

AMAZING NEW CHAPTERS



Mae Hong Son



Mae Hong Son

Experience three seasons of swirling mist, scale sky-high Doi Kong Mu, explore lush forests and gaze out over golden lotus fields in the land of good-hearted people.

Mae Hong Son is one of the Thai provinces that borders Myanmar. Its landscape consists of a valley surrounded by mountains which stretch out parallel to Thongchai Road and the Laos border, along with diverse abundant forests. The area is covered by mist almost all year round, hence the name, "City of Three Mists."

There is a wealth of archaeological evidence that proves that the area was inhabited by humans dating back to prehistoric times or the Stone Age, approximately 7,000 to 4,500 years ago. Remains of plant seeds used as food, human skeletal remains, pottery fragments, and stone tools have been excavated in the area around the caves in Bang Ma Pa.

During the 24th and 25th centuries of the Buddhist era, there was a division of territories during the late western colonial period, resulting in the separation of the major Tai ethnic group villages in the Shan State within the Republic of the Union of Myanmar. This led to unrest, causing residents to relocate to various countries, particularly in the northern region of Thailand, where contiguous territories existed. This prominent Tai ethnic group migrated and sought refuge, dispersing throughout the entire province of Mae Hong Son over the course of the next century.

The plains are populated by both the Tai Yuan and Tai Lue ethnic groups. These groups mainly reside in the mountainous areas, and here you will find the Ka-erh-ying, Lawa, Musoe, Liso, Mong, Hmong, Pao, and other ethnic groups who later migrated to settle there. Each of the groups have managed to preserve their respective cultures and coexist peacefully, following the teachings of Buddhism, Christianity, and Islam.

Due to the surrounding mountains, traveling here can be quite challenging. The journey involves navigating through narrow, winding roads with a total of 1,864 curves. Despite the construction of secondary airports, most travelers still wish to experience the natural beauty of the mountains, the exquisite flowers, the charm of the people, and the rich traditional customs that have been passed down through generations. This includes sculptures along the mountain ridges and the architecture of numerous temples, as well as the distinctive elevated wooden houses, thatched roofs, indigenous attire known as "Tai costume", diverse cuisine, local languages, scripts, and vibrant folk dances, all of which contribute to the colorful atmosphere. The most important aspect, however, is the feeling of safety, which continues to captivate and impress visitors to the area.



Mae Hong Son Map





Wat Phrathat Doi Kong Mu

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



Wat Phrathat Doi Kong Mu

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



Located on Doi (Mount) Kong Mu, west of Mae Hong Son, was formerly known as Wat Plai Doi. This temple is considered an essential sanctuary of Mae Hong Son, and the highlights are the two lavishly decorated pagodas. The large pagoda, brought from Myanmar, was built by "Jong Tong Su" in 1860 and contained the relics of Phra Mokkhalana, the chief disciple of the Lord Buddha. The small pagoda was built in 1874 by Phraya Singhanatracha, the first governor of Mae Hong Son. From Wat Phrathat Doi Kong Mu hilltop, you are treated to an exceptional aerial view of the city and surrounding mountains and valleys. You can join the temple's religious festivals during New Year and Songkran each year. One of the highlights is Tak Bat Devo or Tak Bat Daowadung, alms offering tradition which takes place on Buddhist Lent Day.



Wat Chong Kham Wat Chong Klang

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



Wat Chong Kham Wat Chong Klang

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



“Wat Chong Kham” and “Wat Chong Klang” are a pair of ‘sibling’ temples, as they are located within the same walls, and both are symbols of Thai Yai culture. Apart from their artistic beauty, both temples serve as cultural and traditional centers for the people of Mae Hong Son. The front area is a public garden called Nong Chong Kham, used as a venue for various ceremonial and cultural activities according to different traditions.



Wat Chong Kham, an old temple on the bank of the swamp Nong Chong Kham, was built in 1827 by Tai Yai artisans and got its name from its pillars gilded in gold leaves. The exceptional Tai Yai art of the temple comprises a castle-shaped roof due to the belief that the high court is a monarch's residence or a place for a religious representative. The temple houses a giant Buddha statue of Luang Por To with a lap width of 4.85 metres cast by Burmese craftsmen. Another Buddha statue replicates Phra Si Sakyamuni (Luang Pho To), the Buddha image in Wat Suthat in Bangkok.

Wat Chong Klang, next to Wat Chong Kham, is a temple where a replica of the gilded brass Phra Phuttha Sihing is installed on an altar. There are paintings on glassplates of the Vessantara Jataka and the history of the Buddha, as well as pictures depicting people's lives at that time. Most images have captions in Burmese and are recorded as the work of a Tai Yai craftsman from Mandalay. Wat Chong Klang also makes room for a museum exhibiting wooden figurines of humans and animals brought from Burma in 1857.



Open daily 8.00 – 18.00 hrs.



Pha Bong Hot Springs

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



Pha Bong Hot Springs

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



At Ban Pha Bong, about 10 kilometres from the city, are sulfur hot springs with a recreational park open to the public. There are private hot spring rooms at 50 baht per hour and shared rooms (maximum 10 people) at 400 baht per hour. In addition to hot spring rooms, there is also Thai massage services, camping grounds, and restaurants are available for tourists.



Open daily 8.00 – 17.00 hrs.

Free of charge

For further details contact, Tel. 0 5368 6033



Su Tong Pe Bridge, Tham Phu Sama Park

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



Su Tong Pe Bridge, Tham Phu Sama Park

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



It is Thailand's longest bamboo bridge, approximately 500 metres long, connecting Tham Phu Sama Park and Ban Kung Mai Sak. The villagers, monks, and novices built this charming bridge across paddy fields and the Mae Sa Nga River so that the monks could easily traverse each morning on their walks to receive alms in Ban Kung Mai Sak. Materials used to construct this bridge included old house pillars and fence posts from devoted villagers. The bridge was completed and was named "Su Tong Pe," in the Tai Yai dialect, meaning "successful prayers." It is considered the focal point of the Mae Hong Son people's faith and is popular among tourists who wish to experience the beauty of nature and the constantly changing seasonal landscape.



Tham Pla-Pha Suea National Park

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



Tham Pla-Pha Suea National Park

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



In Mueang Mae Hong Son and Pang Mapha Districts, covers an area of approximately 488 square kilometres. The terrain is a complex mountain range consisting of hilly evergreen forests, pine forests, mixed deciduous forests, and deciduous dipterocarp forests.

Interesting places in the park include:

Tham Pla, in Ban Huai Pha, Huai Pha Subdistrict, is one of Mae Hong Son's most popular attractions. The surrounding areas feature streams and cool, hilly forests suitable for relaxation. A special feature is a hollow cave, about 2 metres wide and 1.50 metres deep, filled with numerous fresh-water fish known as "Pla Mung" or "Pla Kang" is a type of fish belonging to the same family as the carp. It has a sizable body,

black in color, and large scales. These fish, believed by many to be sacred, live together in shoals and swim together with the current. Locals and tourists often feed them vegetables or fruits throughout the year. The surrounding area of their pond is shaped into a shady public garden.

Pha Suea Waterfall is located in Mok Cham Pae Subdistrict, on Highway 1095 (Mae Hong Son - Pai route) at Km. 191; follow the route to Pang Tong Palace. This is a medium-sized waterfall, approximately 10 metres high and 15 metres wide, with its water source stemming from Mae Sa Nga Waterfall in Myanmar. In the rainy season, the stream covering a wide rock cliff that resembles a mat, runs at full capacity. The best time for visting is between August and September.

Mae Sa Nga Klang Wasterfall is a beautiful waterfall with more abundantly flowing water than Namtok Pha Suea, mainly due to the fact that its source of water flows down from Pha Suea and Mae Saga Dam. This waterfall's white stream cascades over a rocky cliff face, creating a memorable image of water droplets splashing in the sunlight. To visit Mae Sa Nga Klang Waterfall, go down through the Mae Sa Nga Hydroelectric Power Plant, park your car at the ridge of the dam, and continue on foot for 1 kilometre until you reach this verdant spot.

The Buddha's Hand and Footprint Cave Inside has features stones in shapes like the Buddha's footprint and his hand. To explore the dark cave, visitors should bring a flashlight.



Entrance fee: adults 100 baht, children 50 baht

Accommodation and facilities: Accommodation Reservation contact, the Tham Pla-Pha Suea National Park, Tel. 0 5361 9036, 0 5369 2055 or the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, Bangkok, Tel. 0 2562 0760 or visit www.dnp.go.th



Ban Rak Thai

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



Ban Rak Thai

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



Ban Rak Thai or Ban Mae O is the last village before reaching the Thai-Myanmar border, situated 44 kilometres from Mae Hong Son, via Namtok Pha Suea in Mok Cham Pae Subdistrict. Most of the villagers here escaped from southern China during the emergence of the communist regime. Apart from a beautiful lake, tourists can explore the way of life and Chinese culture, which still exhibits many traditions in terms of both spoken and written language. The distinguishing feature of the Ban Rak Thai village houses is the old-style materials that were used in construction: namely clay mixed with rice straw. You can also enjoy traditional Yunnan foods and taste delicious teas of the many top varieties which are on sale in the village, including Qing Qing tea and Oolong.



Pang Tong Royal Development Project 2 or Pang Ung

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



Pang Tong Royal Development Project 2 or Pang Ung

Mueang Mae Hong Son, Mae Hong Son



Is located at Ban Ruam Thai. “Ung”, in the northern Thai dialect means a lowland wetland. The area is famous for the two and three-needle pine trees which line the edges of the vast reservoir, which is in turn encircled by lush mountains. Due to its splendid scenery, this place is often referred to as ‘the Switzerland of Thailand, the land of three mists. Pang Ung’. The area was formerly used as an illegal opium planting area for hill tribes, but has now been converted into an interesting destination for nature-lovers, as many different plants and herbs suitable for traditional Thai medicine are grown here. Due to its cool climate, the village is



typically decorated with colourful winter flowers. There are also aquaculture ponds to conserve endangered animals such as Khat Laewo or tiny green frogs, which are on the brink of extinction.



Accommodation and facilities: Accommodation Reservation contact, Pang Ung Royal Development Project Tel. 0 5361 1244

Homestays and camping pitches contact, Tham Pla National Park - Pha Suea Waterfall Tel. 08 2191 1647

For further details contact, Tel. 0 5369 2056, 0 5368 1740



Tham Lot Nature Study Centre

Pang Mapha, Mae Hong Son



Tham Lot Nature Study Centre

Pang Mapha, Mae Hong Son



Is located in Tham Lot Subdistrict, about 77 kilometres from the city of Mae Hong Son. It is an important archaeological site under the administration of the Lum Nam Pai Wildlife Sanctuary. There is an interesting cave called “Tham Nam Lot,” where the Nam Lang creek runs from the cave mouth to the other side of the mountain, resulting in beautiful formations of stalagmites and stalactites. The discovery of ancient tools and utensils at the site proved that the cave is around 2000 years in age. Inside the cave, about 1-kilometre long, consists of three huge rooms, called by different names. “Tham Sao Hin Luang” is a large cave full of beautiful stalactites and stalagmites. The most prominent feature is a few large limestone pillars of up to 20 metres.



“Tham Tukkata,” the most expansive and longest cave in Tham Nam Lot, is lined with small stalagmites, shaped like dolls of different sizes. There are distinctive prehistoric paintings in red and black colours on one side of the wall, something which is rare in Thailand.

The last cavern on the exit side is called “Tham Phi Man.”, which besides having beautiful stalagmites and stalactites, has also offered up remnants of earthenware, grains, stone tools, human teeth, and even bones. Various sizes of “Men’s Coffins” or wooden troughs for feeding pets lie inside the room. The large coffins are placed on beams using 4-6 columns to anchor them to the ground. Each pair of pillars has a cavity so the beams can be inserted and placed over the men’s coffins.



Due to the exotic subterranean wonder of darkness and mystery of the cave, visitors require a skilled navigator equipped with a storm lantern to guide them through, and these are available at a charge of 150 baht per navigator/group. The walking tour is divided into two sessions; visiting Tham Sao Hin Luang and Tham Tukkata and then visiting Tham Phi Man. Tham Lot Nature Study Centre **open daily 8.00 – 17.00 hrs.**

Accommodation and facilities: The centre offer lodges and campgrounds.

For further details contact, the service unit within the Tham Lot Nature Study Centre, Tel. 0 5361 7218



Ban Chabo Community

Pang Mapha, Mae Hong Son



Ban Chabo Community

Pang Mapha, Mae Hong Son



Is a village on a 900 metres hill surrounded by a limestone mountain range. The people of Ban Jabo carry out their daily lives engaged in a griculture and animal husbandry. Visitors will find Tham Phi Man standing on a cliff and visitors can explore its prehistoric mysteries and the wondrous sight of multiple wooden coffins inside the cave's hollow.

Ban Jabo received the award for Community Tourism Management in 2017. It operates as an ecotourism community, organizing tourism in a systematic way for tourists to learn about the Lahu culture. When visiting, you can observe various manifestations of the Lahu tribe's culture – dances, handicrafts, weaving, blade smithery, and much more besides. You can also stay overnight with a Lahu family and learn about self-sufficiency farming, shifting cultivation, and herb plantation. It is recommended to visit Ban Bo Krai, Tham Tong Ko, and make your way up to the viewpoint.



For further details contact, Ms. Sornchai Prainetitham
Tel. 080 677 5794



Boon Kho Ku Sui Bridge

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Boon Kho Ku Sui Bridge

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Located in Pam Bok Village in Thung Yao Subdistrict, is about 10 kilometres from Pai City. It is a bamboo bridge that winds through the rice fields with a beautiful mountain range as a backdrop. “Kho Ku Sui” is the name given to the bridge by local Tai Yai people, “Kho” meaning a bridge, and “Koo Sui” meaning merit. The bridge was established by Phra Ajarn Sakhon Jaruthammo, who looked after the Khai Khiri Buddhist Monk Group, aiming to connect with nearby Pam Bok Village, creating a route for monks to make alms in the village and for villagers to make merit at the temple. Built in 2016, the structures of this 815-metres bridge is made of concrete and steel, but clad almost entirely in bamboo. The bridge, snaking through the rice fields to link the clergy and the community, is one of Mae Hong Son’s longest and most beautiful bamboo bridges.



Suntichon Village

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Suntichon Village

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Is a village of Chinese immigrants close to Wat Nam Hu, about 5 kilometres from Pai District. It is a tourist destination offering the preserved unique cultures of Yunnan, such as traditional clothing and language. Travellers enjoy visiting the village for a banquet of Yunnan Chinese food and lunchtime and the community is also home to the Yunnan Chinese Cultural Centre, Ban Santichon.



There are accomodations and souvenirs available.

For further details contact, Mr. Bunlo Lorariyawat Tel. 081 024 3982



Yun Lai Viewpoint

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Yun Lai Viewpoint

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Is the most stunning spot to watch the morning mist and the sunrise in Pai, with hot tea being served to welcome in the golden morning. From the balcony, visitors can observe the sea of mists that blankets the surrounding mountain range and the incredible landscape of Pai city. The most popular activities here include love locks, couples writing their names on heart-shaped labels, and hanging them on the six pine trees, the number 6 standing for good fortune or eternal love in Chinese. If you wish to stay overnight at the viewpoint, there are several earth-house resorts and camping grounds with a pair of crane paintings to convey the meaning of everlasting love for visiting couples.



Wat Sri Don Chai

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Wat Sri Don Chai

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Also known as Wat Luang Sari Bua Ban, is the first temple of Pai District, aged over 700 years old. It is located in Wiang Nuea Subdistrict in Mae Hong Son. The temple houses Phra Buddha Sihing (Phra Singh Pai), the Buddha image in Chiang Saen Singh style, which also happens to be the oldest Buddha image in Pai, aged over 800 years old.



Pai Canyon or Kong Laen

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Pai Canyon or Kong Laen

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Located at Ban Rong Yeng in Mae Hi Subdistrict, this geographical formation has been shaped by wind and water. Rainwater has eroded the rock cliffs and soil on the slopes, resulting in collapses or landslides that have led to deep gullies and channels forming. Some parts have collapsed to form steep, deep chasms. The area is vast, similar to the Grand Canyon, covering more than 7.5 acres. The top section is a narrow, flat ridge that can be traversed by just one person at a time. There are viewpoints that offer panoramic views of the sea of mist in the morning as it rolls over a backdrop of forest and mountain, with houses and lush green fields below. The sunset is equally spellbinding and, if you can bear the scorching sun during the midday hours, there are some incredible opportunities for landscape photography.

The term “Kong Lan” originates from the local language and refers to the narrow path or trail that’s only passable by small, agile creatures like the silver and gold ants, and is given because this area has extremely narrow pathways where only tiny animals can navigate. Walking along these narrow and steep paths is possible even without barriers or fences

Kong Lan offers an exhilarating walk for visitors but those walking here should also show caution as the loose, dry soil underfoot can easily cause accidents. Those wishing to make the journey should wear suitable footwear.



Getting there: Kong Lan lies 7 kilometres from the Pai District and you can get there by taking route 1095 (Pai - Mae Malai). At around 90 km., you will notice a sign for Kong Lan on the right-hand side. Here, you can park and make the final 200 metres of the journey on foot.



Pai Walking Street

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Pai Walking Street

Pai, Mae Hong Son



This busy street is situated on Chaisongkram Road, Wiang Tai Subdistrict, near the Pai District Office and approximately 10 kilometers away from the historical Pai River Bridge. Tourists who bring their own vehicles can park at Wat Luang and walk the short distance to the street.

Originally, this area was a small market for the Pai community. It began with hill tribe people and local villagers bringing their products to sell to tourists. Later, more traders show up to claim their spots and sell their goods. Many Thai and foreign tourists visit the area, and the Pai District recently collaborated with the relevant agencies to make Chaisongkram Road a pedestrian only zone from the District Office to the Pai River, transforming it into a bustling walking street.

During the hot and rainy seasons, it's held only on Fridays and Saturdays, whereas during the winter it's open every day.



Huai Nam Dang National Park

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Huai Nam Dang National Park

Pai, Mae Hong Son



Covers approximately 1,252 square kilometres of two provinces; Mae Taeng and Wiang Haeng Districts in Chiang Mai and Pai District in Mae Hong Son. The topography consists of craggy mountains, with the highest of the peaks being Doi Chang. The Huai Nam Dang National Park is the source of many streams of various sizes.

Places of interest in the park include:

The viewpoint at Huai Nam Dang (Doi Kiew Lom), Kuet Chang Subdistrict in Mae Taeng District, is the location of the Watershed Development Unit 2 (Huai Nam Dang). It offers spectacular sunrises and mist-shrouded mountain views in the morning.

Pong Dueat Pa Pae Hot Spring is a large geyser-type hot spring with a very high temperature and pressure at the same time, and which constantly shoots out water to a height of about 2 metres. A lush green



nature trail from the park's front edge to the hot springs, clocking in at approximately 1,550 metres, loops around the fertile forest. There are accommodation, campgrounds, and mineral baths in the national park are available.



Entrance fee: adults 300 baht, children 150 baht

Accommodation and facilities: The park offer 8 cabins for travellers at 2,000 baht each. Tents and beddings are available for rent.

For further details contact, Huai Nam Dang National Park
Tel. 0 5324 8491 or Department of National Parks, Wildlife and
Plant Conservation Tel. 0 2562 0760 or visit www.dnp.go.th.



Namtok Mae Surin National Park

Khun Yuam, Mae Hong Son



Namtok Mae Surin National Park

Khun Yuam, Mae Hong Son



Was given national park status on 29 October 1981, as the 37th national park in Thailand. This natural wonder, which encompassed the Mueang Mae Hong Son and Khun Yuam Districts, covers an area of 98,002 acres.

Interesting places in the park include:

The Wildlife and Plants Preservation Project next to the national park office is a project honouring Her Majesty Queen Sirikit, Thailand's Queen Mother. Besides being the centre and nursery for wild animals and collecting endangered plants, it is also an important site for public recreation in the area.

Mae Surin Waterfall in Ban Mae Surin, Mae Yuam Noi Subdistrict, is a huge single-level waterfall cascading down 80 metres into a pool below.

Doi Pui Peak, situated in Ban Huai Hee, Huai Pu Ling Subdistrict, is a mountain peak that reaches a height of 1,722 metres. The appearance is that of a plateau covered with meadows, pine forests, and evergreen forests, quite similar to Phu Kradueng. In summer, the fields of flowers come into full bloom in a riot of vibrant colour. The Huai Mae Sakuet trekking route runs parallel to the lake, which is inhabited by feathered friends who relish the cool, shady climate. Visitors must contact the park officers for guidance around the area.

Nong Khiaw is a flat mountain ridge area entirely blanketed with green grass, with a large natural inlet. Setting out from Namtok Mae Surin, the 12 kilometres gravel road, open only in the dry season, will lead you to the scenic spot at Nong Khiaw.



Entrance fee: adults 200 baht, children 100 baht

Accommodation and facilities: The park provide 7 lodges and camping grounds at the site.

For further details contact, Namtok Mae Surin National Park Tel. 0 5306 1073 or the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Tel. 0 2562 0760 or visit www.dnp.go.th.



Bua Tong Fields at Doi Mae U Kho

Khun Yuam, Mae Hong Son



Bua Tong Fields at Doi Mae U Kho

Khun Yuam, Mae Hong Son



Located in Mae U Kho Subdistrict, is under the responsibility of the Protected Areas Regional Office 16 Mae Sariang Branch. A paved road leads to a panoramic view of the hills, which cover 1.6 square kilometres, and the area is covered in swathes of bright yellow Dok Bua Tong (wild sunflowers) blooms from November to December. There are also tents available for rent at the campsite on the mountain, which has space for approximately 100 tents, and several restaurants to serve tourists.



For further details contact, Khum Yuam District Office
Tel. 0 5369 1108 or Namtok Mae Surin National Park
Tel. 0 5306 1073



Ban Mueang Pon

Khun Yuam, Mae Hong Son



Ban Mueang Pon

Khun Yuam, Mae Hong Son



Is situated on Highway 108 (Khun Yuam-Mae La Noi route), about 13 kilometres from the district's centre. You can visit the village, starting from Wat Ban Mueang Pon, which features Tai Yai art, traditional Tai Yai houses, and offers an authentic experience of the villagers' way of life, including costume making, basketry, and their authentic cuisine.



Homestay accommodation and food: 250 baht/person/night

For further details contact, Tel. 0 5368 0900, 0 5368 4648



Phu Chi Phoe

Khun Yuam, Mae Hong Son



Phu Chi Phoe

Khun Yuam, Mae Hong Son



Located in the Watershed Management Unit of Mae Yod near Bua Tong Fields at Doi Mae U Kho. It is 1,818 metres above sea level, and it takes 30 to 45 minutes to reach the location on a 1 kilometre walking trail. Phu Chi Phoe is something of a hidden gem, only recently gaining a level of popularity amongst tourists. From the vantage point near the peak, you will fall in love with the sunrise shots and the mist that spreads across the rolling hills and mountains. The elevated view also gives you a chance to witness the vibrant yellow Bua Tong Fields from a unique angle during the blooming season.



Ban Dong

Mae La Noi, Mae Hong Son



Ban Dong

Mae La Noi, Mae Hong Son



Ban Dong, or as it's known in the Lawa language, "Yuang Nong," means a village surrounded dense evergreen forests. Originally, Ban Dong was home to the Karen hill tribes. Later, in around 1887, the Lawa hill tribe migrated from other villages and mingled with the existing Karen. As the population increased, the residents elected a village leader, the election being won by a Lawa Candidate, which inevitably led to a conflict between the two tribes. Following the conflict, the Karen people decided to leave the village and it has remained in the hands of the Lawa right up to the present day.

Ban Dong's highlights are its bountiful nature, and its attractions include the community forests, water sources, and landscaped rice terraces, which offer the best paddy views from July to October. The best time to visit the community forest, however, is from December to April. Travellers can visit the spirit shrine of the village, Sao Sa Kang, in November, but only on the condition that no one is allowed to go in and out of the town for two days during the ritual. Visitors can explore the local way of life all year round; and check out rice terrace farming, cotton and wool weaving, basketry, greenhouse, high-altitude fruit farming, etc.



Tham Kaew Komol

Mae La Noi, Mae Hong Son



Tham Kaew Komol

Mae La Noi, Mae Hong Son



On 19 February 2001, Her Majesty Queen Sirikit The Queen Mother paid a visit to Tham Kaew Komol and was suitably impressed. She bestowed it with the name “Kaew Komol,” meaning “The Cave of Beautiful Crystals.”

This cave is situated in the area of Doi Tham Mountain at Moo 14, Ban Huai Mafai, Mae La Noi sub -district. Inside the 5-roomed cave, the walls and ceiling contain calcite crystals in various geometric shapes. Upon closer inspection these crystals are similar to ice crystals with fine white particles, much like snow. You can also get a glimpse of sugar or quartz crystals that clump together like corals, curtains, and even lampshades. Moreover, the cave’s crystal ceiling has grown out into a series of perfectly formed columns. Walking in and out of the cave takes about 20 minutes.



Open daily 8.30 – 16.30 hrs. Closed during the rainy season, which falls between June-September.



Wat Si Bunrueang

Mae Sariang, Mae Hong Son



Wat Si Bunrueang

Mae Sariang, Mae Hong Son



Located near Wat Chong Sung, the temple was built in 1907, originally named “Wat Mak Kaeng” in the Tai Yai language, but later changed into “Wat Si Bunrueang” in 1947. The unique architecture of the Ubosot consists of openwork patterns in Tai Yai style. The temple has a notably large Pavilion built in Tai Yai architectural style, with superimposed roofs: Inside, there are the mural paintings depicting the story of the Lord Buddha created by Burmese craftsmen. It enshrines the principal Buddha image in Burmese style, opening to visitors occasionally. In 2006, the white jade Buddha image was carved in Mandalay in Myanmar, then brought to Wat Si Bunrueang in Thailand to celebrate the occasion of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great’s becoming the world’s longest-reigning monarch



Salawin National Park

Mae Sariang, Mae Hong Son



Salawin National Park

Mae Sariang, Mae Hong Son



Is located on the banks of the Salween River, which separates Thailand and Myanmar's borders. Its territory covers an area of approximately 450,950 rai of Mae Yuam forestland on the right side and Salween forest in Sao Hin, Ban Kat, Mae Khong, Mae Yuam Subdistricts in Mae Sariang District, and Mae Sam Lap Subdistrict in Sop Moei District. It was declared a national park of Thailand on 9 November 1994.

Areas for boat trips in the national park include:

Ban Mae Sam Laep in Sop Moei District is about 46 kilometres from Mae Sariang District, overlooking the Salween River and Myanmar. You can reach the village via public buses, which depart from Mae Sariang hourly between 7.00-15.00 hrs. Ban Mae Sam Laep is a riverside village and a thriving community for its Thai, Burmese, and Indian residents. This area was a bustling cross-border trade point in the past but is now far quieter due to border issues. Tourists should inquire about tourism safety and request access to the area from the park office.



Cruising along the Salween River is possible and you can board the boat in front of the Ban Mae Sam Laep Health Centre, which takes you to Sop Moei -- the intersection where the Moei River meets the Salween River. The round-trip cruise, along the river down to the south, takes about 1 hour on a long-tail boat and costs around 1,000 baht. Visitors can contact the national park for accommodation at Ban Mae Sam Laep.

Ban Tha Ta Fang: The cruise takes about 30 minutes and costs about 750 baht. From Ban Mae Sam Laep, go north through Ban Si Mu Tha and Ban Mae Po. Ban Tha Ta Fang bears beautiful scenery with the highlight being a stretch of sandy beach about 200 metres long. Tourists can contact the national park for accommodation.



Entrance fees: adults 200 baht, children 100 baht

Accommodation and facilities: The park have accommodation services. Visitors should bring their camping equipment if they intend to stay in a tent.

For further details contact, the Salawin National Park
Tel. 0 5307 1429, 08 1366 7356 or the Department of National
Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Tel. 0 2562 0760 or visit
www.dnp.go.th.



Gloselo Sea of Mists Viewpoint

Sop Moei, Mae Hong Son



Gloselo Sea of Mists Viewpoint

Sop Moei, Mae Hong Son



Located in the village of Gloselo in Mae Sam Laep Subdistrict, is a quiet little village established in line with the border security strategy. It is a perfect vantage point to witness the beauty of the mists blanketing the two countries of Thailand and Myanmar, enclosed by lush, complex mountains. The entire community is located in the Salawin National Park. Most of the population here are from the Karen ethnic group, making a living from agriculture and shifting cultivation.



Doi Phu Kho

Sop Moei, Mae Hong Son



Doi Phui Kho

Sop Moei, Mae Hong Son



Doi Phui Kho or Doi Phui is located at Ban Um Da Nuea, Mae Khatuan Subdistrict, about 10 kilometres from Sop Moei District Office. Featuring beautiful sceneries of the sea of mists in 360 degrees, Doi Phui Kho is an ideal viewpoint for tourists to glimpse both sunrise and sunset.



To get there, it takes about 40 minutes on foot to make your way along the 850 metre long trail. The best time to visit is between January and February, when golden grass fields are in sight. Visitors should be sure to prepare food and drink as shops and restaurants are not available at the summit.

For further details contact, Mae Khatuan Subdistrict Administrative Organisation, Tel. 0 5368 7154-3



TAT CONTACT CENTER

TOURISM AUTHORITY OF THAILAND (HEADQUARTERS)

1600 Phetchaburi Road, Makkasan,

Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400

Tel. 1672 and 0 2250 5500

Fax 0 2253 7440

www.tourismthailand.org

email: info@tat.or.th

Open every day from 08.30 to 16.30 hrs.



Suvarnabhumi Airport

Gate 3, Level 2, Arrivals Hall

Tel. 0 2134 0040

Open 24 hours daily

Don Mueang Airport

Gate 2, Level 1, Arrivals Hall (Terminal 1)

Tel. 0 2504 4301

Open 24 hours daily.

TAT Mae Hong Son Office

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