

An artistic illustration of a person's hands weaving on a loom. The loom is made of wooden beams, and the threads are a mix of vibrant colors including blue, purple, red, and yellow. The hands are shown in a close-up, with one hand holding a thread and the other operating a shuttle. The background is a soft, light yellow. The overall style is a textured, painterly illustration.

Pass on the story

Textile

Treasures of
Northern
Thailand

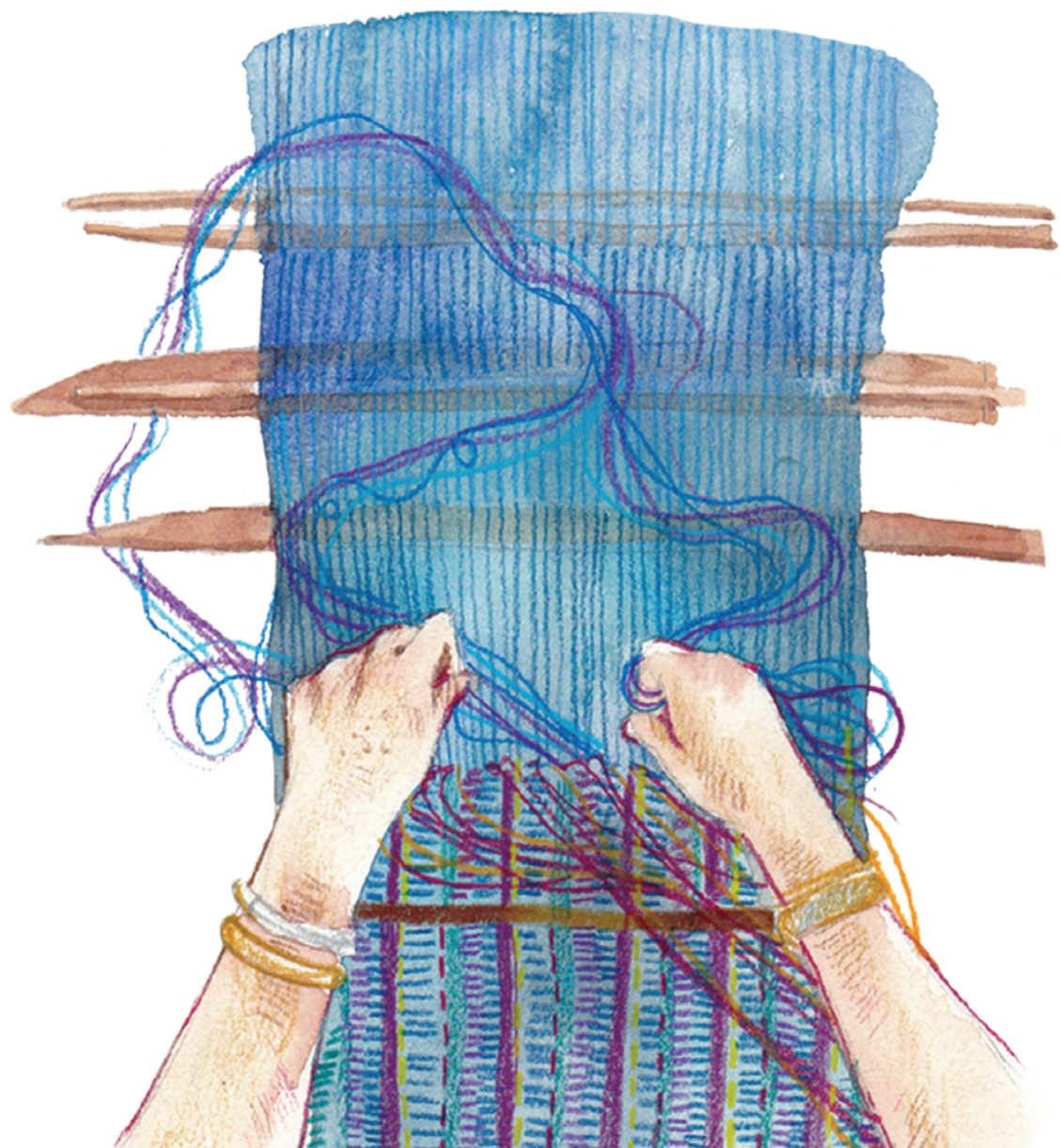
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Introduce

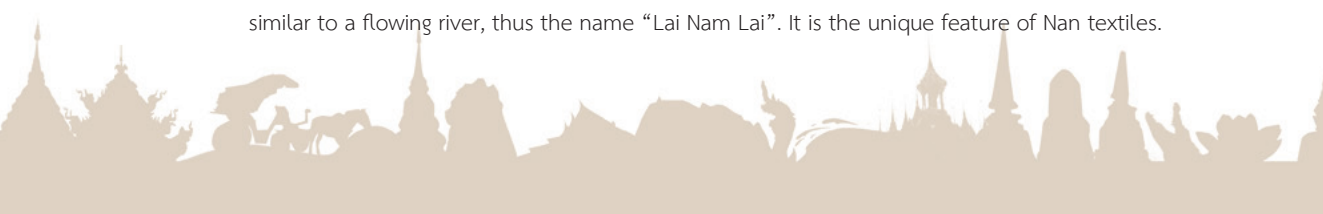
Stories of the North through Beautiful Textiles

There are a lot of stories to tell regarding Thai tourism. Likewise, the charm of arts and culture has endless stories to be told. **11 routes to 17 Northern provinces** are the destinations which introduce us to the beauty of the textiles, reflecting the Lanna culture, woven into interesting stories of history and background as well as a variety of arts from different ethnic groups. We believe that these routes will be an inspiration to all travellers who love this amazingly magical Thailand that is said to be “Cool...everywhere”.

Handwoven Textiles on the Lanna Route

One of the popular textiles and considered to be fabric of Thai culture is textiles in the Northern region. The fabric in this area have beautiful unique patterns and contain cultural values, which have been passed down for hundreds of years. Textiles are not just clothing but cultural heritage that has evolved with time and belief. The main materials used come from silk and cotton fibres. They can be classified into:

- **Handwoven Textiles** are made from native cotton, from white cotton and light-brown cotton. After the spinning process, the finished product is soft and sticky yarns. They are often dyed with natural colours from local herbs and plants.
- **Silk Textile** was woven to be used among high-class people and royal families in the past. The weavers with high expertise typically weave Pha Sin including Sin Ta Mai, Sin Tin Chok Mai, Sin Mai Ngoen and Mai Kham (Silk Pha Sin with silver and golden yarns), and golden brocade.
- **Mo Hom Textile** is handwoven cotton dyed with blue or dark-blue colour from Hom (*Baphicacanthus cusia* Brem) leaves. The fabric is dyed in a pot (Mo) that is why it is called “Pha Mo Hom”, literally translated as Hom pot textiles.
- **Khit Textile** is woven using the “khit” technique to create patterns by adding extra weft yarns from one edge of the fabric to the other edge. This technique is commonly found among the Tai Lue ethnic people. Among the popular patterns include Ngu Loi, Nuai Khrueta, Kho Lek, Kho Yai, kho Khachae, Kab, Dok Chan, bird or swan, elephant, horse, and human.
- **Pha Lai Nam Lai (Flowing Water Design)** is woven using a tapestry weaving technique. The weft yarns are inserted back and forth in intervals like normal interlacing weaving but the yarns are hooked and tied into loops between the weft and warp yarns. This type of pattern is popular among the Tai Lue ethnic people, especially the Tai Lue from Chiang Kham and Chiang Muan districts in Phayao province, and Chiang Khong and Wiang Kaen Districts in Chiang Rai province. They call this technique as “Ko” (hook). However, the Tai Lue in Tha Wang Pha, Pua, and Thung Chang districts in Nan province call this technique as “Luang” (pick). The patterns created are similar to a flowing river, thus the name “Lai Nam Lai”. It is the unique feature of Nan textiles.



- **Matmi Textile** (Mat Kan or Khat Kan) is woven with a plain weave or normal interlacing technique. The weft yarns are tied with banana tree strings to create various patterns before dyeing. In Nan dialect, it is called “Mat Kan” or “Khat Kan”. This is the same weft of the ikat technique as those found in the Northeastern region of Thailand.
- **Chok Textile** (Pha Chok) is a patterned textile with one set of vertical threads (warps), one set of horizontal threads (wefts) creating the ground fabric, plus an extra set of horizontal patterning threads (supplementary wefts). To create the Chok patterns, the weaver raises the warps with a pointed instrument; such as, a porcupine quill, a stick, or a finger to create a space to insert the coloured supplementary wefts. In the past, this technique was used in weaving Sin Tin Chok of the Tai Yuan people in Lanna. Popular Tin Chok textiles include:
 - Sin Tin Chok from Long district, Phrae province featuring real cotton yarns. Yellow is used as the main colour. Later, the patterns were made from the brocade technique instead of the traditional Chok technique, so that the textiles could be finished faster.
 - Sin Tin Chok from Mae Cham district Chiang Mai province featuring multiple colours woven from hand-spun yarns. The patterns are woven across the whole textiles. This type of textile is praised to be the ultimate textiles of Chiang Mai.
- **Karen Textiles** typically have a narrow width. They are made using hand-spun yarns, dyed with natural colours, and woven with a backstrap loom. Most patterns are created by alternating the colours of the warp ikat yarns. Chok and brocade techniques are also used. Various colours of cotton yarns and Job’s tears are applied on the textiles as decorations.
- **Tai Lue Textiles** is characterised by horizontal stipes of vivid alternate colours in the style of the “Ta Lue” featuring unique colours specific to particular locations. Sin Tai Lue from Chiang Kham district, Phayao province, are mainly green while Sin Tai Lue from Chiang Muan district, Phayao province, are mainly purple or dark blue. The water clover design is typically woven in the centre of the fabric using a tapestry technique. Sin Tai Lue from Chiang Khong and Wiang Kaen districts in Chiang Rai province is woven using tapestry weaving and Chok techniques to create geometric designs. In Nan, patterns from the Tai Yuan and Tai Lue cultures are mixed into the patterns.
- **Hmong Textiles** are handwoven cotton textiles dyed with indigo or Hom or dyed in black with ebony. The textiles are decorated by cross-stitching into different designs across the whole fabric. The textiles are further decorated with silverware, silver coins, and cloth bands of various colours. Designs are drawn onto the textiles using wax before dyeing. This is called “Pha Khian Thian” (Hmong Batik). There are also textiles that are woven from hemp fibres which can be used in many forms of clothing.



- **Akha (E-kaw) Textiles** typically use handwoven cotton dyed in dark-blue colour from indigo or Hom or dyed in black from ebony. The textiles are decorated with silverware, beads, shells, and feathers. The outstanding feature lies in the use of clothing bands in various patterns and colours to cut into desired shapes and stitch on the main fabric.
- **Yao (Mien) Textiles** usually use “Yio” style stitching – that is straight line stitching, “Chong Thio” style stitching – that is small cross-stitching, and “Chong Dap Yap” style stitching – that is cross-stitching on black or dark blue cotton fabric to create patterns across the whole fabric. The yarns used must not be less than 7 colours including red, yellow, white, dark blue, black, green, and purple. They are made into ethnic costumes according to the Legend of Phan Ta Hu or Fan Hu, the ancestor of the Yao people.
- **Black Lahu (Muser) Textiles** typically weave black cotton textiles decorated with patterns by hand; such as, backstitching, using bands of red, white or blue cloth. Some groups of Lahu people also use silverware and metals to decorate the clothes.
- **Palaung Textiles** or Dara-ang Textiles typically use dark blue, purple, or green velvet fabric to make into clothes and decorate with silverware. Women usually wear cotton Pha Sin with horizontal stripes from using red and black weft yarns. Men usually wear long and loose pants made from cotton dyed with indigo or Hom or with ebony or velvet.
- **Lua Textiles** feature narrow width textiles woven from hand-spun cotton dyed with natural colour by using backstrap loom. Warp ikat is the main technique used to create patterns. Moreover, alternating warp yarn colours can create horizontal patterns.

The charm of Lanna textiles does not lie only in their beauty, but the stories, beliefs, and spirits behind the textiles along with the inheritance of ethnic heritage that is full of interesting lifestyles.

The Magic of Ethnic Textiles

The Northern region is the home of many ethnic groups who have been living here for a long time including those who have migrated to this land living on the plains and on the mountains. There are Tai Yuan, Tai Lue, Tai Lao, Tai Yai or Ngiao, and Tai Khoen or Tai Khuen.

Tai Yuan is a group of ethnic people who use Tai-Kadai language and live mostly in the upper northern part of Thailand, especially in the Ping River basin in Chiang Mai province. The special characteristic of Tai Yuan women is Pha Sin with horizontal stripes with the bottom part in a red or black colour and the head of Pha Sin in a white colour. It is called Sin Ta.



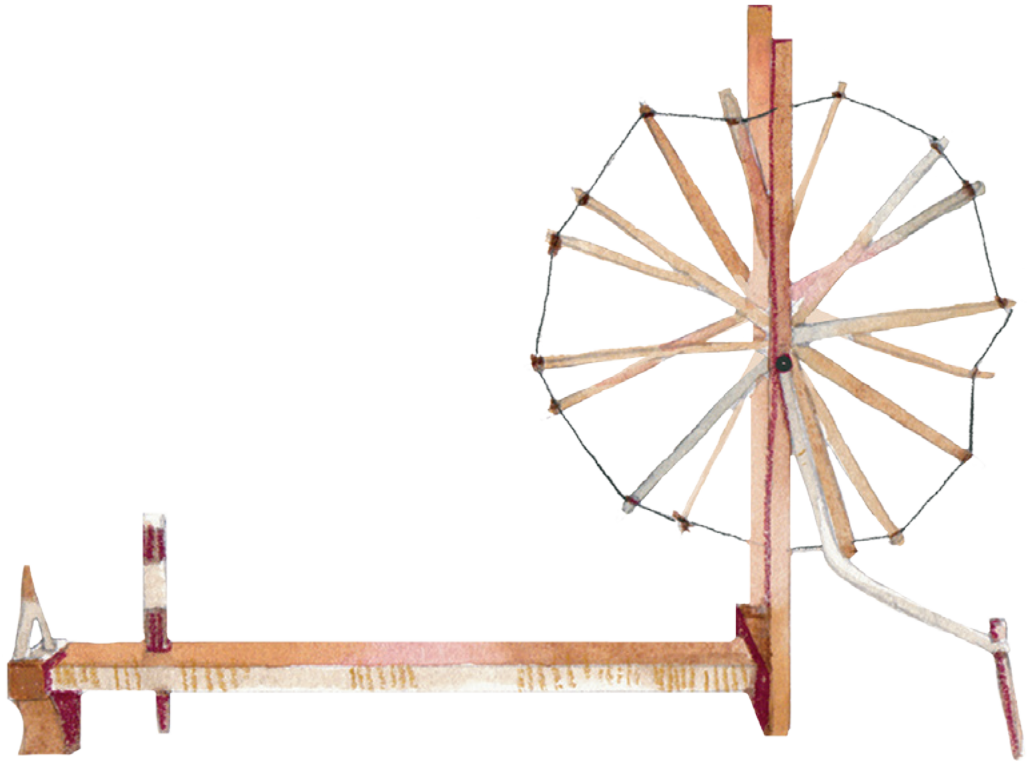
Tai Lue or Lue people originally resided in Xishuangbanna and migrated to Chiang Rai, Phayao, Phrae, Nan, Lampang, Lamphun, and Chiang Mai. They are experts in textile weaving using various techniques, especially tapestry weaving and Chok to create patterns of various colours.

Tai Yai call themselves as “Tai Lhong” meaning “Tai Luang” migrated back and forth between the two banks of the Moei River and Salawin River until they became a Tai Yai community in Mae Hong Son, Chiang Rai, and Chiang Mai. They have expertise in stitching making perforated lace designs. They usually wear vivid costumes. They often high quality fabric imported from well-known sources e.g. silk from China and Vietnam, and luntaya achieik from Myanmar to be part of their costume culture.

Tai Khoen or Tai Khuen is called according to the Khuen Rive in Chiang Tung. Tai Khoen people migrated from Chiang Tung (Kengtung) to Lanna during the reign of Phra Chao Kawila. In the present day, their costumes and lifestyle are mixed and combined with Tai Yai and Tai Lue. Tai Khoen has expertise in stitching designs on the fabric. Silver and golden yarns are often used as the main materials. The structure of textiles is similar to those from Tai Yuan, Tai Lue and Tai Yai.

Now it's time to take you to Lanna and see beautiful textiles with these 11 routes in 17 provinces in the Northern region of Thailand. I'll give you a hint that you can shop for many nice textiles at each destination. Moreover, there are many amazing attractions waiting to welcome you. When you visit a place, you should go back with your bag full of their local goods, right?





A Trip to Nakhon Phing: Garment Appreciation of Lanna



Chiang Mai has been one of the top destinations in Thailand and a destination of dreams for many due to its natural beauty and the attractions it has in its reserve. Its unique trendy way of life, arts, textiles and traditional Lanna culture also attract more visitors to this city.

“Dignified Doi Suthep, Graceful Tradition, Spectacular Blossoms, Precious Nakhon Phing”

Nop Buri Si Nakhon Phing or Wiang Phing is compared as the beautiful roses of the Thai Lanna Land. It is the second largest city after Bangkok. It is also a place where all arts, and antiques are perfectly combined altogether to create the original precious culture of Lanna Thai.

Beautiful Pha Chok Heritage from Thai Lanna Wisdom

Pha Sin Tin Chok of Mae Chaem district, known as Pha Chok Mae Chaem, is the famous local textile of Chiang Mai province. Mae Chaem district is one of the places where many Tai Yuan people have settled down, and they have strongly passed down their own culture and identity, especially the tradition of weaving. Pha Sin Tin Chok of Mae Chaem, which is commonly made by putting the cloths surface down onto a loom. This technique makes it easy to tidy a knot and makes the cloths tightened. Cloth patterns underneath a loom are as beautiful as that on the top. This feature makes either side of Pha Sin Tin Chok of Mae Chaem wearable, and makes this type of fabric more desirable. The patterns of Tin Chok can be mainly classified into 4 types: faith and religion, human and animals, plants, and surrounding nature.

- **Religious patterns include Khom (diamond)**, bowl, Nam Ton, Naga, swan and Sapao. Shawls and pillows are decorated with these patterns according to local belief.
- **Human and animal patterns used for bed sheet**, Pha Chet (shawl) and pillow ware horse, elephant, chicken, donkey, canine tooth, snake, zigzag, human, crab, frog, etc.
- **Pillows are often decorated on the sides** (called pillow front) with floral and plant patterns; such as, Dok Chan, Kut Phak Waen, etc.
- **Most patterns on the pillow front are inspired by the surrounding nature**; such as, Kut Ta Saeng, Kut Pho Huean Mao, Kut Krachae, Kut Kho Bet and Kut Sam Sao.



Pha Sin Tin Chok is regarded as the most important Pha Sin. It has been exclusively used only on special and religious occasions; such as, Poi Luang Festival, Buddhist Lent Day, Tan Kuai Salak Festival, and New Year Festival. According to the tradition, all Mae Chaem females normally keep Pha Sin Tin Chok for “Tan” or to hand it over to their descendants to make merit for themselves upon the end of their lives.

Pha Tin Chok Mae Chaem Female Cooperative Group

Chang Khoeng sub-district is a source of Pha Sin Tin Chok weaving with a typical weaving technique and pattern for over 100 years. There are 16 ancient unique patterns. Each pattern features delicacy in more than 5 colours; such as, Chiang Saen Black Swan pattern, Khan Ae U pattern. The weaving is made by putting a pattern down and performing Chok from above. Cool tones of colour are commonly used.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Wanphen Pintapia



130 Mu 9, Chang Khoeng sub-district, Mae Chaem district,

Chiang Mai province 50270

Tel. 08 9953 5744

Location: 18.5156612, 98.386251

Pha Tin Chok Ban Rai Weaving Group

The most well-known handwoven cloth of Ban Rai district is Pha Sin Tin Chok. It is a cultural heritage, which was passed down from generation to generation until today. Its major patterns include Lakon Noi, Lakon Kang, Lakon, Chiang Saen Luang, Chiang Saen Noi, Hong Ploi, Hong Bi, Khan Sian, Khan Sam Ae U, Khan Ae U, Khom Hua Mon, Khom Hup Nok, Kut Kho Bet, Nak Kum, etc.

For more information, please contact Khun Montha Arintip



84 Mu 10, Ban Rai, Tha Pha sub-district, Mae Chaem district,

Chiang Mai province 50270

Tel. 09 5698 3063, 08 3941 2 879

Location: 18.477240, 98.364167



Nussara

Khun Nussara Tiengkate has worked together with the community in Mae Chaem district and successfully restored Pha Tin Chok weaving. Further development has been initiated to turn products into modern designs, which correspond more to customers' needs. Then, she established this Nussara shop. Famous products here include Pha Chik, which are designed by Khun Nussara herself.

Natural focus is a special feature of the product. The cloth is woven using real cotton and naturally dyed. A special weaving technique is employed. The design is simple yet provides a modern look. The shop is open daily from 10.00-19.00 Hrs.

For more information, please contact Khun Nussara Tiengkate



66 Charoenrat Road, Wat Ket sub-district, Mueang district,
Chiang Mai province 50000
Tel. 08 7304 7976
Location: 18.791419, 99.0030326

Thong Fai Handicraft Centre

Ban Thong Fai is located in Chang Khoeng sub-district, Mae Chaem district, Chiang Mai province. The Tin Chok weaving reflects accumulated wisdom that has been transferred from the ancestors to their descendants. All women in the village know how to make Pha Sin Tin Chok. They have gathered into a group to weave their textiles using traditional techniques to create both old and new modern patterns. This group's products are very popular among visitors.

For more information, please contact Mr. Phornchai Kannika



111 Mu 8, Ban Thong Fai, Chang Khoeng sub-district,
Mae Chaem district, Chiang Mai province 50270
Tel. 08 6043 5069, 08 9559 3928, 08 4739 8378
Location: 18.492267, 98.362349



Paothong Shop

With attachment and obsession to Thai fabric since his childhood, that has inspired Paothong Thongchua, a historian, an archaeologist, and an expert on Thai art and culture, to study and collect ancient cloths. He has become an expert on ancient Thai fabric and various kinds of textiles from all over the world. Over 20 years passed, he then opened a fabric shop, partnering with his friend to set up a company running a business by purchasing cloth from Mae Chaem district for sale. When it came to a shortage of seamstresses, he then opened a factory to process silk and cotton in Lamphun province to produce ready-to-wear clothes, bags, scarves, and accessories under the brand “Paothong”. Thanks to his in-depth knowledge on textiles, clothes from the Paothong shop have special features, especially raw materials, design and quality tailoring. These are crucial contributors to help promote villagers to maintain their valuable textile to sustainably stay together with Thai society. The shop at Nimmanhemin Road is open from Tuesday-Sunday at 09.30-18.30 Hrs.

For more information, please contact Paothong Shop



4 Soi 1, Nimmanhemin Road, Suthep sub-district, Mueang district,
Chiang Mai province 50200
Tel. 08 7304 7976
Location: 18.791419, 99.0030326





Craft and Textile Tour in Chiang Mai

Route 1:
Wiang Chiang Mai



1. **Ban Rai Jai Sook** is where we can learn about indigenous textiles and participate in the handicraft workshops to get the firsthand experience on the weaving technique and local way of life.
2. **The shopping street near Wat Ket Karam** is particularly stylish. There are many trendy craft shops and galleries, including Nussara, Fai Phu Kram, Unique space, Vila Cini, and Woo Cafe-Art Gallery-Lifestyle Shop.
3. **Warorot Market (Kat Luang)** is the biggest market of Chiang Mai province. This century-old market is one of the places where both Thai locals and visitors do their shopping. Here you can buy food, souvenirs, textiles, clothes and accessories.
4. **Lanna Folklife Museum** exhibits old Lanna textiles and antiques.
5. **The Bank of Thailand Museum (Northern Region Office)** collects and displays historical coin collections, bank notes, and old ethnic textiles.



Craft and Textile Tour in Chiang Mai

Route 2:
Wiang Chiang Mai-
Chom Thong-Mae Chaem



1. **Wat Phra Sing** was built approximately in the 20th Buddhist (15th century). The walls of the Wihan Lai Kham are covered with mural paintings created in the reign of King Rama V the Great. Some of the murals show scenes of the Tai Yuan Lanna way of life.
2. **Wat Phrathat Si Chom Thong Woramahawihan** – The most important spot of the temple is Phra Barommathat Chedi. This Chedi or stupa, where the Buddha’s relics of the right head part are enshrined, is located on the mountaintop of Doi Chom Thong.
3. **Visit the Doi Inthanon Royal Project, the Royal Agricultural Station Inthanon, Doi Inthanon National Park**, temperate plants and organic vegetables plantations.
4. **Wat Yang Luang** is named after an ethnic group called “Yang” or Karen Buddhists. The image of the Buddha subduing Mara is situated in the teak image hall. Nearby, there is a small structure of arched niches decorated with stucco called Ku Prasat, which is considered the gate to Heaven.
5. **Ban Yang Luang** is well-known for its Pha Sin Tin Chok and other handwoven textiles. We can see that the acculturation and ethnic identities of the Tai Yuan, Karen (Pga K’nyau), and Lua people are factors that affect the Chok weaving in this community.



Craft and Textile Tour in Chiang Mai



Route 3: Mae Chaem

1. **Traditional Pha Sin Tin Chok (Tin Chok Chiang Saen)** is the oldest kind of Pha Sin in Mae Chaem (only 2 pieces found). It is assumed that this Pha Sin has a similar format to that of ancient Chiang Saen. Multiple techniques were applied in the same piece of cloth.
2. **Thong Fai Handicraft Centre** sells Pha Sin Tin Chok with ancient patterns. It usually takes months to finish one piece of this type of Pha Sin.
3. **Pha Tin Chok Mae Chaem Female Cooperative Group** is a source of Pha Sin Tin Chok with a typical weaving technique and patterns. There are 16 ancient unique patterns in more than 5 colours.
4. **Pha Tin Chok Ban Rai Weaving Group** is renowned for its unique Chok patterns. The weaving tradition was passed down from generation to generation until today.
5. **Admire the beauty of the mountain ranges and rice terraces along the way.** Then, meet with **Khun Somsri Preecha-udomkarn, a Karen at Ban Mae Ming, Chiang Mai.** Somsri is a weaving master who has potential in weaving with a backstrap loom and has been standing to conserving Karen cotton embroidery.



Craft and Textile Tour in Chiang Mai

Route 4: Chom Thong-Doi Tao



1. **Pa-Da Cotton Textile Museum at Ban Rai Phai Ngam** was established by Mrs. Saeng-da Bunsiddhi, the 1986 National Artist for Folkcraft. It displays many textiles, the weaving process and weaving tools in a beautiful atmosphere.
2. **Karen (Pga K'nyau) people of Ban Lai Kaeo** make traditional textiles and fabric products; such as, bag, Pha Sin, and blouse. A blouse made of a handwoven piece of cloth that is embroidered with cotton threads or Job's tears.
3. **Pha Sin Tin Chok Nam Thuam Weaving Centre of Doi Tao** is a learning centre that promotes and supports the traditional Chok weaving. Pha Sin Tin Chok here is also known as Pha Sin Tin Chok Nam Thuam.
4. **Local Wisdom Learning Centre of Ban San Bo Yen, Pong Thung sub-district, Doi Tao district** was founded to help increase villagers' sources of income through a revival of Thai handicrafts, particularly weaving.
5. **Karen (Pga K'nyau) people of Ban Ngjo Sung and Ban Doi** still weave with their traditional backstrap loom. Natural dyes are used for the colouring of textiles, especially the red colour from tree roots.



Craft and Textile Tour in Chiang Mai

Route 5:
Wiang Chiang Mai-
Mae Rim-
Chiang Dao



1. **Wat Buak Khrok Luang** is a small temple with a Lanna-style image hall or Wihan. The temple's widely known prominent point is the mural painting in the image hall, which depicts the story of the Tai Yai way of life.
2. **Chiang Mai Tribal Museum** was founded to increase awareness of the Northern hill tribes that inhabit the mountains of Thailand. It displays artefacts and history of the indigenous culture of 10 hill tribes.
3. **Hemp Products by Saithong's Development Group – Women of Ban Huai Sai** gathered together and set up a development group to make products from hemp that are unique and inimitable.
4. **The Palaung (Dara-ang) Tribe Handicraft Group of Ban Pang Daeng Nai** is well-known for its traditional handwoven textiles and hand embroidery.



Interesting Tourist Attractions

Rice Terrace, Ban Pa Bong Piang, Mae Chaem District

Ban Pa Bong Piang is a village surrounded by rice terraces. It is also claimed to be the most beautiful rice terrace in Thailand with encircling abundant nature. You can enjoy the sea of mist in the morning. While in the evening, you can watch the sunset with beautiful twilight through the clouds reflecting light on the mountain ranges. For tourists who want to re-energise their freshness with green rice fields, it is recommended to visit the place during September - October.

Wat Pa Daet

The temple was previously called “Wat Don Keao”. It was built approximately in 1802 and restored in 1932. The Buddha image hall is a whole cement building in the Lanna architectural style. It features a gable apex, toothlike ridges on the sloping edges of a gable (representing the fin on the back of a Naga), decorated with delicate golden stucco. The pediment is decorated with golden floral-patterned stucco. The door façades and windows are featured in the Lanna style, decorated with golden stucco. A Buddha image in the Lanna style is housed inside, with murals depicting stories of principle Buddha images of major temples in the North. There are two golden Ku arched structures. A stupa is located behind the Buddha Image Hall. It was built on an elevated square base. Arches housing Buddha images in the attitude of meditation are located at all four directions. Eight small pagodas are placed on the pagoda base. The pagoda is in a golden bell shape decorated with a seven-tier umbrella on top.

Brahma Dhada Buddha Stan

Brahma Dhada Buddha Stan is situated on a small hill at Mu 6, Doi Kaeo sub-district, Chom Thong district. It is called by villagers as “San Pa Haeo I Po (graveyard)”. This place is a dhamma retreat following ancient Lanna Thai Buddhist practice. It was built on 1 April, 2004, which fell on the seventh month of Lanna. Once stepping inside, you will see the replica of Maha Chedi Boudhanath, which is a stupa in the Nepalese style, at the same size as Boudhanath Stupa of Nepal. The third eye is placed on top of each side of the stupa. Sometimes it is called the deity’s eye. Sculptures of gods from various religions all over the world are also placed there.



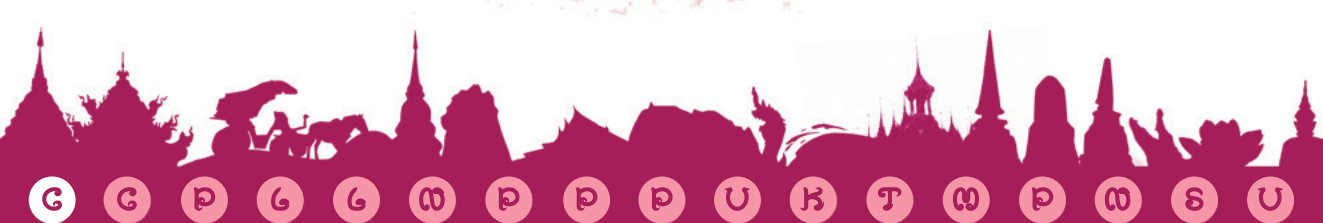
Wat Phrathat Si Chom Thong Worawihan

The temple was initially called Wat Chom Thong. The temple houses the relics of the Lord Buddha for the Year of the Rat. This is a third-class royal temple, the Worawihan category. It is assumed that the temple was built approximately in the 20th - 24th Buddhist (15th-19th centuries) during the restoration of Chiang Mai city. The most important spot of the temple is the stupa where relics of the Lord Buddha are housed. It is located on top of Doi Chom Thong. This is special from other places in that the relics of the Lord Buddha are not enshrined under the ground, but are housed in a stupa.

Ban Mae Klang Luang

Ban Mae Klang Luang is located at Chom Thong district, amid mountain ranges and rice terraces. It is a habitat of Thai hill tribes, Karen people who have still maintained their original way of life and natural richness over the changing periods of time.

Visiting the place between September - October which falls during the transition period of the rainy season to cool season, rice fields are turning into green colour. In November, paddy will turn into gold colour. You can enjoy sunlight and valleys among beautiful nature.



Admiring Textiles, Roaming in Chiang Rai and Phayao



Among less visited areas, it is believed that **Chiang Rai** and **Phayao** would be another two trendy provinces for tourists of all generations. The places are not limited to only colourful tourist attractions, the Lanna culture and simple lifestyle can also be found. These help promote the charming cities of both Chiang Rai and Phayao, which render immediate enjoyment upon visiting.

“Northernmost of Siam, border of the three nations, home of Lanna culture and the precious Wat Phrathat Doi Tung”

Chiang Rai province is a home to breathtaking mountains, river valleys and much more. Not only the richness of the nature it is blessed with, it also has a wealth of cultural and historical treasures that cannot be ignored. Traditional Chiang Saen-style textiles made from silk and cotton are still woven by villagers. These handwoven fabrics are commonly made into patterns that illustrate the way of life, lifestyle and local surroundings.

Local craftsmanship, Legend of Chiang Saen Tai Yuan Pha Sin to Chiang Saen Woven Fabric

Nowadays, there is a study on ancient Chiang Saen Tai Yuan fabric and the textile weaving has been reinforced. Patterns of ancient Chiang Saen Tai Yuan have been used as a major pattern in woven cloth. This is called “Chiang Saen Woven Fabric”. It has been promoted by Phrakhu Paisarn Pattanapirat, the abbot of Wat Phrathat Pha Ngao, Chiang Saen District.

Chiang Saen Woven Fabric employs ancient patterns, aged over 100 years, which can be found in various places according to evidence of migration of the Chiang Saen people. In the past, most weaving culture was inherited from the Tai Lue people, where weaving was commonly made by using cotton fabric. Techniques of tapestry weaving, Khit (continuous supplementary weft), and Chok (discontinuous supplementary weft) were employed to create unique patterns; such as, patterns of Dok Mak San, Dok Chan, Kabi (dragonfly), squirrel, elephant, horse, bird, Naga, Khom (diamond), Dok Kaeo, etc.

Materials used in the weaving by the Chiang Rai people include both cotton and silk. Chiang Saen woven fabric is commonly made into patterns that illustrate way of life, lifestyle and local surroundings. Examples include a pattern of Kho Khrua, which means bindweed clinging on cotton and a pattern of Maeng I-bi or Maeng Kambi, which means a dragonfly hovering over cotton flowers in a cotton field. At present, weaving can still be found in many districts of Chiang Rai. Colourful embroidery of various hill tribes also exists, as the continuation of local wisdom.

Kong Luang Shop

The shop has evolved from a shop that sells handwoven fabric from Chiang Rai of Siriwat Tienpunya, which has been operating for over 30 years. New products have been initiated by inspiration on creativity. Lanna patterns have been applied as embroidery on both silk and cotton cloth using a technique of chain stitch. Most patterns come from gold decoration on various parts of the Buddha image hall at Wat Phrathat Lampang Luang, stucco from temples in Lampang, Chiang Mai and other places. Those patterns have been adapted to be embroidery of Kong Luang handwoven fabric. The emphasis is on adding more value to local fabric from various places to create unique beautiful cloth.

For more information, please contact Mr. Siriwat Tienpunya (Kong Luang Textiles)



423/5 Banphapraikan Rd., Wiang sub-district,
Mueang district, Chiang Rai province 57000
Tel. 08 1883 3044
Location: 19.908652, 99.829981

Ban Hat Bai Tai Lue Weaving Group

A technique of discontinuous supplementary weft using a special heddle has been emphasised in Ban Hat Bai Tai Lue fabric. Colourful cotton threads are used to create patterns throughout the cloth. The patterns are created through imagination based on local natural surroundings. This reflects accumulated wisdom that has been transferred from the ancestors to their descendants with the aim to sustain woven fabric, patterns as well as natural conservation.

For more information, please contact the Ban Hat Bai Tai Lue Weaving Group



Border Checkpoint, Rim Khong sub-district, Chiang Khong district,
Chiang Rai province 57140
Tel. 09 3217 7081
Location: 20.369516, 100.250204



“Kwan Phayao – a source of life, Sacred Phrachao Ton Luang, Worship King Ngam Mueang, Attractive Doi Butsarakham”

Phayao is one of the small upper Northern Thai provinces with a simple way of life. Famous tourist attractions include Kwan Phayao, which is the largest swamp in the North and the fourth largest lake in the country. It has also possessed a long history not inferior to any other cities in the Lanna Kingdom.

Charming Tai Lue Fabric

The Tai Lue cultural group is a Tai tribal group. Their original habitat was in Xishuangbanna, Yunnan province in the southern part of China and along both banks of the upper part of the Mekong. During the early Rattanakorin era, some groups of Tai Lue were forced to move to settle down in various countries; such as, Myanmar, Lao PDR and Thailand. The Tai Lue people in Phayao mostly live in 4 districts, comprising Chiang Kham, Chiang Muan, Phu Sang and Chun.

Tai Lue Pha Sin of Chiang Kham and Chiang Muan is in a standard structure of Tai Lue Pha Sin or so called “Sin Ta Lue”. The cloth is decorated by using wefts in alternate colours to create colourful stripes. The main colour is green. The header part or the waist band of Sin is connected with a piece of cotton in plain black or red. The bottom part (Tin Sin) is connected with a piece of cotton in plain black or dark blue. Apart from this, there is local Pha Sin called “Pha Sin Lai Phak Waen”. It is woven using a technique of tapestry weaving (Ko Luang) to create a pattern of flowing water. Each set of the water flow pattern is divided by a white cross. In the past, cotton, silk and Lao silk were commonly used as the weft in a green colour. The technique of tapestry weaving is to weave colourful wefts back and forth. There is a tie around warp to hold the weft at each range. This is a typical weaving technique of the Tai Lue. Later on, the flowing water pattern was further adapted into various kinds. The Khit and Chok techniques are also applied in each piece of cloth to create beautiful patterns in correspondence with the market demand.



A distinguished feature of Tai Lue fabric is through weaving from genuine cotton making it comfortable when wearing. Tightly woven cloth will render warmth, which is suitable to wear during the cool season. Tai Lue females normally wear cotton clothes, which are indigo dyed in dark blue or ebony dyed in black. This is called “Suea Pat” or “Suea Pai”. It is tailored as a long-sleeved, open front blouse. The packet is slant towards the inner waist while the outer parts are tied on both the left and right depending on the local preferences. A cloth string is commonly used to be made or knotted into a button or simply use strings to tie both sides together. The sleeves are narrow and very long. Upon wearing, the sleeves have to be pulled up.

Saengda Tai Lue House

The Tai Lue house of Mrs. Saengda Somrit has been praised for its conservation of Tai Lue architectural heritage. Here is the learning resource of Tai Lue culture. There is a demonstration of Tai Lue fabric weaving using an original process. Other products are also on sale; such as, clothes, dresses, Sin Tai Lue, shoulder bags, Suea Pat, basketry, T-shirts screened with a pattern of a Tai Lue House, food and dessert. The house is open every day from 08.00 - 18.00 Hrs.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Saengda Somrit, Saengda Tai Lue House



31 Mu 2 Ban That Sop Waen, Yuan sub-district,

Chiang Kham district, Phayao province 56110

Tel. 08 5712 8170, 08 4483 4188

Facebook: [เขียนไตลื้อแม่แสงดา](#)

Location: 19.531873, 100.294184

Ban That Tai Lue Weaving Group

The Tai Lue people at Ban That started gathering together in 1993. A pavilion at a temple had been used as a weaving place. Later, the group got support from various agencies. Therefore, a proper building was set up in the area of Wat Phrathat Sop Waen as a product distribution centre and weaving place of Ban That Tai Lue textiles up to the present time. Over a period of 20 years of traditional Tai Lue weaving, each piece of Tai Lue cloth is uniquely beautiful through an ancient technique of tapestry weaving. This technique generates patterns called the Ko pattern and flowing water pattern. The products are available at the Group’s product distribution centre, cloth shop of civil state or trade shows. Dress rental service is also provided.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Srila Chuesa-ard,

Head of the Ban That Tai Lue Weaving Group



31 Mu2 Wat Phrathat Sop Waen (Huean Lue), Mu 1,

Yuan sub-district, Chiang Kham district, Phayao province 56110

Tel. 08 9999 1854

Location: 19.536888, 100.292230

Ban Fa Si Thong Weaving Group

The Tai Lue people at Ban Fa Si Thong have still maintained the culture and tradition of the Tai Lue, especially original Tai Lue fabric weaving. At present, there is plenty of textile products in the form of Sin Tai Lue, Tung or a flag, bag, or made-to-order products. A well-known textile is Tung. It has been selected as the best product of the North from an OTOB project. Patterns used in Tung making include Kho Chang, a bird, a swan, and a boatman. White and cream colours were commonly used in Tung making in the past. Nowadays, Tung making has been adapted to make it look more beautiful by applying more colours and patterns.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Bua Kantha,
Head of the Ban Fa Si Thong Weaving Group



114 Mu 11, Sa sub-district, Chiang Muan district,
Phayao province 56160

Tel. 08 474 0523 (Khun Klee), 08 6010 31500 (Khun Sukanya)

Location: 19.008532, 100.282324



Craft and Textile Tours in Chiang Rai and Phayao

Suggested Itineraries for Chiang Rai

Route 1: Wiang Chiang Rai-Mae Lao-Mae Suai



1. Wat Phra Kaeo – The Wihan of Wat Phra Kaeo is a beautiful Chiang Saen-Lanna style structure. The small low-based wihan has a multi-tiered roof. Behind the wihan stands the golden spiral shaped-pagoda where the Emerald Buddha was discovered.

2. Hong Luang Saeng Kaeo Museum was built in the contemporary Lanna style. The Museum contains numerous interesting objects, including antiques and art pieces.

3. Kong Luang Shop is famous for its handmade embroidery work. Lanna patterns have been applied as embroidery on silk and cotton cloth using a technique of chain stitch.

4. Princess Dara Rasmi Cottage: Lanna Textile Museum (Horplubpla Chao Dara Rasmi Museum) is managed to be a learning centre and exhibits the story of Princess Dara Rasmi, the Princess Consort of King Rama V the Great. Each collection of ethnic textiles in Thailand is selected and displayed every 3-4 months.

5. Chiang Rai Toy Museum displays a variety of old toys that reflect local wisdom. Visitors can see, play, and learn while having fun.



Craft and Textile Tours in Chiang Rai and Phayao

Suggested Itineraries for Chiang Rai
Route 2: Wiang Chiang Rai-Doi Luang-
Chiang Khong-Chiang Saen



1. **Pa Jiao Shop** – This shop’s favourite product is the hill tribe embroidery from the Yao (Mien or Eiw Mien) group. Yao women are known for their rich cross stitch embroidery.
2. **Huean Ueai Kham** is a century-old Tai Lue house raised on stone piles over the surface of the soil. The house was built on stilts using traditional methods. It shows a long inherited tradition and wisdom from the ancestors to today’s generations.
3. **Mrs. DokkaewTeerakot’s house** is where the Tai Lue women in Si Don Chai village have gathered into a group to weave and dye their traditional textiles. The tapestry weaving technique is used to make fabric with the famous Ko pattern.
4. **The Luelaikham Museum** gives you an overview of the Tai Lue textiles, clothing tradition, history and culture. It was founded by Mr. Suriya Wongchai, a local Tai Lue man.
5. **Huen Khamphaeng** was built in the traditional Tai Lue style. This shop provides visitors a variety of products from Tai Lue textiles to antiques. The house was already converted into a homestay and opened its doors to visitors—with tourism helping to preserve the Tai Lue way of life.



Craft and Textile Tours in Chiang Rai and Phayao

Suggested Itineraries for Chiang Rai
Route 3: Chiang Khong-Chiang Saen-
Wiang Chiang Rai

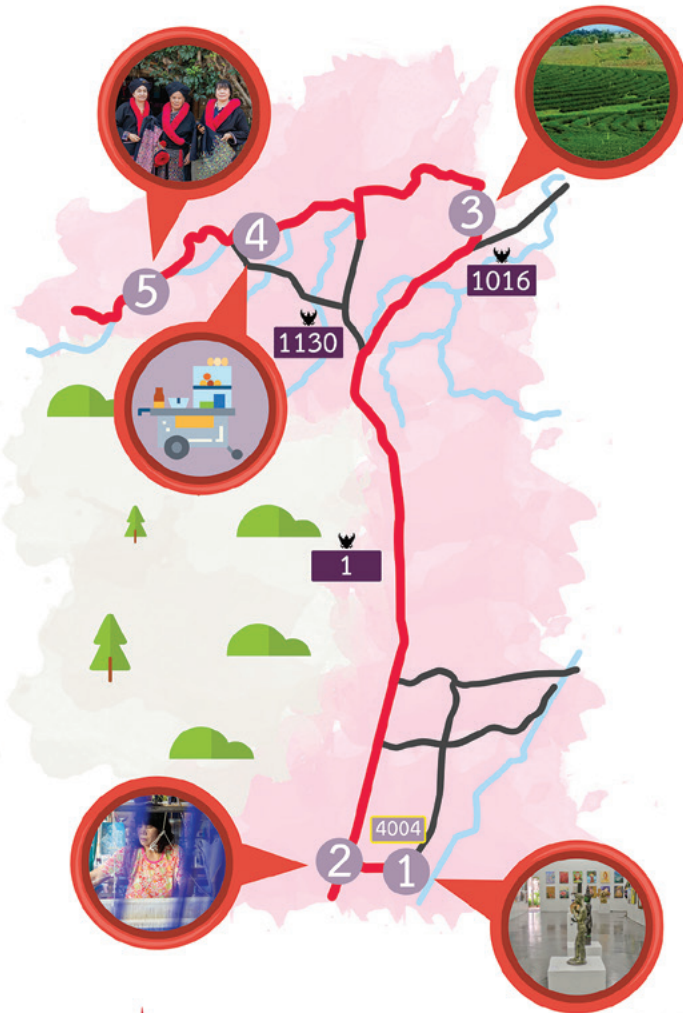


1. **Ban Hat Bai Tai Lue Weaving Group** – A technique of discontinuous supplementary weft using a special heddle has been emphasised in Ban Hat Bai Tai Lue textiles.
2. **Ban Hat Bai Tai Lue Weaving Group (Sukhawadee Tai Lue Textiles of Ban Hat Bai)** was founded by Mrs. Sukhawadee Tiyatha, a local Tai Lue woman who has dedicated herself to preserve and promote indigenous textiles using both traditional and modern techniques.
3. **The Chiang Saen National Museum** was established to collect and exhibit art and archaeological objects found at the Ancient Town of Chiang Saen in Chiang Rai province and its surrounding areas.
4. **Take the hop on-hop off train** to admire the beauty of the archaeological site of Chiang Saen.
5. **A Thai-style house at Wat Phrathat Pha Ngao houses the Lanna Textiles Museum of Chiang Saen** – The Museum collects and displays ancient textiles and helps promote traditional weaving.



Craft and Textile Tours in Chiang Rai and Phayao

Suggested Itineraries for Chiang Rai
Route 4: Wiang Chiang Rai-Mae Chan-
Mae Fa Luang



1. **Khua Sinlapa or Art Bridge Chiang Rai** is a private gallery where visitors can walk through and enjoy the various works, which have been created by Thai and international artists.
2. **Ban San Luang Tai Women's Development Group** – This handicraft centre is well-known for its cotton products, brocade and Chok textile.
3. **Choui Fong Tea Plantation** – You can admire the beautiful scenery around the Choui Fong Tea Plantation and valleys from a great distance. You may feel thrilled to breathe fresh air and enjoy the scent of the tea leaves.
4. **Mon Saen Chai Hill Tribe Market** is where Akha (Kaw) people sell their unique embroidery work and traditional clothes.
5. **Yao Community of Ban Pha Dueda** – Visitors can experience the Yao (Mien or Eiw Mien) unique clothing style.



Craft and Textile Tours in Chiang Rai and Phayao

Suggested Itineraries for Chiang Rai

Route 5: Mae Fa Luang-Wiang Chiang Rai



1. **Doi Tung Royal Villa** was built in the traditional Lanna architectural style on the valleys, which offer beautiful panoramic views. A Doi Tung lifestyle and souvenir shop sells local products; such as, hand woven textiles, silk dresses, fruit, vegetables, and flowers.

2. **The Doi Tung Development Project's Weaving Centre** has trained many local women in weaving, sewing, and tailoring.



Interesting Tourist Attractions

Wat Rong Khun

Wat Rong Khun was designed and constructed by Achan Chalermchai Kositpipat since 1997. He was inspired by his love and faith in nation, religion and monarch. With his firm commitment, he built this beautiful, remarkable artwork, which is a mixture of the Lanna culture, featuring stucco decorated with stained glass and huge murals. The ordination hall is decorated with glittering stained glass in cascading layers. The pediment is decorated with the King of Nagas having a trunk and tusks. The murals depict graceful Buddhist art with unique features.

Baandam Museum

Baandam (Black House) was built by Achan Thawan Duchanee (1939 - 2014), the National Thai Artist in Fine art and Visual art. The place features a cluster of houses in the Lanna style. Each house is painted in black, decorated with carved wood and animal horns. This shady place is surrounded by many trees. There are a total of 36 houses inside. Moreover, there is a museum exhibiting the works of Achan Thawan. The Museum is constructed with teak featuring engraved patterns in the Lanna style.





Craft and Textile Tours in Chiang Rai and Phayao

Suggested Itineraries for Phayao

Route 1: Chiang Kham-Chiang Muan (2 days)



1. **Wat Phra Nang Din or Wat Phrachao Nang Din** – According to local lore, once villagers tried to lift the principal Buddha image (Phrachao Nang Din) to place on the traditional base, the Ubosot was struck by lightning three times. Then, the people all agreed to leave the image sitting on the ground of the Ubosot instead of the base.
2. **Saengda Tai Lue House/Tai Lue house of Saengda Somrit** has been praised for its conservation of Tai Lue architectural heritage. An ethnic centre or ethnic market shows the Tai Lue Xishuangbanna way of Life.
3. **Tai Lue Cultural Centre at Wat Yuan displays Tai Lue textiles**, including ritual fabric and textiles for both noblemen and commoners.
4. **Yao (Mien) Embroidery Group of Ban Pang Kha** – Here you can admire the culture of traditional Yao (Mien) weaving and embroidery, and also buy famous souvenirs made from hill tribe textiles.



Craft and Textile Tours in Chiang Rai and Phayao

Suggested Itineraries for Phayao

Route 2:



1. **Weaving and Natural Dyeing Group (Ban That Sop Waen)** is where you can buy natural-dyed cotton fabric and products.
2. **Weaving and Natural Dyeing Group of BanThat** is famous for its hand woven cotton fabric. The most outstanding product is Sin Tai Lue with the Ko pattern (Lai Nam Lai) woven with the tapestry weaving.
3. **Ban Thung Mok** – You can see a weaving demonstration of Sin Tai Lue with colourful and traditional patterns.
4. **Ban Fa Si Thong Weaving Group** – Admire traditional Tung with auspicious patterns; such as, an elephant, a bird, a swan, and a boatman.



Interesting Tourist Attractions

Wat Phrathat Sop Waen

The pagoda situated at Wat Phrathat Sop Waen assumedly aged around 800 years. The hair and chin bone of the Lord Buddha has been contained inside the pagoda. Even though the pagoda has been through several restorations, Thai Lanna art has been still well-maintained.

Phu Langka National Park

The Park features a rugged high mountain range. During winter, the tops of Doi Phu Langka and Doi Phu Nom are famous sightseeing spots because they offer spectacular views of the sunrise, sunset and sea of mist. For information about planning your visit, please contact Tel. 08 1883 0307 or 0 5371 1402.





Happy-Go-Lucky to Sister Cities of Happiness, Lamphun – Lampang



It has been over 1,400 years that **Lampang and Lamphun** have been established. The Lanna civilisation, slow life, and simplicity, all have contributed to make the cities charming. Urban people are keen to experience these two cities of happiness once in their life to spend their time paying respect to the sanctity of the cities, living their lives like the locals, roaming around for yummy food, experiencing Lanna culture and admiring rare textiles. All these can be found in Lampang and Lamphun, the sister cities that all visitors will fall in love for sure.

*“Relic stupa of renown, Holy Buddhist amulets,
Famous longan, Quality garlic, Beautiful traditions...
Hariphunchai, Land of Chammathewi”*

Despite its small size, Lamphun has its own specialty, especially its art and science of first grade weaving that features the delicacy of the patterns mixed with imagination and techniques of ancient textiles. All these have fulfilled Lamphun’s brocade silk to be the most beautiful among Thai woven fabric.

The one and only, Silk Brocade

The gorgeous “Lamphun Silk Brocade” or Pha Mai Yok Dok features high-class weaving techniques and has been valuable art and handicraft heritage that has brought in the pride of the Lamphun people.

The brocade weaving techniques used in Lamphun silk brocade employ 2 types of heddle to classify the warp. Those types include a “normal heddle” or a treading heddle and a “patterning heddle” or a shifting heddle (a treading loom and a patterning loom). A normal heddle is a tool to alternately lift all warp threads throughout the weaving. While a patterning heddle is used to lift only some warp threads to create patterns, which are normally stored at patterns that sticks both horizontally and vertically. Both heddles are used together throughout the weaving. The weaving can employ either only warp threads or both normal warp threads together with supplementary warps.

Later, new patterns and materials were introduced to Lamphun’s silk brocade to offer a more luxurious look. This is a result of the knowledge that has been transferred from Khum Luang Lamphun (Lamphun Palace), aiming to enhance the fabric to be more exquisite, with good quality and spreading its existence both domestically and internationally. The outstanding features of this brocade are on the bulging texture on the cloths surface and ancient patterns, including Dok Phikun or Dok Kaeo pattern.



Wat Ton Kaeo (Khua Mung) Weaving Group

Wat Ton Kaeo (Khua Mung) Weaving Group has been under the patronage of Phrakhru Paisarn Theerakhun, Abbot of Wat Ton Kaeo, who is like a master of local wisdom, especially Lamphun brocade weaving. He has provided opportunities for senior people to utilise their leisure time weaving together and processing the textiles into products for sale to those who are interested or tourists. This is a learning centre of the community and acts as a Community Relationship Thai Cultural Integration Centre. The temple has established a museum of ancient textiles and an ancient Yong house has also been set up for the young generation and general people to study their local history.

For more information, please contact Mr. Thanat Sitthichai,
Head of the Wat Ton Kaeo (Khua Mung) Weaving Group



Wat Ton Kaeo, Mu 3, Wiang Yong sub-district, Mueang district,
Lamphun province 51000
Tel. 08 7181 8296

Hariphunchai Handwoven Fabric Institute

Hariphunchai Handwoven Fabric Institute has been established by the Lamphun Provincial Administrative Organisation with the aim to conserve the weaving culture and tradition. Here is a place to support the occupation of weaving groups, a learning centre for ancient patterns as well as enhancing new designs. It has also been a centre of marketing promotion on Lamphun's fabrics. Inside the Institute is situated a museum of ancient textiles exhibiting rare ancient fabrics, especially the attire of Lamphun's royalty. The items include Pha Sin Tin Chok Mai Kham and silk clothes. Lamphun silk brocade weaving is also demonstrated using a technique of lifting silk, silver and gold threads to generate intricate patterns inside the fabric's texture for both "Big Brocade" (Pha Yok Yai) and "Small Brocade" (Pha Yok Lek).

For more information, please contact the Hariphunchai Handwoven Fabric Institute



Ton Thong sub-district, Mueang district, Lamphun province 51000
Tel. 0 5356 0144



Ban Huai Tom Handicraft Centre (Research Institute)

Ban Huai Tom Handicraft Centre displays handwoven cottons, which is Karen fabric featuring unique ancient patterns. The textiles are woven using a typical backstrap loom according to the tribal culture. Thread colours are imitated from nature. Each piece of fabric product has been through a selection process to achieve a 5-star-OTOP standard, The Thai Industrial Standard Institute and Green Product Project. Other products are also available, ranging from silverware to basketry. You can also pay a visit to ancient Karen houses there.

For more information, please contact the Ban Huai Tom Handicraft Centre (Research Institute)

Moo 12, Na Sai sub-district, Lee district, Lamphun province 51110

Tel. 08 7173 8152, 06 2308 2689



*“Widely known coal, Renowned horse-drawn carriages,
Famous ceramics, the Distinguished relic stupa and
Well-known Elephant Conservation Centre”*

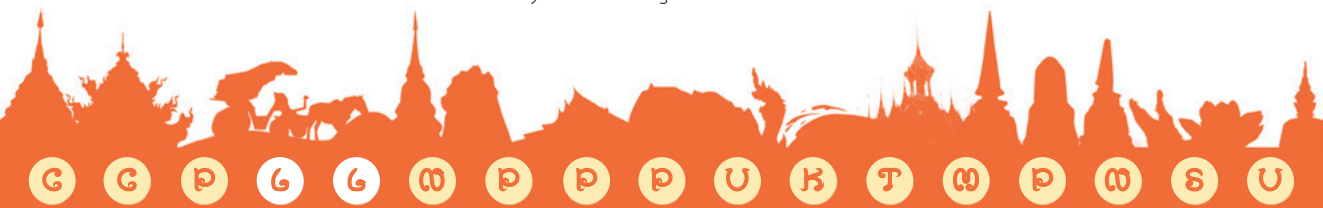
Talking about carriages....of course we are referring to Lampang, one of the provinces in the Lanna civilisation. Its citizens live their simple and slow lives and still maintain their traditional culture. All these attributes have made Lampang another charming city featuring temples and local architecture, a carriage as a vehicle of the city and perfect natural tourist attractions. According to the remaining traces, Lampang used to be a centre of the timber trade. It is also claimed to be a city of kaolin ceramics.

Roaming around a City of Carriage, Watching Pieces of Woven Fabric

Weaving local fabrics of Lampang is their local wisdom heritage. Using cotton fibre in weaving is the typical local handicraft of Lampang. Here, there are two kinds of cotton plantation, including white cotton and greyish cotton, which provides a light brown colour. The process starts from cotton planting, gathering cotton balls or so called cotton flowers. Then, beating the cotton wool until it gets fluffy. After that, have it spun to make cotton threads to be ready for further weaving on a local loom.

The attractiveness of Lampang’s local fabric, apart from its materials from natural cotton threads, is also featured through nice and eye-catching natural-dyeing. The fabric can be further transformed into various products; such as, clothes, scarves, shawls, loincloths, skirts, blankets, tablecloths, etc. Meticulousness in each dyeing process depends on various factors, including dyeing water absorption of cotton, emphasis of the gradient, uneven pressing weight on a loom while weaving, shooting a shuttle back and forth, and striking against the reed of a loom to ensure a tight fabric. Hence, no wonder why each piece of local fabric has its own charm and identity.

Woven fabric of Lampang has been continuously promoted and developed, especially naturally dyed woven fabric. Apart from the emphasis on the weaving techniques, attention to products that are environmentally-friendly is also important. This is a selling point contributing to the popularity of Lampang’s local woven fabric making it one of the desired items for those who love Thai textiles both domestically and in foreign countries.



Lampang Lantern-Tung Yai Handicraft Group, Ban Yaeng Bua

Lanterns for household decoration and Tung Yai in the Lampang style were initiated by “Grandpa Suk”, a Lanna ancestor who got inspiration from a lantern in the Burmese style. Mr. Boonmee Pintasee, his descendant, has carried on this initiative and opened his own house to be a vocational training centre for senior people. Monthon Pintasee, a craftsman, has transferred techniques how to make a lantern and Tung Yai in the Lampang style.

Tung Yai is one of Lampang’s identities. It is made of cotton threads, cloth, bamboo and mulberry paper. It can be decorated with more than 100 patterns that are derived from Wat Phra Chedi Sao Lang. The patterns include Puranagata-a vase of plenty, Ueang Phueng orchid and Bua Lawong (canna lily). A flag is made by employing a technique of weaving and alternating coloured threads to make it more colourful. A Lanna lantern is made of a bamboo structure, which can be made into many shapes, including hexagon, octagon and hexadecagon.

For more information, please contact Thiwakorn Pintasee,
Head of the Lampang Lantern-Tung Yai Handicraft Group, Ban Yaeng Bua

Tel. 08 6657 2788, 08 6732 4497



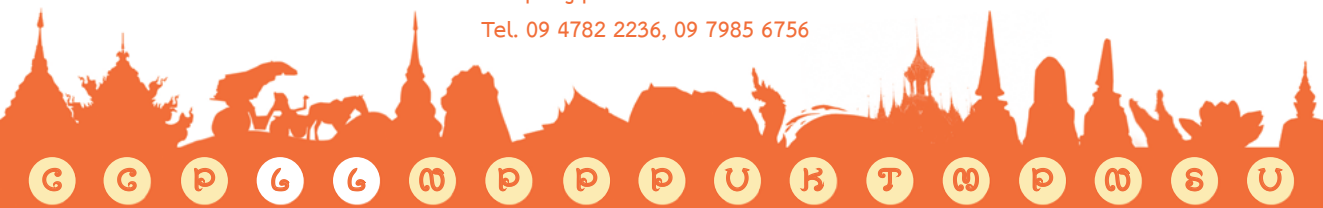
Tai Lue Community Enterprise, Ban Kluai

The Tai Lue people emigrated to settle down in Lampang during the reign of Phrachao Duangthip, the ruler of Lampang during 1794 - 1825. They settled down around the fertile area near Huai Mae Pung. From Ban Kluai Luang, they expanded the settlement to a broader area and employed a term “Kluai”, meaning banana, as the name of the village.

The Tai Lue Weaving Group, Ban Kluai, is located near Lampang Rajabhat University. It was established in 2015. The villagers have got support from an abbot of Wat Ban Kluai to cultivate cotton in order to use in weaving. This will help continue the Tai Lue culture, especially their traditional dressing culture as well as their lifestyle. Moreover, the unique patterns of Tai Lue woven textile; such as, Sin Ta Lue, have also been maintained.

For more information, please contact Manassanan Kainan,
Head of the Tai Lue Community Enterprise, Ban Kluai

Mu 1, Kluai Phae sub-district, Mueang district,
Lampang province 52000
Tel. 09 4782 2236, 09 7985 6756



Hand-spinning Cotton, Natural Dyeing Group, Ban Na Dao

The Hand-spinning Cotton, Natural Dyeing Group, Ban Na Dao, was established in 1983. Its products and patterns have been developed to meet the market's demand. It has been a complete learning centre about fibre production under the name of "Toob Kaew Ma". The learning process starts from planting cotton, including varieties of local cotton like Kaen Pae, Khi Maeo, Noi, and Tun. Cotton is planted within the area of a house and separated in a planting plot.

Administration of this centre was initially based on the families. Then, cooperation got expanded to nearby communities. It provided opportunities for senior people to employ their local wisdom and weaving skills through making the cotton fibre process starting from the process of separating cotton seeds from cotton wool and cotton spinning to make cotton threads.

Fabrics in the Soi Dok Mak and Dok Phrik Thai patterns are considered an identity of the group. In particular, woven fabric in Soi Dok Mak pattern is outstanding thanks to its design of the pollen of Soi Dok Mak that appears on both sides. The weaving process of Soi Dok Mak fabric is the handicraft that perfectly reflects the knowledge of local craftsmanship.

For more information, please contact Chankham Kaewma,

Head of the Hand-spinning Cotton, Natural Dyeing Group of Ban Na Dao



Mu 6, Soem Sai sub-district, Soem Ngam district,
Lampang province 52210
Tel. 08 9553 4390

Pan Dao Group (Ban Na Dao)

Pan Dao Group was originated from the gathering of Lanna females of Ban Na Dao in 2008 and other groups to develop their outstanding and remarkable products. In 2017, the group won the best OTOP Establishment Award, under a type of clothes from fabric and home textile. The group has developed and elevated product manufacturing by introducing innovations with local cultural products to produce woven fabric with nice colour and patterns that meet market requirements. More importantly, natural materials are still used, making the product environmentally friendly. The natural tone used represents its typical features, including brown, yellow, orange, red, grey, purple, blue, and green. Moreover, other processed products; such as, clothes are also available at a shop of the group.

For more information, please contact Srivian Kariya, Head of the Pan Dao Group of Ban Na Dao



190 Mu 6, Soem Sai sub-district, Soem Ngam district,
Lampang province 52210
Tel. 08 6198 5967





Craft and Textile Tour in Lamphun and Lampang

Route 1: Mueang Lamphun



1. **Wat Phrathat Hariphunchai** – pay homage to the Buddha’s relics stupa of Hariphunchai. Visit museums displaying beautiful religious relics, which feature excellent Lanna arts.
2. **Visit Talat Khua Mung**, a big market on a bridge in front of Wat Phrathat Hariphunchai. Do shopping for local handwoven fabrics, Lamphun local food and souvenirs from Lamphun.
3. **Yong House Museum of Ancient Textiles, Wat Ton Kaeo** – watch formerly-famous ancient fabric in an area of Lamphun; such as, Pha Sin Ta, brocade and Sin Tin Chok. Weaving tools for ancient fabric are also displayed at the “Ancient Yong House”.
4. **Wat Ton Kaeo (Khua Mung) Weaving Group** is a learning centre of the community and acts as a Community Relationship Thai Cultural Integration Centre. The temple has established a museum of ancient textiles for people to learn how to weave Lamphun silk brocade.
5. **Hariphunchai Handwoven Fabric Institute exhibits rare ancient fabrics**, especially attire of Lamphun’s royalty. The items include Pha Sin Tin Chok Mai Kham and silk clothes. Lamphun silk brocade weaving is also demonstrated using a technique of lifting silk, silver and gold threads to generate intricate patterns inside the fabric texture for both “Big Brocade” (Pha Yok Yai) and “Small Brocade” (Pha Yok Lek).
6. **Lamphun Thai Silk or Lamphun Mai Thai** – learn and admire Lamphun’s silk brocade that applies nanotechnology in the silk dyeing process to enhance its features for being water and stain proof. This kind of silk is suitable for interior design and fabric patterns by leading designers.
7. **Ban Don Luang Weaving Group (Boonmuang Cotton)** – visit and shop for products from cotton woven in ancient styles, focusing on patterns of 4 and 6 heddles. This technique makes the fabric soft and tough. Other products from processed handwoven fabric are also available.
8. **Ban Nong Ngueak Cotton Weaving Group** – visit and shop for handwoven cotton fabrics in the original and applied patterns, which are more intricate and colourful. The fabrics are naturally dyed and chemical-free; hence, safe for both dyers and wearers.



Craft and Textile Tour in Lamphun and Lampang

Route 2: Li-Thung Hua Chang

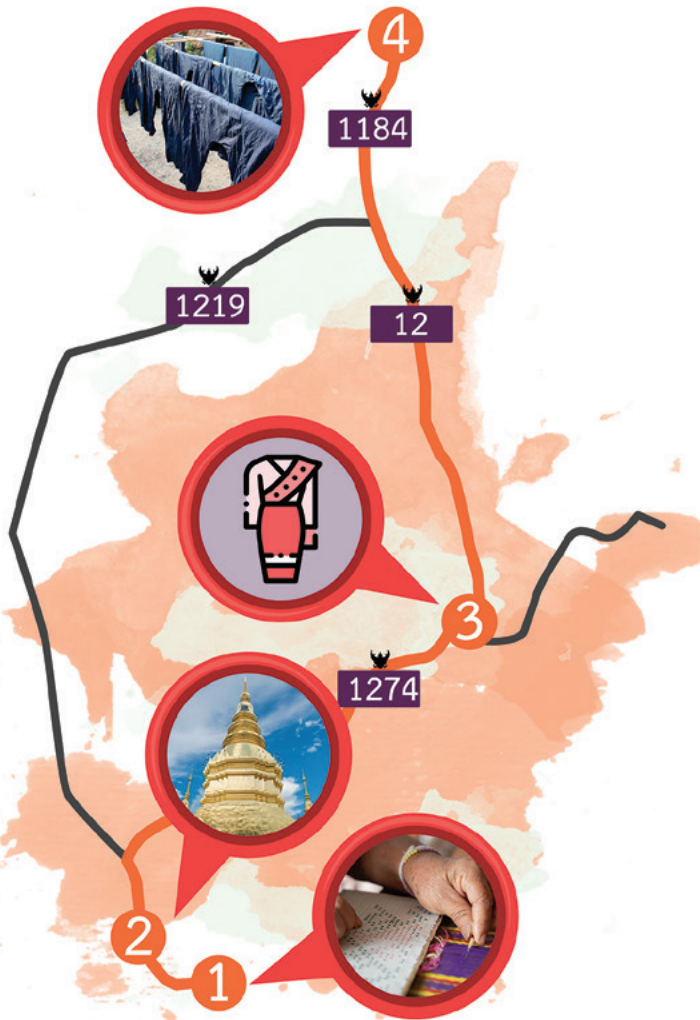


1. **Wat Phra Phuttha Bat Huai Tom** – pay homage to Luangpu Khruba Chaiyawongsaphatthana and the footprints of the Lord Buddha.
2. **Product Distribution Centre for naturally dyed hand-woven cotton fabrics, handmade silverware (Ban Den Yang Mun, Phra Bat Huai Tom Community)**, visit and shop for products made of naturally dyed handwoven cotton fabrics and silverware.
3. **Ban Huai Tom Handicraft Centre (Research Institute)** displays handwoven cotton, which is Karen fabric featuring unique ancient patterns. The textiles are woven using a typical backstrap loom. Thread colours are imitated from nature.
4. **Community Tourism Group, OTOP by TAKI Shop**, is where you can participate in a natural dye workshop.
5. **Nam Bo Noi Ancient Village**, an ancient community that conserves culture and simple way of life of the Pga K'nyau.



Craft and Textile Tour in Lamphun and Lampang

Route 3: Li-Thung Hua Chang



1. **Ban Puang Kham Weaving Group** – observe the demonstration of weaving and shop for products of Pha Sin Tin Chok Long Li that feature 2 typical styles, including Pha Sin Tin Chok employing only a discontinuous supplementary weft technique for an entire piece and Pha Sin Tin Chok that utilises “twill and satin weaves” technique together with a discontinuous supplementary weft technique.
2. **Wat Phrathat Ha Duang or Wiang Chedi Ha Lang** – pay respect to the holy water that flowed along all 5 fingers of the Buddha down to the ground. The Buddha’s washed sweat is enshrined in the Phrathat Ha Duang.
3. **Parichart Thai Silk** – watch products of Thai silk brocade featuring ancient patterns that used to be presented to Her Majesty Queen Sirikit the Queen Mother. It was used as a source to reproduce those ancient patterns. This brocade was also used to make royal apparel and spread over to other countries.
4. **Natural indigo-dyed fabrics, Mae Chansri**, observe a weaving process of naturally dyed cotton from indigo, *Hom-Baphicacanthus cusia* Brem., wood barks and ebony fruit.



Interesting Tourist Attractions

Wat Phrathat Hariphunchai

Wat Phrathat Hariphunchai is an important sacred place that has been standing together with Lamphun for over 1,000 years. The temple is situated downtown, around 150 metres away from the city hall. The temple is encircled with roads on 4 sides. The surrounding roads include Attharot Road in the north, Chai Mongkhon Road in the south and Rop Mueang Road in the east. The temple enshrines the relics for those who were born in the Year of the Rooster.

Khua Mung Tha Sing Market

Khua means a bridge while Mung means a roof. At present, Khua Mung Bridge is a market for various products including Lamphun's local woven fabrics, cotton and silk brocade, woodwork, products from longan, Lamphun votive tablets and souvenirs from Lamphun that are on sale at reasonable prices. The Market is open every day from 09.00-18.00 Hrs.

Wat Phra Phuttha Bat Huai Tom

Wat Phra Phuttha Bat Huai Tom is situated at Mu 8, Phra Bat Huai Tom Community, Li district, Lamphun province. The temple has a spacious area. This is a religious place that has acted as a spiritual anchor of the people in Huai Tom community and nearby villages. The temple has very long history back to the Buddha's lifetime, referring to the traces at this Wat Phra Phuttha Bat Huai Tom, including the footprints of the Lord Buddha and a pond of holy water. It has been believed that the Lord Buddha once visited the place. A hunter cooked vegetarian soft-boiled rice for the Lord Buddha as he did not eat meat. And that is how the name of "Ban Huai Tom Khao" was originated. Later, the name was deviated to be Ban Huai Tom. Luangpu Khruba Chaiyawongsaphattana, a monk of Lanna, was the founder of the village and was a spiritual anchor of the people in the community.





Craft and Textile Tour in Lamphun and Lampang

Suggested Itineraries for Lampang

Route 1: Mueang Lampang-
Soem Ngam

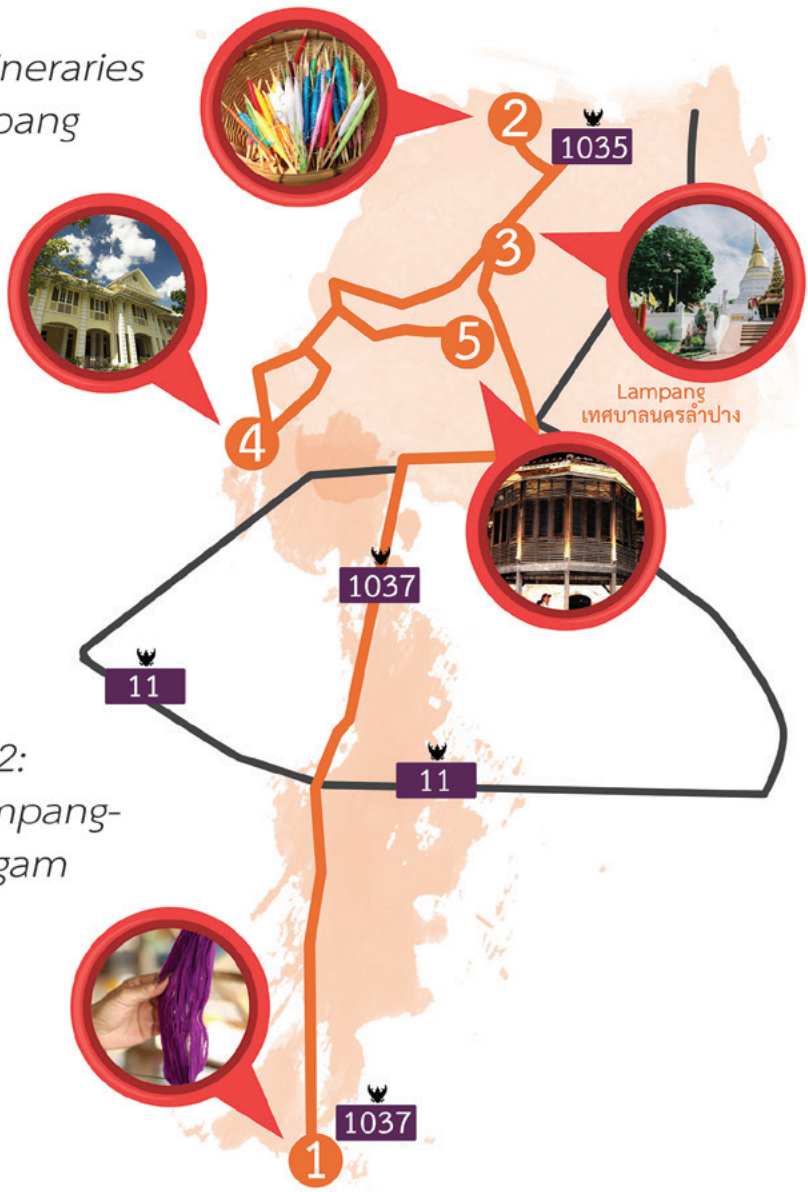


1. **Wat Phrathat Lampang Luang**
2. **Wat Lai Hin or Wat Lai Hin Luang**, aged several hundred years. In the temple is enshrined a Buddha image hall, constructed by old Chiang Tung artisans in the Lanna architectural style. The entire temple is gracefully decorated.
3. **Ki Kratuk Weaving Group, Ban Lai Hin**, a group of housewives have utilised weaving knowledge of using a handloom that has been passed down from their ancestors and have applied it with their initiatives to create valuable works, which have been turned into OTOP products of the people of Lai Hin sub-district.
4. **Senior Group, Wat Lai Hin Luang** – the group has gathered together to earn more income and spend their free time making Tung Yai basketry, bags and knitting basket with coloured threads.
5. **Toob Kaew Ma, Ban Na Dao**, a learning source for complete natural fibre production process, ranging from planting various kinds of cotton, including local one, Kaen Pae, Khi Maeo, Noi and Tun. The entire process until getting a finished product can be observed here.
6. **Kad Kong Ta** is also known as a Chinese market because a big Chinese community was set up there. It is located along the Wang River where ancient buildings aged over 100 years old are situated along the river.



Craft and Textile Tour in Lamphun and Lampang

Suggested Itineraries for Lampang



Route 2:
Mueang Lampang-
Soem Ngam



1. **The Tai Lue Community Enterprise of Ban Kluai** has got support from an abbot of Wat Ban Kluai to cultivate cotton in order to use in weaving. This will help continue the Tai Lue culture, especially their traditional dressing culture. Moreover, the unique patterns of Tai Lue woven textiles; such as, Sin Ta Top and Sin Ta Khwang, have also been maintained.

2. **Lampang Lantern-Tung Yai Handicraft Group at Ban Yaeng Bua:** Tung Yai (flag) is one of Lampang's identities. The flag is made by employing a technique of weaving and alternating coloured threads to make it more colourful. Its unique patterns include Puranagata-vase of plenty, and Ueang Phueng orchid.

3. **Wat Phra Kaeo Don Tao or Wat Phra Kaeo Don Tao Suchadaram** is over 1,000 years old. The temple hosted the Emerald Buddha, which now stands at Wat Phra Kaeo in Bangkok.

4. **Thai Bank Museum, Lampang Branch**, exhibits the history of banks, tools, pictures and documents. The original forms of banking services and working style of banking officers are also showcased here.

5. **Louis House (Hundred Years)** is a hip-roofed, half-timbered building, with an octagonal balcony in an ancient architectural style. The house was constructed in 1905 by Mr. Louis Thomas Gunnis Leonowens, the house owner. He was an English man who entered into trading in Thailand during the reign of King Rama V the Great.



Interesting Tourist Attractions

Wat Phrathat Doi Ngoen

Wat Phrathat Doi Ngoen was constructed in 1937. The temple is under the Mahanikaya Sect. The buildings consist of a Buddha image hall, monk's dwellings, a multipurpose building, charity halls and pavilions. A metal Buddha image is enshrined in the temple, which is considered as an important sacred object.

Khua Tae, a merit bridge of Wat Phrathat Sandon

Khua Tae is a bamboo bridge measuring at 360 metres long. It is laid out across the paddy fields of the villagers. It was constructed around May 2017 with a donation of land and bamboo from the villagers to construct a bridge that made it easier to get to Wat Phrathat Sandon.

Wat Phrathat Lampang Luang

Wat Phrathat Lampang Luang is a temple of Lampang. According to legend, it has been believed that the temple has been existing since the time of Queen Chammathewi, around the end of the 20th Century B.E. (15th century A.D.). This is a complete wooden temple. The temple enshrines the relics for those who were born in the Year of the Ox. The base contains a series of torus mouldings. The stupa is in the Lanna bell-shaped style lined with thin sheets of brass. The top of the umbrella is made of gold, featuring chasing, repoussé and engraving works in various patterns. The hair and relics of the Lord Buddha's right forehead, front and back neck have been enshrined in the stupa.

Kad Kong Ta

Kad Kong Ta used to be flourishing in the past. It is located along the Wang River where ancient buildings in mixed architectural styles among European, Chinese and Burmese, aged over 100 years old are situated along the river. It has been acclaimed as an economic road with historical value. The name Kad Kong Ta means a market at a waterside that had been flourishing since the reign of King Rama V the Great. This was because Lampang used to be a trading centre of the North where most foreigners; such as, English, Burmese and Chinese, entered into the place for their trading businesses. A big Chinese community was set up there. Hence, villagers called it a Chinese market.





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Nakhon Sawan – Phichit Tour: The Touch of a Textile Weaving Community



When one thinks of the old wooden houses and peaceful community, **Nakhon Sawan and Phichit** can be the answers. These two provinces are rich in local cultures and full of hidden stories behind them, not less than any other provinces. Nakhon Sawan is heaven for food lovers because of its varieties of delicious food. On the other hand, Phichit is the home of Krai Thong, a Thai folktale, and the city dotted with temples and diverse small communities. However, the significance of these two provinces is the Lao Khrang style of textiles weaving.

*“The City Where Four Rivers Unite, the Dragon Procession,
the Great Lake Bueng Boraphet, Plentiful and Delicious Fish”*

Nakhon Sawan is the gateway to the North of Thailand and the beginning of Chao Phraya River, the river which nourishes the lives of the Thais.

Lao Khrang and its deep connection to textiles

The discovery of “Wae Din Phao” or clay spindle whorls used in a cotton spinning tool at Ban Sap Takhian in Tak Fa district, led to the idea that there has been weaving culture in Nakhon Sawan since the prehistoric period. Also, Pha Sin Mat Mi Tin Chok from the beginning of the Dvaravati period was discovered.

Silk, cotton and synthetic textiles are woven in many districts of Nakhon Sawan. In the past, the Lao Khrang people from Nong Kraduk Nuea sub-district, Lat Yao district wove beautiful and exquisite textiles, which are now preserved in the “Sathorn Gold Textile Museum”.

Nakhon Sawan woven textiles in many districts are made with handloom from silk, cotton, and factory-made threads. Mat Mi patterns are the knowledge from other provinces; such as, Lop Buri and Khon Kaen. Its popular patterns include traditional Thai motifs, Dok Than Tawan (sunflower), Nak Son (Naga), Yot Chat, Dok Kaeo, and Lai Son Nai Wang.



Chan Sen Women's Weaving Group

The interesting part of Takhli district is at the Chan Sen sub-district. The Chan Sen community has a long history of cultural heritage from the Dvaravati period, as evidenced from artefacts displayed at the Chan Sen Museum; such as, clay spindle whorls, a piece of cotton cloth attached a bronze bowl, which informs the usage of textile during the period. The hand-woven textile has been inherited for more than 100 years. Then, Phrakhru Nivit Dhammakhan, the abbot of Wat Chan Sen, initiated the Women's Handloom Weaving Group to revive the local wisdom of weaving.

The significant part of this group is the cotton and artificial cotton Mat Mi textiles in various motifs; such as, Siamese tiger fish (Pla Suea To) (motif of the province, including three icons: blue, the colour of the province, purple of Salao flower, and yellow of Siamese tiger fish), the vegetable fern (Phak Kut) motif from the Dvaravati art, and other motifs invented by Ms. Phuangphayom Deeviang and Ms. Bang-orn Sengking.

For more information, please contact Phuangphayom Deeviang,

Head of Chan the Sen Women's Weaving Group



235 Mu 1, Ban Talat Chan Sen, Chan Sen sub-district,
Takhli district, Nakhon Sawan province 60260
Tel. 08 6929 9655
Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/H9GUACNaz7uqV61GA>

Ban Nong Sakae Weaving Group

Tak Fa district used to be a rainforest sunshine on an empty area where pheasants liked to come out and play with the sunlight. Therefore, bushmen called this area the "pheasant around" (Lan kai Fa). Later, people came to stay in this area and dried their clothes (Tak Pha) here. The words were adapted and combined into "Lan Tak Pha", then turned to "Lan Tak Fa", which is used at present.

Most locals in Tak Fa district are farmers, planting Tak Fa 2 cotton. This inspired the weaving group to collect and create cotton threads, which are made into beautiful woven Mat Mi textiles.

The Ban Nong Sakae Weaving Group has a reputation for its beautiful Mat Mi motifs; such as, peacock (Nok Yung) and Siamese tiger fish (Pla Suea To). The group has learned and developed motifs from Ban Mi district and other provinces in Northeastern Thailand; such as, Surin province.

For more information, please contact Khun Piyaphorn Sanuan,

Head of the Ban Nong Sakae Weaving Group.



143 Mu 4, Ban Nong Sakae, Khao Chai Thong sub-district,
Tak Fa district, Nakhon Sawan province 60190
Tel. 08 1038 2790
Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/rCetVLj66DEE94Kf8>



*“The Birthplace of Phra Chao Suea,
Traditional Long Boat Races, Great Amulet Luangpho Ngoen,
Enjoy Bueng Si Fai, Centre of the Province Luangpho Phet,
Land of Exquisite Rice and Tha Khoi pomelo,
Province of Chalawan the Crocodile King”*

Phichit is one of the cities with diverse ethnicities, including Tai Puan, Tai Song Dam, Tai Isan, and Lao Khrang. Each ethnic group reflects their respective identity through their weaving culture. Each woven textile product has its reputation and it is also well supported in creating and preserving the beautiful local wisdom.

Visiting Home of Tai Puan Woven Textiles

Tai Puan woven textiles are the local wisdom with a delicate making process. The pattern and vivid colour designs, along with the Mat Mi weaving technique, thread control, Khit weaving, Chok weaving, and touch-up dye techniques are well preserved. The motifs on each Tai Puan Pha Sin have a 200-year-long inherited cultural belief hidden in it.

Additionally, there is also a textile woven by the Tai Song Dam or Tai Dam people, who have settled in Bueng Narang district. They initially lived in Sip Song Chu Tai area through which the Dam River flows; consequently, the people here are called “Tai Dam”. After their relationships with other ethnic groups, they also became known by many other names; such as, Lao Song, Tai Dam, Phu Tai Dam, Tai Song Dam, Tai Song, Lao Suang Dam, and Lao Song Dam. Another reason for their name is that they usually wear black (Dam) cotton.

From the past to the present, Lao Khrang textile has a deep connection in the life of the Lao Khrang people. The textile has its uniqueness in the Mat Mi and Chok (discontinuous supplementary weft) weaving techniques, which use cotton and silk threads. The weft threads are dyed with one colour then the patterns are created and decorations are added using the “Chae”, “Chae Mi” or “Taem Mi” techniques where certain areas of the threads are tinted with colours. Most of the textiles are in geometric and animal motifs. Lao Khrang’s distinctive textiles are Pha Sin Mat Mi with Tin Chok, Pha Sin Dok Dao, Pha Sin Mi Ruat textile, etc. Apart from weaving for a living, the locals also weave for special occasions, rites, and religious events; for instance, flags (Thung), Buddhist monk seat, headcloth for an ordination applicant, and pulpit’s curtain (Pha Kang).

Tai Dam Weaving Group

Bueng Na Rang district was formerly part of Pho Thale district. The Tai Song Dam people migrated here from Song Phi Nong district, Suphan Buri province since the last 100 years.

The Tai Dam Weaving Group is famous for its Sin Taengmo (Watermelon Sin), which is woven with the main black colour, white and indigo stripes, and red weft threads, and the traditional style loincloth or Pha Khao Ma. The fabrics are also developed into a ready-made top (Suea Hi) for both females and males and various types of souvenirs; such as, Dok Chan keychain, triangular pillow and square pillow.

For more information, please contact Mr. Wisut Thongkam,
Head of the Tai Dam Weaving Group



119 Mu 4, Ban Nong Bua Dam, Huai Kaeo sub-district,
Bueng Na Rang district, Pichit province 66130
Tel. 06 2939 6692, 08 0511 8795
Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/Tkaaupa4kmBU2XNr5>

Ban Pa Daeng Weaving Group

Ban Pa Daeng people are Tai Puan who migrated from Lop Buri province since 1914 by train. They brought their local weaving wisdom to weave fabric for household use and then developed more colourful designs. Ban Pa Daeng woven textiles are made with the Mat Mi technique using the handloom with a faster process than the local one. A tailorbird (Nok Krachip) pattern is the most famous Mat Mi design of this community. This is the traditional pattern inspired by a flock of tailorbirds which reflects the hardworking nature of the bird. The black colour also creates a more serious look. The tailorbird pattern is known as “Mak Chap” design in Northeastern Thailand. Other popular patterns are diamond and Dok Kaeo. A piece of fabric costs 250 - 800 Baht depending on the patterns and number of heddles used for weaving. The handwoven textile from Ban Pa Daeng is colourful and cheaper than those of other provinces, so it has become very popular for both national and international customers.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Sangworn Lueangsanit,
Head of the Ban Pa Daeng Weaving Group

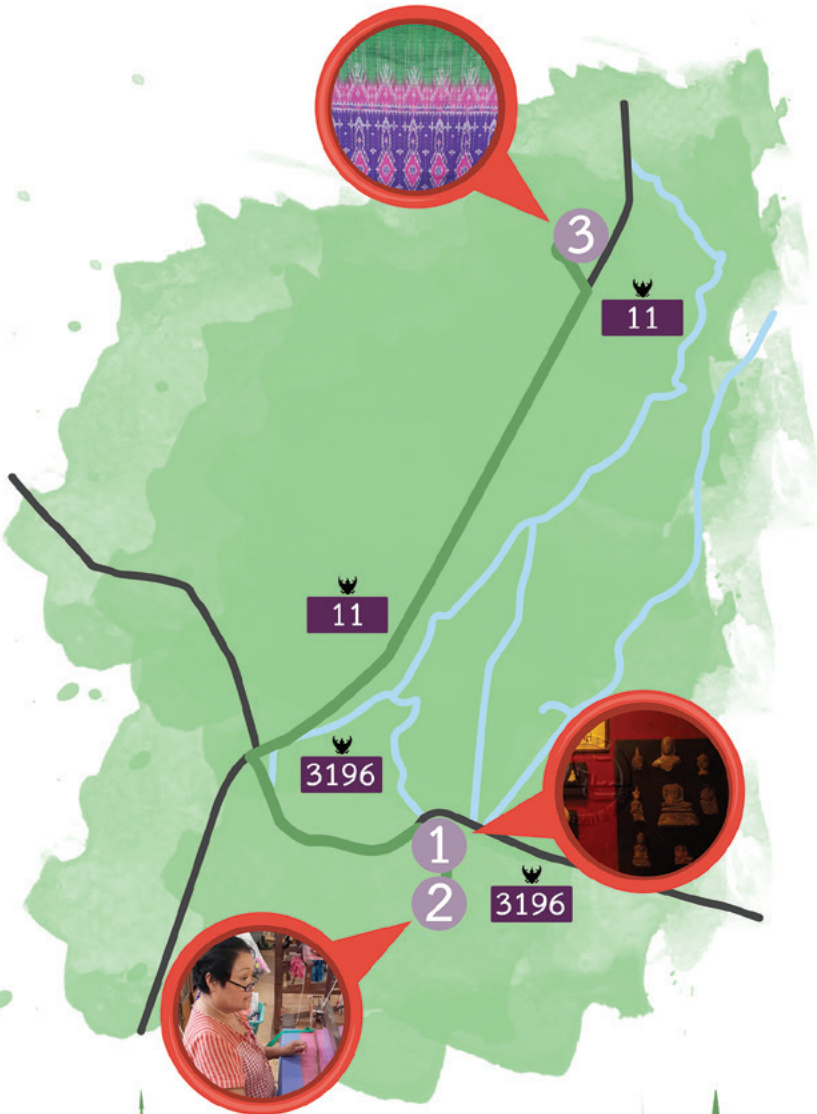


274 Mu 1, Nong Phayom sub-district, Tapan Hin district,
Pichit province 66140
Tel. 08 9272 1604
Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/tVSbcJ84SthrKfy47>



Craft and Textile Tours in Nakhon Sawan and Phichit

Route 1: East Nakhon Sawan



1. Chan Sen Museum – Go back in time to the story of the Chan Sen people. Inside the Chedi-shaped building, there is the story of “Khok Chan Sen” city mound from the Dvaravati period, which was told through the artefacts discovered in the ancient Chan Sen city. For instance, Buddhist votive tablet, stone carving, bronze and pottery. Visitors can pay respect to the sculpture of Luangpho Ot, the Buddhist monk who initiated the construction of the Chedi building of the Chan Sen Museum.

2. Chan Sen Women’s Weaving Group is where visitors can observe Tai Puan Mat Mi weaving. The significant part of this group is the cotton and artificial cotton Mat Mi textiles in various motifs; such as, vegetable fern (Phak Kut) motif from the Dvaravati art, Siamese tiger fish or Pla Suea To (motif of the province), and other motifs invented by Ms. Phuangphayom Deeviang and Ms. Bang-orn Sengking.

3. Ban Nong Sakae Weaving Group has a reputation in making the beautiful Mat Mi patterns; such as, peacock (Nok Yung) and Siamese tiger fish (Pla Suea To). The Siamese Tiger fish (Pla Suer To) is the signature motif of Nakhon Sawan province, which is usually decorated with the purple colour of the Salao flower.



Craft and Textile Tours in Nakhon Sawan and Phichit

Route 2: West Nakhon Sawan



1. Ban Chum Ta Bong Weaving Group is a place you can visit and shop for Mat Mi textiles as well as other products; such as, silk protein soap, and silk and mulberry soap, which are made from the leftover silk protein from textile weaving. Here, visitors can also see the local wisdom of sericulture, traditional filature to further weave into fabrics, and tie-dye process.

2. Hin Wang Son Parks – Visit the stone park where stones are beautifully placed one upon another like the charming architecture made by nature in a large meadow. This place is also called Thung Hin Thoen.

3. Ban Phrae Phana Weaving Group produces both Mat Mi silk and cotton fabrics. Initially, they made Mat Mi textiles with traditional Isan motifs. Later, they developed a Siamese tiger fish (Pla Suea To) motif. They also created Nam So and four-river motifs to be consistent with the name of Pak Nam Pho.



Interesting Tourist Attractions

Chan Sen Ancient City

This is one of the most important places in Nakhon Sawan province. Chan Sen Ancient City was first discovered from aerial photography by Achan Nit Hinchiranan in 1966. After that, there were studies of the physical conditions and archaeology of the town and in 1968, it was found that Chan Sen was an ancient city that existed since prehistoric times with evident traces of human habitation the early Dvaravati period about 1,500 years ago. The artefacts found in Chan Sen city and its neighbourhood are displayed at the Chan Sen Museum. After the Chan Sen Museum was founded, the Chan Sen Women's Weaving Group, Wat Chan Sen Chalermraja Cultural Centre and the ordination hall of Wat Chan Sen were then created.

Chan Sen Nakaraja Shrine

Chan Sen Nakaraja Shrine is the ancient shrine of the community. The Kus, a Chinese family, built this shrine to pay respect to Gods and their ancestors during the Chinese New Year and other Chinese occasions. Chinese, Thai, and Lao people in the area also come and pay respect at this shrine, believing that Nakaraja looks after the treasure under the land. In 2001, the Shrine was renovated by Khun Narongsak Kukitirat (Achan Haeo) with 3,000 Baht for the starting budget. This was the significant renovation as the Shrine has become an important travel destination and the place to keep many Buddhist statues. It is also the first shrine to have both a Naga and dragon together, which is the delicate combination of Thai and Chinese culture.

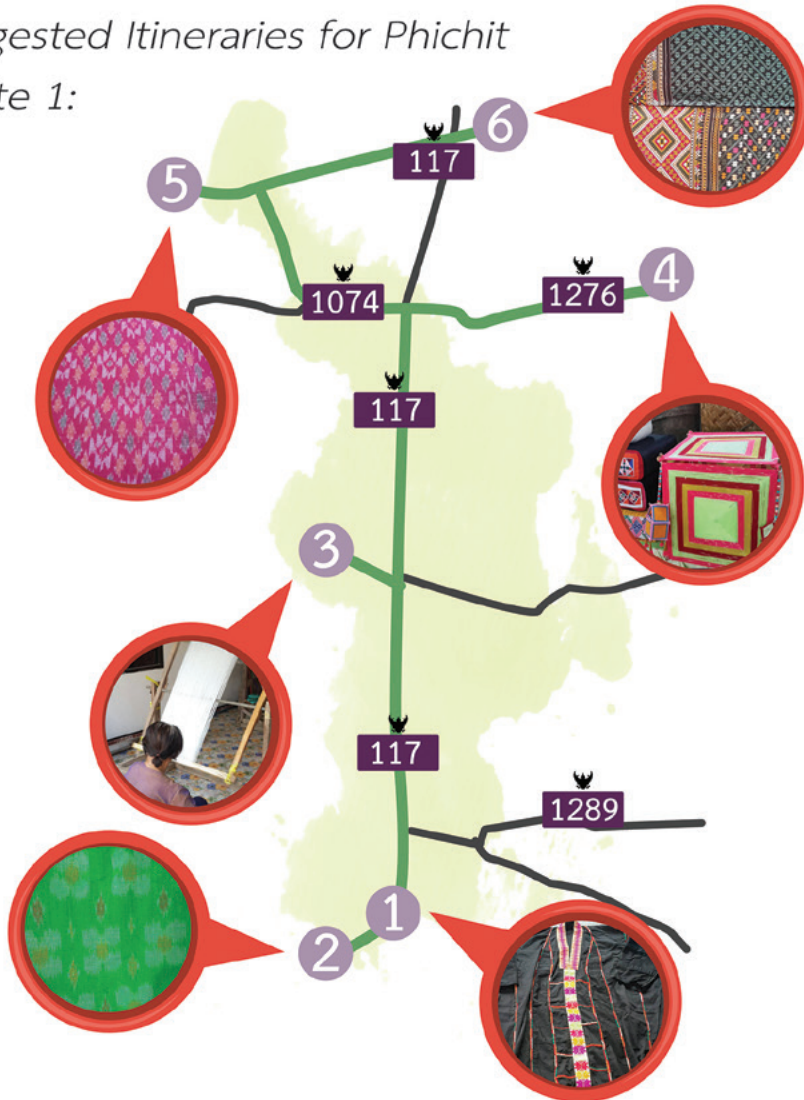




Craft and Textile Tours in Nakhon Sawan and Phichit

Suggested Itineraries for Phichit

Route 1:



1. **Tai Dam Weaving Group** – Here visitors can see the demonstration of silk and synthetic silk weaving, and enjoy shopping for fabric products; such as, Pha Sin Lai Taengmo, loincloth, traditional shirts for men and women (Suea Hi), keychains, triangular pillows, and square pillows.
2. **Ban Huai Kaeo Weaving Group** – People in this community are Thai Isan who have brought Isan knowledge and techniques to make Mat Mi textiles for daily lives and for a living. There is a weaving factory that produces threads and textiles as well as many other products.
3. **Ban Nong Phong Weaving Group's colourful products** are made from both genuine and synthetic silk.
4. **Tai Dam Phai Rop Group** – Visitors can learn about the story of the Tai Dam community and their clothing, and enjoy shopping for local products.
5. **Ban Nong Sano Weaving Group** is where we can admire the Thai Isan culture and a beautiful and unique Ton Son pattern.
6. **Ban Sa Yai Chi Tin Chok Weaving Group** – Lao Khrang or Tai Khrang people, originated from Lao Luang Prabang, have carried on their own local wisdom of dyeing with stick lac, and the weaving of Chok, Mat Mi, and Khit textiles.



1. **Bueng Si Fai** is one of the top three largest lakes in Thailand. It is the iconic place for Phichit province and currently a place for relaxation and a freshwater fish breeding source.
2. **Wat Tha Luang** – Visitors come here to pay respect to Luangpho Phet, a Chiang Saen-style Buddha statue that is widely respected and worshipped by the Phichit people.
3. **Khlong Sakae Local Textiles Weaving Group** preserves the weaving culture inherited from the Tai Puan ancestors. People in the community gather to weave as a way to earn supplementary income.
4. **Wang Krot** is an old town community with wooden houses, located behind the train station. It is 6 kilometres from the city and at the intersection of land and water transportation, which used to be the major transporting mode during the earlier period.
5. **Wat Pho Prathap Chang** is the ancient temple built in the reign of King Sanphet VIII (Phrachao Suea) in the Ayutthaya period as a memorial of his birth. Inside the temple, there is a 200-year-old Takhian tree and the Ayutthaya-style Buddha image hall (Wihan) with double wall enclosures.
6. **Ban Pa Daeng Weaving Group** is the most renowned weaving group in Phichit province. Its famous Mat Mi pattern is *the tailorbird* (Nok Krachip), which is also the symbol of their group.



Interesting Tourist Attractions

Phra Phutta Ket Mongkhon, Luangpho To Taphan Hin Wat Thewa Prasat

Phra Phutta Ket Mongkhon is the Buddha statue in the blessing posture 20 metres wide and 30 metres tall. It is made from reinforced concrete, starting in 1965 and finished in 1970. This is the largest, most beautiful and symmetrical statue in Phichit province. If one travels by train, then the statue can be seen from a distance. The entrance of the temple is nearby the Nan River.

Wat Phra Phutthabat Khao Ruak

A reproductive of the Buddha's footprint, an imitation from Wat Phra Phutthabat Saraburi, is located at Wat Phra Phutthabat Khao Ruak. During the Buddhist Lent period in the rainy season, Phra Achan Ngon Sorayo, the famous Buddhist monk usually stayed at this temple. Here, a large wooden drum (Nantha Pheri Si Ratcha Rukkho Mahorathuek Maruekkhathayawan Banlue Lok) made from a Padauk tree has been kept for later generations. A statue of Chaopho Ho Klong was created to protect the drum.

Bueng Si Fai

Bueng Si Fai is located in the centre of Phichit province. This is one of the top three largest freshwater lakes in Thailand with a large crocodile sculpture to be seen. It is also a great spot for the sunset and bird-watching activity since there are many different kinds of migratory as well as native birds around here.





Visiting Song Khwae, Sightseeing Phetchabun



Two adjacent provinces that are rich in beautiful nature and precious cultural heritage like “Phitsanulok and Phetchabun” have become another charming Northern tourist route. If you are a big fan of local woven fabric, especially “Mat Mi”, you must not miss it.



“The Marvellous Pha Phutha Chinnarat Image, Birthplace of King Naresuan the Great, Floating Houses along the Nan River, Delicious Dried Bananas, Enchanting Caves and Waterfalls”

Over a 700-year-long history, Phitsanulok has combined various cultures together, from Dvaravati, Lob Buri, Sukhothai, Ayutthaya, Thon Buri to Rattanakosin. At the same time, it has also derived culture from the kingdoms of Lanna, Sri Khotraboon, as well as India and China. All these inherited cultures have been accumulated and carried on up to the present time.

Mat Mi Fabric, Precious Cultural Heritage

It has been said that the Lao people emigrated to settle down in Phitsanulok since the pre-Sukhothai era up to the Ayutthaya and Rattanakosin periods. They can be divided into various groups, including Lao Chiang Sean, Lao Lanna Lampang, Lao Lan Chang, Lao Vientiane, Lao Isan, and Lao Song. The Weaving tradition and culture have been handed down from their ancestors and still applied in their daily lives.

Mat Mi weaving is one of the precious cultural heritages that requires weaving skills and expertise. The technique varies by location; such as, using double threads or twisting 2 coloured threads into 1. Upon weaving, tiny stripes in alternate colours will be visible in a pattern, similar to making “Hang Krarak fabric”, or a variety of Thai fabric made of different coloured weft and warp threads. This can refer to the weaving techniques of Khit (continuous supplementary weft), Chok (discontinuous supplementary weft), twill and satin weaves that are applied in creating patterns on the fabric. Silk and cotton are commonly used in Mat Mi Ikat and tie-dyed cloth like Pha Sin (tube skirt), shoulder cloth or pillows. Patterns are laid out both vertically and horizontally. Multiple techniques can also be applied in the same piece of cloth.

At present, new patterns have been initiated by local weavers to symbolise their province. The patterns relate to the identity of Phitsanulok; such as, patterns of Dok Soi Sayam (Bauhinia siamensis), Dok Nonsi (Copper pod flower), Namdokmai Si Thong Mango, White Champac, nodule rock field (located in Phu Hin Rong Kla National Park), Garjan seed (from *Dipterocarpus alatus* Roxb.), waves (the Nan River), bat (in a cave in Noen Maprang district), chicken (White Tail-yellow Cock), Pip Song Khwae (the Nan River, the Khwae Noi River and Cork tree flower) and the Nan River.



Mat Mi fabric in Dok Pip (cork tree flower) pattern is claimed to be the woven fabric of the province; it employs a technique of Mat Mi featuring the Dok Pip pattern (the provincial tree) and is commonly made in a violet tones (the provincial colour of Phitsanulok). Important weaving centres of the province are in Bang Rakam, Wang Thong, and Chat Trakan districts.

Ban Khlong Toei Weaving Group

For the Ban Khlong Toei Weaving Group, Mat Mi fabric and loincloth are signature products of the group. The identity of the group is Khit fabric mixed with Mat Mi employing Mat Mi and Khit in the Thai Isan style, which has been passed down from their ancestors who emigrated from Yasothon in 1951. The villagers use a handloom and ready-made threads from Bangkok or synthetic fibres from Phichit as their main materials for weaving fabric in ancient patterns, including Lai Thai, Kho Maengmum, Ngu Lueam (reticulated python), Mat Mi Sapparot (pineapple) and Sai Fon (rain). This Sai Fon pattern can be woven using 2 techniques. The first one is Mat Mi by tie-dyeing threads before weaving. Once the weaving is done, the fabric features overlapping colours of the threads making it look like rainfall. The other technique is combining threads or spinning different-coloured weft and warp together to make a single thread. This technique provides a piece of cloth with a pattern and overlapping coloured threads. The textile woven with this technique is commonly called “Hang Krarok fabric”. Moreover, other products from the group are available; such as, loincloth in the dimension of 32” x 80” for 130 Baht and a scarf at 80 Baht per piece.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Puth Hemthong,

Head of the Ban Khlong Toei Weaving Group



99 Mu 6, Bueng Kok sub-district, Bang Rakam district,
Phitsanulok province 65140
Tel. 08 6216 2685

Ban Muang Hom Mat Mi fabric Weaving Group

Its name is derived from the pleasant scent of the wild mango tree. People here are descendants of the Tai Lao from Xayaburi who emigrated through Na Haeo district, Loei province over 100 years ago. The emigration was led by Mr. Sri Saensombat, sub-district headman from Xayaburi. During their leisure time from farming, most villagers spent their time weaving. They gathered together and set up the Ban Muang Hom Weaving Group in 1986. Weaving is done by using a handloom using cotton and artificial threads as the main materials. The techniques of Mat Mi and Khit have been used to make various patterns. At present, more than 40-50 patterns have been developed as inspired by their local surroundings.



For more information, please contact Mrs. Thurian Pholyotha,
Head of the Ban Muang Hom Mat Mi Fabric Weaving Group

23/1 Mu 5, Kaeng Sopha sub-district, Wang Thong district,
Phitsanulok province 65220
Tel. 08 0617 2358



Ban Noi Mat Mi Ki Kratuk Weaving Group

Villagers here are descendants of the Tai Lao people in Ban Pa Kluai, opposite Na Haeo district, Loei province. Mat Mi fabric is usually woven into major patterns; such as, Pip Chaiyaphruek, Soi Sayam, and Soi Raya. They also weave a flag with ancient patterns on a white background. The technique of the continuous supplementary weft is employed to create colourful patterns. This kind of fabric is exclusively used during the Songkran Festival only. The Group also has other fabric products on sale in their shop, and the Phitsanulok Red Cross Fair. They also work on made-to-order jobs from government agencies.



*“Sweet Tamarind City, Nam Nao National Park,
Si Thep Old City, Khao Kho Memorial, King Pha Mueang City”*

The provincial motto reflects the image of the city, which is rich in plants, natural, cultural and long historical tourist attractions.

Fabric of Cultures

Diversity in cultural groups makes “Phetchabun” second to none. Their weaving science is outstanding, ranging from Mat Mi fabric, Khit fabric and local textiles woven from cotton and artificial threads. Handicrafts have been perfectly inherited from their ancestors. Pleasingly, they still continue to be passed down to the new generation.

Local woven fabric in Lom Sak district and Lom Kao district is unique in colouration, weaving techniques and patterns. Materials used in weaving include cotton or silk threads that are locally produced. Dye can be found from nature that offers a mild look. At present, a chemical dye or synthetic colourant provides a vivid colour. The Mat Mi technique is mainly used in weaving. People in Phetchabun around those lower districts have their own style by mixing with the culture of the Thai Isan resulting in noticeable differences in colour and fabric structure.

Ban Phrao Weaving Group

Ban Phrao Weaving Group in Lom Kao district is a famous weaving source of the Tai Lom people who are descendants of the Luang Prabang people over a period of 150 years. Sin Mat Mi is commonly woven here. Popular patterns are Ho Prasat, Mak Krachap and Hong (swan). Pha Sin’s head (waistband) is normally connected with tie-dyed fabric in the Dok Yum pattern. It is on sale at the Groups office. Old fabric is exhibited inside, and products made by villagers are also collected there.

For more information, please contact Mr. Phongsathon Aonlan,
Head of the Ban Phrao Weaving Group



124 Mu 3, Ban Noen sub-district, Lom Kao district,
Phetchabun province 67120
Tel. 09 2194 2771/ 08 3953 0307

Ban Tha Suan Mon Weaving Group

Ban Tha Suan Mon Weaving Group, located behind Wat Si Chomchuen, is a famous weaving group and produces outstanding products, including Pha Sin in auspicious patterns. Examples include patterns of the King of Nagas representing well-being, Krachap implying wealth, Mi Kho referring to harmony, Takho symbolising catching money and gold, and Kha Pia signifying good morale. Moreover, loincloth featuring the Sai lan pattern (Intestine of an eel), Pha Sin Hua Daeng Tin Kan, white fabric and plain coloured cloth are also produced here. Products are on sale at the office of the Group. They are also available at the Tai Lom Walking Street on Saturdays, from 17.00 - 21.00 Hrs. and at a market fair every Monday, Wednesday and Saturday from 16.00 - 18.00 Hrs. For more information, please contact Mrs. Noo Wongsuk,

Head of the Ban Tha Suan Mon Weaving Group



10 Mu 1, Fai Na Saeng sub-district, Lom Sak district,
Phetchabun province 67110
Tel. 08 3581 6226 / 09 8019 2991
Facebook: Lomstyle Lomkao

Local Fabric Weaving Group

The villagers are descendants of their Lao ancestors who emigrated from Vientiane around 200 years ago. Ancient Pha Sin or so called “Pha Sin Hua Daeng Tin Kan” or “Sin Mi Khan Noi” in the Tai Lom style are commonly woven here. Its outstanding feature is a Mat Mi weaving technique that generates various patterns of Naga, Sao La, Krabueang Khwam Ngai and Ho Prasat or Prasat Phueng. Those patterns are laid out alternately with plain coloured stripes without patterns. The fabric is woven continuously with patterns evenly laid out. The header part of Pha Sin is connected with tie-dyed cloth or Dok Yum tie-dyed cloth and extended with the Tin Kan part that features alternate coloured stripes as a result of alternating colour of the warp threads. Apart from this, they also produce shoulder bags in the Dok Yum pattern that is created through tie-dyeing and other transformed woven, fabric which is commonly made by villagers at their own house and collectively sent to the group. The products cover both the original Pha Sin and transformed textiles.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Thita Thongwan,

Head of the Local Fabric Weaving Group



42 Mu 4, Ban Tio sub-district, Lom Sak district,
Phetchabun province 67110
Tel. 08 7278 4244

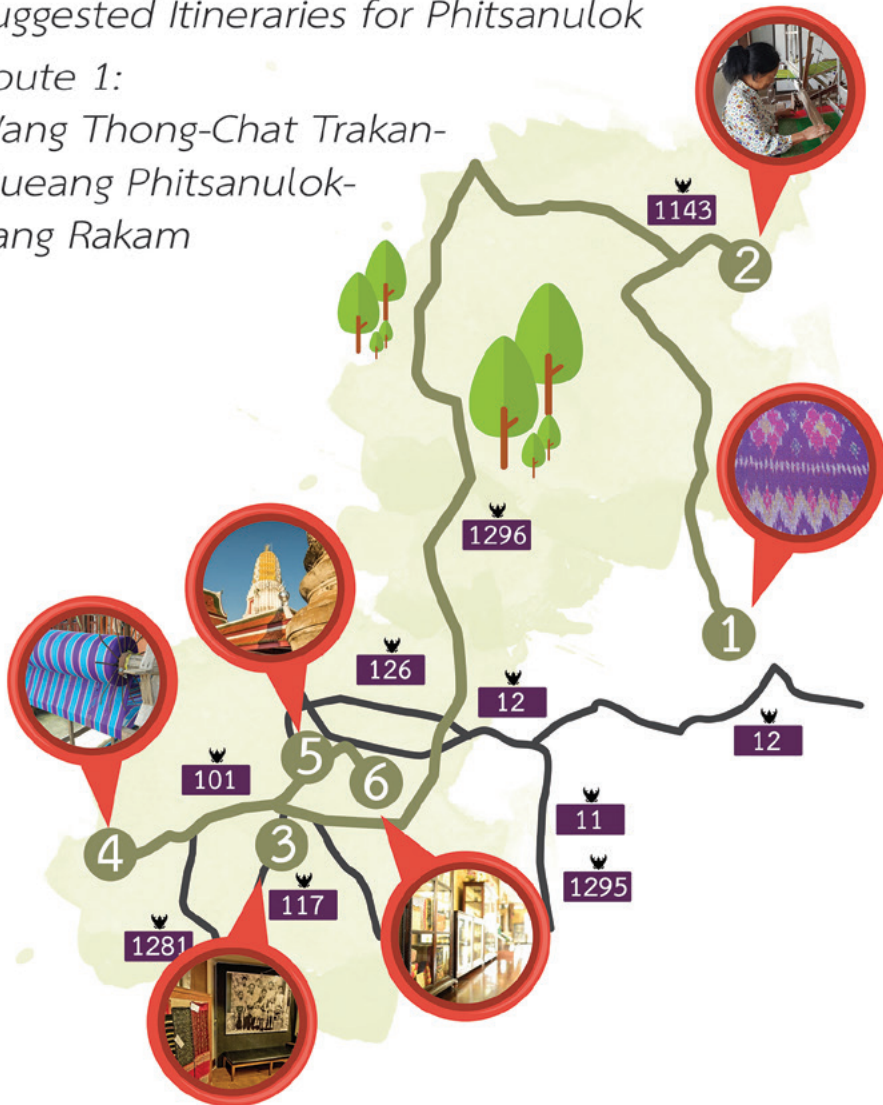


Craft and Textile Tours in Phitsanulok-Phetchabun

Suggested Itineraries for Phitsanulok

Route 1:

Wang Thong-Chat Trakan-
Mueang Phitsanulok-
Bang Rakam



1. **Ban Muang Hom Mat Mi fabric Weaving Group** – People here are descendants of the Tai Lao from Xayaburi. Its famous product is handwoven textiles with the Dok Pip pattern (the provincial tree).
2. **Ban Noi Mat Mi Ki Kratok Weaving Group** – Villagers here are descendants of the Tai Lao people. They weave traditional textiles and flags (Thung) with ancient patterns.
3. **Textile Museum, Naresuan University** exhibits royal apparel of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit the Queen Mother, and ancient fabric of ethnic groups in 9 provinces around the lower part of the North, as well as other domestic handicrafts.
4. **Ban Khlong Toei Weaving Group** – Mat Mi fabric and loincloth are signature products of the group. The identity of the group is Khit fabric mixed with Mat Mi in the Thai Isan style.
5. **Wat Phra Si Rattana Mahathat** – Pay respect to the Phra Phuttha Chinnarat image or Luangpho Yai, the spiritual anchor of the Phitsanulok people and Thai people nationwide.
6. **Sgt. Maj. Thawee Folk Museum** displays a collection of folk tools and equipment representing the local lifestyle of Phitsanulok province's residents.





Interesting Tourist Attractions

Namtok Chat Trakan

Namtok Chat Trakan has a total of 7 levels featuring diversified natural beauty. Each level is named after Thao Samon's daughters, characters in the Sangthong literature. The first level is called "Maliwan" featuring water flowing down from a high chasm at 30 metres high. The water flows down from a large circular pool measuring around a half rai. Around the edge of the pool is a small beautiful sandy beach. The second level is called "Kannika". The water flows from a big chasm down to the first level. It is very dangerous here and swimming is not allowed. The third level is called "Karaket", featuring a small waterfall at 10 metres high. The fourth level is called "Yisunthet"; its beauty is similar to that of Level 1. The waterfall widely spans like a curtain of water falling down to the stream. There is a wide basin and a sandy beach which is perfect for swimming. The fifth level is called "Ketmueang", the sixth level is called "Rueangyot" and the seventh level is called "Rotchana". All these three levels feature small waterfalls; water slowly flows along the streams.

Textile Museum at Naresuan University

On 1 December 1999, Naresuan University and the "Chitralada Shop" Project under the royal initiative of Her Majesty Queen Sirikit the Queen Mother, collaboratively founded the Textile Museum at Naresuan University. The Museum is divided into exhibition areas of a textiles showcase and life of the ethnic groups. **The Chitralada Textile Room** displays H.M. Queen's clothes and pieces of cloth with antique patterns under the preservation of the SUPPORT Foundation. **The Tai Khrang Textile Room** features ancient textiles and culture of the Tai Khrang, an ethnic group who emigrated from Lao PDR. in the period of King Rama III and settled down in the Lower Northern region of Siam. The next section is dedicated to **the Tai Song Dam's uncommon black apparel**, their tools and equipment, rituals and beliefs. Section 4 is reserved for a rotating exhibition on life and civilisation of the Mekong-Salawin region. Section 5 consists of offices, a library, a Museum tour staff working area and an information centre.





Craft and Textile Tours in Phitsanulok-Phetchabun

Suggested Itineraries for Phetchabun

Route 2:

Lom Kao-Lom Sak Route



1. **Ban Phrao Weaving Group** is a famous weaving source of the Tai Lom people who are descendants of the Luang Prabang people over a period of 150 years.
2. **Wat Tai Si Mongkhon (Wat Na Sai)** – Watch ancient murals inside the ordination hall aged over 200 years. The murals depict the Jataka stories of the ten incarnations of the Lord Buddha, life of the Lord Buddha inserted with the local tradition of Lom Sak. Images of females wearing Pha Sin with Dok Khayum and Tin Kan patterns are also depicted.
3. **Ban Tha Suan Mon Weaving Group** is a famous weaving group and produces outstanding products, including Pha Sin in auspicious patterns, loincloth, and Pha Sin Hua Daeng-Sin Mi Tin Kan in the Tai Lom style.
4. **Ban Tio Weaving Group** is famous for its cotton and synthetic silk fabrics influenced by those of Lao Vientiane. The popular products include the Tai Lom style-Pha Sin Hua Daeng Tin Kan and Dok Yum Bag.
5. **Thanatcha House Group** was established by Mr. Thanatcha Thongmoh, an 18-year-old man who was keen in the Tai Lom textiles since his childhood.

Note: Every Saturday, 16.00 - 22.00 Hrs., there is a walking street in the heart of Lom Sak city, around the clock tower and the museum.





Interesting Tourist Attractions

Enjoy the arts of the Tai Lom, beautiful murals at Ban Na Sai, Wat Si Mongkhon or Wat Na Sai. The temple was constructed in 1815. Inside is situated important ancient remains, an old ordination hall, which has been used as a place of worship for religious rites since ancient times, aged around 200 years. Inside the ordination hall are murals depicting the ten incarnations of the Lord Buddha, images of heaven and hell and images reflecting local life in the old days through economic, social and cultural perspectives.

Wat Tan

Wat Tan is widely respected among the Lom Kao people. Especially Luangpho Yai, the Buddha image of the city, is believed to be very sacred and blessed for well-being, prosperity. Infertile people normally come and pray for a baby here. The Buddha image is in the attitude of subduing Mara, in the U-thong style. The lap size is measured at 109 inches. The Buddha image stands 149 inches high.

Phu Thap Boek

Phu Thap Boek is a famous natural tourist attraction with the charming beauty of the nature. The climate is cool and can be visited all- year long. It offers a spectacular view of the sea of mist amid ranges of mountains over an endless view of cabbage fields.





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Carry on the Legend of the Uthai Thani Fabrics, Watch the Mat Mi Textiles at Kamphaeng Phet



On this route, you will be taken to be exposed to the background of charming fabrics, which are second to none. Both provinces have their own history and their wisdom of weaving culture that has been passed down from their Thai ancestors and other ethnic groups including Lao Khrang, Karen, etc. They have their own typical patterns and weaving techniques. Carrying on the legend of meaningful fabrics reflects the way of life and idea of arts that have been ingeniously hidden in the fabrics.

*“Repository of Votive Tablets, City of Strong People,
Big Laterite, Sweet Golden Banana, Lan Krabue Oil”*

Kamphaeng Phet, a city of golden banana, is one of the old provinces aged not less than 700 years. The Ping River is the main river that runs through the province. It is also one of the important historical tourism cities. Many ancient archaeological sites that were constructed with laterite can be found at the “Kamphaeng Phet Historical Park”.

Wandering the Way of Mat Mi, Kamphaeng Phet

Apart from being a historical city, Kamphaeng Phet is also rich in culture thanks to its diverse inhabitants who settled down in the city. Those people include original Thais, who were from the central part of Thailand, speaking the Sukhothai accent, the Tai Phuan group, Tai Khrang group, Northeastern (Isan) people, and hill tribes like Karen, Hmong, Yao (Mian), etc. One thing that comes along with these settlements is the weaving culture.

Most local textiles are made in the form of Mat Mi, which is woven with a local handloom. Mat Mi or Ikat is a form of resist-dyeing in which, prior to weaving, bundles of threads are bound using strips of plastic following a predetermined pattern. The bindings resist the dye and thus control the colouring of the yarns. Dye can be found from nature and synthetic colourant. The popular patterns include pine tree, Naga, sunflower, White Popinac flower, diamond, etc.

A weaver is required to have an excellent calculation skill because at each step, be it preparing the weft or arranging warp threads would need to define the length or the width of the fabric, as well as to define the number of “threads” in each pattern. Accuracy is specifically necessary for the number of Mat Mi threads or weft in order to produce beautiful woven fabric as desired.



Ban Nong Chok Phatthana Weaving Group

Most villagers of Ban Nong Chokare Northeastern people who emigrated to settle down in the area over 70 years ago. After the harvesting season, people normally weave fabric to earn extra income. This group was established in 1999, starting from weaving cloth for their own use, with locally found raw materials. Then, the knowledge on natural dyeing colour was expanded until reaching the expertise level. Various products have been accepted; such as, a shawl made of natural fibres, loincloth, woven fabric for tailor-made items, woven fabric in basic patterns, scarf, sarong, etc. The weaving is normally done all-year long. Materials used include cotton, ready-made cotton and ready-made silk imported from Roi Et province. The distribution source is at the OTOP Exhibition Centre and trade shows.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Wiros Sonnok,
Head of the Ban Nong Chok Phatthana Weaving Group



78 Mu 9, Tha Makhuea sub-district, Khlong Khlung district,
Kamphaeng Phet province 62120
Tel. 08 4623 9051

Ban Lan Phai Sericulture and Weaving Group

Most of the villagers are Northeastern Thai who emigrated to settle down here since 1987. They have carried on their own local wisdom of sericulture or traditional filature to further weave into fabric for their own household use. Later on, once the woven fabrics supply got increased, villagers teamed up to sell them. Most products include Pha Sin, shawls, etc. Other Mat Mi silk in the original Northeastern patterns are also available. Those patterns include a pattern of the King of Nagas and a pattern of a rabbit dreaming of the moon as created by Mr. Montri Darasaen, a weaver who won a prize at the age of only 21. He has been praised to be an outstanding artisan. The Ban Lan Phai villagers normally weave throughout the year. Apart from earning money, this also helps sustain the wisdom. The products are available for sale at the office of the Ban Lan Phai Weaving Group, OTOP trade show at Muang Thong Thani, and Kamphaeng Phet Red Cross Fair.

For more information, please contact Dokmai Pholkane,
Head of the Ban Lan Phai Sericulture and Weaving Group



86 Mu 9, Huai Yang sub-district, Phran Kratai district,
Kamphaeng Phet province 62120
Tel. 08 9642 5692



Yao People (Mien) Weaving Group

At Khlong Lan district is the habitat of the Yao people who emigrated into Thailand more than 200 years ago. The distinguished feature of Yao fabric is the intricate embroidery that relates to the legend of the origin of the Yao people. Unique and well-known patterns and products include the Yot Thong pattern, tiny border patterns which are called differently, women's trousers that are exquisitely embroidered, knitting wool blouses with a red stripe placing from the back over to the front to enhance a total polite look. The main materials used in Yao embroidery include cotton, silk, and knitting wool. Production is done all-year long.

For more information, please contact Mheiseng Yoosuphap



77/7 Mu 9, Ban Khlong Toei, Khlong Lan Phatthana sub-district,
Khlong Lan district, Kamphaeng Phet province 62180
Tel. 09 1674 3028



*“Uthai Thani, a City of King Rama I the Great’s Father,
Tasty Giant Gourami, Thewo Alms-giving Tradition,
Ban Nam Tok Pomelo, World Heritage Huai Kha Khaeng,
Wellhead of the Sakae Krang River,
Famous Livestock Market Fair”*

Uthai Thani, a small province not far from Bangkok, still survives their simple way of life and maintains the diversity of the ethnic groups. The province has become a melting pot of mixed culture. Weaving sources that are claimed to be the queen of textiles are scattered in many districts. Woven fabrics are considered a local handicraft that reflects the passing down of the lifestyle, culture and civilisation of the ethnic groups. Each area has its own unique patterns, colours, and weaving techniques.

Follow the Lao Khrang Textiles of Uthai Thani

In Uthai Thani province, weaving is a part of the people’s lives. Woven textiles here are featured into various kinds, including cotton, silk and cotton mixed with silk. They are remarkable with more than 60 ancient patterns, aged not less than 100-200 years. The textiles have been conserved and relate the wisdom that has been passed down to the present time. The inheritance has been mostly passed from the Lao Khrang ancestors who emigrated from Luang Prabang and Lao Vieng who emigrated from Vientiane.

At quality weaving sources of Uthai Thani, weaving is normally done with a local loom. There are many weaving techniques of Lao Khrang, including Mat Mi. What makes it different from other cultural groups is the Mat Mi dyeing process. The main colour is dyed only once. After that, a touch-up process called “Chae” or “Chae Mi” is followed by dipping a stick into colour and painting it on the threads as desired to decorate the threads to make them more intricate and colourful.

Apart from weaving fabric for daily use, weaving is also made for rites; such as, Chunla Kathin, which involves an action of weaving, dyeing, sewing and presenting a set of yellow robes to a monk within 1 day. It reflects the harmony and faith of the villagers who regard the weaving culture important in each and every step of their life.



Ban Pha Thang Ancient Twill Weaving Group

Ban Pha Thang Ancient Twill Weaving Group is situated on the way to Wat Pha Thang. This is another group of Lao descendants who emigrated over 300 years ago. Silk and cotton threads are used in weaving. Outstanding products include Lao Khrang blankets or blankets featuring a Khang Kratae pattern. Fabrics have been also processed into Khit pillow and modern bolsters. Big weaving factories are situated along two sides of the road. Textiles are produced all-year long. For more information, please contact Yollada Phuriphol



32 Mu 2, Huai Haeng sub-district, Ban Rai district,
Uthai Thani province 61140
Tel. 08 3316 5128

Khok Mo Lao Khrang Fabric Weaving Group

Villagers of Mu 2, Khok Mo sub-district, are mostly descendants of Lao Luang Prabang since the early Rattanakosin Period. Therefore, woven fabrics are considered as cultural heritage that has been inherited for over 200 years. Ancient patterns are all included in a single piece of cloth. The patterns are tightly and exquisitely woven. A body of Pha Sin Mat Mi employs a technique of one tie and plain colour dyeing. Once the rope that ties during the dyeing process is untied, proceed with the Chae step or to paint colour onto the desired parts. This is a typical technique of Lao Khrang. The products of the group are available for sale at OTOP festivals and other fairs. For more information, please contact Mrs. Orn-anong Wisetsri,

Head of the Khok Mo Lao Khrang Fabric Weaving Group



4/1 Mu 2, near Wat Khok Mo, Khok Mo district,
Uthai Thani province 61120
Tel. 08 1379 1200

Ban Na Ta Pho Lao Khrang Fabric Weaving Group

Ban Na Ta Pho Lao Khrang Fabric Weaving Group has been opened as a learning source for patterns of Pha Sin Tin Chok of Lao Khrang for children to learn and practice. This is to pass down the wisdom to the descendants in the local area. Apart from providing an opportunity for the new generation to learn the weaving process, woven textiles are also processed following the local culture to produce traditional flags and applied woven fabrics.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Jampee Thamsiri



10/1 Mu 3, Ban Na Ta Pho, Ban Bueng sub-district, Ban Rai district,
Uthai Thani province 61140
Tel. 08 9839 1446



Ban Na Ta Pho Weaving Group

A big museum of textiles has been opened as a learning centre, simulating how textiles are used through exhibition rooms. The galleries display the lifestyle of the Lao Khrang people on how newly married couples stay in a bridal house. Apart from producing woven fabrics for daily use; such as, Pha Sin and blankets, ancient patterns are also applied in various products; such as, loincloth, shoulder cloth, waist sash, scarf, napery and bag. Cotton weaving has been made throughout the year for sale at the group, OTOP fairs and to customers in Bangkok.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Amphai Amkham,

Head of the Ban Na Ta Pho Weaving Group



29 Mu 3, Ban Na Ta Pho, Ban Bueng sub-district,
Ban Rai district, Uthai Thani province 61140
Tel. 08 1971 0521 / 08 1953 2372

Ban Rai sub-district Woven Fabric Processing Group

Local woven fabrics are transformed into beautiful and modern-looking products with enhanced utility. Examples include upholstery for a vase, a necktie and a face of a clock, notebook cover and a pottery lantern decorated with woven fabrics. These products have won a 5-star-quality product award. They have been continuously produced for sale at their own shop.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Natnoi Chueeachamluang,

Head of the Ban Rai sub-district Woven Fabric Processing Group



227 Mu 6, Ban Rai sub-district, Ban Rai district,
Uthai Thani province 61140
Tel. 08 4375 7917

Ban Thap Luang Weaving Group

Apart from its Pha Sin Tin Chok featuring Khrang patterns that has been a required item in the market, blankets in the Lao Khrang style or blankets featuring a Khang Kratae pattern have also been conserved here. Those blankets are commonly woven in a large piece of cloth using cotton as a main material featuring a sky pattern or Choeng Chai pattern. Complementary colours are employed to cancel out each other's hue and then inserted by other colours a little bit. The fabrics are processed into accessories; such as, shoulder bags and handbags. The distribution source is at the OTOP fairs.

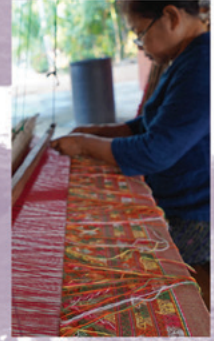
For more information, please contact Mrs. Sinthao (Aunt Suem),

Head of the Ban Thap Luang Weaving Group



3, Ban Thap Luang, Mu 1, Thap Luang sub-district,
Ban Rai district, Uthai Thani province 61140
Tel. 06 2171 2475 / 08 6272 3362





Craft and Textile Tours in Uthai Thani and Kamphaeng Phet

Suggested Itineraries for Uthai Thani

Route 1:
Samchuk-Sai Thong-Khlong Khlung



1. **Hundred Years Samchuk Market** features a range of 100-year-old wood row houses along the Tha Chin River. In the old days, the place used to be an important commercial area and a community of Thai-Chinese people who had a diverse cultural base located there.
2. **Ban Na Ta Pho Weaving Group** – A big museum of textiles has been opened as a learning centre. Apart from producing woven fabrics for daily use, ancient patterns are also applied in various products.
3. **Ban Na Ta Pho Lao Khrang Fabric Weaving Group** has been opened as a learning source for patterns of Pha Sin Tin Chok of Lao Khrang.
4. **Ban Rai sub-district Woven Fabric Processing Group** – Local woven fabrics are transformed into modern-looking products.
5. **Giant Tree**, known as “Ton Siang”, aged around 400 years. This is a big tree standing amid palm and herbal forest. It serves as a centre of spirit of the community.

Remark: On Saturdays - Sundays, the Ban Hai Market Fair is open at the opposite side of the Ban Rai sub-district Woven Fabric Processing Group. Products; such as, local fabrics, glutinous rice roasted in bamboo joints, local food and others are available for sale.



Craft and Textile Tours in Uthai Thani and Kamphaeng Phet

Suggested Itineraries for Uthai Thani

Route 2:
Ban Rai-Thap Than-Lan Sak



1. **Wat Tham Khao Wong**, a 4-storey-building in the traditional Thai architectural style. The 4th storey is reserved as an ordination hall, constructed with teak and ormosia as well as old wood from Thai houses in Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya and Ang Thong. The roof part is imported from Lamphun. Artisans who constructed the house, eaves, ornamental gable-end and a triangular end of the roof came from Phra Nakhon Si Ayutthaya.
2. **Wat Pha Thang**, pay respect to “Luangpho To”, the Buddha image in the attitude of blessing. The lap size is measured at 23 metres wide and standing 52 metre high. This is the biggest Buddha image of Uthai Thani believing to bless good fortune to the people’s lives.
3. **Ban Pha Thang Ancient Twill Weaving Group** – This is another group of Lao descendants who emigrated over 300 years ago. Silk and cotton threads are used in weaving. Outstanding products include Lao Khrang blankets or blankets featuring a Khang Kratae pattern.
4. **Ban Thap Luang Weaving Group**
5. **Hup Pa Tat**, a conserved area that features a large valley full of Arenga palm and ancient strange-looking flora.



Craft and Textile Tours in Uthai Thani and Kamphaeng Phet

Suggested Itineraries for Uthai Thani

Route 3:
Ban Rai-Thap Than



1. **Ban Na Ta Pho Weaving Group** – A big museum of textiles has been opened as a learning centre. Apart from producing woven fabrics for daily use, ancient patterns are also applied in various products.
2. **Ban Na Ta Pho Lao Khrang Fabric Weaving Group** has been opened as a learning source for patterns of Pha Sin Tin Chok of Lao Khrang.
3. **Ban Rai sub-district Woven Fabric Processing Group** – Local woven fabrics are transformed into modern-looking products.
4. **Ban Pha Thang Ancient Twill Weaving Group**
5. **Ban Thap Luang Weaving Group**
6. **Khok Mo Lao Khrang Fabric Weaving Group** – Villagers are mostly descendants of Lao Luang Prabang who settled down in Thailand 200 years ago.





Interesting Tourist Attractions

Wat Sangkat Rattana Khiri

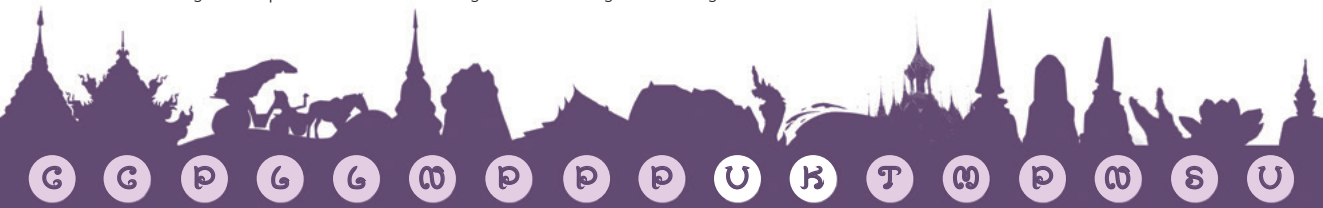
Wat Sangkat Rattana Khiri is situated at the foothills of Khao Sakae Krang, at the end of Tha Chang Road, in the municipal area of Uthai Thani. The Tak Bat Devo alms-giving tradition takes place on the 1st day of the waning moon on the 11th lunar month every year. More than 500 monks walk down the 449 steps from the mondop, a square hall with a pyramidal roof on the top of Khao Sakae Krang to the temple court below to receive food offerings. This is in line with the Life of the Lord Buddha about the day when the Lord Buddha descended from the Tavatimsa Heaven after staying there during the Buddhist Lent in order to give sermons to his mother. At the End of the Buddhist Lent Day, the Lord Buddha descended from heaven to Sangkat Nakhon.

Inside the temple is enshrined the Buddha image of the city, called “Phra Phuttha Mongkhon Saksit”, the Buddha image cast in bronze in the attitude of subduing Mara according to the Sukhothai art. It is assumed to have been built during the reign of King Maha Thammaracha I, aged around 600-700 years. Inside the head of the Buddha image is enshrined the relics. Near the mondop on top of Khao Sakae Krang is located a monument of King Rama I the Great’s. A worshipping ceremony to the monument is held on 6 April of each year.

Wat Tha Sung (Wat Chantharam)

Wat Tha Sung (Wat Chantharam) was originally constructed in the Ayutthaya Period. The temple houses a small ordination hall featuring murals that depict the Life of the Lord Buddha by local artists. An ancient pulpit built by Luangpho Yai is placed inside. Inside the image hall is enshrined a stucco Buddha image. The image hall also features 2-3 engraved pieces of wood along the edge of the pediment in the original art style. Opposite to the temple is located a new and larger sacred place. Phra Ratcha Phrommayan (Luangpho Ruesi Ling Dam) had the new Ubosot built where the late King Rama IX the Great presided over the ceremony to cut ropes holding round boundary-marking stones buried in the ground to mark the sacred limits of this Ubosot. Inside the Ubosot is exquisitely decorated. The door and window panels feature paintings that depict angels drawn by top-grade artists.

The Ubosot is surrounded by low walls. Bronze statues of Luangpho Pan and Luangpho Yai, 3 times the life size, are enshrined at the corners of the walls in front of the Mondop. Inside the glass image hall is enshrined the replica of Phra Phuttha Chinnarat. This is also the place where the incorruptible body of Luangpho Ruesi Ling Dam has been maintained. Outside the building is decorated with clear, white, glass-like mosaic. The temple also provides pavilions as a place for meditation together with accommodation. Each building is gradually opened since 10.30 Hrs. and all buildings are opened for a visit altogether once again starting from 14.00 Hrs.



Wat Tham Khao Wong

Wat Tham Khao Wong is situated at Ban Rai sub-district. The temple features a 4-storey-building in traditional Thai architectural style. The space under the building serves for multi-purposes and installing shops. The 2nd storey is an image hall where the replica of the Buddha's footprint is located for people to pay homage. The 3rd level is dedicated as a hall of Ariya Bucha, which is a meditation place. The 4th storey is constructed as an Ubosot, which offers surrounding views. Behind the temple are placed staircases leading to visit caves. Along the way are located small waterfalls of which the water flows down from the mountains to the ponds below. Above the cave is enshrined a Buddha image among beautiful nature, giving a sense of serenity and peaceful atmosphere.

Hup Pa Tat

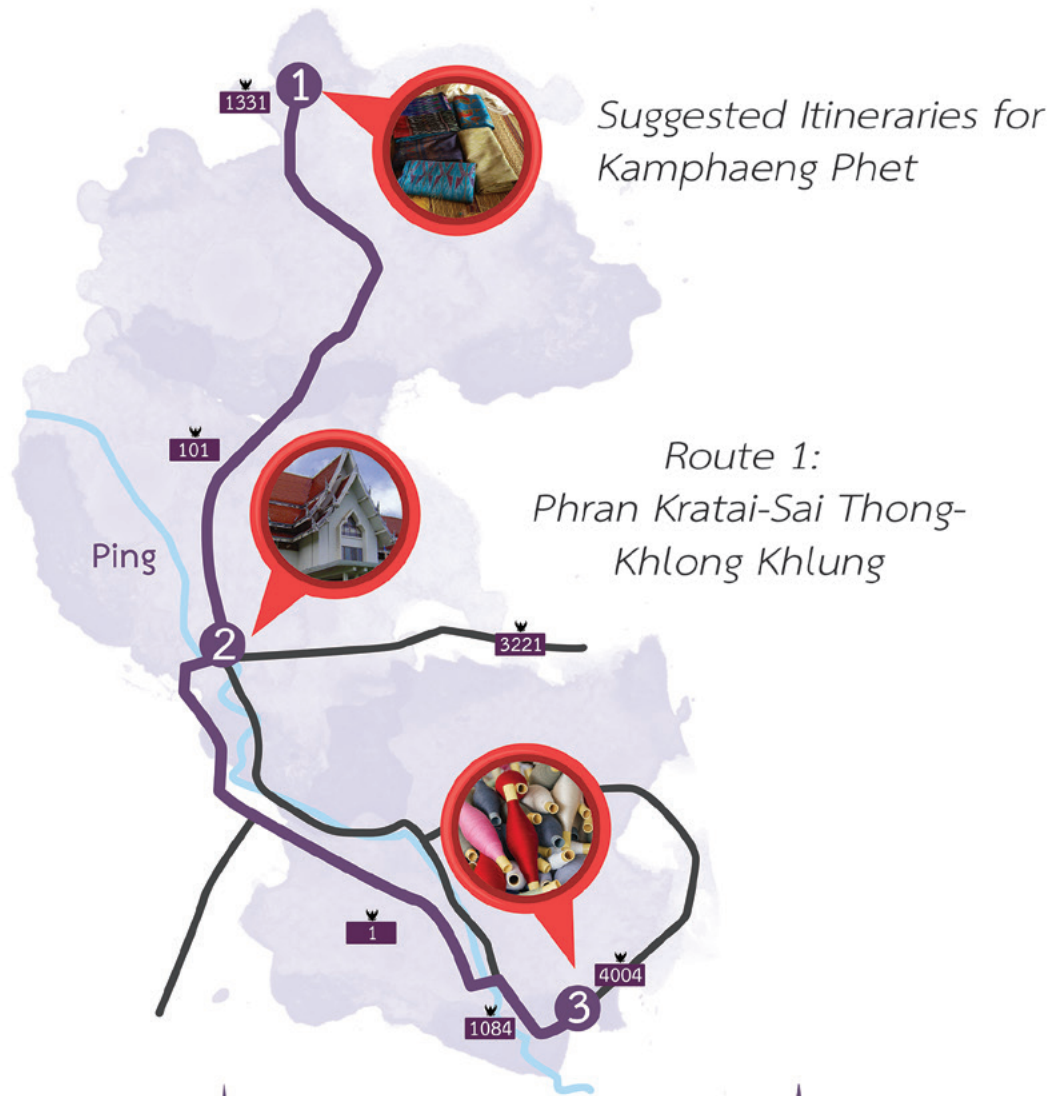
Hup Pa Tat is located at Thung Na Ngam sub-district, Lan Sak district. The department of National Parks, Wildlife and Plant Conservation declared it as a protected area thanks to its exotic geographical features that are full of rare plants; such as, Caryota urens, Croton, Siamese Randia etc. The place is open every day, from 08.30 - 16.00 Hrs. Admission fee is 200 Baht. On weekends, there are junior tour guides provided. The best visiting time is between 11.00 - 13.00 Hrs.

Ban Kaen Makrut

Ban Kaen Makrut is located in the southmost area of the North and the northernmost of the Central Region. There is diversity in the races, be it Thai, Chinese, Mon, Indian, Karen, Lawa, Khamu, etc. This is a prototype area of the integration of problem solving and land development in the area of Kaen Makrut sub-district, under the patronage of the Pid Thong Lang Phra Foundation aiming to continue the late King Rama IX the Great's royal initiatives. The weather is cool almost all-year long. Hence there is a saying that "Ban Rai sub-district, the weather is as cool as Chiang Mai, located not far from Bangkok".



Craft and Textile Tours in Uthai Thani and Kamphaeng Phet



1. **Ban Lan Phai Sericulture and Weaving Group** – Villagers have carried on their own local wisdom of sericulture or traditional filature to further weave into fabric for their household use. Mat Mi silk in the original Northeastern patterns are made here. Silk thread preparation and the weaving processes are demonstrated by Mr. Montri Darasaen, a weaver who won a prize at the age of only 21.
2. **Kamphaeng Phet National Museum** is a national museum focusing on history and archaeology. Archaeological finds and local artefacts of the province; such as, graven images and ancient image of the God Siva, have been collected, conserved and displayed there.
3. **Ban Nong Chok Phatthana Weaving Group** was established to help support the villagers to weave, starting from weaving cloth for their own use, with locally found raw materials. Then, the knowledge on natural dyeing colour was expanded until reaching the expertise level. The weaving process of Lao Song Sin Taengmo is also demonstrated here.





Craft and Textile Tours in Uthai Thani and Kamphaeng Phet

Suggested Itineraries for Kamphaeng Phet

Route 2:
Mueang Kamphaeng Phet-
Khlong Lan



1. Kamphaeng Phet Historical Park was declared a “World Heritage Silk”.
2. Wat Phra Kaeo features ancient remains in an ancient city, and was a town-monk temple. The wall of the temple is made of round laterite. At the centre of the temple is located a big round principal stupa in the Lankan style placed on a square base. Around the base is housed arch niches wherein statues of a Singha or lion are placed inside. However, they are all broken. After the excavation, a total of 35 bases of stupas were found in various styles.
3. Yao People (Mien) Weaving Group – The distinguished feature of Yao fabric is the intricate embroidery that relates to the legend of the origin of the Yao people.
4. Khlong Lan National Park features rugged mountain ranges, among fertile forests. This is a water source of many important rivers; such as, Khlong Khlung and Khlong Lan Waterfalls.



Interesting Tourist Attractions

Kamphaeng Phet Historical Park

Kamphaeng Phet Historical Park was declared a “World Heritage Site”. It is located in Mueang district. Kamphaeng Phet was one of the important cities in the Sukhothai Period. The city was constructed during 14th - 15th century A.D. The name Kamphaeng Phet was found in the 38th Sukhothai stone inscription, mentioning of its old name as “Kamphaeng Phet Buri Si Wimalat”, which means a city having strong and beautiful city walls and forts. It is also a city of religion and arts. Around 1417, King Maha Thammaracha I paid a visit to Kamphaeng Phet to enshrine the relics and plant a Bodhi Tree at Nakhon Chum city. This reflected the importance of Nakhon Chum city where King Maha Thammaracha I wished to appoint as a centre of Buddhism, in the south of Sukhothai. The “Tradition of Nop Phra” has been carried on for the Kamphaeng Phet people up to the present time. Many important temples; such as, Wat Phra Kaeo, Wat Phra That, Wat Awat Yai, Wat Phra Non, Wat Phra Si Iriyabot or Wat Phra Yuen are also located there.

Khlong Lan National Park

Khlong Lan National Park features rugged mountain ranges, among fertile forests. This is a water source of many important rivers; such as, Khlong Khlung and Khlong Suan Mak. The waters altogether flow to the Ping River, one of the rivers of Thailand. Khlong Lan forest is still in a fertile condition, featuring various kinds of forest. In the past, it used to be a habitat of hill tribes. They, later, emigrated to the surrounding areas. The place was then restored as a result of a Reforestation Campaign.

The perfect time for visiting Khlong Lan National Park is in the cool season. The average temperature is around 27 degrees Celsius all-year long. In the summer time, the place is suitable for swimming in the waterfalls. During the cool season in December, the lowest temperature can reach around 17 degrees Celsius. There are many interesting tourist attractions in the National Park, including Namtok Khlong Lan, which features a flat wide cliff, suitable for swimming, Namtok Khlong Nam Lai featuring a 9-level waterfall arranged by stages, Khlong Nam Lai Reservoir, Namtok Phet Cha Kho, Khao Hua Chang viewpoint, Khlong Suan Mak and Kaeng Roi Ko, etc. For more information, please contact Tel. 0 5576 6425 and 08 8407 9915





Follow a Route of Woven Fabric, Good Stuff of Tak



“What’s good stuff of Tak?” might be a question popping up in your mind. Believe it or not, this small province is rich in nature and has amazing acculturation. More importantly, its people still maintain their way of life, and there are lots of interesting tourist attractions. Try checking in and you will realise how “charming” the tourist destinations our Thailand has.



“A Town of Wonderful Nature, Huge Bhumibol Dam, King Taksin the Great and Beautiful Forests”

Fabric of Cultures

Thanks to different geographical features and evolution from the establishment of the city in the old days, these have contributed to the diversity of cultures and races of people settling down in Tak province, including Northern people, Southern people, Chinese, Burmese, Karen, Tai Yai, and other hill tribes. Apparently, the 1 culture that has been related to the way of life of these people is weavings, which is unique and can be divided into 3 main groups, including:

- **Northeastern Group** refers to those who emigrated from Kalasin, Chaiyaphum and Ubon Ratchathani to settle down at Ban Den Wua, Chiang Thong sub-district, Wang Chao district. Weaving is commonly made from cotton thread and ready-made thread, naturally dyed and using a handloom. Examples include plain coloured cloth and loincloth, which are commonly featured in the Luk Wai pattern.

- **Hill Tribe Group** refers to Karen or Pga K’nyau people who have their own weaving culture using a backstrap loom. At present, a handloom is more widely used. Products include blankets, Karen blouses, skirt, bedspreads and bags.

- **Thai Folk Group** normally has their cloth woven using a handloom; both cotton and silk threads are employed to make loincloth or blankets. In Mae Ramat district, you can find Mat Mi cloth in various patterns; such as, corn pattern, traditional Thai pattern or big star fruit pattern.

Weaving sources in Tak can be found in many places, including Phop Phra district, Mae Sot district and Mae Ramat district. Famous weaving groups are from these areas. Their products of beautiful woven fabric are needed in both domestic and foreign markets.



Ban So O Karen Weaving Group

Ban So O Karen Weaving Group normally weaves colourful fabric. Manually-spun cotton thread and readymade cotton thread are employed in weaving with a backstrap loom. Its colour, apart from its beautiful features, also indicates the social status of a wearer. For example, married females normally wear a colourful and patterned suit, while unmarried young women wear a long white blouse. It takes around half a month to weave each piece of cloth. A unique pattern that would require a specific weaving skill is “Nikhe”, which is interpreted from a curved pattern of reptiles. Fabric in the Nimae pattern is commonly used in a wedding ceremony. Fabric in the Sae Mue Su pattern features a more complex identity than other kinds of cloth. Nijateh fabric features ancient patterning. Unique products of this group include Pha Sin, sarong for men, short-sleeved blouse and long-sleeved blouse that feature ancient patterns from their ancestors. These products are normally made all-year long and put on sale at various trade shows.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Buaphad Tantui



91 Mu 2, Chong Khaep sub-district, Phob Phra district,
Tak province 63160
Tel. 08 2225 1162
Location: 16.5053, 98.69554

Ban Pa Rai Nuea Pga K’nyau Handwoven Textiles Group

The Karens are claimed to be a “weaver” who have still carried on weaving techniques with ancient patterns from their ancestors. This group normally weaves cotton fabric all-year long to make various products; such as, clothes and shoulder bags. Dyeing is processed using natural colour from barks and leaves, which can be locally found. There is a cultural exhibition ground with a “Sadue tree” (Navel tree). According to the Karen traditional, it is believed that life has a deep bond with a tree and nature since our birth. A father has to place the placenta of a new born baby into a bamboo tube and tie it at a ‘Sadue tree’ or so-called ‘De Po Thu’ in Karen language. The moral of a baby is believed to stay at that tree throughout her life. If the tree is cut down, bad luck would happen to the owner of the placenta. Visitors can get exposed to the culture of the Karen people and do shopping for their products from the group and at trade fairs.

For more information, please contact Mr. Wichai Pratabchai



Ban Rai Nuea, Mu 3, Phra That sub-district,
Mae Ramad district, Tak province 63140
Tel. 06 1330 1756
Location: 16.98718, 98.58718



Hug Na Mae Kasa Senior Club Weaving Group (Ban Pho Thong Community)

The Hug Na Mae Kasa Senior Club Weaving Group (Ban Pho Thong Community) was established as a source of learning of the community. This is a habitat of the Lanna people who emigrated from Lampang since the generation of their greats grandparents. The Lanna way of life has still existed in their lifestyle, ranging from cooking, local wisdom and traditions. This source of knowledge is divided into the culture, tradition and way of life in various dimensions. The Sabatchai drum performance and sword dance are also showcased for visitors to enjoy. The highlight is on a weaving textile base. There is a demonstration of weaving by senior people in the community every day. Visitors can explore the whole production process ranging from collecting cotton, spinning thread and weaving to get a piece of cloth that is ready for further processing.

For more information, please contact

Mrs. Wannisa Chaiterng Tel. 08 1740 5395, Mr. Prakong Langkawong Tel. 08 5724 2336



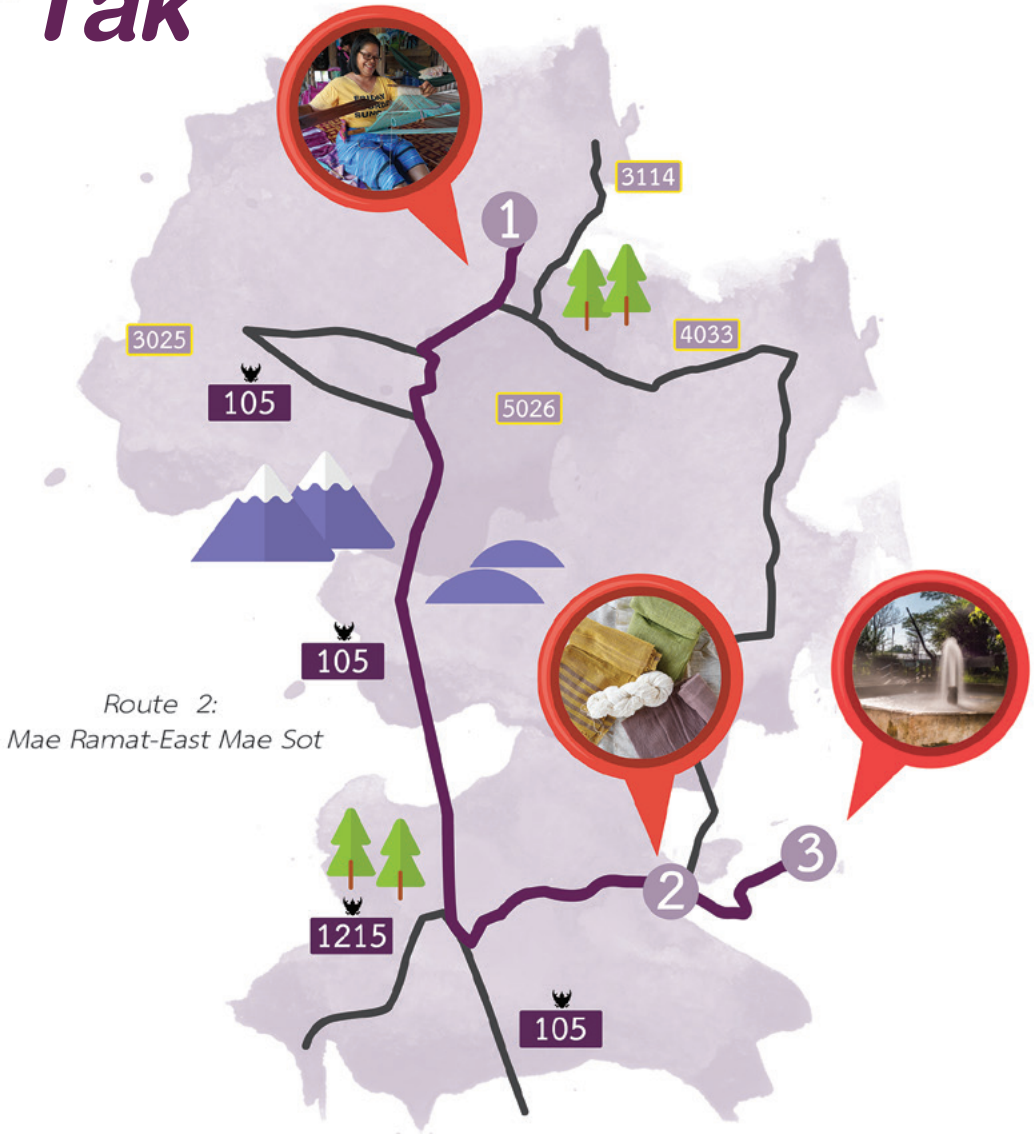
Hug Na Mae Kasa Senior Club Weaving Group, Ban Pho Thong,
Mu 11, Mae Kasa sub-district, Mae Sot district, Tak province 63110
Location: 16.87675, 98.62637



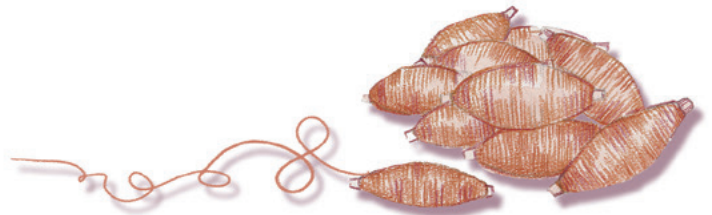
1. **Ban So O Karen Weaving Group** normally weaves colourful fabric. Cotton fabric is commonly woven here using a backstrap loom.
2. **Wat Thai Wathanaram** was constructed in the Burmese architectural style. The former name is Wat Mae Tao Ngiao or Wat Tai Yai. The temple was built in 1857. Inside is enshrined Phra Phuttha Mahamuni, a huge bejewelled Buddha image in the attitude of subduing Mara, a replica of the real Mahamuni Buddha in Myanmar.
3. **Rim Moei Market** is a trading place of imported stuff from India and China. The Market is famous for the gemstone trade; such as, jade, ruby, and precious stones from Myanmar. Handicrafts, antique objects that are made of teak and textiles from Myanmar are also available here.



Craft and Textile Tour in Tak



1. **Ban Pa Rai Nuea Pga K'nyau Handwoven Textiles Group** has carried on the weaving techniques with ancient patterns from their ancestors. There is a cultural exhibition ground with a “Sadue tree” (Navel tree). According to Karen tradition, it has been believed that life has a deep bond with a tree and nature since our birth.
2. **Hug Na Mae Kasa Senior Club Weaving Group (Ban Pho Thong Community)** was established as a source of learning of the community. This is a habitat of the Tai Lanna people who emigrated from Thoen district, Lampang province in 1893. There is a demonstration of weaving in the community. The products are normally put on sale at the weaving centre and various trade fairs.
3. **Mae Kasa Hot Springs** consists of 2 hot springs amid beautiful nature. You can enjoy the Mae Kasa waterfall that provides a trail leading to higher mountains.





Interesting Tourist Attractions

Namtok Pha Charoen National Park

Namtok Pha Charoen National Park covers many districts in Tak province. Most of its area features a mixed forest, pine forest and fields of Siam Tulip (*Curcuma roscoeana* Wall.), which is a wild flower in a bright orange colour. The flowers bloom during July - October every year.

Pha Charoen Waterfall

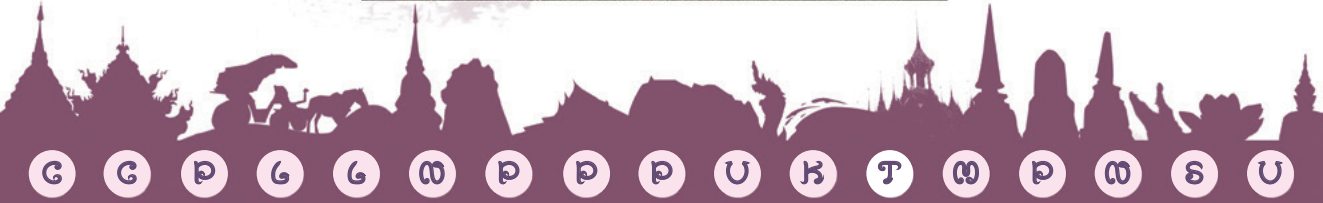
Pha Charoen Waterfall is a limestone waterfall originating from many creeks flowing along and joining with water sources on the mountains and flowing down to lower land. The waterfall has a total of 97 levels with water flowing all-year long. The most beautiful period falls during the rainy season. In front of the ascent of Pha Charoen Waterfall features the bright orange Siam Tulip fields, which are a famous landmark photography point for tourists. The flowers bloom during July - early September every year.

Huai Nam Nak Hot Spring

Huai Nam Nak Hot Spring is a natural hot spring at 60 degrees Celsius. At present, Phop Phra district has arranged facilities and set up pavilions around the hot springs for tourists. The place can be visited throughout the year.

Wat Don Kaeo

Wat Don Kaeo is located behind Mae Ramat District Office. The temple houses an engraved marble Buddha image. The Buddha image is 1 of the 3 Burmese sculptures that were carved at the same time. The first one is in Pakistan, while the second one is in India. The third one was brought from Rangoon to be enshrined in the Buddha image hall of Wat Don Kaeo. The lap size of the Buddha image is measured at 50 inches wide and stands 63 inches high.



Doi Soi Malai

Doi Soi Malai is the highest peak in the Mae Tuen Wildlife Sanctuary. It is located around 1,600 metres above mean sea level. From the spot, the reservoir of Bhumibol Dam is within visibility. Its main attraction is its salamander, a rare and ancient lizard with a pinkish colour. Most of the area features a pine forest. A viewpoint is provided to enjoy the sea of mist in the morning. During the tail end of the rainy season and the onset of the winter around November - January is perfect for travelling. Tourists can put up a tent around the Sanctuary's headquarters. Permission has to be granted by the Kio Sam Lo Ranger Station prior to climbing up the mountain every time. Please contact the Kio Sam Lo Ranger Station at Tel. 08 6735 9529.



Wat Photikhun or Wat Huai Toei

Wat Photikhun or Wat Huai Toei is a forest temple. Its attraction is the ordination hall designed and constructed by Mr. Somprasong Chaonarai who dedicated his life to build this temple for over a period of 18 years without any wages. The temple looks like a big barge with 3 levels. The lowest level is left undecorated. The second level is decorated around the walls, ceilings and capitals. The third level is the area of the ordination hall that has been used for various religious rites. The area is delicately decorated along the walls, columns and ceilings with bas-relief sculpture mixed with painting, covered with gold leaf and decorated with colourful glass mosaics. There is a big principal Buddha image. Outside the ordination hall is decorated with graceful and delicate patterns reflecting that the builder reinforced conventional art and mixed with his own lively imagination.



Checking in the land of culture, city of three mists



Mae Hong Son is a secondary city that is not to be missed. This city is full of vivid lifestyles and cultures of various ethnic groups, making it a charming city with exquisitely unique and impressive cultures. This will be a once-in-a-lifetime journey that will fulfill your biggest dream.



*“Three seasonal mists, Kong Mu high up to the sky,
lushy green forests, good people, beautiful traditions,
known for its Mexican sunflowers”*

The ethnic groups that call Mae Hong Son home include the Tai Yai, Lahu (Muser), Lisu, Karen Pga K’nyau, Hmong, and Lua or Lawa. Each and every ethnic group has its own distinct origin and culture, with variations in daily lifestyles and their handicrafts, especially textiles. Cotton is the main natural materials that people from different ethnic groups use for making textiles. Because of the cold weather, the clothing is often made from cotton with special quality to keep warm. The indicators that differentiate the textiles of one ethnic group from the other are the patterns and colour schemes which have been passed down from their ancestors.

The Pga K’nyau or Karen commonly wear handwoven cotton clothes. Originally, they grew their own cotton. They start by spinning yarns using a manual spinning wheel to obtain enough yarns for weaving by a backstrap loom. The yarns are strapped around the waist and the ends of the yarns are tied to a wall or poles. The patterns are achieved by intersecting the weft and warp yarns together. A flat piece of wood is inserted between the yarns and press the weft yarns inwards in order to make the yarns tightly intersected.

The Lahu or Muser people also weave and make their own clothes. They normally weave black or navyblue textiles and decorate with patterns using hand sewn; e.g., backstitching or using red, white or blue pieces of fabric on the textiles. Some Lahu people also put silver and metal on the clothes as decorations.

Besides the textiles from different ethnic groups, which are unique to Mae Hong Son, we can still see native textile weaving in many districts; such as, Mae La Noi, Mae Sariang, and Pai.





Ban Dong Women’s Group

Ban Dong is a village of Lua or Lawa people. This community is renowned for its beautiful rice terraces. The villagers live a simple life. Women are encouraged to do handicrafts and develop into products; such as, scarves, bags, clothes, iPad cases, and mobile phone cases. This skill is originated from the local wisdom of their ancestors. The colour of the Lua people’s clothing and accessories are outstanding. Lua women’s wrap-around skirts are made by joining two narrowed width cloths together along the length. The finished skirt will have one seam in a vertical alignment. The sewing line is in the middle of the fabric along the horizontal alignment.

Tuan textile has exquisite patterns that are unique to the Lua people. The textiles are used for both auspicious and inauspicious occasions. After getting married, each woman must bring along two pieces of Tuan textiles. One is given to her father and mother in-laws, and the other one is kept for herself. She will wear this piece till the end of her life.

For more information, please contact Khun Pim Kayhanyhaiying,
Head of the Ban Dong Women Group



126/1 Ban Dong, Mu 5, Huai Hom sub-district, Mae La Noi district,
Mae Hong Son province 58120
Tel. 08 4948 9127
Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/BZ2kyM1AR9k>

Ban Pa Pae Women’s Cooperatives Group

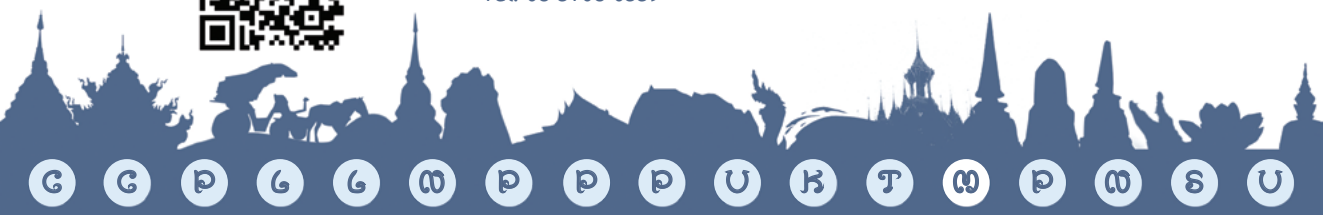
Ban Pa Pae is a Lua village founded for over 500 years. The villagers still preserve the old social and cultural lifestyle unique to their ethnic group. They weave their own clothes for household use. They also make their own yarns for weaving. This is a local wisdom, which has been passed down from generation to generation.

The clothes are usually woven from white hand-spun yarns. The neck areas are decorated with hand-sewn designs. Lua women usually wear small-sized beads around their necks as decoration. Their cotton Pha Sins are woven with the warp ikat technique using a backstrap loom. The main colours used are black or dark blue with the length down to the knees. There are also arm and leg protectors to help protect from scratches when walking in the forests. Their popular products include clothes, bed sheets, blankets, bags, etc.

For more information, please contact Khun Jatuphon Kruesui,
Head of the Ban Pa Pae Women’s Cooperatives Group



41/3 Ban Pa Pae, Mu 3, Pa Pae sub-district, Mae Sariang district,
Mae Hong Son province 58120
Tel. 08 5708 0559



Ban Jabo Community-based Tourism Group

Ban Jabo is a Lahu community which migrated from Ban Huai Yao in 1978 led by Mr. Jabo Prainetitham. All the people in the community are related by bloodline. They still preserve the Lahu dialect and costume. They are subdivided into 3 groups: Black Lahu, Red Lahu, and Yellow Lahu. The differences between these subgroups lie in their beliefs and traditional costumes.

Ban Jabo community are descendants of the Black Lahu people. They address men using the word “Ja” and address women using the word “Na”. Aside from the beautiful scenery, the area is filled with the interesting lifestyle of the people in the community. The villagers wear different colours of clothing according to the respective meaning of each colour. Black is believed to be the sacred colour that represents oneself. Red refers to the blood of the swine that is used to perform the rituals. Green and blue signifies vegetation. As such, the different colour of clothing suggests different meanings depending on the belief of the sewer. The women who cannot sew will not be subject for a marriage proposal. For more information, please contact [Khun Nakor Praipetcharathip](#),

Head of the Ban Jabo Community-based Tourism Group



Ban Jabo, Mu 4, Pang Mapha sub-district, Pang Mapha district,
Mae Hong Son province 58150
Tel. 06 3052 5934

Ban Mueang Pon Community-based Tourism Group

Ban Mueang Pon is a community of Tai Yai people who still preserve their old traditions and lifestyles. Tourists can walk around the village, admiring the architecture of the wooden houses with the roof covered with banana leaves from the forest. The gardens surrounding the houses are used for growing herbal plants and raising animals. People do farming for their living. Tourists can also get some exposure of the local wisdom by trying out different types of handicrafts; for example, wickerwork, making a roped hat, and embossing leather. You can visit Ban Mueang Pon by doing a one-day trip or stay overnight in a homestay to learn more about the lifestyle of the people in the community.

The unique characteristic of the Tai Yai people in Ban Mueang Pon is their costumes. Their clothing comes in various forms and has been adjusted to be suitable to the date and time. Some have unconventional colours. Women from this village are capable of making their ethnic clothes including cutting, embroidery, and attaching buttons.

For more information, please contact [Khun Thawatchai Silamanee](#),

Head of the Ban Mueang Pon Community-based Tourism Group

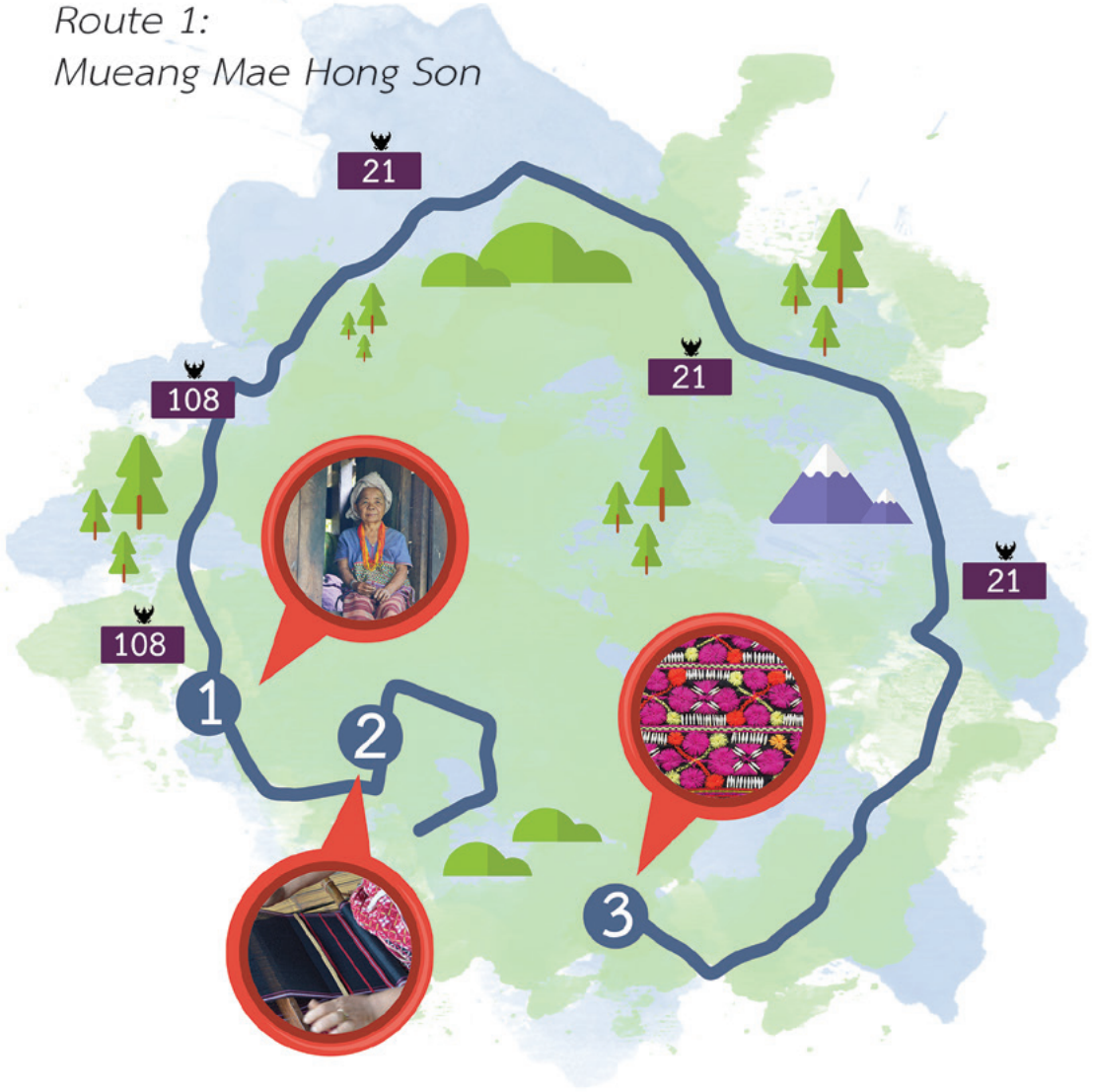


Ban Mueang Pon, Mu 1, Mueang Pon sub-district,
Khun Yuam district, Mae Hong Son province 58140
Tel. 08 1784 4340



Craft and Textile Tours in Mae Hong Son

Route 1:
Mueang Mae Hong Son



1. **Ban Huai Kaeo Bon Community-based Tourism Group** is where you can find a nature-dependent lifestyle and Karen textile weaving. The yarns are dyed with fruit peels and tree roots. The textiles, made for own use and for sale, are woven using a backstrap loom.
2. **Ban Huai Hi Community-based Tourism Group** – Eco-friendly community tour programme invites you to experience the cool breeze all-year round surrounded by hilly mountains, which are abundant with forest and vegetation.
3. **Ban Huai Tong Ko Community-based Tourism Group** – Learn about the native lifestyle of the Karen people including forging knives and blades, rice terrace farming, land rotation farming, and natural dyes. Feel the freshness of “Huai Tong Ko Waterfall”.



Craft and Textile Tours in Mae Hong Son



Route 2:
Pang Mapha

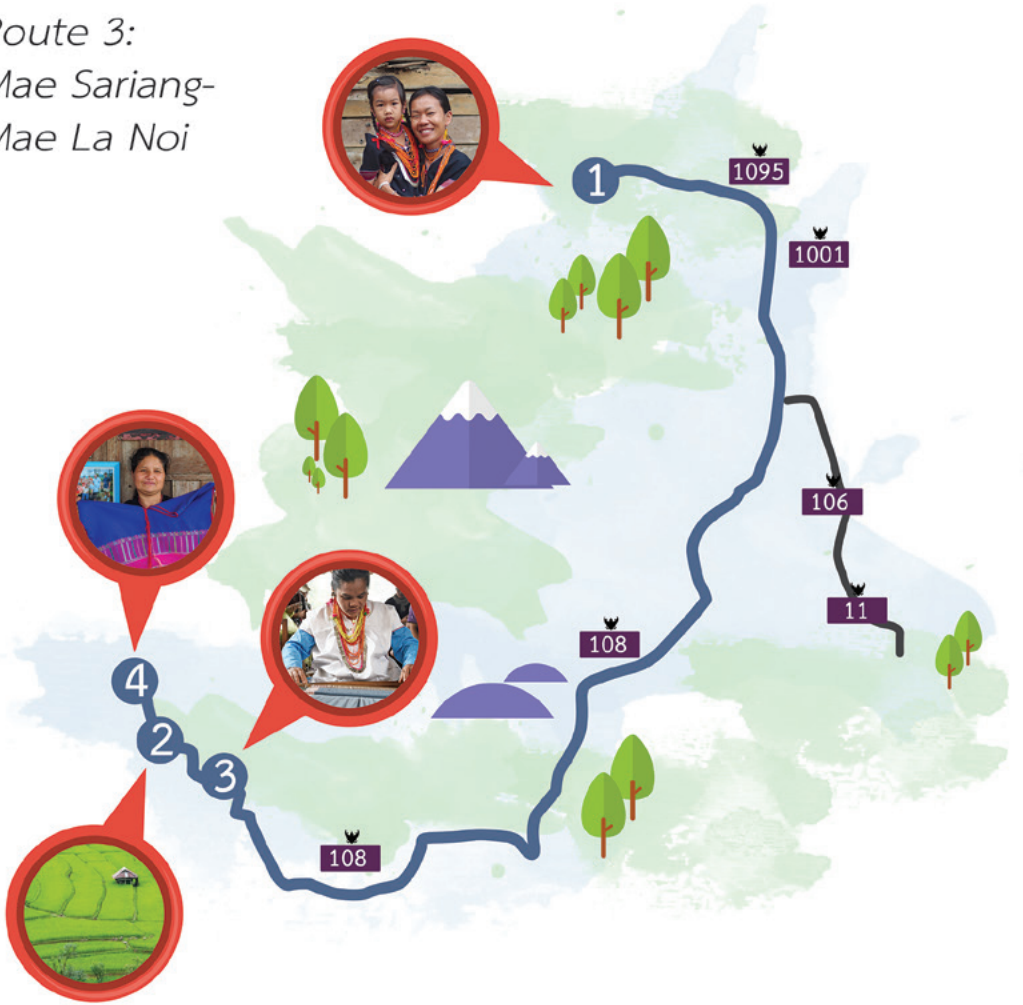


1. **Tourism Group by Ban Mueang Phaem Community** – Admire Karen Pga K’nyau costumes, which are woven using a backstrap loom, plant-dyed, and decorated with white Job’s-tears grown around the house.
2. **Ban Pha Mon Community-based Tourism Group** – Visit the village of the Lahu people who have outstandingly beautiful costumes featuring silver beads decoration and embroidery. Immerse into the native culture, traditions, and beliefs in living with nature.
3. **Ban Jabo Community-based Tourism Group**



Craft and Textile Tours in Mae Hong Son

Route 3:
Mae Sariang-
Mae La Noi



1. **Ban Pa Pae Women Cooperatives Group** – People at Ban Pa Pae village still preserve the cultural lifestyle unique to their ethnic group, especially clothing. The clothes are usually woven from white hand-spun yarns. The neck areas are decorated with hand-sewn designs. Lua Pha Sin is usually black or dark blue and woven into horizontal stripes. There are also arm and leg protectors to help protect from scratches when walking in the forest.

2. **Mae La Noi Rice Terrace** – The rice paddy fields are grown in descended levels on the mountain and stretch out as far as one can see during the rainy season. Learn and explore the lifestyle of the Christian and Buddhist villagers at the Lua Community in Ban Dong.

3. **Ban Dong Women Group** – This group is under the Royal Project Foundation Mae La Noi. Women here are encouraged to do handicrafts and develop into products.

4. **Ban Huai Hom Community-based Tourism Group** – Explore the agricultural way and lifestyle of the Karen people including growing coffee beans, sheep farming, and weaving clothes from sheep's wool. Sheep in this community are raised in simple ways according to the local wisdom. The sheep's wool textiles are woven using a traditional backstrap loom.



Interesting Tourist Attractions

Tham Kaeo Komon Forest Park

Her Majesty Queen Sirikit the Queen Mother visited this place on 19 February, 2001, and granted the name of “Kaeo Komon”, which means “Beautiful Crystal Cave”. The cave is situated in the area of Doi Tham, Mu 14, Ban Huai Mafai, Mae La Noi district, Mae Hong Son province. The cave is filled with calcite crystals on the walls and ceiling. The crystals have various shapes; such as, small shining white snowflakes that are so distinct in the cave, sugar or quartz crystals, corals, curtains, ceiling light or shining stalagmites and stalactites. There are five beautiful halls in the cave. The cave is open for visits in rounds of every 20 minutes from 08.30 - 16.30 hours.

Rice Terraces (Royal Project Foundation Mae La Noi and Ban Huai Hom)

The rice paddy fields that are grown in descending levels on the mountain that stretch out as far as one can see (during July to November). For organic food lovers, they should visit chemical-free vegetable farms by the Royal Project Foundation Mae La Noi amidst the spectacular nature. Tourists can enjoy sipping freshly-made coffee at Ban Huai Hom and trekking through the Arabica coffee plantation, or see how the local ethnic people weave sheep’s wool textiles. They can also visit the “Lua Cotton-woven Textiles Learning Centre” and shop for silverware from Ban La-up.

Four “Chom” Temples (Chom Chaeng, Chom Thong, Chom Mon and Chom Kitti)

- **Wat Phrathat Chom Chaeng**, Ban Chom Chaeng at the entrance to Mae Sariang district using the road next to the road to Wat Phrathat Chom Thong. The temple is decorated with Lanna arts. The temple houses the relics stupa of the Lord Buddha.
- **Wat Phrathat Chom Thong** features the big Buddha image on the top of the hill overlooking the beautiful landscape of Mae Sariang district. It is especially picturesque during sunset.



- **Wat Phrathat Chom Mon** houses the sacred Buddha relics in the double layer, bell-shaped pagoda in the traditional Lanna style. The temple houses Buddha images in four directions. The pagoda has an octagonal base. The temple usually holds a celebration in July every year.
- **Wat Phrathat Chom Kitt** houses the Buddha relics in the white pagoda with the golden top. The pagoda's shape is similar to a Lanna stupa. A celebration is held on the 8th day of the waxing moon in June of every year.

Mexican Sunflower Field, Doi Mae Ho – is approximately 16 km from Mae Sariang district, on the edge of Highway No. 108, around Kilometre 84, Mae Ho sub-district. It is the area for the Hill Tribe Welfare and Development Centre. This route has a picturesque view with hilly mountains filled with Mexican sunflowers, which usually bloom during October to December.



Mo Hom, Message of Love from Phrae



Phrae is an old town that is well-known among the people in the North. This small town is filled with smiles of friendship. Besides Phrathat Cho Hae, Phrae is still best known for its blue “Mo Hom”, which is woven from cotton dyed with Hom or Chinese Rain Bell. It is an increasingly popular product due to its trendy and eco-friendly design. “Mo Hom textile” combines the love of the weaver, giver, and recipient together.



*“Mo Hom, teak, land of Phra Lo lover,
auspicious Phrathat Cho Hae,
famous Phae Mueang Phi, good-hearted people”*

Phrae is an old town that is well-known among the people in the North. The city has been continuously developing in all aspects, politically, economically, socially, and culturally. Generations of governors have been ruling the town since King Rama V the Great’s reign. Evidence indicates that there were people in the pre-historic time inhabiting in this area and the settlements were spread out in various districts.

Charming Mo Hom Textiles

Weaving is a type of handicraft that the Northern women in almost all families need to learn and gain expertise to make for self-use. Native textiles in Phrae include normal and natural dyed textiles. The latter one is known as “Mo Hom Textile” and “Tin Chok Textile” with exquisite designs and vivid colours that are second to no other textiles in the Northern areas.

“Mo Hom” is a Northern dialect. Hom is a kind of annual crop in the indigo family. People take the trunks and leaves and ferment in the pot filled with water. Through a traditional process, the resulting extracted liquid gives a dark-blue or greenish-blue colour called “Hom” colour. This colour is used for dyeing fabric. The dyeing process is performed through a cold dye process. The finished fabric will have a dark-blue or greenish-blue colour and is called “Mo Hom Textile”. Mo Hom is sturdy, light-weighted, comfortable to wear and easy to maintain.

Ban Thung Hong is the largest and most well-known location for Mo Hom production. Most villagers are Lao Puan people. They still preserve their traditional way of making Mo Hom by tying Hom plants together and soaking into a big jar for a few days until the water turns dark-blue. The difficulty in making Mo Hom textiles lies in the process of preparing dye from Hom plants. Due to much higher costs than factory woven textiles, there are less Mo Hom products than before. However, Mo Hom is still popular among the people and has been further developed into many other products.

Mo Hom is not the only textile in Phrae. There is the Tin Chok textile from Long district, which is another cultural heritage that has been passed down from the Tai Yuan people. It is a native art form, which has been beautifully preserved until today.





Long district is the only place where Tin Chok is woven in Phrae. This can be seen from the historical evidence on the mural paintings on the wall of Wat Ta Mon, Wiang Ta sub-district, Long district and photos of high-class women wearing Tin Chok reflecting its unique beauty. These demonstrate the cultural richness of the place for over 200 years.

Sin Tin Chok from Long district is woven from hand-spun cotton yarns, ready-made cotton yarns, and synthetic fibres. The dyed cotton yarns use both chemical and natural colours. Some pieces contain silver and golden yarns. At present, more modern patterns and vivid colours are applied on the textiles. The people who are in love with the traditional styles of Sin Tin Chok from Long city can identify the distinctiveness of textiles from the variety of patterns and colours that highlight the imitation of delicateness from nature. The textiles also feature the harmonious composition of elements; such as, in red ants' legs (Kha Mot Daeng), floating junk (Samphao Loi Nam), sleeping bird (Nok Non), Dok Chan Paet Klip, snake (Ngu Hoi Sao), double swans, Nok Khum, water clover (Phak Waen), Chiang Saen dark swan and Khom Cho Noi Tung Chai designs. The finished Tin Chok textiles are usually sewn to the traditional Pha Sin; such as, Sin Ta Mu, Sin Ta Kai or Sin Muk.

At present, the product has been further developed in order to respond to the increasing needs of the consumers to wear Thai textiles.

Long City Learning Centre of Chok Textiles (Mae Pranom's House)

The Centre was established in 2008 with Master Pranom Tapaeng acting as Chairperson of the Group. This place is a centre to exchange knowledge of Chok textiles from Long city and promote the complete production of traditional indigo-dyed textiles. The objective is to preserve and pass down the local wisdom inherited from the ancestors to the later generations. In the Centre, there is a room for natural dyes, demonstration of the production process, display of Chok textiles from Long city and other traditional textiles. There is also a location selling products and Museum of Chok Textiles from Long city. The patterns and colours of the original textiles are studied and copied. The textiles made here are both imitation of the traditional patterns and newly created patterns mixed with traditional patterns of Long city and other locations; such as, Hat Siao, Had Sung, Phrae, Nan, and Uttaradit. The patterns are adapted until harmony is achieved. The outstanding feature of Master Pranom is the tightly woven fabrics, smooth cotton yarns, and consistent colours.

For more information, please contact Pranom Tapaeng,
the National Artist in the field of Visual Arts (Fine Arts – Art of Woven Fabric) of 2010



97/2 Mu 9, Hua Thung sub-district, Long district,

Phrae province 54150

Tel. 08 1951 6639

Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/SWqNg4xT9pr>



Komol Museum of Ancient Textiles

Komol Museum of Ancient Textiles displays traditional textiles of the Lanna people whose textiles heritage has been passed down from their ancestors. The traditional textiles in this museum date back to over 200 years. Many pieces tell the stories of local wisdom. Some feature unique patterns that can only be found in the Tai Yuan people e.g. “Lakon” or “Kho Lai”, Bai Phak Waen (water pennywort), Nguang Nam Khu, Kha Kampung, and Phum Dok. The Museum is divided into 5 parts: 1. Wiang Ta Painting displaying important native Lanna arts, drawings from Nan artisans on joint teak boards depicting women from Long city in their costumes; 2. Traditional textiles from Long city, featuring Sin Tin Chok Tai Yonok from “Long city” and its history; 3. Exhibition of Sin Tin Chok featuring textiles from Mae Chaem, Lai Hin Na Noi as well as Tin Chok Lao Khrang from various places; 4. Preservation of ancient textiles showing the local wisdom of the ancestors on how to preserve the textiles for over 200 years; 5. Store selling traditional Tin Chok textiles, remade traditional textiles, and other products made from textiles.

For more information, please contact Komol Panitchapan,
the owner of the Komol Museum of Ancient Textiles and textile expert



157/2 Mu 6, Huai Ao sub-district, Long district,
Phrae province 54150
Tel. 0 5458 1532

Ban Khang Chai Learning Centre and Complete Distribution of Karen Garments

People from Ban Khang Chai are descendants of the Karen people who have migrated from Mae Pak district and settled here. They have a motto that reads “Long-ear Karen, Two Coloured River” signifying the abundant nature and simple lifestyle of the Karen people. They still preserve their charming culture today.





This centre is a place where people can learn about the Karen lifestyle and their textile weaving using a backstrap loom and by hand. They grow cotton and Job’s tears here to be used as raw material in weaving and for decorations. Men typically wear red-white clothes, single women wear white long clothes signifying purity, and married women wear dark colour clothes woven with multicolour yarns and decorated with Job’s tears. There is also a demonstration of Sin textiles for married women. The textiles here use natural dye; e.g., cumin, noni root. The products from the villagers, youngsters, and disabled people are displayed for sale here at the centre to promote careers and create income as well as preserve the Karen culture.

For more information, please contact Chanpen Kamlhueng,

Head of the Ban Khang Chai Learning Centre and Complete Distribution of Karen Garments



99/3 Mu 7, Mae Koeng sub-district, Phrae province

(Opposite the Ban Khang Chai School)

Tel. 09 2709 3901

Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/XtFBSnbNEp32>

Hug Hom Design Store

According to research about Mo Hom, dying with natural colour using Hom, and mixing colour shades using natural materials, they were inspired by this idea to create the brand “Hug Hom” (Love Hom) that reflects the passion in the charming native textiles telling the stories of the local lifestyle and culture. The idea has been crafted further to innovate more trendy Mo Hom products e.g. clothing, bags, shoes, and exotic household decorations. The products can be ordered online at their facebook page: HUG HOM Design – Natural Product. They also have pop-up stores in various exhibitions across the country.

For more information, please contact Suwimol Hongsam, Head of the Hug Hom Design

40/1 Mu 5, Thung Hong sub-district, Phrae province 54000

Tel. 09 3289 6291

Email: Hughomdesign@gmail.com

Location: <https://goo.gl/maps/9LgHmkQAdo32>



Baisri Creation Store

This is a location where Lanna-style adaptation clothing, accessories, and household decorations have been designed for over 20 years. The products use textiles, which are dyed with Hom and other natural colours. Their products have unique designs and are sold to customers in Thailand and abroad through various trades and fairs. The outstanding collections of this store come from the designs of Master Sakjira and production site in Phrae.

For more information, please contact Sakjira Wiangkao,
the owner and designer of the Baisri Creation Store



124/5 Mu 1, Thung Hong-Pa Daeng Road, Mueang Mo sub-district,
Mueang district, Phrae province 54000

Tel. 0 5450 6720

Location: <https://www.google.com/maps/place/บายศรีศรีเอ๋อชั้น/@18.1526578,100.1790777,17z/data=!4m5!3m4!1s0x30d8c1fcce3b46b5:0x57ce5beb0eb69a62!8m2!3d18.1529081!4d100.1810676>



Craft and Textile Tour in Phrae

Route 1: Mueang Phrae



1. **Wat Phra Bat Ming Mueang Worawihan:** Visitors can pay respect to the Buddha's footprints, and view the Ming Mueang Pagoda and Phra Phuttha Kosai Sirichai Maha Sakkaya Muni image.
2. **Tai Phuan Textile Group-indigo plants and natural Mo Hom** – Here you can see the demonstration of textiles weaving, and purchase indigo-dyed and Hom-dyed products.
3. **Hug Hom Design Store** is a place where visitors can find naturally dyed Mo Hom and tie-dyed Mo Hom fabric, and Hom-dyed products.
4. **Thung Charoen Learning Community or Mo Hom Pa Ngiam** is a place where visitors can see the demonstration of textiles dyeing using Hom in “Natural Mo Hom”.
5. **Naturalmild Shop** – Here visitors can purchase naturally-dyed and Hom-dyed products.
6. **Suphin Indigo-dyed Brocade** – See the demonstration of brocade weaving using indigo-dyed yarns, select brocade textiles made into various different products.
7. **Kaewwanna Natural Indigo Store** is a place where visitors can see the demonstration of indigo and Hom dyeing. The Hom textiles here are made from cotton and naturally dyed.
8. **Kamon Indigo** – See the demonstration of textiles weaving, dyeing process using indigo and Hom, and products made from other natural dyes; e.g., indigo, lac and marigold.
9. **Baisri** – See the products made by using indigo and Hom to paint, tie-dye, bleach, print combined with machine or hand embroidery, and stitch to create trendy finished products.



Craft and Textile Tour in Phrae

Route 2: Long city



1. **Wat Phrathat Cho Hae** – Pay respect to the relics stupa for those born in the Year of the tiger, visit the archaeological site which is hailed to be an exquisite piece of art in Phrae.
2. **Long City Learning Centre of Chok Textiles** is located at the house of Mrs. Pranom Tapaeng, the National Artist in the field of Visual Arts (Fine Arts – Art of Woven Fabric) of 2010. It was created to promote the complete production of traditional Pha Sin Tin Chok Tai Yuan. Its famous product is Pha Sin Tin Chok Mueang Long.
3. **Ratchaneekorn** Pha Tin Chok Mueang Long, Hua Thung district is a place to view and purchase both traditional and modern Pha Sin Tin Chok Mueang Long.
4. **Ban Na Mon**, see the demonstration of Pha Sin Tin Chok weaving using heddles and browse through the collections of handwoven textiles that are created by new techniques; such as, scarfs.
5. **Komol Museum of Ancient Textiles displays 100-year-old Lanna textiles;** such as, Pha Sin Tin Chok Mai Kham, Pha Sin Tin Chok Chiang Saen, Pha Sin Tin Chok Mueang Long, and Pha Sin Tin Chok Lampang. One of the museum galleries features Sin Tin Chok Tai Yonok from “Long city” and its history.
6. **Ban Pin Women’s Weaving Cooperatives Group (Tin Chok Kanchana)** – Visit and purchase handwoven cotton products with unique patterns from Long city. Select from collections of clothing, Pha Sin, bags, and other products, which preserve the traditional patterns and colours of Long city.
7. **Travel back into time with the “Ban Pin Railway Station”** amidst the warm, magical atmosphere.



Craft and Textile Tour in Phrae

Route 3: Wang Chin



1. Ban Khang Chai Learning Centre and Complete Distribution of Karen Garments

is a place where people can learn about the Karen lifestyle and their textile weaving using a backstrap loom and by hand.

2. Wang Kwang Nuea Sewing Group – visit and purchase native textiles from Phrae; for example, Tin Chok, Tie-dye and modern-cut clothing. The special collections include Sin Tin Chok from Phrae, which uses natural dye cotton as main materials.



Interesting Tourist Attractions

Khum Chao Luang Mueang Phrae

Khum Chao Luang Mueang Phrae is an old building that has stood side-by-side with Phrae for hundreds of years. The building is a combination of Thai and European architecture, which was popular during the reign of King Rama V the Great. It was constructed in the year 1892 by Chao Luang Piriayathepwong, the last governor of Phrae. At present, it has been turned into a museum to be a place for learning about history. The building, which was designed and built by Chinese architects, has two storeys. The building is exquisitely beautiful and is refinedly decorated with perforated woodcarving. Inside is a display of old utensils in good condition. The basement had been used as a prison keeping slaves for over 50 years up to the reign of King Rama V the Great when slavery was aborted. The prison was then used for locking up prisoners instead. The place received the award from HRH. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn for outstanding architecture in the category of Institution and Public Building in the year 1997.

Baan Thep Museum

Baan Thep Museum is situated in Wiang district, opposite to the old walls of Phrae. The place has over one rai of space for displaying ancient utensils. In the front part of the building stands the statue of King Naresuan the Great in the gesture of pouring water to declare independence from Hongsawadi (Bago). Inside is a display of thousands of valuable objects. The display is divided into zones. Some of the highlighted exhibits include personal items of nobility from the Ayutthaya period, sandalwood chest from present day, 4-metre-tall teakwood door which is over 500 years old, giant swing which can sit over 10 people, a stump carved into an elephant figure as large as 6 arms-length, mother-of pearl-embedded furniture over 100 years, monies from the early Rattanakosin period including “Golden Phot Duang” which is smaller than normal Phot Duang and has a golden colour. It is the only piece of Phot Duang found in Phrae province.



Phae Mueang Phi Forest Park

Phae Mueang Phi is the park with oddly shaped rock and soil formations formed by erosion over the course of many centuries that is spread over the area of 167 rai. It was promoted to be a Forest Park on 4 March, 1981. The word “Phae” means grove and “Mueang Phi” means quiet. The place has beautiful exotic geographical formations featuring cliffs, soil columns, and nature study paths that are designed for students and tourists to learn about forest conditions, geographical characteristics in order to promote higher understanding of the area.

Wat Phrathat Cho Hae, the Royal Temple

It is a highly revered temple of Phrae. It is also recognised as the temple for people born in the Year of the Tiger. From historical evidence, it was found that the temple was built during the Sukhothai era between year 1336 - 1338. During the reign of Phra Maha Thammaracha, some renovation works were performed for the pagoda. The festival was held for 7 days and 7 nights. The name “Hae” in “Phrathat Cho Hae” came from the word “Phrae”, which refers to silk fabric. In 1924, the temple was restored by a famous monk Khruba Srivichai. Every year a festival is held to pay respect to Phrathat Cho Hae to preserve and pass down the traditions.

Wat Phra Bat Ming Mueang Worawihan

Wat Phra Bat Ming Mueang Worawihan is located on Charoen Mueang Road near the city hall. It was built by combining 2 ancient temples together: Wat Phra Bat and Wat Ming Mueang. Wat Phra Bat is a temple where the Viceroy or Chao Ho Na Ho acted as the charity manager. It is a home to replica of the Lord Buddha’s footprint. Wat Ming Mueang is a temple where the town governor acted as the charity manager. It is situated at the heart of the town and featuring Phrathat Ming Mueang. There is no evidence indicating when these two temples were founded. It is assumed that the Phrae ruler was the one who had the temples built. Wat Phra Bat was probably built before the year 1937 and Wat Ming Mueang was likely built around the same period. The two temples were merged into one temple in 1949. The temple was named a royal temple of the third class, Worawihan type in 1955, with its official name being Wat Phra Bat Ming Mueang Worawihan. The important holy object is Phra Phuttha Kosai Siri Maha Sakkaya Muni, Ming Mueang Pagoda, and replica of the Lord Buddha’s footprint.



Stopping the time here, in Nan



Nan is one of the trendiest tourist destinations not to be missed. This slow city offers a calm sensation, and its people offer a kind and smile to all travellers. Moreover, there are temples and cool travel spots; such as, Doi Samoe Dao, Doi Khun Sathan, Bo Kluea (salt wells), and Pua town. These places are enough to stay in people's heart.

*“City of Famous boat races, black ivory,
mural paintings at Wat Phumin, land of Sweet Golden Orange,
shining bright Phrathat Chae Haeng”*

This border city of Eastern Lanna is rich in culture from the high mountains to the ground field, and is as old as the history of Sukhothai. Nan continuously had 64 rulers. The city was originally known as “Nanthaburi” or “Woranakhon”, it was built by Phraya Phukha during the 18th century B.E. on the plains of the current Pua district. In 1359, Phraya Kanmueang received a Buddha’s relic from Sukhothai, which he chose Doi Phu Phiang Chae Haeng to keep it. Later, the city was moved to the foot of the mountain, near Doi Phu Phiang Chae Haeng. In 1368, the Nan River changed its direction. Therefore, Phraya Phakong, a son of Phraya Kanmueang, moved the city to Ban Huai Khai, which is located on the west side of the Nan River. This has become the location of Nan province up to the present time.

The Nan River originates from Doi Khun Nam Nan in Bo Kluea district. The river flows up north to Thung Chang district, and then south to Pua, Tha Wang Pha, Mueang Nan, and Wiang Sa districts. Then, it flows down to Uttaradit and Phichit, merging with the Yom River in Chum Saeng district. Lastly, it joins the Chao Phraya River at Pak Nam Pho, Nakhon Sawan province. More than 40 percent of the water in the Chao Phraya River is from the Nan River. Moreover, Nan is a beautiful city with incredible Buddhist architecture, a combined culture of Sukhothai, Lanna, Bagan and Lan Xang.

Inherited Woven Textiles of Nan

Most of Nan’s woven textiles are inherited from the Tai Lue people who originated from Yunnan, China. In the past, the whole production process was locally made ranging from planting and collecting cotton, spinning threads and weaving to get a piece of cloth, and dyeing using natural dyes; such as, ebony (black), stick lac (red), *turmeric* and heartwood of the jackfruit tree (yellow), and bark of the Sun tree (brown).



The characteristics of the Tai Lue's textiles are the special techniques and the decoration using tapestry weaving or the Ko Luang technique. The famous pattern is "Lai Nam Lai", which is uniquely beautiful and different from that of many other ethnic groups. At present, there are three groups of Tai Lue communities that still use this special technique:

- Tai Lue in Chiang Khong and Wiang Kaen districts, Chiang Rai province,
- Tai Lue in Chiang Kham and Chiang Muan districts, Phayao province, and
- Tai Lue in Tha Wang Pha, Pua, Thung Chang, and Chaloeam Phra Kiat districts, Nan province.

Lai Nam Lai textile is firstly made by the Tai Lue people in Tha Wang Pha and Pua districts. Their traditional patterns have been adapted and modified. According to the earliest evidence of weaving in Nan province, it was found that there were seven types of handwoven textiles; Pha Sin Tin Chok Mueang Nan (Pha Sin Tin Chok and Pha Sin Tin Chok Kham Khoep with gold or silver silk yarns), Pha Sin Man, Pha Sin Pong, Pha Sin Chiang Saen, Pha Sin Mat Kan (Pha Sin Khat Kan), Pha Sin Mueang or Pha Sin Tai Lue, and Pha Sin Kham Khoep. From Phumin temple's mural paintings, women appear to wear Luntaya Acheik Pha Sin, which is a wraparound skirt with wave-like motifs.

Ban Rong Ngae Women's Weaving Group

Ban Rong Ngae Women's Weaving Group, initially did farming, but the children, ladies, and elders weave textiles for daily lives. Therefore, they were familiar with the process of textiles making, from collecting cotton, spinning, and weaving. They gathered to make a supplementary income from this activity. Then, they have developed their textiles into more creative products; such as, tablecloth, plate mat, fridge cover, scarf, shawl, bag, etc. They used to make their cotton for weaving, but now they buy raw cotton from Chiang Mai and Bangkok. It usually takes one week to make a piece of Lai Nam Lai textile.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Nuansri Sutthaluang,
Head of the Ban Rong Ngae Women's Weaving Group



140 Mu 7, Woranakhon sub-district, Pua district,
Nan province 55120
Tel. 08 6188 8306, 08 5462 3299
Location: 19.161693, 100.937366



Tai Lue Ban Ket Weaving Group

Tai Lue Ban Ket Weaving Group, one of three villages that were honoured to make Tung for the royal funeral of Her Royal Highness Princess Galyani Vadhana. Ancient cloth with intricate designs inspired the people of Ban Ket to form a weaving group. The group was led by Sadanan Netthip, who is specialised in Tai Lue woven textiles and honoured as a Master Craftswoman on 9 August 2012. The group learned about traditional and ancient motifs, and also created the new and unique ones inspired by surrounding nature. This group is famous for its naturally dyed and eco-friendly products; such as, traditional Pha Sin, bed sheet, shawl, tablecloth, plate mat, and backrest pillow. The products are available for sale at the office of the Tai Lue Ban Ket Weaving Group and other trade fairs.

For more information, please contact Sadanan Netthip or Aunt Lhom



97 Mu 2, Ban Ket, Woranakhon sub-district, Pua district,
Nan province 55120
Tel. 08 1180 2964
Location: 19.166448, 100.934210

Pha Thung Sun Women's Weaving Group

Once a farming community where women weave for household usage after the harvest season, Ngop sub-district has become a popular weaving town that makes famous handwoven textiles and products. Srisawalai Kamrangsi, a Master Craftswoman of Thailand 2013 in Tai Lue woven textile, is familiar with the process of textiles making, from collecting cotton, spinning, and weaving. Therefore, she felt so inspired that she learned all the weaving techniques from women in the community. She was then finally chosen to be the province's representative to join the training programme on occupation development for women. She helped create the weaving group in 1975 and it was supported by the government sector for materials and initial budget. Although they struggled at first, their products; such as, tablecloth, plate mat, fridge cover, shawl, and traditional textiles, are now popular and currently on sale at the Srisawalai Shop.

For more information, please contact Srisawalai Kamrangsi (Aunt Lai),
Head of the Pha Thung Sun Women's Weaving Group



27 Mu 4, Ngop sub-district, Thung Chang district,
Nan province 55130
Tel. 08 9251 5029
Location: 19.470816, 100.896451



Ban Don Udom Weaving Group

From the motivation to preserve Nan's local wisdom in woven textiles, Navin Panyahan, the group's leader has made it the community's supplementary income. The silk products are delicately made, from choosing types of silk, dyeing colour, and weaving process. Each textile shows the unique Nan's way of life and beautiful ancient way of weaving. This is also the only place where people can find silk thread and ancient woven textiles in Nan. It has also received 'The Silver Peacock Logo', which is a certification trademark of Thai silk standard in the Class of Classic Thai Silk category, confirming customers about the quality. They also provide a QR Code for people to scan and track the information of each textile's weaver.

For more information, please contact Nawin Panyahan,

Head of the Ban Don Udom Weaving Group



51 Mu 9, Bo Suak sub-district, Mueang district,

Nan province 55000

Tel. 09 1859 6159

Location: 18.742111, 100.673336

Thai Pang Kom Textiles (Organic Handwoven Cotton Textiles)

Thai Pang Kom Textiles, organic handwoven cotton textiles, is one of the famous cotton weaving groups in Thailand. This group has paid attention to each process of the local weaving techniques: collecting cotton, spinning threads and weaving to get a piece of cloth, and dyeing using natural dyes. Supit Suvannanamee has initiated and gathered locals to weave and use natural colour substances to dye cotton fabrics. He also brought back the local wisdom as well as gave knowledge to children in the community. The natural colours are dyed in an earth tone, which gives a soft look to the eyes. It is also a beginning to decrease the amount of chemical, which is a heart of "Thai Pang Kom Textiles". Cotton fabrics here are thick and woven with traditional and modern patterns; such as, Lai Nam Lai and Lai Tin Chok. Dyestuff used by the group members includes indigo (blue), bark of Rosewood or Paduak tree (brown) and bark of the jackfruit tree (yellow). Their cotton textiles have been adapted into many local products, which can be purchased at the group and Thai Green Market fairs.

For more information, please contact Supit Suvannanamee (Master Ek),

Head of the Thai Pang Kom Textiles (Organic Handwoven Cotton Textiles)



Ban Pang Kom Weaving Group, Ban Pang Kom,

Chon Daen sub-district, Song Khwae district,

Nan province 55160

Tel. 08 8436 9446

Location: 19.426390, 100.680729



Craft and Textile Tour in Nan

Route 1:
Mueang Nan



1. Take the hop on-hop off tram to admire the old city of Nan and explore the way of life, simple lifestyle and local surroundings including archaeological sites, buildings, markets, and temples. The interesting temples are Wat Phrathat Chang Kham and Wat Hua Khuang.

2. **Wat Phumin** is the only temple in Thailand that was built in symmetrical buildings and believed to serve the three social purposes; Wihan, Ubosot, and Chedi. The mural paintings in the Wihan and Ubosot depict the tales of the Lord Buddha and ordinary life of local people in the 25th century B.E. (20th century A.D.), especially women in traditional clothing. Most of them are wearing silk satin shoulder cloth and Pha Sin Mueang Nan, and some are weaving textiles; for example, women of Si Sak Ket city. The painting explanations are in local Nan language saying “local ladies learn how to weave with Mae Chao Khatthana”.

3. **Nan National Museum** is a place where antique art objects of the Nan School are displayed. The place was formerly a Ho Kham or a residence of Phrachao Suriyaphong Pharitdet, Nan’s royal governor, which was built in 1903.

4. **The Ancient Textiles Museum** is also known as the Tai Lue Museum. Visitors can see Tai Lue, Tai Lao, Tai Yuan, Tai Khoen and hill tribe textiles collected by Mr. Terdsak Insaeng, and purchase traditional Nan textiles at the Fai Ngoen Shop.

5. **Wat Phrathat Chae Haeng** – Visitors come to pay respect to a 600-year-old Phrathat or pagoda. Within the pagoda, the Buddha’s relics, which Nan’s ruler brought from Sukhothai, were stored. Phrathat Chae Haeng is considered a pagoda for those born in the Year of the Rabbit. The Lanna Wihan (Buddhist image hall) is decorated in Nan-style art including the Naga sculpture in front of the Wihan, Singha sculpture, and Phrachao Lan Thong Buddha image, one of the beautifully large art pieces of Lanna.



Craft and Textile Tour in Nan

Route 2:
Mueang Nan



1. **The Residence of Chao Ratchabut (Mok Fa Na Nan)** is a place where you can find traditional textiles and antiques of the Nan rulers; such as, ivory, lacquerware, goldware and silverware.

2. **Wat Phrathat Chang Kham (Wat Luang Mueang Nan)**

3. **Nan Silverware Learning Centre** is led by Master Boonchuai Hiranyawit, the National Artist in the field of Visual Arts (Fine Arts) of 2014. Here, visitors can see the demonstration of traditional Nan silverware making and purchase silver products.

4. **Ban Don Udom Weaving Group** is a place where visitors can see how traditional Nan textiles are made, starting from choosing types of silk, dyeing colour, and weaving process. This group has also received ‘The Silver Peacock Logo’, which is a certification trademark of Thai silk standard in the Class of Classic Thai Silk category, confirming customers about the quality.

5. **Jangtrakul Shop** is a place where tourists can purchase Mueang Nan’s handwoven textiles; such as, Pha Lai Nam Lai, Pha Sin Man, Pha Sin Pong, bag, and clothes.



Craft and Textile Tour in Nan

Route 3:
Tha Wang Pha-Pua



1. **Nan Riverside Art Gallery or Rim Nan Art Gallery** is a modern gallery building located by the Nan River. Here visitors can admire art pieces and paintings by HRH. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn and Mr. Winai Prapripu, the famous Nan artist.
2. **Wat Nong Bua** is a place where you can admire the charming Tai Lue architecture, sculpture, and fine art. Here, visitors can see the ancient mural paintings by Nan Buaphan, telling the story about the local tales Chantakhat (Chan Ta Khat Pu Chi) through local Nan's way of life and attire from the last 150 years. The Tai Lue village nearby is also a must-visit place where you can buy textile products; such as, Pha sin Man, Pha Sin Pong, and Pha Sin Mat Kan.
3. **Tai Lue Ban Ket Weaving Group** was founded by villagers who were inspired by traditional cloth with intricate designs. The group was led by Sadanan Netthip, who is specialised in Tai Lue woven textiles and honoured as a Master Craftswoman on 9 August, 2012.
4. **Wat Rong Ngae** is a beautiful Tai Lue-Nan style temple. Here, visitors can see intricate Buddhist fine arts; such as, Tai Lue-Nan style Buddha image, wooden pulpit, and wooden candle-holder sculpted in the shape of a Naga staircase.
5. **Ban Rong Ngae Women's Weaving Group** has developed their textiles into more creative products; such as, tablecloth, plate mat, fridge cover, scarf, shawl, and bag.
6. **Lamduan Cotton Textiles and Tai Lue Café** offer a unique experience in the wonderful scenery of the rice fields and the Luang Prabang Range. Visitors can buy Tai Lue textiles, Tai Lue Pha Sin, Nan Pha Sin, and traditional blouses at the Lamduan Cotton Textiles Shop.
7. **Paew Cotton Textiles Shop** is a place where visitors can buy textile products; such as, ready-to-wear clothes, bags, plate mat, and glass mat. Textiles here are famous for their unique adapted traditional patterns.



Craft and Textile Tour in Nan



Route 4:
Thung Chang-Thai-Lao Border:
Huai Kon-Song Khwae



1. Thai-Lao Border Market: Let's meet the simplicity of the people's daily life at the Thai-Lao border crossing between Ban Huai Kon and Mueang Nam Ngoen. Here, visitors can buy Nan woven textiles, Tai Lue textile products, and local fruits and vegetables.

2. Ban Lai Thung Women's Weaving Group is a place where visitors can admire the local wisdom of Tai Lue textiles; such as, ancient Tai Lue textiles, Pha Chok Tai Lue, Pha Lai Nam Lai, silk shawl, and natural dyed cotton fabric.

3. Ban Thung Sun Women's Weaving Group has developed their traditional textiles into more creative products; such as, tablecloth, plate mat, fridge cover, scarf, shawl, and bag.

4. Hmong textiles Ban Tham Wiang Kae is a place where tourists can experience a simple life of the Hmong people. Visitors can buy Hmong textiles and embroidery products. A painstaking and intricate technique, the Hmong embroidery work requires extraordinary skills and patience.

5. Ban Pang Kom Natural Dyed Textiles Learning Centre is a place for textile lovers who want to see local wisdom of the weaving and dyeing process. This centre helps share the knowledge with the younger generation.



Interesting Tourist Attractions

Wat Phrathat Chae Haeng

Wat Phrathat Chae Haeng in Muang Tuet sub-district is a sacred place located on the east side of the Nan River. The temple was built during the reign of Phraya Kanmueang (r. 1326 - 1359). It is a place where seven Buddha relics (Phra Maha Chinathat Chao) and silver and golden votive tablets are enshrined. The votive tablets were presented by King Maha Thammaracha Lithai on the occasion that Chao Phraya Kanmueang assisted in the construction of Wat Luang Aphai (Wat Pa Mamuang in Sukhothai province at present) in 1354.

The Phrathat is a bell-shaped pagoda plated with a combination of brass and copper (Thong Changko). It is believed that this Phrathat was influenced by Phrathat Hariphunchai in Lamphun province. The front gate of the Wihan is decorated with a Naga stucco sculpture, which is one of the characteristics of Nan's fine arts.

Phrathat Chae Haeng represents the Year of the Rabbit, the year of the Rabbit. Lanna people believe that it is good fortune to pay respect to the Phrathat of their Year of Birth.

Wat Phumin

Wat Phumin was built in 1596 by an order of Chao Chettabut Phrommin after he had ruled Nan for six years. It was originally called "Wat Phrommin", which was named after Phrachao Chettabut Phrommin, the name of the Nan ruler, but finally changed to Wat Phumin. The Fine Arts Department believes that this is the first cruciform Ubosot in Thailand. In the centre, there are four large Buddha images, sitting back to back and facing the four directions. All are sitting on a pedestal and in the Bhumisparsha mudra, subduing Mara posture.

The mural paintings or "Hup Taem" depicts the tales of the Lord Buddha, ordinary life of local people. There is also a painting of Pu Man, Ya Man, a calling of a man and woman in the local ancient period, whispering. The man has ink tattoos and woman dresses beautifully. This painting, known as "Nan, the whisper of love", is the most popular traditional Thai painting of Nan province. Outside, there is a chedi with statues imitating hell to remind people of what could happen if they do wrong.



Nan National Museum

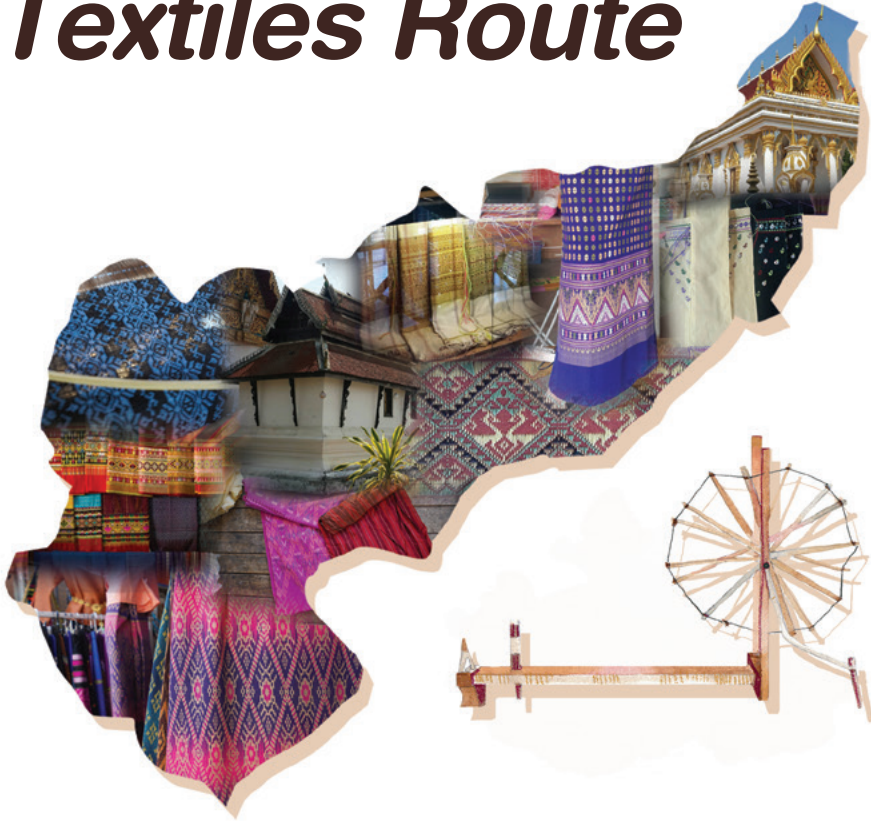
Nan National Museum is a combination of a European-style building in the age of King Rama V the Great and the local art of Nan. Originally, it was “Ho Kham” or a royal residence of Phrachao Suriyaphong Pharitdet, the ruler of Nan. It was built in 1932 and used as Nan’s first provincial hall. Later, in 1974, the building underwent renovation and was used as the Nan National Museum. The Museum utilises natural light by making the building well ventilated with windows on every side, which makes all visitors feel at home. The Museum is divided into two floors. The lower one displays the lives of various tribes in Nan province including major traditions and festivals; such as, the life extending ceremony and boat races. The second part presents the artefacts from the pre-historic period to the age of Nan’s royal ruler. One of the important objects is the left-side black ivory with a length of 44 centimetres, a circumference of 47 centimetres, and a weight of 18 kilogrammes. It was obtained in the reign of Phraya Kanmueang, the fifth ruler of Nan. Other significant antique pieces are the glazed ceramics, aged around the 21st century B.E. (16th century A.D.) from the Bo Suak Kiln Site of the 21st century B.E., the Buddha image in the Subduing Mara attitude in the Burmese-influenced Lanna style, and the silver pedestal tray for betel nut, one of the royal regalia of the last ruler of Nan.

Hong Chao Fongkham (Nan Noble House)

“Hong” is the Lanna word referring to the home of the noble Lanna Tai. This is a house of Chao Fongkham, a lineage of Chao Anantaworariththidet, the 62nd ruler of Nan. The house is around 200 years old, constructed from teakwood with a space under the house in the Lanna style. The house is divided into four main parts; each room is connected with an outdoor path. The staircase is in the front with a roof. This traditional house is joined together by a unique wood jointing technique, in which nails and screws are not used at all. The upper floor is used as a living space and local museum, which displays the ancient people’s life. The lower floor is used for a textile weaving demonstration and selling textiles.



From Uttaradit to Sukhothai on the Woven Textiles Route



“Uttaradit and Sukhothai”, the provinces in the Lower North part of Thailand, are dream destinations for those who love history. These 2 provinces are also only 100 kilometres away from each other and both are definitely the top 5 travel destinations for many people. Apart from the ancient evidence, there is also a long history of woven textiles. The textiles inherited from their ancestors have become legend, especially “The Art of Sin Tin Chok”, the cultural heritage worth preserving.



*“Famous Lek Nam Phi Steel; Sweet Langsat;
Home of Phraya Phichai Dap Hak;
World’s Largest Teak Trees”*

Uttaradit is an important province in the Lower North part of Thailand. Various ethnic groups have migrated and brought their cultures here. Consequently, there are diverse cultures in this area; such as, the Tai Yuan people who migrated from Chiang Saen during the Ayutthaya period and settled in Laplae district and Ban Nam Ang in Tron district, Lao people who were rounded up from Vientiane during the beginning of the Rattanakosin period, and Tai Puan people. Such diversity made the “culture of woven textiles” in the area become very unique and fascinating for all visitors.

Visiting the land of Pha Sin in Laplae

Pha Sin Tin Chok is very popular as well as other types of textile; such as, Sin Laplaeng, Sin Kai, Sin Kafak, and Sin Muk which are the distinctiveness of Uttaradit, as the locals wear them in the past and in the present. These textiles can be made from cotton or silk, and woven using the Chok, Khit, Mat Mi, Ko-Luang (Tapestry), and tie-dye techniques. The motifs tell the Uttaradit way of life and its nature. The pattern of antique Uttaradit textiles has been inherited and become very popular in the present.

Nowadays, the weaving group in this area still use the original techniques and motifs. However, they have arranged the new patterns as well as added new colours. For instance, the Tin Chok technique is used in Pha Sin Tin Chok, Sin Lai Khao Pan Kon, Dao Krachai motif, Dao Lom Duean motif, etc. The tapestry weaving technique is used to make Pha Sin Lai Nam Lai. The Mat Mi (ikat) technique is used to create Mat Mi in the Naga, pine tree and Hua Nam patterns, which is similar to Mat Mi in the Lao-Isan culture.



Ban Noen Chai Weaving Group

Ban Noen Chai Weaving Group is a centre for textiles trading and weaving demonstration. Most weavers are Tai Yuan with ancestors that migrated from Ban Nam Ang, Tron district, over 100 years ago. The distinguished part of this weaving group is their material, which is artificial silk thread, woven into a pattern, and factory silk thread creating different motifs; such as, Hong Khu (double swans), Khum Thon, etc. Moreover, their textiles are adapted into loincloth, bag, shawl and shoulder cloth.

For more information, please contact Boontiang Seema-ing,

Head of the Ban Noen Chai Weaving Group



61 Mu 10, Bo Thong sub-district, Thong Saen Khan district,
Uttaradit province 53230
Tel. 08 9539 6959

Ban Kok Tong Weaving Group

Ban Kok Tong Weaving Group was initiated to develop the local intellect, from the local village woven textiles to become a nationally famous product. The Group's products can be found in the Ban Kok Tong Weaving Group Centre and Vichien Thai Textiles store, next to the Thian Hom Candle store.

For more information, please contact Boontian Singda,

Head of the Ban Kok Tong Weaving Group



102 Mu 3, Fak Tha sub-district, Fak Tha district,
Uttaradit province 53160
Tel. 08 1587 5443

Antique Pattern Sin Tin Chok Weaving Group

The silk, cotton, and artificial cotton woven textiles are made throughout the year. Interested people can purchase them from Khun Pimchai's house, the leader of this weaving group.

For more information, please contact Pimchai Wattanamethakul,

Head of the Antique Pattern Sin Tin Chok Weaving Group

74 Mu 7, Ban Chai Mongkhon, Nam Ang sub-district,
Tron district, Uttaradit province 53140
Tel. 09 3274 2152



Ban Khum Weaving Group

Ban Khum Weaving Group is a group of the new generation who are fascinated in woven textiles. They have created the Pha Sin Laplae Community Enterprise and have gained the fame for Laplae people. This weaving group turned the place into a textile museum with a weaving demonstration, which they also sell textiles made by the locals. Sin Tin Chok Laplae has the main pattern in the middle of the fabric, added with the Lai Khrueng or Lai Prakop on both sides, reflecting the abundance of Laplae. A Naga is the original motif of the Tai Yuan Laplae.

The characteristic of this pattern is that motifs appear on both sides, upper and lower part, with the beautiful delicacy which refers to the power and protection to its wearer. Also, Chok technique using a porcupine quill is used to create the Dok Hong Yai motif and Ketthawa (gardenia flower) motif.

For more information, please contact Chongcharoon Manokham (Achan Joe),
Head of the Ban Khum Weaving Group



31 Mu 4, Ban Khum, Chai Chumphon sub-district, Laplae district,
Uttaradit province 53130
Tel. 08 7198 7353



*“Source of National Heritage and Pride,
Birthplace of the Thai Alphabet, Fireworks of the Loi Krathong
Festival, Preservation of Buddhism, the Fine Tin Chok Cloth,
Celadon Ware and Ancient Gold,
Holy Images of Ramkhamhaeng the Great and His Mother,
the Dawn of Happiness”*

Sukhothai is the first capital city of Thailand. The historical evidence indicates that people have lived in Sukhothai since before the period of Dvaravati, Sukhothai, Ayutthaya, and Rattanakosin. The people’s ways of life from each period has shaped the city to be rich in art and culture, archaeological sites, and local intellect, which have been inherited to the later generations.

Enjoy the Hat Siao Textiles

Apart from being one of the World Heritage Sites that foreigners cherish, Sukhothai also has a significant culture of local woven textiles with exquisite patterns and techniques. The cultural heritage has been inherited from the past to present.

“**Ngam Ta Pha Tin Chok**” (the fine Tin Chok cloth) is a part of the provincial slogan, which indicates 1 of Sukhothai’s identities. Visitors can easily be enchanted with the art on each fabric. Once people get to see the fine Tin Chok cloth from Ban Hat Siao, all will notice the delicacy and exquisite weaving technique and motifs with the Tai Puan way of life hidden in it. Most locals are descendants of Lao Phuan who migrated from Mueang Phuan, the southern part of Luang Prabang since King Rama III’s period.

Tin Chok is the bottom part of Pha Sin. The Chok weave is rendered through a supplementary weft technique on slim cloth. The technique is executed through picking or raising threads of selected design with a pointed instrument; such as, a porcupine quill. The painstaking effort demanded by the Chok technique makes the weaving time-consuming.



Ban Na Ton Chan Community Enterprise Weaving Group

The local people here are of the Tai Yuan descendants from Lampang and Uttaradit. When they have time from farming, they weave textiles as a supplementary job. The locals make Khit and mud soaked textiles, which starts from dyeing white cotton textile with natural colours made from heartwood, leaves, and wood bark. Then, they weave the cloth and soak it in mud for a night, and boil it in the natural colours once again to make more outstanding colours. The cloth is made into many different products; such as, Pha Sin, scarves, bags, souvenirs from mud soaked cloth, and ready-made clothes. Also, there are the wooden gymnastic doll, which can be used to exercise and strengthen finger muscles and the famous Ban Na Ton Chan Homestay, which offers various interesting activities for all visitors. For example, the adventure an I-taek car sightseeing around the village, from visiting the bamboo bridge in the middle of the rice field, seeing chopstick making, drinking lime-honey juice from the farm, and trying the famous and not-to-be missed local food, to Khao Poep Yai Khrueng Noodle Shop, which is only 600 metres away.

For more information, please contact Sa-ngiam Sawaenglap,
Head of the Ban Na Ton Chan Community Enterprise Weaving Group



111 Mu 5, Ban Tuek sub-district, Si Satchanalai district,
Sukhothai province 64130
Tel. 08 8495 7738 / 09 8273 4161

Si Satchanalai Group

The locals are Tai Puan people, descended from the Lao Phuan in Xieng Khouang who migrated from the Chao Anouvong War in Vientiane 200 years ago. The textile from this group is more unique than others with the weaving technique using Chok (discontinuous supplementary weft) silk thread and factory silk thread to connect all nine motifs together in one cloth in the same pattern. This method needs the weavers who are professional in making all motifs. Although the making process is all-year long, during the farming season, there are less textiles for sale.

For more information, please contact Naraphorn Kerdphol,
Head of the Si Satchanalai Group



35 Mu 2, Hat Siao sub-district, Si Satchanalai district,
Sukhothai province 64130
Tel. 08 1950 6498, 0 5567 1396





Sathorn Gold Textile Museum Group

From the inspiration to preserve Tai Puan’s textiles, “Sathorn Sorajprasopsanti” has created the group to collect and display the history of antique woven textiles, which have been inherited for 100 years. The collections include Pha Chok Kao Lai Ban Hat Siao, textiles used in the elephant procession during the ordination ceremony, textiles used in a wedding, and a more than 100 years’ golden textiles.

Apart from being a museum which has collected all valuable textiles from the Tai Puan’s intellect, the group also supports and preserves weaving as an occupation. The group’s woven textiles are mostly made in the original pattern; for instance, Tin Chok Kao Lai, Pha Sin Kia, lac-dyed Pha Sin, and making a new golden textile. These products can be purchased at the Sathorn Gold Textile Museum Group.

For more information, please contact Sathorn Sorajprasopsanti,
Head of the Sathorn Gold Textile Museum Group



477/2 Hat Siao sub-district, Sri Satchanalai district,
Sukhothai province 64130
Tel. 0 5567 1143

Suntree Thai Weaving Centre

The group was founded in 1992 by the gathering of housewives, with a more than 40 member weaving groups in Hat Siao and the neighbouring areas. She created the weaving centre by using her home as a workstation. They have managed and changed the community to raise the standard and create the brand “Suntree”. Also, they have adapted Tin Chok and Ban Hat Siao textiles into more contemporary products to expand the market. “Suntree” is also available abroad, which makes the province more well-known, supports tourism promotion, and makes woven textiles worth collecting. This place demonstrates Pha Sin Tin Chok weaving by using a porcupine quill, which is the characteristic of Pha Chok Tai Puan.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Raveewan Kanadnid



130 Mu 2 Hat Siao sub-district, Si Satchanalai district,
Sukhothai province 64130
Tel. 08 9858 8576





Craft and Textile Tours in Uttaradit and Sukhothai

Suggested Itineraries for Uttaradit

Route 1:
Thong Saen-Fak Tha

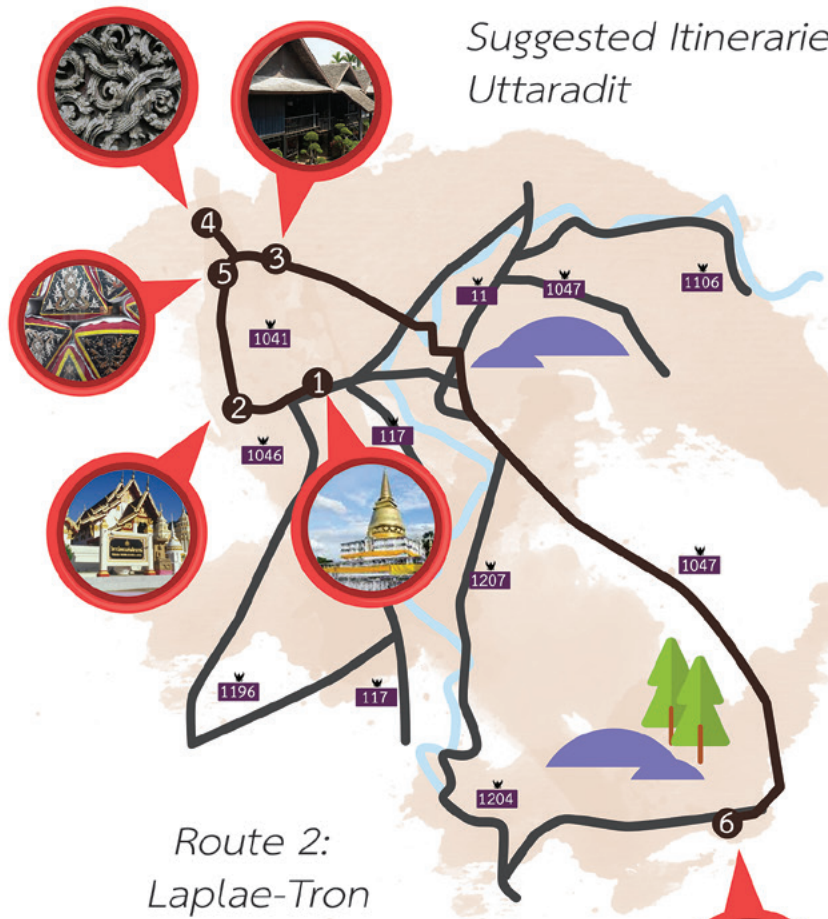


1. **Ban Noen Chai Weaving Group** is a centre for textiles trading and weaving demonstration. Most weavers are Tai Yuan. Their textiles are adapted into loincloth, bag, shawl, shoulder cloth, etc.
2. **Thong Bai Weaving Group at Nam Khrai sub-district** – see the natural dyed woven textiles, Sin Lai Khan in the Tai Yuan style, bag, loincloth and many other products.
3. **Ban Muang Weaving Group** – There are many items made from woven textiles inherited from Tai Lao; such as, Lai Nam Lai pattern scarf, Lai Nam Lai Tin Chok, Pla Taphian (Carp fish) and Sai Nam (water flow) scarf, loincloth, and bedsheet for a wedding celebration.
4. **Ban Kok Tong Weaving Group** – The creative group which designs colourful patterns on textile; such as, Nam Lai Kho Son (asking to be a partner) tube skirt, Toei Ko Kho Dok Rak, Khao Phan Kon pattern inspired by alphabet and Dao Lom Duean (Moon surrounded by stars) motif.



Craft and Textile Tours in Uttaradit and Sukhothai

Suggested Itineraries for Uttaradit



Route 2:
Laplae-Tron



1. **Wat Phra Borommathat Thung Yang**, the round Lankan style ancient pagoda on a square base with three levels. The bottom part has a small pagoda on each corner and level three has a niche on each side. The pagoda is assumed to have been renovated and believed to keep the chest relics of the Buddha.
2. **Wat Phra Thaen Sila Asana** is where the sacred laterite seat (Sila Asana) is located. People believe that they will receive the highest merit by coming to pay respect to the Sila Asana.
3. **Mueang Laplae Museum** is where the historical stories, cultures, and Laplae people's way of life are demonstrated in each house.
4. **Wat Don Sak**, the temple which is assumed to have been built during the end of the Ayutthaya period. See the beautiful door panels, carved wood door in Kanok the scroll pattern with Himavanta animal motifs inside. The motifs are different on the left and right panels, but when the door is closed, both motifs are beautifully connected.
5. **Ban Khum Weaving Group Museum displays Pha Sin Tin Chok, Mon Hok pillow, and triangle pillow.** The group is led by Mr. Chongcharoon Manokham, a Master of Craftsman 2015, who helped revive Pha Sin Tin Chok Laplae.
6. **Antique Pattern Sin Tin Chok Weaving Group** in Tron district is where we can find local textiles with exquisite and creative patterns; such as, plant and animal motifs that reflect simplicity.





Interesting Tourist Attractions

Mueang Laplae Museum

Here you can see the collection of historical stories, cultures, and Laplae people's way of life. Inside the Laplae entrance archway, there is a sculpture of a widow. This unhappy lady is holding her baby, next to her is her husband, who is sitting with the bag ready to leave Laplae. Under the sculpture says "Just keep your word", reflecting the legend of Laplae where the widows sacrificed to keep the city's rule of "Do not tell alie".

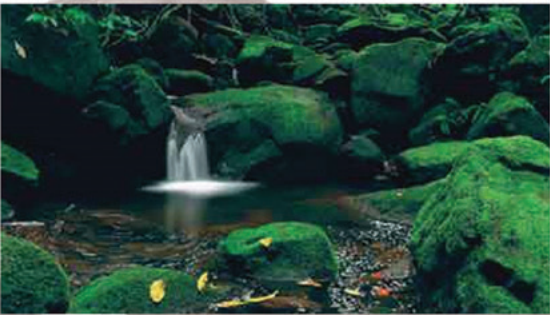
Sirikit Dam

Sirikit Dam was originally called "Pha Som Dam". It is the largest earthen embankment dam in Thailand. There is also a beautiful "Queen Sirikit Bridge" hanging across the Nan River where everyone can see the beauty of the Nan River and mountain landscape.

Phu Soi Dao National Park

Phu Soi Dao National Park is an abundance of natural resources with a mountaintop of 2,102 metres high, recognised as the fourth tallest mountain in Thailand. The significant attractions are the Phu Soi Dao Waterfall, a 5-level waterfall with a 1,000 rai landscape, and Lan Son Sam Bai Phu Soi Dao, the Kesiya pine forest covering large grass undergrowth. During rainy season in August and September, there are beautiful flowers; such as, *Murdannia giganteum* (Vahl.) Br., bladderwort, and *Salomonina longiciliata* Kurz. Additionally, the temperature decreases to 1-5 Celsius during winter when Blackfoot Daisy flowers and Lady Slipper orchids can be found. Maple leaves also turn red during this season.

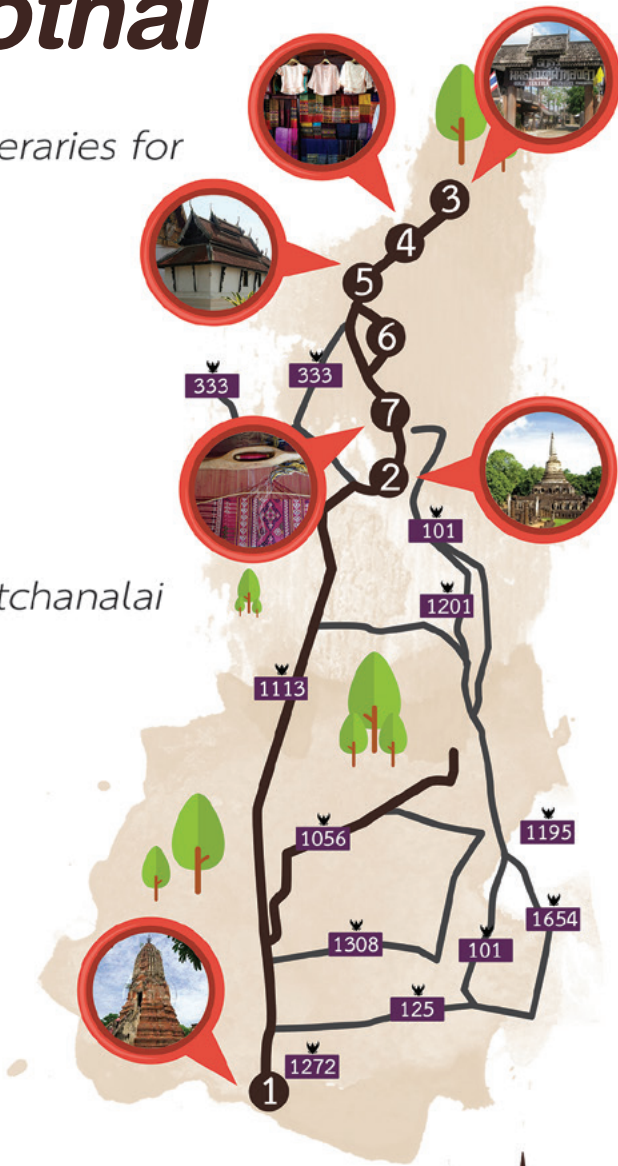




Craft and Textile Tours in Uttaradit and Sukhothai

*Suggested Itineraries for
Sukhothai*

*Route 1:
Sawankhalok-Si Satchanalai*



1. **Wat Phra Si Rattana Mahathat or Wat Phra Borommathat Mueang Chaliang**, paying respect to Phra Si Rattana Mahathat Chaliang.
2. **Si Satchanalai Historical Park**, see the beautiful stucco reliefs at Wat Nang Phaya and take the tram around the city wall, which is made from laterite. Visit the temples, Wat Chang Lom and Wat Chedi Chet Thaeo.
3. **Sathorn Gold Textile Museum**, the place with various collections of Sin Tin Chok textiles and enjoy the Tai Puan and Tin Chok weaving demonstration.
4. **Si Satchanalai Group**, see the beauty of nine different motifs in one line around the Sin textiles.
5. **Wat Hat Siao**, visit the Lan Xang-style ordination hall that appears in Siam (the ancient architecture which received the Architectural Conservation Award from the Association of Siamese Architects) and Ho Trai scripture hall in the middle of a pond.
6. **Hat Siao Market**, the source of famous Tai Puan Sin Tin Chok textile of Si Satchanalai.
7. **Suntree Thai Weaving Centre** was founded by Master Craftswoman Suntree Wichitnak. She adapted Tin Chok and Ban Hat Siao textiles into the more contemporary products under the brand “Suntree”.



Craft and Textile Tours in Uttaradit and Sukhothai

Suggested Itineraries for Sukhothai

Route 2:
Si Satchanalai



1. Suntree Thai Weaving Centre
2. Ban Koh Noi Sangkhalok Ceramic Ware Group, visit the 300-year-old kiln site of Sangkhalok ceramics. See the cross-draft type of kiln, which was used to fire Sangkhalok and the ceramic wares as well as a chimney that smoke came out.
3. Si Satchanalai Group
4. Sathorn Gold Textile Museum
5. Ban Na Ton Chan Community Enterprise Weaving Group is where the local people gather to make Khit and mud soaked textiles. The clothes are made into many different products including ready-made clothes.





Interesting Tourist Attractions

Si Satchanalai Historical Park

Si Satchanalai Historical Park was declared a World Heritage Site together with the associated historical parks in Sukhothai and Kamphaeng Phet in 1991. The outstanding architecture of this place is a significant representation of the beginning period of Thai art as well as the beginning of the country. HRH. Princess Maha Chakri Sirindhorn officially opened Si Satchanalai Historical Park on 17 November, 1990.

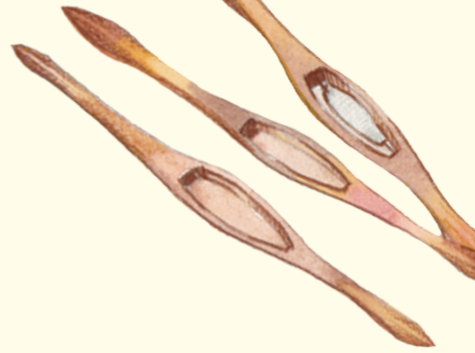
The place was initially called “Chaliang” before being renamed “Si Satchanalai” during the Phra Ruang Dynasty, which the city was renovated as the administrative centre. In the area, there are around 215 archaeological sites and objects, of which 204 have already been found. Si Satchanalai Historical Park is open every day from 08.00 - 17.00 Hrs.

Sukhothai Historical Park

Sukhothai Historical Park covers the archaeological site of Sukhothai, which was the administrative centre during the Sukhothai period, located in the Lower North part of Thailand. During the 13th - 14th Buddhist centuries, Sukhothai city was in a rectangular shape measuring 2 kilometres long and 1.6 kilometres wide. The length from North to South is 2,000 metres, 1,600 metres in the West, and has a 3 enclosures of moats and mounds. The triple wall was made from dug soil and the dug channels became the city moats for water usage and defences. There are four main city gates; “Pratu San Luang” in the North, “Pratu Namo” in the South, “Pratu Kamphaeng Hak” in the East, and “Pratu O” in the West. Within 5 kilometres outside the city wall, there are around 70 archaeological sites, specifically constructed in Buddhism and Brahmanism. Inside the city wall, there are still traces of more than 26 palaces and temples. The largest temple is Wat Mahathat. Sukhothai Historical Park has been declared a World Heritage Site together with the associated historical parks in Kamphaeng Phet and Si Satchanalai under the name “Historic Town of Sukhothai and Associated Historic Towns”.







“Wag our Thai fabric in your heart...”



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