Phrathat Yasothon or Phrathat Anon

08.00-20.00 hrs. Everyday
Tourist information by fax available 24 hrs.
E-mail: info@tat.or.th
Website: www.tourismthailand.org
Yasothon is the smallest province of lower northeast. It is famed for Rocket Festival. By history, Phra Wo, former minister from Vientiane and his friends, have migrated and settled a community at “Ban Singha Tha” in 1797. Later, in the year 1814, King Rama II of Rattanakosin has upgraded the community into a Yasothon Town which reports directly to Bangkok with Phra Sunthon Ratchawongsa as the first governor. In 1972, it became Yasothon province after separating from Ubon Ratchathani

Yasothon acquires total area of 4,161 sq. kms. And can be divided into 9 Amphoes namely Mueang Yasothon, Kham Khuen Kaeo, Maha Chana Chai, Pa Tio, Loeng Nok Tha, Kut Chum, Kho Wang, Sai Mun, and Thai Charoen.

BOUNDARIES

North Connects to Mukdahan and Roi-Et provinces.
South Connects to Si Sa Ket province.
East Connects to Amnat Charoen and Ubon Ratchathani provinces.
West Connects to Roi Et province.

HOW TO GET THERE

By car: Route 1: Follow Highway 1 (Phahonyothin Road) to Saraburi and turn right into Highway 2 (Mittraphap Road) via Nakhon Ratchasima’s Amphoe Phimai, Khon Kaen’s Amphoe Nong Song Hong and Amphoe Ban Phai, branch off to Highway 23 via Amphoe Borabue of Maha Sarakham, Amphoe Thawat Buri and Amphoe Selaphum of Roi Et to Yasothon. The total distance is 531 kms., taking 7 hours. Route 2: Take Highway 1 (Phahonyothin Road) to Saraburi and turn right into Highway 2 (Mittraphap Road) until reaching Nakhon Ratchasima. Branch off to Highway 202 via Amphoe Suwannaphum of Roi Et to Yasothon.

By bus: Bus and air-conditioning coach leave Bangkok Bus Terminal (Chatuchak), Kamphaeng Phet 2 Road, for Yasothon daily. For more information, call at Tel. 0 2936 2852-66.

By train and air: passengers can go to Ubon Ratchathani first, then drive to Yasothon, 100 kms. away.
**Distance from Amphoe Mueang to other Amphoes.**

- Sai Mun: 18 kms.
- Kham Khuean Kaeo: 23 kms.
- Pa Tio: 28 kms.
- Kut Chum: 37 kms.
- Maha Chana Chai: 41 kms.
- Thai Charoen: 50 kms.
- Loeng Nok Tha: 69 kms.
- Kho Wang: 70 kms.

**ATTRACTIONS**

**Amphoe Mueang Yasothon**

**Phaya Thaen Park** *(สวนสาธารณะพญาแถน)*

Phaya Thaen is the God of rain for Isan people. Local rockets will be launched in every May to please Phaya Thaen who controls the rain. Located on highway 23 (Chaeng Sanit Rd.) in Mueang municipality next to Lamthuan Reservoir, the park is surrounded by winding stream. It comprises beautiful garden, outdoor stage, playground, and health park. Phaya Thaen Park is the venue for significant fairs and festivals of the province such as Annual Rocket Festival, Short Boat Racing, and Songkran festival.

**Wat Maha That** *(วัดมหาธาตุ)*

Located in Mueang Municipality, the Buddhist temple is a sacred icon of Yasothon. The ancient temple houses “Phra Buddha Butsayarat” or “Phra Kaeo Yot Nam Khang”, Buddha statue in attitude of meditation in Chiang Saen Art style. King Rama III gave this Buddha image to Yasothon’s first mayor Phra Sunthon Rachawongsa. Attractions in Wat Maha That include:

**Phrathat Yasothon or Phrathat Arnon** *(พระธาตุยโสธร หรือพระธาตุอานนท์)*

Located in front of Ubosot, it is significant ancient stupas of Isan. Housing ashes of Phra Arnon inside, the square base stupa has its head similar to Phrathat Phanom. The stupa mirrors Lao art style which was popular from late Ayuthaya period to early Rattanakosin. The city history and a temple record said that the stupa was built around 1778 by Thao Na, Thao Kham Singha, Thao Kham Pha, former officials of Vientiane. By leadership of Phra Wo and Phra Ta, in 1770-1776, they have moved to settle here.

With square base, 81 metres wide on each side, the concrete stupa is narrow at the mid with lotus-shape stucco. On the stupa, four arches placing at four directions house standing Buddha images. The peak is decorated with minor leaves at four directions. With double pyramid-shape crowns lying one above another. The art style is similar to Phrathat Kong Khao Noi. Annual celebration is held in March.

**Ho Trai or Buddhist Scripture Hall** *(หอไตร)*

The pavilion is used for keeping Buddhist scriptures. Located mid of the pool, northeast of Phrathat. The rectangular pavilion has terrace around for housing the Buddhist scriptures chest board, cradles, and shelves from Vientiane. The niche and wooden door are well carved and covered with gold leaves. Its walls are decorated with mixed influence from the central region. It is estimated that the
pavilion was built over a century ago under the reign of King Rama IV and V of Rattanakosin.

Phratthat Kong Khao Noi (พระธาตุก่องข้าว่น้อย)
The stupa is located in the rice paddies of Tambon Tatthong, 9 kms. from Yasothon City via highway 23 (Yasothon-Ubon Ratchathani Rd.), and a kilometer off the main road at kms. 194.

Built in the 18th-20th Century or late Ayuthaya period, the stupa in Khmer style is located in compound of Wat Phrathat Kong Khao Noi, which once was an only rice paddy in Tambon Tatthong. Different from most stupas, the cement stupa is different from other monuments which are generally concerned with Buddhism, Phrathat Kong Khao Noi was built by an ordinary man. A young farmer has been working since dawn. At noon, his mother came late with his lunch. Great hunger and sudden anger to see a tiny amount of rice drove him to kill his mother. When he could not finish all his lunch, he realized his great guilt in making matricide.

So, the young farmers built this stupa, wishing for forgiveness and expiate.

Moreover, at Ban Tat Thong, the Fine Arts Department has found artifacts of per-historical man, including skeletons and painted pottery in Ban Chiang style. The department is establishing historical park here.

Ban Thung Nang Ok (บ้านทุ่งนางโอ๊ก)
The village is famed for its bamboo basketry for household use and souvenir. The village is located in Amphoe Mueang, 8 kms. from Yasothon City via highway 2169 (Yasothon-Kut Chum Rd.)

Ban Na Samai (หมู่บ้านนาสะไมย์)
Located close to Ban Thung Nang Oak, the village is famed for bamboo basketry and carved miniature cart.

The old building of Ban Sing Tha (ย่านเมืองเก่าบ้านสิงห์ท่า)
Ban Khum Sing Tha, in Muang municipality, is the old area
whose name is found in the city’s history. The area is rich of beautiful old-fashioned buildings which is well preserved, making a nice place to enjoy the cultural rich area.

**Amphoe Pa Tio**

**Khit Pillow at Ban Si Than** (หมู่บ้านทำหมอนขิตบ้านศรีฐาน)
The village is famed for Khit Pillow, local style pillow with beautiful patterns. The village is 20 kms. from Yasothon City via highway 202 (Yasothon-Pa Tio-Amnat Charoen Rd.), turn right at km. 18-19 and keep going for 3 kms. After harvest, most villagers earn extra by producing Khit Pillow. Tourist can watch the production process and shop around. Khit pillow is quite popular, and demand for Khit pillow spread to overseas. It is now second biggest income after rice farming.

**Amphoe Loeng Nok Tha**

**Phu Tham Phra** (ภูถ้ำพระ)
The cave is situated east of Kut Hae Village, tambon Kut Chiang Mi, 12 kms. from Amphoe Loeng Nok Tha via highway 212 and 85 kms. from Yasothon City. Housing lots
of Buddha statue, the cave Phu Tham Phra is 6 metres wide and 16 metres long. It can be accessed from southern entrance which is a tunnel link to the north face. The shady mountain is blanketed with lush forest. Other caves in the area include Tham Keng, Tham Ngu Suang, Tham Kliang, and Tham Phrombut.

**Amphoe Kham Khuean Kaeo**

**Ban Song Pueai Archaeological Site** (แหล่งโบราณสถานบ้านสงปีเอีย)

Situated 25 kms. from Yasothon City, via highway 23 (Yasothon-Kham Khuean Kaeo-Ubon Ratchathani Rd.) and 10 kms. of the main road on the right. Its significant attractions include:
**Big Buddha Image** (พระพุทธรูปใหญ่)
Made of brick, the principle Buddha of Wat Song Pueai is 3 metres wide and 8 metres high. This sacred image can be dated back to more than 200 years.

**Pagodas containing soil from holy sites of Buddhism** (เจดีย์บรรจุดินจากสังเวชนียสถาน)
The old pagoda, more than 200 years old, was renovated in 1955 by Field Marshal Plaek Phibunsongkhram. It houses soil from holy site of Buddha, namely the place of birth, enlightenment, the first sermon, and nirvana, brought from India by a Buddhist monk, Khian Ammaphan.

**The replica of Buddha Footprint** (รอยพระพุทธบาทจำลอง)
The footprint was built by sponsoring of Field Marshal Plaek Phibunsongkhram and his lady. Lots of local people come to bath the footprint During Songkran Festival.

**Antique Museum** (พิพิธภัณฑ์ของโบราณ)
The museum features antiques found from Dong Mueang Toei, an ancient Khmer town. The antique include stone bed of the mayor, and stone inscription in ancient Khmer letter.

**Dong Mueang Toei Ancient town** (ซากเมืองโบราณดงเมืองเตย)
The remaining of ancient town Dong Mueang Toei is found a kilometre south of Song Pueai Village, 7 kms. from Amphoe Kham Khuean Kaeo. Foundation of temple, pond, and town wall are found. Although they are ruined, their remaining indicated that it once was settlement in Chenla-Dhavaravadi period or in the 7th Century. Chenla King’s inscription indicated that this ancient site is religious place for Shivism. Dong Mueang Toei and nearby community, probably satellite town of Chenla Kingdom, was called ‘Sangkha Pura’. Chenla Kingdom developed into Khmer Empire later and extended its territory into Mun and Chi River Basin during such period.

**Ku Chan** (กู่จาน)
Located at Ban Ngio, Tambon Ku Chan, 12 kms. from Amphoe Kham Khuean Kaeo, Ku Chan is an ancient pagoda similar to Phrathat Phanom. Legend says it has been built in the same period to Phrathat Phanom in Nakhon Phanom province.

**Amphoe Maha Chana Chai**

**Wat Phra Phutthabat Yasothon** (วัดพระพุทธบาทยโสธร)
is located on a sand mound by the Chi River, Ban Nong Yang, Tambon Hua Mueang. Covering a total area of approximately 269 rais, the temple contains ancient monuments and objects comprising a replica of the Buddha’s footprint, a Buddha image seated under the Naga’s hood, and stone inscription stating that all these 3 items
were taken from Ayutthaya in 835 A.D. by Phra Maha Uttapanya and his student. The inscription also includes an incantation to pay respect to the Buddha's footprint, although some parts are so faded that they are illegible.

The temple also features a 3-tiered Chedi measuring 45 metres high. The 1st floor houses a white jade Buddha image; the 2nd floor displays wax images of 8 revered monk masters; and the 3rd floor is where the Lord Buddha's relics placed on a carved and gilded pulpit are enshrined. The ordination hall houses Thailand's largest white jade Buddha image. To get there: The temple is 45 kms. from downtown Yasothon along the Yasothon - Kham Khuean Kaeo - Maha Chana Chai - Phanom Phrai route (Highways 23, 2083, and 2227).

**Popped Rice Hanging Offerings at Wat Ho Kong**
(ธุงมาลัยข้าวตอกวัดหอกอง)

are kept inside a hall of Wat Ho Kong, Yat Fa Soi 2 Road, Yat Fa Subdistrict Municipality. The hall has served as a storehouse for popped rice hanging offerings made by villagers and offered to the temple on the occasion of Magha Puja Day. It takes months to make a popped rice hanging offering. After being put in a procession to offer to the Buddha, the hanging offerings of various colours and sizes will be collected inside the hall of Wat Ho Kong.

**Amphoe Thai Charoen**

**Song Yae Christian Church or Archangel Michael’s Church**
(โบสถ์คริสต์บ้านซ่งแย้ หรือวัดอัครเทวดามิคาเอล)
is located at Mu 2 Ban Nong Song Yae, Tambon Kham Toei,
18

45 kms. from downtown Yasothon along Highway 2169 (Yasothon – Loeng Nok Tha route). It has been listed among the Unseen in Thailand attractions.

The largest wooden Christian church in Thailand, the church is more than 50 years old and was constructed of nearly 300 small and large wooden pillars, and roofed with 80,000 wooden shingles. A mass wedding ceremony has been held annually at this church on St. Valentine's Day since 2005.

Amphoe Sai Mun

Ho Trai or Buddhist Scripture Hall of Wat Sa Trainurak (หอไตรวัดสระไตรนุรักษ์)

Ho Trai is located in Wat Sa Trainurak, Ban Na Wiang, Mu 1, Tambon Na Wiang, 25 kms. from Amphoe Mueang Yasothon. The ancient pavilion, over a century old, located amidst pond is housing Buddhist scriptures since ancient time. The Burmese-style wooden architecture is 8.30 metre wide and 10.50 metre long, with 4-level metal-sheet roof and long eaves at all sides. The front door is delicately carved.

EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

Rocket Festival (งานประเพณีบุญบั้งไฟ) The festival of great fun is held during every second weekend of May at Phaya Thaen Park, with the initial objective to boost harmony in each team. Yasothon people also believe that the festival will please gods and sacred spirit which create proper rain and prosperous food.

Each rocket joining the celebration will be decorated beautifully with Thai traditional patterns in gold colour. It is said that rocket maker spends months in cutting the pattern before gluing with the rocket. The rocket head will be decorated differently, but the most popular figure is naga spraying water. Rocket head may be found decorated with other figures, anyway, all are related to rain-begging legends. The rocket will be tightly place on base attached to car or cart for joining the parade.

There are various types of rocket, namely Bang Fai Kilo, Bang Fai Muean, and Bang Fai Saen. Bang Fai Kilo means the rocket contains a kilogram of niter Bang Fai Muean contains 12 kilograms of niter and Bang Fai Saen contains 120 kilograms of niter. After making decision what type of rocket they will make, the villager will make it by themselves or assign a specialist. In making a rocket, it requires veteran specialist who can calculate proper proportion of niter and charcoal, otherwise, the rocket will be explode during the launching. The rockets will be tightly tied with a pile, making from a very strait bamboo trunk at proper length.

The rocket will be launched in big field a day after the parade. Traditionally, owner of the rocket which is not launched unsuccessfully will be thrown into muddy pond.

Catholic Mass Wedding Ceremony at the Archangel Michael’s Church (พิธีสมรสหมู่แบบคาธอลิกที่โบสถ์คริสต์บ้านซ่งแย้ หรือวัดอัครเทวดามิคาแอล) is held on St. Valentine’s Day (14 February) of each year at the Archangel Michael’s Church, Ban Song Yae, Tambon Kham Toei, Amphoe Thai Charoen. The event features a dowry procession, service, Catholic wedding ceremony, blessing ritual, and cultural performances to congratulate the couples.
Hae Malai Procession (งานประเพณีแห่มาลัย ค่ายรัษฎาการ) is held in the Fa Yat Subdistrict Municipality, Amphoe Maha Chana Chai, on the occasion of Magha Puja Day of every year. Various communities will make hanging offerings from popped rice prepared from their best sticky rice paddies and decorate them to represent the heavenly Montharop flowers (magnolia) as offerings to the Lord Buddha. At night, there are cultural performances to celebrate the offerings before they are put in a procession to be offered to Wat Ho Kong.

LOCAL PRODUCTS AND SOUVENIRS
Yasothon is renowned for Khit pillow and jasmine rice.

Souvenir Shops

Amphoe Mueang Yasothon

Basketwork Occupation Promotion Group (กลุ่มส่งเสริมอาชีพจักสาน) 119 Mu 13, Ban Na Samai, Tambon Na Samai, Tel. 08 9949 7506.

Amphoe Pa Tio

Ban Mon Thai Lai Khit (บ้านหมอนไทยลายซิก) 164/1 Mu 8, Ban Si Than, Tel. 0 4558 2111, 08 1976 0589, 08 9583 6857.

Bunmi Mon Khit (บุญมีหมอนขิต) Ban Si Than, Tambon Si Than, Tel. 08 1393 4726.

Mae Yaem Mon Khit (แม่แย้มหมอนขิต) 73 Mu 1, Ban Si Than, Tambon Si Than, Tel. 08 1579 0592, 08 9579 4445.

Mu 8 Woman Development Group (กลุ่มสตรีพัฒนาหมู่ ๘) Ban Si Than, Tambon Si Than, Tel. 08 1393 3837.

Travel Agents

Amphoe Mueang Yasothon

Phasuthakorn Travel (พสุธากรการท่องเที่ยว) 198 Mu 8 Arun Prasoet Road, Tambon Tat Thong, Tel. 0 4572 2541.

Phattharaphong Travel (ภัทรพงศ์การท่องเที่ยว) 278 Pracha Samphan Road, Tambon Nai Mueang, Tel. 0 4572 0068.

Two de Tour Limited Partnership (ห้างหุ้นส่วนจำกัด ทูเดอทัวร์)
INTERESTING ACTIVITIES

Golfing

*Bodindecha Golf Club* (สนามกอล์ฟค่ายบดินทร์เดชา) Chaeng Sanit Road, Tambon Ban Doet, inside Fort Bodindecha, featuring a 9-hole golf course, Tel. 0 4573 7451, 0 4573 7458.

EXAMPLES OF TOUR PROGRAMMES

**Programme 1: Yasothon City Tour**

08.00 hrs. Depart Yasothon for Ban Si Than to see how Khit pillows are made and shop for some souvenirs.

09.30 hrs. Depart for Amphoe Hua Taphan, Amnat Charoen, to admire the folk handicrafts of the Ban Sang Tho Noi Arts and Crafts Centre.

12.00 hrs. Lunch in downtown Amnat Charoen.

13.30 hrs. Visit the Chitsakon marigold garden and pay respect to the Phra Mongkhon Ming Mueang Buddha image.

14.30 hrs. Leave for Mukdahan and visit the rock garden at Phu Pha Thoep National Park.

15.30 hrs. Enjoy the scenery of Mukdahan city from the Ho Kaeo Mukdahan Tower and shop for Indo-Chinese products at the market by the Mekong River. Dinner and overnight in downtown Mukdahan.

**Programme 2: Linkage Tour of Yasothon - Amnat Charoen – Mukdahan**

08.00 hrs. Leave Yasothon to Amphoe Pa Tio to see how Khit pillows are made and shop for some souvenirs at Ban Si Than.

10.00 hrs. Return to downtown Yasothon to see the crafting of miniature carts and bamboo sticky rice containers at Ban Na Samai.

12.00 hrs. Lunch in downtown Yasothon.

13.30 hrs. Visit Wat Maha That to pay respect to the Buddha image “Phra Phuttha Butsayarat” and Phrathat Anon.

14.30 hrs. Visit the old community of Yasothon around the front of Wat Sing Tha.

15.30 hrs. Pay homage to Luangpu Phuang of Wat Si Thammaram.

16.30 hrs. Visit Phrathat Kong Khao Noi and return to the accommodation in downtown Yasothon.

FACILITIES IN YASOTHON

**Accommodations**

*(The room rates mentioned in this brochure may be changed. Please ask for current information from each hotel when making reservation.)*

**Amphoe Mueang Yasothon**

*J.P. Emerald Hotel* (เจ.พี. เอ็มเมอรัลด์ โฮเต็ล) 36 Prapha Road, Tel. 0 4272 4848-55. 119 rooms: 800-1,650 Baht.

*Khum Bua Kham Resort* (คุ้มบัวคำ รีสอร์ท) Tambon Nam Kham Yai, Tel. 0 4572 4674. 8 houses, 350 Baht.

*Krua Rim Nam* (ครัวริมน้ำ) 328 Mu 3 Tambon Lam Nam Yai, Tel. 0 4571 1422. 14 rooms: 400 Baht.

*Nobel Place* (โนเบิล เพลส) 170/1 Wari Ratchadet Road, Tambon Nai Mueang, Tel. 0 4571 4300, 0 4571 5300, 08 1548 3537. 28 rooms: 400-450 Baht.

*Phen Tawan Resort* (เพ็ญตะวัน รีสอร์ท) Chaeng Sanit Road, Tel. 08 1924 0235. 8 houses: 350-550 Baht.

*R.P. Mansion Park* (อาร์. พี. แมนชั่น ปาร์ค) 275 Prachasamphan Road, Tel. 0 4571 2235-6. 56 rooms: 400 Baht.
**Ratri Resort** (ราตรี รีสอร์ท) Chaeng Sanit Road, Tel. 0 4572 4295. 5 houses: 200-400 Baht.

**Supharoek Mongkhon** (ศุภฤกษ์มงคล) Ban Samran Soi 4 Chaeng Sanit Road, Tel. 0 4571 5630, 08 6308 9194. 16 rooms: 250-350 Baht.

**The Green Park** (เดอะ กรีน ปาร์ค) 209/12 Wari Ratchadet Road, Tambon Nai Mueang, Tel. 0 4571 4700-4 Fax. 0 4572 4500. 70 rooms: 600-2,500 Baht.

**Warothon** (วโรธร) 600-602 Chaeng Sanit Road, Tel. 0 4571 2876. 17 rooms: 150-300 Baht.

**Yasothon Orchid Garden** (ยโสธร ออร์คิด การ์เด้น) 219 Prachasamphan Road, Tel. 0 4572 1000. 70 rooms: 400-450 Baht.

**Warothon** (วโรธร) 600-602 Chaeng Sanit Road, Tel. 0 4571 2876. 17 rooms: 150-300 Baht.

**Yasothon Orchid Garden** (ยโสธร ออร์คิด การ์เด้น) 219 Prachasamphan Road, Tel. 0 4572 1000. 70 rooms: 400-450 Baht.

**Restaurants**

**Amphoe Loeng Nok Tha**

**Huai San Resort** (ห้วยชัน รีสอร์ท) 174 Mu 2 Sawat-Nong Seang Road, Tambon Nai Mueang, Tel. 0 4578 1844-5, 08 9844 8185. 29 rooms: 400-3,000 Baht.

**Phu Din** (ภูดิน) 234 Mu 12 Thayapatsa Road, Tambon Samyeak, Tel. 0 4578 2345, 0 4578 2453, 08 6052 8999, Fax. 0 4578 2259. 39 rooms: 450-800 Baht. www.pudinhotel.com.

**Restaurants**

**Amphoe Mueang Yasothon**

**Ban Khun Ya** (บ้านคุณยะ) 220 Rattanakhet Road, Tambon Nai Mueang, Tel. 0 4572 1141.

**Ban Koet Nuea Yang Korea** (บ้านเกิดเนื้อย่างเกาหลี) Witthayathamrong Road, Tel. 0 4572 4623.

**Chai Bakery** (ชายเบเกอรี่) 257/4 Rattanakhet Road, Tel. 0 4571 2370.

**Chongkrak** (จงรัก) 81/2 Sahaphattana Road, Tel. 0 4571 1295.

**Icing Ice Cream House** (ไอซิ่ง ไอศครีม เฮาส์) Sahaphattana Road, Tel. 0 4571 2782.
Yot Nakhon (ยศนคร) 143/1 Uthai Ramrit Road, Tel. 0 4571 1481, 0 4571 2662.

Amphoe Pa Tio
Suan Mai Ngam (สวนไม้งาม) Tambom Chiang Pheng, Tel. 0 4579 5389.

Amphoe Kham Khuean Kaeo
Kai Yang Shell Chun Chim (ไก่ย่างเซลล์ชวนชิม) Tambon Dong Khaen Yai.

Amphoe Kut Chum
Luk Chin Kut Chum (ลูกชิ้นกุดชุม) Tambon Kut Chum.

Amphoe Loeng Nok Tha
Huai San Resort (ห้วยซัน รีสอร์ท) 174 Mu 2 Sawat-Nong Seang Road, Tambon Sawat, Tel. 0 4578 1844-5.

USEFUL CALLS

Provincial Public Relations Office Tel. 0 4571 1093
Provincial Office Tel. 0 4571 2722
Bus Terminal Tel. 0 4571 2965
Yasothon Hospital Tel. 0 4571 2580
                     0 4571 2486-7
Nai Phaet Harn Hospital Tel. 0 4571 2546
Ruam Phaet Hospital Tel. 0 4571 2412
Yasothon Police Tel. 0 4571 1683-4
Highway Police Tel. 1199
Tourist Police Tel. 1155