

The Caves of Songkhla, Thailand

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CAVE DESCRIPTIONS

The caves are grouped by amphoe (administrative district) and then listed alphabetically. The code letters were created by John Dunkley in 'Caves of Thailand' and have been continued in the Thai caves database maintained by the author.

All grid references are UTM grid on the Indian 1954 (Thailand-Vietnam) datum.

Abbreviations, acronyms and symbols used:

∩ = cave visited by the author

† = topographic name from map or gazetteer – it is possible that there isn't a cave at these locations.

00. Unknown Amphoe

Ban Sai Tham† SO0003
47P 647542 0801293

Dunkley (1995)

Birds'-nest Cave SO0005
Thale Sap, Samila
Other name: Hohlen der Vogelinsel

A birds'-nest cave site on an island in Songkhla Lake (Thale Sap), 3 km south of Samila.
Dunkley (1995); Kusch (1977)

Tham Khao Kaw SO0016

The cave has a colony of bats and guano deposits.
Chaiyathape, et al. (2002)

Tham Khao Nui Bon SO0013

The cave has a colony of bats and guano deposits.
Chaiyathape, et al. (2002)

Tham Khao Rak Keat SO0012

The cave has a colony of bats and guano deposits.
Chaiyathape, et al. (2002)

Tham Luang Khao SO0014

The cave has a colony of bats and guano deposits.
Chaiyathape, et al. (2002)

Tham Ra Dent SO0015

The cave has a colony of bats and guano deposits.
Chaiyathape, et al. (2002)

01. Muang Songkhla

No caves have been recorded in this amphoe.

02. Sathing Phra

Tham Khao Phi SO0001

Wat Prakok

Other name: Cave of the Disappearing Cows

North of Sathing Phra, near Chedi Ngam in the northern part of the peninsular separating Songkhla Lake from the sea.

Two small caves of archaeological interest, hollowed out in Srivichaya era to be a sanctuary.
Clarac (1981); Dunkley (1995); Wavell (1964)

03. Chana

No caves have been recorded in this amphoe.

04. Na Tharwi

Khao Nam Khang Tunnels SO0008

อุโมงค์ประวัติศาสตร์เขาน้ำค้าง

Khao Nam Khang National Park

The national park has several tunnel complexes built by the Communist Party of Thailand during the insurgency. These include Umong Hin, Umong Sam Chan and Umong 05. The eastern entrance to one tunnel leads to the Nam Tok Phru Ching.

This tunnel complex is the longest man-made tunnel in Thailand.
Daniels (1992); Dunkley (1995); National Park Office (2006)

05. Thepha

Ban Muang Tham† SO0002

47P 701107 0765068

Dunkley (1995)

06. Saba Yoi

Tham Kraduk SO0019
Ban Si Hui, San Kala Khiri National Park

1km from Ban Si Hui.
The cave has a large terrace that can accommodate 50 people. It is used as a cemetery.
National Park Office (2006)

Tham Phueng SO0020
Ban Si Hui, San Kala Khiri National Park

To the north of Tham Kraduk.
National Park Office (2006)

Tham Roo Nok Sak SO0009
47P 703926 0731977
Khooha
Length: 300m

The cave is located 14 kilometers from the District Office at Moo 4, Tambon Khooha, Amphoe Sabayoi.
A crystal clear stream flows along the cave. Stalagmites and stalactites of various shapes and forms are most fascinating for visitors. Part of the 300 meters long cave is dark while the other is bright. Trekking through the cave is quite adventurous since trekkers have to climb some steep cliffs in order to complete the exciting journey.

Tham Talot SO0006
47P 701562 0721190
Khao Daeng, Ban Tham Talot, San Kala Khiri National Park
Other name: Tham Talod

In Khao Daeng, near H4095, 16km from Amphoe Saba Yoi. The temple is located 25 kilometers from the District Office at Moo 6, Tambon Khao Daeng, Amphoe Sabayoi.
The cave serves as a natural tunnel linking one side of hill with the other. Inside the cave are an ancient cement Buddha statue, approximately 100 reclining Buddha statues of varied sizes, and a statue of a 6 foot tall giant guarding the entrance of the cave. The cave provides cool shade and a relaxing atmosphere.
Anon. (1984); Dunkley (1995); National Park Office (2006)

07. Ranot

No caves have been recorded in this amphoe.

08. Krasae Sin

No caves have been recorded in this amphoe.

09. *Rattaphum*

Tham Khao Phra† SO0011
47P 628524 0778930
Wat Tham Khao Phra

10. *Sadao*

Tham Khao Roop Chang SO0004
ถ้ำเขารูปช้าง
Wat Tham Khao Roop Chang, Pedang Besar
Other name: Tham Khao Luk Chang

This temple is located in tambon Padang Besar, amphoe Sadao. The temple premise is cool and peaceful. It is about 13km from Padang Besar market. It utilizes a cave in the premise as place for performing religious practices. Exotic stalagmites and stalactites are eminent in the cave. The interior of the cave is partitioned into many chambers. Anon. (1984); Dunkley (1995)

Tham Sri Kaison SO0018
47P 628237 0782258
Length: 200m

The cave has two entrances followed by an underground river. The passage is about 6m wide and 3m high. The cave has been explored for about 200m without reaching the end. Tournier (2009)

Tham Tcham Pha SO0017
47P 639289 0744938
Pedang Besar
Length: 200m

Located about 5km from the crossroads leading to Tham Khao Luk Chang. The cave has a strong draught which goes for many dozens of metres, without reaching an end. The cave has nets for catching bats. The cave needs to be more seriously explored. Tournier (2009)

11. *Hat Yai*

No caves have been recorded in this amphoe.

12. *Na Nom*

No caves have been recorded in this amphoe.

13. Khuan Niang

No caves have been recorded in this amphoe.

14. Bang Klam

No caves have been recorded in this amphoe.

15. Singhanakhon

No caves have been recorded in this amphoe.

16. Khlong Hoi Khong

No caves have been recorded in this amphoe.

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