

AMAZING NEW CHAPTERS



amazing
THAILAND

Prachuap Khiri Khan



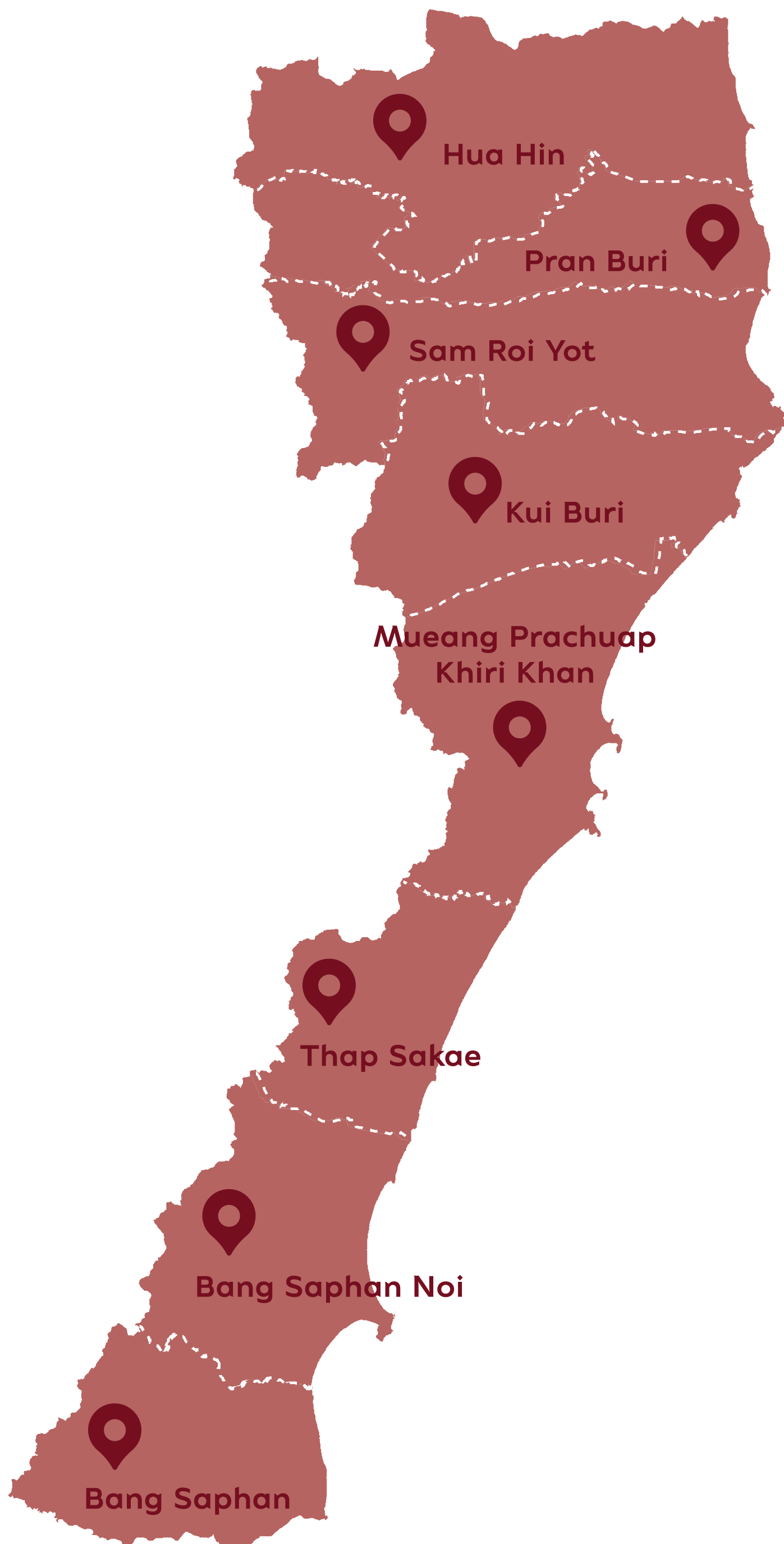
Prachuap Khiri Khan

**The city of purest ancient gold,
fresh coconuts and pineapples, stunning caves,
sandy beaches and flowing water**

Prachuap Khiri Khan is a province situated in the southern reaches of Thailand's central region, just before reaching the gateway to the south, and it features a plethora of tourist attractions including plentiful beaches, islands, forests and mountains. It also boasts a deep and rich history.

Historical records dating back to the reign of King Rama IV have shown that present day Prachuap Khiri Khan was once the site of Narang city during the Ayutthaya period, and that later, during the Rattanakosin era, a new city was constructed at the mouth of the Erom canal, which became known as man Bang Nang Rom. Even later, during the reign of King Rama 4, the cities of Bang Nang Rom, Kui and Khlong Wan were brought together to form Prachuap Khiri Khan, meaning 'city with clusters of mountains'. The municipality was governed from the city of Kui up until the year 1898 AD when the governing office was relocated to Prachuap Bay, where it remains to this day.

Prachuap Khiri Khan





Khao Ta Mong Lai Forest Park

Mueang Prachuap Khiri Khan,
Prachuap Khiri Khan



Khao Ta Mong Lai Forest Park

Mueang Prachuap Khiri Khan, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Located in Ao Noi subdistrict in The Khao Ta Mong Lai National Forest Reserve, this range of hills runs alongside the Prachuap Bay coastline and offers some sublime seafront views.

The park includes a campsite and lodge accommodation in a serene spot close to nature, which makes it ideal for a relaxing getaway and a chance to enjoy some fresh, organic seafood caught daily by local fishermen at incredibly affordable prices.

Khao Ta Mong Lai viewpoint is another important tourist spot here and features a nature trail leading up to the peak where visitors can enjoy breathtaking 360 degrees of the coastline and ocean below.



พิพิธภัณฑ์สัตว์น้ำ หว่ากอ
WAGHOR AQUARIUM

จังหวัดประจวบคีรีขันธ์



Waghor Aquarium

Mueang Prachuap Khiri Khan,
Prachuap Khiri Khan



Waghor Aquarium

Mueang Prachuap Khiri Khan, Prachuap Khiri Khan



The aquarium makes up part of the King Mongkut Science Park at Wahgor and acts as a marine biology, natural science and environmental science centre for the youth of Thailand and younger visitors from abroad.

Inside the aquarium building, visitors can find displays and countless marine species in realistic ecosystems accompanied by guide materials and descriptions. Tourists here can learn about life under the ocean and in freshwater sources and estuaries, as well as enjoy a great day of eco-tourism.



Open daily 09.00 – 16.00 hrs.

Entrance fee: adults 50 baht, children 30 baht

For further details contact, Tel. 0 3266 1098-101, 0 3266 1726-7



Wat Ao Noi (Reclining Buddha)

Mueang Prachuap Khiri Khan,
Prachuap Khiri KhanKhan



Wat Ao Noi (Reclining Buddha)

Mueang Prachuap Khiri Khan, Prachuap Khiri Khan



In the foothills around Ao Noi Bay, Ao Noi subdistrict, this temple features a stunning teakwood chapel which houses a white jade Buddha image from Myanmar that visitors can come and pay their respects. The interior chapel walls are decorated with images depicting Buddhist stories while the outer walls are surrounded by statues of the powerful Naga serpent.

Aside from the temple, there's the 'Tham Phra Non' cave. Located atop a small hill inside the temple grounds and overlooking Ao Noi Bay, visitors can take the stairs up to the cave, admiring the coastal views as they go, before checking out the two rare reclining Buddha images housed inside, both of which are clothed in traditional orange Buddhist robes.



Khao Chong Krachok

Mueang Prachuap Khiri Khan,
Prachuap Khiri Khan



Khao Chong Krachok

Mueang Prachuap Khiri Khan, Prachuap Khiri Khan



The path up to the summit of this small mount lies behind the provincial hall and features a 396-step stairway which takes visitors up to the peak at 245 metres above sea level where the temple is situated. The temple houses Buddha relics including the famous Saririka relic. King Bhumibol Adulyadej (King Rama IX) paid a royal visit to the temple on 12 June 1958 and from then on, a commemorative ceremony has been held annually on the same date.

To the north lies a channel through the rock which looks somewhat like a mirror frame, hence the name ('Chong' meaning channel and 'Krachok' meaning mirror in Thai). The viewpoint near the summit offers incredible views of the three curved bays of Ao Prachuap, Ao Manao, Ao Noi, and Prachuap City, leading it to be known locally as "Three Bay Viewpoint".



Kuiburi National Park

Kuiburi, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Kuiburi National Park

Kuiburi, Prachuap Khiri Khan



With 900 square km. the area covers a total of four districts: Sam Roi Yot, Pranburi, Kui Buri and Mueang Prachuap, this national park features a line of craggy peaks and is actually considered part of the Tenasserim Hills. The park contains a plethora of wildlife including elephants, buffalo and other cattle, deer, bear, tapirs, gibbons and other apes as well as the Kui Buri river's initial source. The wooded areas consist of rainforest and jungle with an assortment of trees and shrubbery. The area is popular with nature lovers who come here in the hope of spotting wild elephants and other rare species such as Fea's Muntjac and Dusky Leaf Monkeys as they search for food around dusk.

Observing the wildlife should be done under the supervision of park officials and all visitors to the park must act in strict compliance with the regulations. No private vehicles are permitted to enter the park as they may be a danger to the wildlife.



Open daily 14.00 – 17.00 hrs.

For further details contact, Tel. 08 1776 2410, 06 5994 2680



Wanakorn Beach and National Park

Thap Sakae, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Wanakorn Beach and National Park

Thap Sakae, Prachuap Khiri Khan



One of the province's most famous beaches, this lengthy stretch of golden sand extends into the Gulf of Thailand. The vibe here is peaceful and the beach itself is clean. Wanakorn, which covers Huai Sai and Khlong Wan subdistricts in Mueang Prachuap Khiri Khan, and Huai Yang subdistrict in Thap Sakae district, is lined with neatly planted Red-tipped Ru trees which stand parallel to the coast. Popular activities in the area include cycling along the nature trail, birdwatching and snorkelling around the nearby Ko Chan and Ko Sai Sri.



For further details contact, Tel. 06 3142 1121



Thung Pradu Tourism Community

Thap Sakae, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Thung Pradu Tourism Community

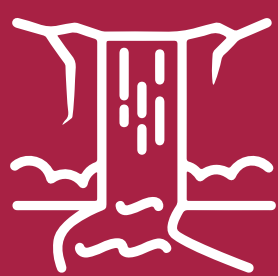
Thap Sakae, Prachuap Khiri Khan



This small community maintains itself by adhering to the principles of self-sufficient living and economy and by updating ancient teachings to keep them relevant in the modern age and adapting them to create interesting tourism activities. Whether it's learning about organic farming methods, making coconut milk, making 'Anyamanee Nok Kum' desserts or studying the local lifestyles, there's plenty to do for interested visitors. The highlight though is undoubtedly the 'sand spa' which relaxes and replenishes visitors while they lay back and let their troubles melt away to the soothing sound of the waves.



For further details contact, Khun Suwalee Sereewatthanachai on Tel. 08 1572 9665 (please contact 1 or 2 days in advance of the visit)



Huai Yang Waterfall

Thap Sakae, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Huai Yang Waterfall

Thap Sakae, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Located in Huai Yang Waterfall National Park, this 7-tier waterfall starts with a babbling stream at the base of the fall, with water cascading down from a height of 2-5 metres over sheer, smooth rocks. The most impressive spot is the area around the 5th tier, where visitors can watch a spray of water crashing impressively down a 15-metre sheer cliff face. The fourth tier also houses a great viewpoint to watch the sunset over the Gulf of Thailand and the 3rd and 5th tiers are suitable for taking a dip as they are supervised by park officers. There's also a camping area and a nature trail for those interested in local flora and fauna.



Open daily 08.00 – 16.30 hrs.

Closed for tourists between *May and June* every year

Entrance fee: adult 100 baht, children 50 baht

For further details contact, Tel. 08 4701 2795, 09 8312 6808



Wat Tang Sai

Bang Saphan, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Wat Tang Sai

Bang Saphan, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Situated on the coast, in the Thongchai subdistrict close to Ban Krut, this temple is perfect for those looking to explore some great art and architecture as well as unearthing some fascinating facts about history and culture. Phraphut Kiti Sirichai, or Luang Pho Yai, is a highly sacred Buddha image that scores of people flock to pay their respects to. The image is seated in the meditation posture facing out towards the sea and there is also a 9-spired stupa, designed by royal architect Mom Rajawongse Mitrarun Kasemsri and built to commemorate the 50th anniversary of King Bhumibol Adulyadej's (King Rama IX) coronation.

There's also the palace of Admiral Abhakara Kiartivongse located atop the Yot Thong Chai mountain which offers great panoramas down over coconut-tree-lined Ban Krut Bay, particularly at sunrise and sundown.



Ma Rong OTOP Innovative Village

Bang Saphan, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Ma Rong OTOP Innovative Vilage

Bang Saphan, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Located in the Phong Prasat subdistrict, this enduring community has made a concerted, harmonious effort to develop the area and introduce activities which allow tourists to investigate and learn about the local lifestyles as well as the local apiary and coconut plantations from which coconut milk is produced. There's also the 'Tham Ma Rong' cave, a popular tourist attraction. The inside of the cave features a natural well which is used to provide water for the Royal Coronation Ceremony as well as a Buddha image in the meditation posture.

As well as creating tourism opportunities, the community also recognizes the importance of the local trees and has created a community forest area which houses many ancient species. The trees are clearly signposted so young visitors can learn all about the forest, and the area was recently designated as a tree bank which distributes Carbon Credit. Stepping inside the forest, visitors can instantly feel the cool shade as they explore the various plant life species planted there.



For further details contact Mr. Pravit Rattanapong,
Tel. 08 1292 8141





Bo Thong Lang Bay

Bang Saphan, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Bo Thong Lang Bay

Bang Saphan, Prachuap Khiri Khan



In the Mae Ramphueng subdistrict. This curved beach almost completes a full circle and at low tide, there's a wide stretch of sand to play or stroll on, with waters shallow enough for paddling and swimming and rock formations at the edges of the bay preventing waves crashing too heavily on the shore.

Aside from this, the beach features a host of restaurants and refreshment stalls where visitors can purchase food and drinks to be consumed seated on the sand.

Agricultural Tourism Community Enterprise, Ban Thung Sathon Bang Saphan, Prachuap Khiri Khan

Located in the Pak Phraek subdistrict, this agricultural tourism community is fueled by the coconut plantations, from cultivation and planting, through to harvest and collection and finally turning into snacks and other products.

Inside the community, visitors can enjoy 'Suan Horm Huan', a farm based on the principles of self-sufficient agriculture from which many of the ingredients in local dishes are gathered, and Suan Wan Dee, a durian orchard which complies with GAP standards for safe fruit and vegetable farming.

There is also the 'Tham Khao Lak Chan' cave. This deep cave, filled with stalagmite and stalactite formations is home to a large cauldron of bats, and Wang Hin Sam Korn, the community's freshwater source. For those with an interest in local cuisine, there are many rare dishes that can be found here including 'Kaeng Meng Mapraw' a soup made with young coconuts and 'Khao Tom Ho Bai Kapor', a dish made with rice wrapped in a mangrove fan palm leaf.



Hat Pha Daeng (Red Cliff Beach)

Bang Saphan Noi, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Hat Pha Daeng (Red Cliff Beach)

Bang Saphan Noi, Prachuap Khiri Khan



In the Ban Fang Daeng subdistrict, this natural tourist spot is an important destination for the Bang Saphan Noi district. The trademark of the beach is the 5 km long, 20 to a 30 metre high red cliff with eye-catching patterns running through the face. These striking natural designs came about as a result of erosion caused by waves and wind battering the red gravel of the coastline over the course of hundreds of thousands of years.

It's best to check out the cliffs from afternoon to evening as the height of the cliffs keeps the blazing sun at bay on the beach down below. It's not recommended to swim in the sea here as the seabed is very uneven and features pits and sudden drops which can be extremely dangerous.



Sirinart Rajini Mangrove Ecosystem Learning Center

Pran Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Sirinart Rajini Mangrove Ecosystem Learning Center

Pran Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan



This learning centre contains valuable information related to the conservation of the area's mangrove forests and how new life has been breathed into Thailand's first abandoned shrimp farms. The centre is located in the Pa Khlong Kao - Khlong Koi National Reserve at Pak Nam Pran subdistrict, an area which was used for shrimp farming between 1981 and 1996 and was recently resurrected through the efforts and inspiration of King Bhumibol Adulyadej (King Rama IX) and Queen Sirikit following their royal visit to Pran Buri in 1996.

The centre's opening was aided by Petroleum Authority of Thailand (PTT) Co., Ltd. and featured as part of King Bhumibol's successful reforestation campaign for his 50th coronation, a project which sought to restore the mangrove forests to their original state as well as providing information related to the ecosystem and how it can be maintained. The centre also features a nature and local lifestyle trail and borders the Pran Buri National Park and Pran Buri River.



Open daily 08.00 - 16.30 hrs.

For further details contact, Tel. 0 3263 2255



Pran Buri Beach

Pran Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Pran Buri Beach

Pran Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan



This beach runs all the way from Hua Hin and through the Pran Buri National Park, all the way to Sam Roi Yot. Despite its proximity to Hua Hin, the beach is secluded and quiet and it boasts a comprehensive array of accommodations ranging from small budget resorts to 4/5 star luxury resorts. The vibe is peaceful, the water clear and although the sand isn't the finest to be found, the overall charm of the place pulls in a steady stream of tourists seeking a more serene getaway.



Pran Buri National Park

Pran Buri, Prachuab Khiri Khan



Pran Buri National Park

Pran Buri, Prachuab Khiri Khan



Located at Mu 1, Pak Nam Pran subdistrict and covering a total of 15 Square km, the park operates under the jurisdiction of the Royal Forest Department of Phetchaburi (Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation, Ban Pong Area 3). The park features sandy, well-shaded beaches on the eastern side with resplendent views out over the bay which encompasses the nearby Ko Singhto, Ko Takiab and Ko Tao islands.

The most notable tourist spot is the nature trail which comprises a wooden walkway which winds through the mangrove forests. Visitors can find out all about the ecosystem of the forest up close and the 1000-metre trail is signposted with facts and information along its whole length. There are also boat trips to explore the ecosystem and surrounding nature and check out the lifestyles of the local riverbank communities, as well as a campsite for visitors looking for an overnight stay.



For further details contact, Pran Buri National Park,
Tel. 0 3262 1608, 06 1464 4951



Phraya Nakhon Cave

Sam Roi Yot, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Phraya Nakhon Cave

Sam Roi Yot, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Just 500 metres from Laem Sala and 17 km. north of Sam Roi Yot National Park, this large cave features a natural chimney which allows sunlight in through the ceiling. There's also the Kuhakaruhat Mansion, an ornate looking pavilion with four gable ends that was constructed during the reign of King Rama V, and which his majesty first visited on 20 June 1890. The mansion is definitely the highlight of a visit to the cave, and it is at its most breathtaking in the late morning between 10.00 - 11.00 hrs. when the sunlight begins to appear through the natural channel in the cave ceiling. It's such an impressive sight that the province adopted the image as its symbol.

There are also other attractions in the area surrounding the cave, including an underground well made from clay bricks in a distinctive trapezoid shape. During the reign of King Rama 1, Chao Phraya Nakhon, the governor of Nakhon Sri Thammarat was sailing past Sam Roi Yot when a powerful storm began to take shape and he was forced to seek land and wait for the storm to pass along this very stretch of beach. During the days he spent stranded in Sam Roi Yot, the governor explored inland and discovered the cave, hence the name. It was also the governor who first dug the well, often known as Phraya Nakhon Well, to act as a water supply.



Ban Pa Mak Community

Sam Roi Yot, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Ban Pa Mak Community

Sam Roi Yot, Prachuap Khiri Khan



This small Karen ethnic community sits on a riverbank surrounded by forest and rolling hills and operates without electricity or mobile phone signals. The locals live an uncomplicated lifestyle that doesn't rely on technology, mostly relying on farming for sustenance, the most important crop being the locally grown Robusta coffee and the community offers simple accommodation for travellers in the form of a small campsite beside a stream under the shade of huge fig trees. Visitors can enjoy the fresh air, soak up the view and dip their toes in the cool rushing water of the stream while the breeze carries the unmistakable aroma of fresh coffee across the fields.

Another must-visit spot in the vicinity is the coffee shop that brews with community farmed, organically grown Robusta beans. Visitors here also have a chance to try their hand at brewing their own hand-dripped coffee with the guidance of one of the community's coffee experts.



For further information contact, Tel. 08 0634 8199



The Lotus Pond at Sam Roi Yot National Park

Sam Roi Yot, Prachuap Khiri Khan



The Lotus Pond at Sam Roi Yot National Park

Sam Roi Yot, Prachuap Khiri Khan



This large freshwater marsh is backed by a mountain range which looks almost like some kind of fortress protecting it, and the natural pond's surface is almost entirely covered by stunning bright pink lotus blooms. There's also a 300-metre wooden walkway through the pond which makes an excellent photo spot, and a wooden pavilion in which visitors can relax and appreciate their surroundings.



Entrance fee: 40 baht and there are 6 seater boats available at 500 baht/boat for those wishing to get a closer look at nature.

For further details contact, Tel. 0 3282 1568



Wat Huai Mongkol

Hua Hin, Prachuap Khiri Khan

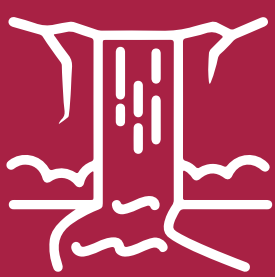


Wat Huai Mongkol

Hua Hin, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Home to a large image of revered monk Luang Pu Tuad, which measures 9.9 metres wide at the base and stands 11 meters tall, this temple is well known to both Thai and foreign tourists, who flock to pay their respects here. There's also the egg-shaped sculpture of 'Ai Kai' a student of Luang Pu Tuad, which is crafted from 1000-year-old ta-khian wood. The sculpture is located in front of the image of Luang Pu Tuad and popular with those looking for good fortune or blessings.



Pa La-U Waterfall

Hua Hin, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Pa La-U Waterfall

Hua Hin, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Tucked away in Pa La-U forest, surrounded by verdant woodland and populated by dozens of wildlife species, this waterfall is one of the highlights of Kaeng Krachan National Park and is maintained and supervised by The Department of National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation. The waterfall is separated into 'La-U Yai', the larger of the two sections and the smaller 'La-U Noi' and the water cascades down over 11 tiers of rock almost all year round. Visitors can paddle or soak in the pool at the foot of the fall and there are some great spots to observe the hundreds of local butterfly species that gather and flit around the falls. The best time to visit is at dawn from November to March, due to the cooler weather and the increased chance of spotting some rare wildlife.



Entrance fees: adult 300 baht, children 200 baht

For further details contact Tourist information centre,
Tel. 09 1050 4461, 0 3277 2311



Suan Son Pradipat Beach

Hua Hin, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Suan Son Pradipat Beach

Hua Hin, Prachuap Khiri Khan



Under the care of the Pran Buri Infantry Centre, the beach is quiet and unspoiled with a wide, clean swathe of sand and much needed shade provided by the fir trees that are planted along its length. It's ideal for relaxing or watching a picture-perfect sunrise, and the shallow waters make swimming possible. There is also a display of Bryde's Whale bones, found on the beach on 19 April 1977, as well as flower gardens, a restaurant's a golf course and a range of accommodations including resorts, bungalows and beach houses.



For further details contact, Tel. 0 3265 5985-7 Fax 0 3265 5984



TAT CONTACT CENTER

Tourism Authority of Thailand (Head Office)

1600 New Phetchaburi Road, Makkasan,
Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400

Tel. 1672 and 0 2250 5500

Website: www.tourismthailand.org

E-mail: info@tat.or.th

Open every day from 08.30 to 16.30 hrs.



Suvarnabhumi Airport

Domestic Terminal, Gate 3, 2nd Floor

Tel. 0 2134 0040

Open 24 hours.

Don Mueang International Airport

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

Tel. 0 7621 1036, 0 7621 2213

Fax 0 7621 3582

Open 24 hours.

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