KRABI This coastal province covers an area of 4,709km2 and is located 814km south of Bangkok. Krabi's major attractions are located largely along its extensive coastline. which contains several well-known beaches and bays, and numerous tropical, offshore islands. Krabi has a tropical monsoon climate: it's warm all year round and the two periods of April-May and September-October are the wettest. So the best time to visit Krabi is from November through to March.

1. Ao Nang 2. Hat Noppharat Thara 3. Hat Rai Le 4. Hat Tham Phra Nang 5. Hat Thap

Khaek 6. Muko Phi Phi 7. Ko Phi Phi Don 8. Ko Phi Phi Le 9. Koh Lanta 10. Muko Lanta

Marine National Park

ATTRACTIONS



AO NANG

Situated some 20km from Krabi centre, Ao Nang's white sandy beach stretches to the foot of a prominent limestone cliff.

Beachfront accommodation is available and other facilities include dive centres, boats for rent and kayak sightseeing tours. From Ao Nang, tourists can take boat trips to nearby coastal attractions such as Hat Rai Le and Phra Nang Cave as well as offshore isles such as Ko Poda, Ko Kai, Ko Mo and Ko Thap.

THE FOLLOWING COASTAL BEACHES ('HAT') ARE ACCESSIBLE FROM AO NANG:

HAT NOPPHARAT THARA

Located on Bypass Road The 5km long sandy beach, adjacent Ao Nang, paved with tiny seashells is known as Klong Haeng or 'dry river' on account of the distance the water retreats during low tide. This Marine Park encompasses a large protected area including the nearby beaches and the offshore area of Mu Ko Phi Phi.

HAT THAP KHAEK (COMMONLY SPELT 'TUP KAEK')

Located around 25km from town, Hat Thap Khaek is considered one of the more tranquil beaches of Krabi. Several types of accommodation are available and it is popular among tourists who prefer sunbathing in the privacy of their resort. The west-facing Thap Khaek beach offers both expansive vistas across the sea with Mu Ko Hong and Mu Ko Yao in the background, as well as stunning sunsets.

HAT RAI LE

Rai Le, also known as Railay, is a small peninsula south of Ao Nang. It has a beautiful wide sandy beach on the western side and resorts on the eastern side. It is accessible only by boat (15 minutes by long-tailed boat from Ao Nang) due to high limestone cliffs at the top of the peninsula. It is a haven for rock climbers.

HAT THAM PHRA NANG

Accessible only by boat, this sweeping beach offers fine-grained white sand and crystalline waters, as well as magnificent cliffs and caves. Although visitors flock to this beach year-round it is still pristine and considered to be one of the most attractive in the area.

The inner and outer Phra Nang Caves, and Phra Nang Lagoon are close by, and offer some truly spectacular views. Accommodation is available over a wide price range. Despite the fact that it is accessible only by boat, this area offers plenty of recreational activities

THE FOLLOWING ISLANDS ('KO/KOH') OR GROUPS OF ISLES ('MUKO/MU KO') ARE ALSO ACCESSIBLE FROM AO NANG:

MU KO PHI PHI

These off-shore islands are approximately 40km from both Krabi and Phuket. Made up of six small and two large isles, the main features are beautiful beaches and coral reefs, often separated by sheer limestone cliffs. The best time for a visit is between November and April for day tours or overnight stays. Visitors can get there by taking one of the ferries which depart from Chao Fa Pier in Krabi town.

KO PHI PHI DON

Ko Phi Phi Don, the main island of the group, covers an area of 28 km2 and has a large selection of accommodation. As well as the beaches, Ko Phi Phi Don offers a number of excellent snorkelling and dive sites, particularly Laem Tong in the north, and along the north western coast.

KO PHI PHI LE

Ko Phi Phi Le is blessed with scenic bays such as, Ao Pi Le, Ao Maya and Ao Lo Sa Ma. In the northeast of the island is also a large cave called Tham Viking.



MU KO LANTA

Mu Ko Lanta consists of two adjacent islands: Ko Lanta Yai and Ko Lanta Noi. At the south end of Ko Lanta Yai is the headquarter of Mu Ko Lanta National Park, which has a camp ground and beautiful views. The park occupies many islands including Ko Lanta Yai, Ko Lanta Noi, Ko Ta Leng Beng, Ko Ha, Ko Rok, and Ko Ngai. For more information, visit www.dnp.go.th

MUKO LANTA MARINE NATIONAL PARK

The park has an office at the south end of Ko Lanta Yai. The park covers an area of 152km2 and occupies many islands including parts of Ko Lanta Yai, Ko Lanta Noi, Ko Ta Leng Beng, Ko Ha, Ko Rok, and Ko Ngai. Camping is allowed near the park office with advance notice, and Ko Rok also provides tents for tourists.

Please contact Muko Lanta National Park, No.5, Tambon Ko Lanta Yai, Amphoe Ko Lanta, Krabi 81150. www.dnp.go.th









KRABI TOWN WALKING STREET

The best way to enjoy an insight into the local culture and sample local food is to visit one of the local markets. This walking street features over 50 stalls of handicrafts, jewellery, clothes and food as well as street performances. Located behind Voque Department Store, the market is open on Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 5pm until 10pm.

KO KLANG

Across the river from Krabi town a mere 15 minutes boat ride from Chaofa Pier, Ko Klang. Meet local people and observe traditional local life including coastal fishing, rice farming and making the traditional miniature Hua Tong boats.

KO KLANG

There are many Thai Cooking classes such as the 'Krabi Cookery School by Miss Ya'. The one day course introduces students to classical Thai dishes and includes a trip to the Krabi market to choose the correct and freshest ingredients.

EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

KRABI BOEK FA ANDAMAN **FESTIVAL**

The festival is held annually to inaugurate the province's tourist season. The festival features parades, local product contests, sea-kayaking competitions and boat races.

LOI RUEA CHAO LE FESTIVAL

The festival takes place in the evening of the full moon in the sixth and the eleventh months of the lunar calendar. Ceremonies are held by the sea gypsies of Ko Lanta, and the ritual includes small boats being set adrift to drive away evil and bring good luck and prosperity - a beautiful spectacle at night.

HOT SPRINGS

Krabi is endowed with several hot springs, especially at the Namtok Ron Khlong Thom which provides in, in their own natural pool.

ROCK CLIMBING

Every year thousands of climbers come to Krabi specifically to challenge themselves on the famous limestone karsts. There are over 150 bolted routes. concentrated primarily on the Phra Nang peninsula, between Hat Tham Phra Nang and Hat Rai Le.

KAYAKING

Kayaking is available in the waters off Krabi and Phang-nga provinces, which boast some of the most natural hollows for visitors to relax spectacular seascapes and marine life anywhere. The sea-kavaking centre is at Ao Nang.

DIVING

There are plenty of opportunities to learn to, and engage in, scuba diving throughout in Krabi around the islands in the marine parks and this can be done as a day trip or liveaboard via one of the many dive centres to be found throughout the province.



