

AMAZING NEW CHAPTERS



Trat



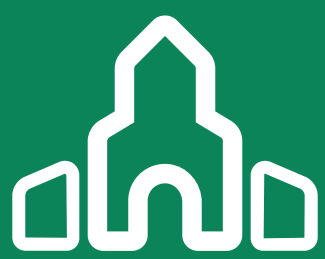
Fifty idyllic islands, precious red gems, sweet zalacca fruit, Thai Ridgeback dogs and the famous Ko Chang island await tourists in Thailand's easternmost reaches

Trat province lies 315 kilometres. from The Thai capital Krung Thep Maha Nakhon and covers an area of approximately 2,819 square kilometres. The province is the easternmost point of Thailand and the name most likely evolved from 'Grat', after a species of tree which could formerly be found in great numbers in the area and was later used to produce brooms. A coastal town with a sizeable harbour, Trat was perfect for trading by boat, and this is reflected in the fact that it was the first port in Thailand to welcome Chinese traders.



Trat Map





Trat City Pillar Shrine

Mueang Trat, Trat



Trat City Pillar Shrine

Mueang Trat, Trat



Structurally, this shrine is noticeably different to those found in Thailand's other cities, in that the building sports a Chinese-style roof. The shrine was sanctioned to be built by King Thaksin the Great when he assembled his independent troops at Trat in order to protect and save the city and restore peace and order. The city pillar shrine is a symbol of the bond between China and Thailand and there are regular Chinese-style celebrations held there one month after Chinese New Year, and on the night of the waxing moon of the 6th lunar month every year there is the 'Ngan Plee Mueang' festival, as the local Chinese refer to it, to celebrate the completion of the shrine. On this day the locals give alms to monks in the traditional Thai style.



Trat City Museum

Mueang Trat, Trat



Trat City Museum

Mueang Trat, Trat



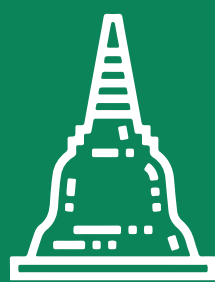
Opened in 1921, during the reign of King Rama VI, and originally designed to act as a town hall, this colonial-style, the wooden building sits on stilts with a ‘Panya’ style roof construction. The building was once heavily damaged by fire but the Fine Arts Department intervened to restore it, leaving it identical to the original, improving the surrounding landscape in the process and converting it into the city museum to allow visitors to learn about the city’s culture, geography and lifestyles.



Open Tuesday – Friday 09.00 – 16.00 hrs.
and weekends 09.30 – 16.30 hrs.

Entrance fee: adults 30 baht, children 10 baht

For further details contact, Tel. 08 6459 5263



Wat Phai Lom

Mueang Trat, Trat



Wat Phai Lom

Mueang Trat, Trat

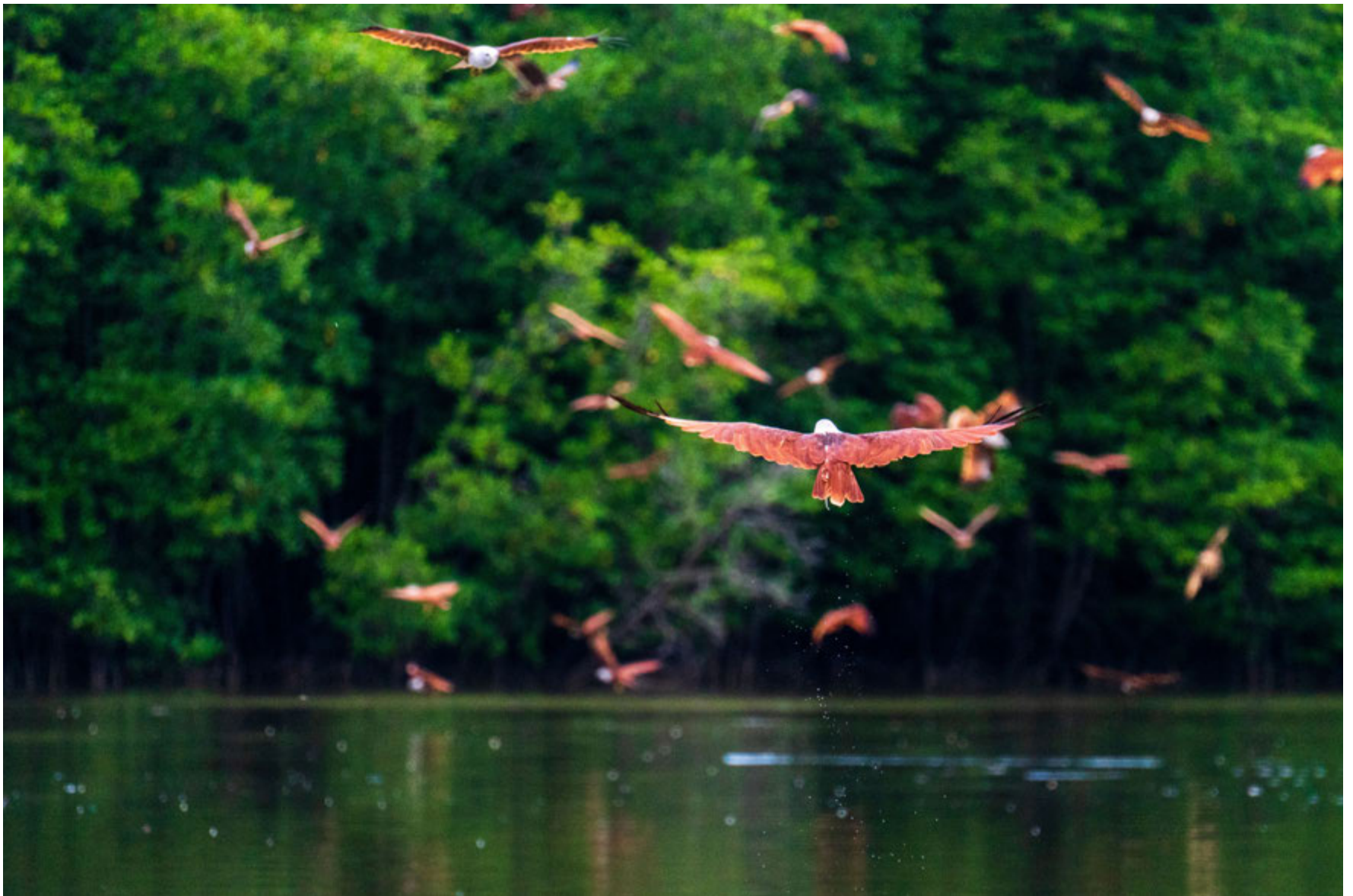


Formerly the residence of Trat's 'father of education', Phra Wimon Metajarn Warananakananurak Sankhapamote, the temple grounds here house a Buddhist Garden for those who wish to meditate or practice Dharma as well as the 'Three Lords' pagoda and museum, a place highly respected by the people of Trat. King Bhumibol Adulyadej and Queen Sirikit once paid a royal visit on the 18th of October, presided over the 'Kathin' robe offering ceremony and greeted the citizens of Trat who had turned out to welcome them.



Kho Khao Brahminy Kite Viewing Point

Mueang Trat, Trat



Kho Khao Brahminy Kite Viewing Point

Mueang Trat, Trat



There is an abundance of fertile, flourishing forests in Trat and this makes a perfect habitat for large numbers of Brahminy Kite, particularly around the Nong Khan Song district. Each day, at around noon, the local restaurants feed the fish in their ponds with ground pork and as they come to the surface to feed, the kites swoop down in their hundreds to steal the food away, allowing tourists to view these magnificent birds of prey up close.



Residang Kampot Residence

Mueang Trat, Trat



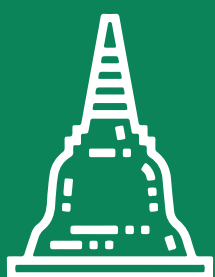
Residang Kampot Residence

Mueang Trat, Trat



Another wooden building which is of great importance to the province of Trat, this residence in the Bang Phra district was built during the reign of King Rama V by Phra Praneecheenpracha, the Chinese Secretary for Trat. The original purpose was for the secretary's daughter and the city mayor at the time to reside, but in 1899 Phra Yanorachade Wutthiwai (Jang Wang Imm) retired from government service and moved into the building. When the French army took Trat in 1904 they planned to command the building as an office and administerial centre, but upon discovering that it belonged to the People's Party they decided against it. When Jang Wang Imm passed away, however, they seized it and immediately renovated, creating more balcony space, and used it as a residence for Residang De Feringsimone, a commissioner appointed by the French government to oversee operations in the province between 1904 - 1907. As a result, the locals began referring to the building as 'Juan Residang'

Aside from the Juan Residang, the building is of great historical importance and features architectural details which reveal glimpses of the past. The three-story building is half concrete and half wooden with a tiled 'Panya' style roof design, brickwork on the lower floors and a large open courtyard in front, hemmed in by brick walls capped with turrets and balustrades. There are entrance doors on the eastern and southern walls and an external staircase which leads up to an open terrace on the second floor. The third floor features a wooden boarded roof and a large pair of bay windows to allow the cool breeze and warm sunlight to permeate the building.



Wat Kiriwihan

Mueang Trat, Trat



Wat Kiriwihan

Mueang Trat, Trat

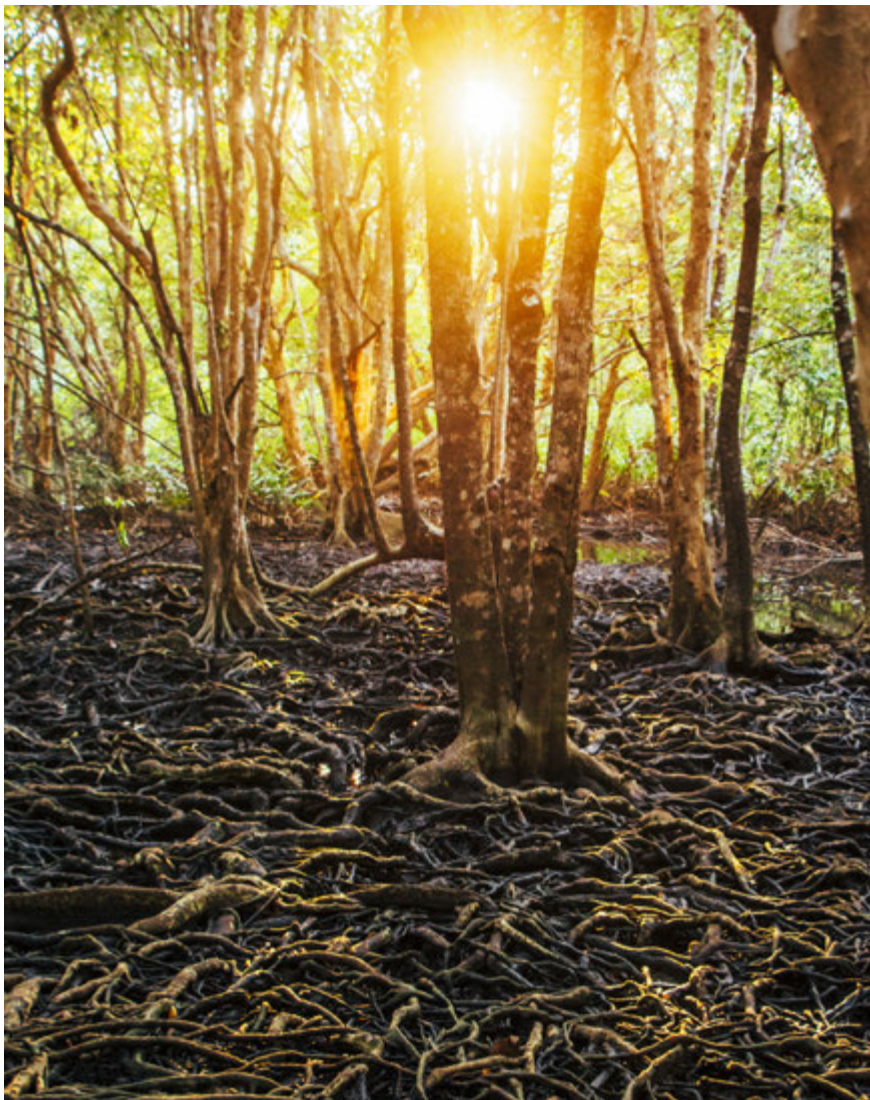


Situated in Ban Tha Luean, Chamrak district, this century-old temple is set atop a hill and the views from the top encompass green woodland, sharp peaks and the vast ocean. The important spots inside the temple grounds include the large chapel, pagoda, monk's living quarters, worship hall, the Chinese-style chapel which houses the Phra Owalokitewasorn Buddha image and a residence for visiting royals, built in honour of Princess Sirindhorn.



Ban Tha Ranae Community Tourism Enterprise

Mueang Trat, Trat



Ban Tha Ranae Community Tourism Enterprise

Mueang Trat, Trat



Located in Nong Khan Song subdistrict at the mouth of an estuary where the Trat River empties into the Gulf of Thailand, this small eco-community among the mangrove forests are teeming with flora and fauna such as the distinctive Baboon's Head Flowers that bloom in the cedar mangrove forest, and the ancient trees with gnarly, intertwined roots. It's no surprise that the area has become known as a 'Mangrove Wonderland' over the years.

Activities on offer here are an adventure in the cedar mangrove forest, demonstrations of local kid's games, wooden jigsaw puzzles made from local trees and bowling with mahogany balls and pins. The rare, endangered Baboon's Head Flower which visitors can view here, is a strange looking plant which the Chinese believe leads to a long life of up to 100 years when dried and drunk as tea.



For further details contact, Tel. 08 1161 6694



Thai Red Cross Society, Khao Lan

Khlong Yai, Trat



Thai Red Cross Society, Khao Lan

Khlong Yai, Trat



Beside Highway no. 3, the Trat – Khlong Yai route, at KM48, this museum was erected in honour of HRH Queen Sirikit, President of the Thai Red Cross, on her 60th birthday, which she celebrated in 1992.

Inside, visitors can view informative displays related to the numerous royal projects. To the rear of the building there's a secluded, clean beach called Hat Ratchakarun with restaurants and accommodation.



For further details contact, Tel. 08 7600 0686





Mai Rut Community Tourism Enterprise

Khlong Yai, Trat



Mai Rut Community Tourism Enterprise

Khlong Yai, Trat



Located at Mu 5, Mai Rut subdistrict, this tiny canalside fishing village is ideal for tourists looking to sample the authentic local lifestyles and buy some fresh local seafood. During October, hundreds of colourful moon jellyfish float in the waters off Mai Rut beach, creating an unforgettable, eye-catching sight. Visitors can also find out about the workings of the crab bank in Khlong Yai district while here.



For further details contact, Tel. 08 1982 2725



The Narrowest Part of Thailand

Khlong Yai, Trat



The Narrowest Part of Thailand

Khlong Yai, Trat



Located at Mu 2, Ban Khot Sai, Hat Lek subdistrict, close to KM 81 - 82 on the Trat-Khong Yai Road, the land here at Thailand's narrowest point is just 450 metres across.



Changthun Eco-Museum

Bo Rai, Trat



Changthun Eco-Museum

Bo Rai, Trat



This community acts as an introduction to the area's ethnic groups and their lifestyles. The Samre ethnic group have called Trat their home for many generations and they keep ancient traditions and culture alive right up to this very day, using their ancient wisdom to utilize natural resources and live lives of sustenance, as well as relaying the story of Bo Rai district right back to ancient times, to interested visitors. This ecotourism destination is ideal for creative travellers looking for a slightly different type of vacation.

The activities available to visitors include making herbal smelling salts from local herbs, making baskets from common Donax trees, riding on a local 'challenger' vehicle and exploring the white swamp, panning local rubies and other gemstones, dam building, baking herbs using traditional methods, enjoying a unique 'Zum Kai' spa treatment and tasting the local 'Song Samre' cuisine which includes delicious chicken and banana soup which is best enjoyed with sticky rice.



For further details contact, Tel. 08 4863 7267, 06 3645 0359



Laem Ngop Viewpoint

Laem Ngop, Trat



Laem Ngop Viewpoint

Laem Ngop, Trat



This old pier features a striking lighthouse as well as a signpost marking the easternmost point of Thailand, which is perfect for a souvenir photo. It's also easily the best spot to view a majestic sunset in the whole of the region.



Hat Sai Dam

Laem Ngop, Trat

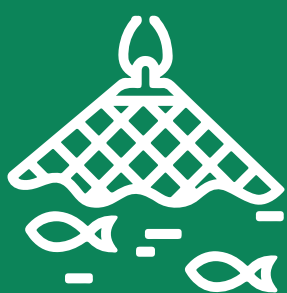


Hat Sai Dam

Laem Ngop, Trat



This area of national protected woodland features an expanse of mangrove forest with a diverse, flourishing ecosystem which acts as a nursery for many marine species. Visitors here can experience the atmosphere as venture along the nature trail and the beach itself is 1 km. long sand ridge with distinctive powdery black sand.



Ban Laem Makham

Laem Ngop, Trat



Ban Laem Makham

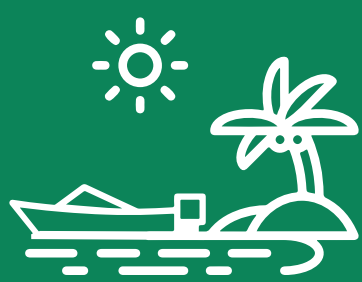
Laem Ngop, Trat



This tourism community highlights the lifestyles of the local people and the harmonious manner in which Muslims and Buddhists peacefully coexist here. Visitors can take rickshaw rides around the community, learn basketry including making hats from local nipa palm leaves, fans from bamboo stems and a range of other items from Donax trees. You can also visit a Buddhist learning centre established in the memorial of King Rama V, which contains many royal artefacts personally owned by the revered monarch as well as information about his life and achievements, many of which took place in Trat. In addition to this, there is local cuisine to sample, a local temple which sits alongside a Muslim 'Towali' place of worship to admire, as well as Grandpa Songkran's wooden puppet house and the priceless opportunity to learn about the local wisdom which lives on in the present through the use of ancient tools and artefacts.



For further details contact, Tel. 09 8860 2914



**Ban Thammachat Lang Tourism
Community Venture, Khlong Yai
Subdistrict**
Laem Ngop, Trat



Ban Thammachat Lang Tourism Community Venture, Khlong Yai Subdistrict

Laem Ngop, Trat



Ban Thammachat Lang lies in Khlong Yai subdistrict, with land corals, 360-degree panoramic views and a range of diverse activities to take part in, including tie-dying fabric at Sam Pa, a local centre for organic nano-fertilizer and exploring the nature trail set up to bring in extra income and create sustainability for the local people.

Visitors can learn all about the fertilizer production process from community members, watch the local fisherman in action as they fish for prawns, mussels and clams, crabs and fish, as well as watching the sunset over Ko Chang Island and spending the night in a beachfront homestay.

There's also the chance to try some great tasting, organic local dishes and meet an award-winning-looking doctor with an encyclopedic knowledge of Thai herbs. Visitors can find out about his carminative herbal remedy for flatulence, useful herbs found in velvet grass and how to make herbal compresses. There are also boat trips across the bay where visitors can check out the native sea grasses which have evolved to suit their surroundings.

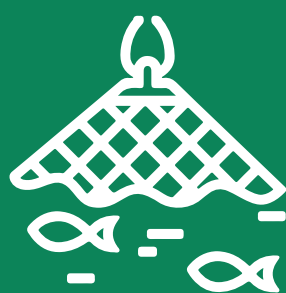


Locals here use natural materials like betel husks, teak leaves, corn beefwood, Indian almond leaves to fashion dining utensils in order to reduce the use of plastic and foam which harms the environment. These eco-friendly utensils also create income for the villagers as part of a project established and funded by CPF (Charoen Pokhpand Foods) Ltd.



For further details contact, Tel. 08 7835 6723





Ban Nam Chiao Tourism Community Venture

Laem Ngop, Trat



Ban Nam Chiao Tourism Community Venture

Laem Ngop, Trat

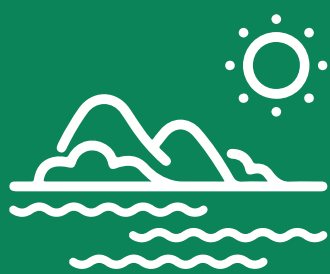


This cultural tourism community showcases the colourful, multicultural lifestyles of the Muslims, Buddhists, Thais and Chinese descendants who coinhabit the village. As far as activities go, there's the 'Test Your Willingness' bridge to cross, boat trips to view the local Brahminy Kites circling for prey, diving for fat innkeeper worms and lamp shell clam, exploring the mangrove forests and studying the local lifestyles and culture with its mix of two religions and three ethnic origins. Visitors can also enjoy demonstrations of hat making from nipa palm leaves and crispy local snacks known as 'Tang-me' and 'Khao Krieb Ya Na' crackers.



For further details contact, Tel. 06 1660 0955





Muko Chang National Park

Ko Chang, Trat



Muko Chang National Park

Ko Chang, Trat



Made up of a total of 52 islands including Ko Chang, Ko Khlum, Ko Lao Ya, Ko Ngam, Ko Mai Si Yai, Ko Wai and Ko Rang. The archipelago is affected by southwesterly monsoon winds between May and October with large waves colliding with the western side of the islands making them unsuitable for tourism. However, between November and April, the seas are calm and the winds drop, making for some beautiful nature and still seas.

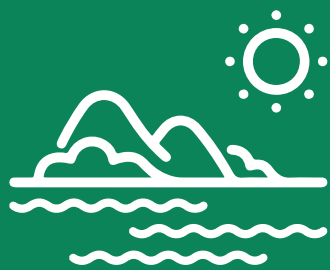


Opening daily 08.00 – 16.00 hrs.

Entrance fee: adults 200 baht, children 100 baht and there is accommodation and camping available to visitors.

For further details contact, Tel. 0 3951 0928





Ko Chang

Ko Chang, Trat



Ko Chang

Ko Chang, Trat



The largest island in the archipelago, Ko Chang covers 429 square km. and features mountainous terrain and rocky stone cliffs and gullies. The island's highest point is the peak of Khao Salak Phet, standing 744 meters above sea level and there are vast areas of evergreen forest from which most of the island's water sources stem. The western coast of the island is made up of golden beaches and colourful coral reefs, while the eastern side is home to the National Park Office, which is located close to the Than Mayom canal. There are also three further park protection units located at Ao Khlong Son, Khlong Plu waterfall and Salak Phet village, while the main pier is located at the front of the island, facing the mainland.



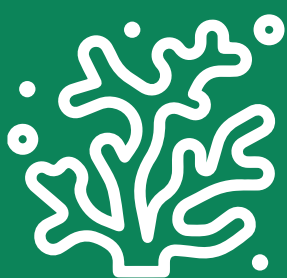
Getting there: There are two main piers with boats running to and from the island

Open daily 07.00 – 18.00 hrs. (Center Point Pier)

For further details contact, Tel. 08 6304 2726

Open daily 06.45 – 18.30 hrs. (Ao Thammachat Pier, Boats leave every hour on the hour)

For further details contact, Tel. 08 1943 5872



Ko Lao Ya

Ko Chang, Trat



Ko Lao Ya

Ko Chang, Trat



Lying to the south of Ko Chang, and consisting of three small islands: Ko Lao Ya Nai, Ko Lao Ya Klang and Ko Lao Ya Nok, Ko Lao Ya takes around an hour by boat from Laem Ngob pier. Once visitors set foot on the island they will find long stretches of sandy beach, clear waters and stunning coral reefs. There is also accommodation for those wishing to spend the night.



Salak Khok Boat Tour

Ko Chang, Trat



Salak Khok Boat Tour

Ko Chang, Trat



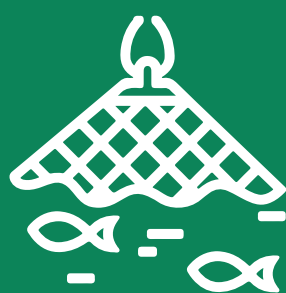
Salak Khok village, a tiny fishing settlement, lies to the east of Ko Chang, hidden in a small strait and shaped like a pen. The village is hemmed in by mangrove forests in which the locals make a living by fishing and which also act as a nursery and breeding ground for many marine species. There is a narrow waterway which leads out into the ocean with two islands, Ko Salak and Ko Lim situated at the mouth of the bay, the former obviously being the origin of the area's name.

Visitors here can experience the authentic local fishing lifestyle as well as kayaking around the leafy mangroves and down the natural canals and green waterways using maps given to them by the locals. Those looking for a different atmosphere can take a ride in a 'Ruea Mad' boat, a vessel which is affectionately referred to by the villagers as a 'Ko Chang Gondola' due to its resemblance to the famous Italian boats.



Entrance fee: Gondola style boat trips 200 baht/person (one boat holds four people)!. The trip takes around 40 minutes
For further details contact, Salak Khok Boat Trip Association on Tel. 08 7748 9497

รพทพ



Ko Chang Orchards

Ko Chang, Trat

สวน

Ko Chang Orchards

Ko Chang, Trat



Every year, from the end of April until the start of July, the trees in the orchards bear fruit which is harvested and taken to local markets. Fruits grown in Trat include durian, rambutan, mangosteen, zalacca, longkong and of course, the famous golden Trat pineapples. Most of the plantations can be found in Khao Saming and surrounding districts.



Ko Kut

Ko Kut, Trat



Ko Kut

Ko Kut, Trat



The easternmost island in Trat bay, Ko Kut is approximately 25 km. long by 12 km. wide and situated 80 km. from the city. The nature on the island remains relatively unspoiled with the large, elevated plateau towards the island's centre acting as a water source which feeds many of the waterfalls and streams found here. The best beaches can be found at Ao Mai Shi Lek, Ao Yai Ki, Hat Khlong Mat, Ao Tapao, Ao Noi, Hat Khlong Chao, Ao Ngam Khai, Ao Bang Bao, Hat Takien, Hat Khlong Hin, Ao Chak and Ao Prao.

Getting there : Tourists can catch a ferry from Laem Sok pier, Ao Cho, Mueang, Trat. There are four boats which travel to and from the island and the timetable depends on the season.



For further details contact,

Ko Kood Princess Tel. 08 6126 7860

Ko Kood Express Tel. 08 7749 0030

Boonsiri Ferries Tel. 08 6333 8560

Superjet Ferry Tel. 06 2559 5444





Ko Mak
Ko Kut, Trat



Ko Mak

Ko Kut, Trat



Lying between Ko Chang and Ko Kut, 38 km. from the coastline, Ko Mak covers just 14 square km. and resembles a four-pointed star when viewed from above. Most of the fringes of the island are kept cool and shady by rows of coconut and rubber trees and the beaches are clean and golden with clear waters, especially around Ao Tanit, Ao Pai, Ao Prong, Ao Phat and Ao Daeng. Most of the waters around Ko Mak also boast healthy, colourful coral reefs.

Getting there: Tourists can take ferries from Krom Luang pier, Laem Ngop and five boats are running to a seasonal timetable.



For further details contact,

Leelawadee Tel: 09 394 9324

Panan Ferries Tel: 08 7614 7641

Suansuk Ferries Tel: 06 1428 8048

Seatel Ferries Tel: 09 2669 4946

M Marine Ferries Tel: 09 0394 9986





Ko Kham

Ko Kut, Trat



Ko Kham

Ko Kut, Trat



A tiny island, Ko Kham can be easily reached by motorboat or kayak from neighbouring Ko Mak. The distinguishing features are the black volcanic rocks in eye-catching shapes and formations dotted across the sand. Ko Kham is quiet and unspoiled with crystal clear waters, fine sand and coral reefs on the eastern side which are perfect for snorkelling and diving.



Entrance fee: 200 baht including one free drink.



Muko Rang

Ko Kut, Trat



Muko Rang

Ko Kut, Trat



This small island, 6 km. to the west of Ko Mak, consists of a small plateau which leads down to a beach where the National Park Protection Unit can be found. The main island is surrounded by clusters of smaller islands including Ko Rang Yai, Ko Rang Lek, Ko Kra, Ko Tian, Ko Tong Luang, Ko Yak, Ko Sam Pi Nong, Ko Mapring, Ko Tun and Ko Gam Pun. The sea surrounding the islands is widely regarded as Trat's premier dive site.



Ko Kradat

Ko Kut, Trat



Ko Kradat

Ko Kut, Trat



Just to the northeast of Ko Mak, covering an area of just 1.92 square km. and covered with banyan trees, this is the only island in Thailand's waters that have been officially registered since the reign of King Rama V. Ko Kradat features long, sandy beaches and was featured in the recent Unseen Thailand campaign due to its natural splendour. Accommodation is also available on the island for tourists wishing to stay overnight.



Muko Rayang

Ko Kut, Trat



Muko Rayang

Ko Kut, Trat

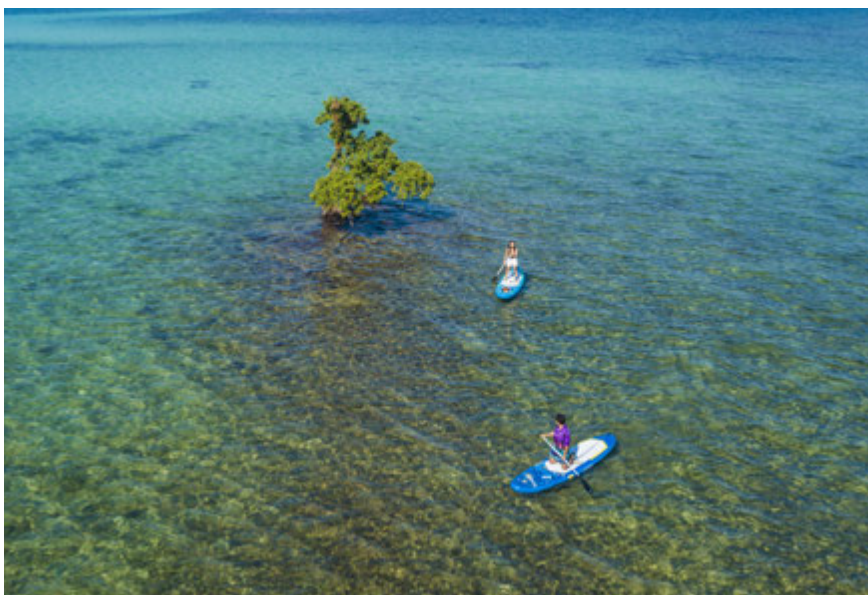
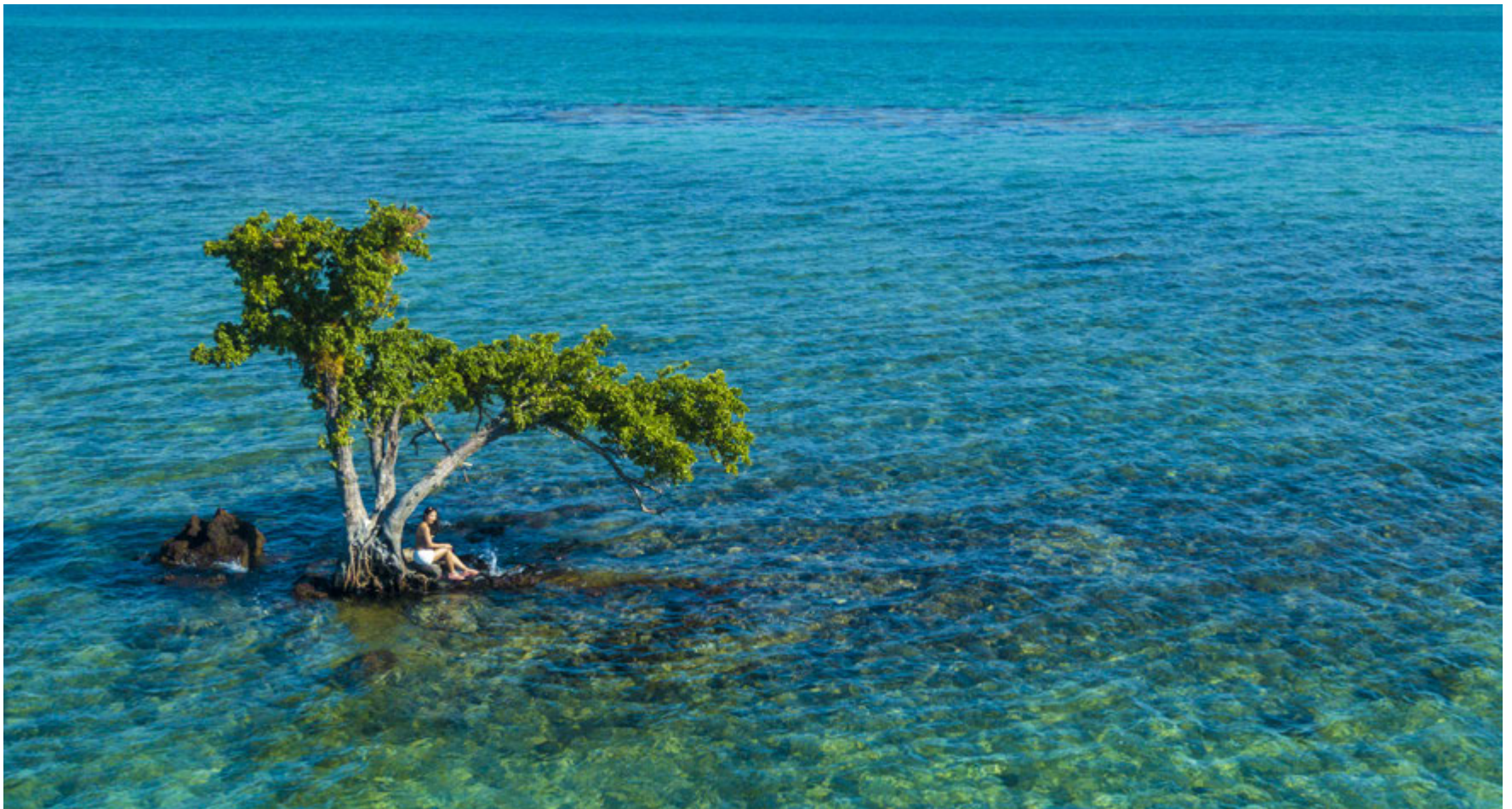


Comprising the twin islands of Rayang Nai and Rayang Nok, this peaceful island with serene, scenic beaches and bays is great for diving due to its crystal-clear waters.



Ko Khai Huaro (Laughing Island)

Ko Kut, Trat



Ko Khai Huaro (Laughing Island)

Ko Kut, Trat



Tucked away behind Ko Kradat, this minuscule island features a single tree jutting out above the water, resembling the image often featured in the popular Thai cartoon strip 'Khai Huaro', hence the island's name. Ko Khai Huaro can be reached from Ko Kradat at low tide only.

Tourists can purchase a tour package from any of the travel agents or tour companies on Ko Mak for around 700 baht/person (including transport to and from the resort). It takes around 10 minutes to reach the Ko Kradat in a 7 seater boat and the tour takes visitors to see the deer and coconut plantations on the island before stopping at King Rama V cape and allowing them to walk across to Ko Khai Huaro while the tide is at its lowest ebb.



For further details contact, Tel. 08 9099 7917



TAT CONTACT CENTER

TOURISM AUTHORITY OF THAILAND (Head Office)

1600 New Phetchaburi Road, Makkasan,
Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400

Tel : 0 2550 5500 Fax : 0 2253 7440

www.tourismthailand.org

email : info@tat.or.th

Open every day from 08.30 to 16.30 hrs.



Suvarnabhumi Airport

Domestic Terminal, 2nd Floor, Gate 3

Tel : 0 2134 0040

Open 24 hours

Don Mueang Airport

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

Tel : 0 2504 4301

Open 24 hours

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100 Mu 1, Trat-Laem Ngop Road,
Tambon Laem Ngop, Amphoe Laem Ngob,
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Responsible for tourism in Trat only

