

Chae Son National Park

Chae Son National Park covers an area of 768 square kilometres in northeastern Lampang. The national park is one of the Lampang's major attractions and offers not only waterfalls but also hot springs which illustrate the high temperatures that exist beneath the earth's surface. Since 1988, it has been known as the 58th national park of Thailand.

Geography

The national park is a mountainous area with 81 degree Celsius hot springs cascading over rocky terrain, providing misty and picturesque scenery.

Climate

The rainy season is from May to October, the winter season is from November to February and the summer season is from March to April. Usually, tourists can visit the national park all year round.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous and deciduous dipterocarp forests cover the park with specific plants including *Azelia xylocarpa*, *Chukrasia tabularis*, *Toona ciliata*, *Diospyros pubicalyx*, *Lagerstroemia calyculata*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. obtusifolius*, *Pinus merkusii*, *P. kesiya*, *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Shorea obtusa* and *S. siamensis*.

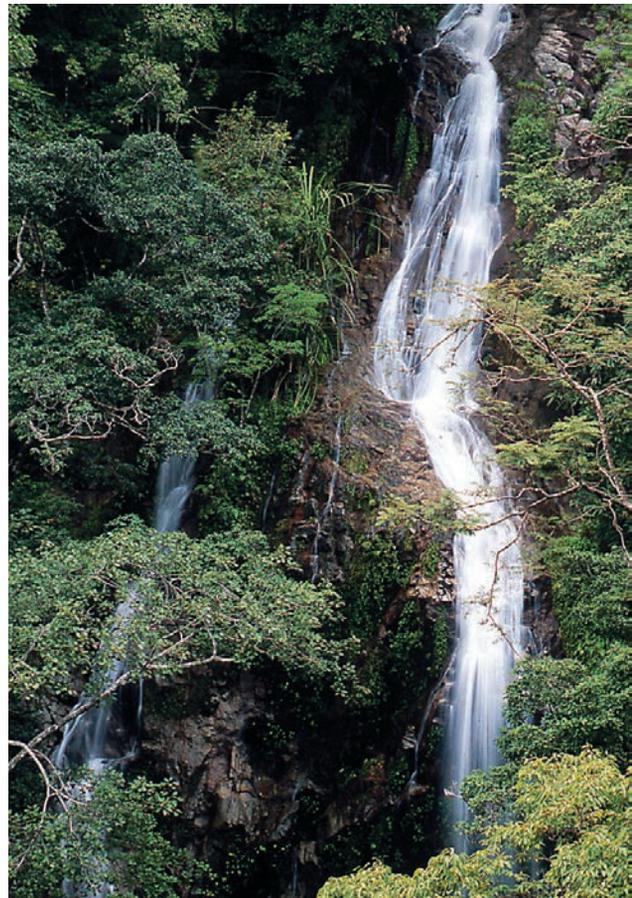
The park is home to mammals such as Sambar, Northern Red Muntjac, Lesser Oriental Chevrotain, Wild Boar, Asian Golden Cat, Siamese Hare, Southwest China Serow, Sunda Flying Lemur, Phayre's Leaf-monkey, Malayan Porcupine, Finlayson's Squirrel and Northern Treeshrew.

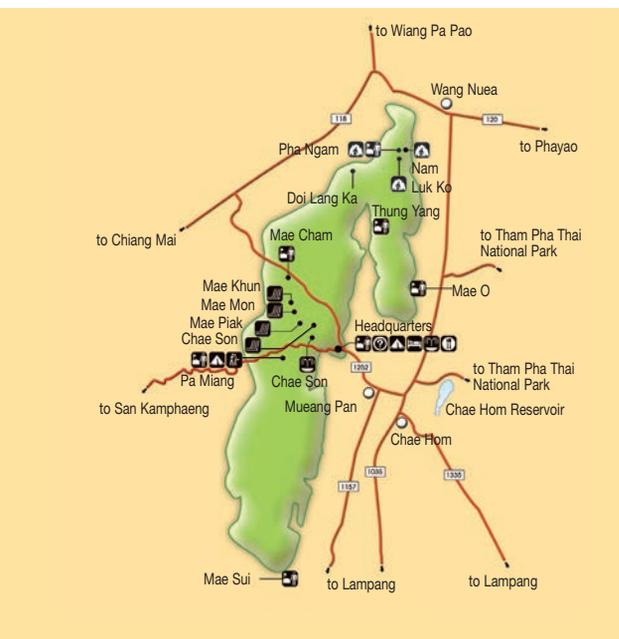
Various kinds of birds such as White-rumped Shama, Red Junglefowl, Woodpeckers, Hawks, Bulbuls, Barbets, Tailorbirds, Green Pigeons, Warblers and Babblers can be seen in the park.

Annually, a number of Cicadas congregate near the hot springs. People believe that they come to consume mineral water here.

Attractions

◆ **Chae Son Waterfall**, originating from Lamnam Mon (Mon Stream) is full of water all year round. The 6-level waterfall cascades down the cliff to large natural pools on each level. It is not far from the park office-only a kilometre walk from the parking area.





Getting There

- The national park is about 75 kilometres from the district town of Lampang. From Lampang's town, take Highway 1035 (Lampang-Chae Hom route) for 58 kilometres and then proceed on a sub-route heading to Mueang Pan district for a 17 kilometres distance.

◆ **Mae Mon Waterfall** is just 5 kilometres from the National Park Headquarters. The scenery is breathtaking, especially when watching the massive volume of water flowing from the high cliffs into the deep valley below.

◆ **Mae Khun Waterfall** is located near Mae Mon Waterfall. Water cascades from the 100 metres high cliff onto the plain below and later joins the Mae Mon Waterfall.

◆ **Mae Piak Waterfall**, one of the beautiful waterfalls, is the 3-level waterfall 100 metres high. It is easily accessed and is just 3 kilometres from the national park headquarters.

◆ **Hot Springs**, covering an area of about 4,800 m², are popular among tourists. Most of the hot springs emit a mild Sulphur scented steam. You usually enjoy bringing eggs to boil here.

◆ **Warm Basin** is located near the hot springs. Since the basin originated from the hot springs and Chae Son Waterfall, it provides warm water and bath facilities.

◆ **Mineral Bathing Facilities.** Each room is supplied with natural mineral water, between 39 degree Celsius and 42 degree Celsius, sourced directly from the Geyser. It is believed that this mineral water can relieve some skin problems and illness as well as being well known for relaxation and recreation.

◆ **Pha Ngam Cave** is approximately 60 kilometres from the national park ranger station.