

AMAZING NEW CHAPTERS



Buri Ram



Buri Ram

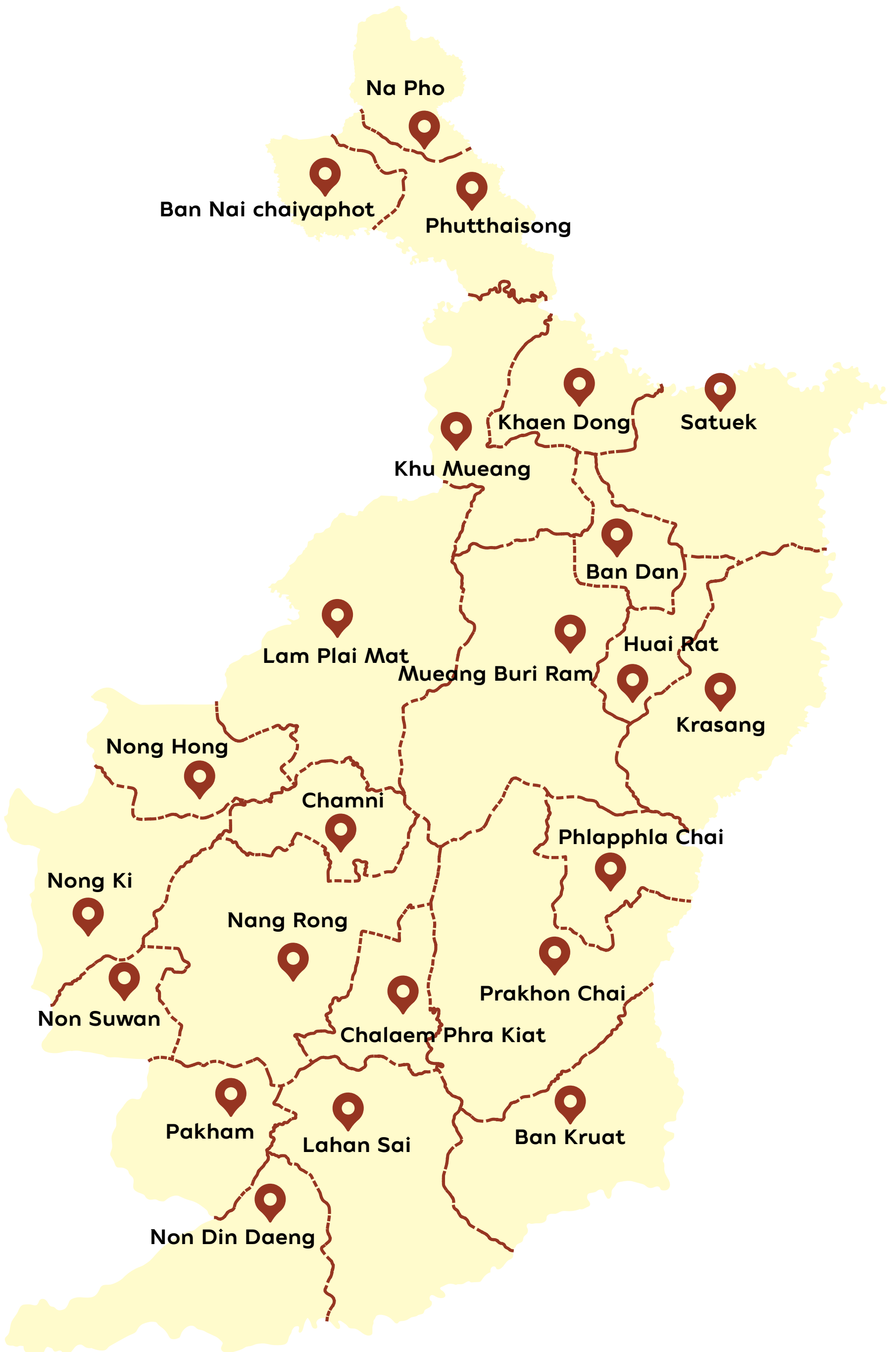
**A haven of sandstone sanctuaries,
dormant volcanoes and stunning silk
Immerse yourself in rich culture and
witness sporting excellence**

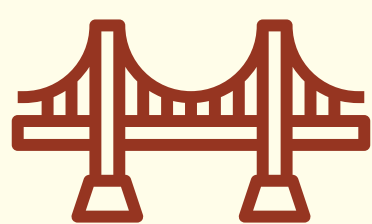
Buri Ram literally means the “City of Delight.” Situated in the lower part of the Thailand’s North eastern region, Buri Ram is home to more than 60 ancient sandstone sanctuaries, stunning remnants of the area’s past glories. The significant discoveries made here include historical evidence of human habitation dating back to the prehistoric Dvaravati period, important Khmer pottery kiln sites, and “Khmer ware” pottery dating back to the 10th - 13th centuries, just after the decline of the ancient Khmer and Khmer civilisations.

In 1776, King Taksin the Great appointed Chao Phraya Chakri as his general in a quest to defeat the rebels and join forces with Chao Phraya Surasi to control the armies of the northern provinces. They gathered inhabitants of nearby cities and established a colony called “Muang Pae,” and appointed ‘Buri Ram’, son of Phathai Saman ruler (Phutthaisong) as governor of the city.

Later, around the beginning of King Chulalongkorn’s reign, “Mueang Pae” was renamed “Mueang Buri Ram” and subsequently became a dependency of Nakhon Ratchasima. In 1933, the organisation of provincial administration officially regarded Buriram as a city.

Buri Ram Map





Khao Kradong Volcano Forest Park

Mueang Buri Ram, Buri Ram



Khao Kradong Volcano Forest Park

Mueang Buri Ram, Buri Ram



Located in Baan Nam Sap, Samet Sub District, Khao Kradong is an extinct volcano whose crater can be easily seen, as it resides 265 metres above sea level. Initially, the site was named “Phanom Kradong” after the Khmer (Cambodian) word for turtle shell, due to the shape of the mountain.

Places of interest in the Khao Kradong Volcano Forest Park include:

Phra Suphatthara Bophit, the giant golden Buddha image in the posture of meditation, sits on the Kradong mountaintop. The spacious area in front of the image provides a viewpoint overlooking the city of Buri Ram.

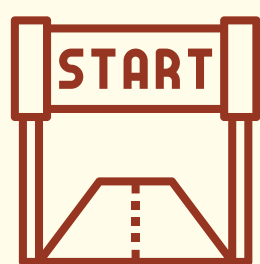
Kradong Volcano’s Crater is approximately 300,000-900,000 years of age. Currently, the crater has come to resemble a pool with a footpath and a suspension bridge that offers bird’s-eye views.



The Nakkharat Staircase was built in 1969. The cement staircase, consisting of 297 steps, leads the way from the foot of Khao Kradong to the summit, where people can pay homage to Phra Suphatthara Bophit. Those who would prefer not to make the walk up, can also reach the top by car. The Khao Kradong Festival is held every year on the full moon day of the 5th lunar month (April).



For further details contact, Tel. 0 4463 7349.



Chang International Circuit

Mueang Buri Ram, Buri Ram



Chang International Circuit

Mueang Buri Ram, Buri Ram



Located in Isan Sub District, Chang International Circuit is a racetrack for Super GT cars designed to meet the FIA Class 2 (FIA Category 2) standards from the International Automobile Federation or FIA (Federation Internationale de l'Automobile: FIA). With these standards, the track can accommodate races in the categories of F3, GT1, GT2, and GT3. It is also equipped with the FIM Grade A standards of the Federation Internationale de Motocyclisme (FIM) to accommodate the Moto GP or the Superbike World Championship. In the past, Thailand could only boast of the Bira International Circuit Pattaya, which was recognised for its standards for the FIA Category 3.



For further details contact, the Buriram United International Circuit Company Limited at Tel. 0 4460 4200, 0 2235 6768 or www.bric.co.th





Luk Chin Yuen Gin, Buri Ram Railway Station

Mueang Buri Ram, Buri Ram

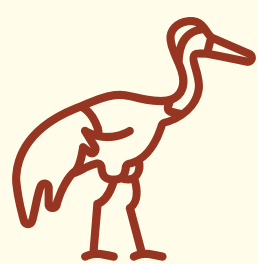


Luk Chin Yuen Gin, Buri Ram Railway Station

Mueang Buri Ram, Buri Ram



One of the most popular and delicious street food vendors in Buri Ram and a must-eat item is Luk Chin Yuen Gin behind the Buri Ram Railway Station, which is recognized as the starting point for the Yuen Gin culture in Buri Ram. "Luk Chin Yuen Gin" is translated as "eating pork balls while standing." The reason for having to stand and eat is because it's both convenient and fast - people in the past travelled mostly by train, so they bought meatballs and stood to eat these snacks before continuing their journey. Luk Chin Yuen Gin Festival is held in July every year. The original meatballs in Buri Ram are made from pork and eaten with traditional dried chillies and tamarind dipping sauce, while the chilli paste used for dipping appeared later.



The Wetland and Eastern Sarus Crane Conservation Center, Buri Ram

Mueang Buri Ram, Buri Ram



The Wetland and Eastern Sarus Crane Conservation Center, Buri Ram

Mueang Buri Ram, Buri Ram

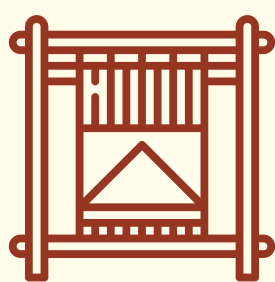


Located near the Huai Chorakhe Mak Reservoir in Sakae Phrong Sub District, the Wetland and Eastern Sarus Crane Conservation Centre in Buri Ram is ideal for monitoring, studying, and watching the Eastern Sarus Crane species that lives in the wild in Thailand. It is a project that aims to conserve the habitats of plant and animal species and act as an essential learning centre in Buri Ram Province. The project conveys the success in preserving wetlands and Thai cranes by way of community efforts and local knowledge. Apart from offering tourism opportunities, the centre also continues to create economic opportunities, promote eco-tourism, and provide a chance for youth and interested people to learn about the conservation of the Eastern Sarus Crane. From establishing a conservation centre, there are approximately 15 young Eastern Sarus Cranes born in the wild after being extinct in natural environments for 50 years.



Opens daily from 08.30 - 16.30 hrs.





Thai Silk Village Ban Sanuan Nok

Huai Rat, Buri Ram



Thai Silk Village Ban Sanuan Nok

Huai Rat, Buri Ram



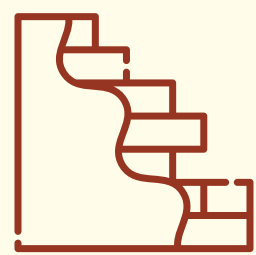
Located in Sanuan Sub District, Ban Sanuan Nok is a village that speaks Khmer, the dialect used in the way of life in the Khmer rural communities in Lower Isaan called “Srok Krao (countryman)”. Most villagers make a living from agriculture as well as having an extra source of income which has been passed down from generation to generation, namely weaving silk and loincloths to the unique ancient pattern called Hang Krarok. (Squirrel’s tail).

Ban Sanuan Nok village also has a notable cultural performance known as 'Rum Trot', performed at both fast and slow tempos. The performance was originally a Khmer (Cambodian) game to persuade people to join in making merit. Other exciting attractions in the village include ancient markets, a 100-year-old house and products made from local wisdom including wooden bells, carved coconut shells, basketry products, etc.

Ban Sanuan Nok provides several homestay accommodations and there is a plethora of local dishes to delight visiting taste buds, including banana curry, and the bizarrely named but delicious Khanom Tot Maa (dog fart dessert). Tourists can visit and buy hand-woven silk in the village every day and those wishing to embark on an educational tour or looking for a guide, should make an appointment in advance.



For further details contact, tel. 08 0472 4435, 08 5411 4435, 08 7458 3235, 09 4979 2887.



Phanom Rung Historical Park

Chaloem phra kiat, Buri Ram



Phanom Rung Historical Park

Chaloem phra kiat, Buri Ram



located in Ban Tapek, Tambon Ta Pek, the park is one of the most beautiful and meaningful historical examples of Lop Buri art in Thailand. Prasat Hin Phanom Rung is located on top of an extinct volcano at 350 metres above sea level. The word "Phanom Rung" or "Vnam Rung" in the Khmer language means "a huge mountain." This phrase appears in the Khmer inscription found at Prasat Hin Phanom Rung, also indicating the name of the castle's builder, "Narendrathit," a descendant of the Mahidharpur dynasty, who was a relative of King Suryavarman II, the builder of Angkor Wat.

Prasat Hin Phanom Rung is dedicated to Lord Shiva, the supreme god in Hinduism, as well as being a symbol of the centre of the universe. The castle on the top of the hill and Prasat Hin Phanom Rung itself represent Mount Kailash, the residence of Lord Shiva. The sanctuary was built and renovated several times between the 10th and 13th centuries.



The archaeological sites within Phanom Rung Historical Park consist of;

The Lower Stairway of Prasat Hin Phanom Rung, made of laterite and features three landings that lead to a cross-shaped platform.

The Pavilion, which is a rectangular hall, diagonally across from the cross-shaped platform to the north. The area is presumed to be where kings and nobilities purified themselves before entering the castle.

The Walkway leads down from the cross-shaped platform to the Naga Bridge with 70 sandstone pillars, topped with lotus buds known as Sao Nang Riang, on both sides.

The Naga Bridge on the 1st floor connects the walkway with the entrance leading up to the sanctuary. It is made of sandstone in the shape of a cross. The bridge's railing depicts a five-headed serpent facing out in all four directions. In the middle part of the bridge, there are designs of carved, eight-petaled blooming lotus flowers, possibly referring to the eight directions of the universe. The Naga Bridge symbolises the connection between earth and heaven.

The Upper Stairway leads up to the courtyard on the top of the hill. The spacious open-air Courtyard leads to the front of the cloister.

The Naga Bridge on the 2nd floor is similar to the Naga Bridge on the 1st floor but with smaller dimensions.



The Outer Courtyard and Terrace is an open laterite walkway with a low raised floor.

The Entrance Gates and the Inner Terrace. Before entering the central tower, you will see surrounding terraces constructed as a continual rectangular room - a central cloister equipped with an arch door or "Gopura" at all four exterior walls.

The Naga Bridge on the 3rd floor connects the inner cloister's central arch and the vihara in front of the main tower.

The main sanctuary is the centre of the inner temple, built from pink sandstone, with a recessed square layout with three extended porches. The rectangular sanctuary room dates back to the 12th century while the inner sanctuaries are decorated with carvings of the Hindu Gods and the scenes from the epic Ramayana, Hindu religious stories, such as the Gable of Sivanatraj, Narai Banthomsin Lintel, Ramayana, and hermit images can also be found adorning the walls. Inside the elemental room, the "Khanpha Kharuha" , the place where a sacred lingum that symbolizes the strength of Lord Shiva is enshrined, can be found. Today, a pipe way used for holy water remains in place.

Two Brick Sanctuaries assumed to date around the 10th century are the oldest structures of Phnom Rung Mountain.

A Minor Sanctuary or Prang Noi is located on the southwest side of the main tower. The front gable is carved in the image of Lord Krishna, lifting Khowattana mountain amidst foliage motifs. Inside Prang Noi, there is a sandstone pedestal base for the respected statue.



The Library "Bannalai," established around the 13th century, is located in the southeast of the main tower and is the location where sacred Hindu scriptures were kept.

On the northeast side of the main tower, there is a Laterite Building with only one door, containing no sacred figures. The actual usage of this construction is still unknown.

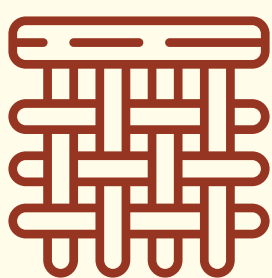
The Fine Arts Department has restored Prasat Hin Phanom Rung using the Anastylis technique, in which they disintegrate the stone blocks, putting a code on each of them. reinforced the base and put the disintegrated pieces, together with scattered pieces, back in their original places using a modern technique. On the Thai Heritage Conservation Day occasion on 21 May 1988, Phanom Rung Historical Park was officially opened by HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn.



Open daily from 06.00 - 18.00 hrs.

Entrance fee: 100 baht. (A combined ticket for visiting the Phanom Rung Sanctuary and the Mueang Tam Sanctuary is available at a special 150 baht).

For further details contact, the Phanom Ruang Historical Park Office at Tel. 0 4466 6251 to 2.



Ban Charoen Suk Community

Chaloem phra kiat, Buri Ram



Ban Charoen Suk Community

Chaloem phra kiat, Buri Ram



Located in Charoen Suk Sub District on the site of an extinct volcano, Ban Charoen Suk Community has developed local wisdom using the red volcanic soil to dye garments and create unique handicraft garments known as a Phu Akhani. The textiles have special light or reddish-brown tones similar to volcanic soil. Nowadays, Ban Charoen Suk Community has become a Volcanic Soil Dying Demonstration Centre, providing knowledge and understanding to visitors. The Ministry of Interior's Department of Community Development selected Ban Charoen Suk Community as an OVC Village (OTOP Village Champion). They have also set up a Silk-Cotton Weaving Women's Group to increase the alternatives and create unique activities for tourists to learn about the culture and community ways and get closer to nature. Homestays within the village are also available.



For further details contact, Tel. 09 5609 7855.



Wat Khao Angkhan

Chaloem phra kiat, Buri Ram



Wat Khao Angkhan

Chaloem phra kiat, Buri Ram



Located at Ban Charoen Suk in Charoen Suk Sub District, Khao Angkhan Temple is set right on an extinct volcano. Several sema (boundary maker) stones carved into human portraits, stupas, lotuses, and Dvaravati Dharma Chakras, dating back to the 8th to 9th centuries, have been found within the temple grounds. Wat Khao Angkhan's chapel, pavilions, and buildings feature an exciting mixture of architecture from various periods. Inside the main building, there are murals and stories of Buddhism with captions in English.



Prasat Hin Mueang Tam

Prakhon chai, Buri Ram



Prasat Hin Mueang Tam

Prakhon chai, Buri Ram



Located in Chorakhe Mak Sub District, Prasat Hin Mueang Tam is one of the Khmer sanctuaries with exceptional architecture. The architecture features the Baphuon style of Khmer art, which dates between 1007-1082, and mixed with the Khleang style, which dates from between 965-1012. Most of the bas-reliefs depict Hindu gods, from which it can be assumed that the sanctuary may have been built around the 10th - 12th centuries and used as a religious shrine for Hindus.

The site comprises of five brick prangs built on the same laterite base: three in the front and two at the back. The principal and largest prang is located in the middle of the front row but sadly only the base remains intact, while the other four prangs are also in quite poor condition. Each prang has only one entrance in the east wall, with false doors lining the other three sides. The principal tower also has a front terrace.



There have also been exciting discoveries made during the excavation which took place at the site. One being a lintel of the terrace carved into the shape of a god holding a water lily hovering above the face of Rahu and surrounded by male and female figures, which is believed to depict the wedding of the God Shiva and his consort Uma. The other is a pediment carved into a design of the God Indra riding on his Erawan elephant. They also found fragments of stucco relief used in decorating the base, indicating that these prangs were once beautifully embellished with stucco.

The other four smaller prangs still have two lintels attached above the entrance doorways: one at the northern tower in the front row and the other at the southern tower of the back row. The lintels were carved to show the God Shiva, holding Uma on his lap and sitting on his bull Nandi, and God the Varuna riding a swan, respectively. The excavation also found the prang's top piece, made from sandstone and carved into a lotus shape, falling around the prang's base. There are two viharas in front of the prang complex, made from brick, facing the prangs on both sides, with each of them surrounded by a double wall. A long, narrow sandstone gallery forms the inner square wall, while the outer one is made from laterite. There are Gopuras (entrance pavilions) in all four directions

at the exact positions of both divisions. Except for the inner one in the West, all Gopuras were made from sandstone, delicately carved into various designs such as pediments, lintels, and pilasters, depicting the story of the Hindu belief, foliage, and floral motifs.

Between the inner and outer walls lies the location of a large platform made from laterite. The L-shaped barays (artificial ponds) at the four corners are in line with laterite blocks arranged in steps down to the bottom. The pool's top edge is made from sandstone, featuring five-headed Nagas, all bare-headed, without ornaments, and with necks stretching at the baray's corners.



Open daily from 06.00 - 18.00 hrs.

Entrance fees: 100 Baht. (A joint ticket for visiting the Prasat Hin Phanom Rung and the Prasat Hin Mueang Tam is available at 150 baht.)

For further details contact, the Phanom Rung Historical Park Office at Tel. 0 4466 6251-2.



Ban Khok Mueang Tourism Village

Prakhon chai, Buri Ram



Ban Khok Mueang Tourism Village

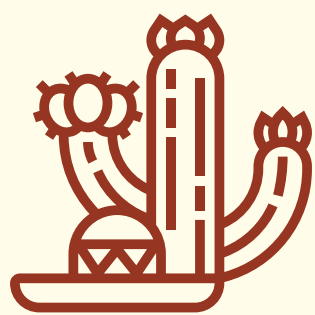
Prakhon chai, Buri Ram



Ban Khok Mueang is an ancient village located in Chorakhe Mak Sub District, and home to the amazing Prasat Mueang Tam. Visitors will experience special activities such as village sightseeing on an E-Taen vehicle (farmer's truck) and the locals will also share their wisdom through various arts and handicrafts which have been passed down through the generations, such as Phak Kut silk with unique patterns inspired by Prasat Hin Muang Tam's pillars and arches. Other exciting attractions include visiting Ban Khok Mueang Hermit Monastery, created to act as a healing site for pilgrims, and seeing the "Baray", a rectangular water reservoir built according to the ancient Khmer beliefs. Besides this, there are products such as reed mats in the Prasat Hin Muang Tam pattern, handbags made from reed mats, etc.



For further details contact, Tel. 08 8193 8840, 08 0282 8239.



Play La Ploen

Khu Mueang, Buri Ram



Play La Ploen

Khu Mueang, Buri Ram



Play La Ploen, on Khu Mueang-Phutthaisong Road in Nong Khaman Sub District, serves as both a tourist attraction and a learning site. The park is divided into two sections:

Section I: Play La Ploen Boutique Resort consists of the Once Upon a Time Gallery, Kids Zone with games to enhance learning skills and adventure activities; such as abseiling from the Eiffel Tower, climbing the Great Wall of China, walking the rope of the Tower Bridge, and driving an ATV.

Section II: Play La Ploen Flora Park, the first flora park in Isaan contains various species of plants on display in six nurseries; for example, seasonal plants (Siamese tulips, hydrangea), ferns under the concept "primitive forest, urn plants, and carnivorous plants: the colors of nature," orchids under the concept "Kinnari," desert plants, and flamingo flowers under the concept "the art of the Lower Isaan."



Open daily: Weekdays from 09.00 - 17.00 hrs., and Weekends from 08.00 - 20.00 hrs.

For further details contact, Tel. 0 4463 4736-8, 08 7798 1039, or www.playlaploen.com



Wat Ko Kaeo Thudongkhasathan or Wat Rahan

Ban Dan, Buri Ram



Wat Ko Kaeo Thudongkhasathan or Wat Rahan

Ban Dan, Buri Ram



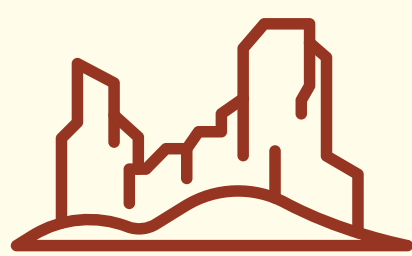
Wat Ko Kaeo Thudongkhasathan, located in Ban Dan Sub District, was built in 1993 and officially announced as a Buddhist temple on 29 September 2000, by Phra Khru Khemakhun Sophon (Luang Pu Chanraem Khemasiri), who was the residing abbot at the time. Situated in the temple compound is Phra Mahathat Rattana Chedi Si Buri Ram, whose foundation stone laying ceremony took place on 30 May 2003, before construction commenced in 2004. The four-storey pagoda exhibits style with elements of Khmer art on a square base of 38x38 metres, and is 60 metres high. This great pagoda is intended to be the provincial Buddhist Chedi of Buri Ram province as well as a place of worship in memory of the Lord Buddha.

The first floor is a multi-purpose pavilion.

The second floor is a venue for Vipassana, or insight meditation.

The third floor consists of an Ubosot (ordination hall), a museum, and life-like images of noble monks.

The fourth floor is where the Lord Buddha's relics are kept. The Ecclesiastical Prime Minister of Siamvamsa in Sri Lanka and Phra Akkhara Mahabandit Wimalaratana, Abbot of Wat Si Weluwanaram, Sri Lanka, gave the relics of the Lord Buddha and the shoot of a Bodhi tree to the abbot of Wat Rahan in 2000 to be worshipped at the great pagoda. Another Bodhi tree, brought here from India, is also planted behind the great pagoda.



Buri Ram Columnar Basalt

Nang Rong, Buri Ram



Buri Ram Columnar Basalt

Nang Rong, Buri Ram



Columnar Basalt or Grand Canyon Buri Ram, located at Ban Khok Makha Ron in Sadao Sub District, was accidentally uncovered by villagers who were digging a water storage pond and the discovery of perfect condition basalt columns with repeated cylindrical layers was as impressive as it was surprising. They uncovered what looked like gigantic, long columns of rock stacked alongside one another -- a type of formation called columnar jointing -- with a hexagonal cross-section. The physical process which created this phenomenon occurs when melted lava rock begins to cool, causing the stone to shrink and the surface to crack in what looks like an almost regular pattern.



TAT CONTACT CENTER

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Don Mueang Airport

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

Tel : 0 2504 4301

Open 24 hours

TAT Buri Ram Office

674/15-16, Boonsiri Home 7, Isan Sub District,
Mueang Buri Ram District, Buri Ram 31000

Tel : 0 4463 4722-3

Fax : 0 4463 4724

Email : tatburiram@tat.or.th

Area of responsibility: Buri Ram

