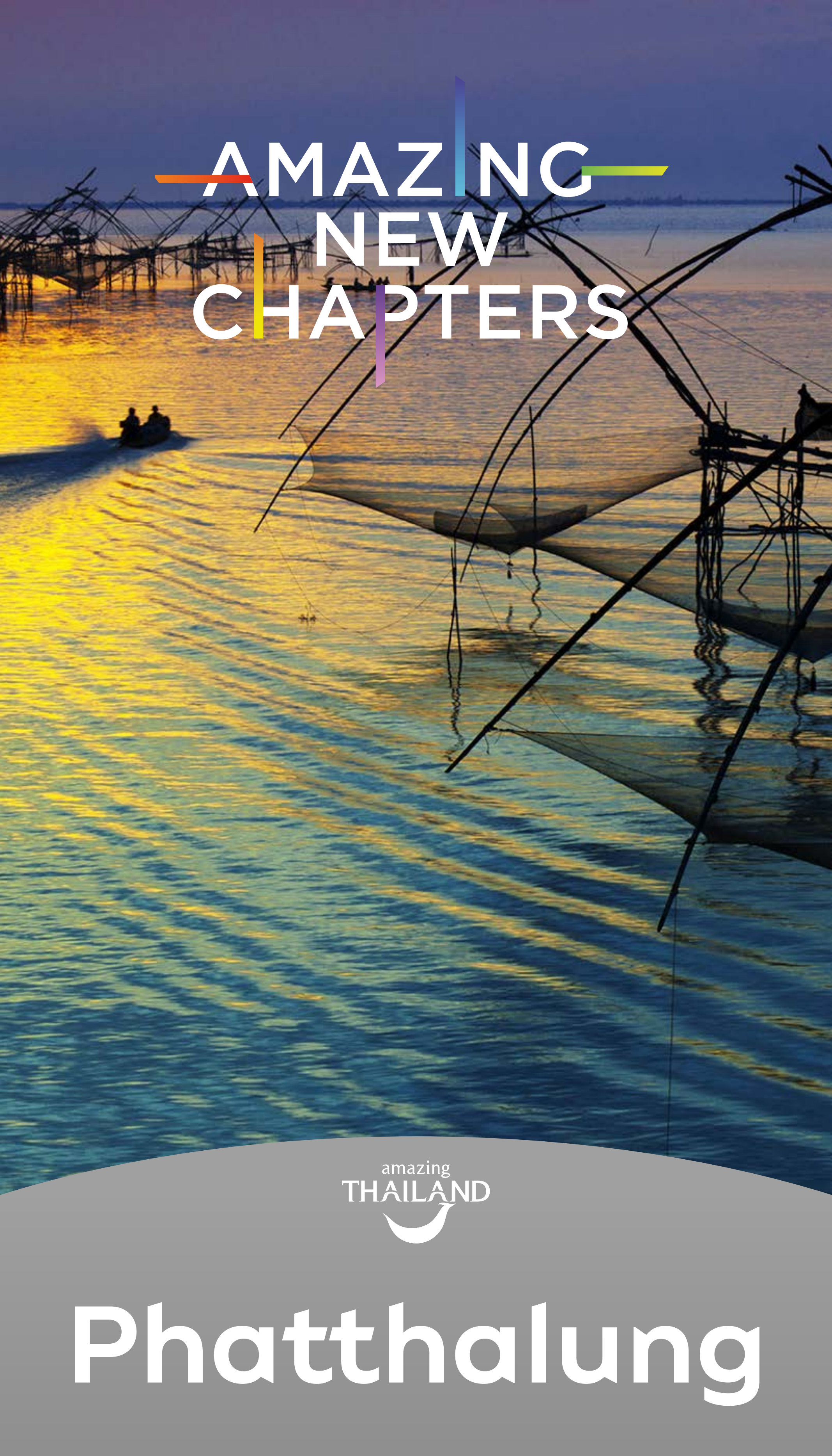




AMAZING NEW CHAPTERS



Phatthalung



Phatthalung

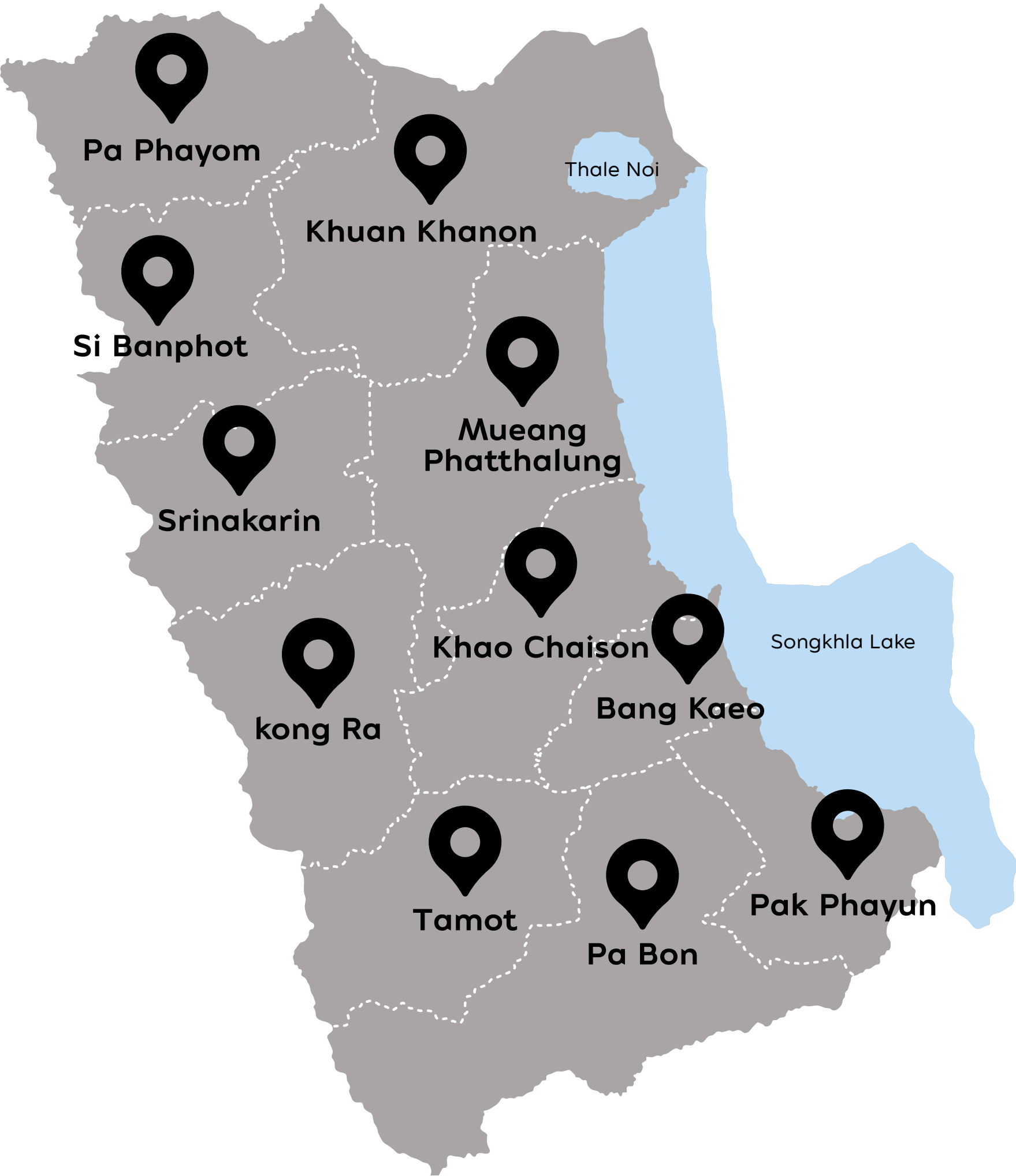
The City of Nora Shadow Play, Land of Paddy Field, Phrao Waterfall, Source of Waterfowl, Lovely Lake, Khao Ok Thalu, and Hot Spring

Phatthalung Province has had a long history since prehistoric times from the Srivijaya period (8th - 9th centuries). The area of Phatthalung was influenced by Indian culture in terms of Mahayana Buddhism, which there is evidence from the discovery of raw clay images of Bodhisattvas and deities in the area of Tham Khuha Sawan and Tham Khao Ok Thalu. Later, in the 14th century, Phatthalung was under the administration of Ayutthaya and was the capital of the Southern kingdom, which is located in Sathing Phra, Songkhla Province at the present time.

In the Thon Buri and Rattanakosin eras, the city was relocated several times. Then in 1933, the circle administration system was abolished. Then, the provincial administration was organised into provinces and districts, and it was upgraded to Phatthalung Province until now.

Phatthalung is also outstanding in terms of arts and culture. It is also the birthplace of famous performing arts called Nan Thalung, Manorah, and Likay Pa. There is also a variety of natural attractions.

Phatthalung Map





Wat Khuha Sawan

Mueang Phatthalung, Phatthalung



Wat Khuha Sawan

Mueang Phatthalung, Phatthalung



Located on Khuha Sawan Road, Khuha Sawan subdistrict. It is an important religious place of Phatthalung and is the first royal temple of the province. The temple is located at the foot of Khao Khuha Sawan (Khao Hua Taek), which is a plateau with mountains surrounding almost all sides. The local people call it “Wat Khuha Sung” or “Wat Sung”.

In addition to the shady and peaceful atmosphere, at the foot of the hill behind the Ubosot is also the location of “Tham Khuha Sawan”. The local people call it “Tham Nam Ngoen” or ‘Tham Phra”. The Fine Arts Department announced the registration of Tham Khuha Sawan as an ancient site on 8 March 1935.

Interesting items inside the cave include:

Clay votive tablets also known as “Phra Phi Tham” of Srivijaya art.

Stucco Buddha images comprising a reclining Buddha that is 10 metres long, a Buddha image in the posture of subduing Mara with a lap size that is 4.5 metres wide and 6 metres tall, and 35 Buddha images in the posture of subduing Mara with a lap size that is 0.5-1.5 metres wide.

A stone inscription of three Thai Kings’ signature who visited this cave: King Rama V the Great, King Rama VII, and His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great.



Khao Ok Talu

Mueang Phatthalung, Phatthalung



Khao Ok Talu

Mueang Phatthalung, Phatthalung



A majestic limestone mountain located in the centre of Phatthalung City and covers three subdistricts: Khuha Sawan subdistrict, Prang Mu subdistrict, and Phaya Khan subdistrict. The people of Phatthalung believe that it is a sacred mountain, and it is like the city pillar of Phatthalung Province.

The mountain is 250 metres high above sea level. In the centre almost to the tip of the peak, there is a large hollow about 10 metres in diameter. It is possible to see through to the other side; hence, the origin of the name of the mountain.

Ascending Khao Ok Talu requires walking up 1,000 stairs, which takes about 30 minutes to reach the chest area. Then walk a little further to reach the top of the mountain, which is a viewpoint to see a clear view of the city of Phatthalung.



Wat Wang

Mueang Phatthalung, Phatthalung



Wat Wang

Mueang Phatthalung, Phatthalung



Located on Aphai Apirak Road (Highway No. 4047 going to Hat Saen Suk Lampan), Lampan subdistrict. It is assumed that it was built in the early Rattanakosin period and is an important religious sanctuary that has been in the city of Phatthalung throughout the Rattanakosin period. This is because it was used as a place for the ceremony to hold the water of Phiphat Sattaya by the city officials of Phatthalung in the past.

Regarding the name of “Wat Wang”. There are two origins. One is to the south of the temple there is a very deep-water palace called “Hua Wang”, so it is called Wat Wang. The second origin is because it is located near the “Residence of the Governor of the City of Phatthalung”, it is called “Wat Wang”.

Ancient sites and interesting antiquities in Wat Wang include:

The Ubosot, which is the architecture of the Rattanakosin period. It has a Thai-style roof with terracotta tiles with a decorated gable apex. There is a porch in front. (The porch protrudes from the front of the building.) In the interior, there are dusty murals that tell the story of the Buddha's life and deities, and around the winding terrace, there are 108 different stucco Buddha images lined up.

A pulpit with woodcarvings with gold patterns depicting the flora and fauna. King Rama VI graciously ordered it to be built to dedicate it to the funeral of King Rama V the Great in the year 1910.

Gilded black lacquer Dhamma teachings cabinet that looks like a rectangular cabinet with lion's legs of gilded black lacquer with designs of animals. It is considered as a very interesting art piece of the early Rattanakosin period.

2 Qing Dynasty water bowls, which were once used in the ceremony to hold the water of Phiphat Sattaya by the city officials of Phatthalung in the past.





Phatthalung Governor's Residence (Old Residence-New Residence)

Mueang Phatthalung, Phatthalung



Phatthalung Governor's Residence (Old Residence-New Residence)

Mueang Phatthalung, Phatthalung



Located on Aphai Apirak Road (Highway No. 4047 going to Hat Saen Suk Lampan), Lampan subdistrict 500 metres from Wat Wang. This place used to be a government office and residence of the Governor of Phatthalung in the past.

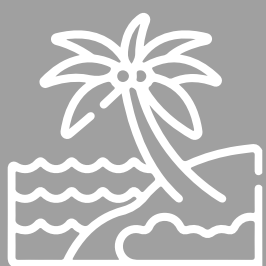
The Old Residence was built during the period when Phraya Phatthalung (Noi Chantharotchanawong) was Governor. The style is a Thai house that is a blend between the Central and Southern Regions. There is a big twin house in the Thai style in the middle. The New Residence was built in 1889 by Phraya Aphai Borirak Chakrawichitpipitphakdi (Net Chantarojawong), son of Phraya Phatthalung. It looks like a group of 5 Thai houses divided into the bedroom and household. There is also a Thai pavilion at the waterfront and the Phatthalung, an old boat from the reign of King Rama V the Great, to see as well.

At present, the Chantarojawong Family has given this residence to be a national treasure and the Fine Arts Department has announced it as a historic site.



Open Wednesday – Sunday 09.00–16.00 hrs. (Closed Monday, Tuesday, and public holidays). For group visits, please contact in advance.

For further details contact, the Phatthalung Municipal Office
Tel. 0 7461 3007



Hat Saen Suk Lampan

Mueang Phatthalung, Phatthalung



Hat Saen Suk Lampan

Mueang Phatthalung, Phatthalung



Located on Songkhla Lake, Lampan subdistrict. It is a beach with shady pine trees, and there is a park for recreation and exercise. There are also statues of Manora and shadow puppet paintings set up for viewing at different points and a water pavilion standing out in the water for a view of Songkhla Lake. In addition, from the Parking area, there is a bridge connecting to Ko Lampam, which is an island in the middle of the water caused by the deposition of sediment in the Lampam Estuary. It covers an area of approximately 5 acres. The atmosphere on the island is shady with pine forest with a cool wind blowing. The beach area is also suitable for enjoying the view and at some points, it is possible to swim as well.



Thale Noi Non-hunting Area

Khuan Khanun, Phatthalung



Thale Noi Non-hunting Area

Khuan Khanun, Phatthalung



Thale Noi Non-hunting Area or as it is also known as the “Thale Noi Waterbird Park” has a total area of 112,895 acres covering three provinces: Phatthalung, Songkhla, and Nakhon Si Thammarat. The area is divided into two parts: Land (grassland, swamp) and water (Thale Noi) that has an area of approximately 6,916 acres.

Thale Noi is a freshwater lake with Khlong Nang Riam as a link between Thale Noi and Songkhla Lake (Upper). It was also declared the first non-hunting area of Thailand, and the part of the area known as “Phru Khuan Khi Sian” was selected as a wetland of international importance or Ramsar Site, the first one in Thailand. This was because of the biodiversity, as it is a habitat for many endemic and migratory birds.

Visitors can take a cruise to see the natural beauty from the Thale Noi Tourist Pier, which is located next to the Thale Noi Non-hunting Area Office at the end of Highway No. 4187 (Khuan Khanun-Thale Noi). The area is also the location of the Thale Noi Nature and Wildlife Education Centre (observatory) and souvenir market.

Interesting tourist activities include:

See the Red Lotus Sea in the water area of the Thale Noi Non-Hunting Area. It is the largest place to see the Red Lotus Sea in the South. The best time for tourism is February-June, which is the period when the lotus flowers are in full bloom. It is also recommended to take a cruise to see the Red Lotus Sea in the morning because the nature of the lotus flowers will bloom from early morning until late in the day. Then, the lotus will close and wait for the next morning to bloom again.

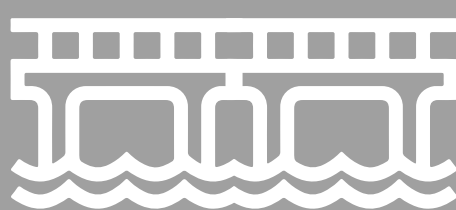
Bird watching includes both endemic and migratory birds of hundreds of various species. Native birds that can be seen include heron, purple swamphen, grebe, gull, swallow, stork, etc.

Experience the water buffalo lifestyle This part of the area is the source of food for water buffalo in Thale Noi. This is a buffalo that is fed by the villagers who live around Thale Noi and Songkhla Lake. During the flooding season, the amount of water is so high that it floods the grasslands, thus causing these buffaloes to adapt to live by swimming for food in the water, e.g., lotus stems, various water plants, etc. Hence, the origin of the name water buffalo.



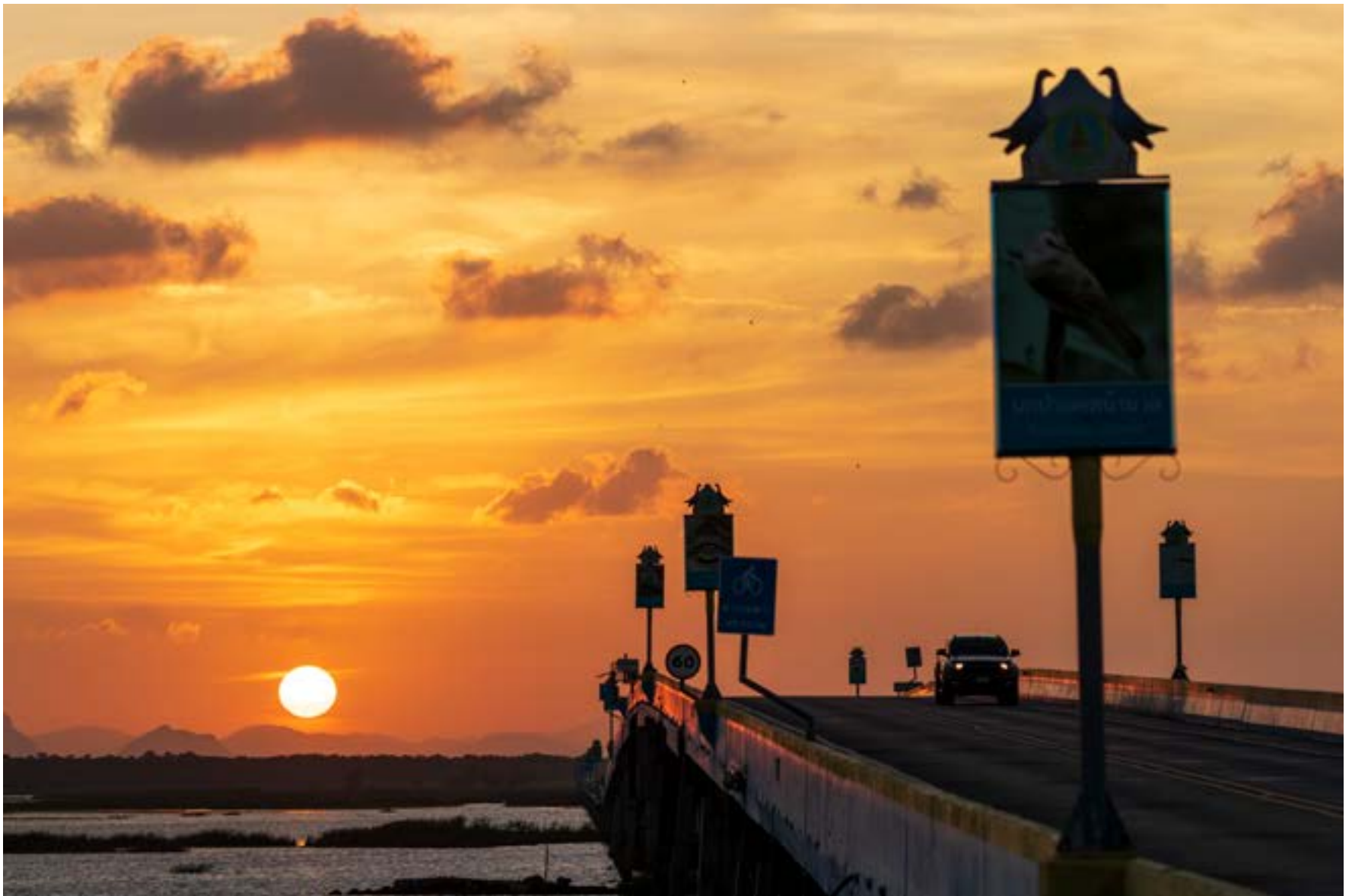
Tour boats are available throughout the day from 5.30-17.30 hrs. The starting price is 550 baht per boat. It seats 5-8 people and takes about 1-1.5 hrs.

For further details contact, the Thale Noi Conservation Tour Boat Group Tel. 08 4853 4557



Chaloem Phra Kiat 80th Birthday 5 December 2007 Bridge

Khuan Khanun, Phatthalung



Chaloem Phra Kiat 80th Birthday 5 December 2007 Bridge

Khuan Khanun, Phatthalung



Constructed on the auspicious occasion of His Majesty King Bhumibol Adulyadej The Great's 80th birthday on 5 December 2007.

This bridge is part of the Rural Road 5050 that links two provinces: Phanang Tung subdistrict, Khuan Khanun district, Phatthalung Province and Ban Khao subdistrict, Ranot district, Songkhla Province. The Bridge is 5.5 kilometres long, and it is the longest bridge in Thailand. It was also built to pass through the area of Thale Noi Non-hunting Area and Songkhla Lake. It is a bridge with beautiful scenery.

In the middle of the Bridge, there is a parking spot for tourists to see the scenery. See a variety of birds and the water buffalo's lifestyle. It is also a beautiful sunset viewpoint, and there is a cycling lane parallel to the normal traffic lane along the length of the Bridge as well.



Pak Pra or Khlong Pak Pra

Khuan Khanun, Phatthalung



Pak Pra or Khlong Pak Pra

Khuan Khanun, Phatthalung



Located at Ban Pak Pra, Phanang Tung subdistrict. It is a major waterway of Phatthalung Province. Many canals will flow to merge with this canal before flowing into Songkhla Lake. The end of Khlong Pak Pra looks like a wide water inlet similar to the mouth of a bay, and there are abundant aquatic animals. Therefore, it is a familiar sight to see the unique local fishing lifestyle with a local form of fishnet used for catching fish. The villagers raise the net in the morning.

Another familiar picture of Pak Pra that can be seen every day in the early morning is the boats of tourists waiting to watch the sunrise. with the giant nets as an important backdrop.

Tourists can rent motorboats through any accommodation located in the Pak Pra area. The cost per boat is 700-1,000 baht depending on the size of the boat, and it can seat 5-15 people. It is recommended to get on the boat around 05.30-05.45 hrs. to catch the first light of the day. Normally, it takes about 1 hr. by boat to see the scenery around Pak Pra.

Tourists can also charter a boat from Pak Pra-Thale Noi to also see the red lotus, various birds, and water buffalo. The boat fare on this route is about 1,000-1,200 baht, and it takes about 2-3 hrs. for the tour.



Pa Phai Sang Suk Market or Suan Phai Khwan Chai Market

Khuan Khanun, Phatthalung



Pa Phai Sang Suk Market or Suan Phai Khwan Chai Market

Khuan Khanun, Phatthalung



Located on Saiyuan-Khuan Khanun Road, Khuan Khanun subdistrict on an area of over 11 acres of bamboo forest. This place has many different types of bamboo, e.g., *Dendrocalamus strictus* (Roxb.) Nees., *Bambusa burmanica*, *Bambusa beecheyana*, *Dendrocalamus sericeus*, *Dendrocalamus latiforus*, etc. Originally, it was a garden where bamboo and bamboo charcoal was cultivated along with a learning centre. Later, it was opened as a tourist attraction under the cooperation of the Kwanjai Bamboo Garden and the Phatthalung “Kin Di Mi Suk (Eat and Live Well)” Network, Phatthalung under the concept “Im Kai Bai Chai Suk Yu Thi Pho (full stomach, good mood, happiness needs no more)”.

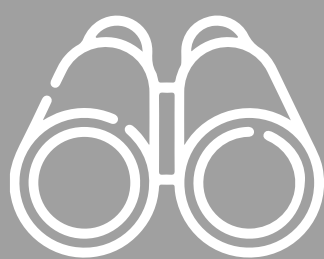
The Market is divided into 5 zones: Talat Pa Phai Sang Suk Zone, Relaxing Zone, Kids Zone, Kwanjai Bamboo Garden’s Learning Zone, and Shady Bamboo Forest. It is a green market where the villagers in the community bring local food, rare local snacks, fresh vegetables, and fruit using natural packaging containers to reduce the use of plastic. It is an environmental market, and there are no rubbish bins in this market. When finished eating or drinking, the garbage must be deposited in each store.



Open 08.00-16.30 hrs.

For further details contact, Tel. 08 1766 8049





Khuan Nok Ten Viewpoint

Kong Ra, Phatthalung



Khuan Nok Ten Viewpoint

Kong Ra, Phatthalung



Located at Mu 4, Khlong Sai Khao subdistrict. It is another beautiful viewpoint of Phatthalung, where it is possible to see the undulating mountains of the Khao Bantat Mountain Range. This is also a point to watch the sunrise and the sea of mist in the morning. As such, it is recommended to arrive at the viewpoint before 06.00 hrs. to catch the first light of the day. It is open for tourism all-year round.

There is a coffee shop and accommodation in the observation deck area. Furthermore, in the vicinity of the car park below, there are interesting attractions, e.g., Nan Rut, Nan Sung Waterfall, etc.



Getting there: From Khlong Sai Khao subdistrict Municipality, turn right into the route to Rimpha Resort for about 800 metres. Visitors must park at the foot of the hill, then use the pickup service of the local villagers. The service is available between 05.30 hrs. and 18.00 hrs. It takes 10 minutes by car, and costs 60 baht/person (round trip).

For further details contact, Tel. 06 6136 9990 and 08 3891 8187



Phrai Wan Waterfall

Kong Ra, Phatthalung



Phrai Wan Waterfall

Kong Ra, Phatthalung



Located in Khlong Chaloem subdistrict under the care of the Ban Phut Forest Protection Unit, Khao Banthat Wildlife Sanctuary. It is the largest waterfall in Phatthalung. The origin of the river flows from the Khao Banthat Mountain Range through abundant forest. The Waterfall has a total of seven levels, and the lowest level is near the car park. The Waterfall will flow down a high cliff into the basin below, which it is suitable for swimming. Moreover, the atmosphere around the Waterfall is quiet, still natural, and there are restaurants and shops available.



Getting there: From Phatthalung City, there is a songthaeo service for the Phrai Wan Waterfall-Phatthalung route. The songthaeo terminal is opposite the Phatthalung Railway Station. Service operates 07.00-17.00 hrs, and songthaeos leave every 15 minutes. From Phrai Wan Waterfall back to the city, the last songthaeo leaves the Waterfall at 15.00 hrs.



Wat Khian Bang Kaeo

Khao Chaison, Phatthalung



Wat Khian Bang Kaeo

Khao Chaison, Phatthalung



Located at Ban Bang Kaeo Tai, Chong Thanon subdistrict. It is the oldest temple in Phatthalung Province and was assumed to have been built since the Srivijaya period. There is a legend that Nang Phaya Leuat Khao and Phraya Kuman built a temple and brought the Buddha's relics from Lanka to be contained in the Phra Borommathat Chedi in 950.

In addition, it is assumed that the temple area used to be the location of Phatthalung City before because many laterite ruins and old Buddha images were discovered.

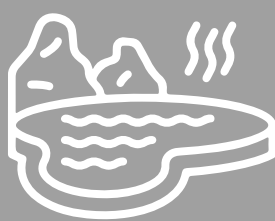
Interesting places in the temple include:

Phra Mahathat Chedi Bang Kaeo was initially built as a brick chedi with cement in the Srivijaya art style. It has a height of 22 metres and a base circumference of 16.65 metres. Later, Phra Mahathat Chedi became dilapidated; however, it has been restored many times until becoming Lankan art or similar to Phra Borommathat Chedi of Nakhon Si Thammarat. It still has some original features, e.g., the octagonal chedi base, Indian influence of Pala art, three Buddha arches of Javanese influence, and an upside-down bell. The top of Phra Mahathat is covered with gold weighing 97 Baht, 2 Salueng. There is also a celebration of Phra Mahathat Chedi Bang Kaeo that falls on the 15th day of the waxing moon to the 1st day of the waning moon of the 6th lunar month (May) of every year.

Rabiang or Wihan Khot is a building made of bricks and mortar with woodwork and shingles with clay tiles. It is surrounded by Phra Mahathat Chedi except the east side, which connects with the Ubosot. Inside the winding terrace are 108 Buddha statues made by local craftsmen. The locals call it “Phra Wiang”.

The Museum displays antiques discovered in Khok Mueang and nearby areas, e.g., Chinese bowls from the Song and Ming Dynasties, Sukhothai, and Sangkhalok, Buddha images from various eras, including many local utensils.





Bo Nam Ron -Tham Nam Yen

Khao Chaison, Phatthalung



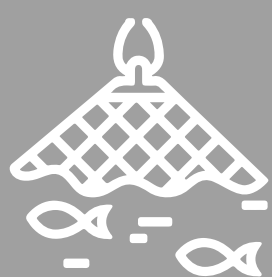
Bo Nam Ron -Tham Nam Yen

Khao Chaison, Phatthalung



Located at the foot of Khao Chaison, Khao Chaison subdistrict. It is located next to Wat Chaison and looks like a natural hot spring rising up from the underground. It has an average temperature of 60 degrees Celsius. The villagers in the area believe that it is mineral water that has healing properties, e.g., skin diseases, aches, etc. At present, outdoor baths and bathing rooms are being built for tourists.

About 700 metres from Bo Nam Ron following Highway No. 1017 is the location of Tham Nam Yen Khao Chaison. Inside the cave there is a cold stream, which the water level is about 1 metre deep. There is water running all-year round, and the atmosphere is cool. An activity that should not be missed is to take a small boat to see the beauty of the stalagmites and stalactites in various shapes inside the cave. The staff will paddle and explain various information.



Ko Mak

Pak Phayun, Phatthalung



Ko Mak

Pak Phayun, Phatthalung



Located in Ko Mak subdistrict and is an island in the middle of Songkhla Lake to the northeast of Amphoe Pak Phayun. There is a bridge from Ko Mak-Pak Phayun, a distance of about 500 metres, connecting Pak Phayun district and Ko Mak. From archaeological evidence, it is assumed that Ko Mak used to be the habitat of Neolithic people because more than 100 ancient stone axes were excavated. In addition, this area was an urban community before (about the 1st century). The name of the city was “Shengji” that prospered in trade and was a maritime transport hub in those days.

At present, most of the people on Ko Mak are engaged in rubber plantation and local fishery. Interesting tourist activities include:

- Kayaking around the island to see the way of life of the villagers and various waterfowl.
- Bicycling around the island.
- Walking and taking photos in the savannah.
- See the giant banyan tree that the people on the island call "Sai Op Rak".
- Pay homage to the Golden Chedi at Wat Ko Khop.
- See the sunset at a 360-degree viewpoint on Khao Nang Fa.
- Take a boat trip to Ko Si Ko Ha.
- Watch the fishing of three-waters prawns, the economic marine creature of Ko Mak. It is a prawn of Songkhla Lake that grows in three types of water: freshwater, brackish water, and saltwater, thus giving the prawns their unique taste.

There are quite a few accommodation places on Ko Mak. It is advisable to book in advance prior to staying, or choose to stay in Pak Phayun district and visit Ko Mak in the morning and evening, or charter a boat from Pak Phayun Municipality Pier to cross to visit Ko Mak, including Ko Si Ko Ha. The cost of the boat charter must be agreed upon with the boat owner beforehand.





Ko Nang Kham

Pak Phayun, Phatthalung



Ko Nang Kham

Pak Phayun, Phatthalung



An island in the middle of the Songkhla Lake located to the east of Pak Phayun district and nearby Ko Mak. Most of the people on the island make a living with rubber plantations, prawn ponds, and local fishing.

Interesting tourist activities include:

- Bicycling around the island.
- See the strange beauty of the “Grand Canyon of Ko Nang Kham”.
- See the morning and evening views of Songkhla Lake from the top of “Chalae Bridge”, which is a bridge connecting Ko Nang Kham, Phatthalung Province to Singhanakhon district, Songkhla Province.



TAT CONTACT CENTER

TOURISM AUTHORITY OF THAILAND (HEADQUARTERS)

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Tel. 0 2134 0040

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

Tel. 0 2504 4301

Open 24 hours daily.

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Areas of Responsibility: Nakhon Si Thammarat and Phatthalung

