



amazing
THAILAND

Khon Kaen



Khon Kaen

Phrathat Kham Kaen, sound of the Kaen and Khun flower, centre of silk, land of weaving friendship, tour the massive city of Khon Kaen, Sirindhorn's dinosaur, Olympic boxing gold medal

Khon Kaen province is one of the prosperous centres of the Northeastern region. It has a long history since prehistoric times going back more than 100 million years. This area used to be inhabited by dinosaurs that has been assumed from the discovery of footprints and dinosaur fossils. It was also the habitat of prehistoric humans as evidenced from the excavation of bronze and metal tools at Non Nok Tha Archaeological Site, Phu Wiang District.

Later in history, Khon Kaen province received influence from the Dvaravati culture from the Central Region to the Northeastern Region followed by the influence of the Khmer that resulted in the Hindu religion propagating as well. This can be seen in the art of the construction of Prasat Pueai Noi, Pueai Noi District, and during the 18th century, the influence of the Bayon-Khmer style of Mahayana Buddhism replaced it. Examples of architecture built in those days include Ku Praphachai, Nam Phong District.

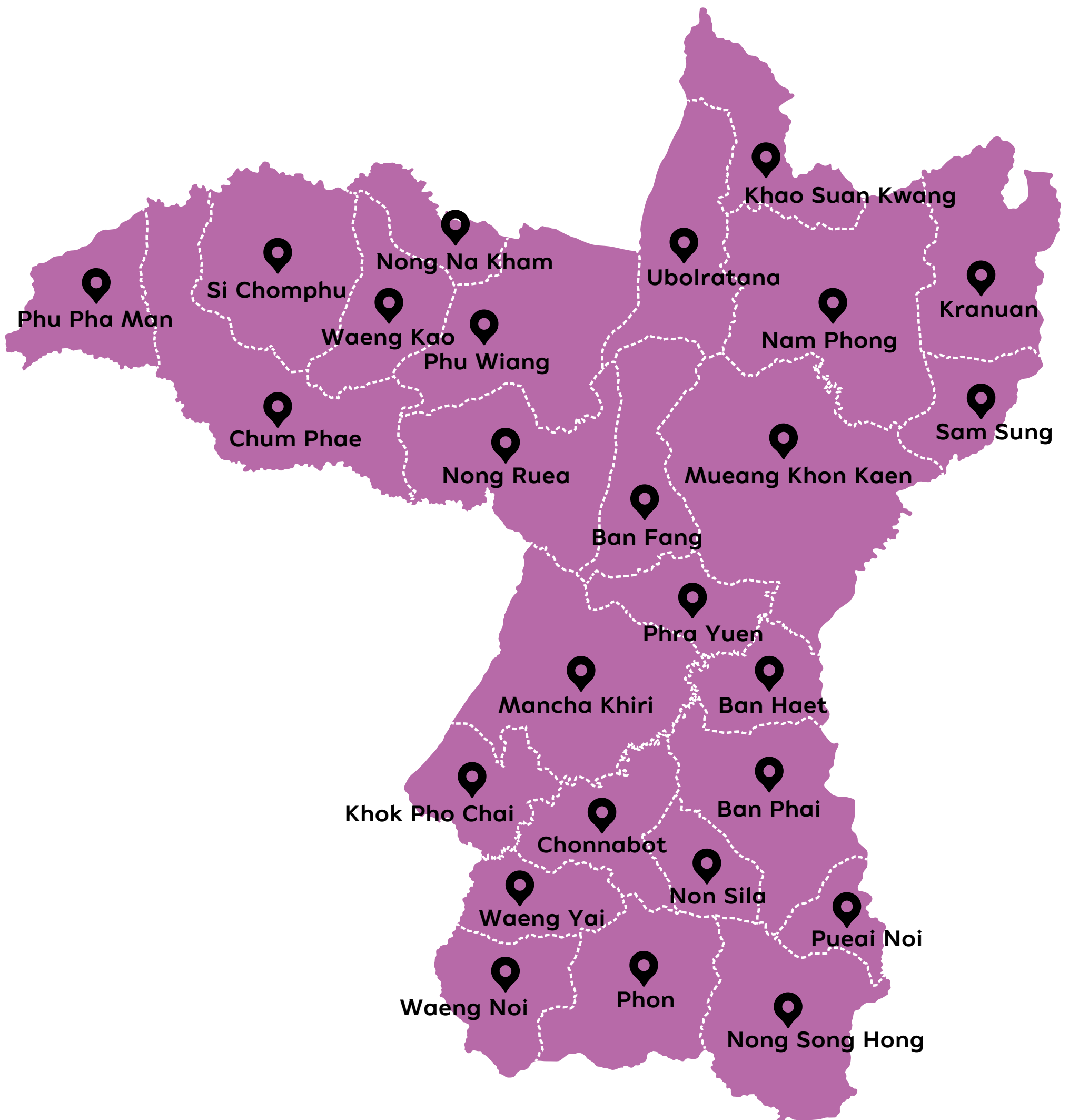
After that, in the 19th century, the Lan Xang and Lanna cultures played a role in this area. The traditional culture has become a mixed

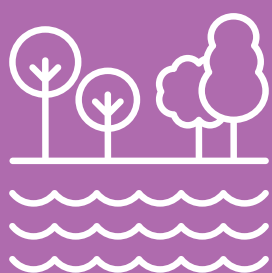
culture that has spread throughout the Isan region called Lan Xang art. The architecture that is important and noticeable is Phrathat Kham Kaen, Nam Phong District, which later became the most important artefact of Khon Kaen.

In the early Rattanakosin Era, Khon Kaen was relocated several times. Mostly, it was moved to the outer districts or provinces that were close to present-day Khon Kaen. Then, in the reign of King Rama V the Great, in 1897, the city of Khon Kaen was moved to the old city and developed to expand the size of the city until it became Khon Kaen. At present, it has developed into one of the most important MICE cities in Thailand.



Khon Kaen Map





Bueng Kaen Nakhon

Mueang Khon Kaen, Khon Kaen



Bueng Kaen Nakhon

Mueang Khon Kaen, Khon Kaen



Located at Nai Mueang Subdistrict in the centre of the city. It is a large pond with an area of 964,800 square kilometres. In addition, it is where the Monument of Chao Phia Mueang Pan, the founder of Khon Kaen is enshrined. This place also serves as a beloved destination for relaxation and various recreational activities. Its serene ambiance, courtesy of the lush trees, health garden, and a dedicated walkway encircling the lake, provides an ideal setting for people to unwind and engage in leisurely pursuits. Additionally, a charming bridge traverses the lake, allowing visitors to appreciate the enchanting atmosphere of Bueng Kaen Nakhon, while the presence of diverse sculptures adds an aesthetic appeal that captivates the eye.



Phra Mahathat Kaen Nakhon (Phrathat Kao Chan)

Mueang Khon Kaen, Khon Kaen



Phra Mahathat Kaen Nakhon (Phrathat Kao Chan)

Mueang Khon Kaen, Khon Kaen



Located in Wat Nong Wang on the bank of Bueng Kaen Nakhon. Phra Mahathat Kaen Nakhon is a reinforced concrete building with masonry and mortar. The top of the chedi is modelled after Phrathat Kham Kaen. It is 80 metres high with 4 Chulathats located on all 4 corners. There is a 7-headed Naga wall surrounding it, which is a combination of Dvaravati period and Indochina art. It is a characteristic of the Isan Pak Hae people.

Phra Mahathat Kaen Nakhon has 9 floors, and each floor has something of interest.

1st Floor looks like an auditorium with the Buddha's relics enshrined in the central Busabok, 4 Buddha images are enshrined there, and the shutters are carved into tales about "Champa Si Ton". The large door is carved into a three-dimensional picture.



2nd Floor is a dormitory with antiques that the temple puts on display. The doors and windows are painted with Benjarong patterns and pictures from the tale "Sang Sin Chai".

3rd Floor is a Dharma hall. The doors and windows are painted with Benjarong patterns and carvings of the tale "Nang Phom Hom".

4th Floor is a meditation hall, and the outstanding feature is the shutters. It also has drawings of the Buddha image of the day, deities of the four directions, and self-reliance.

5th Floor is used as a museum. The doors and windows are carved with images of the Buddha's life into a one-dimensional image.

6th Floor is the hall of monk masters. The shutters are carved with the Jataka tales about "Tae Mi Bai" into a one-dimensional image.

7th Floor is the hall of the Arahants. The shutters are carved with the Jataka tales about "Phra Wet Sandon Chadok" into a one-dimensional image.

8th Floor is a Dharma hall with a collection of important Buddhist scriptures, e.g., the Tripitaka. The shutters are carved with the 16-tiered Brahma.

9th Floor is a Buddha hall and houses the Buddha's relics in the middle of the Busabok. The shutters are carved into a three-dimensional image, the image of the 16-tiered Brahma, and is a viewpoint of the city of Khon Kaen on all four sides. The east balcony can clearly see Bueng Kaen Nakhon.



Open daily 08.00-18.00 hrs.



Sim and Hup Taem Sin Sai, Wat Chaisri

Mueang Khon Kaen, Khon Kaen



Sim and Hup Taem Sin Sai, Wat Chaisri

Mueang Khon Kaen, Khon Kaen



Located at Ban Sawathi, Sawathi Subdistrict. It is an ancient temple with a "Sim" or Ubosot over 100 years old, and looks like the traditional Isan style with murals (Hup Taem) that tells the story about Buddhism, culture, traditions, the Isan people's way of life, and local literature about "Sang Sin Chai", which is very beautiful.

The Hup Taem in the Ubosot is the story of the Phra Vessantara Jataka Sin Chai with images of gods, people, and animals. As such, women are prohibited from entering the Ubosot. The outer wall is a Hup Taem of the Phra Vessantara Jataka "Sin Chai", "Narok Chet Khum", and a painting of a soldier standing at the door. Even though more than 100 years have passed and some parts of the Hup Taem have faded over time, overall, the Hup Taem at Wat Chaisri is still very clear and beautiful. At present, the Fine Arts Department is responsible for the preservation and maintenance of this site.



Ton Tan Market

Mueang Khon Kaen, Khon Kaen



Ton Tan Market

Mueang Khon Kaen, Khon Kaen



Located on Mittraphap Road, Nai Mueang Subdistrict. It is an outdoor and indoor market. Products on sale include fashion items, handmade products, food and beverages, etc.



Open daily 17.00-23.00 hrs.

For further details contact, Tel. 0 4300 0179 and 08 3284 5351.



Pluk Suk Farm & Café

Mueang Khon Kaen, Khon Kaen



Pluk Suk Farm & Café

Mueang Khon Kaen, Khon Kaen



Located at Sila Subdistrict. The Farm is divided into 2 zones: restaurant and agricultural learning resources. Fruit and vegetables like lemons, kitchen vegetables, and bananas are planted here, as well as the raising of ducks, pheasants, and turkeys.

Here, there is a Huan Thai house, a conserved ancient wooden house for tourists to see the way of life of the people in the past. Inside the house, there is an antique iron, wooden mortars, antique scales, silver, and other antique utensils.

There are also activities of cloth bag painting, farming, rice harvesting, soil preparation, seed sowing, vegetable planting, harvesting produce, etc.



Open daily 10.00-21.00 hrs.

For further details contact, Tel. 08 4511 5100.



Khon Kaen Zoo

Khao Suan Kwang, Khon Kaen



Khon Kaen Zoo

Khao Suan Kwang, Khon Kaen



Located at Kham Muang Subdistrict on Khao Suan Kwang with an area of 5.34 square kilometres. It was officially opened on 28 June, 2013. The top of the mountain is a source of learning and studying the conservation of rare wildlife species under the concept of being a community forest where humans and forests can live in harmony and participate. Thus, it stimulates the tourism economy and local employment.

The section with the largest number of animals is Thung Saen Kwang that comprises deer, barking deer, and antelope with not less than 300 creatures in this section. There are also more than 50 species of other animals numbering in the hundreds, both domestic and foreign, which can be viewed from a skywalk where visitors can stand and watch in full view.

There is also a seal show, and the recreational part is a large water park on an area of 5.9 acres. There are pools for both adults and children, slides, and a 450-metre-long whirlpool canal.

In addition, the Khon Kaen Zoo area has a water park and a lodge for tourists.

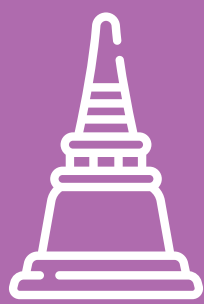


Open daily 08.00–18.00 hrs.

Entrance fee: adults 150 baht; children 70 baht

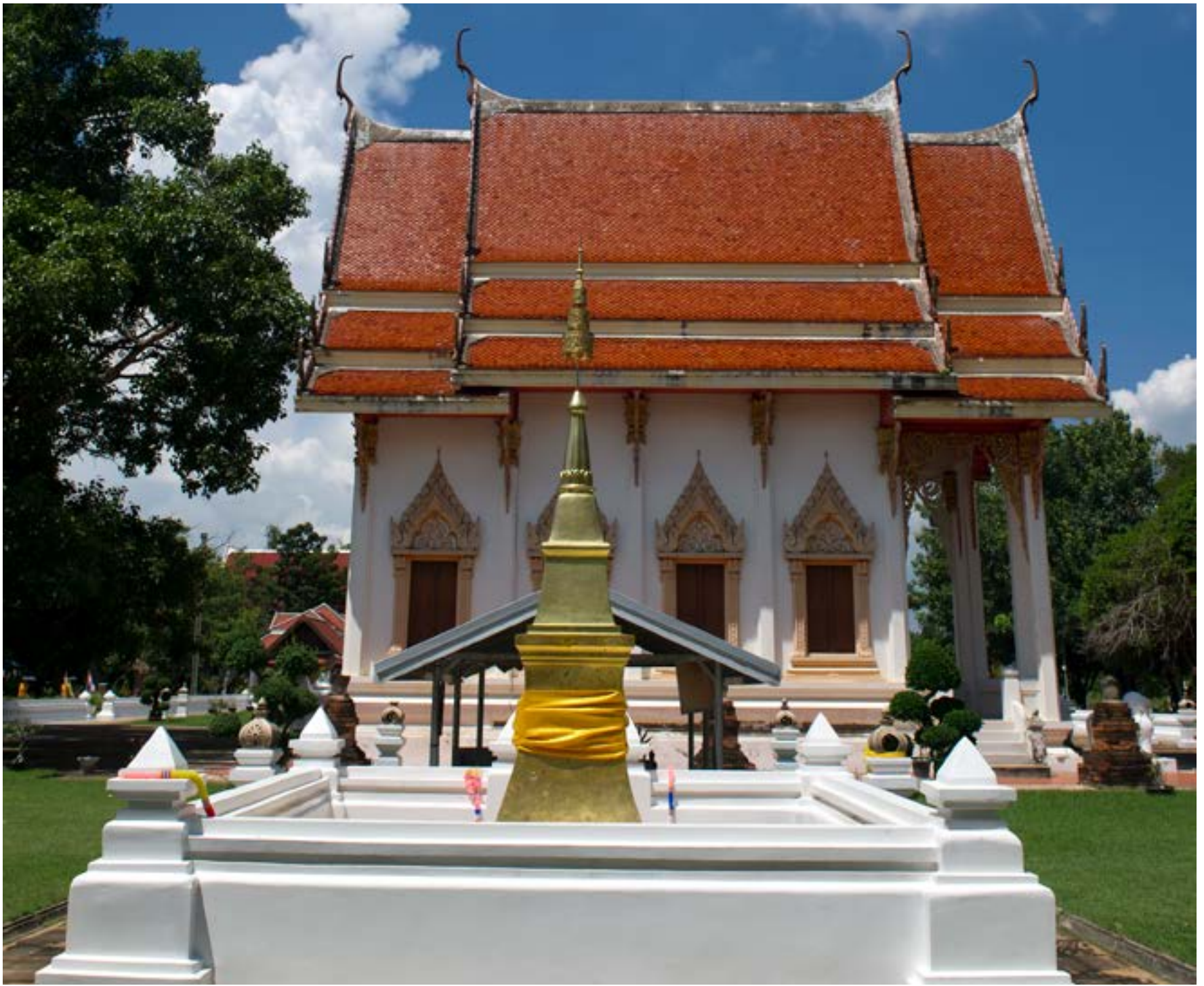
Free: children not taller than 120 centimetres, the elderly, and disabled

For further details contact, Tel. 08 6455 6340-1, 08 6459 4192
www.khonkaen.zoothailand.org



Phrathat Kham Kaen

Nam Phong, Khon Kaen



Phrathat Kham Kaen

Nam Phong, Khon Kaen



Located at Chetiyaphum Temple, Ban Kham Subdistrict. It was constructed around the 20th century. According to history, the King of Mori, a city in Cambodia, wished to bring the relics of the Buddha that were obtained just after the Buddha had passed away to be enshrined in Phrathat Phanom. Therefore, he requested 9 senior monks to do this.

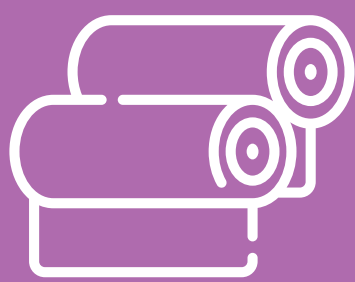
When passing where a large tamarind tree had died with only the main trunk remaining and because it was dusk and the terrain in this area was good, the group paused for a break. The next morning, they continued their journey until reaching Phu Kam Phara, but it appeared that Phrathat Phanom had already been completed. Therefore, they travelled back and intended to bring the relics back and enshrine them in their homeland, but when reaching the tamarind tree, it appeared that the dead tamarind



trunk was standing upright and sprouting lush green leaves, which was a miracle. The group summoned the Buddha's relics and decided to build a chedi here to cover this tamarind tree together with enshrining the relics and Buddha images inside, and gave the name "Phrathat Kham Kaen" as it is still called today.

Phrathat Kham Kaen is a chedi that is 10 metres high with a base in the shape of an inverted lotus. It has a square layout rising to the top that is golden tiered umbrella. The elemental body is in the shape of a lotus bud with 12 wooden recesses. On the east side, next to Phrathat Misim, or the old Ubosot, which was built with the Phrathat since ancient times is beautiful Lan Xang architecture. There are wooden stencils on the gable, gable apex, toothlike ridges on the sloping edges of the gable, and honeycomb pattern on the front façade. This is exquisite workmanship, and the walls around the Sim Gate have paintings by the villagers of a policeman as a gatekeeper holding a rifle.

At present, Phrathat Kham Kaen has been restored by the Fine Arts Department. There has been an improvement to paint the Phrathat and expand the four walls and decorate them with beautiful scenery.



Mudmee Silk Community Enterprise Group, Ban Hua Fai

Chonnabot, Khon Kaen



Mudmee Silk Community Enterprise Group, Ban Hua Fai

Chonnabot, Khon Kaen



Located at Po Daeng Subdistrict. It was initiated by a group of farmers' housewives in the community who joined together to establish the Mudmee Silk Community Enterprise, Ban Huai Fai. There are activities related to silk weaving, planting mulberry, the complete process of sericulture, safe vegetable growing activities, and mixed activities according to the royal initiative according to the philosophy of the sufficiency economy.

Mudmee silk here has a reputation for being accepted because of the sophistication of the weaving, especially the Khaen Kaen Khun pattern, which is the silk pattern of Khon Kaen province. There is also a unique Mudmee silk pattern of Ban Hua Fai, named the "Mi Nam Fong Khruea" pattern.



For further details contact, Tel. 08 3656 5644.



Hin Chang Si Viewpoint

Nong Ruea, Khon Kaen



Hin Chang Si Viewpoint

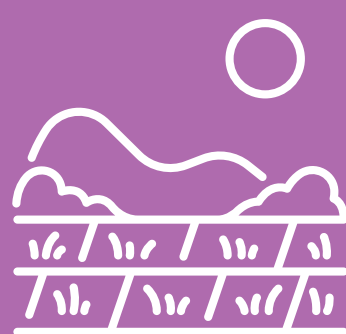
Nong Rueda, Khon Kaen



Located in Namphong National Park near the Ubol Ratana Dam, Ban Phue Subdistrict. It is a large group of rocks on the ridge of Soktae Forest Park. On the side of the rock, there are soil marks that elephants used to rub their body on the coloured rock. Hence, the origin of the name of the viewpoint. It takes about 2 hours on foot from the Park's office, or about 8 kilometres by car from the Soktae Forest Park. From this point, views of Ubol Ratana Dam and Khon Kaen city can be seen.



For further details contact, Tel. 0 4335 8074, 09 8206 2707 or Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Tel. 0 2562 0760-2.



Mikin Farm

Nong Ruea, Khon Kaen



Mikin Farm

Nong Ruea, Khon Kaen



Located at Chorakhe Subdistrict. It is an agricultural garden where a wide variety of vegetables and flowers are grown without the use of chemicals. There are also rice planting activities, where tourists can participate in rice farming, rice planting, rice harvesting, and the manure is used to make compost for agriculture. They can participate in a cooking and dessert activity that uses ingredients from the Farm's produce. There are also homestays available for tourist services.



Open Monday-Tuesday and Thursday-Sunday
(Closed Wednesday) 09.00-18.00 hrs.

For further details contact, Tel. 06 1695 9926.



Phu Pha Man National Park

Chum Phae, Khon Kaen



Phu Pha Man National Park

Chum Phae, Khon Kaen



Located in the Dong Lan Forest, Na Nong Thum Subdistrict. It has an area of 350 square kilometres covering the area of Phu Pha Man District and Chum Phae District, Khon Kaen Province and Phu Kradueng District, Loei Province.

The name of the Park comes from the name of a mountain range in the south of the Park with a steep cliff resembling a rectangle that looks like a large curtain. The forest here is also rich in evergreen and mixed forests, and the climate is cool and humid for most of the year. Because the tourist attractions within the Park are spread apart, there are 2 tourist routes:

Route 1

Tham Khang Khao (Bat Cave) is located on Phu Pha Man. The cliff in front is about 100 metres above ground level, and the mouth of the cave can be seen from a distance. When approaching, there is the pungent smell of bat droppings, and there are millions of tiny bats inside the cave. Every day in the evening, they fly out of the cave by flying in a colony that is 10 kilometres long. It takes about 30-45 minutes.



Tham Phra (Buddha Cave) is near Tham Khang Khao. It is possible to walk through to the top of Phu Pha Man, but the path is quite difficult. Inside the cave, there are large pillars and beautiful stalagmites and stalactites. The cave is accessible by car. It is suitable for travel in winter because in the rainy season, there will be moss on the rocks making it quite slippery.

Tham Phu Talo is located at Ban Wang Swap. Cars can only access in the dry season. It is a majestic cave and the ceiling has stalagmites and stalactites that are still in their natural state. The floor of the cave is smooth soil, and the air inside is cool. Some of the stones are similar to Hanuman's teeth.

Tat Fa Waterfall is a waterfall originating from Huai Tat Fa, which is the boundary of Amphoe Phu Pha Man, Khon Kaen province with Nam Nao Subdistrict, Phetchabun province. Cars can only access to Ban Tat Fa. After that, visitors have to walk. The waterfall has 5 levels, and the most beautiful level is the last one, which is about 80 metres high. In the rainy season, the Waterfall is the most beautiful.

Route 2

Tat Yai Waterfall is a large waterfall that originates from Huai Tat Fa. The levels are small with many levels before falling through a cliff that has a height of about 80 metres. It is the highest waterfall in the Park.



Tham Phaya Nakarat: Inside the cave there are stalagmites and stalactites that look like a veil-like curtain decorated with glittering scales. This cave is crooked like a serpent and is about 1 kilometre long.

Tham Lai Thaeng is about 800 metres from Tham Phaya Nakarat. There are different ancient paintings on the walls of the cave, e.g., people, animals, and others totalling 70 pictures. This represents the civilisation and life of the prehistoric people of more than 2,000 years ago.

There is also Tat Rong Waterfall, or as the villagers call it “Tat Hong Waterfall”, which is in Loei province between the boundaries of Phu Kradueng National Park, Phu Pha Man National Park, and Lam Nam Phong. It is a large waterfall about 80 metres high that is called Tat Rong Waterfall because the area under the waterfall has a large stone slab protruding to support the water like a large tongue. When the waterfall hits the stone slab and ricochets through the rock niches, it makes a loud rumbling sound throughout the forest.

Phu Pha Man National Park has accommodation, a camping area, and welfare shops for tourists.



Open daily 08.30-16.30 hrs.

Entrance Fee: adults 100 baht, children 50 baht

**For further details contact, Phuphaman Nation Park
Tel. 0 4300 1753 or Department of National Parks, Wildlife and
Plant Conservation Tel. 0 2562 0760-2 Website: www.dnp.go.th**



Wat Tham Saeng Tham

Si Chomphu, Khon Kaen



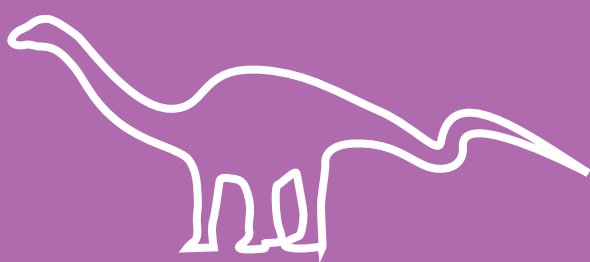
Wat Tham Saeng Tham

Si Chomphu, Khon Kaen



Located at Ban Phanumthiang, Dong Lan Subdistrict. The temple is built adjacent to a limestone mountain that are over 250 million years old. Phra Achan Sangiam or Luangpu began to improve the condition of the cave in 1998. Luang Pu came to reside in this cave during Buddhist Lent. and together with his disciples, relatives, laymen, and devotees improved the area outside and inside the cave by extracting large rocks and alternating them to be more stable by pouring concrete and using polished marble to be the residence and practice hall of the monks.

The interior of the temple is divided into 7 floors. Visitors have to walk up the stairs to go to the different floors. The important point of the temple is a replica of the Buddha's footprint that is enshrined on the 7th floor.



The Dinosaur Research Centre and Museum, or Phu Wiang Dinosaur Museum

Wiang Kao, Khon Kaen



The Dinosaur Research Centre and Museum, or Phu Wiang Dinosaur Museum

Wiang Kao, Khon Kaen



Located in Nai Muaeng Subdistrict within Wiang Kao District, Khon Kaen Province, Thailand. It was the site of the first discovery of dinosaur bones in the Phu Wiang District of Khon Kaen Province in 1976. The initial finding was a bone fragment approximately 1 foot long and wide, resembling a herbivorous dinosaur's thigh bone, indicating a large sauropod dinosaur around 15 meters long. Further exploration led to the discovery of various dinosaur species and other ancient remains like crocodile teeth, turtle shells, ancient fish teeth, and scales.



As a result, the Phu Wiang Dinosaur Museum was established to serve as a geological fossil and natural history museum. It is dedicated to the collection, preservation, and exhibition of fossils for educational and research purposes. The museum is organized into three main zones:

Zone A, Museum Garden: This section includes a photo-worthy checkpoint and the Dinosaur Field of Honor.

Zone B, Exhibition Hall: It features exhibition rooms covering topics such as the universe's birth, the evolution of living beings, global dinosaur stories, and the unique dinosaurs found in the Phu Wiang mountain range. Notably, it showcases the first dinosaur fossils discovered in Thailand and introduces five new genera of dinosaurs found in the area.

Zone C, Dinosaur Valley (Dino Valley): This zone offers an immersive experience, featuring a time-traveling water curtain, a Dinosaur Hunter Training School, a Rock Lab, a Simulated Excavation Pit, and the Trillion Year Rock Garden.



Open Tuesday-Sunday (Closed Monday) 09.30-16.30 hrs.

Entrance fee: adults 60 baht, children 30 baht

For further details contact, Tel. 0 4343 8206, 08 1846 2760, 08 1845 8628, or visit the website: www.dmr.go.th



Wat Tham Pha Keang

Wiang Kao, Khon Kaen



Wat Tham Pha Keang

Wiang Kao, Khon Kaen



Located at Nai Mueang Subdistrict, atop the lush mountains of Phu Wiang, which boast abundant forests. Within the temple grounds stands a large wooden pavilion used for religious activities. This pavilion is the result of the faith and devotion of the local villagers from Khok Nong Kham and nearby communities.

Inside the temple, there are several intriguing features. One notable attraction is a large statue of the mythical Naga, located at the entrance of the stairway leading to the temple terrace. Additionally, there is a large Buddha statue enshrined at the highest point of the temple. Within the temple's sanctuary, there is a replica of the meditation posture of the Buddha, modeled after the Emerald Buddha, which offers a sense of spiritual tranquility for visitors who come to meditate and seek blessings.



TAT Contact Center

Tourism Authority of Thailand (Head office)

1600 Phetchaburi Road, Makkasan,
Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400

Tel. 0 2550 5500 Fax 0 2253 7440

Website: www.tourismthailand.org

email: info@tat.or.th

Open every day from 08.30 – 16.30 hrs



Suvarnabhumi Airport

Domestic Terminal, Gate 3, 2nd Floor

Tel. 0 2134 0040

Open 24 hours

Don Mueang Airport

International Terminal (Building 1), Gate 2, 1st Floor

Tel. 0 2504 4301

Open 24 hours

TAT Khon Kaen Office

205/85 Klang Mueang Road, Tambon Nai Mueang
Mueang Khon Kaen, Khon Kaen 40000

Tel. 0 4322 7714-5

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Areas of Responsibility:

Khon Kaen, Roi Et, Kalasin, and Maha Sarakham.

