



Tham Morakot

amazing  
THAILAND

# Trang







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*Ko Libong*



*Ko Lao Liang*

# Trang

*It was the first city where rubber was planted. Phraya Ratsadanupradit Mahison Phakdi brought rubber from Malaysia and planted it here before anywhere else in southern Thailand in 1899.*

Trang, with a total area of 4,941 square kilometres used to be a port involved in foreign trade. It was the first city where rubber was planted. Phraya Ratsadanupradit Mahison Phakdi brought rubber from Malaysia and planted it here before anywhere else in southern Thailand in 1899. Rubber is now considered an important commodity in the country. The important Trang River flows through the province from its origin in the Khao Luang mountain range and the Palian River from the Banthat mountain range.

Trang is a coastal province on the Indian Ocean with a long western coastline of about 199 kilometres. The province consists of an archipelago in the Andaman Sea with over 46 islands. Of these, 12 are in Amphoe Kantang, 13 in Amphoe Palian and 21 in Amphoe Sikao. The best time for sea travel is from October to May.

## Attractions

### *Phraya Ratsadanupradit Mahison Phakdi Monument*

The monument is in Trang Municipal Park, about 1 km. from the Provincial Hall on the Trang-Phatthalung route. Phraya Ratsada helped to make Trang the prosperous city it is today. He developed transportation, agriculture, animal husbandry, education, and local administration. He was also the first person to plant rubber trees in the province, which contributed to widespread planting in southern Thailand.

*Phraya Ratsadanupradit Mahison Phakdi Monument*



### ***Sa Kaphang Surin***

This natural pool of about 80,000 square metres is located in Trang Municipality, about 2 km. from the Provincial Hall on Wian Kaphang Road. A concrete bridge spans the pool to three beautiful connecting pavilions in the pool's centre. The surrounding area is a public park.

### ***Phra Srinagarindra Park (Thung Nam Phut)***

The Park is 3 km. from the city. Nam Phut Road is on the right of Tha Klang Road. The park has a lovely landscape and a magnificent view.

### ***Phra Non Song Khrueang Nora***

This Buddha image in the reclining posture is enshrined in Wat Phu Khao Thong in Tambon Nam Phut, about 20 km. from the city. The most distinctive feature is the head, which has a decorated headdress of the Nora dance regarded as a holy and royal ornament of the dance that is an indigenous performance of southern Thailand.



*Phra Non Song Khrueang Nora*

### ***Khao Chong Wildlife Development and Conservation Promotion Station***

The site is approximately 21 km. from the city on the Trang-Phatthalung Road. This is one of the most attractive places in southern Thailand. There is an abundance of large trees, streams and waterfalls like Ton Yai, Ton Noi and Ka Chong. This is the first nature and wildlife study centre in Thailand. In addition, the "nature study trail" is a walking trail ideal for studying nature up close. Signs along the trail provide information on the environment. "The Museum and Exhibition Building" has exhibitions on nature and natural resource conservation. More information can be obtained from the station at Mu 7, Tambon Chong, Amphoe Na Yong, P.O. Box 4, Trang.

### ***Khlong Lam Chan Waterfowl Park***

The park is in Khlong Lam Chan Wildlife Reserve, 17 km. from the city on the Trang-Phatthalung route, then take a right on the Ban Ka Chong-Ban Hat Lao road (Highway No. 4124) for about 1 km. A large swamp in the park is home to numerous waterfowl, especially between January and March. The park is a peaceful place suitable for relaxation, tourism or overnighting. For more information, please contact the National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department Tel. 0 2562 0760 or [www.dnp.go.th](http://www.dnp.go.th).

### ***Tham Khao Chang Hai***

The cave, located 5 km. from Amphoe Na Yong Market in Ban Na Muen Si, has a great deal of lovely stalagmites and stalactites of various shapes.

### ***Na Muen Si Woven Cloth***

The Na Muen Si weaving group maintains the weaving heritage of the area. Their office is located on the way to Tham Khao Chang Hai, around 5 km. down Na Muen Si Road. For further information, please contact the Amphoe Na Yong Community Development Office Tel. 0 7524 2431. About 300 metres away, there is the Tambon Na Muen Si Local Heritage Museum exhibiting preserved Trang arts and handicrafts. Over 300 ancient utensils and artefacts are on display.





*Ko Takiang, Mu Ko Phetra Marine National Park*



*Hat Yong Ling*

### ***Namtok Ka Chong***

The majestic waterfall cascades from a high mountain over cliffs and rocks in Khao Chong Botanical Park on the Trang-Phatthalung Road in Amphoe Na Yong, about 7 km. from the district office.

### ***Phraya Ratsadanupradit Mahison Phakdi Museum***

The museum is located about 200 metres from Kantang Municipality. This is an important historical site, known as the “old Trang lord’s house” or the house of Phraya Ratsadanupradit, the former lord of the province. The house is a two-storey wooden building. The wax figure of the former owner and a complete collection of his personal effects are on display. The Na Ranong family looks after the house. The museum is open daily except Monday and public holidays. Groups requiring a guide must contact in advance at Kantang Phitthayakon School Tel. 0 7525 1100.

### ***The First Rubber Tree in Thailand***

Located along the road leading to Amphoe Kantang, this tree represents the first group of rubber trees that Phraya Ratsadanupradit planted to pioneer the rubber industry in 1899.

### ***Khuan Tamnak Chan Public Park***

The 250-acre Park, 24 km. from the city, has beautiful surroundings like large trees and decorative plants. There is a rest pavilion and a parking lot for tourists. The park offers a great view of the sea.

### ***Hat Yong Ling and Hat San***

On the way to Hat Chao Mai, the 2-kilometre road leads to Hat Yong Ling, the curved beach parallels a pine forest. At the beach’s end is a high mountain with holes and caves that can be passed through to a cliff with more caves and rocks similar to a fortress encircling sand dunes. The beaches are ideal for swimming and relaxing.



### ***Hat Yao***

This long beach in Tambon Ko Libong extends from a mountain in the shape of a shark's fin to the north. Lovely sea pines line the beach. Private accommodation is available.

### ***Hat Chao Mai - Tham Chao Khun***

The site is a stalagmite and stalactite cave in Khao To Nae near Ban Chao Mai. It can be reached by boat from Hat Yao onto Khlong Chao Mai for about 15 minutes. A small rowboat can go through the cave to a verdant mangrove forest where another cave awaits. Visitors have to walk up to the cave to fully appreciate its beauty.

### ***Ko Libong***

The largest island in the Trang Sea covers an area of 40,000 sq. km. Around the island is seaweed that feeds a large herd of manatees or "sea cows", an endangered species. It is also the home of a variety of native and migratory birds that flock here to escape cold climates. Ko Libong is part of the Libong Archipelago Wildlife Reserve. The park headquarters is located here. And the attractions are capes and beaches such as Hat Tup, Laem Chu Hoi, Laem Thuat and Laem To Chai. Visitors can walk across the beach at Laem Chu Hoi at low tide to Hat Tup where seabirds and mangrove birds from colder climates not found anywhere else flock here in great numbers. There are many Muslim fishing villages on the island and the picturesque Chao Mai Beach and Cape.

To get to the island, visitors can take a boat from Hat Yao Ban Chao Mai Pier. Boats leave every hour and take 30 minutes to get to the island. Tickets cost about 400 baht each. Accommodation can also be found on the island. Please contact the Libong Archipelago Wildlife Reserve, P.O. Box 5, Amphoe Kantang, Trang Tel. 0 7525 1932.

### ***Hat Chao Mai***



### ***Ko Libong***





### ***Ko Muk and Tham Morakot***

The island is considered the most famous attraction in the Trang Sea. Its landscape is mostly high and majestic cliffs facing the sea to the west while a fishing village faces the mainland to the east. The cliffs are homes to swallows. Hidden among them is the fantastic Tham Morakot, the cave which can only be entered by swimming through a dark 80-metre tunnel at low tide. Once inside, you are confronted with enchanting scenes of a sunlit lagoon and sandy beach surrounded 360 degrees by sheer cliffs. Ko Muk can be reached by boat from Pak Meng Pier in Amphoe Sikao. The journey takes about 40 minutes. Accommodation on the island is available.

### ***Ko Chueak - Ko Waen***

These small islands are between Ko Muk and Ko Kradan. They are teeming with shallow and deepwater corals and fish. Visitors can depart from Pak Meng Pier for the islands. Boats leave regularly on the same route as to Ko Muk and Ko Kradan.

### ***Ko Kradan***

The island, widely regarded as the most beautiful one that is part of Hat Chao Mai National Park, covers 600 acres. The rest are privately owned rubber and coconut plantations. The island offers good restaurants and accommodation for tourists. The most striking feature of Ko Kradan is its powdery white beach and crystal-clear water that permits a great view of the coral reef underneath which stretches from the beach's northern end to the coast. A variety of colourful fish inhabit the shallow water corals. Ko Kradan is to the west of Ko Muk and Ko Libong. Visitors can take a boat for about 1<sup>1</sup> hours from Pak Meng Pier to Ko Kradan.





*Ko Ngai*

### ***Hat Chao Mai National Park***

The Park coastline is about 20 km. and its headquarters is at Chang Lang Beach in Tambon Mai Fat, approximately 47 km. from the city. Visitors can take the Trang-Sikao-Pak Meng road (Highway No. 4162) for 40 km. and continue 7 km. on a road paralleling the beach to the park headquarters. Land-based attractions of the park are beaches such as Hat Pak Meng, Hat Chang Lang, Hat San, Hat Yao , Hat Yong Ling, Hat Chao Mai , and a cave called Tham Chao Mai. The Park headquarters is responsible for 7 other islands including Ko Muk, Ko Kradan, Ko Chueak, Ko Pling, Ko Waen, Ko Meng , and Ko Chao Mai. Accommodation is available on the island. For more details, please contact the National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department Tel. 0 2562 0760.

*Rajamangkhal Aquarium*

### ***Ko Ngai***

Here the sandy strand is complemented by a beachfront restaurant. The island has a white beach and clear water and is surrounded by magnificent corals. A boat trip from Pak Meng Pier takes about an hour. Accommodation on the island is available.

### ***Rajamangkhal Aquarium***

Located 30 km. from the city on the Trang-Sikao-Pak Meng road (Highway No. 4046-4162), the aquarium is in the Fishery Faculty, Rajamangala University of Technology Srivijaya, Trang Campus. There are 61 displays and fish pond. The aquarium exhibits both freshwater and marine fish, amphibians and a realistic model of a mangrove forest. Open daily, Tel. 0 7527 4151 Ext. 4011. [www.rmutsv.ac.th](http://www.rmutsv.ac.th)



### ***Hat Pak Meng***

38 km. from the city on the Trang-Sikao-Pak Meng road (Highway No. 4046-4162), this beautiful and peaceful 5-km. long beach is in the shape of a crescent moon. A lovely pine forest fringes the beach. Assorted large and small islands dot the sea, looking like a person lying face up in the ocean. Trang locals and people from nearby provinces like to come here to relax and sample tasty fresh seafood in the restaurants.

### ***Sea Tour of Palian***

On Trang-Palian road (Highway No. 404), the Palian coastline is a lovely and extraordinary feature of the Andaman Sea. Famous beaches include Chao Samran and Ta-se. Interesting islands are Ko Sukon, Ko Phetra, Ko Lao Liang Nua, and Ko Lao Liang Tai.

### ***Mu Ko Phetra National Park***

The area was proclaimed a national park on 31 December, 1994, and comprises islands such as Ko Phetra, Ko Khao Yai, Ko Lanti, Ko Lidi, Ko Bulon, Ko Lao Liang, and Ko Praoma. To get there, visitors shall depart from Pak Bara Pier in Satun. The most suitable time for a visit is during December-April. There is tourist accommodation near the park's headquarters. For more information, please contact the National Park, Wildlife and Plant Conservation Department Tel. 0 2592 0760.

### ***Ko Sukon***

3 km. from shore via the Trang-Palian road (Highway No. 404), the island has many lovely beaches. In addition, it is renowned for its delicious watermelons, which are plentiful in March and April. To get there, take a bus on the Trang-Palian route or a van from Amphoe Mueang for approximately 35 km. and board a ferry at Tha Kham Pier in Palian for 40 minutes.



### ***Namtok Ton Te***

Located 45 km. from the city and onto the Trang-Phatthalung road for about 17 km., then turn right onto the Ban Kachong-Ban Hat Lao road (Highway No. 4124) for 27 km. and left for 1 km, this large and beautiful waterfall is the province's largest waterfall, tumbling an impressive 320 metres down a forested hillside. A path leads up the hill and the climb is well worthwhile.

### ***Namtok Ton Tok***

Situated in the same vicinity as Ton Te, these falls are smaller but extremely picturesque in a lush green setting.

### ***Khao Pina***

45 km. from the city on Phetchakasem Road and a 2-km path from there to the mountain, which is hollow all the way to the top. At the foot is Wat Khao Pina where a reclining Buddha image sits at the entrance to a cave. Concrete stairs take visitors up to see the cave's beauty. The area is lovely and very conducive to relaxation.



### **Tham Le Khao Kop**

About 7 km. from the district office on Phetchakasem Road, then 700 metres down the road on the left, this cave, looking like a high steep cliff with layers of rocks, is truly a natural wonder. A stream flows through the cave, lined with stalactites and stalagmites line the cave for about 4 km. Currently the Khao Kop Tambon Administration Organisation provides rowboats for visitors to view the cave's beauty and experience an eco-adventure tour. Tel. 0 7527 1808



### **Southern Thailand Botanical Garden**

Taking the Trang-Palian road (Highway No. 404) to Km. 11, the site is a new tourist destination for visitors interested in nature and floral study. Inside the park are a tourist service centre, a botanical garden, an herbal garden, a botanical library, a plant museum, and a technical meeting centre. There are nature trails available, all going through a lowland jungle, as well as a forest with many interesting plant species. Accommodation is available. Tel. 0 7528 0166

### **Namtok Sai Rung**

Taking the Trang-Phatthalung road to Km. 17, and turn right onto the Ban Ka Chong-Ban Hat Lao road for 15 km., then a left turn for about 4 km, this single-tier waterfall falls from a high and huge cliff. Sai Rung is noted for its rainbow effect as the sun catches the water cascading over a steep rock face.

### **Namtok Phrai Sawan**

This medium-sized 17-tier waterfall can be reached by taking the Trang-Phatthalung road to about Km. 17, before turning right onto the Ban Ka Chong-Ban Hat Lao road for 20 km. Phrai Sawan has a clear pool at its base suitable for swimming.

### **Namtok Lam Plok**

The 6-tier waterfall offers the view of the islands and the mouth of the Palian River. To get there, take the Trang-Phatthalung road to Km. 17 and turn right onto the Ban Ka Chong-Ban Hat Lao road for 26 km. to the area of the Khlong Lam Plok Hydroelectric Project.

### **Tham Phra Phut**

Located in the northeast of the province in Amphoe Huai Yot, this cave shrine has several Buddha images, most notably a large reclining Buddha image and a standing image decorated in the style of a regal southern Thai classical dance performer.

### **Tham Phraya Phichai**

Located in Ban Nai Wang, Tambon Nong Bua, this naturally beautiful cave has plenty of stalactites and stalagmites. It is teeming with creatures, especially *hoi lo* - a type of snail that is edible.

### **Hat Samran**

Located in Tambon Hat Samran, about 59 km. from the city on the Trang-Palian road and turn right at Ban Na intersection in Palian for another 22 km., this beach comprises a thick pine forest and offers a good view of large and small islands offshore. The climate on the islands is warm and breezy all day, making them great holiday spots. Visitors can enjoy fresh seafood and see a local fishing village.







## How to Get There

### By Car

1. Highway No. 4 (Bangkok-Chumphon) to Highway No. 41 (Surat Thani-Thung Song- Huai Yot-Trang), total distance of 828 km.
2. Highway No. 4 (Bangkok-Chumphon) to Ranong-Phang-nga-Krabi-Trang, total distance of 1,020 km.
3. Highway No. 404-416 (Satun-Palian-Trang), total distance of 140 km.
4. Highway No. 4-407 (Hat Yai-Phatthalung-Trang), total distance of 148 km.
5. Highway No. 4-402 (Phuket-Phang-nga-Krabi-Trang), total distance of 312 km.

### By Rail

Rapid and express trains depart from the Hua Lamphong Railway Station in Bangkok to Trang daily, taking 15 hours for the 870 km. journey. More information can be obtained from Tel. 0 2220 4334 Hotline: 1690 or [www.railway.co.th](http://www.railway.co.th). Trang Train Station Tel. 0 7521 8012

### By Bus

Buses depart from the Southern Bus Terminal in Bangkok to Trang daily. The trip takes 12 hours. For more information, please contact Tel. 0 2894 6122 or [www.transport.co.th](http://www.transport.co.th). Transport Co. Ltd. (Trang Office) Tel. 0 7521 8718

### By Air

Thai Airways International has direct daily flights to Trang which take about 1 hour. For more information, please contact Tel. 1566, 0 2280 0060, 0 2628 2000 (Bangkok office) or 0 7521 9923, 0 7521 8066 (Trang office) or visit [www.thaiairways.com](http://www.thaiairways.com).



*Tuk Tuk in Trang*

## Travelling in the Province

Trang offers motorised tricycles, or *tuk tuk*, for travelling within the municipality. Visitors travelling between the districts can take buses and mini-buses or rent vans from the tour agencies in the city.





*Trang Underwater Wedding Ceremony*



*The Vegetarian Festival*

## Events & Festivals

### *Trang Underwater Wedding Ceremony*

The Province of Trang, together with the Trang Chamber of Commerce and other public and private organisations, have organised the Underwater Wedding Ceremony at Ko Kradan. The event raises its popularity and has been recorded in the Guinness Book of World Records. The function starts with a “Bridal Procession” around Trang Municipality, continuing on to Ko Kradan by long-tail boats. Then the unique “Thai Wedding Ceremony” will be held on the beach. Registration of the marriages takes place in specially decorated seabed altars 10-metres underwater. In 2007, around 80-scuba-diving couples received their water-proof marriage certificates, blowing kiss bubbles and swimming with hundreds of vibrant fish that came as guests.

### *Trang Products Fair*

The fair held annually in April features culture, traditions and products of the province, along with a beauty pageant.

### *Trang Cake Festival*

Ban Lam Phu Ra is famous for traditional cake-making that dates back generations. The cakes of Trang have no frosting and have several flavours like orange, coffee, etc. The festival is scheduled every August.

### *Trang Roast Pork Festival*

Annually held in September, the festival features mouth-watering roast pork cooked with the special recipe of Trang. The pork skin is crispy, the meat is tender and delicious due to a process by which the pig is fermented with herbs then roasted whole on a specially made grill. Trang’s roast pork is on sale everywhere and goes well with morning coffee or can be a dish at banquets.

### *The Vegetarian Festival*

Usually held in October, this is a festival of the Chinese in Trang. It is celebrated over nine days and features ceremonies at local Chinese temples and parades during which devotees perform remarkable feats of self-mortification.





Woven Clothes from Ban Na Muen Si

## Local Culture

### *Manora or Nora*

The performance has graceful and beautiful dance postures. The singers will sing the lyrics. Therefore, he or she would have to be a quick thinker to find words that rhyme and that are meaningful in lyrics, dance and costume. Accompanying musical instruments include drums, cymbals, gongs, Java pipes, and castanets.

### *Nang Talung or Shadow Puppet Plays*

Dried animal hide is carved into puppets figures like a hermit, a lead actress, a giant, and a clown. The figures are held up behind a lighted screen to create shadows on it. *Nai Nang*, or the puppeteer, will sing verses or narrate the performance. He must have exceptional reflexes and be able to narrate the whole story by himself. Musical instruments used are the same as Nora, with perhaps *So-u* and *So Duang* (stringed instruments) added to the mix.

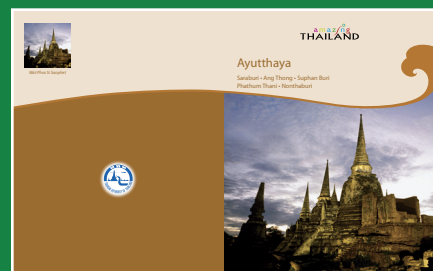
### *Li-ke Pa*

Also called *Li-ke Bok* or *Li-ke Rammanna*, the performance is popular among Thai Muslims. Only 3 performers play on a single set for the whole show. However, the set will have a location name change to correspond to the story acted out. Musical instruments used include tambourines, cymbals, gongs, and pipes.

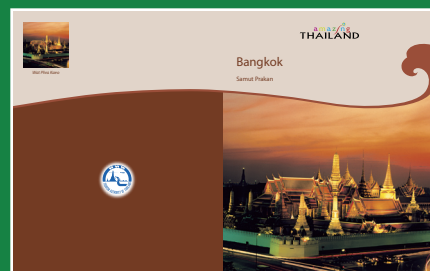
### *Local Products*

Famous local products include *yan liphao* handbags and purses made from finely split jungle vines, basketry from the local plant, woodcarving from Ban Nong Prue, Rubberwood toys and woven clothes from Ban Na Muen Si. Trang is also well known for local sweets and food such as roast pork and typical hot coffee “*ko-pi*” and cakes from Lam Phu Ra.

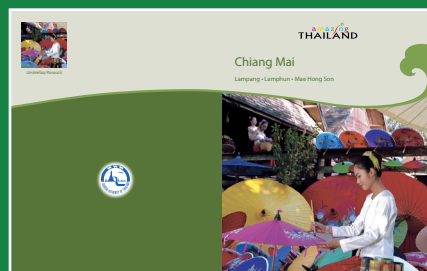




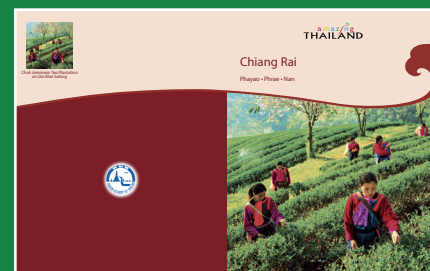
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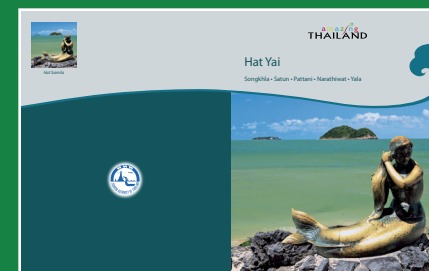
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Chiang Mai



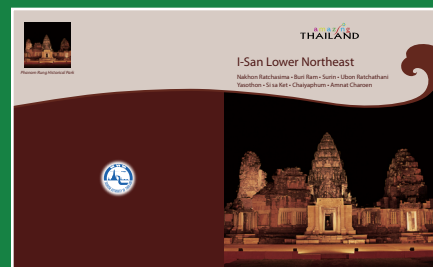
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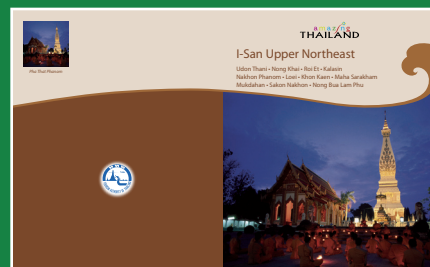
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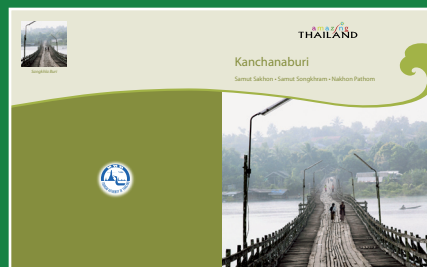
Hua Hin & Cha-am



I-San Lower Northeast



I-San Upper Northeast



Kanchanaburi



Ko Chang



Ko Samui



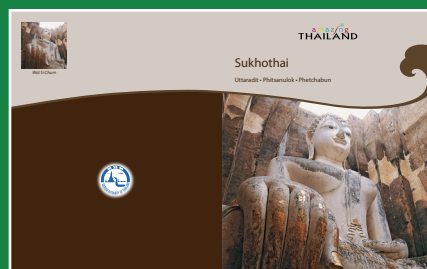
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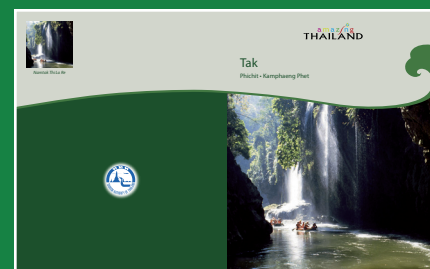
Pattaya



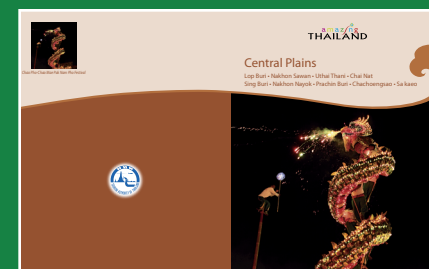
Phuket



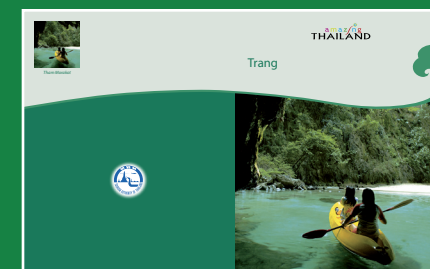
Sukhothai



Tak



Central Plains



Trang

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