

# Khlong Phanom National Park

*Situated on rugged limestone range, the park is soaked all the year round by heavy rain. Thus, its tropical rain forest is watershed that feeds Tapi River, the only lifeline of Surat Thani. Established in 2000, the park acquires total area of 410.40 square kilometres, covered in Amphoe Phanom of Surat Thani.*

## Geography

Rugged and steep mountains dominate 80 percent of the park's area, mostly in the northern part. There are limestone mountains, towering cliff and mountain range line in east-west direction. The highest peak, at the heart of the park, is 870 metres mean sea level. The plain occupies only 20 percent of the park. They are mostly plains in the valley. On average, the plain is situated around 200 metres above sea level.

## Climate

Like most part of southern Thailand, the park is

blown all the year round by Northeast and Southwest Monsoon. Dense forest on the high mountains attracts rain, soaking the park year round. The rainy season is from May to December and summer is from January to April.

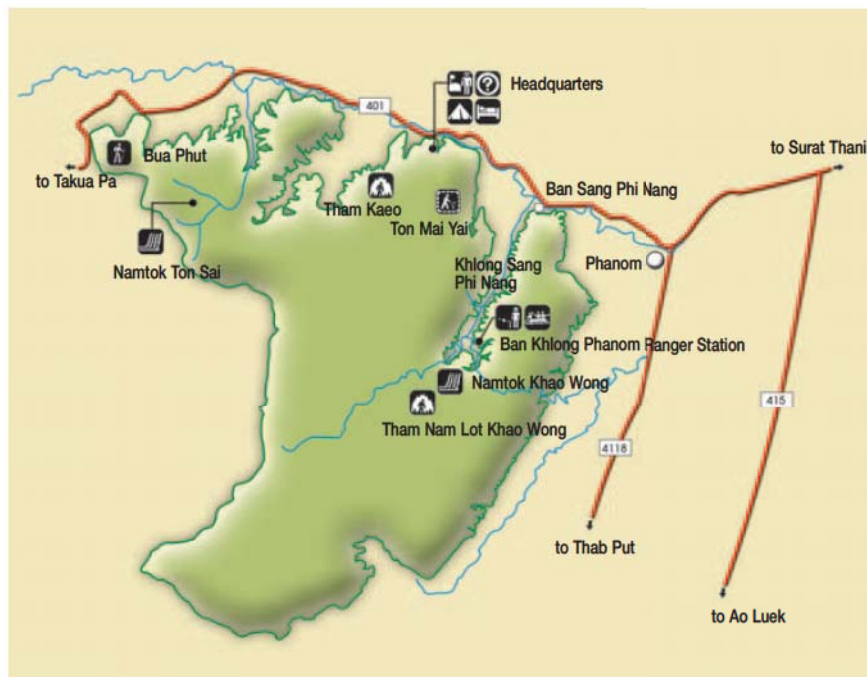
## Flora and fauna

The dense jungle of Khlong Phanom National Park is home to numerous plants such as *Parishia insignis*, *Hopea odorata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *Barringtonia pendula*, *Lagerstroemia speciosa*, *Mesua nervosa*, *Duabanga grandiflora*, *Toona ciliata*, *Salacca wallichiana*, *Calamus* sp., *Caryota baccosensis*, *Thelypyris* sp., *Cynometra iripa*, Bamboo, Fern and different kinds of climbing plants.

There are some rare plants species such as *Koompassia excelsa*.

Such lush forest is home to various wildlife such as Asian Elephant, Sambar Deer, Malayan Tapir, Tiger, Bear, Serow, Common Wild Boar, White-handed Gibbon, Pig-tailed Macaque, Langur, Squirrel,





## Getting there

■ The park's headquarters is located by highway no. 401 between Amphoe Phanom and Amphoe Takua Pa.

stalagmites and stalactites. It takes 45 minutes to Jack Fruit, Guava, Lemon through the tunnel and flash light is greatly required.

◆ **Chong Yung Waterfall.** Situated amidst lush jungle, the waterfall cascades into the big swamp.

Common Muntjak and Mouse Deer.

Various kinds of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Olive-winged Bulbul, Barn Swallow, Green-billed Malkoha, Ashy Drongo, Dark-necked Tailorbird, Common Iora, Collared Scops-Owl, Greater Green Leafbird, Gold-whiskered Barbet and Greater Coucal.

## Attractions

◆ **Khao Wong Camp.** Established since 1969, the camp is a frontline strong of the Communist Party of Thailand. Records are found on the cave wall in the camp. Visitor requires to trek by 8 tiers Khao Wong Waterfall, former plantation of the communist, and trek for 45 minutes through a tunnel with subterranean stream, to the hidden camp in the valley.

In the embrace of mountain, there are many caves served for various purposes such as the cave for the General, meeting cave, armory cave. There are canteen, takraw court, basketball court, and the field for marshalling forces.

◆ **Khiri Wong Waterfall and Khiri Wong Cave.** The big waterfall cascades through 8 tiers into the creek below before flowing through plantation area of Khao Wong Camp. Many trees such as Lime and Gauva remain in the area. The stream runs through a tunnel or Khiri Wong Cave, which is the only entrance to the Khao Wong Camp.

The cave houses beautiful formations of

Among its vast jungle, the park houses also various waterfalls, caves, and towering cliffs at 100-150 metres high. There are 2 caves, Non Cave and Man Cave, where formation of meika make the cave glittering.



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