

Diversity Journey

Biodiversity-based Tourism
Pran Buri • Khao Sam Roi Yot • Kui Buri



Biodiversity refers to the variety of living organisms, including plants and animals, found within a particular habitat. These diversities enable the living organisms to actively reproduce as well as allow plants and animals to cohabitate, depend on one another, and make benefits for each other. The Earth has created biodiversity in a complex but efficient system that provides humans with abundant natural resources for sustaining the livelihood.





Biodiversity-based Tourism

One of the sustainable tourism options is biodiversity-based tourism.

Open your eyes, your mind, and your heart, and explore the miracles that the Mother Nature creates through various activities that are not only fun and relaxing, but also keeping the balance of nature to maintain the biodiversity as much as possible.



Pran Buri River and Pak Nam Pran Buri (Pran Buri Estuary)

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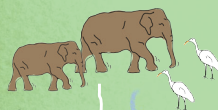
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Diversity Journey

Ban Pa Mak Tourism Community



Wild Elephants and Gaurs
Watching Spots



Sandalwood Stump Nature Study Trail



Kui Buri National Park



Pran Buri Dam

Pran Buri Forest Park

Pran Buri

Sirinart Rajini Mangrove Ecosystem Learning Center

Pak Nam Pran Tourism Community

Bueng Bua Nature Education Center

Sam Roi Yot

Ban Ko Mon - Ko Phai Tourism Community

Boat Trip Through Thung Sam Roi Yot

Hat Sam Roi Yot

Hat Laem Sala

Tham Phraya Nakhon

Mangrove Forest Nature Study Trail

Kui Buri

Hat Sam Phraya

Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park

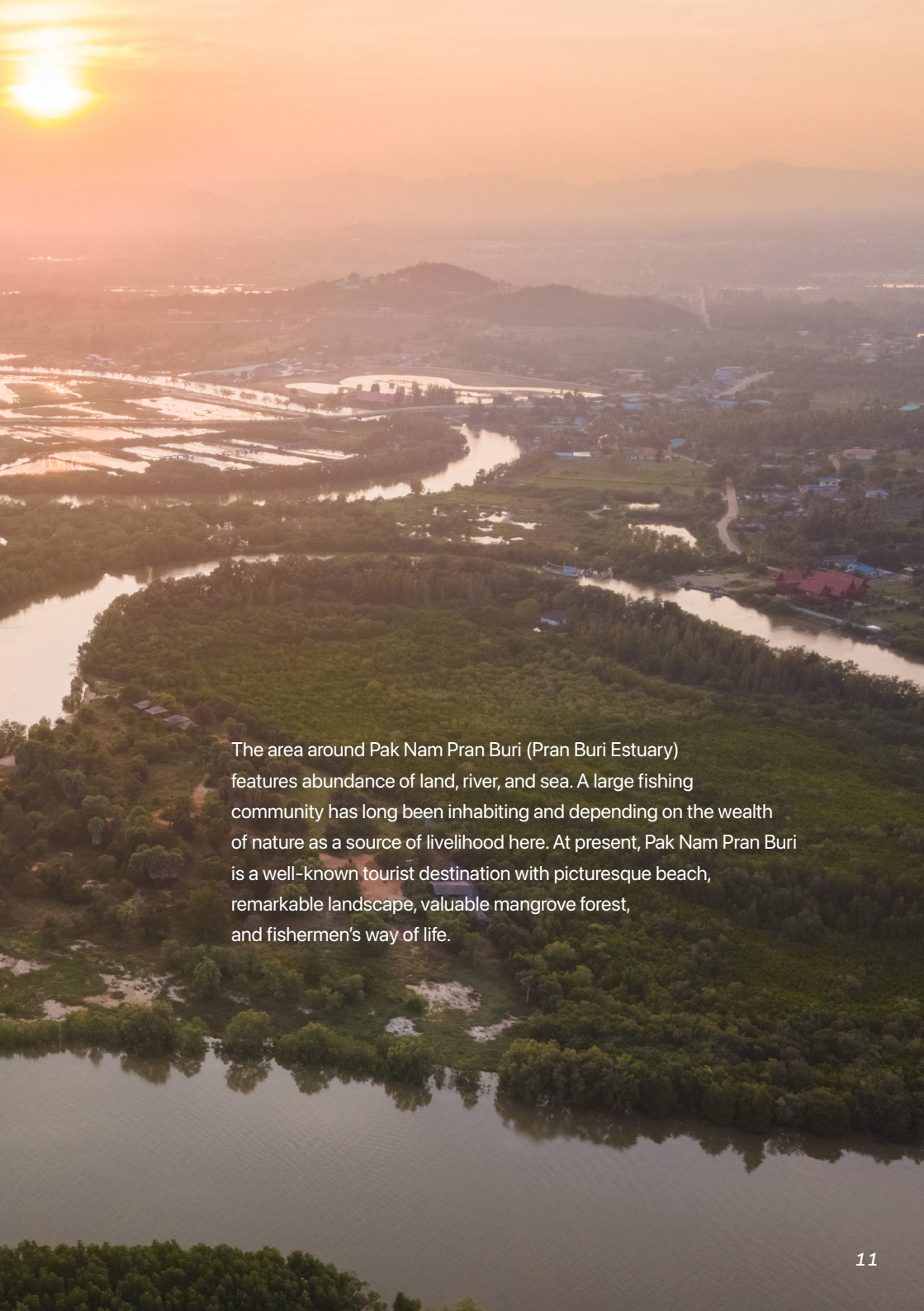
Pran Buri River

and Pak Nam Pran Buri (Pran Buri Estuary)









The area around Pak Nam Pran Buri (Pran Buri Estuary) features abundance of land, river, and sea. A large fishing community has long been inhabiting and depending on the wealth of nature as a source of livelihood here. At present, Pak Nam Pran Buri is a well-known tourist destination with picturesque beach, remarkable landscape, valuable mangrove forest, and fishermen's way of life.



Pran Buri Forest Park

Explore Mangrove Forest and Learn About Two Types of Ecosystem

The heart of Pak Nam Pran Buri is the expansive mangrove forest that is blessed with abundance of the Pran Buri River and is home to various living creatures that are residing in the water, forest, and sky, making it one of the most biodiverse ecosystems.

The 1-kilometre-long boardwalk that encircles the Park is equipped with interpretive signs about the mangrove ecosystem along the way. Moreover, the outer area of the Forest Park is a pine forest situated by Hat Pran Khiri (Pran Khiri Beach) that serves as a recreation area and camping ground.





- 📍 GPS Coordination 12.41332, 99.98541
- 📍 Pramburi Forest Park is located in Tambon Pak Nam Pran, Amphoe Pran Buri Prachuap Khiri Khan province (8 kilometres from Ban Pak Nam Pran)
- ☎ +66 (0) 8 1880 6959, +66 (0) 6 1464 4951
- 🕒 Opening hours 8:30-17:00
- 💰 Free admission for walking trail
River cruising 500 THB per boat (maximum 8 persons)



โกงกางใบเล็ก

ชื่อไทยอื่นๆ: โกงกางใบเล็ก, โกงกางใบเล็ก
ชื่อวิทยาศาสตร์: *Rhizophora apiculata*



TALL - STILT MANGROVE

โกงกางใบเล็กเป็นไม้ยืนต้นที่มีถิ่นกำเนิดในเอเชียตะวันออกเฉียงใต้ พบในป่าโกงกางบริเวณชายฝั่งทะเลของประเทศไทย โดยเฉพาะอย่างยิ่งในบริเวณที่น้ำขึ้นน้ำลงเป็นประจำ ไม้ชนิดนี้มีความสูงประมาณ 20-40 เมตร และมีรากที่เรียกว่า "รากค้ำยัน" ซึ่งช่วยพยุงลำต้นให้มั่นคงในดินโคลนและน้ำขุ่น

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ประโยชน์: ไม้ชนิดนี้ใช้ก่อสร้างและใช้ใบในการทำยาสมุนไพรพื้นบ้าน นอกจากนี้ยังใช้เป็นเชื้อเพลิงและวัสดุในการทำเฟอร์นิเจอร์



Sirinart Rajini

Mangrove Ecosystem Learning Center

A Natural Classroom for Mangrove Ecology



A mangrove forest at the south of the Pran Buri River is a comprehensive nature learning centre. Visitors will find a shaded nature study trail with 81 learning spots that provide detailed information about every little thing in the nature. The highlight is Ho Chakhram, an observation tower that offers the panoramic view of the mangrove forests around the mouth of the Pran Buri River. The area of the Center was once a degraded mangrove forest that was destroyed by shrimp farming, and was restored by a collaboration of various organisations. After a little over 10 years, all 786 rai (125.76 hectares) becomes a copious manmade mangrove forest.



📍 GPS Coordination 12.39417, 99.98092

📍 Sirinart Rajini Mangrove Ecosystem Learning Center is located in Tambon Pak Nam Pran, Amphoe Pran Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (1.5 kilometres from Ban Pak Nam Pran)

☎ +66 (0) 3263 2255

🕒 Opening hour 8:30-16:30

💰 Free admission





Interesting Facts about Mangrove Forest

Mangrove forest serves as a **buffer zone** between sea and land, and prevents the abundant resources from the river and land from flowing into the sea. It also acts as a natural wall that protects all lives on land from sea waves and wind.

The **air** around the mangrove forest is **better** than other places, as the trees in the mangroves can absorb carbon dioxide better than other kinds of trees.

Nothing in the mangrove forest is **useless**. The fallen leaves of the mangrove trees will decompose and become food for bacteria and mangrove crabs. Millions of eggs of mangrove crabs that are released into the canal and sea will become plankton, which is food for small aquatic animals.

The outstanding plant of the mangrove forest is the **mangrove tree** that is unique for its aerial roots that spread like spider's legs, in which the nature has created its ability to withstand the frequent floods in the muddy area.

The **roots** of the mangrove trees provide shelter for small fish from their predators, and also collect abundant soils that the tide carries inland.

However, safety is not always guaranteed, as **predators** usually find new ways of hunting. For example, the mangrove crabs that are hiding in the burrow might be caught by the crab-eating macaques that put their tails into the burrow to lure the crabs out, or the small fish that are hunted by birds when they are unaware.

The large number of plants and animals that live together and make up a **food chain** makes mangrove forest an ecosystem with the most diverse biodiversity.

A **fishing community** is often found near mangrove forest, because this area is protected from the wind and waves, therefore it is safe for both humans and animals. The mangrove forest also contributes to the abundance of aquatic animals in the sea, thus the larger the mangrove forest, the longer that the fishermen can sustainably catch fish.



Pak Nam Pran Tourism Community

Explore the Way of Life of the Fishing Community

The area around the mouth of the Pran Buri River is the location of Pak Nam Pran Fishing Village, an old village that still retains the traditional fishing methods. Every morning, fresh prawns, clams, crabs, and fish are delivered from the fishing boats to the market. This village is famous for seafood, especially splendid squid and blue swimming crab, which are plentifully available and are of high quality. Tourists usually come here for fresh seafood, or have an in-depth experience of the fishermen's way of life through a tour with Pak Nam Pran Community Tourism Enterprise.





Explore the Beauty of Nature and the Rich Biodiversity on a Boat Trip

Take a boat trip to enjoy the scenery on both sides of the waterway to Pak Nam Pran Buri. The journey winds through the fishing village full of fishing boats, and stop by to see fiddler crab and a variety of birds along the mangrove forest.

Ride a 'Kai Na', Release the Crabs, and Discover the Local Way of Life

'Kai Na' or 'Saleng' or tricycle is a mode of transportation that the fishermen of Pak Nam Pran Village use when travelling around the village. Visitors can ride a Kai Na to explore the fishermen's way of life, observe the selection of crab eggs and the nursing of blue swimming crabs, participate in releasing the young blue swimming crabs back to the nature, and learn how to make sun-dried squid and processed seafood.



- ⊕ GPS Coordination 12.41291, 99.98183 (Boat Trip)
GPS Coordination 12.40350, 99.99421 (Crab Bank)
- 📍 Pak Nam Pran Tourism Community is located in Tambon Pak Nam Pran, Amphoe Pran Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (10 kilometre from Pran Buri town)
- ☎ Pak Nam Pran Community Tourism Enterprise
+66 (0) 8 1191 7382, +66 (0) 8 0607 4500
- 🕒 Best period to travel is January-May (Please contact in advance)
- 💰 Boat Cruise 500 THB per boat (maximum 8 persons)
Kai Na Tricycle Tour 200 THB per car (maximum 3 persons)



Blue Swimming Crab Bank

Deposit the Wealth of Nature at the Bank

Crab Bank is a way of conserving marine animals, which is done by setting up floating cages for rearing berried crabs (female crabs carrying eggs) that the fishermen caught until the crabs release the eggs. Then, the crabs are returned to the fishermen, while the Crab Bank continues to rear the crab larvae until they are strong enough to be released to the sea. This operation results in more population of crabs, similar to the interest from the bank that grows from the deposit of the berried crabs.



Blue swimming crabs live on the shallow sea floor at 10-20 metres deep around the estuary, therefore they can be found a lot in the Gulf of Thailand, particularly at Pak Nam Pran Buri, which is endowed with nutrients from the abundant resources from the mouth of the river.





About Crab Eggs



A female crab, on average, lays about 500,000 – 1,000,000 eggs at a time.

Yellowy-orange-coloured eggs take around 4 – 5 days in the crab bank.

Brown-coloured eggs take around 2 – 4 days in the crab bank.

Grey-coloured eggs take around 1 – 3 days in the crab bank.

Black-coloured eggs take around 1 – 2 days in the crab bank.



GPS Coordination 12.40350, 99.99421



Pak Nam Pran Tourism Community and Crab Bank is located in Tambon Pak Nam Pran, Amphoe Pran Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (10 kilometres from Pran Buri town.)



+66 (0) 8 1191 7382, +66 (0) 8 0607 4500



Please contact operator in advance



Free admission



Pak Nam Pran's Sun-dried Squid

A Fantastic Menu from the Abundance of the Sea

The sun-dried squid is the famous menu of Amphoe Pran Buri, as the squid is naturally sweet and is plentiful because the area around Pak Nam Pran Buri features a lot of planktons from Pran Buri River, which is food for small aquatic animals that are food of the squid.

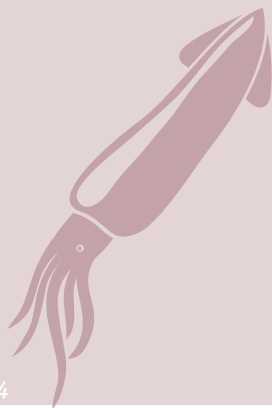
The squid at Ao Pran Buri are caught in 3 different periods, which are March to April, September to October, and the end of November to December.

More Information about Sun-dried Squid

Sun-dried Squid Festival : 21 – 22 September of every year

To clean sun-dried squid : use sea water for cleaning the squid, as freshwater will make the squid mushy and bloated, as well as losing the natural sweetness of the squid.

Squid that has been sun-dried will not be scattering when deep-frying because the liquid from the squid has been evaporated.





Sun-dried Squid is a menu that can be found in almost every seafood restaurant in Amphoe Pran Buri because the ingredient is sourced locally so it is fresh and delicious. The sun-dried squid can also be bought as souvenirs from the stores in Pak Nam Pran Buri Market.



Products of Pak Nam Pran Community

From Diversity and for Biodiversity

Herbal Soaps from Mangrove Forest

The villagers of Pak Nam Pran produce soaps from a variety of herbs found in the mangrove forest, and chemical-free natural ingredients; such as, glycerin and lanolin, that do not cause irritation. There are 3 types of products as follows:

Garden Quinine Herbal Soap : has benefits of anti-inflammatory and relieving itchiness from lymphatic skin disease and ringworm.

Beach Sunflower Herbal Soap : has benefits of anti-inflammatory and relieving itchiness from lymphatic skin disease.

Indian Marsh Fleabane Herbal Soap : has benefits of anti-inflammatory, reducing itchiness, and moisturising the skin.





Nursery Plant Pots

The idea comes from the desire to turn the community's waste materials into creative and value-added products that do not pollute the environment. The plant pots are made from coconut meal that has special properties, which are light-weighted, can decompose on their own, and has ability to hold water and retain moisture. Plants that are grown in these pots also grow 3 times faster than plants grown in plastic pots.



Available at Sirinart Rajini Mangrove Ecosystem Learning Center +66 (0) 3263 2255 and Pak Nam Pran Tourism Community +66 (0) 9 2859 5556



Chaomae Thapthim Thong Shrine

The Centre of Faith for Pak Nam Pran Community

Chaomae Thapthim Thong Shrine is a sacred place of the Pak Nam Pran community. According to a legend, over 200 years ago, a Chinese man travelled to Thailand by boat in search for treasures belonging to Chaomae Thapthim Thong. He found 2 jars containing money around this area, so he built Chaomae Thapthim Thong Shrine here.

Chaomae Thapthim Shrine is found in various the overseas Chinese communities, as these community members believe that Chaomae Thapthim is the goddess of weather forecast who also ensures seafarers safety during sea travel.



Pran Buri's Crocodiles

Story has it that in the past, Pran Buri River was full of crocodiles. Whenever a boat travelled past the mouth of the river, a gigantic crocodile was usually seen around the front of Chaomae Thapthim Thong Shrine, and therefore it was believed that the crocodile is the chief soldier of Chaomae Thapthim. A crocodile statue was then constructed at the Pran Buri River Viewpoint in front of Chaomae Thapthim Thong Shrine.

At present, crocodiles can occasionally be seen at Kui Buri Forest, which is the watershed forest of the Pran Buri River.



- 📍 GPS Coordination 12.4092, 99.9767
- 📍 Chaomae Thapthim Thong Shrine is located in Tambon Pak Nam Pran, Amphoe Pran Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (5.5 kilometres from Ban Pak Nam Pran)
- 🕒 Opening Hours 08:00-17:00
- 💰 Free admission

Pran Buri River and the Way of Life

The peak of Khao Thapthim Thong is a viewpoint that offers the scenery of Pran Buri River winding through the lush mangrove forest.

Pran Buri River originates from the Kaeng Krachan forest and Kui Buri forest in the Tenasserim Range, and becomes Pran Buri River before flowing into the Gulf of Thailand. The Pran Buri River is rich in biodiversity and full of nutrients that nourish the mangrove forest at the estuary, making this area a good fishing site and leads to a settlement of a fishing community since the olden days.









Hat Pran Buri (Pran Buri Beach)

Tranquil Beach for a Relaxing Holiday

A 7-kilometre-long beach that is known for the peaceful atmosphere and spacious sandy beach, Hat Pran Buri features a coastal road with clear and stunning scenery, and a collection of accommodations of varied price levels. There is also a cycling, walking, and jogging path along the road, as well as a place dedicated for skateboarding and extreme sports; such as, kiteboarding.



-  GPS Coordination 12.3821, 99.9996
-  Hat Pran Buri (Pran Buri Beach) is located in Tambon Pak Nam Pran, Amphoe Pranburi, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (2 kilometres from Ban Pak Nam Pran)





Kitesurfing (Kiteboarding)

Combining surfing with a nylon kite that is similar to a parachute, kitesurfing or kiteboarding is a sport where the surfer balances on the surfboard and controls the kite in directions according to the wind so that the wind would propel the kite and the board across the water surface.

Pran Buri is one of the best kitesurfing spots in Asia because the wind is suitable for kitesurfing all-year round and the beach is spacious and peaceful. Pak Nam Pran also features several schools that provides opportunity for novice surfers to experience kitesurfing.

฿ Price starts at 4,000 THB for basic kiteboarding lesson.

🕒 Best period to surf is October - November.

Kite Boarding Asia (KBA) Pranburi

☎ +66 (0) 8 7082 3058

💻 www.kiteboardingasia.com

Kite Thailand

☎ +66 (0) 8 7082 3058

💻 www.surfspotthailand.com

Yoda Kite School

☎ +66 (0) 8 7017 6428

📘 Yoda Kiteschool





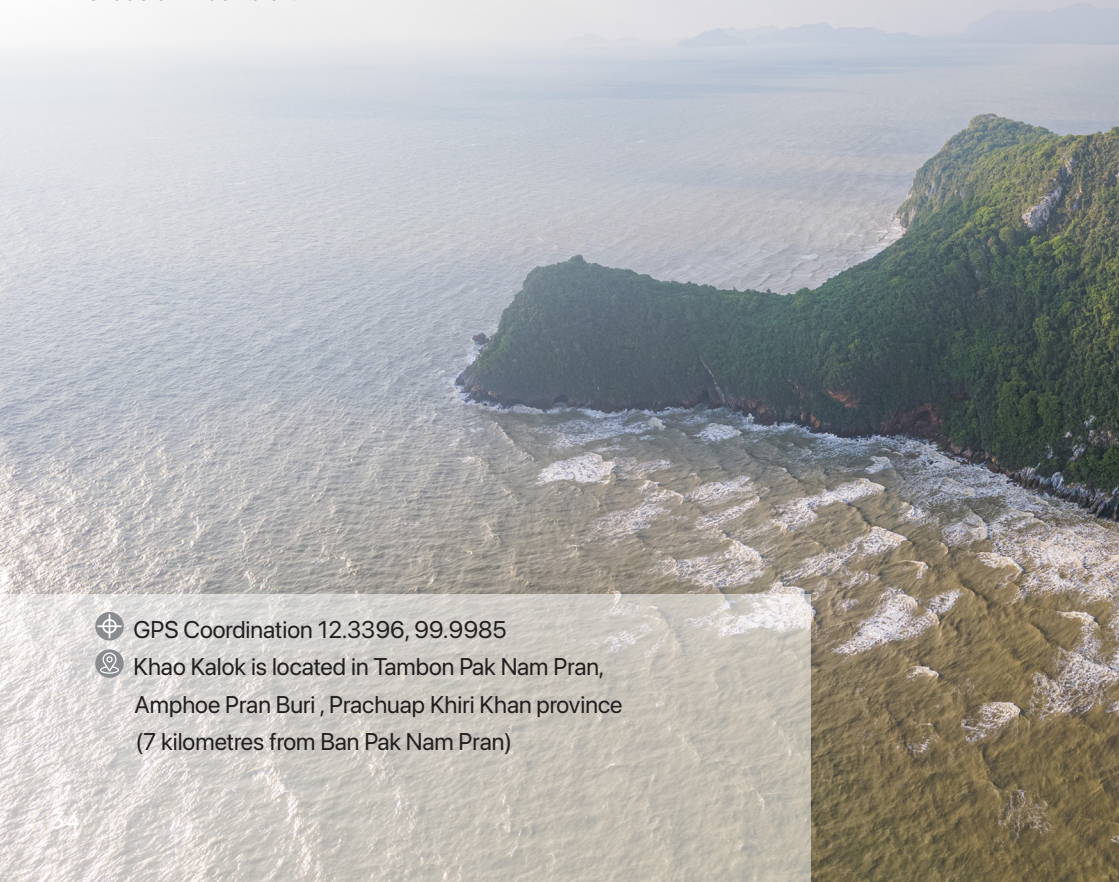
Khao Kalok

Marvel at the Scenic Landscapes of a Beach and Cliffs.

A huge limestone mountain situated at the southern end of Hat Pran Buri has unique features of many small caves and holes. The most striking part is a large hole caused by erosion of limestone that looks like a hollow eye socket, thus the name 'Khao Kalok', which means 'Skull Mountain'.

There is a 150-metre-long nature study trail that leads to the peak, which is a viewpoint that offers the bird's-eye view of the sea.

The route is quite steep and is home to plants like cactus and Chan Pha, which are part of the limestone ecosystem, in which the nature has made them able to survive in the arid areas. The beach at the foot of Khao Kalok has relaxing atmosphere, especially in the afternoon, as it is under the shade of Khao Kalok.



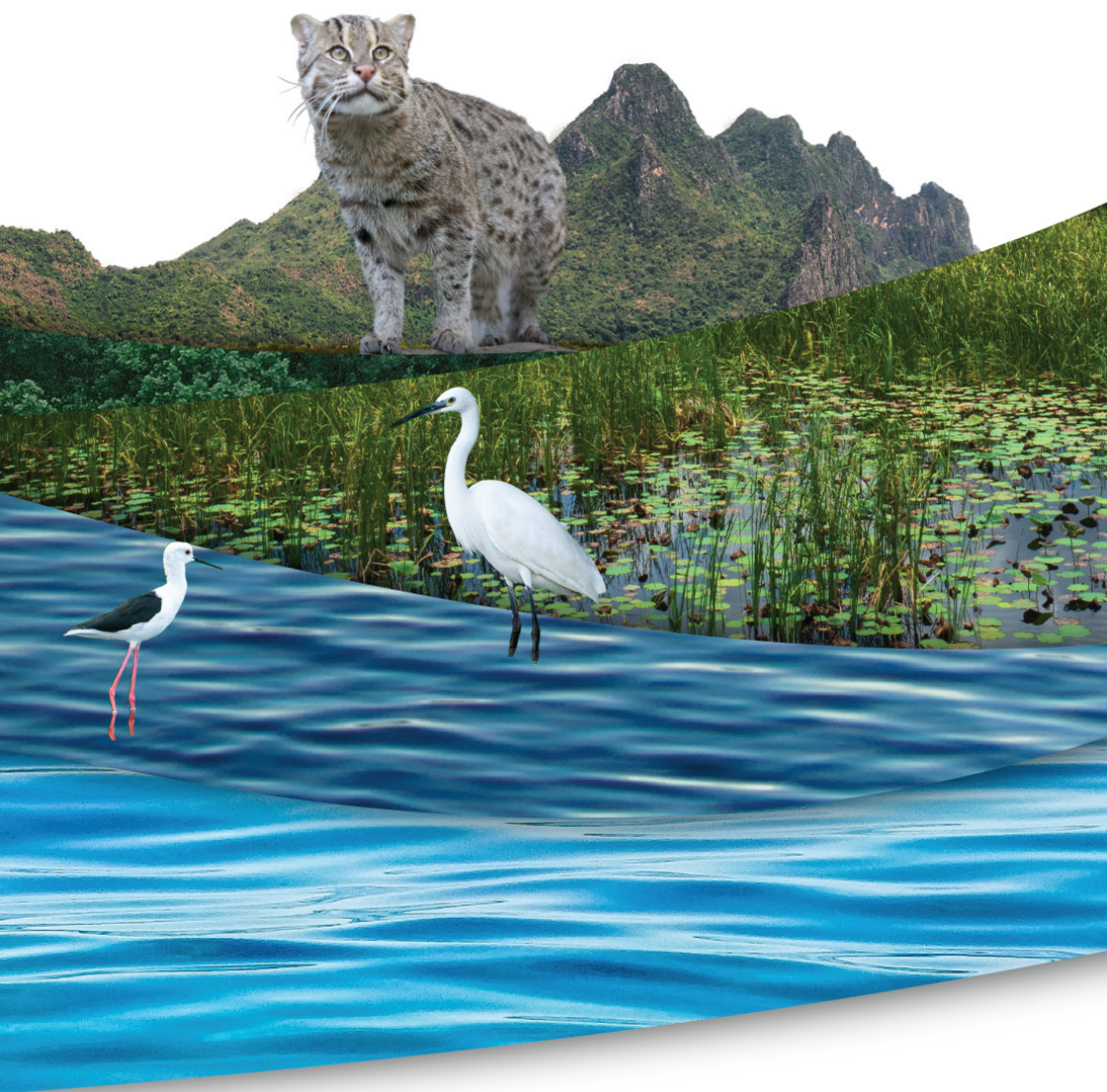
- ⊕ GPS Coordination 12.3396, 99.9985
- 📍 Khao Kalok is located in Tambon Pak Nam Pran, Amphoe Pran Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (7 kilometres from Ban Pak Nam Pran)



Khao Sam Roi Yot

National Park







The limestone mountain range with complex peaks that stretches in parallel to the coast, Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park is consisted of various ecosystems, including land ecosystem along the limestone mountains, coastal ecosystem along the mangrove forests and beach forests, as well as wetland ecosystem.





Hat Sam Roi Yot (Sam Roi Yot Beach)

Spectacular Scenery and Fishermen's Way of Life

A 7-kilometre-long curved beach with lovely scenery of islands and mountains as the background, Hat Sam Roi Yot is endowed with several seaside accommodations. The atmosphere is especially picturesque during sunrise and in the afternoon when the sun lowers and cool breeze blows through the air.

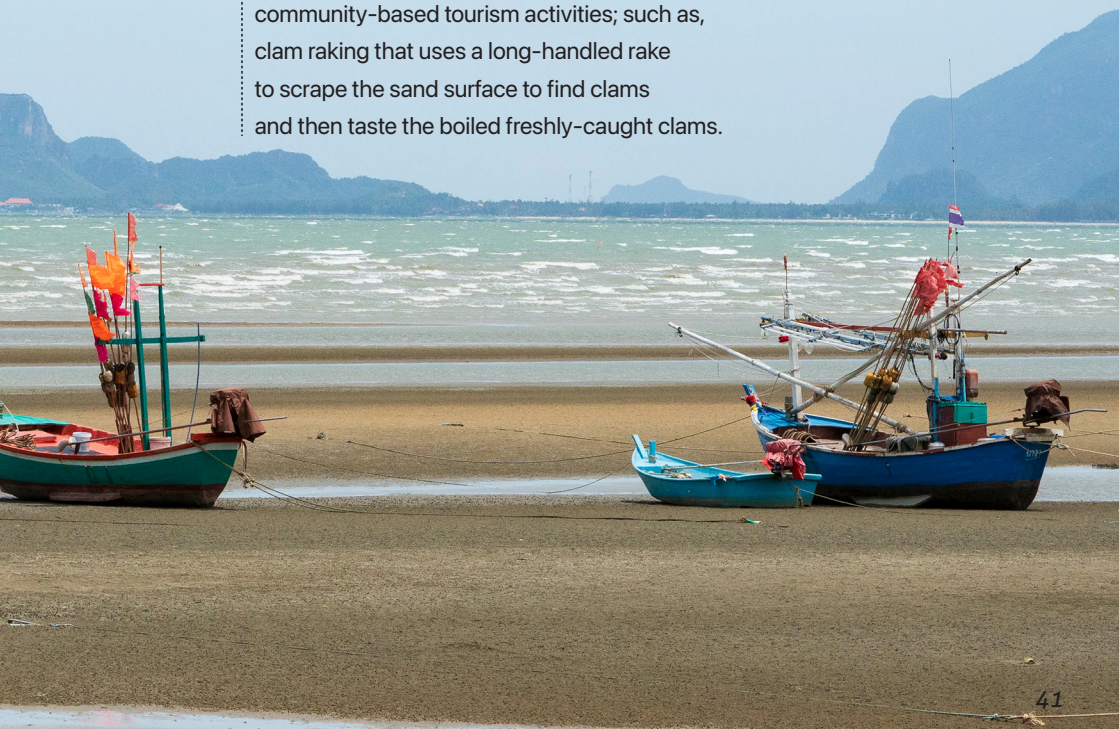
At the southern end of the beach is Nong Khao Niao Fishing Community with numerous colourful fishing boats docking at the pier. Most of the fishing boats here are small boats, including boats for catching crabs and prawns, in which the produces are transported ashore at different times. Visitors can buy fresh seafood in the village or visit nearby restaurants for freshly-prepared seafood.



- 📍 GPS Coordination 12.2767, 99.9742
- 📍 Hat Sam Roi Yot is located in Tambon Sam Roi Yot, Amphoe Sam Roi Yot , Prachuap Khiri Khan province, 20 kilometres from Pran Buri town (15 kilometre from Phraya Nakhon Cave)
- ☎ +66 (0) 8 1191 7382, +66 (0) 8 0607 4500
- 🕒 Best period to travel is January-May

🔍 Experience the Fishermen's Way of Life with Community-based Tourism

Visitors can enjoy several fun and stomach-filling community-based tourism activities; such as, clam raking that uses a long-handled rake to scrape the sand surface to find clams and then taste the boiled freshly-caught clams.








Hat Sam Phraya (Sam Phraya Beach)

Camping in the Midst of the Nature of the Sea

The one-kilometre-long beach that has the most natural environment in the Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park, Hat Sam Phraya has tranquil atmosphere and is well-shaded by rows of pine trees. The beach is under the supervision of the National Park, therefore it is clean and is equipped with wonderful camping ground and restaurant that serves seafood freshly-caught from the sea.

- ⊕ GPS Coordination 12.1517, 99.9832
- 📍 Hat Sam Phraya is located in Tambon Kui Buri, Amphoe Kui Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (35 kilometres from Ban Pak Nam Pran, 25 kilometres from Kui Buri town)
- ☎ Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park +66 (0) 3282 1568
+66 (0) 3282 1568, +66 (0) 8 5428 3364
- 🕒 Best period to travel is January-May
- 💰 National Park fee 200 THB
Camping ground service fee 30THB per person/night



Coastal Plants

Coastal plants are not only coconut trees, but also include several plants that make up beach forest ecosystem. These plants are designed to withstand drought, heat, salinity, and extreme wind wave condition, as well as to grow well in sandy soil that cannot hold water, and therefore they are low in minerals. Examples of coastal plants are seashore screwpine, beach cabbage, and suicide tree. These coastal plants create a balance between the sea and land, prevent the coastal sand dunes from eroding, and shield the sea wind and saline vapour of sea water. These plants have also helped save lives from the natural disaster, including the Tsunami. Several beach forest ecosystems have changed, such as, transformed into coconut plantations for agricultural activities, or converted into plots for growing sea pine trees, which are invasive plant species from other areas but they are designed to survive well in the beach environment and able to propagate and then implicitly occupy the original beach forest.





Ban Hua Tan Thaeo Tourism Community

Experience the Local Way of Life and Nature

An old community in the Khao Sam Roi Yot area, where the name 'Hua Tan Thaeo' (translates to 'palm at the front') is derived from the story that in the past, there was a gigantic palm tree standing majestically in the front of the village. This community has launched a creative travel programme where visitors can become a farmer, explore the local fishing method, and learn the secret recipe of traditional Thai dessert that uses ingredients from palm and coconut plantations.

Making Khanom Tan (Toddy Palm Cake)

Learn to make traditional Thai dessert like Khanom Tan (toddy palm cake), in which the ingredient is sourced from the palm trees in the village. Mix the crushed ripe toddy palm fruit with rice flour and palm sugar, knead them, and pour the mixture into a cup made from leaves with nice aroma.



Enjoy Eating Dessert and Watching Butterfly Lizards

Enjoy grandma Lek's traditional Thai dessert at a dessert shop in the coconut plantation that is home to tame butterfly lizards that emerge from the holes to greet visitors. A reptile of the same specie as chameleon but cannot change the skin colour, butterfly lizards reside in the holes of the sandy soil that they dug, and eat insects and worms as food, therefore they are considered an animal that helps keeping the balance of the ecosystem.





Make Ancient Kalamae (Sweet and Sticky Candy)

Kalamae or sweet and sticky candy is an ancient dessert that requires wisdom, strength, and patience to make. The process involves making a fire with banana leaves that is great for controlling heat and giving aroma to the dessert, and using high quality ingredients from nature. Kalamae is made with only a few ingredients, including rice, coconut milk, and palm sugar, and is made by continuously stirring of no less than 8 hours.

Although the grandpas and grandmas are of old age, their strengths and skills are still excellent. Visitors can try their hands at making Kalamae and taste freshly-made and aromatic Kalamae, or purchase them as souvenir.

- 📍 GPS Coordination 12.212650, 99.976917
- 📍 Ban Hua Tan Thaeo Tourism Community is located in Tambon Sam Roi Yot, Amphoe Sam Roi Yot, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (25 kilometres from Ban Pak Nam Pran, 7 kilometres from Phraya Nakhon Cave)
- ☎ Ban Hua Tan Thaeo Tourism Community Enterprise +66 (0) 8 9542 5442
- 🕒 Best period to travel is January-May. (Please contact operator in advance)
- 💰 Making ancient Kalamae 800 THB per person
Making Khanom Tan 300 THB per person



Hat Bang Pu (Bang Pu Beach) and Ban Bang Pu

The Door to Phraya Nakhon Cave

Hat Bang Pu is home to a fishing village and is the beginning of the journey to Phraya Nakhon Cave that is situated at Hat Laem Sala (Laem Sala Beach), located to the south of Hat Bang Pu. Visitors have to take a boat around the cape or walk along the nature trail across Khao Thian (Thian Hill) for around 500 metres to reach the starting point for walking to Phraya Nakhon Cave. At Ban Bang Pu, there is a fishing village with houses and boats lining both sides of Bang Pu Canal, which is a canal that connects people way of life and nature together.

Q Fossilised Crabs of Ban Bang Pu

A lot of fossilised crabs are found at Khao Daeng Canal, which indicates that this area has been abundant since the primitive era, and led to the origin of the name Ban Bang Pu, as 'Ban' means 'house or village', 'Bang' means 'area with a waterway', and 'Pu' means 'crab'. The villagers here collect fossilised crabs from the mud under Khao Daeng Canal during summer, and keep them as amulet because it is believed to help with the business to prosper for a long time.



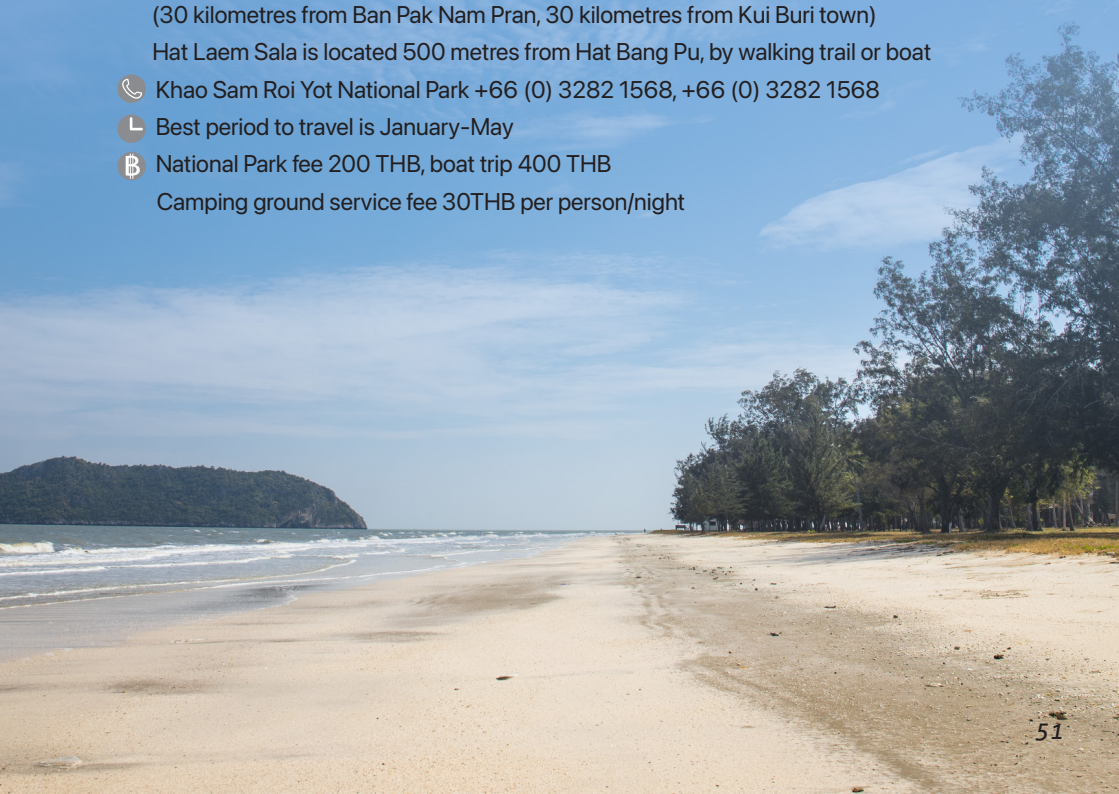


Hat Laem Sala

A Pavilion for Resting

Hat Laem Sala, literally translates to Pavilion Cape Beach, is a natural beach that is surrounded by high mountains. Visitors have to take a boat around the cape from Hat Bang Pu or walk across Khao Thian, which makes this beach like a pavilion for resting before continuing the journey to Phraya Nakhon Cave that is situated behind this beach. Hat Laem Sala is almost cut off from the outside world, allowing the nature condition to be pure and making this beach a great relaxing place and an ideal camping ground for nature lovers.

- 📍 GPS Coordination 12.2064, 100.0095 (Hat Bang Pu)
GPS Coordination 12.2047, 100.0128 (Hat Laem Sala)
- 📍 Hat Bang Pu is located in Tambon Sam Roi Yot,
Amphoe Sam Roi Yot , Prachuap Khiri Khan province
(30 kilometres from Ban Pak Nam Pran, 30 kilometres from Kui Buri town)
Hat Laem Sala is located 500 metres from Hat Bang Pu, by walking trail or boat
- ☎ Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park +66 (0) 3282 1568, +66 (0) 3282 1568
- 🕒 Best period to travel is January-May
- 💰 National Park fee 200 THB, boat trip 400 THB
Camping ground service fee 30THB per person/night





Tham Phraya Nakhon (Phraya Nakhon Cave)

Explore the Exquisitely Magnificent Cave

Tham Phraya Nakhon is a large cave that is a popular tourist destination. Story has it that the governor of Nakhon Si Thammarat travelled by boat and took shelter from the storm around this area. He discovered a beautiful cave, which later was named 'Phraya Nakhon Cave' after the governor. Phraya Nakhon Cave showcases exquisite natural sculptures, and features a large chamber where the cave ceiling has a chimney that allows the light to shine onto Phra Thinang Khuha Kharuehat, a Thai style pavilion constructed by the royal craftsmen during the reign of King Rama V the Great to receive the King. The sight of the light shining onto the pavilion is stunningly magical. The cave has been visited by several other Kings of the Chakri dynasty, and Prachuap Khiri Khan has also made Phra Thinang Khuha Kharuehat the symbol of the province.

- 📍 GPS Coordination 12.1960, 100.0117
- 📍 Tham Phraya Nakhon is located 400 metres from Hat Laem Sala, by walking trail, travel time is about 1 hour 30 min.
- ☎ Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park +66 (0) 3282 1568, +66 (0) 3282 1568
- 🕒 Opening Hours 08:00-15:30
- 💰 National Park fee 200 THB, boat trip 400 THB



How do Caves form?

The nature takes thousands of years to create caves. The process starts with the rainwater, which has the ability to dissolve calcium carbonate. When it rains over the limestone mountain, the water gradually seeps through the cracks of the mountain's rock layers until the cracks get larger and become a gigantic cave. At the same time, the rainwater continues to seep through the layers and forms stalactites, stalagmites, stalagnates, and other speleothems, each of which is caused by different processes.

The Formation of a Stalactite

When the water that seeps through the cracks on the ceilings and walls of the cave drips, the carbon dioxide is released, and calcite is precipitated. The minerals hardens while the water drops from the ceilings and walls to become big and small stalactites.

Stalagmite

When the water that drops onto the cave floor deposits calcium carbonate, it gradually builds up stalagmite that rises from the floor.

Stalagnate

The Mother Nature's test of time, it takes thousands of years for a stalactite and a stalagmite to eventually meet and form a stalagnate or a column of different sizes.



Stone Bridge

As the cave gets older, the cavern becomes bigger because the ceiling gets thinner through corrosion and collapses to become a chimney, while some parts of the ceiling are still strong and eventually form a natural stone bridge.






Primeval Forest in the Cave

A chimney transformed a dark cave into a cave filled with lights. Once the plant seeds fall into the cave, they are able to grow and the cave is then filled with various plants that are able to survive in this condition, most of which are plants in the palm family that like low-light and moist area.

Tham Sai Explore the Cave of Imagination

Tham Sai is a great option for those who enjoy cave exploring, and the journey to explore the cave is moderately difficult. The interior of the cave is divided into 3 sections.

The first section features a crater and small forest, and the path gets more difficult further inside the cave, with wooden stairs to climb the steep boulders to a large and pitch-black chamber that is filled with stalactites, stalagmites, and stalagnates. The last section features a crater that allows lights to illuminate the cave and reveal beautiful stalactites, stalagmites, and a large stone waterfall.

-  GPS Coordination 12.1783, 100.0086
-  Tham Sai is located 12 kilometres from Hat Bang Pu
(Walking distance is 280 metres from car park)
-  Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park +66 (0) 3282 1568
-  Opening Hours 08:30 - 16:00
-  National Park fee 200 THB





Tham Kaeo

Take an Adventure in a Dark Cave

Enjoy a challenging crawl to explore the beauty that is hidden inside dark cave.

Tham Kaeo (Glass Cave) is a narrow and completely dark cave but it is not too difficult for visitors to enjoy exploring the cave on their own. The National Park offers flashlight rental service, as well as provides signs inside the cave.

Once entering the cave, visitors have to duck and crawl through the narrow and low-ceiling cave to get into the inner big chamber that is filled with beautiful stalactites and stalagmites that sparkle in the light, which is the origin of the cave's name.



GPS Coordination 12.2031, 99.9925



Tham Kaeo is located 4 kilometres from Hat Bang Pu
(Walking distance is 128 metres from car park)



Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park +66 (0) 3282 1568



Opening Hours 08:30 - 16:00



National Park fee 200 THB



Khao Daeng Viewpoint

Enjoy the 360-degree Scenery

Khao Daeng (Daeng Hill) is a limestone mountain with beautiful landform. The journey to the peak of Khao Daeng is steep path, particularly the last part that requires visitors to climb over the sharp limestone rock formations. The destination is the viewpoint on the peak that offers spectacular scenery, where the west is the view of the undulating limestone mountains and the east is the coastal plain with houses lining along the Khao Daeng Canal that empties into the Gulf of Thailand.





The Plant Community of Limestone Mountain

The landscape of limestone mountain makes it difficult for plants to grow because the limestone can retain only little water, and the area is exposed to strong wind and sunlight. However, there are several kinds of plants that can grow in the cracks of the limestone mountain, which are where the little organic matters are found.



- 📍 GPS Coordination 12.1309, 99.957
- 📍 Khao Daeng Viewpoint is located 15 kilometres from Hat Bang Pu, (500 metres from National Park Headquarters. Walking distance is 320 metres.
- 📞 Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park +66 (0) 3282 1568
- 🕒 Opening Hours 08:30 - 16:00
(Recommended time is in the early morning and evening.)
- 💰 National Park fee 200 THB







Cruising along Khao Daeng Canal

Enjoy Watching the Water Flows
and the Waterfowls



Khao Daeng Canal is originated from the wetland of Thung Sam Roi Yot that overflows into a short stretch of canal that meanders around Khao Daeng before flowing into the Gulf of Thailand.

The 4-5-kilometre-long cruise takes visitors to see the beauty of the nature that includes mangrove forests on both sides of the canal that is full of various kinds of animals, particularly waterfowls.

- 📍 GPS Coordination 12.1355, 99.9611
- 📍 Khao Daeng Canal Cruise embarking point is located in Khao Daeng Temple (15 kilometres from Hat Bang Pu and 1.8 kilometres from National Park Headquarters)
- ☎ Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park +66 (0) 3282 1568
- 🕒 Opening Hours 08:30 - 17:00
- 💰 National Park fee 200 THB
Canal cruise 500 THB per boat (maximum 5 persons)



The Variety of Life in The Mangrove Forest

Mangrove forest has the most diverse ecosystem and is the only place where terrestrial, aquatic, and aerial animals can coexist. Because it is at the intersection of land and sea, the mangrove forest enables animals from both ecosystems to adapt to live together, and is therefore the most fertile forest among the coastal ecosystems.



Monkeys like to eat seed in the mangrove forest, and the extensive foraging area helps with the seed propagation via excretion. Moreover, monkeys also like to eat mangrove crabs by a clever way of poking a hole with its tail to lure the crabs out. By eating the crabs, it helps to prevent the excessive number of mangrove crabs.

Crabs usually eat the remains of the mangrove leaves and the crab larvae becomes food for fish. Although crabs mostly hide in the mud hole, they still become food for monkeys and birds.



Asian Water Monitor can live both on land and in the water and they like to eat the remains of rotten animals. Therefore, they are not predators but they are the decomposer and cleaner of the mangrove forest.



Birds can freely fly in the forest, above the mountain, and over the water. Mangrove forest is home to the waterfowls that come to feed on plants, insect, crabs, and fish, and they can hunt for food in various ways. Some of the birds in the mangrove forest have long legs that enables them to easily walk through the water and catch fish, while some of them have large wings that allow them to glide and catch fish in-flight.

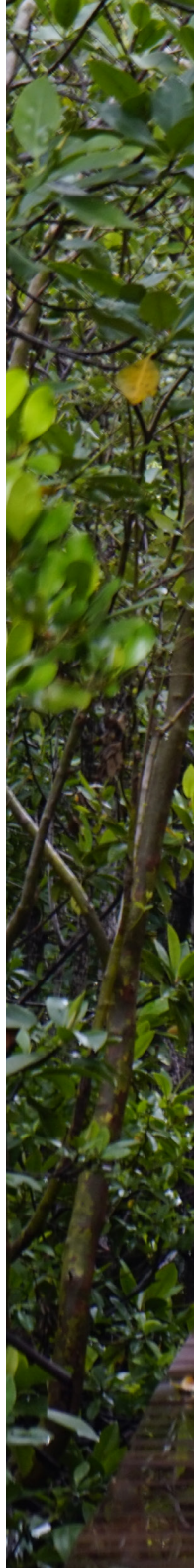
Fish of some kinds spend their childhood in the mangrove forest; such as, grouper and snapper, which feed on plankton and crab larvae. These fish usually use the cluttered roots of the mangrove trees as a hiding spot and rely on the murky water to hide from the predators.



Mangrove Forest Nature Study Trail

Gain an In-depth Understanding of the Mangrove Forest

Take a stroll along the 250-metre-long elevated boardwalk that extends across the mangrove forest where a variety of living things, including plants, aquatic animals, amphibians, terrestrial animals, and birds live together to form an ecosystem. The starting point of the trail is the exhibition building that exhibits information about nature and ecology, while the highlight of the trail is the observation tower that offers the panoramic scenery of the mangrove forest. If lucky, one might get to see dusky leaf monkey too.



- ⊕ GPS Coordination 12.1285, 99.9548
- 📍 Mangrove Forest Nature Study Trail is located in the area of National Park Headquarters
- 📞 Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park +66 (0) 3282 1568
- 🕒 Opening Hours 08:30 - 16:00
- 💰 National Park fee 200 THB





The Wide Array of Mangrove Plant Species

Mangrove plant species are affected by the tides, in which in some area, they have to withstand the strong wind while growing in the saline soils.

Therefore, the mangrove plant species have special ability that are different from other plant species in the terrestrial forests.



Red Mangrove is the main plant species of the mangrove forest and is most easily found. These trees grow in soft mud in the deeply flooded area near the coast. The unique feature of the red mangrove is the buttress roots around the base of the trunk that resemble a spider's legs, which provide structural support so the tree can survive in the soft muddy soil. The roots also help the trees to breathe in the muddy soil that has low oxygen level, and serves as a natural sieve that filters and prevents garbage and toxic substances from entering the sea.





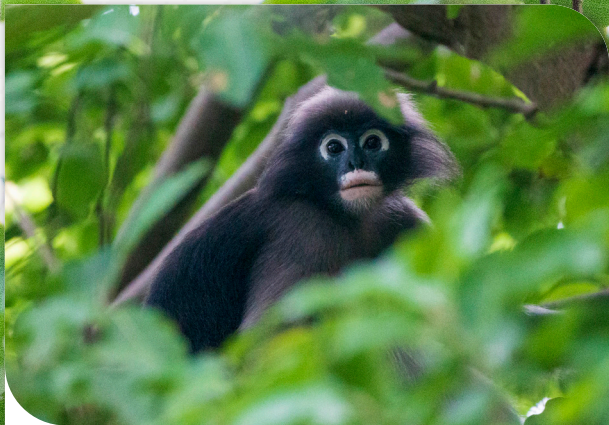
Grey Mangrove can excrete salt through the glands on the leaves. Their aerial roots spread out underground to harvest food and above the ground surface to enable the roots to breathe, while the heart-shaped yellowish green fruits with soft shell are the favourite food of dusky leaf monkey.



Milky Mangrove is the poison of the mangrove forest, as its sap is poisonous that can cause blindness if it contacted the eyes, skin irritation if contacted the skin, or severe diarrhea if consumed. Although it is poisonous, its timber is useful when burned because the smoke can be used to cure leprosy.



Herbaceous Seepweed is a delicious plant of the mangrove forest because the young leaves have pleasantly salty flavour. Villagers pick the leaves and put them in the sour curry or in Thai-style omelette instead of climbing wattle because they have rich and salty taste, chewy texture, and do not have strong smell like climbing wattle.



Dusky Leaf Monkey

The dusky leaf monkey looks like monkey but has longer tail and white circles around the eyes that makes it look like they are wearing glasses.

They are mischievous but tamer than crab-eating macaque, and they live in groups among the trees on high mountains. A troop of dusky leaf monkey has a hierarchy, led by a dominant male.

These monkeys usually come down from the mountain to the mangrove forest to eat young leaves and fruits of grey mangrove. They can be found around the foot of the hill, Wat Khao Tham, Thung Sam Roi Yot, and the nature study trail at the National Park Headquarters.







Bryde's Whale

Whale is the world's largest mammal and can be found around the north of the Gulf of Thailand, particularly at Hat Bo Nok (Bo Nok Beach), which is situated to the south of Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park and is an estuary filled with plankton and small fish that are Bryde's whale food. When the Bryde's whales are fully grown, they are around 15 metres long and weigh around 25 tonnes. The Bryde's whale usually emerges from the water to breathe and chases the schools of fish, before opening its mouth wide above the water to eat those fish. Bryde's whale is also a great indicator of the abundance of the ecosystem.







Thung Sam Roi Yot (Sam Roi Yot Wetland)

A World-class Wetland

Thung Sam Roi Yot is an enormous freshwater wetland situated to the west of Sam Roi Yot Mountain Range. Geologists presume that around ten thousand years ago, the sea level was higher than present and this area was once a sea. When the sea level dropped, this basin became a vast wetland with the area of over 40,000 rai (6,400 hectares) that stores the water from many streams from the Tenasserim Range before overflowing into Khao Daeng Canal and flowing into the Gulf of Thailand.

Thung Sam Roi Yot looks like a grass meadow, but it actually is a shallow swamp that is endowed with a variety of grass plants and aquatic plants. It is home to various kinds of animals, including fish and waterfowls that rely on the fertility of the wetland for their livelihood. The rich biodiversity has enabled Thung Sam Roi Yot to be registered as Ramsar site number 2238.



The Web of Life in the Wetlands



Poaceae (or grass family) is the main occupants of Thung Sam Roi Yot Wetland, with the most outstanding one being common reed.

Thung Sam Roi Yot Wetland features the largest common reed field in Thailand. Common reed helps stabilise the soil surface during flooding and stores abundance within Thung Sam Roi Yot.

Bulrush can grow well in the wetland areas and when winter comes, its flowers release the seeds that get wafted away by the breeze for propagation. Bulrush is in fact a kind of weed and can absorb contaminants in the water well.

Waterfowls are found a lot in Thung Sam Roi Yot, most of which have long legs and long beak for agility when wading through the water to catch fish. The waterfowls help keeping the number of aquatic plants, insects, and aquatic animals from getting too dense.



Aquatic Plants such as ambulia can grow in the swamp that is not too deep. These plants serve as both a shelter as well as food for several small fish.



Fishing Cat is a rare wild animal that can often be seen at Thung Sam Roi Yot and is the top predator in the food chain. The appearance of the fishing cat is similar to a cat but is big and muscular, with double coat that prevents water from seeping through and helps keeping them warm when hunting in the wetland areas.

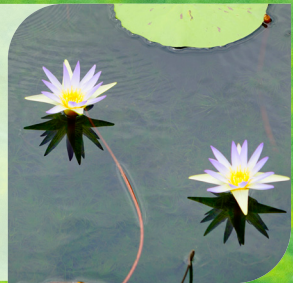
Fascinating Information About Lotus

Lotus is an aquatic plant that can be found a lot at Thung Sam Roi Yot, including those that are grown naturally and the ones that the villagers planted for agriculture. The lotus is a food source for animals and humans, which is a part of the wetland ecosystem.



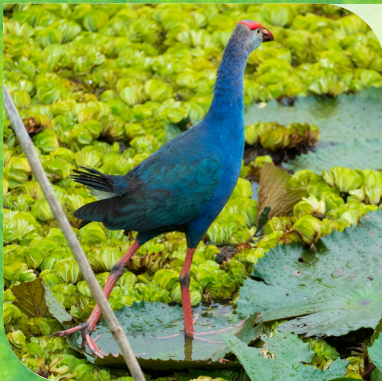
Sacred Lotus has been called the Queen of Aquatic Plants. Thai people usually offer sacred lotus to monks or Buddha images. Its specialty is its large flower that blooms all year round and its stem that is buried underground. Apart from being a beautiful aquatic plant, sacred lotus can also be made into several savoury and sweet menus, where every part can be used, including its pollen, flower, leaf, root, and seed.

Water Lily is smaller in size and shape than sacred lotus, but its colour and beauty is equally the same. The flower floats above the water surface, while its soft stem is often used for cooking.





Droplets Rolling on the Lotus Leaf happens because the leaf of the sacred lotus is full of tiny thorns, which prevents the water from making contact to the leaf surface or penetrating through the leaf. Scientists also use this phenomenon to develop many water-repellent items.



Lotus Leaf Can Float on Water

because water does not adhere to the lotus leaf, allowing the leaf to not have to bear the weight and sink in the water. The lotus leaf acts as cotyledon as well as shield for the small fish to take refuge.



Bueng Bua

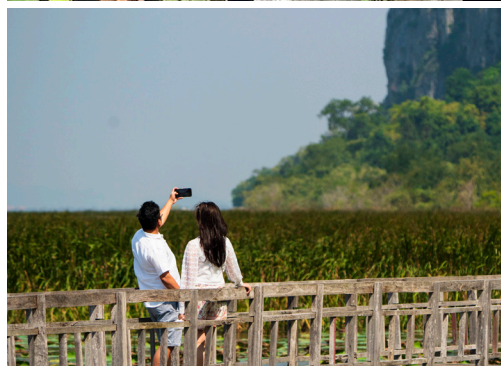
Nature Education Center

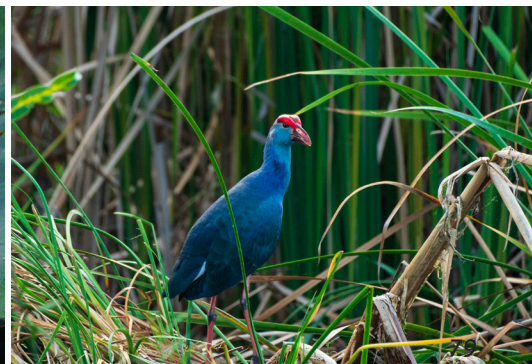
Take a Stroll Over the Gigantic Swamp

The nature study trail has a distance of around 250 metres, with several resting pavilions along the way. The route is flat and easy to walk, and does not take long.

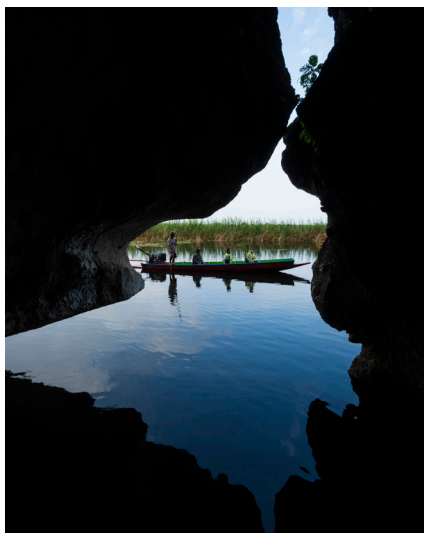
Visitors can enjoy the vista of Thung Sam Roi Yot Wetland with the Sam Roi Yot Mountain as a background. This area is called 'Bueang Bua' (Lotus Swamp) because of the sheer number of lotuses, as well as several other species of plants, that attract many birds to take up residence here. In addition, visitors can also take a boat ride to enjoy an up-close view of the impressive lotus swamp.

- 📍 GPS Coordination 12.2440, 99.9324
- 📍 Bueng Bua Nature Education Center is located in Tambon Sam Roi Yot, Amphoe Sam Roi Yot, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (10 kilometres from Sam Roi Yot town and 40 kilometres from Ban Pak Nam Pran)
- ☎️ Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park +66 (0) 3282 1568
- 🕒 Opening Hours 08:30 - 17:30
- 💰 National Park fee 200 THB
Boat trip 500 THB per boat (maximum 5 persons)









Boat Trip Through Thung Sam Roi Yot

Explore the Wetland Area Up Close

Take a boat trip to explore the wetland of Thung Sam Roi Yot with the local villagers who reside around Thung Sam Roi Yot and have long been relying on the abundance of this wetland to make a living through fishing and lotus farming. The highlight of this boat trip is the spectacular scenery of the limestone mountains as the backdrop of the lotus swamp. Visitors can also see the rich biodiversity of the wetlands where umbrella plants, bulrushes, and common reeds grow among the colourful lotuses. Waterfowls can also be spotted along the way. There is also a limestone island in the middle of water that shows traces of the sea level in the past and shallow cave caused by wind wave erosion. Visitors can also see dusky leaf monkeys foraging among the trees.



GPS Coordination 12.2005, 99.9135



Ban Ko Mon - Ko Phai Tourism Community is located in Tambon Rai Mai, Amphoe Sam Roi Yot, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (8.5 kilometres from Sam Roi Yot town and 8.7 kilometres from Bueng Bua Nature Education Center)



Ban Ko Mon - Ko Phai Tourism Community +66 (0) 8 0956 7876



Chom Thung Pier - Ko Phai Camping +66 (0) 6 2770 2822



Opening Hours 06:00 - 18:00 (Please contact operator in advance.)



Boat trip 600 THB per boat (maximum 4 persons)



The Varieties of Waterfowls

Birds are wild animals that have highest biodiversity in the nature and can be seen easily because they travel everywhere and always make sound.

Birds are considered the liveliness of the wetlands and streams and make tourism more colourful.



Heron has white feathers, long legs, long neck, and long beak that make it convenient for them to stalk in the water and hunt fish. The most commonly found heron is great egret, and sometimes little egret, which features two long plumes that grow from the back of the crown during mating season.



Stork looks like egret because they both belong to the same family, but stork has thicker base of the beak. The two rare storks that can be found within Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park are purple heron and grey heron.



Little Heron is a bird of the heron family, but has shorter legs than other species of heron. The little heron usually quietly perches on a branch alone to wait for prey and are more intelligent than other birds with a predator behaviour that increases the chances of hunting.

Eagle is the king of water and sky that usually flies in the sky and searches for prey in the water with their sharp eyes and quickly swoops down on their prey. The two types of eagles that can be spotted in the Khao Sam Roi Yot area are white-bellied sea eagle and greater spotted eagle.



Purple Swampfen is colourful and more outstanding than other birds in the wetland. They usually hide on the bed of bulrush and have ability to walk and run on the floating lotus leaves to eat aquatic plant, seaweed, and freshwater clams.



Black-capped Kingfisher is one of the agile hunters that usually perches on the branches near the water to wait for the prey and attacks its prey quickly and viciously. This kind of bird has big beak comparing to its body size, and has strikingly beautiful colours.



Black-winged Stilt can be easily found in the wetland area. These medium-sized and attractive birds have needle-like beak and longer legs than other waterfowls, which allow them to walk in the water and catch small fish with their sharp beak.



A Variety of Flavours from a variety of biodiversity.

The abundance of nature in the forest, river, and sea leads to many delicious dishes. The Pak Nam Pran and Khao Sam Roi Yot areas feature several menus made from high quality ingredients.



Sun-dried Squid is the popular delicacy of Ban Pak Nam Pran, which is made by sun-drying large-sized splendid squid from sunrise to 4 p.m. until the water is dried out so there will not be fishy smell. Deep-fry the sun-dried squid in hot oil, and the squid will have fluffy and bouncy texture with naturally sweet and salty flavours. Ban Pak Nam Pran's sun-dried squid is tasty and fresh because the fishermen use small boats to catch the squid and they return to the shore on a daily basis. Sun-dried squid can be enjoyed at restaurants in Pran Buri and Khao Sam Roi Yot areas.

Herbaceous Seepweed is a tasty vegetable that grows in mangrove forest and along the ridge of the salt evaporation pond, which makes them have slightly salty flavour and gooey texture. They can be made into various menus; such as, stir-fry with egg or put in Thai-style omelette, sour curry, or crab curry. Apart from the delicious taste, the herbaceous seepweed is rich in iodine that has the property of preventing goitre and anti-oxidant that prevents cancer.



Thai sour curry with Herbaceous Seepweed (top)
Scrambled eggs with Herbaceous Seepweed (left)
Crab curry with Herbaceous Seepweed (right)
Served at National Park's welfare restaurant.

Snakeskin Gourami is the most caught aquatic animal in Thung Sam Roi Yot and reflects the fertility of this wetland. Every morning, the villagers would take the boat out to catch the fish and make sun-dried snakeskin gourami for sale.



Lotus Stolon is the young stem of lotus, in which the stolon of sacred lotus is in white colour and is crunchy. It is usually boiled or stir-fried, or put the fresh stolon in Somtam or sour curry dishes, which showcase its crunchiness as well as its ability to absorb the taste of curry or salad dressing.

Fried Snakeskin Gourami (Left)

Thai sour curry with lotus stolon (Right)

Served in Ban Ko Phai - Ko Mon
boat trip programme.



Lotus stolon spicy salad with shrimp.

Served at Dam Noen Kasem Restaurant.

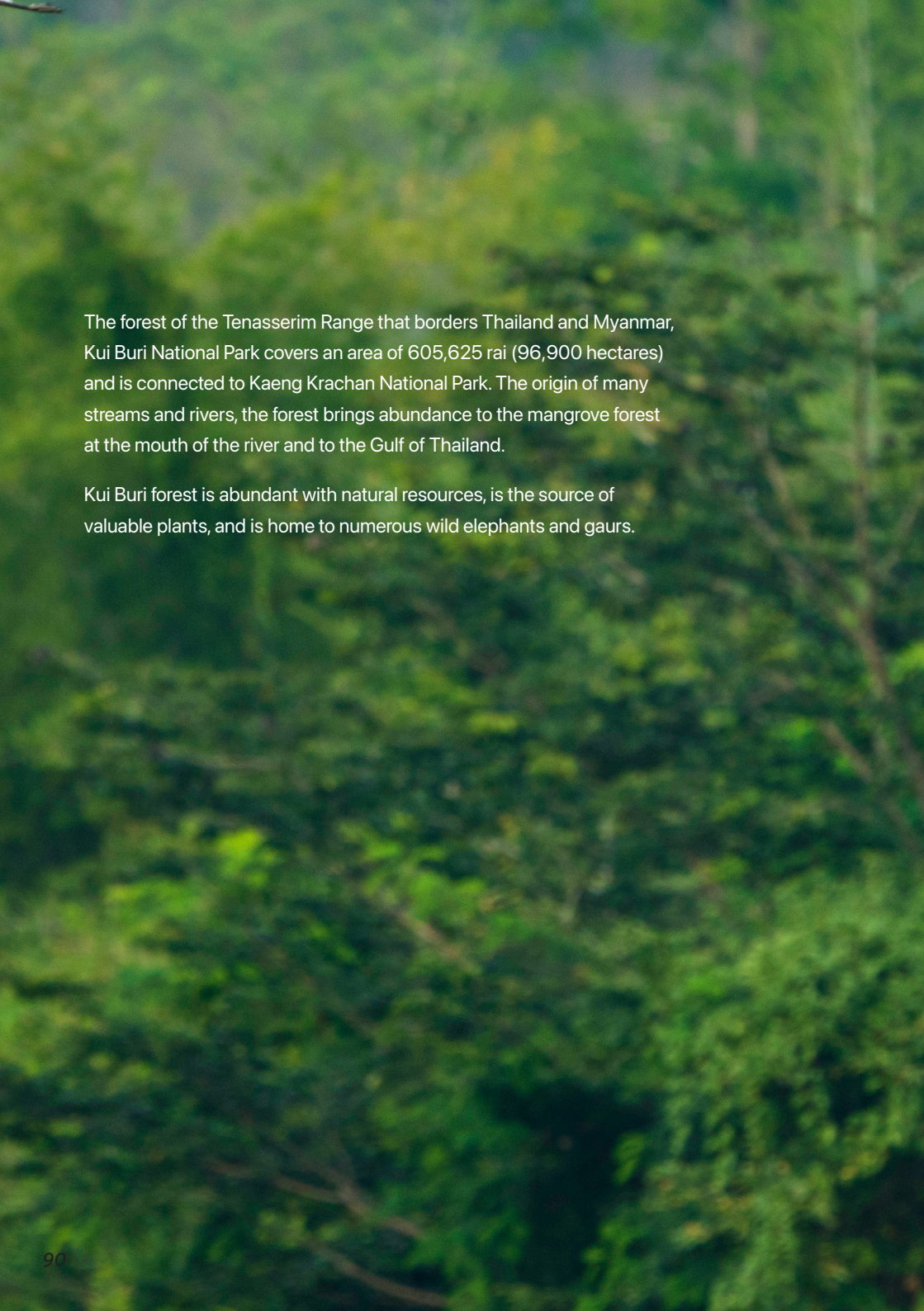




Kui Buri

National Park





The forest of the Tenasserim Range that borders Thailand and Myanmar, Kui Buri National Park covers an area of 605,625 rai (96,900 hectares) and is connected to Kaeng Krachan National Park. The origin of many streams and rivers, the forest brings abundance to the mangrove forest at the mouth of the river and to the Gulf of Thailand.

Kui Buri forest is abundant with natural resources, is the source of valuable plants, and is home to numerous wild elephants and gaurs.





Wild Elephants and Gaurs

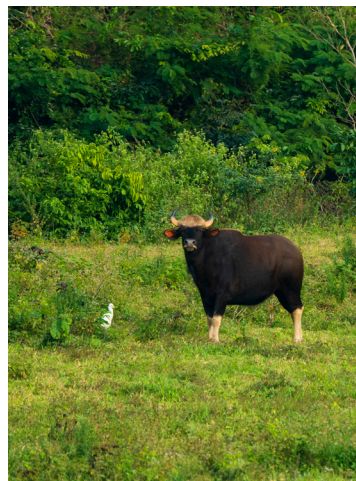
Watching Spots

The Real Safari of Thailand

This is one of the easiest places in Thailand for visitors to spot large wild animals, particularly wild elephants and gaurs that start foraging in the afternoon. The National Park organises a wild animal viewing activity, in which visitors ride on a four-wheel drive along the 7-kilometre-long off-road track that is flanked by forests and grasslands, with four wildlife watching spots along the way.

The thrills of wildlife watching are the joy of waiting for the wildlife to appear, and the opportunity to learn their behaviour and to see wild elephants and gaurs in the natural habitat up close.

- 📍 GPS Coordination 12.1388, 99.6468
- 📍 Wild elephants and gaurs watching route start from Huai Luek Ranger Unit, Tambon Hat Kham, Amphoe Kui Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (16 kilometres from Kui Buri National Park Headquarters and 27 kilometres from Kui Buri town)
- 📞 Huai Luek Ranger Unit, Kui Buri National Park.
+66 (0) 9 2656 6875
- 🕒 Opening Hours 14:00 - 17:00
- 💰 Four-wheel drive tour 850 THB per car (maximum 6 persons)
National Park fee 200 THB







The Coexistence of Gaurs and Friends

Gaur is the second largest herbivore after elephant and there are over 250 of them in Kui Buri National Park. Gaurs are usually found in herds, from a small herd of 3 to 4 gaurs to a large herd with over 50 members.

The family structure of gaurs is similar to wild elephants, where the leader is male that is over 10 years old, and the rest of the members are mostly female because when the male gaurs are fully grown, they are driven out of the herd to live alone before finding their own herd.



When the gaurs wake up in the afternoon, they head to find food in the meadows, allowing people to see them easily. Gaurs are important in the ecosystem, as they maintain balance and control the number of plants, preserve the forest structure, and help with seed dispersal.

Gaurs have high caution instinct

because they have excellent sense of smell and sound. Whenever they hear or smell something strange or if we moved, the gaurs would stand still to observe the situation. If they see no danger, some of the gaurs would continue foraging while others continue to keep watch.

Cattle Egret can fly high in the sky and get the better bird's-eye view of the forest than others. Wherever they see the herds of gaurs or wild elephants foraging food, the cattle egrets would fly over to join them because they feed on the insects on the ground that becomes flustered by the herds of animals, or those that infest the wild animals.

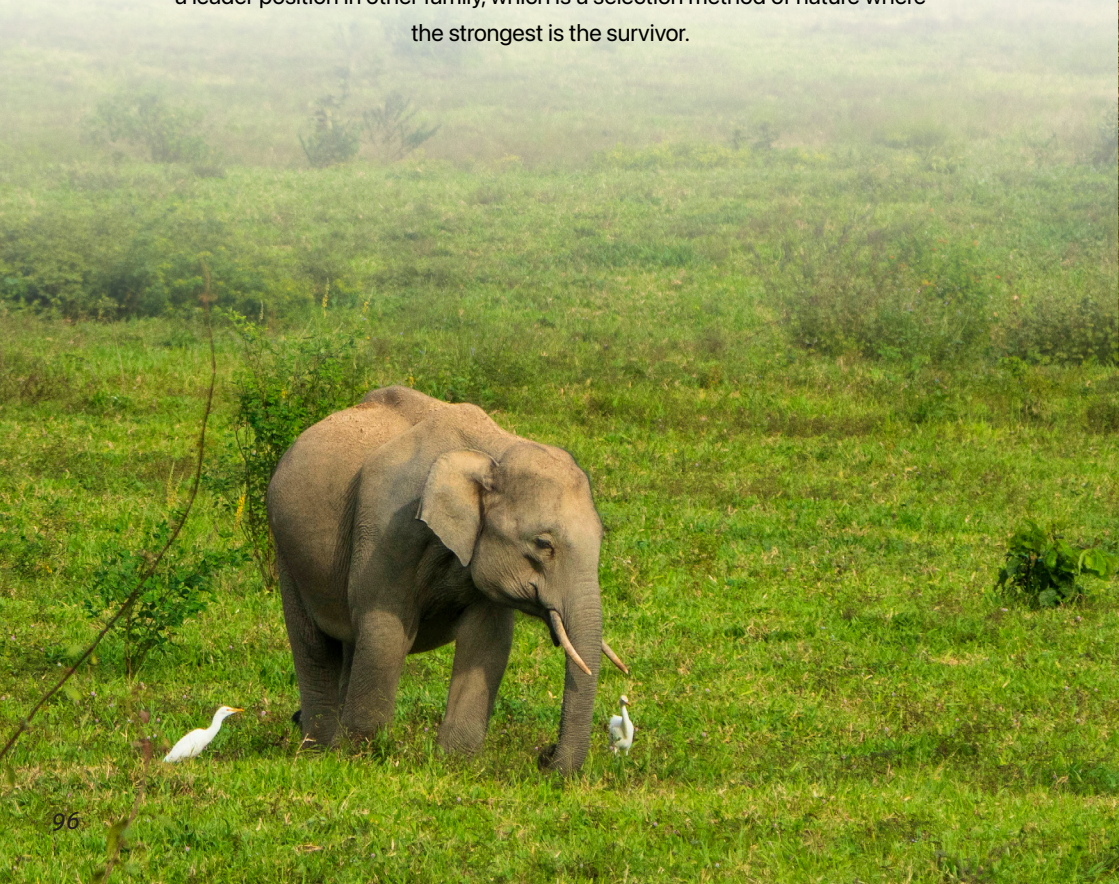


Life Story of the Wild Elephants

Wild elephants spend more than 16 hours a day eating, in which they normally topple trees, break tree branches, and pull grasses and vines.

The destruction turns out to benefit the small animals, as they are able to eat food from high treetops, and also helps control the number of plants from getting too dense and allowing younger plants to grow. Moreover, the behaviour of eating and excreting as they stroll helps producing compost and propagating plants in the nature.

In Kui Buri National Park, there are 300 wild elephants and 22 families, in which each family consists of around 10-40 elephants. However, there are some elephants that roam around alone, and they are the ones with fierce and misbehaved character, which led them to be driven out of the herd. When they are older and stronger, they would compete for a leader position in other family, which is a selection method of nature where the strongest is the survivor.



Who is this Elephant?

Information about the number of elephants and families of the wild elephants can be found from the DNA collected from the mucus layer of the elephant dung. The dung can also tell the elephant's age, in which texture of young elephant's dung is fine while the older elephant's dung is coarse. The urine that is mixed with the dung can also determine the elephant's gender.

How Abundant is the Forest?

The remains of food in the elephant's dung can tell us what the elephants have been eating, and how abundant and diverse the food source is. The elephant's food includes grasses, vines, leaf buds, and roots.

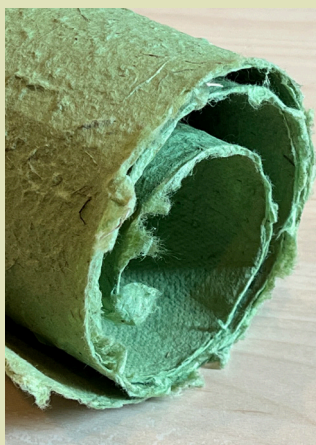
What Can the
Elephant Dung
Tell us ?



Ban Ruam Thai Tourism Community

Way of Life and the Unique Bond with Wild Elephants

A village at the edge of Kui Buri Forest is a village where the villagers live closely to the elephants. The villagers grow pineapple for a living and the elephants often secretly come to feed on the pineapple, thus the villagers here know the wild elephants very well. Visitors can ride in a car to view the wild elephants with the villagers who have knowledge about wild elephants, gaurs, and ecosystem, as well as join a workshop to make paper from elephant's dung and pineapple leaves.



- 📍 GPS Coordination 12.1035, 99.6660
- 📍 Ban Ruam Thai Tourism Community is located in Tambon Hat Kham, Amphoe Kui Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (6.5 kilometres from Huai Luek Ranger Unit and 25 kilometres from Kui Buri town)
- ☎ Ban Ruam Thai Tourism Community Enterprise +66 (0) 89 379 9368
- 📞 Please contact operator in advance.
- 💰 Paper making course 300THB per person.





Sandalwood Stump

Nature Study Trail

The nature study trail is around 500 metres long and is the animal path that stretches to the dry evergreen forest and mixed deciduous forest. This is where several valuable perennial plants are found including sandalwood, which has distinctive fragrance and is a kind of rare plants that can be found in Kui Buri forest. A journey along this route requires a National Park staff to help lead the way for safety and to provide information about the ecosystem.

The prominent feature of this route is the stump of sandalwood that has been cut to use in the royal cremation of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej the Great, the members of the royal family, and the Supreme Patriarch.



- ⊕ GPS Coordination 12.0515, 99.6240
- 📍 Sandalwood Stump Nature Study Trail is located in Kui Buri National Park headquarter area, Tambon Hat Kham, Amphoe Kui Buri, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (27 kilometres from Kui Buri town)
- 📞 Kui Buri National Park. +66 (0) 3251 0453, +66 (0) 8 1776 2410
- 🕒 Opening Hours 8:30 - 12:00
- 💰 National Park fee 200 THB





Learn More About Sandalwood

Sandalwood is a **deciduous perennial plant** of medium to large size that can be found a lot in Prachuap Khiri Khan, particularly in Kui Buri National Park, and grows well in dry evergreen forest.

Sandalwood was once a well-known **export product** of Ayutthaya and was popular among the members of the royal family for making into a comb, incense stick, and herbal medicine.

Sandalwood is one of the **4 important Thai natural fragrance**, which include agarwood, Malayan spurge tree, scented flowers, and sandalwood, in which the oil from sandalwood can be made into perfume and cosmetics.

According to a belief in Thailand, Sandalwood is considered an auspicious plant and a **sacrificial ceremony** to pay respect to the guardians who protect the tree is needed to be performed every time before cutting the tree.

Sandalwood that is used in the royal ceremony is the sandalwood that **naturally dies** only, as it produces nice fragrance. It is used to make a sandalwood urn, the base of the urn, the funeral pyre, the sandalwood flower, and sandalwood logs.

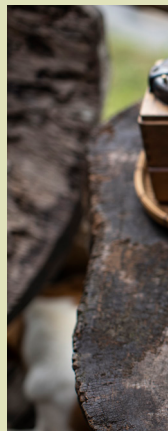


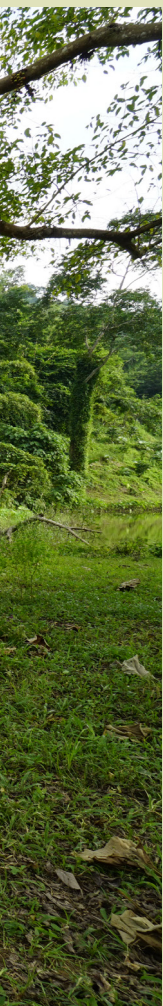
Ban Pa Mak Tourism Community

Enjoy Camping and Savouring the Aroma of Coffee

A dream community that is hidden in the valley in the middle of Kui Buri forest of the Tenasserim Range, Ban Pa Mak Tourism Community has a stream running from the fertile forest through the village where the villagers live a simple life. It is a village where the Karen people settled down since World War II.

The journey to this village takes a lot of determination because the route is quite challenging, but the beauty of this dream community makes it worth all the trouble.





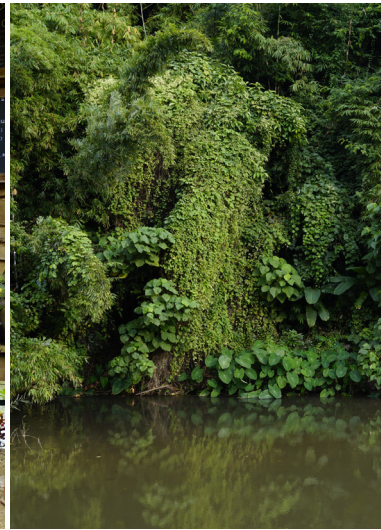
Camping by the Stream

A popular activity for those visiting Ban Pa Mak is camping by the stream to fully indulge in the beauty of nature. Enjoy camping in the meadow under big trees and listening to the sound of the flowing stream. The golden rule of this place is to keep the camping ground clean and quiet.

Pa Chang Khao Robusta Coffee Roasting Activity

Crossing the yellow-coloured suspension bridge that is in the middle of the village leads visitors to a coffee shop with amazing atmosphere. Here, visitors can enjoy the most beautiful view of the stream in the village, savour coffee while admiring the view, or enjoy coffee roasting and dripping activity. The coffee here is grown organically by the villagers.

- 📍 GPS Coordination 12.276383, 99.576593
- 📍 Ban Pa Mak Tourism Community is located in Tambon Sala Lai, Amphoe Sam Roi Yot, Prachuap Khiri Khan province (57 kilometres from Pran Buri town)
- ☎ Ban Pa Mak Tourism Community Enterprise +66 (0) 8 0634 8199
- 📞 Please contact operator in advance.
- 💰 Camping ground service fee 50-100 THB
Coffee roasting activity 150 THB







Ban Yan Sue Tourism Community

Camping by Khlong Bueng Reservoir

Ban Yan Sue is another village near the Kui Buri forest where the villagers rely on agricultural activities and the abundant natural resources for their livelihood.

The village features Khlong Bueng Reservoir that has mesmerising scenery, camping ground, accommodation, as well as restaurants and cafes with wonderful ambience.

The atmosphere here is particularly beautiful during sunset, and this is one of the destinations that campers should not miss.



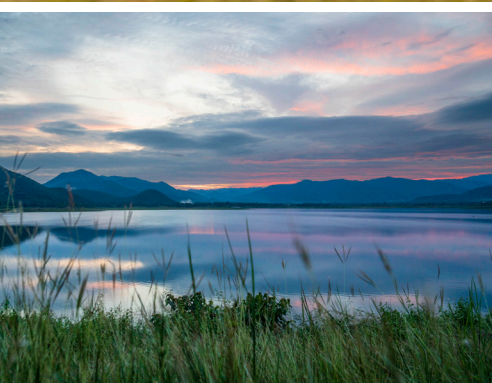
📍 GPS Coordination 11.927493, 99.708454

📍 Ban Yan Sue Tourism Community is located in the area of Klong Bueng Reservoir ,
Tambon Ao Noi, Amphoe Mueng, Prachuap Khiri Khan province
(30 kilometres from Kui Buri town)

☎ Ban Yan Sue Tourism Community Enterprise +66 (0) 8 9919 8490

💰 Camping ground service fee 50-100 THB







Chaomae Thapthim Thong Shrine
Sirinart Rajini
Mangrove Ecosystem Learning Center

3B Pran Buri Forest Park

1 Pak Nam Pran
Tourism Community

5 Hat Pran Buri

4 Hat Khao Kalok

6 Tham Phraya Nakhon

7 Hat Sam Phraya

Khao Sam Roi Yot
National Park Headquarters

Khao Daeng Canal

8



Sample Travel itinerary

Pran Buri - Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park

Day 1 Ban Pak Nam Pran Buri

- Morning Depart from Bangkok to Pran Buri (3 hours)
- ① Visit **Pak Nam Pran Tourism Community** to explore the way of life of the fishing community and visit Blue Swimming Crab Bank.
- Noon Seafood luncheon in **Ban Pak Nam Pran**.
- Afternoon ② Visit **Chaomae Thapthim Thong Shrine**, the centre of faith for Pak Nam Pran Community.
- ③A Learn about mangrove ecology at **Sirinart Rajini Mangrove Ecosysem Learning Center**.
- ③B or visit **Pranburi Forest Park**.
- Check-in at an accommodation in **Hat Pran Buri** area.
- Evening ④ Enjoy the beautiful atmosphere of **Hat Khao Kalok**.
-

Day 2 Hat Pran Buri - Khao Sam Roi Yot.

- Morning ⑤ Cycle, walk, or jog along the beach road at **Hat Pran Buri**
- Depart to **Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park**
(28 kilometres, around 30 minutes)
- ⑥ Visit **Tham Phraya Nakhon** (Phraya Nakhon Cave)
to explore the exquisitely magnificent cave.
- Noon Lunch at **Ban Bang Pu** or **Hat Sam Phraya**.
- Afternoon ⑦ Visit **Hat Sam Phraya**.
- Evening ⑧ Cruise along **Khao Daeng Canal** and enjoy watching the water flows and the waterfowls.
- Depart to Bangkok.
-



Pran Buri

Hat Pran Buri

Hat Khao Kalok



Bueng Bua
Nature Education Center

8A

Khao Sam Roi Yot

2 Hat Sam Roi Yot



Ban Hua Tan Thaeo
Tourism Community

1

Tham Kaeo

3B

3A

Tham Phraya Nakhon

3C

Tham Sai

4 Hat Sam Phraya

6 Mangrove Forest
Nature Study Trail

Khao Sam Roi Yot
National Park headquarter

7

5

Khao Daeng Canal

Ban Ko Mon - Ko Phai
Boat Trip Through Thung Sam Roi Yot

8B



Kui Buri

Sample Travel Itinerary

Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park

Day 1

- | | |
|-----------|--|
| Morning | Depart from Bangkok to Khao Sam Roi Yot National Park (230 kilometres, around 3 hours) |
| | 1 Visit Ban Hua Tan Thaeo Tourism Community and learn to make Khanom Tan (Toddy Palm Cake) and Ancient Kalamae (Sweet and Sticky Candy). |
| Noon | 2 Enjoy seafood for lunch at Sam Roi Yot Beach . |
| Afternoon | Explore the Exquisitely Magnificent Cave. |
| | 3A Tham Phraya Nakhon |
| | 3B Tham Kaeo |
| | 3C Tham Sai |
| Evening | 2 Check-in at an accommodation in Hat Sam Roi Yot area. |
| | 4 Or spend the night camping at Hat Sam Praya and enjoy the stunning scenery of the natural beach. |
-

Day 2

- | | |
|-----------|---|
| Mornig | 5 Enjoy the 360-degree scenery at Khao Daeng Viewpoint (300 metres trek, around 40 minutes) |
| | 6 Visit Mangrove Forest Nature Study Trail . |
| Afternoon | 7 Cruise along Khao Daeng Canal . |
| Evening | 8A Boat trip through Thung Sam Roi Yot at Ban Ko Mon - Ko Phai to explore the wetland area up close. |
| | 8B Visit Bueng Bua Nature Education Center and take a stroll over the gigantic swamp. |
| | Depart to Bangkok. |
-

Sample Travel Itinerary

Kui Buri National Park - Thung Sam Roi Yot Wetland

Day 1

Morning	Depart from Bangkok to Amphoe Pran Buri (3 hours)
Noon	Enjoy seafood for lunch in Pran Buri town or Ban Pak Nam Pran.
Afternoon	1 Depart for Ban Pa Mak Tourism Community . (56 kilometres, around 1 hour 30 minutes)
Evening	Spend the night camping by the stream at Ban Pa Mak.

Day 2

Morning	Enjoy coffee roasting activity. Depart for Kui Buri National Park (110 kilometres, around 2 hours 30 minutes)
Afternoon	2 Visit Ban Ruam Thai Tourism Community , join a workshop to make paper from elephant's dung and pineapple leaves. 3 Wild elephants and gaurs watching.
Evening	Check-in at an accommodation in Khao Sam Roi Yot town.

Day 3

Morning	4A Boat trip through Thung Sam Roi Yot at Ban Ko Mon - Ko Phai. Explore the wetland area up close. 4B Take a stroll over the gigantic swamp at Bueng Bua Nature Education Center.
Late morning	Depart for Kui Buri National Park . (50 kilometres, around 1 hour) 5 Visit the Sandalwood Stump Nature Study Trail.
Evening	6 Enjoy dinner and the wonderful ambience of Khlong Bueng Reservoir Depart for Bangkok.

Diversity Journey

Pran Buri Dam

Khao Tao

Pran Buri

Bueng Bua
Nature Education Center

Khao Sam Roi Yot

Ban Ko Mon - Ko Phai
Boat Trip Through Thung Sam Roi Yot

Khao Sam Roi Yot
National Park headquarter

Kui Buri



1 Ban Pa Mak
Tourism Community



Wild Elephants
and Gaurs
Watching Spots

3



Ban Ruam Thai
Tourism Community

2

Yang Chum
Reservoir

5

Sandalwood Stump Nature Study Trail

Ban Yan Sue Tourism Community

Khlong Bueng Reservoir

6

4B

4A



Tourism Product Division
Tourism Authority of Thailand (TAT)



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