



amazing  
THAILAND

# Phetchaburi





# Phetchaburi

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**A city of monks, magical art and Dharma  
where the majestic Khao Wang looks down  
over shimmering seas**

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Phetchaburi has existed in some form ever since the Dvaravati era and there is evidence to support this in historical records and archaeological finds, as well as cultural traces that can still be found in some of the communities currently residing in the province. Examples of this evidence include objects of worship found around Nong Prong in Khao Yoi district, and the settlements in Nong Phra, Noen Pho Yai, Noen Din Daeng, Wat Pa Pan temple in Ban Lat district, as well as in Khao Krajiw in Tha Yang province, Thung Settee in Cha-am district and in the Tham Chak Hin area on the eastern bank of the Phetchaburi River.

Aside from this, the communities that exist close to the river have also been influenced by Cambodia culture, and this is clearly exhibited in the remains of square-walled fortresses and the Bayon-style items of worship found in and around Wat Kamphaeng Laeng, which date back to the 18-19<sup>th</sup> Buddhist Century.

During the Sukhothai era, it was recorded on the ancient stone steles that Phetchaburi was one of the most important cities during that time, especially with Wat Mahathat temple being situated on the banks of the river Phetchaburi. During the Ayutthaya period, foreign nationals that visited the province, including those from Portugal and France, described Phetchaburi as being a vital port on Siam's eastern side, as well as admiring the temples and elegant wooden housing that existed there.



# Phetchaburi

Later on, during the Rattanakosin era, three of Thailand's most revered monarchs developed a particular fondness for the province and sanctioned the construction of three royal palaces, namely Phra Nakhon Khiri (by King Rama 4), Phra Ram Rachaniwet or Wang Ban Puen (By King Rama V) and finally Mrigadayavan Palace (By King Rama VI)

# Map of Phetchaburi







# Phra Nakhon Khiri (Khao Wang)

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi





## Phra Nakhon Khiri (Khao Wang)

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi



This ancient site sits atop three separate peaks, the tallest of which, known as 'Khao Samon' by locals, reaches 95 metres above sea level. King Rama 4 sanctioned the construction of these palaces, which at the time acted as fortresses, and they were completed in 1887 and named Phra Nakhon Khiri, although the area quickly became known as 'Khao Wang' by the Phetchaburi locals. The site is made up of the palace, temple and several other buildings serving a variety of purposes, most of which are built in a neoclassical architectural style with Chinese influences.

The central peak is home to Phra That Chom Phet, a 40-metre tall, white-roofed stupa which houses Buddhist relics and offers great views down over the other palaces and the sprawling Phetchaburi city.

The flat area just below the eastern peak is home to the Wat Maha Samanaram temple, which was built in the Ayutthaya era and features chapel walls decorated with the paintings of famed Thai artist Khrua In Khong, while the peak itself houses Wat Phra Kaeo, the most regularly used temple in the complex. Wat Phra Kaeo features a small chapel constructed in marble with a pagoda to the rear and a small, square bell tower to the fore.



The western peak is home to the Phet Phumpiroj, Pramote Mahai Sawan and Wetchayan Wichian Prasart, Ratchatham Sapha and Santhakarasathan throne halls, the Chatchawan Wiang Chai tower and the Phiman Phetmahet Hall

Aside from this, there are garages, stables, kitchens, and various pavilions, as is customary with Thai palaces. The palaces are protected by fortress battlements on all four sides and the National Phra Nakhon Khiri Museum is located on the west flank. This museum contains ancient artefacts such as royal articles used by King Rama IV and King Rama V, bronze and metal decorative items and tiles from China, Japan and Europe.



**Open daily 08.30 – 16.30 hrs.**

**Entrance fee :** 150 baht/person. (Including museum entrance)  
There's also a cable car leading up to the palace with a fee of 50 baht return/person or 15 baht for children under 90 cm in height.

**For further details contact,** Tel. 0 3242 5600/ 0 3242 8539 (for cable car)







# Phetchaburi Riverside Cultural Tourism Community

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi





# Phetchaburi Riverside Cultural Tourism Community

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi



This community on the banks of the Phetchaburi River came into being when three separate local groups, namely Khlong Krachaeng, Talat Rim Nam and Wat Ko, merged together due to a common way of life. Despite merging, the groups retained most of their culture and traditions and the museum, murals, cuisine and local wisdom help to keep it alive.

The community around the temple has a rich history for visitors to explore with interwoven elements of both Chinese and Thai culture reflected in the temples, shrines, vegetarian food hall and residential housing as well as the myriad of architectural styles from different eras found here.

The Talat Rim Nam community features rows of wooden housing and most of the residents have traditionally made a living from market trading or cooking and selling rare Thai sweets and snacks for decades now. Visitors here will notice some striking street art adorning the walls as they explore the community, and all of the pieces were created by local Phetchaburi artists.

The Khlong Krachaeng community is an ancient community which has welcomed modern aspects into its midst, with authentic restaurants and coffee shops adding to the contemporary atmosphere.



**For further details contact, Tel. 08 6799 4851**  
Khun Papankorn Janyong 06 2463 5464.





# Wat Yai Suwannaram

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi





## Wat Yai Suwannaram

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi



Located beside the Phongsuriya Rd, this temple was originally built during the Ayutthaya period and later restored by His Holiness the Supreme Patriarch. The site includes a wooden building which was sanctioned by Phra Chao Suea of Ayutthaya to act as a sacred 'Kan Parian' pavilion. The doors are decorated with the popular 'Lai Kanok' Thai motifs and finished with golden bars and inside there is a pulpit and movable throne engraved with intricate golden designs. The pavilion is of great historical significance and was an important site during the Ayutthaya era. King Rama VII also elevated Wat Yai Suwannaram to the status of royal monastery during his reign.

There are numerous important locations inside the temple, including the ordination chapel with 400-year-old wall murals depicting the lives of Buddha and various deities. The windowpanes are decorated with pictures of guardian spirits and the doors show images of the first foreign visitors to the city of Ayutthaya. The main Buddha image enshrined here is depicted in the attitude of subduing Mara and the Pra Khantarat Buddha image to the rear was created with 6 fingers and ordered to the temple by King Rama V. There is also a small Thai-style scripture hall surrounded by water with a concrete stupa and a Buddha image placed on top, and another larger two-storey scripture hall with a balcony area, an ornately decorated roof structure, gables and beams featuring Thai 'Kanok' designs and an impressive bell tower.





# Wat Koi

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi





## Wat Koi

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi



Standing on Sirirattya Rd, it is estimated that the temple was constructed somewhere towards the end of the Ayutthaya period. The Phra That Chimphli Sethi Nawakoti relic was subsequently added, and the site was declared a site of Buddhist art. The base of the relic is 18 metres square and reaches a height of 27 metres spread over three floors. Visitors, however, are only permitted to enter the first floor where they will find a trio of Buddha images: Phra Puttasetee Ming Monkol, the silver Phra Pratan and Phra PutthaSetee Nawa Koti.

The outside of the temple is adorned with images, there are 'Thep Panom' designs carved into the stonework and the wooden doors are decorated with images depicting the mythical Himmaman Forest from Buddhist lore and the guardian deities for each of the seven days of the week. The inner walls are covered with murals depicting events from Buddhist history, while the outer walls of the second storey display ornate 'Chimphli' markings with brass tiers in the 'Kao Yot' formation. The inside is mostly teak wood and there are four Buddha images housed inside; one on each wall and the third floor consists of a pointed roof with a golden cap which covers the mobile throne.





# Wat Mahathat Worawihan

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi





## Wat Mahathat Worawihan

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi



Standing on the banks of the Phetchaburi River, just 500 metres from the city pillar, this temple features a five-spired stupa built from distinctive red stone and a chapel and pavilion decorated with distinctive ornate stone carvings created by local artisans from Phetchaburi. There are also images of three revered monks housed inside: Luang Pho Wat Maha That, Luang Pho Ban Laem and Luang Pho Wat Khao Takraw, and locals often visit to pay respects and ask for blessings.





**Wat Phlap Phla Chai**  
Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi





## Wat Phlap Phla Chai

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi



This ancient temple, dating back to the latter stages of the Ayutthaya period stands near the heart of Phetchaburi city. It became renowned through venerable monk Luang Pho Ritt who was a major figure in the cultural, artistic, educational, and literary resurgence of the period and the founder of the famous Wat Phlap Phla shadow theatre group. The rear of the temple, facing the Khlong Krachaeng road features some great examples of craftsmanship, including the ornate engravings in the chapel and stonework from top Phetchaburi artisans, around the doors, windows and gables. The inside of the chapel is also home to a shadow puppetry museum with a collection of century-old puppets on the show.





# Saiyat Temple (Reclining Buddha Image)

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi





## Saiyat Temple (Reclining Buddha Image)

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi



Located on the Sirirattaya Rd, Khlong Krachaeng subdistrict, it's estimated that this temple was built during the Ayutthaya era and its home to a reclining Buddha image which measures around 43 metres in length and is raised on a 1-metre-tall platform. The Buddha's feet are adorned with gold decorations depicting various scenes including castles, Brahma, laymen giving alms, elephants and fish and various types of fans and flowers. The Buddha image, one of the largest of its type in Thailand, was originally situated outdoors before the roof and surrounding walls were added for protection from the elements.

The temple is made up of the 'Phra Phuttachai' chapel, whose walls and ceilings are adorned with murals depicting the Buddha and his disciples and sculpted images created by Suchard Metacharn, the former abbot. The smaller 'Wihan Noi' chapel houses a Buddha image replete with 'Serd' headpiece, dating back to the Ayutthaya era, which shares a number of similar characteristics with the image housed at Wat Na Pramen in the Ayutthaya province. There's also a two-storey, stilted wooden tower next to the monks' quarters for storing scriptures as well as a century-old well.



**Open daily 08.00 – 17.00 hrs.**





# Wat Kamphaeng Laeng

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi





## Wat Kamphaeng Laeng

Mueang Phetchaburi, Phetchaburi



This temple lies alongside Thanon Prasong Rd and was originally used as a Brahmin shrine during the time of the Khmer empire. As Buddhism began to spread and replace Brahminism, the shrine was gradually converted into a place of worship for both Theravada and Mahayana Buddhism. The original shrine featured 5 stupas built from red stone, but at present only four remain. It is presumed that these stupas originally formed bases for images of various deities such as Shiva, Vishnu, Uma and Brahma and in 1956 an image of Uma was found whilst digging among the ruins. When the site was converted for Buddhist use the chapel was converted from the existing buildings with only very minor alterations made, and the red stone wall which surrounded the site was retained.



**Open daily 07.00 – 17.00 hrs.**





# Laem Phak Bia

Ban Laem, Phetchaburi





## Laem Phak Bia

Ban Laem, Phetchaburi

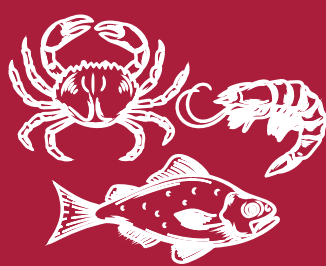


The cape is the site of a crab bank and visitors can't miss the large crab sculpture which welcomes them at the entrance. Tourists here can join in returning the crabs at the 'Sai Med Raek' point, a place where muddy mangrove forests and sandy beaches meet. There's also the opportunity to observe the locals farming sea grapes, a type of edible algae which contains vitamins vital for eyesight, improving circulation and preventing cancer, take a boat trip around the local fishing rafts or try to spot a few majestic Bruda Whales off the coast. Don't forget to check out the local products on offer including wicker baskets, keyrings and coasters made from bulrush, and try your hand at the local fabric dyeing methods using mangrove bark. The educational centre also offers homestay accommodation so that visitors can experience the local way of life including feasting on fresh, locally caught seafood and enjoying a display of local folk dance.



**For further details contact, Khun Atcharee Sermsup, Tel. 08 0250 2537.**





# Queen Sirikit Royal Project Model Fishing Farm

Ban Laem, Phetchaburi





# Queen Sirikit Royal Project Model Fishing Farm

Ban Laem, Phetchaburi



Born from the ever-expanding royal project of HRH Queen Sirikit, this model farm was established when Her Royal Highness sought to find a solution to the problem of depleted water levels, fuel shortages, and the fact that many fishing boats were making a loss each time they went out to sea. The farm harnesses innovative farming methods in which different species are raised together using strategies gleaned from nature along with a constant flow of water, both fresh and salt, to maintain equilibrium in the ecosystem as part of a zero-waste system. The farm also acts as a working model for those interested in fishing, marine farming or just learning more about marine ecosystems and how they work. Visitors can apply the principles of the farm to their own ventures with relative ease and a high rate of success.



**Open daily 08.00 – 16.00 hrs.**

**For further detail contact, Tel. 0 3278 3529.**





# Bang Tabun Bay

Ban Laem, Phetchaburi





## Bang Tabun Bay

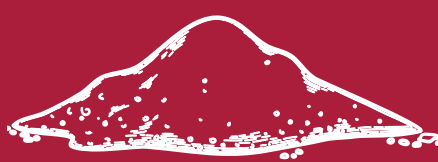
Ban Laem, Phetchaburi



Located in Bang Tabun district, this picturesque destination gives visiting tourists the chance to experience the beauty of the bay as well as observe the fisherfolk at work building clam pens and gathering up clams and other seafood as they go about their daily routine. After observing the locals charming, uncomplicated lifestyle, visitors can shop for local products like dried shrimp, preserved eggs and salted fish.

There's also a marine species nursery and information centre regarding the surrounding mangrove forest areas where visitors can find out all about the ecosystem here. The centre is located in Bang Tabun school and there are expert guides on hand to talk to visiting tourists about the natural resources and marine species that inhabit the area. The activity that no visitor should miss though, is the chance to take a boat trip out into the bay with the hope of catching the Bryde's whales that frequent the Gulf of Thailand. The best time to spot these magnificent sea mammals is between September and November.





# Ban Laem Salt Flats

Ban Laem, Phetchaburi





## Ban Laem Salt Flats

Ban Laem, Phetchaburi



Located beside the Khlong Khon – Cha-am road, this salt route is home to Thailand’s highest quality salt crystals. Visitors can witness the local lifestyles during the salt harvest (October - November) as they soak the flats with saltwater before leaving them to dry and crystallize in the warm sun, before being raked up into large piles and transported to a granary known as ‘Na Wang’. This fascinating process is well worth learning about and there are several check-in spots and photo vantage points including the external wall of the salt barn which is adorned with cool artwork, and a wooden bridge which extends out over the salt flats. A visit here promises an unbeatable atmosphere and the chance to see nature at its unspoiled best.





# Ban Rai Krang Community

Ban Laem, Phetchaburi





## Ban Rai Krang Community

Ban Laem, Phetchaburi



This community can be found at Mu 5, Rai Sathon subdistrict and most of the industry here centres around the toddy palm forests in the surrounding area. There's also a natural classroom here that showcases the philosophy of the villagers and their intentions to keep their authentic lifestyles alive in a rapidly changing world. Visitors can witness the palmyra palms being transformed into various products, learn about the palm forests, check out the photogenic trio of coconut trees as well as tasting the inimitable sweetness of fresh palm sugar.

Ban Rai Krang community is also notable for the fact it utilizes various parts of the palm tree to create distinctive local dishes like 'Kang Hua Node', a flavoursome palm curry, banana blossom soup and spicy shrimp paste which should be eaten with fresh vegetables like pumpkin, winged beans and peperomia plucked from the local plots. There's also a variety of palm-based sweets like Khanom Tanode Suk, Khanom Tanode Tod and Tong Muan, made exclusively from ingredients grown within the community.



**For further details contact, Mr. Prasong Homreun, Tel. 08 1019 5545.**





# Khao Nang Phanthurat Park

Cha-am, Phetchaburi





# Khao Nang Phanthurat Park

Cha-am, Phetchaburi



Covering an area of 617 acres and officially established as a park on 25<sup>th</sup> February 1999 at the royal request of HRH King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit. Their royal highnesses felt that the natural resources here warranted conservation, especially due to its links with Nang Phanthurat, a character in the Thai literary legend 'Sang Thong'.

The park is covered by a striking limestone mountain range running from north to south, surrounded by mixed deciduous and dry evergreen forest. Viewed from the adjacent highway, the range resembles a sleeping giantess, and there are also various natural occurring sculptures which are associated with the legend of Sang Thong. There's also the Thung Setee archaeological site at the foot of the Khao Chom Prasart mountain, along with the remains of a large brick pavilion which is presumed to date back to the Dvaravati kingdom (12<sup>th</sup> - 16<sup>th</sup> Buddhist Century) on the eastern side.





# Sirindhorn International Environmental Park

Cha-am, Phetchaburi





# Sirindhorn International Environmental Park

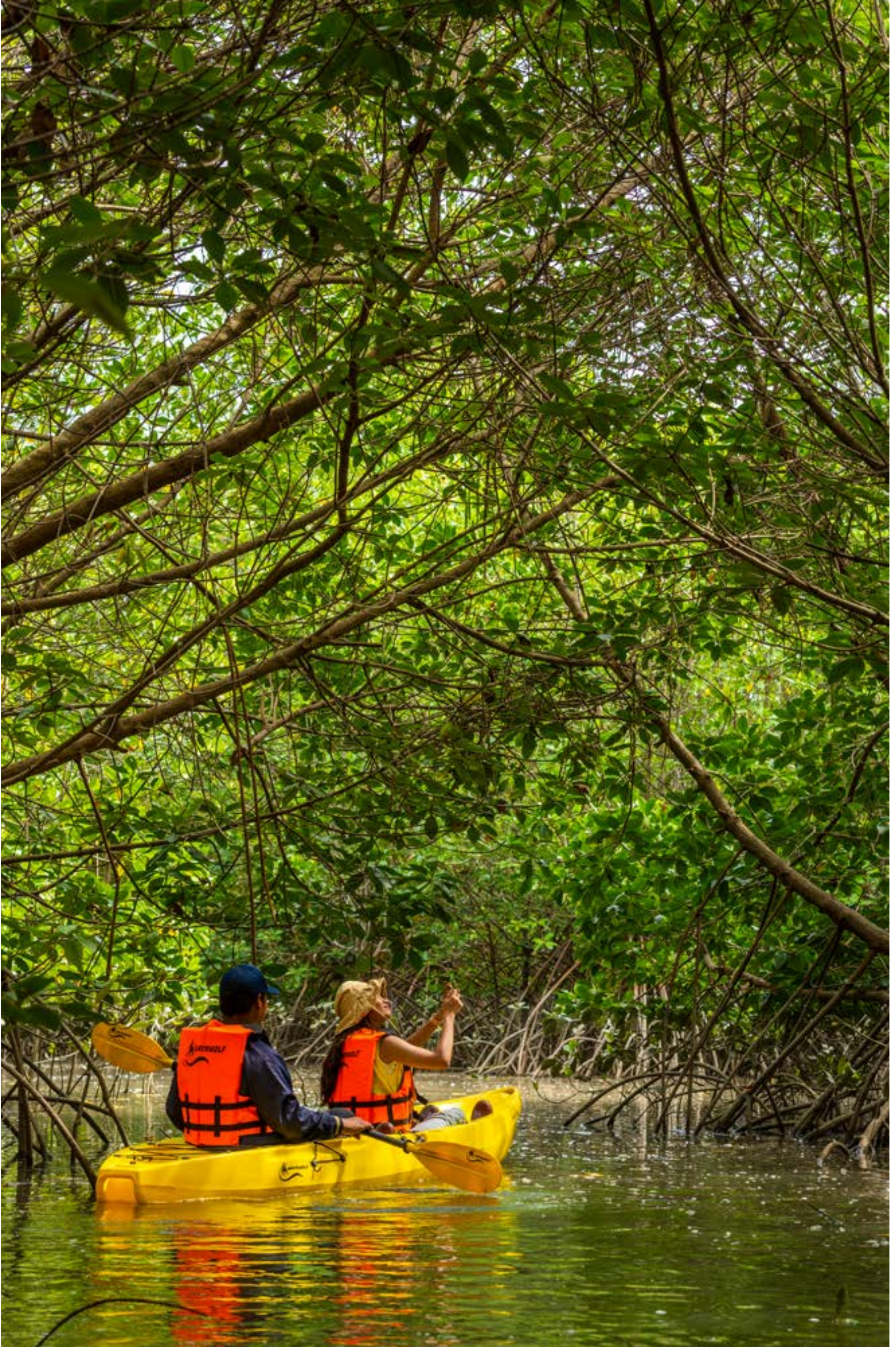
Cha-am, Phetchaburi



Located in the Rama VI camp on the Phetkasem Rd., Cha-am district, and created as a tribute to HRH Princess Sirindhorn on her 48<sup>th</sup> birthday, as well as a vital green space to aid the recovery of the mangrove forests and mixed deciduous forests which act as the habitat for much of the wildlife in the area and conserving the province's natural resources.

The sites of interest inside the national park include the environmental energy plant, and a learning centre based around renewable energy sources with information spread across four different exhibition rooms featuring demonstrations, models and both printed and digital media.





**For further details contact,** SIEP Charity Organization, under the patronage of HRH princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn, Tel. 0 3250 8352, 0 3250 8405.





# Panoen Thung Viewpoint, Kaeng Krachan National Park

Kaeng Krachan, Phetchaburi





## Panoen Thung Viewpoint, Kaeng Krachan National Park

Kaeng Krachan, Phetchaburi



This area of grassy plains and tropical rainforests lies 900 metres above sea level and is a popular tourist site due to its natural abundance, superb views, and cool climate. Visitors here enjoy flocking to the peak between the end of the rainy season and the start of winter to witness the sea of mist rolling over the landscape. The park only allows vehicles to make the journey to the summit at two times: 05.00 - 08.00 hrs. and 13.00 - 15.00 hrs. and the journey down from 09.00 - 11.30 hrs. and 16.00 - 17.00 hrs.

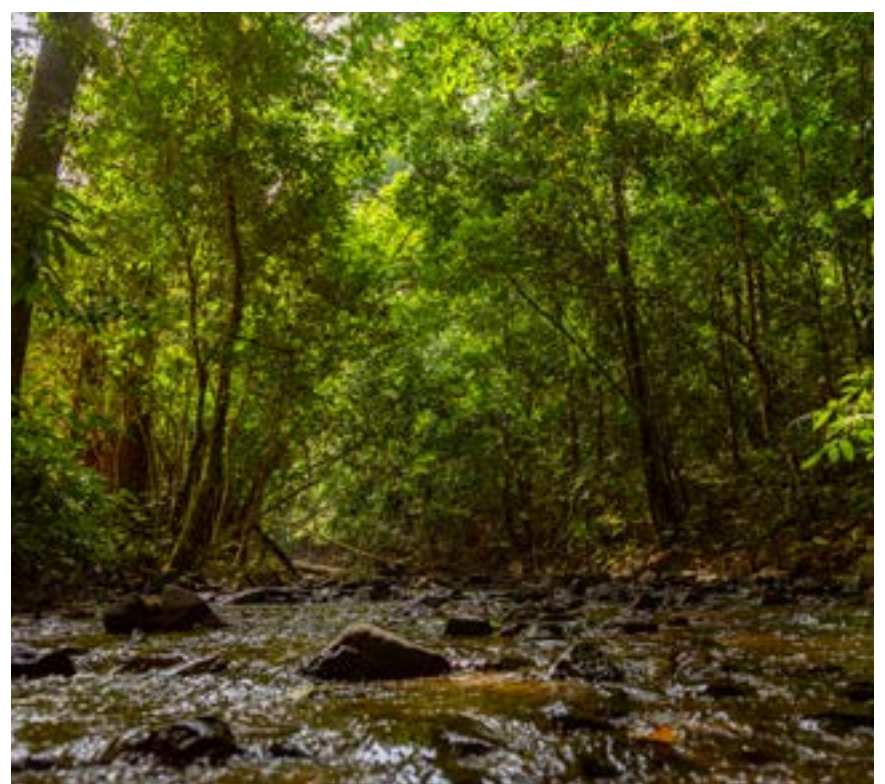
To reach the summit, visitors must first contact the Panoen Thung Tourism Office and complete a form granting permission to enter.





**Entrance fee** : 300 baht/person for adults and 200 baht/person for children and there is a vehicle charge of 30 baht for 4-wheeled vehicles and 70 - 80 baht for vehicles with more than 4 wheels.

**For further details contact**, the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, Tel. 0 2561 0777, 0 2579 6666 or through the website at [www.dnp.go.th](http://www.dnp.go.th)  
Kaeng Krachan Tourist Center, Tel. 0 3277 2311.







# Ban Tham Suea Homestay

Kaeng Krachan, Phetchaburi





## Ban Tham Suea Homestay

Kaeng Krachan, Phetchaburi



Tucked away in Kaeng Krachan district, this small village surrounded by trees and water sits amid an area of great natural abundance. The community is a great source of information regarding organic farming and communal living and there are numerous activities related to conservation and forestry including creating seed bullets. There are also CSR (Corporate Social Responsibility) information stations which focus on reforestation and of course, the opportunity to spend the night in a community homestay surrounded by blossoming nature.





The community expanded from what was originally a tree bank that connected the local wildlife and plants life with the members of the community and is now a thriving ecotourism community that promotes social responsibility and conservational awareness, which in turn keeps the environment around the community health and abundant.

Ban Tham Suea was awarded a prize for the best outings in the 2020 Tourism Community Awards



**For further details contact,** the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, Tel. 0 2561 0777, 0 2579 6666 or through the website at [www.dnp.go.th](http://www.dnp.go.th)  
Kaeng Krachan Tourist Center, Tel. 0 3277 2311





## TAT Tourist Information Centre

**Tourism Authority of Thailand (Head Office)**  
1600 New Phetchaburi Road, Makkasan, Ratchathewi,  
Bangkok 10400  
Tel. 1672 and 0 2250 5500  
Fax 0 2253 7440  
Website: [www.tourismthailand.org](http://www.tourismthailand.org)  
E-mail: [info@tat.or.th](mailto:info@tat.or.th)

Open every day between 08.30 to 16.30 hrs.



### **Suvarnabhumi Airport**

Domestic Terminal, Gate 3, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Tel. 0 2134 0040  
Open 24 hours.

### **Don Mueang Airport**

International Terminal (Building 1), Gate 2, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Tel. 0 7621 1036, 0 7621 2213  
Fax 0 7621 3582  
Open 24 hours.

## TAT Phetchaburi Office

500/51 Phetkasem Road, Amphoe Cha-am, Phetchaburi 76120  
Tel. 0 3247 1005-6  
Fax 0 3247 2502

Email: [tatphet@tat.or.th](mailto:tatphet@tat.or.th)

Areas of Responsibility: Phetchaburi only

