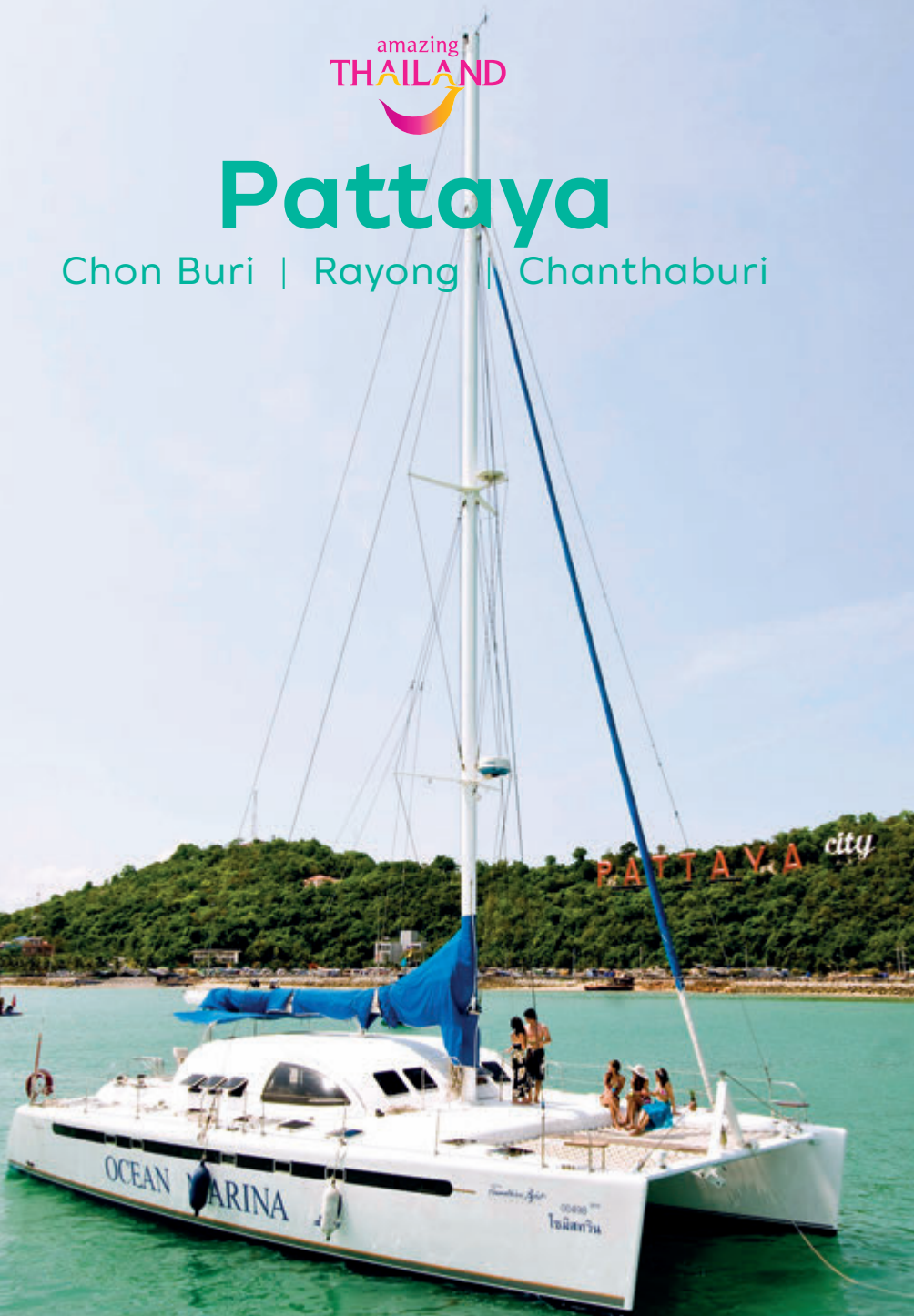


amazing
THAILAND

Pattaya

Chon Buri | Rayong | Chanthaburi





Samet Island, Muko Samet National Park

CONTENTS

PATTAYA	8
<i>Beaches & Islands</i>	9
<i>Attractions</i>	11
<i>Recreations</i>	19
<i>Water Sports</i>	21
<i>Nightlife</i>	23
<i>Special Events</i>	24
<i>Getting There</i>	26
CHON BURI	28
<i>City Attractions</i>	29
<i>Out-of-City Attractions</i>	32
<i>Special Events</i>	35
<i>Getting There</i>	36
RAYONG	38
<i>City Attractions</i>	39
<i>Beaches & Islands</i>	41
<i>Inland Attractions</i>	44
<i>Recreations</i>	47
<i>Special Events</i>	48
<i>Getting There</i>	49
CHANTHABURI	50
<i>City Attractions</i>	51
<i>Out-of-City Attractions</i>	54
<i>Special Event</i>	58
<i>Getting There</i>	59

Pattaya Pattaya

Chon Buri | Rayong | Chanthaburi





amazing
THAILAND

The logo for 'amazing THAILAND' features the word 'amazing' in a smaller, lowercase font above the word 'THAILAND' in a larger, bold, uppercase font. Below the text is a stylized graphic of a smiling face, formed by two curved lines in shades of orange and yellow.

Gulf of Thailand

Pattaya Bay

Ko Phai



Ko Lan

Khao Phra Tamnak

Pier to Ko Lan

Hat Pattaya

Tourism Authority
of Thailand (TAT)

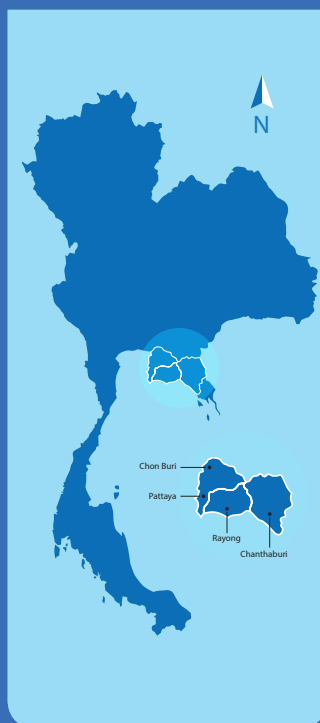
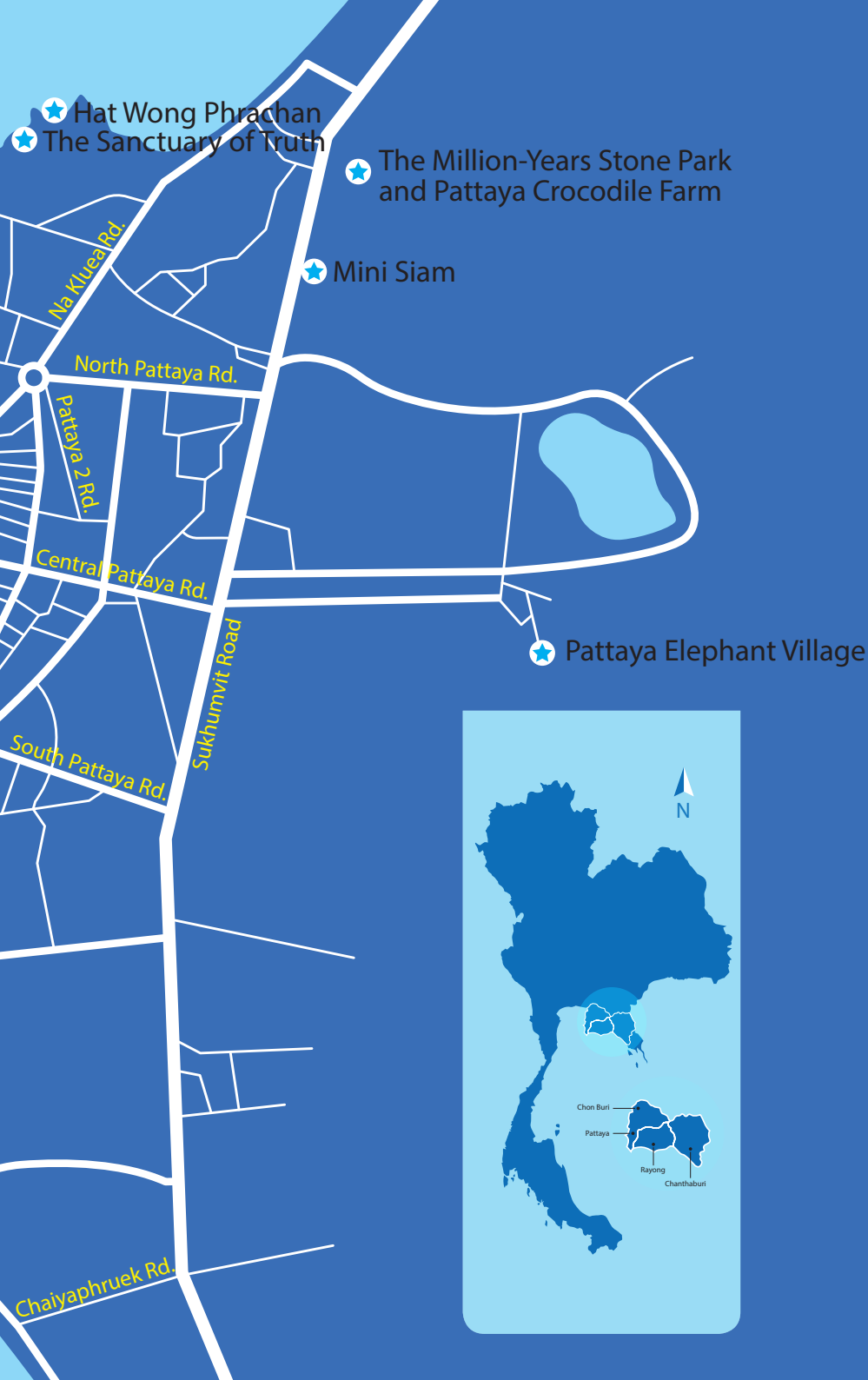
Thep Prasit Rd.

Pattaya Park

Liap Chulhat Rd.

Hat Jomtien







Ko Lan

Pattaya

Pattaya is an entertainment seaside resort where action never stops. No matter what time of day or night, you can always enjoy a dazzling kaleidoscope of sports and recreational activities.

Once a tiny fishing village, Pattaya has developed into a renowned international playground. Colourful and alive with activities, it is unrivalled as a beach resort, offering more attractions in greater profusion than any other single destination in Southeast Asia.

Located just 150 km. southeast of Bangkok and facing a wide bay and a long majestic sweep of beach, Pattaya has been groomed for international visitors for several decades, and today it boasts the unique distinction of a beach resort with a city status. This near

paradoxical situation holds the key to Pattaya's rare attraction – it has something for everyone. Whereas most other beach resorts rely simply on natural surroundings for their charm, Pattaya makes an all-out attempt to provide the best of everything in an exhaustive mix of facilities. To the basic ingredient of a superb coastal location, it adds just about every other amenity one can think of for recreation, entertainment, sightseeing, and fun.

BEACHES & ISLANDS

Hat Pattaya

The main beach of Pattaya located in Amphoe Bang Lamung, Hat Pattaya or Pattaya Beach is a 4-kilometre-long beach that curves from north to south and is fronted by a road shaded with tropical greenery. Hat Pattaya is divided into 3 main parts – the north, the central, and the south,



Hat Pattaya



Pattaya



Hat Jomtien

all of which are packed with accommodations and restaurants. The northern section is more peaceful than the other sections, and is where swimming, relaxation, and various water sports activities usually take place. The central and southern parts of the beach are where visitors can find various entertainments, department stores, and nightclubs.

Hat Jomtien

The 6-kilometre-long straight beach, located around a few kilometres from South Pattaya, is popular with windsurfers and water sports enthusiasts. Fringed with coconut and palm trees, Hat Jomtien is also quieter and more relaxing than Pattaya Beach. Hotels and other accommodation facilities are available along the road that runs parallel to the shore.

Hat Wong Phra Chan

Situated on the northern side of Pattaya Bay, this one-kilometre-long beach is a quiet spot that is good for swimming and relaxation.

Hat Wong Amat

Connected to Hat Wong Prachan, Hat Wong Amat is a quiet stretch of sandy beach that is

suitable for those who look for a secluded spot to relax. The gently sloped beach is perfect for sunbathing, swimming, relaxing under the shades of trees, as well as a morning or evening jogging activity.

Ko Lan

Measuring 2 km. by 5 km., Ko Lan is located around 8 km. from Pattaya, taking about 45 minutes by ferry or 15 minutes by speedboat. The island offers several white sandy beaches, notably Hat Ta Waen, Hat Laem Thian, and Hat Thong Long, the latter facing coral reefs. Visitors can catch a glimpse of the beautiful corals by either snorkelling or viewing from the glass bottom boats. Ferries to the island leave the Laem Bali Hai Pier every two hours daily from 7.00 a.m. to 6.30 p.m. and leave from Ko Lan back to Pattaya daily from 6.30 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. Cruises by sailing junks with lunch provided are also available.

Ko Sak

Located 600 metres from Ko Lan, and some 10 km. from Pattaya, Ko Sak is a small island with two sandy beaches. Overnight stay on the island is possible.

Ko Phai

Situated about 14 km. to the west of Pattaya, this small island with a beautiful white sandy beach is about 7 km. behind Ko Lan. It takes about one hour from the mainland to get there. Under the supervision of the Royal Thai Navy, Ko Phai is one of the most outstanding scuba diving areas in Pattaya with superb coral reefs.

ATTRACTIONS

Underwater World Pattaya

Located on Sukhumvit Road, the Underwater World Pattaya is a modern aquarium with a 100-metre-long state-of-the-art acrylic tunnel where visitors can walk through an underwater environment filled with dozens of marine species, including the rare shovel-nosed ray, a hybrid between a shark and a stingray.

Visitors are provided with the unique experience of observing a variety of this region's marine life in an up close distance, feeding koi fish, as well as diving with sharks and rays. Open daily 9.00 a.m. – 6 p.m. Tel. +66 3875 6879, +66 3875 6877 www.underwaterworldpattaya.com

Khao Chi Chan

The rock face of Khao Chi Chan cliff was carved into an outline of a sitting Sukhothai-Lanna Buddha image with laser beam to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of His Majesty's Accession to the Throne. This 130-metre-high Buddha's royally-bestowed name is Phra Phuttha Maha Wachira Uttamophat Satsada, which means His Lord Buddha is virtuous and glorious as Maha Wachira (the Great Wisdom). The surrounding areas feature a wide variety of flowering plants and a number of pavilions for meditation and



Underwater World Pattaya



Khao Chi Chan

relaxing. Directly in front of the cliff face are shrines, elaborate gardens, and a number of terraced pools full of lotus flowers.

Khao Phra Tamnak

This small hill, also known as Khao Phra Bat, is one of the best places in Pattaya to get a panoramic view of Pattaya City and Pattaya Bay. Apart from the gigantic Buddha image that is enshrined on the hilltop, there is also a monument of Krommaluang Chumphon, known as the 'Father of the Royal Thai Navy'. Khao Phra Tamnak is easily accessible by an asphalt road.

Mini Siam

This miniature city is on the left-hand side at the 143-km. marker on Sukhumvit Road before reaching Pattaya town. The models, made to a scale of 1 to 25, cover places of worship, ancient remains, and famous sights in Thailand and abroad. Open daily 7.00 a.m. – 10.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3872 7333, +66 3872 7666 www.minisiam.com

The Million-Years Stone Park and Pattaya Crocodile Farm

Popular amongst the Thai and foreign tourists, the Million-Years Stone Park and Pattaya Crocodile Farm covers an area of over 70 acres. The Park comprises beautifully landscaped rock gardens and a botanical garden of rare plants, showcasing fossil trees that are over 100 million years old, and a 200-year-old Thai style bonsai. Other major attractions include the exotic zoo featuring a collection of animals; such as, crocodiles, ostriches, albino bears, and white tigers. Open daily 8.30 a.m. – 6.00 p.m., with crocodile shows from 8.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3824 9347-9, +66 83112 6080 www.thaistonepark.org

The Sanctuary of Truth

Located on the shore at Laem Ratchawet on Na Kluea Road in North Pattaya, this gigantic wooden structure that rises 105 metres high is made entirely of wood with exquisite architectural carvings. The construction begun in 1981 by Mr. Lek Wiriaphan, founder of the



Mini Siam

Ancient City in Samut Prakan, and today has assumed colossal proportions. The purpose is to use art and culture as the reflection of Ancient Vision of Earth, Ancient Knowledge, and Eastern Philosophy. The Sanctuary of Truth has several times been awarded the Thailand Tourism Award of Outstanding Performance of Cultural Tourist Site. Open daily 9.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3811 0653-54 www.sanctuaryoftruth.com

Pattaya Elephant Village

Located on Sukhumvit Road, which is off Highway No. 3 at the 146-km. marker, this elephant camp focuses on the working life of elephants and their mahouts. Visitors can enjoy trekking amidst the natural setting on an elephant's back, or take a tour around the village on an ATV. There is a daily performance of elephants at work and play, as well as a grand war parade and battle at 2.30 p.m. Open daily 8.30 a.m. – 7.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3824 9818, +66 3824 9853, +66 9 1546 4996 www.elephant-village-pattaya.com

Pattaya Park

Pattaya Park is an amusement centre and features 240-metre-tall observation tower, which also serves as a landmark of Jomtien Beach. Visitors can enjoy delicious buffet at the revolving restaurants on the 52nd, 53rd, and 54th floor of the Pattaya Park Tower, while observing the panoramic views of the area. There is also a Water Park with the gigantic waterslides and a huge whirlpool. Those who do not wish to get wet can enjoy other activities at the Fun Park; such as, the exciting Tower Shot, and the Slalom Roller Coaster. Open daily 10.00 a.m. – 7.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3825 1201-8, +66 3836 4110-20 www.pattayapark.com

Ripley's World of Entertainment

Situated on the 2nd floor of Royal Garden Plaza on Pattaya Beach Road, Ripley's World of Entertainment was awarded the Thailand Tourism Award of Outstanding Performance of Recreational Attractions for Entertainment. The Ripley's Believe It or Not! Museum exhibits a collection of over 350 strange and amazing things from around the world. Here visitors



Wat Yanasangwararam Woramahawihan

can also enjoy several fun and exciting activities; such as, 12D Moving Theatre, Haunted Adventure, Infinity Maze, Scream in the Dark, The Vault: Laser Maze Challenge, Louis Tussaud's Waxworks, and Sky Rider – the helium balloon that takes you up in the sky to view the panoramic view of Pattaya. Open daily 11.00 a.m. – 11.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3871 0294-8 www.ripleysthailand.com.

Horseshoe Point

Situated around 10 km. off Sukhumvit Road, Horseshoe Point is a wholesome destination that includes resort amidst the nature; Discovery Camp for children; and venue for sports, leisure, music, and horse riding. The horse riding school offers opportunities for horse lovers of all levels of proficiency – from classical riding to dressage, jumping, trail, and polo. Open daily 8.30 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Tel. +66 8 3988 7852 www.horseshoe-point.com

Tree Top Adventure Park Pattaya

Located at Horseshoe Point Resort, the Tree Top Adventure Park Pattaya takes visitors to explore the natural beauty while soaring through the jungle. Here visitors can challenge themselves by zipping, flying, crawling, and swinging their ways through treetop obstacle courses. Open daily 9.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. Tel. +66 8 4462 3003 www.treetopadventurepark.com

Three Kingdoms Park

Situated close to the Horseshoe Point Club, the Park contains several beautiful Chinese-style buildings and art objects. A combination of natural and architectural beauty, the design of the park was inspired by a renowned Chinese



Tree Top Adventure Park Pattaya

novel named “The Romance of Three Kingdoms”. Open daily 10.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. on weekdays and 10.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m. on weekends. Tel. +66 9 5251 5282

Wat Yanasangwararam Woramahawihan

Located 15 km. south of Pattaya, off to the left of Sukhumvit Road at the 160-km. marker, Wat Yanasangwararam Woramaha-wihan was dedicated to the Supreme Patriarch in 1976 and was later graciously put under the patronage of His Majesty the King. It is a superb example of modern Thai religious architecture, while the park-like grounds also contain pavilions designed in different international architectural styles. Located within the vicinity of the temple is Wihan Sian, which houses antiques and art objects from China, Taiwan and Hong Kong. Open daily 8.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.



Ripley's World of Entertainment



Nong Nooch Tropical Garden and Resort

Nong Nooch Tropical Garden and Resort

About 18 km. south of Pattaya (Pattaya-Sattahip route), off to the left of Sukhumvit Road at the 163-km. marker, this is a recreation park in a typical Thai setting. The great combination of tropical gardens, elephants, and cultural shows got Nong Nooch Tropical Garden and Resort to win the Thailand Tourism Award of Outstanding Performance of Recreational Attractions for Entertainment. Open daily 8.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3823 8061-3 www.nongnoochtropicalgarden.com

Turtle Conservation Centre

The Centre serves as a source of knowledge on the biology of the sea turtle's life cycle through VDO presentation and exhibitions. Open daily 8.30 a.m. - 5.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3843 1477, +66 3843 7600 ext. 79335 www.turtles.navy.mi.th

Pattaya Floating Market

Situated on the Sukhumvit Road, Pattaya Floating Market brought cultures, local traditions, food, and ways of life of the four regions of Thailand

together at the Thai-style teakwood building by the waterway. Here visitors can enjoy exploring over 100 shops for different kind of products and souvenirs, taste different flavours of each region's cuisine, and take a boat ride along the river and observe the market and the Thai cultures. Open daily 9.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3870 6340, +66 8 8444 7777 www.pattayafloatingmarket.com

Silver Lake Vineyard

Silver Lake Vineyard is located on the road to the entrance of Khao Chi Chan-Wat Yanasangwararam Woramahawihan, covering an area of over 480 acres. Visitors can enjoy the vineyard and winery tour, as well as taste and purchase fresh grapes, grapejuice, wines, and grapes-made products; such as, grape jams, grape pies, and grape jelly. Open Monday-Friday at 9.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. and Saturday-Sunday at 8.30 a.m. - 7.00 p.m. Tel. +66 2261 6565, +66 8 9895 9886 www.silverlakevineyard.com



Cartoon Network Amazone



Pattaya Floating Market

Navamindrajini Camp

This military camp is open to visitors and offers pistol shooting courses and military style jungle trekking. Tel. +66 9 2806 0404

Cartoon Network Amazone

The waterpark is the world's first Cartoon Network themed waterpark that covers the area of around 14 acres. Featuring 10 entertainment zones to suit preferences of every visitor, Cartoon Network Amazone is Pattaya's ultimate family entertainment destination. The highlights include the fastest water rollercoaster in the world, as well as the world's largest aqua playground with over 150 water attractions. Open daily 10.00 a.m. – 7.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3300 4999 www.cartoonnetworkamazonzone.com

Teddy Bear Museum

The first Teddy Bear Museum in Southeast Asia, the museum showcases over 1,000 teddy bears under the concept "travel treasure hunting with Teddy Bear". Covering the area of over 2,500 square metres, the museum invites visitors on a



Mimosa

journey to explore the world with teddy bears in 12 different zones, with teddy bears dressing up to match the ambiance of each zone. Open daily 9.00 a.m. – 10.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3841 1285, +66 8 6854 1661 www.teddybearmuseum Pattaya.com

Mimosa

Mimosa or the City of Love brings the atmosphere of the Colmar region of France to Pattaya, and offers visitors the opportunity to enjoy strolling and shopping amidst the beautiful Renaissance architectures. Apart from several shops and restaurants, as well as the spots for visitors to take photos, Mimosa also features Cabaret Shows and Musical Fountain Show in the evening of everyday. Open daily 10.00 a.m. – 9.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3823 7318-9 www.mimosa-pattaya.com

Art in Paradise

The first interactive art museum in Thailand, Art in Paradise exhibits over 140 art pieces that are cleverly put together to create fascinating images that trick your eyes. The museum is divided into 10 sections, in which making creative poses and taking photos with the

paintings are highly recommended. Open daily 9.00 a.m. – 9.00 p.m.

Tel. +66 3842 4500
www.artinparadise.co.th

Pattaya Dolphin World

A water park and performance centre, Pattaya Dolphin World is where visitors will get the chance to discover how clever and adorable the dolphins are. Here visitors can enjoy watching the two species of dolphins; namely, the Indo-pacific humpback dolphin and the Irawaddy dolphin, perform different shows, or swimming with them. Other activities at the park include horse riding, rock climbing, ATV riding, and BB gun shooting. Open daily 9.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3805 1790-6, +66 8 4653 7676 www.pattayadolphins-world.com

Thai Thani Arts and Culture Village

Thai Thani Arts and Culture Village serves as a cultural centre that was established to preserve the traditional Thai arts and culture. The village features a variety of traditional Thai architectures, and an art gallery that exhibits various types of arts and crafts, ranging from painting to

sculptures, dolls and woodcarving. There are several activities available for visitors to learn about the Thai handicrafts; such as, painting the umbrella, and making pottery. Visitors can also enjoy the gourmet delights from the North and the Northeastern regions of Thailand, while watching the performances at the village's restaurant. Open daily 9.30 a.m. – 8.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3811 9080-1 www.thaithanipattaya.com

RECREATIONS

Golf

There are several excellent golf courses in the Pattaya area, ranging from 9 holes miniature golf course to the international standard 18-hole courses, many of which has been developed and designed by professionals using the best grasses and latest techniques. The incredible mountain range view makes golfing in Pattaya an incredible experience.

Bowling

There are several bowling alleys of international standard in Pattaya:

- **SF Strike Bowl** on the 6th floor of Central Festival shopping mall on Beach Road. Open daily 11.00 a.m. – 2.00 a.m. Tel. +66 3300 3600 www.sfcinemacity.com
- **Blu-ORhythm&Bowl** on the 3rd floor of The Avenue shopping mall on Pattaya 2 Road. Open daily 12.00 p.m. – 2.00 a.m. Tel. +66 3805 2224 www.majorbowlhit.com
- **Wave Bowl** on the first floor of Jomtien Palm Beach Hotel and Resort on Jomtien Beach Road. Tel. +66 3823 1350-67 www.jomtien-palmbeach.com
- **P.S. Bowl** on the 3rd floor of P.S. Plaza in Central Pattaya. Open daily 11.00 a.m. – 2.00 a.m. Tel. +66 3836 1261 ext. 105 www.facebook.com/PsBowlingPattaya/

Teddy Bear Museum





Horseshoe Point Resort

Motor Racing

The Bhira International Circuit on Highway No. 34 and Highway No. 36 (Pattaya-Rayong), which is around 15 km. away from Pattaya town, periodically holds international motor and motorcycle races. There are also daily opportunities for speed enthusiasts to drive their own two- or four-wheeled vehicles around the challenging track. Tel. +66 2971 6450, +66 2522 1731-8 and +66 3893 8140

Shooting

An air-conditioned handgun and rifle range is located on the ground floor of Tiffany's Show Pattaya on Pattaya 2 Road. Open daily 9.00 a.m. – 10.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3842 1700-5, +66 3842 9642

Horse Riding

Horse riding in Pattaya is available at:

- [Jojo Horse Club](#), located at Marina Inn Hotel. Open daily 7.00 a.m. – 7.00 p.m. Tel. +66 8 7137 9646 and +66 3822 5149



Paintball

• **Horseshoe Point Resort** Open daily 8.30 a.m. – 6.00 p.m. Tel. +66 8 3988 7852
www.horseshoepoint.com

Paintball

The paintball site in Pattaya is the Paintball Park Pattaya, which is located on Thep Prasit Road. Open daily 9.00 a.m. – 9.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3830 0608, +66 6 1435 5549 www.facebook.com/PaintballParkPattaya

Bungee Jumping

Pattaya Bungy Jump, located on Thep Prasit Road, is the first Bungy Jump operator in South East Asia, and is the highest Bungy Jump in Thailand at 60 metres high. For another type of adrenaline rush experience, visitors can also try the Human Slingshot, in which you fly back and forth a few metres above the ground. Open daily 9.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3820 1309 www.pattayabungy.com

Muay Thai

Muay Thai, translated into English as Thai Boxing, is the national sport of Thailand and is a martial art with origins in the ancient battlefield tactics of the Siamese (or Thai) army. There are several Muay Thai training facilities in Pattaya including:

• **Sityodtong Boxing Camp:** Open daily 8.00 a.m. – 10 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m.

Tel. +66 8 3598 9323, +66 8 4645 6450

www.sityodtongmuaythai.com

• **Fairtex Muaythai Pattaya:** Open daily 8.00 a.m. – 10.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. – 5.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3825 3888

www.fairtexpattaya.com

WATER SPORTS

Windsurfing

Hat Jomtien is the best place for windsurfing activity and there are numerous courses

Muay Thai





Sailing

available for beginners and experienced windsurfers. The most suitable time, with ideal water and wind condition for windsurfing is October through June.

Sailing

Sailing is a year-round sport in Pattaya's waters, and the most popular craft to rent are Lasers, Prindles, and Hobie Cats. For more information, contact the hotel travel desk or the Royal Varuna Yacht Club. Tel. +66 3825 0116 www.varuna.org
www.facebook.com/RoyalVarunaYachtClub

Kite Surfing

Hat Sai Thong is the destination for kite surfing and is also the location of Club Loong Chat, the biggest Kite Surfing club in Thailand. Training services and equipments rental are available. Tel. +66 8 1340 2180 www.clubloongchat.com

Parasailing

Visitors to Pattaya can enjoy soaring above the waters to get a bird's eye view of the Gulf



Diving and Snorkelling



Pattaya Walking Street

of Thailand on a parasail. Popular places for the parasailing activity include Pattaya Beach, Jomtien Beach, and Ko Lan.

Diving and Snorkelling

Pattaya features many dive sites that are endowed with a plethora of marine creatures and corals, including Ko Man Wichai, Ko Rin, and HTMS Khram, which is a popular wreck dive in Thailand. Other dive sites that are suitable for non-divers to enjoy snorkelling, or for beginners to learn to dive, and for experienced divers to perfect their techniques include Ko Lan, Ko Khrok, and Ko Sak. There are dive shops in Pattaya where beginners can take PADI open water certification courses.

Flyboarding

A new and exciting craze in Pattaya that involves a combination of water and extreme activities, flyboarding takes adventure enthusiasts to leap into the air through the boots that attached to the board and the hose that connected to the water jet of the jet ski.

Open daily 8.00 a.m.-6.00 p.m. Tel. +66 8 5075 6390 www.flyboardstation.com

NIGHTLIFE

Pattaya Walking Street

Pattaya Walking Street, stretches from the south end of Beach Road to Bali Hai Pier, features all kinds of entertainments, ranging from a variety of restaurants and bars, to art galleries, vendors selling accessories, jewellery, and clothing. Pattaya Walking Street is where the fun begins, and you can eat, drink, dance, and shop. Visitors can enjoy exploring all the fun the Walking Street has to offer everyday from 7.00 p.m. to midnight.

Apart from the Walking Street, major hotels operate gourmet restaurants, cocktail lounges, discotheques and nightclubs, which are well suited to family entertainment. Nightlife beyond Pattaya's hotels is more liberated, with discotheques, transvestite cabarets, nightclubs, karaoke bars, and open-air bars. Most of these attractions are

located along Pattaya Beach Road, Pattaya 2 Road, and in South Pattaya.

Pattaya is also famous for its transvestite cabarets: Alcazar and Tiffany both on Pattaya Road.

• *Alcazar Cabaret Pattaya:*

Tel. +66 3841 0224-7, +66 3842 5425 www.alcazar-thailand.com

• *Tiffany's Show Pattaya*, also awarded the Thailand Tourism Award of Outstanding Performance of Recreational Attractions for Entertainment: Tel. +66 3842 1700-5 www.tiffany-show.co.th

SPECIAL EVENTS

Pattaya International Music Festival

March

Pattaya City

Pattaya International Music Festival is one of the best-recognised music events in Asia that is usually held in March of every year. The three-day free concert featuring Thai and

international artists of every genre starts around 6 p.m. and goes until midnight. This festival features different stages at which you can enjoy all styles of music; such as, pop, R&B, hip-hop, rock, and jazz, in the one festival. Website: www.tourismthailand.org

Wan Lai Pattaya Songkran Festival

April

Pattaya, Chon Buri

Songkran Festival or the Thai New Year takes place on the 13th April of every year, but people in Pattaya and Chon Buri celebrate the special occasion days after Songkran Day. This event is called "Wan Lai" Songkran Festival, translated as "Flowing Day" of Songkran, and is usually celebrated at Bang Saen Beach and at Pattaya. The Wan Lai Bang Saen Songkran Festival and Wan Lai Pattaya Songkran Festival feature making merit at temples, building sand-pagodas, and watching cultural performances and beauty contests, as well as the water-throwing sessions. Website: www.tourismthailand.org, www.thaifest.org

Alcazar Cabaret Pattaya





Wan Lai Pattaya Songkran Festival

Pattaya International Marathon

July

Pattaya, Chon Buri

The Pattaya International Marathon is one of the most famous marathons in Thailand that is organised annually in July. The Marathon welcomes participants from all over the world, whether they are professional athletes, amateurs, or people with disabilities. There are five categories of different distances and levels of difficulty; including, the Wheelchair Marathon (42.195 km.), the Marathon (42.195 km.), the Half Marathon (21.100 km.), the Quarter Marathon (10.550 km.), and the Student Run (3.5 km.). Website: www.torismthailand.org, www.pat-tayamarathon.go.th

Loi Krathong Day

November

Loi Krathong Festival is one of the most popular festivals in Thailand, in which on the night of the full moon of the 12th lunar month (usually in November) people gather at lakes, rivers, canals, and/or other waterways all over the country to set adrift krathongs. “Loi” means float and “Krathong” is a lotus-shaped vessel made of banana leaves. The festival is of Brahmin origins in which people offer thanks to the Goddess of the water. It is believed that the Krathong carries away sins and bad luck, and wishes are made for the New Year due to start soon.



Pattaya International Music Festival

GETTING THERE

By Car

Pattaya is about a one-and-a-half-hour drive from Bangkok, taking the Bang Na-Trat Highway or the new, faster Bangkok-Chon Buri Motorway.

By Bus

The two-and-a-half-hour journey from Bangkok can be made on regular buses leaving from Bangkok's Eastern Bus Terminal (Ekamai). Air-conditioned buses depart from Ekamai every 30 minutes from 5.40 a.m. - 11.00 p.m. Tel. +66 2391 2504, +66 2391 9829, +66 2712 3928. There are also air-conditioned buses leaving the Bangkok Bus Terminal (Mo Chit) on Kamphaeng Phet 2 Road every 30 minutes from 4.30 a.m. - 10.00 p.m. Tel. +66 2936 2852-66 www.transport.co.th.

By Train

The train leaves from Bangkok Railway Station (Hua Lamphong) at 6.55 a.m. and takes about 3.5 hours to Pattaya, where there are Pattaya Station and South Pattaya Station. Contact Hotline 1690 or visit www.railway.co.th for more information.

By Air

Bangkok Airways operates flights from Phuket and Ko Samui to U-Tapao Airport in Chonburi, for more information visit www.bangkokair.com or call 1771.

Accommodation

Pattaya offers accommodation in all price ranges, from luxury resorts to basic bungalows. A list of accommodation in all categories can be obtained from the TAT Pattaya Office at Tel. +66 3842 7667, +66 3842 8750

Shopping

Apart from Pattaya Floating Market, Pattaya Walking Street, and several department stores that scattered around Pattaya, the other shopping opportunities are street shops and stalls that are mostly concentrated along Beach Road, Pattaya 2 Road, as well as around Central and South Pattaya. The best buys include souvenirs, gems and jewellery, silk, cotton, handicrafts, and tailor-made clothing.





Ko Sichang

Chon Buri

Home to internationally famed Pattaya, Chon Buri boasts other fine attractions, both inland and offshore too. Due to its excellent seaports, Chon Buri, the provincial capital just 81 km. southeast of Bangkok, has served as a centre for commercial and cultural exchange for generations.

Nowadays, it is becoming appreciated for its tourism potential with its splendid beaches, crystal clear water, offshore islands, abundant marine life, and unspoiled vistas. While inland, the verdant forests and cascading waterfalls create a lush, tropical atmosphere. Get off the beaten path and discover the less visited delights of the East Coast.

CITY ATTRACTIONS

Wat Yai Intharam

Built during the Ayutthya period, Wat Yai Intharam illustrates distinctive Ayutthaya-style architecture. The Ubosot (ordination hall) and Wihan (image hall) displays unique



Wat Yai Intharam



Old Ang Sila Market



Khao Sam Muk

curved bases, and the Mondop (square building with a pyramidal roof) with the carved wooden door panels was built over the Holy Footprints of the Lord Buddha. The Ubosot itself was renovated during the reign of King Rama III using glassware to adorn the gables and windows. Within the Ubosot are murals covering the entire four walls, which have been continuously restored over the years. In front of the temple stands a statue of King Taksin the Great. It is said that the King had stopped here on the way to set up his base in Chanthaburi during the fall of Ayutthaya in 1767.

Ang Sila

Located about 5 km. from Chon Buri town, Ang Sila is famous for the locals' craftsmanship in making products from granite, especially mortars and pestles typically used in Thai kitchens. Ang Sila is also a traditional fishing village with several restaurants that are scattered around the area. Visitors can also enjoy choosing freshly caught seafood at the Ang Sila Fish Market, which is conveniently located at the Pier.

Old Ang Sila Market

Established in 1876, the Old Ang Sila Market has been renovated and revived, and now becomes a popular weekend market where locals and visitors come to enjoy shopping in the ambiance of Ang Sila's olden days. The market features a wide variety of products ranging from fresh and dried food, to fresh and processed seafood, desserts, Ang Sila woven textile, and the famous granite mortars. Open Saturday-Sunday 10.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Khao Sam Muk

This low hillock, situated between Ang Sila and Hat Bang Saen, is a habitat for troops of wild monkeys. At the foot of the hill are Thai and Chinese shrines, whereas the hilltop affords a panoramic view of Hat Bang Saen. Khao Sam Muk also boasts a number of seafood restaurants serving fresh delicacies from the sea.

Bang Saen Beach

Lying 14 km. from Chon Buri town and not too far from Bangkok, Bang Saen is a popular



Bang Saen Beach

weekend beach resort amongst tourists and Thai families. The beautiful scenery of numerous classical-style houses provides a retro ambiance for visitors, whereas the rows of coconut trees along the long stretch of sandy beach serve as a symbol of the Bang Saen Beach. Fronting the beach are hotels, bungalows, restaurants and food stalls, as well as recreational gear and bicycles for rent.

The Marine Science Institute

Located on the campus of Burapha University, the Marine Science Institute has been awarded Thailand Tourism Award for outstanding performance of Recreational Attraction for Learning. The aquarium recreates the underwater environment, showcasing a large selection of marine animals, whereas the museum exhibits the marine science, the importance of marine biosystem, and the exploitation of marine resources. Open daily 8.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m., except Mondays. Tel. +66 3839 1671-3 www.bims.buu.ac.th

Ho Phra

Situated on Wachiraparkan Road, about 500 metres from the town hall, this shrine houses a replica of the Phra Phutthasihing statue, which is cast in pure silver.

Nong Mon Market

Stretching over several blocks on Sukhumvit Road near the entrance road to Bang Saen Beach, Nong Mon Market offers a remarkable array of local products, including fresh and



Nong Mon Market



The Mangrove Forest Conservation and Study Centre for Ecotourism

preserved food varieties. Some of the favourites are dried seafood, spicy steamed fish cakes (ho mok), deep fried shrimp cakes (hoi cho), glutinous rice baked in bamboo (khao lam), and sticky rice flour and sweet coconut paste wrapped in palm leaves (khanom chak).

OUT OF CITY ATTRACTIONS

The Mangrove Forest Conservation and Study Centre for Ecotourism

Located in Tambon Samet, not far from the centre of Amphoe Mueang Chon Buri, the Mangrove Forest Conservation and Study Centre for Ecotourism covers an area of 300 rai. Visitors can enjoy absorbing the natural beauty of the unspoiled mangrove forest, as well as exploring the different species of birds and marine life while strolling on the 2,300-metre-long wooden boardwalk. Open daily 8.30 a.m. – 6.30 p.m. Tel. 0 3839 8268-9

Thai Island and Sea Natural History Museum

Located at Khao Ma Cho in Amphoe Sattahip, the Museum is initiated by Her Royal Highness Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, and is under the supervision of the Royal Thai Navy. The museum provides visitors with the information on the coastal ecology and the environmental conservation; such as, mangrove forests, soil, rocks, fossils, minerals, sea and forest ecology, and marine life. The exhibitions in 5 different buildings involve different kinds of presentation and media display to ensure an interesting learning experience. Open daily 9.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3843 2475 www.tis-museum.org

Siracha Tiger Zoo

Located at the 20-km. marker on Route No. 3241 between Pattaya and Bangsaen Beach, Si Racha Tiger Zoo is set amidst the natural surroundings and boasts a large number of Bengal tigers,

as well as other animals. The zoo also features several animal shows, including a Tiger Show, a Crocodile Show, a Pig Show, and an Elephant Show. Those who dare can also hold and take photos with the cuddly tiger cubs, baby crocodiles, and snakes. Open daily 8.00 a.m.– 6.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3829 6556 -8, +66 3833 9111, +66 3833 8884, +66 8 1750 9104 www.tigerzoo.com

Khao Kheow Open Zoo

Located in Amphoe Si Racha, about 20 km. south of Chon Buri on Sukhumvit Road, Khao Khiao Open Zoo covers a vast tract of forestland and contains more than 200 species of wildlife living in their natural habitat. Visitors are invited to stroll around the grounds and ride on a tram to closely observe the animals ranging from raccoons, to skunks, wild boars, orangutans, and exotic birds; such as, Hornbills and Eagles. Apart from



Siracha Tiger Zoo

watching a variety of animal shows, visitors can also enjoy Khao Khiao After Dark, a night safari tour on auto-trams and animal show which starts at 6.00 p.m. and finish around 8.30 p.m. Open daily 8.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3831 8444 www.khaokheow.zoothailand.org

Khao Kheow Open Zoo





Ko Sichang

Namtok Chan Ta Then

This waterfall is situated 15 km. from Sukhumvit Road on the same route to Khao Khieo Open Zoo in Amphoe Si Racha. With five secondary levels, the falls can be reached on foot by the path running alongside the stream.

Ko Sichang

Ko Sichang is a large island located in Amphoe Ko Sichang and approximately 12 km. offshore. The island offers a quiet escape with attractive landscapes and seascapes, as well as cultural sights, notably the partially restored summer palace built during the reign of King Rama V (1868-1910). The island has hotels and bungalows, and there are daily ferry services between Amphoe Si Racha and Ko Sichang. The boats leave Ko Loi in Si Racha every hour from 7.00 a.m. – 8.00 p.m., with each trip taking about 45 minutes. For the return trip, boats leave Ko Sichang every hour from 6.00 a.m. - 8.00 p.m.

Ko Loi

Ko Loi is a small island near the northern shore of Si Racha and has a bridge connecting to the mainland. The island is a popular location for relaxing and recreation and houses a century-old



Ko Loi



Chon Buri Buffalo Races

temple named Wat Ko Loi Si Maharacha. From the temple, a flight of stairs leads to the breezy hilltop, which offers a delightful view of the sea.

Ang Sila – Ban Puek Weaving Group

This weaving group showcases an ancient and unique technique in producing beautiful cotton textiles that is practiced only in Ang Sila. The technique is to knead the cotton yarns with cooked rice before weaving, to make the fabrics more durable. Another special characteristic of the Ang Sila cotton is that it is soft, cool, and comfortable to wear.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Chon Buri Annual Festival

April

The Fair features the Phra Phutthasihing procession, as well as cultural shows, exhibitions, and stalls offering various types of products.

Chon Buri Buffalo Races

October

This unique event is a long-established, fun-filled activity at which local farmers display their most splendid buffaloes in races, as well as in physical fitness and fashion contests. This event is held in October, not only in Chon Buri town, but also in Amphoe Ban Bueng and Amphoe Nong Yai.

Si Maha Racha Songkran Festival and “Kong Khao” Ritual

April

Ko Loi Park, Si Racha District, Chon Buri

An ancient festival that has been practiced for hundred of years, the festival features religious ritual to worship the gods who have been protecting the locals, a light-and-sound presentation, folk games, cultural performances, beauty contest, sales of local delicacies and



Wan Lai Bang Saen Songkran Festival

desserts, as well as water splashing. Website: www.thaifest.org, www.tourismthailand.org

Wan Lai Bang Saen Songkran Festival

April

Bang Saen Beach, Chon Buri

The event begins with the people getting together to make merit and the monks from various temples are invited to perform the religious ceremony, followed by making sand pagoda. Other fun activities include water splashing, folk games and Miss Songkran Beauty Pageant. Website: www.thaifest.org, www.tourismthailand.org

Tak Bat Thewo

October

Wat Khao Phra Phutthabat Bang Sai

Tak Bat Thewo takes place on the occasion of the End of the Buddhist Lent at Wat Khao Phra Phutthabat Bang Sai. The festival features

a procession of monks receiving alms from Buddhist devotees on the morning of the festival to mark the traditional belief of the Lord Buddha's return to the earth from heaven.

GETTING THERE

By Car

Chon Buri is about a one-hour drive from Bangkok along Highway No. 34 (Bang Na-Trat). Alternatively, there is a faster route with a total distance of 81 km., in which drivers can take the Bangkok-Chon Buri Motorway.

By Bus

Air-conditioned buses depart Bangkok's Eastern Bus Terminal (Ekamai) every 40 minutes from 5.30 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. Tel. +66 2391 2504. There are also air-conditioned buses departing the Bangkok Bus Terminal (Mo Chit) on Kamphaeng Phet 2 Road every hour from 5.00 a.m. to 9.00 p.m. Tel. +66 2936 2852-66 www.transport.co.th

By Air

Bangkok Airways operates flights from Phuket and Ko Samui to U-Tapao Airport in Chonburi, for more information visit www.bangkokair.com or call 1771.

Accommodation

A list of accommodation can be obtained from the TAT Pattaya Office Tel. +66 3842 7667, +66 3842 8750.

Shopping

The best-known local products are dried seafood and Thai desserts available at Nong Mon Market, and granite mortars from Ang Sila.





Thalu Island is located in Khao Laem Ya

Rayong

Explore beyond Pattaya and discover the quieter shores of the East Coast. From a traditional provincial capital to the charm of beaches, coves and offshore islands, Rayong covers the total area of 3,552 sq. km. This small but beautiful province is situated on the eastern shore of the Gulf of Thailand and is located 179 km. from Bangkok. Less developed than the Pattaya area, Rayong combines an attractive 100-km. coastline, with beaches and offshore islands, and lush green area. Rayong town has a number of attractive attractions, while the most famous destination is the island of Ko Samet, although beaches along the mainland coastline are becoming increasingly popular.

CITY ATTRACTIONS

The Shrine of King Taksin the Great

Located in the grounds of Wat Lum Mahachai Chumphon, the Shrine marks the spot where General Taksin, later King Taksin the Great, and his followers once made camp after the fall of Ayutthaya in the late 18th century. Within the Shrine is a standing statue of the great monarch, while the 300-year-old Satue Tree is believed to be the very tree to which King Taksin once tethered his elephant.

Wat Pa Pradu

The temple, located on Sukhumvit Road, enshrines a 12-metre-long reclining Buddha image, unusual in that the figure is depicted lying on the left side instead of the more usual right.

City Pillar Shrine

Rayong's City Pillar, on Lak Mueang Road, comprises two buildings constructed in, Thai and Chinese architectural styles, respectively.



The Shrine of King Taksin the Great



Wat Pa Pradu

Wat Pak Nam

Also known as Wat Samut Khongkha, the temple is about 2 km. south of town and is notable for its ancient 10-metre-high white pagoda on an island in the Rayong River. Celebrations are held here on the full moon night of the 12th lunar month with ceremonies, boat races, and other forms of entertainment.

Si Mueang Park

This public park, in the town centre behind the city pillar, houses the highly revered Phra Phuttha Angkhirot image, which is the town's principal statue.



Yom Chinda Road

Rayong Aquarium

This aquarium consists of three parts, which are the aquatic marine life hall, shell museum, and exhibition hall. Open 10.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday to Friday and 10.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. on weekends. Tel. +66 3865 3741, +66 3865 3672 www.aquariumthailand.com/rayong-aquarium.html

Yom Chinda Road

Beautiful old buildings and houses on Yom Chinda Road, the historical road of Rayong, are well kept in its original form to illustrate the glory of this road in the past. Visitors can step back in time and explore the simple way of life of the local people through restaurants, coffee shops, and souvenir shops.



Rayong Aquarium



Hat Mae Ramphueng

BEACHES & ISLANDS

Hat Laem Charoen

Located 5 km. from Rayong town, Hat Laem Charoen is a beautiful and quiet beach that is famous among locals and tourists for the numerous seafood restaurants. This beach is also situated near the mouth of Rayong River, where there is a small fishing village producing fish sauce. Visitors who come to enjoy the sea, sand, and sun of Hat Laem Charoen can also come to the village to observe the way of life of the local fisherman.

Hat Saeng Chan

Located in Tambon Paknam Mai, around 7 km. from town, Hat Saeng Chan is connected to Hat Laem Charoen and is a great place for

relaxation and swimming. There is also a series of breakwater along the shoreline to protect the shore from the waves, which sometimes can be too strong. Restaurants and accommodation are available within the area.

Hat Mae Ramphueng

This 10-km. stretch of sand, located 12 km. from town on the way to Ban Kon Ao, is a popular seaside destination amongst locals and tourists. One of the highlights of Hat Mae Ramphueng is Lan Hin Khao, situated at the centre of the beach, which is a perfect spot for relaxation in the evening. Visitors can also find several restaurants and accommodation lining the beach.

Ban Phe

One of Rayong's major fishing communities, located about 19 km. from town, Ban Phe is also the main embarkation point for the ferry to Ko Samet. Visitors can also find fresh and dried food to buy here.

Ko Samet

Located within the Khao Laem Ya-Muko Samet National Park and 6.5 km. off the mainland, the island of Ko Samet is Rayong's most popular destination. Covering the area of around 13 sq. km., Ko Samet is blessed with lovely scenery as well as beaches, and is easily accessible. Triangular-shaped, most of the land area is forested, with beaches dotting intermittently on the north and east sides of the island. The south side tapers into

the sea with small isles of rocky formations offshore serving as a habitat and egg-laying grounds for seagulls. A considerable range of accommodation is available. There are daily ferries to Ko Samet from 6.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m. and the trip takes about 30 minutes. Contact the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation at Tel. +66 2562 0760 www.dnp.go.th or Khao Laem Ya-Muko Samet National Park at Tel. +66 3865 3034, +66 8 5812 9366

Suan Son

About 4 km. from Ban Phe and 29 km. from Rayong town are white sandy beaches and picnic areas called Suan Son. To get there, take Highway No. 3145 along the beach road of Laem Mae Phim.

Ko Samet





Laem Mae Phim

Suan Wang Kaeo

Some 11 km. beyond Suan Son are more beaches with bungalows. Open daily 8 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3863 8067, +66 3863 8431-2, +66 8 1634 1886 www.wangkaew.co.th

Laem Mae Phim

A little over 11 km. from Suan Wang Kaeo and 45 km. from Rayong town is Laem Mae Phim, a pleasant location for swimming and relaxation. Five kilometres further on from Laem Mae Phim along the beach road is the Sunthon Phu Memorial, which honours Thailand's leading poet in the early part of the Rattanakosin Era.

Muko Man

Situated around 5 km. from Laem Mae Phim is Muko Man or the Man Island. Muko Man consists of three islands; namely, Ko Man Nai (Inner Man Island), Ko Man Klang (Middle Man

Island), and Ko Man Nok (Outer Man Island). Ko Man Nai is where visitors can find a Turtle Conservation Centre, which was established under the initiative of H.M. Queen Sirikit. On the other hand, Ko Man Klang and Ko Man



Ko Man Klang



Khao Laem Ya-Muko Samet National Park

Nai are popular for the white sandy beaches and crystal clear waters. Accommodation is available on Ko Man Klang and Ko Man Nai.

INLAND ATTRACTIONS

Khao Laem Ya-Muko Samet National Park

Home to the popular Ko Samet, Khao Laem Ya-Muko Samet National Park also features several interesting inland attractions. The highlight

of this National Park is the viewpoint that affords the view of Ko Samet and Hat Mae Ramphueng, which is especially beautiful during sunset. Accommodation and camping ground within the park is available. Contact the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation at Tel. 0 2562 0760 www.dnp.go.th or Khao Laem Ya-Muko Samet National Park at Tel. +66 3865 3034, +66 8 5812 9366



Khao Chamao-Khao Wong National Park

Khao Chamao-Khao Wong National Park

The National Park in Amphoe Klaeng, reached by a left turn at the 274-km. marker on Highway No. 3, covers just under 85 sq. km. and is noted for its almost pristine forest, along with lime stone mountains, caves and waterfalls. There are food shops, bungalows and a campsite within the park. At the entrance is the Somdet Krommaluang Chumphon Shrine where locals pay homage to the 'Father of the Royal Thai

Navy'. Contact the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation at Tel. +66 2562 0760 www.dnp.go.th

Tham Khao Wong

A part of the Khao Chamao-Khao Wong National Park, and situated about 40 km. before Chanthaburi town on Highway No. 3 at the 286-km. marker, Tham Khao Wong showcases a fascinating sight to behold. The group of 86



H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Herbal Garden

limestone caves containing stalagmites and stalactites are connected to one another, with passages allowing visitors to explore the natural beauty inside.

H.R.H. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn Herbal Garden

Located within the grounds of the PTT Public Company Limited, about 25 km. from town in King Amphoe Nakhon-Phatthana, the Herbal Garden was established to commemorate the H.R.H. Princess Sirindhorn 50th birthday. The Herbal Garden serves as a centre that exhibits a collection of various herbal plants and herbal research. Open daily 9.00 a.m. – 4.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3891 5213-5

Wat Ban Don Shadow Play Museum

Located in the area of Wat Ban Don, the Shadow Play Museum displays a collection of more than 100 Nang Yai shadow plays. Nang Yai is a shadow puppetry made from

large pieces of leather, which are carved and painted into different characters. Some of the Nang Yai shadow plays that are exhibited at this museum are those that were brought from Phat-thalung, which are more than 200 years old. Open Saturday and Sunday please contact Tel. +66 8 7745 9925, +66 8 1295 6069 before visiting the site

Thung Prong Thong

Thung Prong Thong or the Golden Mangrove Field is located at the mouth of Prasae River in Amphoe Klaeng. This eco-tourism destination is where visitors can enjoy exploring the unspoiled mangrove forest while strolling along the wooden bridge, which leads to the field that is carpeted with golden Prong trees. Open daily 6.00 a.m. – 6.00 p.m.

Suphattra Land

Suphattra Land is an agrotourism destination as well as a heaven for fruit lovers. The garden features over 20 varieties of tropical fruits from every part of the country; such as, durian,

mango, rambutan, mangosteen, pomelo, starfruit, and coconut, in which visitors can enjoy sampling these delicious fresh fruits. Visitors can also explore the grape garden, the orchard full of beautiful orchids, as well as learn how to make honey. Suphattra Land has several times been awarded the Thailand Tourism Award of Excellence in the Tourist Attraction category. Open daily 8.00 a.m. – 5.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3889 2048-9 www.suphattraland.com

RECREATIONS

Horse Riding

There are many excellent horse riding opportunities in Rayong including:

- [Slo Bunny Horse Riding Training Centre](#)
www.facebook.com/SloBunnyHorseRanch
- [Chomview Horse Riding Club](#)

Tel. +66 3803 0709 www.chomviewhorse.com



Suphattra Land



Horse Riding



Rayong Fruit Fair

• Tarachote

Tel. +66 8 1911 2289, +66 8 5278 9836

Golf

There are a few standard golf courses in Rayong that features beautiful landscape with world-class facilities, memorable signature holes, and challenging terrains.

• Eastern Star Country Club Rayong

Tel. +66 3863 0410 www.easternstargolfcourse.com

• Rayong Green Valley, St. Andrews 2000, Silky Oak

Tel. +66 3803 0660-2, +66 8 1940 8181 www.greenvalleythailand.wixsite.com

• Wangjuntr Golf Park

Tel. +66 2276 9072, +66 8 1932 6669, +66 3801 0993, www.wangjuntrgolf.com

• The Emerald Golf Club Tel. +66 3894 1022, +66 8 6816 2992

SPECIAL EVENTS

Ban Chang Sports-Fish Fair

End of February – Beginning of March

Held annually during February to March, the festival features seafood fair, sports competitions, and various cultural performances.

Rayong Fruit Fair

May - June

Held around the Taphong Fruit Market in Amphoe Mueang, the Rayong Fruit Fair promotes local fruits and other products with colourful fruit-decorated floats, fruit contests and agricultural exhibitions.

Sunthon Phu Day

26 June

Sunthon Phu Day is held annually on 26th June to celebrate the birthday of Sunthon Phu, Thailand's most famous and internationally

recognised poet in the early Rattanakosin period. Activities include a procession featuring Sunthon Phu's literary works, as well as poetry and painting competitions.

Changing the Robe for Phra Chedi Klang Nam

The full-moon period of the 12th lunar month

Held at Wat Pak Nam in Amphoe Mueang, the fair coincides with the Loi Krathong Festival and features changing the robe that is wrapping around the Chedi, religious rites, long-tail boat races, and other entertainment.

GETTING THERE

By Car

From Bangkok, take Highway No. 34 (Bang Na-Trat) or expressway to Pattaya, and then Highway No. 36 to Rayong. Alternatively, from Bangkok, take Highway No. 34 to Chon Buri, and

then take Highway No. 344 (Ban Bueng-Klaeng), then turn onto Highway No. 3 to Rayong, a total distance of 179 km.

By Bus

The three-hour journey from Bangkok can be made on regular buses leaving from Bangkok's Eastern Bus Terminal (Ekamai). Air-conditioned buses depart Ekamai every 30 minutes from 4.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. Tel. +66 2712 3662. There are also air-conditioned buses departing the Bangkok Bus Terminal (Mo Chit) every hour from 4.00 a.m. to 10.00 p.m. Tel. +66 2936 2852-66 www.transport.co.th

Accommodation

Accommodation options range from deluxe resorts to beach bungalows, and a list of accommodation may be obtained from the TAT Rayong Office Tel. +66 3865 5420-1, +66 3866 4585



Sunthon Phu Memorial



Cathedral of Immaculate Conception

Chanthaburi

Located 245 km. from Bangkok, Chanthaburi is one of the Kingdom's less visited provinces, though one full of varied attractions. Known as the 'garden province', the 6,338 sq. km. province is famous for its fertile land that gives plentiful yields of fruit; such as, mangosteen, rambutan, and durian. The earth also yields rubies and sapphires, and Chanthaburi town remains an important trading centre for precious stones. Adding charm to the town is the Chanthaburi River, while the population comprises a colourful mix of ancient communities. Beyond the town, the province is characterised by an interior of forests and scenic waterfalls, and a coastline dotted with quiet fishing villages and peaceful beaches.

CITY ATTRACTIONS

City Pillar and King Taksin the Great Shrine

These two local landmarks, one defining the heart of city and the other honouring King Taksin the Great, are located on Tha Luang



King Taksin the Great Memorial Statue



King Taksin the Great Shrine



Si Chan Road

Road. Opposite stands an old building dating from the reign of King Rama VI and was formerly the town hall.

King Taksin the Great Memorial Statue

Located on Liap Noen Road, the equestrian statue of King Taksin the Great is flanked by statues of his four royal guards, while the sculpted expression of the king's face clearly shows the resoluteness and determination of the man who reunited the Thais after the fall of Ayutthaya in 1767. The surrounding park with a large pond serves as a popular recreation area.

Si Chan Road

This is the commercial area and centre of the gem business. Even though actual gem mining in the province is not as extensive as it used to be, Chanthaburi remains a major centre for the trade in gemstones from neighbouring countries and from abroad. The main gem market attracts large crowds of dealers and

visitors alike. Open Friday - Sunday 8.00 a.m. - 3.00 p.m.

Wat Phai Lom

Located across the Chanthaburi River from Si Chan Road, Wat Phai Lom is the temple of King Rama III era. The main hall features mural paintings depicting the story of the Lord Buddha, interspersed with Chinese floral designs as well as illustrations of foreigners that were presence during the reign of King Rama III. Another building in the compound displays Western architectural influences, attesting to the varied artistic and cultural heritage of Chanthaburi

The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception

Situated in Tambon Chantha-nimit by the riverbank, this is Thailand's most beautiful and largest Catholic cathedral, which was built in 1906. The church features two symbolic



Wat Phai Lom

towers, as well as stunning colourful stained glasses and paintings of the Saints.

Wat Thong Thua

Located four km. from town along Sukhumvit Road in Tambon Khlong Narai, Wat Thong Thua is the site of an ancient temple built in Khmer-style. There is also a large collection of ancient Khmer carved lintels, sandstone door columns carved in various designs, and inscription stones. Nearby is the Mueang Phaniat Archaeological Site with the remains of the laterite base of a large Khmer religious sanctuary and moats.

Tha Luang Area

Located by the Chanthaburi River, Tha Luang Area is an ancient community, and was once of an important port, where Thai, Chinese, and Vietnamese traders exchange goods. A



The Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception



Hat Khung Wiman

stroll around the area, which is a residential community of the Chinese merchants since the past, enables visitors to explore the beautiful and unique architecture of the ancient houses that are still well preserved until today. The locals have recently joined together as the Chanthabun Riverside Community to preserve the culture and lifestyle of the community, and revived the century-old buildings as the accommodation so the visitors can trace back to the glorious past of Chanthaburi.

OUT OF CITY ATTRACTIONS

Wat Phlap

Situated in Tambon Bang Kacha, southwest of town, this was the site of a settlement during the late Ayutthaya period. It is believed that this is where the troops of King Taksin stationed during the time of war. Attractions within the grounds of the temple include two ancient pagodas in different styles, a beautiful wooden Wihan (image hall), and Ho Trai (temple's library)

located in the middle of the pond, and a Holy Pond.

Khao Laem Sing Forest Park

Some 25 km. from Amphoe Tha Mai, the Park features a 172-metre-high hill located to the east of the mouth of the Chanthaburi River in Amphoe Laem Sing. The hill has got its name from the cape that juts out to the sea, looking like a sprawling lion. To get there, visitors can take a boat from Hat Laem Sing to Hat Ao Krathing, and walk up to the Park. Contact the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Tel. +66 2562 0760 www.dnp.go.th

Hat Ao Yang

Located in Amphoe Laem Sing, this small beach some 2 km. before Khao Laem Sing Forest Park is cool and shady. The tranquil atmosphere makes Hat Ao Yang an ideal place for those looking for a peaceful spot to



Khung Kraben Bay Royal Development Study Centre

relax. Accommodation and restaurants are available along the beach.

Oasis Sea World

Located near Hat Laem Sing, the Oasis Sea World is where visitors can enjoy watching the cute dolphins perform a variety of tricks, as well as get the opportunity to swim with them. Open daily 9.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m. Tel. +66 3949 9222 www.thaioasisseaworld.com

Hat Khung Wiman

A perfect relaxing spot, Hat Khung Wiman features a long stretch of sandy beach with clear water in a shady, sheltered bay. Accommodations and restaurants are available along the beach.

Ao Khung Kraben

Ao Khung Kraben is a bay that was once covered with mangrove forests but the deterioration of the mangroves had raised



Oasis Sea World

H.M. King Bhumibol Adulyadej's concern, which led to the establishment of the Khung Kraben Bay Royal Development Study Centre. This ecotourism destination is where visitors can learn about the mangrove forests and the



Sunset at Hat Chao Lao

conservation of natural resources through several activities; such as, a stroll along the 1.6-kilometre-long nature trail, a visit to the aquarium, and a kayaking trip that meanders through the mangrove.

Hat Laem Sadet

Located about 25 km. from Amphoe Tha Mai, this nearly-3-kilometre-long stretch of golden sandy beach is lined with shady casuarina trees. Hat Laem Sadet is quiet and picturesque, suitable for those who look for a quiet spot. A wide range of accommodation facilities, ranging from resorts to bungalows and camping ground, is available.

Hat Chao Lao

Situated next to Hat Laem Sadet, Hat Chao Lao is a popular beach among holiday-makers as well as the locals. This tranquil beach features a long stretch of sand shaded by coconut groves, coupled with shallow water, making it a suitable place for swimming and

other recreational activities. Restaurants and accommodations are also available along the beach.

Wat Khao Sukim

Situated about 20 km. north of town in Amphoe Tha Mai, the temple was built in 1966 to honour Phra Achan Somchai Thitwiriyo and houses a large collection of religious items and valuable antiques. Open daily 8.00 a.m. - 6.00 p.m.

Khao Khitchakut National Park

The National Park is situated in King Amphoe Khao Khitchakut and can be reached by taking a turn at the 324-km. marker on Highway No. 3 and travelling 21 km. further. The park covers 58 sq. km. of forestland that is rich in herbal plants and wildlife. An attraction is the Krathing Waterfall, where nature trails crisscross the 13 tiers of the falls. Contact the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Tel. +66 2562 0760 www.dnp.go.th.

Namtok Khao Soi Dao

About 70 km. from Chanthaburi and located at Khao Soi Dao Wildlife Reserve in Amphoe Khao Soi Dao, the 15-level waterfall is reached by a hiking trail amid unspoiled forests with a large variety of butterflies and birds.

Namtok Phlio National Park

Covering an area of 134.5 sq. km. of forest along the Khao Sa Bap mountain range in Amphoe Laem Sing, Namtok Phlio National Park can be reached by taking a left turn at the 346-km. marker on Highway No. 3. Points of interest include the 3-level Namtok Phlio, and a nearby pagoda built by King Rama V as a memorial to Phra Nang Chao Sunantha Kumarirat, his first consort, who passed away in a boating accident. This park has won the Thailand Tourism Award of Outstanding Performance for Natural Attraction. Contact the



Namtok Khao Soi Dao



Khao Khitchakut National Park



Chaloe Burapha Chonlathit Road

Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Tel. +66 2562 0760 www.dnp.go.th.

Chaloe Burapha Chonlathit Road

Chaloe Burapha Chonlathit Road is a 111-kilometre-long road that was developed as a “Scenic Route” to promote the sustainable coastal tourism in the East Coast of Thailand. Stretched along the coastline from Chon Buri, to Rayong, Chanthaburi, and Trat, this road features a red-painted cycling lane that allows cyclist to enjoy the beautiful view as well.

Noen Nang Phaya Viewpoint

Situated on Chaloe Burapha Chonlathit Road, between Hat Khung Wiman and Ao Khung Kraben, Noen Nang Phaya Viewpoint has been chosen as one of the destinations in the Dream Destinations Campaign. Apart from the panoramic view of the curved road that runs

along the coastline, this viewpoint offers one of the most beautiful scenery of sunset in the eastern region of Thailand.

Noen Sung Fruit Market

Situated along the Sukhumvit Road around the Noen Sung Intersection, the Noen Sung Fruit Market features several stalls selling a variety of fruits; such as, durian, rambutan, mangosteen, mango, and longan, just to name a few. The market opens all year round, but the best time to visit is from April to July, which is when most of the fruits are in season.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Fruit Festival

May-June

The fair highlights the province’s cornucopia of fruit, as well as featuring stalls selling local crafts, jewellery, Thai cuisine, and seafood

products. There are also fruit contests and a beauty pageant.

GETTING THERE

By Car

From Bangkok, take Highway No. 34 (Bang Na-Trat) or the expressway to Chon Buri, then Highway No. 344 (Ban Bueng-Klaeng) and proceed to Chanthaburi along Highway No. 3, a total distance of 245 km.

By Bus

The four-hour journey from Bangkok can be made on regular buses originating from

Bangkok's Eastern Bus Terminal (Ekamai). Air-conditioned buses depart Ekamai every hour from 4 a.m. until midnight Tel. +66 2391 2504. There are also air-conditioned buses departing the Bangkok Bus Terminal (Mo Chit) every hour from 5.00 a.m.- 6.30 p.m. Tel. +66 2936 2852-66 www.transport.co.th

ACCOMMODATION

A list of accommodation may be obtained from the TAT Rayong Office Tel. +66 3865 5420-1

Noen Nang Phaya Viewpoint





Ko Lan



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