

Pha Daeng National Park

Pha Daeng National Park covers an area of 1,123.34 square kilometres between Chiang Dao Wildlife Sanctuary and Doi Pha Hom Pok National Park in Chiang Mai. It has an abundance of wildlife and verdant forests, which are the source of the main tributaries of the Ping and Mae Taeng rivers. Also, an interesting historic archaeological site is located in the Park. The park was declared as Thailand's 99th national park in 2000.

Geography

Pha Daeng features rugged mountain ranges. Most eastern areas are limestone mountains including Doi Tham Klaep, Doi Hua Tho, Doi Khun Huai Sai, Doi Pha Daeng, Tham Ngop, Dan Fak and most western mountains are covered by tropical forest including Doi Kam Phra, Doi Puk Phak Ka, Doi Lek Chi, Doi San Kio Khom Phra, Kio Hu Lom, Doi Thuai and Doi Yang Klo.

Climate

In winter, the highest temperature is about 27 degree Celsius and the lowest temperature is about 8 degree Celsius.

Flora and Fauna

Mixed deciduous, deciduous dipterocarp and tropical rain forests spread over the national park with various plants such as *Michelia floribunda*, *Dipterocarpus alatus*, *D. obtusifolius*, *D. tuberculatus*, *Hopea odorata*, *Cinnamomum iners*, *Schima wallichii*, *Pinus* sp., *Pterocarpus macrocarpus*, *Morinda coreia*, *Lagerstroemia tomentosa*, *L. venusta*, *Chukrasia tabularis*, *Shorea obtusa*, *S. siamensis*, *Cratoxylum maingayi*, *Terminalia chebula*, *Careya arborea* and *Bambusa bambos*.

Many different species of birds such as Scarlet Minivet, Short-billed Minivet, Orange-bellied Leafbird, Green-billed Malkoha, Bronze Drongo, Ashy Drongo, Brown Shrike, Grey-backed Shrike, Barn Swallow,



Thrushes, Flycatchers, Pipits, Bulbuls, Hawks, Eagles and Barbets.

Attractions

◆ **Sri Sangwan Waterfall**, a medium fall, is 10-12 metres wide and 10-15 metres high. The 3-level waterfall originates from Khun Nam Na Wai amidst large green trees. It is only 35 kilometres from Chiang Dao district.

◆ **Pang Tong Waterfall**, a medium fall, hides itself amidst lush green forest. Originating from Khun Mae Ngai river, the waterfall has a special characteristic as its current flows beneath the mountain for a distance of 50-60 metres before later emerging through and flowing out of holes to the waterfall's cliffs.

◆ **Klaep Cave**, A medium size cave is 10 metres wide. Inside, it is home to a community of Insect-eating Bats. Also a number of monkeys live on the mountain. The place offers spectacular view of stalagmites and stalactites and is located close (only 1.5 kilometres) to kilometres 99 of the Highway 107 (Chang Mai-Fang).



Getting There

- Take Highway 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang) and take a turn to the junction of Tap Tao village at Km. 118 (Chai Prakan sub-district.)
- Take Highway 1178 (Mueang Ngai's Km. 79 - Ban Na Wai's Km. 24) for 24 kilometres and take the Ban Na Wai Km. 24 Ban Mueang Na route for 134 kilometres.

◆ **Tap Tao Cave**. Situated in Tap Tao village, this cave is smaller than Tham Chiang Dao. It is set amidst large trees and has various types of vegetation. It is very easy to access.

◆ **Doi Pha Tang**. The high rock mountain has as its special feature, a gigantic round stone standing in the air. It is located at km. 93 of the Highway 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang)

◆ **Doi Pha Daeng**, a rocky mountain, offers a spectacular view. It is located at km. 98 of the Highway 107 (Chiang Mai-Fang).

◆ **Pong Ang Hot Spring**, a small warm pool of gas, sulphur and steam, is full of water all year round. It is located at the entrance of Pong Ang village, km. 22 of the Mueang Rai-Ban Na Wai route.

◆ **A Viewpoint** at the peak located at km. 45 of Mae Cha-Piang Luang route gives views over the Khun Khong Watershed Management Unit. From here, visitors can have a spectacular view of both Chiang Dao Wildlife Sanctuary and Pha Daeng National Park.

◆ **A Viewpoint** at the top of Doi Thuai. This place gave birth to Khun Ping, which is the beginning point of Ping River. You can enjoy scenic panoramas of both Thailand and Myanmar.

