

AMAZING
NEW
CHAPTERS



Loei



Loei

A sea of mountains and Siam's coolest climate Beautiful blooms all year round in the clean, serene home of holy monks

Loei, a province filled with fascinating tourist spots sheltered by mountain ranges and seas of mist where nature thrives abundantly with a myriad of plant life and forest. The most well-known destinations are Phu Kradueng, Phu Luang and Phu Reua. The climate is refreshingly cool all year round by Thai standards and Loei has its own set of distinctive customs and traditions such as the famous, spooky Pi Ta Khon festival, a major attraction for visitors to the province.

The province, located in the northernmost sector of the north-eastern region with a 197 stretch on the Thai-Laotian border, covers a total of 11,424 square kilometres and is split into 14 districts. The majestic Mekong river and a mountain range stand between Loei and Laos, creating a natural border.

Loei Map





Phu Suan Sai National Park

Na Haeo, Loei



Phu Suan Sai National Park

Na Haeo, Loei



This park, set on 117 square kilometres of land, consists of craggy mountains from north to south, with swathes of dry evergreen forest and forms a natural border between Thailand and Laos. Wildlife such as serows, hyenas, hawks and big-headed turtles call the park home and there are many places of interest within the park such as

Khing waterfall, which is a stepped stone basin with water cascading down over it. The government decided to erect a consecrated house in tribute to HRH Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn after her visit on the 12 February 1991.

Another 500 metres above the Khing waterfall, in the Phrae canal, lies **Chang Tok waterfall**, which is much steeper than the Khing waterfall.

Another 1.5 km. up from Chang Tok, you can find the **Wang That** and **That Hueang waterfalls**, again situated in the Phrae canal. These two waterfalls separate Thailand from Laos and water cascades over the rock all year round.

Pha Kho waterfall is in the Hueang canal, which separates Thai and Laos soil and is a lovely, shady and secluded spot perfect for relaxation.

Hin Si Thit (Stones in all directions), To the south, there are four large boulders protruding from the jungle which the locals scale to pay



their respects to once every 3 years in a tradition they refer to as 'Song Pi Ham, Sam Pi Krob' which basically means that after reaching the summit and making merit each time, they don't need to do so for another two years. The merit-making ceremony happens sometime between the end of March and April.

Hin Guai Lo, This large, mushroom-shaped sandstone rock, sits atop Phutin Suan Sai and juts out from the thick forest undergrowth below.

1408 Hill viewpoint, The area's highest viewpoint, located right at the centre of the park, is the best place to catch a stunning sunrise.

Hill 1255 viewpoint is a vantage point that is easily reached and offers a view down over Huai Nam Pak with the Phu Suai Dao and Phu Wiang mountains of Laos in the distance.

Aside from this, the park features two great nature trails, 2 km. and 5 km. in length respectively. Contact a local park officer if you wish to walk the trails and they will act as a guide.



The park offers accommodation which can be booked in advance. There are lodges which can accommodate 10-15 guests at 3000 baht/night, 2 person tents at 150 baht/night and 2 person tents at 300 baht/night. Tourists who bring their own tents will be charged 30 baht for a plot on the campsite.

For further details contact Tel. : 0 4280 7616 or Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Tel. : 0 2562 0760 or via the website at www.dnp.go.th



Phu Kho

Na Haeo, Loei



Phu Kho

Na Haeo, Loei



Na Haeo district forms one part of Ban Bung community forest, and one part of Huai Na See and is known by many as 'Phu Kho community forest'. The district is renowned for its great views of the sea of mist and camping spots shaded by lush forest.

The peak rises to 900 metres above sea level and the climate around the summit is consistently cool and bracing. Originally named 'Ton Kho' after the native tree species that originally thickly populated the area and certain local groups still refer to it as 'Phu Peng' after a type of date palm tree that was previously found in abundance here

Scaling Phu Kho can only be done by local 'E Taek' tractor as the route to the summit is steep and uneven. It takes roughly 45 minutes to an hour to reach the campsite and while making the journey tourists can enjoy resplendent views of the surrounding peaks and fields full of local crops.



Fare for local 'E Taek' tractor - 400 to 600 baht (not exceeding 6 persons per vehicle)

For further details contact

1. Phu Kho - Rai Lung Nam 1 - Mr. Wilaiporn (Tassanee Resort)
Tel. : 09 5626 2547, 06 2429 9716
2. Phu Kho - Phu Noi - Ban Bung 2 - Mr. Pairath Cheaboonmee
Tel. : 09 5626 2547, 06 2429 9716
3. Phu Kho 3 - Yot Phu Kho Community Tourism Promotion Enterprise Group.
Group President - Songsak Jansalee Tel. : 08 9993 2285
Mr. Surachai Janthakhun, Ban Huai Na Si Tel. : 09 8665 6358
Pa Jo @ Rai Phu Kho Tel. : 09 8594 2322



Chiang Khan Walking Street (Thanon Chai Khong)

Chiang Khan, Loei



Chiang Khan Walking Street (Thanon Chai Khong)

Chiang Khan, Loei



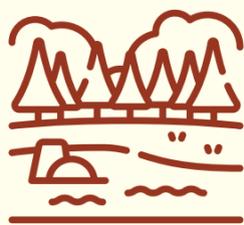
This busy street runs parallel to the Mekong River in the Chiang Khan municipality and both sides of the road are lined with houses, most of them two-storey and wooden in construction, some of which have been converted into guesthouses, small hotels, restaurants and souvenir shops.

Each morning on the walking street locals come to partake in 'Tak Bat Khao Niao', an alms-giving ceremony passed down from the ancestors. Visitors wishing to present the monks with sticky rice as part of the ceremony should ask at their accommodation or buy some from the vendors roadside who set up around dawn.



Walking street is open from 16.00 hrs. daily and the morning alms-giving ceremony takes place between 05.30 - 06.30 hrs. each morning.





Kang Kutkhu

Chiang Khan, Loei



Kang Kutkhu

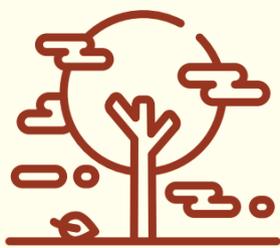
Chiang Khan, Loei



Located at Ban Noi, Chiang Khan sub-district, this wide stone plateau circled by the Mekong's waters, right on one of the river's bends, with the current flowing around it to impressive effect.

Kaeng Kutkhu is best visited between February and May, Thailand's dry season and the time when the Mekong's waters are at a low ebb and the island can be seen clearly, as well as views of the landscape on both sides of the river. There are trips available aboard motorized boats which take around 1 hour and there are many restaurants located on the banks, serving up local dishes like grilled chicken, papaya salad, Larb and rare delicacies like Phla Kung Ten, made from tiny local shrimp and Tom Yum soup with fresh Mekong river fish.

The 211 highway from Chiang Khan to Kang Kaeng Kutkhu is a great place to buy the much sought after 'Maphrao Kaeo', Thai sweets made from coconut which have become the area's most loved product. There are local shops selling sweets, along with many other local products, on both sides of the highway.



Phu Tok

Chiang Khan, Loei



Phu Tok

Chiang Khan, Loei



In Chiang Khan sub-district, this lofty mountain alongside the Mekong houses the Chiang Khan telecommunications centre at its peak and a host of different vantage points to view the sea of mist from in the early morning. The view from the top allows visitors to look down on the winding waters of the Mekong and the roofs of the many villages and hamlets that make up Chiang Khan below. It's also a great place to catch the sunrise. The best time for those looking to experience the fog and mist is between October and December when the air is at its moistest.



To reach the Phu Tok viewpoint, park in the car park at the foot of the mountain and take a Songthaeo truck provided by the district administration. The service operates between 05.00-18.00 hrs. and the fee is 25 baht return.



Big Buddha at Phu Kok Ngio & Skywalk

Chiang Khan, Loei



Big Buddha at Phu Kok Ngio & Skywalk

Chiang Khan, Loei



Situated atop Phu Kok Ngio, Ban Tha Di Mi, Pak Tom sub-district, Phra Yai Phu Kok Ngio or Phra Phuttha Nawamintharamongkhon Leela Twinkraphirak a large buddha image made from fibre and gold resin. The image stands at 19 metres in height and the base is 7.2 metres wide. The surrounding area affords some great views of the Mekong river, the natural border between Laos and Thailand and Phu Kok Ngio is the point where the river enters Thai soil, joining the Hueang river as it does so.

The Skywalk, a viewpoint constructed in the year 2020, consists of a glass-floored bridge 80 ft. above the Mekong (approximately the same height as a 30-storey building) with a two-metre-wide walkway, stretching out to a distance of 80 metres. The skywalk offers superlative views of the Thai-Laos border and surrounding scenery, including the point where the Hueang river joins the Mekong.



Phu Rueda National Park

Phu Rueda, Loei



Phu Ruea National Park

Phu Ruea, Loei



Located in Nong Bua, Phu Ruea and spreading across into the Tha Li districts, the park covers a total area of 121 square kilometres, with the northern tip reaching the Thai-Laos border. This mountain and lofty plateau is dotted with rows of pine trees and an overhanging cliff that resembles the bow of a sailboat. The surrounded area is punctuated by sandstone and granite peaks and populated by wildlife such as bears, deer, hyena, pheasants and big-headed turtles. The high altitude means the climate is cool all year round, in fact, it's the coolest national park in all of Thailand, according to statistics. October to March are particularly chilly and you can often see frost or frozen dew, known as 'Mae Kaning' in Thai, clinging to the plants and grass up near the peak.

The park's most interesting spots and attractions are as follows :

Decho viewpoint is an elevated spot perfect for watching the sunrise and on clear days visitors can see Loei's mountain peaks in all their glory stretching as far as the eye can see.

Pha Lon Noi is another super sunrise spot and from here visitors can see Phu Luang, Phu Pha Sat, Phu Khrang and a host of other mountains with striking sawtooth peaks.





Pha Sam Thong or rose cliff'is a steep ravine and water source with yellowish gold lichen climbing up the cliff face.

Huai Phai Waterfall is a tall, steep natural waterfall with a steady stream of water cascading from 30 metres overhead. The water from this natural source is used in the residential areas of Phu Ruea district.

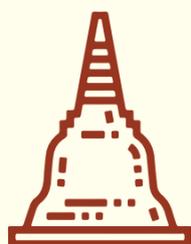
Phu Ruea Peak is the highest point in the park at 1,365 metres above sea level and is surrounded by grassy plains, rocky areas and both natural and cultivated pine forests.

There are numerous other attractions within the park, including Tham Hin Taek cave and the Hin Khang Mo, Hin Wua Non, Hin Phan Khan Mak, Hin Phra Siwa, Hin Lang Tao and Hin Lek Fai rock formations, all named after the things that they resemble. These eye-catching stones are scattered around grassy plains and during the end of the cool season, hundreds of colourful blooms spring into life around them.



The National Park offers accommodation for interested visitors.

For further details and bookings contact the park on Tel. : 0 4281 0965 or the Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation on Tel. : 0 2562 0760 or through the website at www.dnp.go.th



Phrathat Si Song Rak

Dan Sai, Loei



Phrathat Si Song Rak

Dan Sai, Loei



Just 2 kilometres outside the Dan Sai district, beside the Man river, construction of this temple began in 1560 and it reached its completion three years later. The cement and mortar pagoda is an example of Lang Xhang art and there is a lotus shaped pavilion similar to those found in Phrathat Panom and Phrathat Luang at Vientiane in Laos. The pagoda is 19.19 metres in height and is set on a square base with sides measuring 10.89 metres.

The name of the pagoda 'Phrathat Si Song Rak' means that it was constructed in dedication to the Buddhist religion, as well as acting as a testimony between the emperor of Ayutthaya and Setthathirath, ruler of the Lan Xang empire. During that particular period in history, the Burmese were constantly looking to invade and extend their grasp over the region and as a result, the two rulers decided to form an alliance and pledge never to attack each other in order to increase safety and stability. The pagoda was created to bear witness to this treaty and it stands right up to the present day. Each year, on the full moon of the



6th lunar month, there is a celebration at the pagoda to remember the history behind its existence.

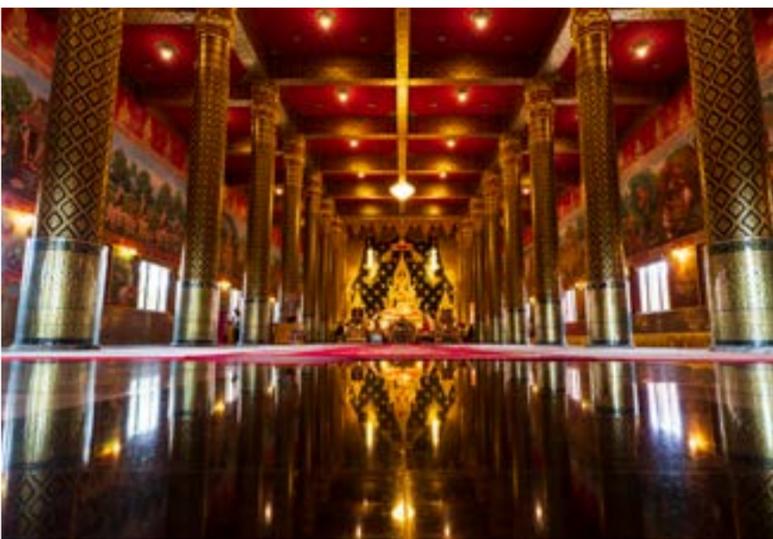
Aside from this, there is a square pillar with a bronze Buddha image 21 inches wide and 30 inches tall, showing the Buddha being protected by the mythical Naga serpent, which is made from carved stone. The temple allows visitors to pay their respects to the image and cover it in gold leaf according to Buddhist traditions on special occasions and on the day before the annual celebration.

Visitors should not bring red items of worship or flowers to the pagoda and should not dress in red while visiting. It is believed that the colour represents bloodshed from war and that it's unsuitable for a place of worship that was created with the intention of creating and maintaining peace. In bygone days visitors in red clothing were turned away and over the years it has become a tradition. No hats or shoes should be worn whilst paying respects and umbrellas should be left outside. Children under the age of 3 years should also not be taken to the pagoda. (Local officers should be consulted before any ceremonies are carried out at the pagoda)



Wat Neramit Wipatsana

Dan Sai, Loei



Wat Neramit Wipatsana

Dan Sai, Loei



Just 1 km. from the Phrathat Si Song Rak pagoda, this temple is perched atop a hill and built almost entirely from red stone. It also features a Buddha image inside the chapel and an ornate square pillar to the rear. There's also a waxwork figure of Luang Pho Phramahapan Silawisuto, the venerable monk who order the temple's construction but sadly passed away before it was completed.



Phu I-Loet

Dan Sai, Loei



Phu I-Loet

Dan Sai, Loei

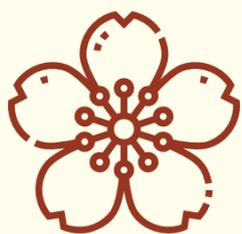


This scenic mountain is located in the community woodlands at Ban Pak Man, Pak Man sub-district and stands at 620 metres above sea level at its peak. The local community has transformed an area just below the summit into a campsite and viewpoint for enjoying the landscape, watching the mists swirl and witnessing some perfectly unspoiled sunrises in the morning and star-filled skies by night. From the viewpoint, visitors can look out on mountain ranges on both the Thai and Laotian sides of the Mekong.

There is no actual accommodation here, just a campsite and public toilets and washrooms, so visitors need to bring their own tents and cooking equipment and the only way to the peak is by 'E-Taek' tractor, organized by the local community, or else by motorcycle. The path up is extremely uneven, and it takes 45 minutes to reach the campsite. The viewpoint is just 100 metres past the campsite.



For further details, directions and tractor rental details, call Phu Elert Homestay, Tel. : 08 5460 6976, 08 5461 7230
Ajarn Naraset, Tel. : 06 1053 1561
Mr. Kraisor, Tel. : 09 8169 0326



Phu Lom Lo

Dan Sai, Loei



Phu Lom Lo

Dan Sai, Loei



In the Kok Sathon sub-subdistrict, part of the Phu Hin Rong Kla National Park, the peak reaches 1,600 metres above sea level. Between mid-December and January, the mountainside and valley is covered in Wild Himalayan Cherry trees in full bloom

The summit can be reached from Ban Rong Kla in Phitsanulok as well as from Kok Sathon, Dan Sai. Loei.

The park doesn't permit visitors to spend the night here and it's recommended that tourists seek out accommodation close to the foot of the mountain, like the campsite at Phu Rong Kla National Park or any of the accommodation options in Dan Sai district. Loei.



To ascend Phu Lom Lo and admire the Himalayan Cherry Trees in bloom, a 4wd drive pick-up vehicle is recommended.

Visitors who don't own a 4wd vehicle can contact Kok Sathon Tourist Association on Tel. : 06 2557 0912 as they organize transport during the season when the trees are in bloom.

One pick-up can hold up to ten passengers and the price is around 1,500 baht for a return trip.



**Kok Sathon Community
Ecotourism Group**

Dan Sai, Loei



Kok Sathon Community Ecotourism Group

Dan Sai, Loei



Located at Ban Kok Sathon, Kok Sathon sub-district, this local community of agricultural workers who live around the popular Phu Lom Lo, a booming tourist spot with hillsides covered in Himalayan Cherry blooms, recently decided to set up a group to take advantage of their proximity to a thriving tourist spot. The locals began by offering homestay accommodation and guided tours for tourists in the periods between harvests. They also offer culinary activities like sampling the local 'Nam Prik Pak Sathon' chilli paste, made from a local vegetable that shares its name with the district, and which is fermented and boiled down to a juice and used as a condiment in place of fish sauce. There's also ginger juice and tea from powdered, locally grown ginger to try and a 'Buang Suang Pho Khun Sri' folk dance performance by local kids to enjoy.



For further details contact, Tel. : 06 2557 0912



Phu Phra

Dan Sai, Loei



Phu Phra

Dan Sai, Loei



Situated in Ban Mak Khaeng village, Kok Sathon sub-district, this new tourist spot has something for lovers of art, culture and Buddhism. Visitors can view a collection of tens of 2.5 metre-wide, 3 metre-tall Buddha image, weighing over three tons each that were rounded up from various sites and repaired them before rehousing at Phu Phra. The site also acts as a memorial and merit-making area for those local people who lost their lives in the war against communist insurgents in the past.



Phu Kradueng National Park

Phu Kradueng, Loei



Phu Kradueng National Park

Phu Kradueng, Loei



Located in Si Than sub-district and covering a total area of 348 square kilometres, the area was officially declared a National Park on 23 November 1962.

The park is deservedly one of the country's most popular natural tourist attractions due to its natural abundance and diverse ecosystem which takes in grassy plains, hillside pine forests, jungle, maple forests and is home to wild roses and shaggy-petaled Erias.

The overhanging cliffs and ravines which offer great views and are the park's distinguishing feature are formed from sandstone and there is a large, heart-shaped plateau at a height of 400-1,200 metres





above sea level. Tourists who are thinking of visiting Phu Kradueng should fully prepare and do a routine health check prior to their visit as the path to the summit is around 9 kilometres in length (5 kilometres uphill and 4 kilometres on the flat)

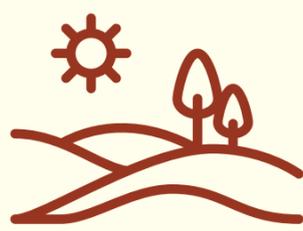
The ascent is fairly steep throughout but there are resting spots known as 'chum', areas where water springs from beneath the soil. These spots have food and beverages for sale to tourists on their way to the peak. There are many more places of interest within Phu Kradueng National Park including Pha Mak Duk cliff, Pha Daeng cliff, Pha Yiab Mek cliff, Wang Kwang waterfall, Pen Pob Mai waterfall, Pon Pob waterfall, Tham Yai waterfall Tan Sawan waterfall, Tham So Nuea cave, Thum So Tai cave, and Anodad pool to name but a few.



Open every day between 07.00-14.00 hrs. and is closed to allow the ecosystem to recover and replenish between June and September of each year.

Entrance fees : 400 baht for adults / 200 baht for children and there is a 15 baht/km charge for assistance in carrying possessions to the peak.

Lodges and tents can also be rented by contacting the park office at Tel. : 0 4281 0833 - 4 or the Bangkok Department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation on Tel. : 0 2562 0760



Lang Pae

Phu Kradueng National Park,
Phu Kradueng, Loei



Lang Pae

Phu Kradueng National Park, Phu Kradueng, Loei



This is the first point that tourists on their way to the summit of Phu Kradueng will stop at. Consisting of open plains and pine forests, the area is home to the famous sign which reads 'Once in our lives, we conquered Phu Kradueng', a favourite spot for souvenir photos.





Wang Kwang Tourist Centre

Phu Kradueng National Park,

Phu Kradueng, Loei



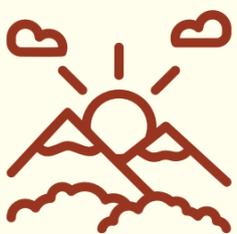
Wang Kwang Tourist Centre

Phu Kradueng National Park, Phu Kradueng, Loei



Accommodation and camping right near the peak of Phu Kradueng with toilets, washrooms, and restaurants.





Pha Nok An

Phu Kradueng National Park,
Phu Kradueng, Loei



Pha Nok An

Phu Kradueng National Park, Phu Kradueng, Loei



One of the best spots to catch the sun rise over Phu Kradueng. Visitors can look down over rolling fields and mountain ranges as the sun climbs into the morning sky. There are clumps of red and white wild roses growing around the pathway to the cliff which bloom between March and April each year.





Pha Lom Sak

Phu Kradueng National Park,
Phu Kradueng, Loei

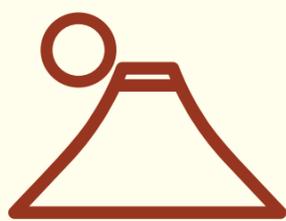


Pha Lom Sak

Phu Kradueng National Park, Phu Kradueng, Loei

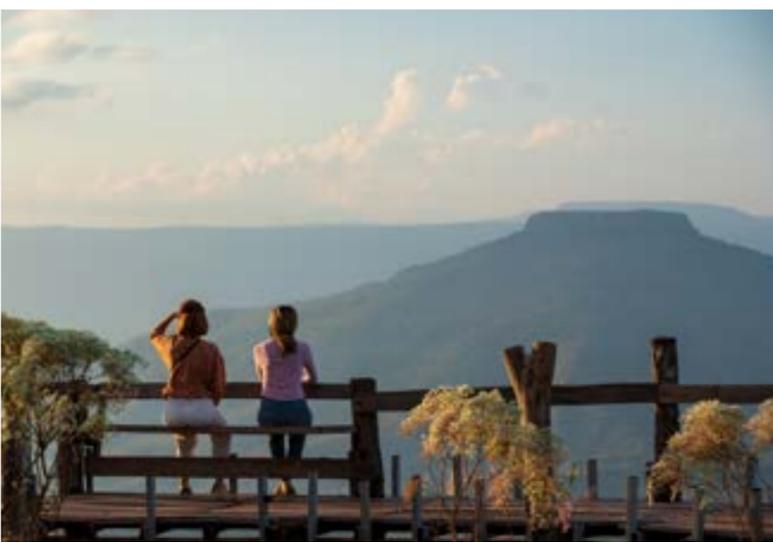


A large rocky plateau with rows of pine trees and a rocky cliff face overhanging a ravine which provides an ideal setting to watch the sunset. This iconic cliff is considered to be an easily recognizable symbol of Phu Kradueng.



**Phu Pa Po Conservative
Tourism Group Club**
Nong Hin, Loei





Phu Pa Po Conservative Tourism Group Club

Nong Hin, Loei



Located in Ban Pha Whai, Puan Phu sub-district, the group organizes and manages ecotourism around the Phu Pa Po area, a peak that lies 910 meters above sea level. From the viewing point atop the mountain, visitors can observe Phu Ho, a peak which has often been compared to Mt. Fuji in Japan and makes a wonderful sunrise and sunset spot, while during the cool season a striking sea of mist often appears around the mountains. Visitors can also look out over neighbouring peaks Phu Kradueng, Phu Luang, Phu Yong, Phu Pha Khwang, Phu Ko and Phu Kratae



as well as Suan Pha Ngam and Phu Pha Man, earning the viewpoint the unofficial title of 'Loei's best panorama'.

The group was founded in 2014 to support tourism in the area and preserve natural resources, the environment and local art, culture and traditions, as well as act as a tourist information centre where visitors can acquire knowledge of the area from members of the local community and enjoy excursions and activities together.



For further details contact Tel. : 08 7427 3410



TAT CONTACT CENTER

TOURISM AUTHORITY OF THAILAND (HEADQUARTERS)

1600 New Phetchaburi Road, Makkasan,
Ratchathewi, Bangkok 10400

Tel : 0 2550 5500 Fax : 0 2253 7440

www.tourismthailand.org

email : info@tat.or.th

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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

TAT, Udon Thani Office

16/5 Mukamontri Road Tambon Makkeang,
Mueang, Udon Thani 41000

Tel : 0 4232 5406-7

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email : tatudon@tat.or.th

Responsible for tourism in Udon Thani, Nong Khai,
and Bueng Kan provinces

