

KHON KAEN

17 December 2016

Ban Fang

Tham Hin Pho Thong† **KK0101**
 Wat Tham Hin Pho Thong
 48Q 247141 1827832

Tham Ngu Leum **KK0090**
 Wat Tham Ngu Leum, Nong Bua

There is no more information about this site.
 (Ellis 2011b)

Tham Tao **KK0091**
 Wat Tham Tao, Ban Wang Phon, Pa Manao

Wat Tham Tao is in moo 6 Ban Wang Phon.
 (Ellis 2011b)

Chum Phae

Cave KK0019 **KK0019**
 47Q 819245 1855492 Alt.: 380m
 Phu Pha Man National Park

Dunkley reported a cave being visible 1km to the west of the H201 highway, 31km from Chum Phae, with a rugged karst area behind. This cave is possibly either Tham Pha Daeng or one of the Tham Pho Tai Yan caves. However, by 2009 the forest had regenerated to such an extent that the cliffs can not be seen from the highway.
 (Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b)

Spring KK0035 **KK0035**
 Phu Pha Man National Park

A sacred pond is mentioned in tourist information literature as being close to the Phu Pha Man National Park headquarters. It is said that the water flows all year round. This may be the same site as Tham Sra Kaew.
 (Ellis 2011b)

Sra Kaeo **KK0083**
 สระแก้ว
 47Q 817231 1849967 Alt.: 265m

Wat Sra Kaeo, Pha Dok Chik, Bang Wang Yao Yai

From Ban Wang Yao Yai head east and at the first crossroads go straight on along a gravel road. At a T-junction turn left to Wat Sra Kaeo, which is 500m to the north on the right side of the road.

This large pool is in limestone and was full in April 2009. It is 180m long (south-west to north-east orientation) and 70m wide. No inlet or outlet streams were seen on Google Earth or on a site visit. The pool is 500m out from the bottom of Pha Dok Chik.

This site was first visited in April 2009 by the SMCC.
 (Ellis 2011b)

Tham Ba Sa Bpit **KK0042**
 47Q 814288 1851888 Alt.: 320m
 Wat Tham Dok Bua, Ban Wang Yao Noi
 Length: 100m VR: 10m

Wat Tham Dok Bua is 2km north of Ban Wang Yao Yai, near the village of Ban Wang Yao Noi. From Tham Dok Bua follow the path behind the wat up the hill for a few metres to the entrance.

A ladder leads down into a collapsed chamber. A few short passages lead off the chamber and there are some speleothems. The first recorded visit by cavers was in January 2006 by the SMCC.
 (Ellis 2011b)

Tham Dok Bua **KK0041**
 ถ้ำดอกบัว
 47Q 814262 1851804 Alt.: 295m
 Wat Tham Dok Bua, Ban Wang Yao Noi
 Length: 40m VR: 10m

The wat is 2km north of Ban Wang Yao Yai, near the village of Ban Wang Yao Noi. The cave is at the base of the cliff near the wat.

Tham Dok Bua is a small shrine cave at the bottom of the hill. The chamber is about 10m deep and 40m long.

Fauna:
Leopaldamys neilli (Marshall, 1976)
 (Chordata, Mammalia, Rodentia, Muridae)

The first recorded visit by cavers was in January 2006 by the SMCC.

(Ellis 2011b, Latinne *et al.* 2013, Vogt 2013)

Tham Khi Kia **KK0089**

This cave has a population of bats. There is no more information about the site.

(Boonkerd and Wanghongsai 2001, Ellis 2011b)

Tham Lai Taeng **KK0033**

ถ้ำลายแทง

47Q 814712 1861604 Alt.: 520m

Phu Sam Yot, Phu Pha Man National Park

Length: 50m

From the H201, just north of Phu Nok and before the bridge over the river, three caves are signposted in Thai to the south-west of the road. The dirt road eventually leads to a barrier and the entrance to a village. In the village, guides (and lights) can be hired who will lead you for a couple of kilometres over the fields to the cave. Alternatively the cave is signposted from Ban Cham Phak Nam to the south, within the Phu Pha Man National Park. In 2009 the Park had recently graded the track to the parking area which is passable, with care, in a 2WD pickup. From the car parking area the cave is 200m to the west.

Tham Lai Taeng is a small cave and rock shelter with 4,000 year old paintings. A couple of short ladders aid the exploration of the cave.

Although a well known tourist site the first visit by cavers was in April 2004 by the SMCC.

(Bohwongprasert 2007, Charoenwongsa 1989, Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b, Sutthipibul *et al.* 2006, Vogt 2013)

Tham Mair Keao **KK0079**

ถ้ำแม่แก้ว

Phu Sam Di Mi, Phu Pha Man National Park

Other names: Tham Mae Kaeo

The cave, along with Tham Por Kaeo, is signed from Ban Cham Phak Nam as being 7km to the north which places it near the turning from the main track to Tham Pha Ya Nakharat. A map shows the cave being to the east of the track.

(Ellis 2011b, Sutthipibul *et al.* 2006)

Tham Nang Kaeo **KK0088**

This cave has a population of bats. There is no more information about the site.

(Boonkerd and Wanghongsai 2001, Ellis 2011b)

Tham Nayn Noi **KK0004**

ถ้ำนายน้อย

47Q 818127 1863066 Alt.: 359m

Phu Tham Pu, Phu Pha Man National Park

Length: 247m VR: 18m

Other names: Tham Kubio

Tham Nayn Noi is near Tham Pu Loop, beside the H201. It is on the southern side on the hill with the shrine and Buddha, about 100m back from the road. In February 2012 the vegetation had been cleared and the cave was clearly signed.

The cave starts with a steep and slippery descent which lands in a low passage with a rock and earth floor. After 12m one reaches, via a short ladder, the main passage which is a sloping rift. Many small pools of clear water are found in the lowest part (on the east) of the passage. After 40m of progress there is, at a depth of about 18m, a static sump with green water. The cave can be followed through a bat chamber to a short upper passage.

On the APS visit in 1987 high carbon dioxide was recorded in several locations, including the highest reading recorded in Thailand (8.5%). However, in February 2012 the carbon dioxide was not noticeable.

Fauna:

Dugesia deharvengi Kawakatsu et Mitchell 1989 (Platyhelminthes, Turbellaria, Tricladida, Dugesiidae) – type locality

Haplotaxis glandularis (Yamaguchi, 1953) (Annelida, Clitellata, Haplotaxida, Haplotaxidae)

Speocera (Speocera) deharvengi Deeleman-Reinhold, 1995 (Arthropoda, Arachnida, Araneae, Araneomorphae, Ochyroceratidae) – type locality

Theosbaena cambodjiana Cals et Boutin, 1985 (Arthropoda, Crustacea, Malacostraca, Thermosbaenacea, Halosbaenidae)

Aequigidiella aquilifera Botosaneanu et Stock, 1989 (Arthropoda, Crustacea,

Malacostraca, Amphipoda, Bogidiellidae)
- type locality

Stenasellus rigali Magniez, 1991
(Arthropoda, Crustacea, Malacostraca,
Isopoda, Asellota, Stenasellidae) - type
locality

Siamoporus deharvengi Spangler, 1996
(Arthropoda, Insecta, Coleoptera,
Dytiscidae) - type locality

Hipposideros larvatus (Horsfield, 1823)
(Chordata, Mammalia, Chiroptera,
Hipposideridae)

The cave was surveyed by the APS in 1987
and then resurveyed by SMCC in
February 2012.

(Botosaneanu and Stock 1989, Brancelj *et al.* 2013, Brouquisse *et al.* 1988, Deeleman-Reinhold 1995, Deharveng 1988, Deharveng and Bedos 2000, Deharveng and Leclerc 1989, Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b, Ellis 2015a, Kawakatsu and Mitchell 1989, Magniez 2003, Mouret 2004, Roguin 1988, Spangler 1996, Wagner 1994)

Tham Ou Lup **KK0034**
Phu Pha Man National Park

Tham Ou Lup is mentioned in tourist
information literature as being close to the
Phu Pha Man National Park headquarters.
This is possibly the same cave as Tham Pu
Loop.
(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Pha Daeng **KK0043**
ถ้ำผาแดง

47Q 815594 1856154
Phu Phak Nam, Phu Pha Man National
Park

Tham Pha Daeng is marked on map
boards at Tham Khang Khao and near the
National Park headquarters. It is on the
eastern side of Phu Phak Nam, just to the
north of the Tham Pho Tai Yan caves.
(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Pha Ngam **KK0080**
ถ้ำผางาม

47Q 816134 1855224 Alt.: 403m
Wat Tham Pha Ngam, Ban Cham Phak
Nam, Phu Pha Man National Park
Length: 50m

The Wat Tham Pha Ngam temple is at the
eastern side of Ban Cham Phak Nam, to
the north of the road. In the temple
grounds the cave is signposted straight
ahead, up 100 concrete steps.

The large cave entrance has been heavily
developed with concrete, for use as a
monks' quarters. There is not much
passage beyond the entrance area, though
a high skylight means there is a cool
draught.

The cave was visited in April 2009 by a
SMCC team.
(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Pha Phuang 1 **KK0001**

ถ้ำผาฟาง๑
48Q 181630 1863735 Alt.: 400m
Phu Pha Phuang, Phu Pha Man National
Park
Length: 145m VR: 30m

The cave is signposted to the east of the
H201, close the ranger station near Tham
Pu Loop. The track is blocked so it is
necessary to walk 3km along the track to
reach the cave.

Tham Pha Phuang 1 is a large through
cave forming a tunnel through Phu Pha
Phuang. A fairly steep path and steps lead
up to a vast cavern with a collapsed side
wall. The best time for a visit is between
10am and noon when the sunlight streams
through a roof hole illuminating the
decorations.

The cave was surveyed by the APS in
1987.

(Clarac and Pagau-Clarac 1985, Deharveng
1988, Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b,
Middleton and Waltham 1986, Sutthipibul
et al. 2006)

Tham Pha Phuang 2 **KK0002**
ถ้ำผาฟาง๒

47Q 818958 1863511 Alt.: 350m
Phu Pha Phuang, Phu Pha Man National
Park
Length: 230m VR: 10m

Tham Pha Phuang 2 is 1km before Tham
Pha Phuang 1 and is possibly the same
cave as Tham Phieng Din. As the track is
blocked it is necessary to walk 4km from
the ranger station at on the H201 near
Tham Pu Loop.

This relict cave is at the foot of a cliff. It has a large entrance which leads to a series of rift passages.

Fauna:

Plusioglyphiulus puttakun Golovatch, Geoffroy, Mauries et VandenSpiegel, 2011 (Arthropoda, Diplopoda, Spirostreptida, Cambalopsidae) – type locality

The cave was surveyed by the APS in 1987.

(Deharveng 1988, Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b, Golovatch *et al.* 2011)

Tham Pha Ya Nakharat **KK0007**

ถ้ำพญานาคราช

Lower entrance - Tham Pha Ya Nakharat
47Q 815154 1861331 Alt.: 520m

Upper entrance - Tham Ket Khao
47Q 815100 1861653 Alt.: 557m

Phu Sam Yot, Phu Pha Man National Park
Length: 668m VR: 82m

Other names: Tham Geep Khao; Tham Kled Kaew

From the H201 just north of Phu Nok and before the bridge over the river, three caves are signposted in Thai to the south-west of the road. The dirt road eventually leads to a barrier and the entrance to a village. In the village, guides (and lights) can be hired who will lead you for a couple of kilometres over the fields to the cave. Alternatively the cave is signposted from Ban Cham Phak Nam to the south, within the Phu Pha Man National Park. In 2009 the Park had recently graded the track to the parking area which is passable, with care, in a 2WD pickup.

The small lower entrance, Tham Pha Ya Nakharat, opens into a large, well decorated chamber. Monks have painted various images on a large column at the top of the chamber. By descending the chamber a boulder choke is reached. From here it is possible to climb up through the boulders, assisted by a couple of ladders, to reach a large passage. This large passage ascends to the upper entrance, Tham Ket Khao.

The first recorded visit to the cave by speleologists was a SMCC trip in April 2004. The cave was subsequently surveyed by the SMCC in January 2006. A more thorough investigation of the cave is required.

Tham Pha Ya Nakharat is the longest known cave in Khon Kaen.

(Bohwongprasert 2007, Deharveng 1988, Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b, Ellis 2013, Gray *et al.* 1994, Sutthipibul *et al.* 2006)

Tham Phieng Din **KK0056**

ถ้ำพิงดิน

Phu Pha Man National Park

Tham Phieng Din is signposted (along with Tham Pha Phuang) to the east of the H201 near the ranger station. It is 1km along the track and is possibly the same cave as Tham Pha Phuang 2.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Pho Tai Yan 1 **KK0005**

ถ้ำธิญาณ๑

47Q 819433 1855005 Alt.: 350m

Phu Phak Nam, Phu Pha Man National Park

Other names: Tham Pho Thi Yan 1; Tham Potiyan 1

The two Tham Pho Tai Yan caves are located in the south-east end of Phu Phak Nam. They are marked on map boards at Tham Khang Khao and near the National Park headquarters.

Fauna:

Uranotaenia spiculosa Peyton et Rattarithikul, 1970 (Arthropoda, Insecta, Diptera, Culicidae)

Cynopterus sphinx (Vahl, 1797) (Chordata, Mammalia, Chiroptera, Pteropodidae)

Taphozous theobaldi Dobson, 1872 (Chordata, Mammalia, Chiroptera, Emballonuridae)

Rhinolophus thomasi Andersen, 1905 (Chordata, Mammalia, Chiroptera, Rhinolophidae)

Hipposideros larvatus (Horsfield, 1823) (Chordata, Mammalia, Chiroptera, Hipposideridae)

Pipistrellus pulveratus (Peters, 1870) (Chordata, Mammalia, Chiroptera, Vespertilionidae)

The cave was visited in 1963 when a specimen of *Uranotaenia spiculosa* was collected. The cave was mentioned by local guides to the APS in 1987, but not visited.

(Deharveng 1988, Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b, Peyton and Rattarithikul 1970, Yenbutra and Felton 1986)

Tham Pho Tai Yan 2 **KK0006**

ถ้ำหินงาญ๒

47Q 819364 1855055 Alt.: 400m

Phu Phak Nam, Phu Pha Man National Park

Other names: Tham Pho Thi Yan 2; Tham Potiyan 2

This is the second of the Tham Pho Tai Yan caves, located in the south-east end of Phu Phak Nam.

The cave was mentioned by local guides to the APS in 1987, but not visited.

(Deharveng 1988, Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b, Yenbutra and Felton 1986)

Tham Phu Pong **KK0097**

Phu Phak Nam, Phu Pha Man National Park

Other names: Tham Pu Pong

The reference gives this cave the same coordinates as Tham Pho Tai Yan 1.

Fauna:

Taphozous melanopogon Temminck, 1841 (Chordata, Mammalia, Chiroptera, Emballonuridae) (Ellis 2011b, Yenbutra and Felton 1986)

Tham Por Keao **KK0078**

ถ้ำพ้อมแก้ว

Phu Sam Di Mi, Phu Pha Man National Park

This cave, along with Tham Mair Kaeo, is signposted from Ban Cham Phak Nam as being 7km to the north, which places it near the turning from the main track to Tham Pha Ya Nakharat.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Pu† **KK0050**

ถ้ำปู่

47Q 817462 1863248

Phu Tham Pu, Phu Pha Man National Park

Phu Tham Pu is to the west and south of the H201, where it bends round to the west. It is the hill behind the National Park ranger station, opposite the turning to Tham Pha Phuang. The eastern end of the hill, close to the H201, is the location of Tham Nayn Noi and Tham Pu Loop, and

this cave may be the same as Tham Pu Loop.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Pu Loop **KK0003**

ถ้ำปู่หลุม

47Q 818197 1863111 Alt.: 357m

Phu Tham Pu, Phu Pha Man National Park

Length: 292m VR: 14m

Other names: Tham Pu Lu; Tham Phu Lup; Tham Phu Lum

The cave opens behind the big Buddha statue, a short distance above the level of the col and 30m from the H201 road.

Just inside the entrance some steps lead down to the right. Passing through a low section leads to a second chamber which can be ascended to rejoin the concrete path. This path doubles back on itself and crosses a concrete ledge to a short ascent through stal to a point where a ladder drops down into a chamber. The top of this chamber links with the path, near to the entrance. This final chamber is about 10m in diameter and drops down to a pool of water. This water was occasionally used by the monks. Near the entrance there is a Buddha carved into the wall and there are several other small shrines.

There is an old legend that the cave is the home to the ghost of a big hunter, resulting in the Thais sounding their car horns when passing the col as protection against bad spirits. The famous meditation monk Ajarn Lee visited this cave in 1956. In 1987 the abbot and the snakes he handled were a local curiosity, but by 2008 there was no indication that monks still used the cave.

The following fauna has been recorded from the cave:-

Fauna:

Scolopendra dehaani Brandt, 1840 (Arthropoda, Chilopoda, Scolopendromorpha, Scolopendridae)
Orthriophis taeniurus (Cope 1861) (Chordata, Reptilia, Squamata, Colubridae)

The cave was visited, but not surveyed, by the APS expedition in 1987. It was surveyed by the SMCC in February 2012.

This may be the same cave as Tham Pu (KK0050).

(Deharveng 1987, Deharveng 1988, Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b, Ellis 2015a, Kongim *et al.* 2013, Schulz 2010, Siriwut *et al.* 2016, Vogt 2013)

Tham Ruesi Nimit KK0084

ถ้ำฤๅษีนิมิต

47Q 816230 1855314 Alt.: 380m

Wat Tham Pha Ngam, Ban Cham Phak Nam, Phu Pha Man National Park

Length: 75m

The Wat Tham Pha Ngam temple is at the eastern side of Ban Cham Phak Nam, to the north of the road. Within the temple grounds Tham Russi Nimit is signed 100m away to the north-east.

The entrance chamber is used by monks. At the back of the chamber a narrow passage soon reaches a small chamber. From here a small, ascending passage was explored, but not pushed. Near the entrance a small passage on the left (looking in) descends, but was not explored. This passage is of interest due to the proximity of the Tham Ruesi Nimit Resurgence (KK0085).

The cave was visited in April 2009 by a SMCC team.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Ruesi Nimit Resurgence KK0085

47Q 816243 1855215 Alt.: 375m

Wat Tham Pha Ngam, Ban Cham Phak Nam, Phu Pha Man National Park

Length: 50 m

The Wat Tham Pha Ngam temple is at the eastern side of Ban Cham Phak Nam, to the north of the road. Within the temple grounds Tham Russi Nimit is signed 100m away to the north-east and the path to this cave goes past a man-made pool of water.

The water is a blue/green colour, similar to that seen at nearby resurgences, implying that it is from a karst source, possibly the nearby Tham Ruesi Nimit. The water was cool in temperature.

The resurgence was visited in April 2009 by a SMCC team.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Sra Kaew KK0022

This cave is mentioned in National Park literature, but no location or description is given.

(Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b, Gray *et al.* 1994)

Khao Suan Kwang

Tham Kinarii KK0092

Wat Da Faa, Ban Nong Nao

The cave is on a hill near Wat Dat Faa, moo 8 Ban Nong Nao, about 4km to the east of the amphoe office.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Moo Bor KK0093

Nam Tok Than Sawan, Non Sawan

This is a 20m wide sandstone rock shelter.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Mup† KK0052

ถ้ำมูป

48Q 257885 1883615

Wat Tham Mup, Ban Non Hua Chang

The wat is 1.5km south-west of Ban Non Hua Chang.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Phra Dayt KK0094

Ban Na Ang Thong, Kham Muang

Other names: Tham Khi Gia

The cave is in a forest park in moo 7 Ban Na Ang Thong. The park has caves, waterfalls and pools.

(Ellis 2011b)

Khok Pho Chai

Tham Pha Daeng KK0096

48Q 217439 1786122

Wat Tham Pha Daeng, Ban Khok

Other names: Tham Phu Pha Daeng

The grounds of the wat has Tham Phu Pha Daeng and a permanently flowing stream that is the source of the Huai Sai.

(Ellis 2011b)

Muang Khon Kaen

Tham Manai† **KK0102**
48Q 251663 1830990
Wat Upanatha Manaram Tham Mana,
Sawathi

Nong Rhuea

Tham Chia **KK0109**
48Q 239097 1830346
Wat Tham Chia

The co-ordinates in the reference place the temple at to the south of the Ubolratana reservoir where there is unlikely to be a cave. An internet search suggests that Wat Tham Chia is an alternative name for Wat Pha Phu Pha Khao. (Siriwut *et al.* 2016)

Tham Lai Meu 1 **KK0072**
ถ้ำลายมือ 1
48Q 241656 1833545
Ban Don Kok
Length: 8m

From Khon Kaen head west on the H12 for 21km from the intersection with the ring road (H230). Turn north past Ban Phue with the reservoir on the left and follow signs for Ban Khok Kam. After 13km the road turns east and crosses the ridge. The cave is located before the road crosses the ridge.

The rock shelter is in sandstone. It is 8m long and 7m high and has ancient red paintings. (Charoenwongsa 1989, Ellis 2011b, Vogt 2013)

Tham Lai Meu 2 **KK0073**
ถ้ำลายมือ 2
48Q 241656 1833245
Ban Don Kok
Length: 9 m

From Khon Kaen head west on the H12 for 21km from the intersection with the ring road (H230). Turn north past Ban Phue with the reservoir on the left and follow signs for Ban Khok Kam. After 13km the road turns east and crosses the ridge. The cave is located before the road crosses the

ridge. It is approximately 300m from Tham Lai Mur 1.

The rock shelter is in sandstone. It is 9m long and 9m high and has ancient red paintings. (Charoenwongsa 1989, Ellis 2011b, Vogt 2013)

Tham Hant **KK0103**
48Q 228076 1763289
Wat Tham Hant, Mai Na Phiang
Other names: Tham Han

Rocks from the ledge above the entrance have fallen down and blocked the cave so it can't now be explored.

Phu Pha Man

Cave KK0075 **KK0075**
47Q 806967 1843312 Alt.: 241m
Ban Huai Prong
Length: 50m

From Ban Tha Roengrom a track heads north, signposted to the Tham India priests' campsite. The track, which is in good condition passes Tham Fun and continues for another 3 km. From the end of the track take a good path to the left (signposted) to Tham India. Go past Tham India and the path drops down off the limestone and skirts the field. A path then follows a dyke across the fields to reach the cliffs on the other side. Turn right to reach the cave.

This cave is home to a monk. The passage extends for less than 50m. In the wet season the formations drip water and a small stream flows and disappears into a very small passage. The fields outside become a pond in the wet season.

The cave was recorded in December 2008 by the SMCC. (Ellis 2011b)

Cave KK0076 **KK0076**
47Q 808148 1844907 Alt.: 253m
Phu Man, Phu Pha Man National Park
Length: 5m

Drive past Tham Khang Khao and follow the dirt road to the west. The cave is at the base of a small cliff about 100m north of the track.

The cave is not much more than a rock shelter at the base of the cliff. A small hole leads up to a skylight about 15m above the floor.

The cave is just over the boundary fence into the National Park and appears to be used as a shelter by farm workers.

This cave was visited in December 2008 by the SMCC.

(Ellis 2011b)

Nam Phut Sam Poep **KK0081**

น้ำผุดสามเป็บ

47Q 808850 1846064

Ban Sam Poep

Springs have been reported in rice paddies in Ban Sam Poep. The springs are capped and used as a perennial water supply. Local information suggested the springs are vauculian.

(Ellis 2011b, Smart 1999)

Nam Phut That Tao **KK0036**

น้ำผุดศาลเต่า

47Q 803892 1846702 Alt.: 270m

Wat Tham Thep Nimit, Ban Na Fai

This vauculian resurgence is at the end of a track which leads for 500m towards the east from just before the bridge into Wat Tham Thep Nimit. It is signposted at the northern end of Ban Na Fai along a road that forks to the right.

The springs are a popular picnic spot and had a good flow of water in April 2009. The resurgence is in the river bed.

This site was also first recorded by Dean Smart in 1999.

(Ellis 2011b, Smart 1999)

Spring KK0077 **KK0077**

47Q 810923 1850095 Alt.: 362m

Ban Sam Phu Thong Nua, Phu Pha Man National Park

From the road just north of Ban Sam Phu Thong Nua a track leads to a park ranger station beside a pool. Before the pool a track goes off to the right and ends at the base of the hill. A track to the left leads to a tufa waterfall after a couple of hundred metres. Another path to the right leads up the slope to a wide valley with a dry stream bed.

The tufa waterfall is at the base of a 30m cliff. In February 2009 a small trickle of water resurged from under the 5m high upper tufa dam. It appears that in the rainy season the stream flows over the top of the cliff. Based on the petrified vegetation the water may also fountain out of the tufa dams.

The spring was first visited by cavers in February 2009 by the SMCC.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Aat Ree Yeao **KK0061**

ถ้ำอาจรีโย

Wat Khao Tham Nam, Pha Tham Yai, Ban Huai So

Wat Khao Tham Nam is at the foot of Pha Tham Yai.

This is one of the five caves signposted from Tham Nam Thip (KK0040). The cave has not been visited.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Bpra Sat **KK0063**

ถ้ำปราสาท

Wat Khao Tham Nam, Pha Tham Yai, Ban Huai So

Wat Khao Tham Nam is at the foot of Pha Tham Yai.

This is one of the five caves signposted from Tham Nam Thip (KK0040). The cave has not been visited.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Fun **KK0046**

ถ้ำพิน

47Q 808057 1842723 Alt.: 273m

Khao Tham Fun, Ban Tha Roengrom

Length: 107m VR: 11m

Khao Tham Fun is just north of the road, to the west of Ban Tha Roengrom. A track heads north signposted to the Tham India priests' campsite and where the track passes the first limestone hill the cave is on the right. There is a parking area outside the cave.

The cave has seen a lot of development, with a concrete floor and steps, but now appears to be abandoned as a temple cave. There is a seated white Buddha inside and the floor is kept swept. The main passage is about 20m long to the Buddha and there are a couple of side passages on the left

which lead up to skylights. On the right there a short low section leads to a second, small chamber with no way on.

The first speleological visit was by the SMCC in December 2008 and the cave was surveyed by the SMCC in November 2011. (Ellis 2011b, Ellis 2015a, Vogt 2013)

Tham India **KK0074**

ถ้ำอินเดีย

47Q 806834 1843644 Alt.: 356m
Khao Wang Pla, Ban Huai Prong
Length: 50m

From Ban Tha Roengrom a track heads north, signposted in Thai to the Tham India monk's campsite. The track, which is in good condition passes Tham Fun and continues for another 3km. From the end of the track take a good path to the left (signposted) to Tham India.

Tham India is a large undercut that has been developed into a monk's campsite. There don't appear to be any passages at ground level, but there is a large entrance 15m above in the cliff.

The cave was visited in December 2008 by the SMCC. (Ellis 2011b, Vogt 2013)

Tham Khang Khao **KK0026**

ถ้ำค้างคาว

47Q 808815 1845025 Alt.: 320m
Pha Man, Phu Pha Man National Park
Length: 100m+

This is a well known tourist attraction and is well signposted. From Khon San, on the H12 road, go north-west through Ban Phu Pha Man and head towards the limestone massif to the north. Alternatively the signposts can be followed from the H201 road a few kilometres north of the junction with the H12.

The large entrance passage leads to a chamber, but a large fence and gate stops access to the bat roost beyond. There is also a higher entrance as many of the bats leave the cave via the top of the hill. Every evening at around 18:00 there is a large exit flight by the 300,000 bats that live in the cave which takes about 30 minutes.

Fauna:

Chaerephon plicata (Buchanan, 1800)
(Chordata, Mammalia, Chiroptera, Molossidae)

The first recorded visit by cavers was in 2000 by the SMCC.

(Bohwongprasert 2007, Boonkerd and Wanghongsai 2001, Ellis 2011b, Ellis and Barrett 2001, Ellis *et al.* 2002, Siriboon *et al.* 2013, Smart 1999, Sutthipibul *et al.* 2006, Vogt 2013)

Tham Klaeb† **KK0049**

ถ้ำเกลบ

47Q 802863 1845060 Alt.: 265m
Phu Tham Klaeb, Ban Nong Haeo

Phu Tham Klaeb is 3km east of the quarries beside the H12 and just north of Ban Nong Haeo. From Ban Nong Haeo take the road north towards the limestone hill with a large Buddha at the eastern end. The wat is signposted along the northern side of the road. The temple is just before the gate into a quarry.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Large 1 **KK0029**

47Q 809857 1853401 Alt.: 340m
Ban Sap Sombun
Length: 32m

Tham Large 1 is an isolated limestone hill, with a large temple at the base.

The cave is a short through trip that requires a little bit of crawling.

It was explored and surveyed in February 2000 by the SMCC. (Barrett 2000, Ellis 2011b, Ellis and Barrett 2001)

Tham Large 2 **KK0030**

47Q 809737 1853351 Alt.: 340m
Ban Sap Sombun
Length: 24m

This is another short cave located about 125m south-west from Tham Large 1.

The large entrance drops 4m into a chamber, but a smaller entrance has a tree trunk aiding the 2m climb. The chamber is short, but high. It is possible to climb the rift at the end to reach a balcony overlooking the chamber and there is a small side passage that descends for a short distance to a choke.

The SMCC explored and surveyed the cave in February 2000.

(Barrett 2000, Ellis 2011b, Ellis and Barrett 2001)

Tham Na Fa Khiring (Chang) KK0062

ถ้ำฟ้าหิริง (ช้าง)

Wat Khao Tham Nam, Pha Tham Yai

Wat Khao Tham Nam is at the foot of Pha Tham Yai.

This is one of the five caves signposted from Tham Nam Thip (KK0040). The cave has not been visited.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Naep† KK0047

ถ้ำแนบ

47Q 804857 1850948

Pha Tham Naep, Ban Wang Sawap

This hill is 2.25km north-east of Ban Wang Sawap.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Naep† KK0082

ถ้ำแนบ

47Q 809168 1853918

Phu Tham Neap, Ban Sap Sombun

This hill is 1.5km west of Ban Sap Sombun and just to the west of the hill with Tham Large 1 and Tham Large 2.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Nam Thip KK0040

ถ้ำน้ำเทพ

47Q 811362 1853372 Alt.: 324m

Wat Khao Tham Nam, Pha Tham Yai, Ban Huai So

Length: 50m

VR: 4m

Tham Nam Thip is in the grounds of Wat Khao Tham Nam at the foot of Pha Tham Yai. The two entrances are at the base of the cliff and lead down below ground level at the base of the hill.

The two entrances are linked by a narrow inclined rift. The left hand entrance is dry and has about 20m of large passage. The right hand entrance, at the end of the access track, leads down a ladder to a murky pool of static water. This chamber has not been explored, but there appears to be a small inlet passage opposite the entrance.

Fauna:

Leopoldamys neilli (Marshall, 1976)

(Chordata, Mammalia, Rodentia, Muridae)

The first known visit by speleologists was by Smart in 1999.

(Ellis 2011b, Latinne *et al.* 2013, Smart 1999)**Tham Pha Per Daa KK0038**

ถ้ำผาเทอดดา

Phu Tham Pho, Ban Wang Mon, Phu Pha Man National Park

This cave is signposted as being 300m from the H12 at 47Q 797871 1842168, at the eastern end of a road cutting. The sign is pointing uphill along a very vague path.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Phon† KK0058

ถ้ำพร

47Q 796615 1841653

Phu Tham Phon, Phu Pha Man National Park

Other names: Tham Pho

This hill is north of the track leading to Wat Tham Phra Kayasit.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Phra Kayasit KK0024

ถ้ำพระกาฬยาศิต

47Q 796101 1840905 Alt.: 260m

Wat Tham Phra Kayasit, Ban Huai Sanam Sai, Phu Tham Pho, Phu Pha Man National Park

Length: 50m

VR: 5m

Other names: Tham Lam Choen

Wat Tham Phra Kayasit is signposted to the south of the H21, a kilometre to the east of the road cutting through a limestone ridge. Follow the road through the village of Ban Wang Mong and keep going until you reach the wat. It is on the south-western end of a limestone ridge, Phu Tham Pho, which the Lam Choen river loops around. The cave is up some steps, about 10m above the base of the hill. The cave is tiled throughout with many statues of monks and Buddhas. The tiled steps lead up behind the statues to a room and a hole which gives access to a ledge on a cliff.

The cave was visited by the SMCC in 2002. (Ellis 2011b, Ellis *et al.* 2002, Vogt 2013)

Tham Phra Orahant **KK0099**
 47Q 811815 1851530 Alt.: 320m
 Wat Khao Sam Yod Tham Phra Orahant,
 Huai Muang

The temple is beside the road, at the foot of the hill with Tham Soo.

Tham Phra Wattanaram **KK0016**
 ถ้ำพระรัตนาราม

Lower entrance
 47Q 808995 1844860 Alt.: 324m

Upper entrance
 47Q 809089 1844999 Alt.: 460m

Wat Tham Phra Wattanaram, Pha Man,
 Phu Pha Man National Park
 Length: 500m VR: 136m

This is a large shrine cave 300m to the east of the well signposted Tham Khang Khao. From Khon San, on the H12 road, go north-west through Ban Phu Pha Man and head towards the limestone massif to the north. Alternatively the signposts can be followed from the H201 road a few kilometres north of the junction with the H12.

In the wat steps lead up to the very high entrance where a large Buddha sits at the bottom of a boulder pile. Some ladders are in place to aid the ascent of the boulders and into the cave proper. The large phreatic main passage ascends steeply to a small upper exit which is on top of the hill. To the west a passage goes past a collapsed entrance and then narrows and descends to eventually open in the wall of the main passage. On the east of the main passage there is another passage/chamber with a bat colony that has not been explored.

For anyone brave enough to want to explore the very rugged karst at the summit of the Pha Man massif ascending through this cave would be the easiest way to get there.

This is the deepest known cave in Khon Kaen.

Tham Phra Wattanaram was first visited by the SMCC in 2000, but it wasn't until January 2005 that the cave was fully explored and surveyed. In January 2006 about 100m of extra passage was explored, but a closer examination, particularly of the bat chamber to the east of the main chamber, is required.

(Bohwongprasert 2007, Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2009c, Ellis 2011b, Ellis 2015b, Ellis and Barrett 2001, Vogt 2013)

Tham Phu Talor **KK0037**
 ถ้ำภูตาค้อ

47Q 803703 1851634 Alt.: 315m
 Ban Nang Sawan, Phu Pha Man National Park
 Length: 225m VR: 18m
 Other names: Tham Pu Ta Lo

Leaving the village of Ban Phu Pha Man, heading towards Tham Khang Khao, the cave is signposted with blue tourist information signs. When these stop keep following the road through Ban Na Fai to a T-junction. Turn right and go through Ban Wang Sawap, continuing to follow the road until the tarmac ends. There is a wooden sign near the entrance and a car parking area.

Some steps and a dilapidated hand rail descend to the small entrance. The cave soon opens up and descends steeply to a large, flat floored passage that is, unfortunately, not very long. At the end of this section the passage splits. To the left it is possible to ascend the slope to end at a large boulder choke where you can turn back to the right and descend the boulders to rejoin the main passage. A couple of small side passages have been explored, but did not extend far. The boulder choke at the end of the cave may repay a closer look.

The cave was explored and surveyed by the SMCC in January 2004.

(Ellis 2004, Ellis 2011b, Ellis 2015a, Sutthipibul *et al.* 2006)

Tham Soo **KK0028**
 47Q 810882 1851184 Alt.: 585m

Wat Sung, Ban Huai Muang, Phu Pha Man National Park
 Length: 55m VR: 4m

The entrance to Wat Sung is marked by a slightly run down and overgrown shrine beside the road and a paved road leads up the hill. From the wat a path is followed uphill through the forest heading westwards and then, at a col, head north. Finally an impressive wooden walkway attached to the cliff face is ascended to reach the entrance. There is a large

platform at the entrance, which is high on a cliff face, with magnificent views over the surrounding countryside.

The entrance has a large wooden fence, but the gate is usually open if a monk isn't in residence. Inside there is a large Buddha and a wooden ladder leads up to a small roof passage. There are a couple of meditation kuti at the entrance to the passage. The passage is crawling height and floored with hardwood parquet. It leads to a small shrine. At the end a small hole was not explored as bats were coming out at high speed.

The cave was surveyed by the SMCC in February 2000.

(Ellis 2011b, Ellis and Barrett 2001, Vogt 2013)

Tham Sua **KK0095**
Phu Man

The cave is 3.2km north of the amphoe office which places it close to Tham Khang Khao and Tham Phra Wattanaram.

It is described as being a large cave that is nice and cool, but a dead end.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Tao† **KK0017**
47Q 808785 1847844
Phu Tham Tao, Phu Pha Man National Park

Tham Tao is a prominent limestone mountain rising precipitously 300m above the surrounding plain, near Ban Sam Phu Thong. Phu Tham Tao is just north of Pha Man and is 3km north of Tham Khang Khao (KK0026).

(Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b)

Tham Thep Nimit **KK0031**
ถ้ำเทพนิมิตร

47Q 803554 1846926 Alt.: 278m

Wat Tham Thep Nimit, Ban Na Fai

Length: 40m

The wat is at the base of a small hill to the south of a reservoir between Wang Sawap and Ban Na Fai. It is signposted to the north of Ban Na Fai, along the road to the Nam Phut That Tao resurgence.

From the buildings a few steps lead up to the entrance which is 1m wide by 2m high. The cave is a 40m long relict passage

containing a monk's bedroom and a water tank. There were a few bats and a very large cricket.

The cave was first visited by cavers in April 2009 by the SMCC.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Thep Nimit **KK0060**
ถ้ำเทพนิมิตร

Wat Khao Tham Nam, Pha Tham Yai, Ban Huai So.

Wat Khao Tham Nam is at the foot of Pha Tham Yai.

This is one of the five caves signposted from Tham Nam Thip (KK0040). The cave has not been visited.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Thong Pen **KK0039**
ถ้ำทองแถม

Wat Tham Thong Pem, Ban Wang Charoen, Phu Pha Man National Park

47Q 811445 1850560 Alt.: 330m

Three kilometres to the west of Ban Wang Charoen, Wat Tham Thong Pem was signposted in hand-painted Thai towards the west. The track goes through fields for about a kilometre to end at a small collection of buildings at the foot of the hill, but a decent path to the cave was not found. The cave is probably in the National Park behind the wat, the boundary to which is marked by a fence.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Tor Ra Man **KK0064**
ถ้ำทรนาม

Wat Khao Tham Nam, Pha Tham Yai, Ban Huai So

Wat Khao Tham Nam is at the foot of Pha Tham Yai.

This is one of the five caves signposted from Tham Nam Thip (KK0040). The cave has not been visited.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Wi Mahn Mek **KK0044**
ถ้ำวิมานเมฆ

47Q 813768 1854473

Huai Muang, Ban Sam Phak Nam, Phu Pha Man National Park

The cave is signposted to the south of Ban Sam Phak Nam, which is located just to the west of the National Park headquarters.

(Ellis 2011b, Sutthipibul *et al.* 2006)

Tham Yai† **KK0048**

ถ้ำใหญ่

47Q 811233 1853400

Pha Tham Yai, Ban Huai So

Pha Tham Yai is in Ban Huai So, near Ban Sap Sombun. It is the hill with Wat Tham Nam Thip.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Yai† **KK0051**

ถ้ำใหญ่

47Q 799942 1846688

Phu Tham Yai, Ban Wang Pha Dam, Phu Pha Man National Park

Phu Tham Yai is north of the road from the quarries beside the H12 to Ban Wang Sawap, near the village of Ban Wang Pha Dam.

(Ellis 2011b)

Phu Wiang

Cave KK0071 **KK0071**

Wat Tham Kwang, Phu Wiang National Park

A tourist map of the park shows this cave to be a short distance to the north of Tham Khon Norn.

(Ellis 2011b)

Cave KK0108 **KK0108**

Jao Jom-Pak Chong Shrine, Phu Wiang National Park

The cave is a hundred metres or so behind the main shrine, which is the big shrine at the entrance to the Phu Wiang mountain ring.

This 'naga hole' goes down a few metres and then possibly continues to the side.

Tham Hin Lat Hua Moei **KK0020**

ถ้ำหินลาดหัวมอ

48Q 207570 1840890

Wat Tham Kwang, Phu Wiang National Park

Other names: Tham Hin Lard Hua

The cave is on the north side of the hill, 1km south-east from Wat Tham Kwang. It is approximately 300m north-east of Tham Pha Mur Daeng.

This is a cave art site which was catalogued and described by Charoenwongsa. The cave is in sandstone and has large red paintings.

(Charoenwongsa 1989, Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b, Sutthipibul *et al.* 2006)

Tham Khae† **KK0045**

ถ้ำเข้

48Q 223004 1836939

Ban Tham Khae, Phu Wiang

The village is on the H2038, 7km south of Phu Wiang.

There is no cave here. The name comes from a legend of a cave that people used to tell a long time ago.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Khon Norn **KK0021**

ถ้ำคนนอน

48Q 206680 1840871

Wat Tham Kwang, Phu Wiang National Park

Length: 15m

Other names: Tham Khan Nan, Tham Kon Non

This rock shelter is approximately 300m to the east of Tham Hin Lat Hua Moei and about 1km south-west of Wat Tham Kwang.

This is a cave art site which was catalogued and described by Charoenwongsa. The cave is in sandstone and is 15m long by 4m wide. It has ancient lines, crosses and dots painted in red.

(Charoenwongsa 1989, Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b, Sutthipibul *et al.* 2006)

Tham Kung **KK0106**

Ban Hin Rong

A cave is reported beyond Tham Sila, most likely still in the Phu Wiang National Park.

Tham Pha Kerng **KK0107**

48Q 206637 2848710

Wat Tham Pha Kerng, Phu Wiang National Park

Other names: Tham Pha Koeng

The temple is inside the Phu Wiang mountain ring, north of the main national park office and visitor centre area.

This is just a very small rock wall that is barely an overhang. It now has a roof over it and a lot of Buddha images. (Siriwut *et al.* 2016)

Tham Pha Meu Daeng **KK0008**

ถ้ำฟ้ามือแดง

48Q 206214 1839339

Ban Hin Rong, Phu Wiang National Park

Other names: Tham Fa Mur Daeng; Red Palm Cave; Nam Pong 9

Length: 15m

Tham Pha Mur Daeng is located in the southern part of the National Park, around 4km to the west of Ban Hin Rong.

The rock shelter, in sandstone, is 50m wide, 3m high and 15m deep. In the rear wall of the shelter is a small opening leading to a chamber some 2m wide by 1 m high. On the wall above this opening are red outlines of nine human hands varying in size from those of a large adult to those of a child of seven or eight years. Some of the outlines are sharper than others; two are faded and illdefined. All of the outlines are of the left hand, either an odd chance or a significant choice.

The prehistoric paintings were discovered in 1964 by the Fine Arts Department and they have been dated to 3,000 – 3,500 years old. There is a display of these painting in the National Museum, Bangkok.

(Carole 2006, Charoenwongsa 1989, Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b, Solheim and Gorman 1966)

Tham Phra Khao Noi† **KK0053**

ถ้ำพระเขาน้อย

48Q 216974 1849207

Wat Tham Phra Khao Noi, Ban Na Phaeng Khuru Rat

This temple, also known as Wat Jant Kae Ma Ram, is in Ban Na Phaeng Khuru Rat, 2.5km west of the H2133. It is within the caldera of Phu Wiang National Park, but is not part of the park. The temple is on a hill and has a tower with a 360° view of the surrounding mountains. The cave is just south of the tower.

The cave is just an overhang in sandstone. (Ellis 2011b)

Tham Phu Wiang **KK0018**

ถ้ำผุเวียง

Phu Wiang National Park

The cave is listed by Kusch, but there is no further information. It is probably one of the archaeological caves in the Phu Wiang National Park.

(Dunkley 1995, Ellis 2011b, Kusch 1982)

Tham Sila **KK0065**

ถ้ำกาหลง

48Q 208732 1841191

Wat Tham Kwang, Ban Hin Rong

Other names: Tham Kwang

Wat Tham Kwang, also known as Wat Song Sila or Wat Tham Sila, is 2km south-west of Ban Hin Rong. It is within the caldera of Phu Wiang National Park, but is not part of the park.

Tham Sila is just a small overhang that has a simple shrine with some Buddhas.

This is a large exposure of cross-laminated sandstone which has many caves and a large trough. It is thought that the trough is the remains of an eroded salt trough. Some salt deposits can still be found on the roof of the caves.

(Ellis 2011b, Hisao and Wichaidit 1989)

Tham Sua† **KK0059**

ถ้ำสี่อ

48Q 229607 1858592

Wat Tham Sua

The temple is on an island in the Ubonrat Reservoir.

(Ellis 2011b)

Si Chomphu

Tham Chedi **KK0086**

ถ้ำเจดีย์

48Q 185677 1864752 Alt.: 290m

Wat Tham Pha Sung (Wat Pha Tham Chedi), Ban Champa

Length: 50m+

The wat is a couple of kilometres to the east of Ban Champa and is signposted to the north of the road. In the temple

grounds turn right and take a path behind the first hut up to the small entrance.

Monks reported that this cave had nine chambers and seasonal water. The visit in 2009 finished after the first few chambers at a squeeze. The rocks were seen to be coated with a purplish deposit indicating that the cave floods.

The cave was visited in April 2009 by a SMCC team.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Jong Ang Koo **KK0057**

ถ้ำจงอางคู่

48Q 187499 1859933 Alt.: 310m

Wat Tham Jong Ang Koo

The gate to the wat was signposted beside the road that goes east to west from the H201 to the H228 at Si Chomphu.

Although the sign at the gate said "wat tham" there didn't seem to be any cave or temple, just some farm houses.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Khiri Banphot **KK0067**

ถ้ำคีรีบรรพต

48Q 185106 1863601 Alt.: 303m

Wat Tham Khiri Banphot, Ban Champa

Length: 10m+

The wat is 1km south of Ban Champa, on the western outskirts of the village. Inside the grounds there are lots of chedis, a large pool and a small limestone hill. About 50 steps lead up to the entrance which is near the top of the hill.

The entrance opens into a 10m diameter chamber. A wooden ladder aiding descent of the chamber has fallen into disrepair. A handline or proper caving clothes and boots would be required to descend to the bottom of the chamber where there may be a way on.

The cave was visited in April 2009 by a SMCC team.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Niam† **KK0025**

48Q 183575 1862323

Phu Tham Niam, Phu Pha Man National Park

The hill is marked on the 1:50,000 map.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Pha Nam Thiang **KK0068**

ถ้ำผาน้ำเที่ยง

48Q 186279 1866074

Wat Tham Pha Nam Thiang, Ban Tham Pha Nam Thiang

This cave temple is in Ban Tham Pha Nam Thiang near the border with Loei province.

The single chamber is wide and rather high with a wooden floor. Some passages lead off, but appear to be filled with debris or guano.

(Ellis 2011b, Vogt 2013)

Tham Pha Ngam **KK0087**

ถ้ำผางาม

48Q 187573 1863582 Alt.: 285m

Wat Tham Pha Ngam, Ban Pha Kham

The wat is 3km west of Ban Pha Kham, 2.5km along a track off the gravel road to Wat Tham Saeng Tham. The turning is signposted in Thai.

No caves were seen at the temple, but monks reported a large and a small cave a few kilometres away. They may have been referring to Tham Saeng Tham as the wat is on the other side of the hill to this cave. We were shown a hole said to be home to a large king cobra and there was a shrine dedicated to the snake.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Pha Sung **KK0066**

ถ้ำผาสุง

48Q 185713 1864798 Alt.: 275m

Wat Tham Pha Sung (Wat Pha Tham Chedi), Ban Champa

Length: 5m

The wat is a couple of kilometres to the east of Ban Champa and is signposted to the north of the road. In the temple grounds turn right, go past two huts and then follow the path up to the base of the cliff.

The small entrance led after 5m to the top of a ladder which was not descended.

The cave was visited in April 2009 by a SMCC team.

(Ellis 2011b)

Tham Saeng Tham **KK0055**

48Q 187292 1864543 Alt.: 320m

Wat Tham Saeng Tham, Ban Champha

Length: 75m

This large temple development is 3km east of Ban Champa. You can't miss the cave entrance once on the road east of Ban Champa.

About 50 steps lead up to this heavily developed cave. A large building is being built on the cliff outside and the entrance has a grand gateway. The entrances to the cave are fenced to keep out monkeys and bats. Inside the main cave has a marble floor and is a commercialised pilgrimage site. At the back of the main part of the cave, concrete steps lead down to some monks' quarters and an entrance on the other side of the hill.

The cave was first visited by cavers in April 2009 by a SMCC team.

(Ellis 2011b, Vogt 2013)

Tham Singto Thong **KK0054**

ถ้ำสิงห์โตทอง

48Q 185204 1859648 Alt.: 351m

Wat Tham Singto Thong, Ban Wang Khon Daeng Nong Yaplong

Length: 30m

The wat is signposted off the H201, along the road that goes west to east to the H228 at Si Chomphu. The cave is just to the south of the first village reached when travelling from the west. About 50 steps lead up to the entrance.

The cave is a single chamber about 30m long with a shrine at the back of the chamber. The walls are 'decorated' with crude paintings of Buddhist themes. There are a few bats.

The cave was visited in April 2009 by a SMCC team.

(Ellis 2011b, Vogt 2013)

Ubonrat

Cave KK0104 **KK0104**

48Q 247792 1852543 Alt.: 215m

Wat Khuean Ubolratana, Khuean Ubolratana

The small cave/rock shelter is 100m along the hill past the natural bridge.

Tham Chang **KK0105**

48Q 246704 1854844 Alt.: 220m

Wat Phra Phutthabat Phu Phan Kham, Khuean Ubolratana

The rock shelter is in Wat Phra Phutthabat Phu Phan Kham. There are several other holes in the temple grounds.

Tham Phra Kham Mek† **KK0069**

ถ้ำพระคำเม็ก

48Q 248815 1866275

Wat Tham Phra Kam Mek, Ban Phra Phutthabat Huai Kham Noi

The temple is 750m south of the H2109, 3km north of Ban Phra Phutthabat Huai Kham Noi, near the border with Nong Bua Lam Phu.

(Ellis 2011b)

Unknown Amphoe

Tham Arahant **KK0098**

The location of this cave is unknown.

It is an archaeological site.

(Anon. 2005, Ellis 2011b)

Cave Data (Listed by code number)

17 December 2016

Number	Name	Co-ordinates	Altitude	Length	VR
KK0001	Tham Pha Phuang 1	48Q 181630 1863735	400	145	30
KK0002	Tham Pha Phuang 2	47Q 818958 1863511	350	230	10
KK0003	Tham Pu Loop	47Q 818197 1863111	357	292	14
KK0004	Tham Nayn Noi	47Q 818127 1863066	359	247	18
KK0005	Tham Pho Tai Yan 1	47Q 819433 1855005	350		
KK0006	Tham Pho Tai Yan 2	47Q 819364 1855055	400		
KK0007	Tham Pha Ya Nakharat	47Q 815154 1861331	520	668	82

Number	Name	Co-ordinates	Altitude	Length	VR
KK0008	Tham Pha Meu Daeng	48Q 206214 1839339		15	
KK0009	<i>In Nong Bua Lam Phu</i>				
KK0010	<i>In Nong Bua Lam Phu</i>				
KK0011	<i>In Nong Bua Lam Phu</i>				
KK0012	<i>In Nong Bua Lam Phu</i>				
KK0013	<i>In Nong Bua Lam Phu</i>				
KK0014	<i>In Nong Bua Lam Phu</i>				
KK0015	<i>In Nong Bua Lam Phu</i>				
KK0016	Tham Phra Wattanaram	47Q 808995 1844860	324	500	136
KK0017	Tham Tao	47Q 808785 1847844			
KK0018	Tham Phu Wiang				
KK0019	Cave KK0019	47Q 819245 1855492	380		
KK0020	Tham Hin Lat Hua Moei	48Q 207570 1840890			
KK0021	Tham Khon Norn	48Q 206680 1840871		15	
KK0022	Tham Sra Kaew				
KK0023	<i>Upper entrance to Tham Pha Ya Nakharat</i>				
KK0024	Tham Phra Kayasit	47Q 796101 1840905	260	50	5
KK0025	Tham Niam	48Q 183575 1862323			
KK0026	Tham Khang Khao	47Q 808815 1845025	320	100	
KK0027	<i>Duplication of KK0016</i>				
KK0028	Tham Soo	47Q 810882 1851184	585	55	4
KK0029	Tham Large 1	47Q 809857 1853401	340	32	
KK0030	Tham Large 2	47Q 809737 1853351	340	24	
KK0031	Tham Thep Nimit	47Q 803554 1846926	278	40	
KK0032	<i>Duplication of KK0007</i>				
KK0033	Tham Lai Taeng	47Q 814712 1861604	520	50	
KK0034	Tham Ou Lup				
KK0035	Spring KK0035				
KK0036	Nam Phut That Tao	47Q 803892 1846702	270		
KK0037	Tham Phu Talor	47Q 803703 1851634	315	225	18
KK0038	Tham Pha Per Daa				
KK0039	Tham Thong Pem	47Q 811445 1850560	330		
KK0040	Tham Nam Thip	47Q 811362 1853372	325	50	4
KK0041	Tham Dok Bua	47Q 814262 1851804	295	40	
KK0042	Tham Ba Sa Bpit	47Q 814288 1851888	320	100	10
KK0043	Tham Pha Daeng	47Q 818594 1856154			
KK0044	Tham Wiman Mek	47Q 813768 1854473			
KK0045	Tham Khae	48Q 223004 1836939			
KK0046	Tham Fun	47Q 808057 1842723	273	107	11
KK0047	Tham Naep	47Q 804857 1850948			
KK0048	Tham Yai	47Q 811233 1853400			
KK0049	Tham Klaeb	47Q 802863 1845060	265		
KK0050	Tham Pu	47Q 817462 1863248			
KK0051	Tham Yai	47Q 799942 1846688			
KK0052	Tham Mup	48Q 257885 1883615			
KK0053	Tham Phra Khao Noi	48Q 216974 1849207			
KK0054	Tham Singto Thong	48Q 185204 1859648	351	30	
KK0055	Tham Saeng Tham	48Q 187292 1864543	320	75	
KK0056	Tham Phieng Din		300		
KK0057	Tham Jong Ang Koo	48Q 187499 1859933	310		
KK0058	Tham Phon	47Q 796615 1841653			
KK0059	Tham Sua	48Q 229607 1858592			

Number	Name	Co-ordinates	Altitude	Length	VR
KK0060	Tham Thep Nimit				
KK0061	Tham Aat Ree Yeo				
KK0062	Tham Na Fa Khiring (Chang)				
KK0063	Tham Bpra Sat				
KK0064	Tham Tor Ra Man				
KK0065	Tham Sila	48Q 208732 1841191			
KK0066	Tham Pha Sung	48Q 185713 1864798	275	5	
KK0067	Tham Khiri Banphot	48Q 185106 1863601	303	10	
KK0068	Tham Pha Nam Thiang	48Q 186279 1866074			
KK0069	Tham Phra Kham Mek	48Q 248815 1866275			
KK0070	<i>Duplication of KK0008</i>				
KK0071	Cave KK0071				
KK0072	Tham Lai Meu 1	48Q 241656 1833545		8	
KK0073	Tham Lai Meu 2	48Q 241656 1833245		9	
KK0074	Tham India	47Q 806834 1843644	356	50	
KK0075	Cave KK0075	47Q 806967 1843312	241	50	
KK0076	Cave KK0076	47Q 808148 1844907	253	5	
KK0077	Spring KK0077	47Q 810923 1850095	362		
KK0078	Tham Por Keao				
KK0079	Tham Mair Keao				
KK0080	Tham Pha Ngam	47Q 816134 1855224	403	50	
KK0081	Nam Phut Sam Poep	47Q 808850 1846064			
KK0082	Tham Naep	47Q 809168 1853918			
KK0083	Sra Kaeo	47Q 817231 1849967	265		
KK0084	Tham Ruesi Nimit	47Q 816230 1855314	380	75	
KK0085	Wat Tham Ruesi Nimit Resurgence	47Q 816243 1855215	375		
KK0086	Tham Chedi	48Q 185677 1864752	290	50	
KK0087	Tham Pha Ngam	48Q 187573 1863582	285		
KK0088	Tham Nang Kaeo				
KK0089	Tham Khi Kia				
KK0090	Tham Ngu Leum				
KK0091	Tham Tao				
KK0092	Tham Kinarii				
KK0093	Tham Moo Bor				
KK0094	Tham Phra Dayt				
KK0096	Tham Sua				
KK0096	Tham Pha Daeng	48Q 217439 1786122			
KK0097	Tham Phu Pong				
KK0098	Tham Arahant				
KK0099	Tham Phra Orahon	47Q 811815 1851530	320		
KK0100	<i>Duplication of KK0065</i>				
KK0101	Tham Hin Pho Thong	48Q 247141 1827832			
KK0102	Tham Manai	48Q 251663 1830990			
KK0103	Tham Hant	48Q 228076 1763289			
KK0104	Cave KK0104	48Q 247792 1852543	215		
KK0105	Tham Chang	48Q 246704 1854844	220		

Number of caves: 97

Total length: 3,402m

KHON KAEN