan National Park covers the area of 409.70 square kilometres in Amphoe Tha Sala, Amphoe Sichon and Amphoe Nopphitam of Nakhon Si Thammarat province. The National Park comprises mountains that are part of the Nakhon Si Thammarat Range, in which the highest elevation is 1,438 metres above sea level at Khao Yai. Khao Nan National Park is home to several wildlife; such as, elephant, tapir, serow, and over 50 species of bird, including the bird endemic to Nakhon Si Thammarat range named green-tailed sunbird. Some of the beautiful waterfalls and caves within the Khao Nan National Park includes:

Namtok Sunantha

A majestic waterfall in the midst of abundant natural resources of the forest, Namtok Sunantha originates from Khlong Pak Chao (Pak Chao Canal) and cascades through 3 tiers, in which the first tier is 70 metres high. Apart from relaxing in the cool water, visitors can also visit a cave and a viewpoint that are situated nearby.

Namtok Khlong Pao

Namtok Khlong Pao falls beautifully through a series of boulders and is the source of Khlong Kai, a canal that is ideal for rafting activity.

Namtok Krung Nang

Situated in Amphoe Nopphitam but is a part of the Khao Nan National Park, Namtok Krung Nam is a medium-sized waterfall with 3 tiers, in which each tier is around 30 metres high. At the bottom of the waterfall is a pool that visitors can enjoy frolicking in the cool water.

Tham Hong

Situated in Amphoe Nopphitam but is a part of the Khao Nan National Park, Tham Hong is a beautiful cave with stream running through. Visitors have to walk around 260 metres through the stream to get inside the cave. The highlight of Tham Hong is that there is a waterfall of over 5 tiers inside the cave and that there are numerous stalactites and stalagmites.

Tham Lot

Also located in Amphoe Nopphitam but is a part of the Khao Nan National Park, Tham Lot is a medium-sized cave of around 300 metres deep. Home to several bats, Tham Lot showcases beautiful stalactites and stalagmites, as well as water dropping from the ceiling, making it look like it is raining inside the cave.

Location: Amphoe Tha Sala

GPS: N08° 46.106' E099° 48.251'

Operating Hours: Every day 8.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Admission Fee: 200 Baht for adults and 100 Baht for children

Website: <http://park.dnp.go.th>

Contact: Tel. +66 7580 9176

Natural Attractions

Tham Khao Krot

Located in Tambon Khuan Thong, Tham Khao Krot comprises two small caves situated some 300 metres apart. The caves feature the evidence of shell fossils, indicating that this area



Tham Hong

was underwater at one time. Inside the caves, visitors can find stalactites and stalagmites in various shapes; such as, fountain and pillar, which glitter when exposed to light.

Location: Amphoe Khanom

GPS: N09° 14.489' E099° 48.102'

Hat Khwaeng Phao

A tranquil beach with clear seawater, Hat Khwaeng Phao is where the locals come to spend time relaxing and enjoy water activities. From



Hat Thong Ching

the beach, visitors can see various islands, including Ko Wang Nai, Ko Wang Nok, and Ko Samui. Hat Khwaeng Phao is also home to a group of villagers who get together and offers services to take visitors on a boat trip to visit the islands around Khanom Sea and to view pink dolphins.

Location: Amphoe Khanom
GPS: N09° 16.956' E099° 50.725'

Hat Thong Ching

Located to the north of Ao Khanom, Hat Thong Ching is a beautiful beach with golden sand and crystal-clear water. Surrounded by mountains with coconut groves in the background, the beach offers tranquility to visitors who seek a perfect place to relax. From the beachfront,

visitors can also see Ko Samui and other nearby islands.

Location: Amphoe Khanom
GPS: N09° 16.443' E099° 50.684'

Namtok Phrom Lok

A part of the Khao Luang National Park, Namtok Phrom Lok is a large waterfall that is easily accessible. The waterfall originates from the Nakhon Si Thammarat Mountain Range and cascades down 50 tiers but only 4 tiers are open for tourists. There is also a Phrom Lok Waterfall Nature Trail where visitors can spend time strolling amidst the nature.

Location: Amphoe Phrom Khiri
GPS: N08° 31.768' E099° 47.847'



Namtok Phrom Lok

Namtok Ai Khiao

Also a part of the Khao Luang National Park and located not far from Namtok Phrom Lok, Namtok Ai Khiao is also known as Namtok Nai Khiao. Surrounded by picturesque and verdant forest, Namtok Ai Khiao is a grandiose waterfall that cascades down the slopes of gigantic cliff of over 100 tiers but only 9 levels are open for public.

Location: Amphoe Phrom Khiri
GPS: N08° 33.543' E099° 46.740'

Muko Kra

Comprises three islands; namely, Ko Kra Yai, Ko Kra Klang, and Ko Kra Lek, as well as a small rock outcrop with the tip that barely breaks the surface named Hin Ruea, Muko Kra is one of the

popular dive sites in the Southern region. Divers can explore a diversity of marine creatures, including sponge, jellyfish, sea anemone, stag-horn coral, and a variety of fish; such as, damsel, butterflyfish, grouper, and cardinalfish. Boat to Muko Kra departs from the pier near Laem Talumphuk in Amphoe Pak Phanang, the pier near Khanom estuary in Amphoe Khanom, and the pier in Amphoe Hua Sai.

Location: Amphoe Pak Phanang
GPS: N08° 14.009' E100° 27.077'

Namtok Krung Ching

Considered one of the most beautiful and most important waterfalls in the Khao Luang National Park, Namtok Krung Ching is a gigantic waterfall that originates from Khlong Krung Ching (Krung



Namtok Krung Ching

Ching Canal) and flows through granite valley, creating several tiers of waterfall. Out of the 7 tiers that are open for public, 'Nan Fon Saen Ha' (literally translates to 'hundred thousand drops of rain') is the most spectacular tier as it tumbles down in two side-by-side streams from the big cliff to the giant pool below. Nan Fon Saen Ha was once illustrated on the back of Thailand's 1,000 baht bank note. The waterfall can be reached by a 3.8-kilometre nature trail, and visitors can enjoy birdwatching as well as camping in the camping ground here.

Location: Amphoe Nopphitam

GPS: N08° 43.116' E099° 41.511'

Admission Fee: 200 Baht for adults and 100 Baht for children

Operating Hours: Every day 8.00 a.m. – 3.00 p.m.

Website: <http://park.dnp.go.th>

Contact: Tel. +66 7546 0463

Hat Sichon and Hat Hin Ngam

Hat Sichon, located around 3 kilometres away from Nakhon Si Thammarat city centre, comprises golden sandy beach alternating with a lot of rocks on the shore, but the water is crystal clear, making it a popular beach amongst the locals. Located nearby is Hat Hin Ngam, a long stretch of sandy beach with rocks of different shapes, sizes, and colours. The uncountable beautiful rocks have earned this beach the name 'Hat Hin Ngam' which literally translates to 'beautiful rocks beach'. Visitors can find restaurants and accommodation near these two beaches.

Location: Amphoe Sichon

GPS: N09° 00.548' E099° 55.289' (Hat Sichon)

GPS: N09° 00.018' E099° 55.158' (Hat Hin Ngam)

Hat Kho Khao

Also known as Hat Piti, Hat Kho Khao is a sweeping beach near Kho Khao Hill and is situated to the north of Ao Khanom. Both locals and visitors come to Hat Kho Khao for relaxation and to enjoy the beautiful view of golden sand and clear waters. There are several restaurants within the area of the beach to accommodate visitors as well.

Location: Amphoe Sichon

GPS: N09° 12.291' E099° 52.562'



Hat Sichon

Hat Thung Sai

A popular beach among the locals, Hat Thung Sai is a long stretch of sandy beach lined with coconut trees and pine trees. Apart from relaxing by the beach, visitors to Hat Thung Sai can also enjoy beautiful view of Ao Thong Yang from the northern end, and Ko Samui as well as other nearby islands from the southern end of the beach.

Location: Amphoe Sichon

GPS: N09° 02.803' E099° 54.671'

Nakhon Si Thammarat Wildlife Conservation and Extension Station (Khao Phlai Dam)

Located within the area of Khao Phai Dam, which is a part of Pa Khlong Leng National Reserve Forest area, Nakhon Si Thammarat Wildlife

Conservation and Extension Station is an ideal place for eco-tourism. Khao Phlai Dam serves as a natural classroom where visitors can relax at Ao Thong Yang, a 3-kilometre-long beach with white sand and rocks of different shapes, explore waterfalls; such as, Namtok Nan Toei and Namtok Nan Phai, stroll along the nature trails, and enjoy butterfly watching activity.

Location: Amphoe Sichon

GPS: N09° 05.388' E099° 53.647'

Hat Sai Kaeo and Hat Sai Kaeo Museum

Hat Sai Kaeo, located on the east coast in Tambon Tha Khuen, is a long stretch of golden sandy beach that is lined with countless pine trees and coconut trees. A peaceful and beautiful beach that is ideal for relaxation under the shade and beach activities, Hat Sai Kaeo is also a famous



Hae Pha Khuen That

place in Amphoe Tha Sala to watch sunrise. A short walk from the beach leads to Hat Sai Kaeo Museum, a local museum displaying over 10,000 pieces of artefacts, including local tools and equipment, and an extensive collection of beads from 2,000-1,000 years ago. The highlight is the beads from Dvaravati period and 'Suri-yathep beads', which are beads with the image of a face surrounded by the sun and believed to be around 1,500 years old.

Location: Amphoe Tha Sala
GPS: N08° 41.835' E099° 56.633'

Hat Dan Phasi Also known as Hat Sunrise or Sunrise Beach, Hat Dan Phasi is situated along

Highway 401 (Nakhon Si Thammarat – Tha Sala – Surat Thani Road) and about 15 minutes away from Hat Sai Kaeo. Hat Dan Phasi is a long stretch of sandy beach in which some part of the beach is shaded by rows of pine trees where visitors can enjoy relaxing amidst the tranquil surroundings. The beach is also equipped with accommodation and restaurants.

Location: Amphoe Tha Sala

GPS: N08° 39.367' E099° 56.980'

EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

Hae Pha Khuen That

The festival, usually takes place in February, features the locals paying homage to the relics of the Lord Buddha that are enshrined in the Phra Borommathat Chedi. Apart from merit making and other religious ceremonies, the main event of the festival is the 'Hae Pha Khuen That' procession in which the devotees take part in carrying the cloth to wrap around the Chedi. It is believed that those taking part in the procession will be granted good fortune and success in life.

Date: Makha Bucha Day (full moon day of the 3rd lunar month)

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat

Venue: Wat Phra Mahathat Woramahawihan

Grand Songkran Festival and Nang Dan Mueang Nakhon Procession

The Thai New Year is on 13 April and between 11 and 15 April of every year, the people of Nakhon Si Thammarat province celebrate the Thai New Year by making merits, bathing the Phra Phuttha Sihing, pay homage to Phrachao Si Thammasokarat, as well as enjoy light and sound presentation and cultural activities. The

festival also features the procession of 'Nang Dan Mueang Nakhon', which is Nakhon Si Thammarat's ancient tradition based on Brahmin beliefs to welcome God Shiva to earth to grant happiness to the people.

Date: 11-15 April

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat

Venue: Si Thammasokarat Park and Sanam Na Mueang Public Park

Festival of the 10th Lunar Month

An important event in Nakhon Si Thammarat province, the festival is known locally as 'Ngan Bun Duean Sip' and marks the occasion where people who have moved away from home return to their families in their hometown to make merit and pay respect to their ancestors who have passed away.

Date: 1st to the 15th waning moon day of the 10th lunar month

Location: Amphoe Mueang Nakhon Si Thammarat

Venue: Somdej Phra Srinagarindra 84 Park (Thung Tha Lat)

RESTAURANTS AND ACCOMMODATION

For information on restaurants and accommodation in Nakhon Si Thammarat province, please visit www.tourismthailand.org/nakhon-sithammarat or contact the Tourism Authority of Thailand, Nakhon Si Thammarat Office at Tel. +66 7534 6515-6.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Tourism Authority of Thailand, Nakhon Si Thammarat Office



Grand Songkran Festival

Tel. +66 7534 6515-6

Tourist Police

Tel. 1155

Highway Police

Tel. 1193

Nakhon Si Thammarat Provincial Police Station

Tel. +66 7534 1054

Maharaj Nakhon Si Thammarat Hospital

Tel. +66 7534 0250

Nakharin Hospital

Tel. +66 7531 2800



Thale Noi Waterfowl

PHATTHALUNG

Phatthalung, situated on the west coast of Songkhla Lake, is a beautiful province that is endowed with several amazing natural and cultural attractions. The distinctive feature of Phatthalung is that its geography comprises mainly of striking limestone mountains and verdant forest, with the Banthat Mountain Range on the west and Songkhla Lake on the east.

Apart from Khao Ok Thalu, which is a limestone mountain that is the symbol of Phatthalung province, Songkhla Lake is also amongst the popular places that should not be missed. Just a little north of Songkhla Lake is Thale Noi Non-hunting Area or Thale Noi Waterfowl Park, which is renowned for being one of the best places for bird-watching activity. Nature lovers can enjoy exploring several caves Phatthalung has to offer, as well as make a trip to Khao Pu – Khao Ya National Park that contains beautiful waterfalls, caves and viewpoints.

Phatthalung also boasts several cultural treasures, including Manora dance and Nang Talung (shadow play puppet), both of which are originated from this province. Visitors to Phatthalung therefore can enjoy discovering the beauty of nature, as well as exploring many extraordinary cultural heritage and fascinating local wisdom.

Located 846 kilometres from Bangkok, Phatthalung covers an area of 3424.50 square kilometres and comprises 11 Amphoes (districts).

BOUNDARY

North	Connects to Nakhon Si Thammarat and Songkhla
South	Connects to Songkhla and Satun
East	Connects to Songkhla and Songkhla Lake
West	Connects to Trang and Banthat Mountain Range

Distance from Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung to other Amphoes

Amphoe Srinagarindra	16	kilometres
Amphoe Khuan Khanun	17	kilometres
Amphoe Khao Chaison	28	kilometres
Amphoe Si Banphot	35	kilometres
Amphoe Pa Phayom	38	kilometres
Amphoe Tamot	39	kilometres
Amphoe Kong Ra	40	kilometres
Amphoe Bang Kaeo	40	kilometres
Amphoe Pa Bon	50	kilometres
Amphoe Pak Phayun	66	kilometres

HOW TO GET THERE

By Car

From Bangkok, there are 3 routes that can be taken to Phatthalung province:

Route 1: Take Highway 4 (Phetchakasem Road) to Chumphon province and turn towards Ranong province at Pathomphon Intersection, passing Phang-nga, Krabi, and Trang provinces to arrive at Phatthalung, a total distance of 1,140 kilometres.

Route 2: Take Highway 4 (Phetchakasem Road) to Chumphon province and turn onto Highway 41 and proceed until arriving at Phatthalung, a total distance of 846 kilometres.

Route 3: Take Highway 4 (Phetchakasem Road) passing Chumphon, Surat Thani, and Nakhon Si Thammarat provinces, then turn onto Highway 403. Proceed until Khao Chum Thong Junction and turn onto Highway 41 to arrive at Phatthalung, a total distance of 926 kilometres.

By Bus

Several air-conditioned bus and VIP coaches depart from the Bangkok Southern Bus Terminal (also known as Sai Tai Mai), located on Borommaratchachonnani Road, to Phatthalung



Phra Si Mum Mueang

daily. The journey takes around 12 hours. For more information, visit www.transport.co.th.

By Train

Trains to Phatthalung leave Hua Lamphong Railway Station in Bangkok several times a day. The journey takes around 16 hours, depending on the type of the train. For more information, visit www.railway.co.th.

By Air

There is no airport in Phatthalung, but visitors can fly from Bangkok to Trang or Hat Yai then, take a bus to Phatthalung. Three airlines operate several flights from Don Mueang Airport in Bangkok to Trang and Hat Yai; namely, Air Asia (www.airasia.com), Nok Air (www.nokair.com), and Thai Lion Air (www.lionairthai.com),

whereas Thai Smile (www.thaismileair.com) also makes flights to Hat Yai as well.

Getting around in Phatthalung

There are several kinds of vehicle available; such as, Songthaes (local mini bus), buses, and taxi. Car or motorcycle hire services are also available in the city centre.

ATTRACTIONS

Religious Sites and Historical Attractions

Phra Phutthanirarokhantarai Chaiyawat Chaturathit or Phra Si Mum Mueang

Known locally as Phra Si Mum Mueang (four corner of the city Buddha image), Phra Phut-



Wat Khuha Sawan

thanirarokhantarai Chaiyawat Chaturathit is one of the four Buddha images built under the ancient belief of placing four auspicious objects on four directions to protect and bring good luck to the town. Phra Phutthanirarokhantarai Chaiyawat Chaturathit, a Sukhothai-style golden Buddha image in a meditating posture and measuring 49 inches wide at the lap, is enshrined in a pavilion with four porches, located between the City Hall and the Provincial Court of Phatthalung. The other three Buddha images are located in Lampang province, Saraburi province, and Ratchaburi province.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung
GPS: N07° 36.996' E100° 04.440'

Wat Khuha Sawan

Situated at the foot of Khao Khuha Sawan on Khuha Sawan Road, Wat Khuha Sawan features a cave measuring 18 metres wide and 28 metres long. The cave houses a big reclining Buddha image, 37 Buddha images made of clay, and several votive tablets that the locals unearthed from the ground. Inscriptions of royal initials belonging to the royal family members who have been here are found in front of the cave. Visitors can find a stalagmite in the shape of an elephant inside the cave as well.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung
GPS: N07° 37.205' E100° 04.837'



Wat Wang

Wat Wang

Located around 9 kilometres from city centre along Highway 4047 in Tambon Lampam, Wat Wang is one of the important temples in Phatthalung province. The temple features a beautiful Ubosot (ordination hall) completed with Chofa (gable ornament), Bai Raka (ornamental crest that runs along the gable), and a front portico. The Ubosot showcases magnificent mural

paintings depicting the life of the Lord Buddha and angels, and are assumed to be done during the reign of King Rama IV by the same artisan who created the mural paintings at Wat Phra Kaeo in Bangkok. Visitors can also find 108 Buddha images enshrining in the gallery around the Ubosot, a pagoda, a Wihan (image hall), and a preaching pulpit with golden patterns.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung

GPS: N07° 37.375' E100° 08.561'

Phatthalung Governor's Residence

Located near Wat Wang, Phatthalung Governor's Residence is also known as the Ruler's New and Old Palaces (Wang Kao and Wang Mai). Once a residence cum office of the governors of Phatthalung, the buildings were registered as an ancient monument in 1983. Wang Kao (old palace) was built with wood in a Thai architectural style during the ruling of Phraya Phatthalung, while Wang Mai (new palace) is a group of masonry building built in 1889 by Phraya Aphaiborirak Chakkrawichit Phiphitphakdi, who was Phraya Phatthalung's son. Visitors can explore the different yet beautiful architectures of the two palaces that stood the test of time, as well as see how the governors lived in the past.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung

GPS: N07° 37.420' E100° 08.731'

Operating Hours: Wednesday – Sunday 9.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Admission Fee: 30 Baht

Wat Khian Bang Kaeo

Wat Khian Bang Kaeo is an ancient temple believed to have been built in the Ayutthaya period and boasts beautiful southern style architecture. An important feature of the temple is Phra Mahathat Chedi Bang Kaeo, a chedi that was built in the same style as Phra

Borommathat Chedi in Nakhon Si Thammarat province but in a smaller scale. Within the temple grounds is a museum that collects and displays artefacts found at Khok Mueang and nearby areas; such as, Buddha images, Sangkh-alok ceramic wares from Sukhothai period, and utensils used in daily life in the past.

Location: Amphoe Khao Chaison

GPS: N07° 30.008' E100° 11.542'

Wat Tham Sumano

Covering the area of 0.8 square kilometres and surrounded by forested mountains, Wat Tham Sumano is known far and wide for being an outstanding place for Dharma practice in Phatthalung province and for the beautiful caves. Named after a monk who discovered the cave in 1987, Tham Sumano is an enormous limestone cave featuring amazing stalactites and stalagmites and also houses several Buddha images. The spacious chambers within Tham Sumano are used for meditation and Dharma practices. Tham Sumano also comprises a system of 18 small caves in which visitors can also explore.

Location: Amphoe Srinagarindra

GPS: N07° 35.050' E099° 52.162'

Local Way of Life, Local Markets, and Local Wisdoms

Lampam Floating Market

Every weekend, Ko Loi at Hat Saen Suk Lampam is turned into Lampam Floating Market. Here visitors can enjoy tasting a variety of local delicacies and desserts, and purchasing local handicrafts and souvenirs. A not-to-be-missed activity while visiting Lampam Floating Market is to watch the beautiful sunset over the Songkhla Lake.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung

GPS: N07° 37.503' E100° 09.480'



Wat Khian Bang Kaeo

Operating Hours: Saturday – Sunday 10.00 a.m. – 8.00 p.m.

Coconut Shell Handicraft Centre of Mueang Phatthalung

Located in Tambon Chai Buri around 10 kilometres from Phatthalung city centre, the Coconut Shell Handicraft Centre of Mueang Phatthalung is known for the production of handicrafts made from coconut shell. Most of the villagers



Coconut Shell Handicraft Centre of Mueang Phatthalung

are engaged in producing the coconut shell products that are sold both in the country and overseas, earning the village the nickname 'million-bath-worth coconut shells village'. Here, visitors can observe the making of the coconut shell products; such as, spoon, coffee cup, bowl, and lamp, as well as purchase these products as souvenir.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung
GPS: N07° 41.396' E100° 03.707'

Manora Performance

Tambon Tha Khae in Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung is regarded as the birthplace of Manora or Nora, a kind of traditional southern-style dance performance that incorporate 12 major dancing poses into the performance. The Manora

performance illustrates the skill and talent of the performers, who not only can gracefully perform poses that require body flexibility, but also must show off their singing skill. The performers wear unique costumes including a golden crown, embroidered neck brace, a pair of wings, a tail wing, and long nail extension pieces. Visitors can find several local Manora troupes putting on show across the province. Every year around the 6th lunar month, the Manora performers would gather at Wat Tha Khae for an event called 'Nora Rong Khru', to pay respect to the spirits of former Manora teachers and masters.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung
GPS: N07° 34.256' E100° 02.962' (Wat Tha Khae)

Thale Noi Krachut Weaving Village

Apart from water lilies, lotuses, and water fowls, Thale Noi is also full of many kinds of reeds and one of the most commonly found is 'krachut' or saltmarsh bulrush. The villagers harvest the krachut from the peat swamp forest and weave into various handicraft products. Visitors to the Thale Noi Krachut Weaving Village, which is around 2 kilometres from the Thale Noi Non-hunting Area, can observe the villagers transforming the krachut into intricately woven floor mats, hats, coasters, and a variety of other products, as well as purchase the products as souvenir.

Location: Amphoe Khuan Khanun

GPS: N07° 47.263' E100° 07.073'

Pa Phai Sang Suk Market

Nestled in a bamboo forest that is situated along Highway 4048, Pa Phai Sang Suk Market is where a vast area of the bamboo forest is turned into a market every Saturday for visitors to spend time in an eco-friendly setting. Here, visitors can enjoy tasting a variety of delicious local food, snacks, and desserts that are served in banana leaves, coconut shell, and bamboo tube, in order to raise awareness to use less foam and plastic products. Not only can visitors indulge in the mouthwatering delicacies, visitors can also enjoy watching performances, as well as observing the making of a variety of local handicrafts; such as, krachut weaving, and weaving and dyeing fabrics with natural colours.

Location: Amphoe Khuan Khanun

GPS: N07° 43.611' E100° 00.436'

Operating Hours: Every Saturday 9.00 a.m. - 5.00 p.m



Manora Performance

Tai Nod Green Market

Known by the locals as Lat Tai Nod, the Tai Nod Green Market is a flea market that offers a space for villagers to sell a variety of products on every Sunday. Here visitors can find homegrown organic fruits and vegetables, a wide range of local food and snacks, herbal drinks, and local handicrafts; such as, hand-woven fabrics, krachut basketry, and handmade woodcarving products, as well as watch performances by local villagers.



Khao Ok Thalu

Location: Amphoe Khuan Khanun

GPS: N07° 44.147' E099° 57.473'

Operating Hours: Every Sunday 7.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m.

Bang Kaeo Shadow Puppet Figure and Handicraft Centre

The Bang Kaeo Shadow Puppet Figure and Handicraft Centre is established by Im Chanchum, who is considered the master of shadow puppet craftsman. The Centre produces exquisite shadow puppet figures and distributes these products throughout the country and overseas. Visitors can explore the craftsmen skillfully carving the cowhide into shadow puppet figures with delicate and detailed patterns, as well as purchase the products as souvenir.

Location: Amphoe Bang Kaeo

GPS: N07° 24.215' E100° 11.023'

Suan Sala Lung Than

Suan Sala Lung Than (Uncle Than's Salacca Orchard) cultivates high quality sala (salacca) and also provides visitors with knowledge and techniques of sala cultivation and organic fertiliser production. Visitors to Suan Sala Lung Than are invited to explore the orchard, taste the freshly picked sala, as well as try mixing the pollen of sala, in which they can return nine months after pollination to collect the harvest.

Location: Amphoe Pa Bon

GPS: N07° 12.659' E100° 05.641'



Lan Khoi Weaving Group

The Lan Khoi Weaving Group is known for producing beautiful hand-woven silk and cotton textiles. The villagers got together to form a group and create intricate patterns that are unique to their village; such as, Dok Phayom pattern. Visitors to the Lan Khoi Weaving Group can observe the villagers weaving the textiles, as well as purchase the products as souvenir.

Location: Amphoe Pa Phayom
GPS: N07° 53.001' E099° 52.445'

Natural Attractions

Khao Ok Thalu

Situated a little off Highway 4047, Khao Ok Thalu or Mount Ok Thalu is the symbol of Phatthalung province and is a popular tourist destination. The limestone mountain is 250

metres high and after walking up 1,066 flights of stairs, visitors are greeted with the panoramic view of Phatthalung city. Khao Ok Thalu is named after its distinctive feature, which is a hole with the diameter of 10 metres near the top where visitors can see the view of the other side through the hole.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung
GPS: N07° 37.566' E100° 05.320'

Hat Saen Suk Lampam

A few minutes away from Phatthalung city centre, Hat Saen Suk Lampam is a beach situated at the bank of Songkhla Lake. Visitors can relax under the shades of the pine trees that fringed the beach, or spend time at 'Sala Lampam Thirak', a pavilion in the middle of the lake, to enjoy the beauty of the lake and its surround-



Hat Saen Suk Lampam

ing. There is also a bridge linking the beach to a small island called Ko Loi.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung
GPS: N07° 37.579' E100° 09.375'

Mueang Kao Chai Buri Forest Park

Located around 2 kilometres away from the Coconut Shell Handicraft Centre of Mueang Phatthalung, Mueang Kao Chai Buri Forest Park is a limestone mountain that is situated in the middle of the rice fields and rubber tree farm. Chai Buri is an ancient city of Phatthalung with a long history. Apart from walking the nature trail to the viewpoint to enjoy the magnificent view of Phatthalung city, Thale Noi, and the natural surroundings, visitors can also explore several attractions within the Forest Park that hold historical significance; such as, Chedi Wat Khao,

a 15-metre-high Chedi that was constructed during the Ayutthaya period that is highly revered by the locals. Another important place is Tham Phra Non (Reclining Buddha Image Cave), which is where several bronze Buddha images were discovered and a local artisan had sculpted bas-relief reclining Buddha image inside the cave. Visitors can also visit Thaen Than Yo (Than Yo Platform), which is located in the valley between Chai Buri Mountain and Phlu Mountain and is surrounded by several hundred-year-old Asok (Indian Mast) trees. It is believed that this area used to be part of a temple called Wat Yo and the platform is where people gather to listen to the sermon.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung
GPS: N07° 40.907' E100° 03.456'



Songkhla Lake



Thale Noi Non-hunting Area

Songkhla Lake

The largest lake in Thailand, Songkhla Lake covers the area between Phatthalung province, Songkhla province, and Nakhon Si Thammarat province. The lake is divided into four parts; namely, Thale Noi, Thale Luang or Upper Songkhla Lake, Thale Sap or Middle Songkhla Lake, and Thale Sap Songkhla or Lower Songkhla Lake. Songkhla Lake is a lagoon lake that consists of three different types of water including freshwater, brackish water, and seawater, in which the upper part contains fresh water, the middle part comprises freshwater and brackish water, while the lower part is brackish water and seawater. Visitors to the lake can take a long-tail boat to explore the islands within the lake; such as, Ko Si – Ko Ha, Ko Mak, and Ko Yo.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung

GPS: N07° 12.743' E100° 27.690'

Thale Noi Non-hunting Area

Also known as Thale Noi Waterfowl Park, Thale Noi Non-hunting area is the first place in Thailand that was declared a non-hunting area in 1975. Thale Noi, literally translates to Little Sea, is renowned for the beautiful natural surroundings and known amongst bird-watchers as the largest bird sanctuary of its kind in Thailand. Regarded as one of the most popular bird-watching destinations, bird-watchers can observe over 150 species of waterfowl; such as, Purple Swamphen, Lesser Whistling Duck, and Painted Stork. A must-do activity when visiting Thale Noi is taking a boat tour to marvel at the picturesque sight of countless



King Bhumibol 80th Anniversary Bridge

water lilies and lotuses carpeting the surface of the lake. Although these flowers are mostly pink, but white and purples can also be found, providing a colourful and refreshing feast for the eyes to visitors.

Location: Amphoe Khuan Khanun

GPS: N07° 46.642' E100° 07.353'

Admission Fee:

200 Baht for adults and 100 Baht for children

Contact: Tel. +66 7468 5230

King Bhumibol 80th Anniversary Bridge

King Bhumibol 80th Anniversary Bridge is a 5.45-kilometre-long bridge that was constructed to connect Amphoe Khuan Khanun of Phatthalung province and Amphoe Ranot of Songkhla province in commemoration of His Majesty the late King Bhumibol Adulyadej's 80th

Birthday Anniversary. Spanning across Songkhla Lake, the Bridge offers amazing scenery that is particularly fascinating at sunset when visitors can see the spectacular reflection of the orange-coloured sky on the water's surface from various viewpoints on the bridge. Visitors can catch glimpses of the water buffaloes and waterfowl relaxing in the water as well.

Location: Amphoe Khuan Khanun

GPS: N07° 45.951' E100° 11.100'

Khlong Pak Pra

Located a few minutes from Thale Noi Non-hunting Area, Khlong Pak Pra is an important source of water in Amphoe Khuan Khanun and is where numerous water streams converge before flowing into Songkhla Lake, making it to be abundantly endowed with fish. Visitors can observe the 'Yok Yo' (raising the fishnet)



Khlong Pak Pra

technique, which involves raising the square fishnet that are dropped into the water to catch the fish. The best place and time to visit Khlong Pak Pra is at the bridge across Khlong Pak Pra during early morning, as visitors can see the sight of the local fishermen performing Yok Yo technique against the backdrop of sun rising above the water.

Location: Amphoe Khuan Khanun

GPS: N07° 43.733' E100° 06.488'

Hat Phatthathong

Located around 1 kilometres from Wat Khian Bang Kaeo, Hat Phatthathong is a tranquil beach next to Songkhla Lake. The road that runs in parallel with the beach is shaded with rows of trees on both sides, making it a good place for relaxation or for a drive along the road to view the beautiful scenery of the beach.

Location: Amphoe Khao Chaison

GPS: N07° 30.525' E100° 11.444'

Laem Chong Thanon

Located around 40 kilometres from Phatthalung city centre on Highway 4004 in Tambon Chong Thanon, Laem Chong Thanon is a fishing village on a dirt hill that slopes down to the Songkhla Lake like a cape. From Laem Chong Thanon, visitors can enjoy a beautiful view of the nearby islands as well as the Songkhla Lake.

Location: Amphoe Khao Chaison

GPS: N07° 29.867' E100° 13.618'

Khao Chai Son Hot Spring

Located at the foot of Khao Chai Son, around 25 kilometres from Phatthalung city centre, Khao Chai Son Hot Spring is also known by locals as Bo Nam Saksit or the Sacred Pond. The average



Khao Chai Son Hot Spring

temperature of the hot spring is around 60 degree Celsius and visitors can enjoy a hot foot soak at the outdoor pool. There is also an indoor pool for a mineral bath, and accommodation with private mineral bath is also available.

Location: Amphoe Khao Chaison

GPS: N07° 27.045' E100° 07.869'

Operating Hours: Every day 8.30 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Khao Pu – Khao Ya National Park

Khao Pu – Khao Ya National Park is located around 40 kilometres from Phatthalung city centre and covers the area of 433,750 kilometres in Phatthalung province, Trang province, and Nakhon Si Thammarat province. The National Park is the origin of many rivers; such as, Trang

River and Pak Phanang River. Khao Pu – Khao Ya National Park comprises several forested mountains that are parts of the Banthat Mountain Range including Khao Pu – Khao Ya, Khao Sam Roi Yot, Khao Wat Tham, and Khao Hin Thaen, which is the highest mountain with the height of 877 metres above sea level. The Park is home to a variety of flora and fauna, and boasts several caves, waterfalls, viewpoints, and hiking trails. Some of the famous attractions within the Khao Pu – Khao Ya National Park includes:

Pha Phueng Viewpoint

Situated around 300 metres from the Park Headquarters, Pha Phueng Viewpoint is a white limestone cliff that offers visitors a spectacular panoramic view of the mountains as well as a



Pha Phueng

wide array of plants. Every summer between February and April, giant bees come here to make hundreds of hives, earning this place the name 'Pha Phueng', which literally translates to 'Bee Cliff'.

Tham Matcha Pla Won

A medium-sized cave located 2 kilometres from the Park Headquarters, Tham Matcha Pla Won contains 3 chambers featuring beautiful stalactites and stalagmites in various shapes and sizes and a big water pool. The cave is also home to slender walking catfish and several types of bat including leaf-nosed bat and horseshoe bat.

Namtok Rieng Thong

Originates from Banthat Mountain Range and Nakhon Si Thammarat Mountain Range, Namtok Rieng Thong cascades through numerous stages of rock cliff that the locals have

nicknamed this waterfall 'Namtok Roi Khan' or 'one-hundred-tiered waterfall'. The 13th tier is the most beautiful spot and is equipped with a viewpoint that visitors can get a picturesque view of Thale Noi Non-hunting Area, and Khao Pu – Khao Ya.

Location: Amphoe Si Banphot

GPS: N07° 40.756' E099° 52.333'

Admission Fee: 100 Baht

Website: <http://park.dnp.go.th>

Contact: Tel. +66 7468 9194

Khleng Hu Rae

Located in Tambon Tha Maduea around 33 kilometres from Phatthalung city centre, Khleng Hu Rae (Hu Rae Canal) is also known by the locals as Kaeng Hu Rae (Hu Rae Rapid) or Than Nam Hu Rae (Hu Rae Stream). Khleng Hu Rae is a large canal with clear water, which originates



Rafting at Khlong Huai Nam Sai



Tham Namyen Khao Chai Son

from the forests in the Banthat Mountain Range. Visitors can enjoy spending time relaxing on a bamboo platform as well as swimming in the cool water.

Location: Amphoe Bang Kaeo

GPS: N07° 25.050' E100° 08.491'

Rafting in Tambon Lan Khoi

Tambon Lan Khoi is popular for an adventurous activity where visitors are invited to go on a white-water kayaking along the course of Khlong Huai Nam Sai. The canal originates from Huai Nam Sai Reservoir, making it possible for rafting and kayaking to be done all year round. There are numerous operators along Highway 4270, most of which provides visitors with training about the route and safety measures to ensure a fun and safe activity.

Location: Amphoe Pa Phayom

GPS: N07° 53.234' E099° 51.149'

Caves and Waterfalls

Tham Malai Thep Nimit and Wat Tham Malai Thep Nimit

Tham Malai Thep Nimit, located around 2 kilometres from Phatthalung Railway Station, is an ancient limestone cave that was discovered in 1963 by a monk on pilgrimage named Phra Malai. The cave is decorated with numerous stalactites and stalagmites, and visitors can also find a pond with several fish inside the cave. Situated on top of the hill is Wat Tham Malai Thep Nimit, which comprises a Chedi, a Guan Yin statue, and several Buddha images. Visitors can also enjoy a beautiful bird's-eye view of the Phatthalung city from the viewpoint here.

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung

GPS: N07° 38.134' E100° 05.078'

Tham Namyen Khao Chai Son

Situated on the other side of Khao Chai Son is Tham Nam Yen Khao Chai Son (Khao Chai Son Cold Water Cave), which is also known as Khao Chai Son Cold Stream. The adventure begins when visitors have to sit in a boat that ventures into the narrow entrance of the cave, in which some parts require visitors to lie flat in the boat. Visitors then can enjoy exploring the cave that is filled with stunning stalagmites and stalactites of different shapes, some of which sparkles like diamond when the cave is lit by a lamp.

Location: Amphoe Khao Chaison

GPS: N07° 27.328' E100° 07.670'

Operating Hours: Every day 9.00 a.m. – 4.30 p.m.

Namtok Phraiwan

Located in the area of Ban Phut Ranger Station of Khao Banthat Wildlife Sanctuary in Tambon Khlong Chaloem, Namtok Phraiwan is one of

the most famous waterfalls in the Southern region. The majestic Namtok Phraiwan is encompassed by shady trees and has water cascading through 7 tiers from high cliff all year round. Visitors can enjoy frolicking in the cool water at several parts of the first tier, which is around 30 metres high and 15 metres wide.

Location: Amphoe Kong Ra

GPS: N07° 21.687' E099° 57.640'

Namtok Manora

Situated around 10 kilometres away from Namtok Phraiwan, Namtok Manora is another spectacular waterfall in Phatthalung province. Apart from relaxing in the crystal clear water in the pool at the bottom of the waterfall, visitors are also invited to take a walk along the suspension bridge that offers visitors the opportunity to view the beautiful view of natural surroundings, as well as catch glimpses of a variety of wildlife



Namtok Phraiwan



Namtok Manora

and birds; such as, white-throated kingfisher and common kingfisher.

Location: Amphoe Kong Ra
GPS: N07° 23.510' E099° 56.177'

Namtok Nok Ram

Located around 1.5 kilometres from Kong Ra District Office, Namtok Nok Ram is also known as Namtok Ban Khlong Wa Lang. It is a small but beautiful waterfall with a pool that visitors can enjoy freshen up with a swim amidst the lush forest. Within the area of Namtok Nok Ram is a nature trail that allows visitors to explore the beauty of the abundant natural resources of Banthat Mountain Range.

Location: Amphoe Kong Ra
GPS: N07° 23.979' E099° 55.974'

Namtok Rai Nuea

Also known as Namtok Plio, Namtok Rai Nuea features water beautifully flowing down from steep cliff in the midst of the tranquil and lush surroundings. At some part of the waterfall, visitors can climb the boulders to get a closer look of the waterfall, whereas the bottom part is a pool for visitors to spend time cooling off in the clear water.

Location: Amphoe Kong Ra
GPS: N07° 27.250' E099° 53.268'

Namtok Wang To

Situated in Tambon Khlong Sai Khao, Namtok Wang To is a middle-sized waterfall that cascades down several levels of boulders of diverse shapes and sizes, creating a beautiful and different sight on each level. Visitors can





Namtok Lat Toei

enjoy spending time relaxing in the pool at the bottom of the waterfall all year round.

Location: Amphoe Kong Ra
GPS: N07° 26.013' E099° 55.477'

Namtok Tamot

Also known as Namtok Mom Chui, Namtok Tamot is located in the area of Ban Tamot Wildlife Protection Unit, around 7 kilometres from Khao Hua Chang Sub-district Municipality Office. Namtok Tamot is an important source of water for the villagers in Tamot village who engage in agriculture for a living. Embraced by shady forest, Namtok Tamot is divided into several low layers and visitors can enjoy swimming in the pool or relaxing on the vast rock terrace.

Location: Amphoe Tamot
GPS: N07° 15.127' E100° 02.133'

Namtok Tha Chang

Situated in Tambon Tamot, Namtok Tha Chang is ideal for those who seek adventurous activities, as it requires visitors to walk a long distance across the villager's rubber tree farm and fruit orchards to get to the waterfall. The topography of Namtok Tha Chang is streams of water running through low levels of rocks along the range of hill, in which some parts are narrow channels while some parts comprise wide but deep pool.

Location: Amphoe Tamot
GPS: N07° 16.880' E100° 00.791'

Namtok Lat Toei

Located in the grounds of Khao Banthat Wildlife Sanctuary in Tambon Khlong Yai, Namtok Lat Toei is a stunning waterfall set amidst the abundant natural resources of a beautiful tropical

rain forest. The water of Namtok Lat Toei is not too strong and it runs all year round, making it perfect for visitors to come and enjoy relaxing in the cool water at any time of the year. Namtok Lat Toei is also a place for bird-watching activity where bird-watchers can spot several species of indigenous birds.

Location: Amphoe Tamot

GPS: N07° 13.648' E100° 02.884'

Tham Phutthakhodom

Tham Phutthakhodom features an extensive cave network, in which the main chamber is an expansive space that is ideal for meditation practices. Apart from several Buddha images, visitors to Tham Phutthakhodom can also find beautiful stalactites, stalagmites, and stones in a variety of shapes inside the cave. The high-light is magnificent stones that shimmer like diamonds, which is a result of water running through a kind of mineral and when the water dries, the mineral that sticks to the limestone became like glitters.

Location: Amphoe Srinagarindra

GPS: N07° 33.663' E099° 53.121'

Namtok Khao Khram

Situated amidst verdant Khao Khram Forest, Namtok Khao Khram cascades from high and steep cliff, in which the water originates from Banthat Mountain Range. The waterfall comprises 9 levels and is about 700 metres high. Visitors can enjoy marvelling at the beauty of the waterfall as well as frolicking in the pool of cool and clear water at the bottom level.

Location: Amphoe Srinagarindra

GPS: N07° 31.104' E099° 52.413'

Namtok Ban Ton

Also known as Namtok Ton Phrae Thong, Namtok Ban Ton is situated within Khao Banthat Wildlife Sanctuary and is easily accessible. The medium-sized waterfall has water flowing all year round through a series of boulders to a gigantic pool below, whereas each level offers different styles of beauty. Visitors can relax in the midst of beautiful natural surroundings as well as enjoy swimming in the pool.

Location: Amphoe Srinagarindra

GPS: N07° 29.110' E099° 54.025'

EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

Thale Noi Bird-watching Festival

The Thale Noi Bird-watching Festival is organised annually between February and March, which is the best time when a variety of birds can be seen. During this period, apart from taking a long-tail boat to admire the natural beauty of the colourful water lilies and lotuses, as well as all kinds of birds, visitors can also enjoy watching performances by the locals, as well as purchasing local products and handicrafts.

Date: February - March

Location: Amphoe Khuan Khanun

Venue: Thale Noi Non-hunting Area

Khaeng Phon Lak Phra or Chak Phra Tradition

Khaeng Phon Lak Phra or the Chak Phra Tradition is an important annual event of Phatthalung province, in which the locals gather to move the Buddha image while a group of people who are also walking in the parade would beat the Phon (local drum) to control the rhythm of the Buddha image procession. Apart from observing and participating in the religious ritual, visitors can also enjoy watching

a Phon Beating Competition, which is held at Hat Saen Suk Lampam.

Date: 4th-15th day of the waxing moon, and 1st day of the waning moon in the 11th lunar month

Location: Amphoe Mueang Phatthalung

Venue: Phatthalung Municipality Office and Hat Saen Suk Lampam

RESTAURANTS AND ACCOMMODATION

For information on restaurants and accommodation in Phatthalung province, please visit www.tourismthailand.org/phatthalung or contact the Tourism Authority of Thailand, Nakhon Si Thammarat Office (responsible areas: Nakhon Si Thammarat and Phatthalung) at Tel. +66 7534 6515-6.

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Tourism Authority of Thailand, Nakhon Si Thammarat Office

Tel. +66 7534 6515-6

(responsible areas: Nakhon Si Thammarat and Phatthalung)

Tourist Police

Tel. 1155

Highway Police

Tel. 1193

Phatthalung Provincial Police Station

Tel. +66 7461 5700

Phatthalung Hospital

Tel. +66 7460 9500



Khaeng Phon Lak Phra



Phatthalung 67



Namtok Phrom Lok



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