

## LOCAL MONASTERIES

### Wat Phra Phutthabat

This monastery is located in Tambon Khun Khlon, 28 kilometres north of the town, turn left 1 km. before arriving in Phra Phutthabat district. The important historical site here is *Lord Buddha's Footprint* that was found on a stone panel near Suwan Banpot Hill.

The official name of Wat Phra Phutthabat is Wat Phra Phutthabat Ratchavoramahavihan, a special royal monastery of the first category. It was built by King Songtham during the Ayutthaya Period in 1624. This royal monastery is situated in Khun Khlon Subdistrict of Phra Phutthabat District. It belongs to the Maha Nikaya, the Great Path Sect, with a total area of about 2,800 acres. The central temple area measures 250 metres in length and 150 metres in width. To the north, there are walls and a mountain range as the border, temple walls and Pho Lanka Hill to the south, and the walls of the ancient Thai Phikun Palace to the west.

The entrance to Wat Phra Phutthabat is nothing short of spectacular. You will see two very inviting large white pavilions that house the foot print of the Lord Buddha. As we continue down the spectacularly landscaped boulevard until we reach the monastery.

The monastery is divided into two sections. The first section houses the monk's quarters and a community kitchen where food donated by people in the community goes to feed the less fortunate. The first building we see is the seminary. It is a large exquisite building that provides facilities for teaching monks and also has the dual role of being the meeting hall where people in the community come to pay tambon (make merit). Since Wat Phra Phutthabat is a large monastery the monk's quarters number in the twenties.

The meeting hall in Wat Phra Phutthabat is somewhat different from other monasteries. Here meetings are held where monks are from all of Saraburi participate. The hall itself is decorated in the same style as the seminary.

The grounds within the first section contain many large trees giving it a peaceful and serene atmosphere. It is not only the grounds themselves that are immaculately clean, the monastery as a whole.

The monks usually have their lunch at 11:00, and after that they along with people from the community will study and contemplate the sermon that is usually presented by a teaching monk. The sermons themselves usually center on the Buddhist philosophy.

Also in the first section there are souvenir shops where visitors can buy gifts, food, or even lottery tickets. The gifts themselves range from: canes and various handmade wooden, legumes, dried fruit, Thai desserts, various metal utensils (knives, sickles, shoes, saws, shovels, pitch forks, swords, etc), basketry, plaster figurines and statues, barbeque chicken, and other food items.

The second part of Wat Phra Phutthabat is devoted mainly to tourists and there is a 30 Baht fee for admittance. This fee helps provide the funds necessary for maintenance, and it is this section that is the most interesting. The entry gate is guarded by the statues of two Thai giants. In Thai folklore they are seen as protectors and guardians. The most outstanding building in the entire monastery is called "Mondop." In the Thai language Mondop means a square shaped building that has a tall spire reaching skyward.

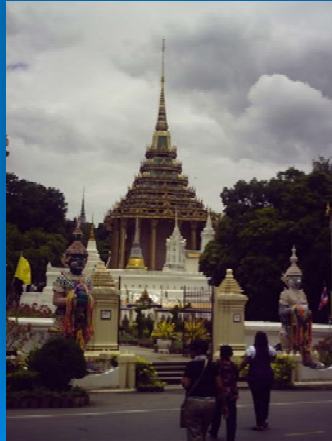
When you first enter the gate you will see a stall selling products that can be given by visitors to the monks to make tambon (it is important to note that the notion of tambon arises because the monk's only source of food or money comes from donations. Monks are not allowed to earn money, so the two daily meals that they do have come from tamboon).

Next there is a stand with nine Buddha statues. Each statue represents one day of the week with Wednesday having a morning and an evening statue. All of the statues are in different postures. It is a Thai belief that you should pay homage to the Buddha statue based on the day you were born.

To the right of the Buddha statues is the bell pavilion which contains 72 bells. It is a tradition to ring all 72 of the bells. It is said

that if this is done that the sound is loud enough that god will hear it and grant the ringer good fortune.

## Wat Phra Phutthabat



The stairway that leads to the temples is guarded by two Naga (mythological multi-headed snake that is said to be the guardian of temples). As we ascend the stairs we see a large building, beautifully decorated with Chinese characters. This building serves as the church for Thais of Chinese descent.

In the past Wat Phra Buddhabat was the temple where kings worshipped, so when the king passed on his treasures would be housed in one of the three treasure houses located in the monastery; the upper treasure house, the middle treasure house and the lower treasure house. The Chinese church was formerly the lowest of the three treasure houses.

Inside the church there are several Buddha statues and gods, two of them are distinctly of Chinese origin. The first is a fat jolly Buddha that is distinctly different from his Thai counterpart. He is called “Phra Sang Gat Jai” and he is the symbol of health and prosperity. The second is of a woman, she is “Guan Im” who is a female god and the symbol of righteousness.

Beside the lowest treasure house is the middle treasure house, and beside that is the upper treasure house. The upper treasure

house is now a Thai Buddhist church and houses various Buddha statues. An outstanding feature of this church is that the interior depicts the life styles of monks in different situations of daily life.

Upon entering the church it is common for people to determine their fortune, good or bad. To do this you use fortune sticks. The fortune sticks are contained in a large wooden cylinder, which is shaken till one of the sticks falls out. You then compare the number on the stick with the fortune slip to determine your fortune.

To the left of the church is a series of stairs leading to a medical pavilion. This pavilion is used to give treatment to mostly older people who are ailing and in need of care. This treatment is provided free of charge.

Phra Phutthabat in Thai means “Bhudda’s footprint”, and it is that housed inside the Mondop building. Lord Buddha's Footprint measures 21 inches wide, 5 feet long, and 11 inches deep. The footprint was discovered during the reign of King Songtham of Ayutthaya. The footprint had 108 religious aspects, so he commanded a temporary Mondop be built to cover the footprint and it has been refurbished several times.

The Mondop is a square building which has a seven-tier castle roof and each is roofed with green glazed tiles. Each level is decorated with an arch supported by wood, gold and colored glasses. The external walls are also decorated with gold and coloured glasses in the shapes of mythological gods and lotus top. The pearl inlaid artwork on the Mondop doors represents one of the best craftsmanship in the country. The Mondop entrance has three Naga (mythical serpents) stairs, each conveying the meaning of silver, gold, and glass stairs that stretch from the heavens. A five-headed Naga cast in bronze flanks the stairs. The Mondop is surrounded by bells, which visitors can rap to make merit. The surrounding ubosot and vihara were built according to the architecture of the Ayutthaya and early Rattanakosin periods.

Words fail to fully describe its magnificence, for it is truly a feast for the eyes. Inside Mondop is the footprint itself, which is located in the center of the building. The walls are decorated in rich hues of red and gold which symbolize prosperity. On the walls there are also cases that contain different objects of Thai artwork.

The footprint itself is the national footprint of Thailand. The history behind the footprint is an interesting one. Around 300 years ago there was a hunter named Boon who was tracking a deer. Upon finally hitting his prey he discovered that he had only wounded the deer and it escaped into the woods and up into the mountain. Boon not wanting the deer to suffer further or lose his dinner, tracked him through the forest and into the mountain. When he finally caught up with the deer he witnesses it drink from a well and become instantly healed. Boon being an elderly gentleman and suffering from a leg injury himself, decides to drink from the well. His injury was also healed. Upon further inspection he realized that the well shaped like a footprint. Boon then gathered others and told them the story behind his discovery. From there the townspeople gathered and paid homage to what was realized to be the footprint of the Lord Buddha.

When leaving Mondop you will descend a staircase. The staircase is crowned by Naga that dive it into three separate stairways. The three stairways represent gold (happiness), silver (money), and glass (love). You should choose the stairway according to what you desire most. Sound easy? Did I mention that you have to hold your breath till you reach the bottom of the stairway?

Once down the stairs you will pass a building. This building houses two very important relics. The first is the spire from the original Mondop. This spire dates back to the Auythaya period. The other is a small reclining elephant. The elephant in Thai culture is a symbol of strength and good fortune. So if one is able to pick up the elephant using only their pinky finger, their wish will be granted.

In the temple compound there is the Phra Phutthabat National Museum which displays various precious artifacts including King Songthams attire, ceramics, bronzeware, old weapons, a replica of Lord Buddha's footprint, an old Mondop top, Phat Yot (ecclesiastical fans) from various periods, and the pipe dating from the King Narai period. The Phra Phutthabat Festival is held twice a year, during the eighth day of the waxing moon until the first day of the waning moon in the third month and the fourth month of the lunar calendar.

Bo Phran Lang Nuea is a small stone well near the temple. At the mouth of the well are knee prints. There are stone slopes and a deep hole the size of a milk can near the well. The water that flows from

the hole is believed to be holy water. According to legend, Bun, a hunter who found Lord Buddha's Footprint, washed game meat at this well by kneeling down and the small hole was made from his spear which was stuck into the ground. There is a continuous flow of water from the well.

## Vocabulary

### Single word

admittance การเข้าชม

ailing ทุกข์ทรมาน

ascend ขึ้น

basketry เครื่องจักสาน

boulevard ถนน

contemplate วิปัสสนา ไตร่ตรอง

dessert ขนมหวาน

donation การบริจาค

facilities เครื่องอำนวยความสะดวก

feed เลี้ยงอาหาร

fortune โชคชะตา

ground บริเวณ

health สุขภาพ

immaculately ไม่มีจุดด่างพร้อย

maintenance การบำรุงรักษา

monastery วัด

peaceful ความสงบ

protector ผู้คุ้มครอง

refurbish ซัดให้ขึ้นเงา

replica รูปจำลอง

righteousness ความเป็นธรรม

seminary ศาลาการเปรียญ

sermon เทศนา

sickle เคียว

spectacular น่าตื่นเต้น ประทับใจ

stairway บันได

adorn ประดับประดา

ancient เก่าแก่

atmosphere บรรยากาศ

border เขตติดต่อ

community ชุมชน

decorate ตกแต่งประดับประดา

donate บริจาค

entrance ทางเข้า

fee ค่าธรรมเนียม

figurine รูปแกะสลักเล็กๆ

fund กองทุน

guardian ยามรักษาการณ์

house สร้างอาคารครอบไว้

legume พืชผักต่างๆ

measure วัดพื้นที่

pavilion ศาลา

prosperity ความมั่งคั่ง

reach มาถึง

relics สิ่งของตกทอด

represent แทน

saw เลื่อย

serene ร่มรื่น

shovel จอบ พลั่ว

skyward สู่วู่ท้องฟ้า

staircase ขึ้นบันได

stand แผงสินค้า

sword ดาบ  
temple วัด  
treatment การรักษา  
worship กราบไหว้บูชา

symbol สัญลักษณ์  
treasure ทรัพย์สมบัติ  
utensil เครื่องมือ

### Noun Phrase

barbeque chicken ไก่ย่าง	bell pavilion หอระฆัง
Bhudda's footprint รอยพระพุทธรบาท	Buddha statue พระพุทธรูป
Buddhist philosophy ปรัชญาในศาสนาพุทธ	Chinese church โบสถ์จีน
Chinese descent สืบเชื้อสายจีน	Chinese origin ตั้งเดิมเป็นจีน
community kitchen คริวเลี้ยงคนยากจน โรงทาน	colored glasses แก้วหลากสี
daily life ชีวิตประจำวัน	different postures ปางต่างๆ
entry gate ประตูเข้า	external walls กำแพงชั้นนอก
fat jolly Buddha พระพุทธเจ้ารูปร่างอ้วนและร่าเริง	female god เทพเจ้าเพศหญิง
foot print รอยเท้า	fortune slip ใบเซียมซี
fortune sticks ไม้เซียมซี	holy water น้ำศักดิ์สิทธิ์ น้ำมนต์
Great Path Sect นิกายเส้นทางสายใหญ่	lottery tickets สลากกินแบ่ง
green glazed tiles กระเบื้องเคลือบสีเขียว	lottery tickets สลากกินแบ่ง
important historical site บริเวณทางประวัติศาสตร์ที่สำคัญ	lotus top ยอดบัว
landscaped boulevard ถนนในบริเวณวัด	Thai artwork งานศิลป์ไทย
large exquisite building อาคารใหญ่โตและสง่างาม	lower treasure house คลังล่าง
large wooden cylinder กระบอกไม้ขนาดใหญ่	medical pavilion โรงยา อโรคยาศาล
lunar calendar เดือนทางจันทรคติ	meeting hall หอประชุม
middle treasure house พระคลังกลาง	monk's quarters กุฏิพระ
most outstanding building อาคารที่โดดเด่นที่สุด	mythological god เทพเจ้าในเทพนิยาย
mountain range เทือกเขา	mythical serpent งูในเทพนิยาย
mythological multi-headed snake งูหลายหัวในเทพนิยาย	outstanding feature ลักษณะเด่น
official name ชื่อเป็นทางการ	
other food items รายการอาหารอื่นๆ	
peaceful and serene atmosphere บรรยากาศที่เงียบสงบ	
pearl inlaid artwork งานศิลปะฝังมุก	pinky finger นิ้วก้อย
plaster figurines รูปแกะสลักเล็กๆทำจากปูนปลาสเตอร์	stair case ขึ้นบันได
good fortune โชคดี	royal temple วัดหลวง
silver, gold, and glass stairs บันไดเงิน ทอง และแก้ว	

small reclining elephant	ช้างหมอบตัวเล็กๆ	souvenir shops	ร้านขายของที่ระลึก
special royal temple of the first category	วัดหลวงชั้นเอก		
square building	อาคารทรงสี่เหลี่ยมจัตุรัส	total area	พื้นที่โดยรวม
square shaped building	อาคารทรงสี่เหลี่ยมจัตุรัส	Thai belief	ความเชื่อแบบไทย
Thai Buddhist church	โบสถ์ในพุทธศาสนา		
three separate stairways	บันไดที่แยกเป็นสามทาง		
three treasure houses	คลังสมบัติสามหลัง	two daily meals	อาหารสองมื้อ
two Thai giants	ยักษ์ไทยสองตน	upper treasure house	พระคลังบน
various metal utensils	เครื่องใช้ที่ทำจากโลหะหลายชิ้น	waning moon	พระจันทร์ข้างแรม

### Proper name

Wat Phra Phutthabat	วัดพระพุทธรบาท		
Wat Phra Phutthabat Ratchavoramahavihan	วัดพระพุทธรบาทราชวรมหาวิหาร		
King Songtham	พระเจ้าทรงธรรม	Ayutthaya Period	สมัยอยุธยา
Khun Khlon Subdistrict	ตำบลขุนโขลน	Maha Nikaya	มหานิกาย
Pho Lanka Hill	เขาโพธิลังกา	Mondop	มณฑป
Thai Phikun Palace	พระราชวังไทยพิบูล	Lord Buddha	พระพุทธเจ้า
Phra Sang Gat Jai	พระสังกัจจาย	Guan Im	กวนอิม
Phra Phutthabat	พระพุทธรบาท	Naga	นาค
Suwan Banpot Hill	ภูเขาสุวรรณบรรพต		
Bo Phran Lang Nuea	บ่อพรานล้างเนื้อ		

## Wat Bot

Wat Bot Monastery is located on the west bank of the Chao Phraya River in In Buri district, Sing Buri province about 20 kilometers from the provincial district. The best way to get there is by road. What makes Wat Bot interesting is that it not only a large beautiful monestery, but it is also a national museum and a library. Wat Bot was established in 1976 by the people of In Buri.

Wat Bot is divided into two parts; the first part consists of the school and the national library. The second part contains the temple grounds, the Buddhist church, and the national museum. The church building is beautifully decorated with ornate gold carvings that depict



various scenes that are of significance in the Buddhist faith. These carvings are then surrounded by intricate inlays of tiles of various shades of blue, silver, and green. One must see the building with ones own eyes to fully appreciate the beauty and grandeur. It was at this church that his majesty the king of Thailand presided over the opening ceremony by receiving rights to commemorate the opening of Wat Bot on June 9, 1976.



Beside the church there is a small pavilion, and beside that there is a bell tower. Both the pavilion and bell tower are decorated in the same ornate fashion as the church. The monk's residences are beside the bell tower. These residences consist of six buildings with the largest being the abbot's residence.

Also on the grounds there is a Buddhist seminary where the monks study religion. Across from the Buddhist seminary there is a library which contains books and other materials about Buddhism.

Since the establishment of the temple there have been five Abbots. The present abbot is Luang Po Fan. The temple courtyard is filled large shade trees that give the temple a peaceful and serene atmosphere. The assembly hall where Buddhists can come and pay

respect is located behind the church. It is usually reserved for special holidays. The assembly hall was built in 1969.

A golden pagoda is situated between the museum and the church, and it stands as a memorial to the former abbot. The pagoda itself is multi-tiered and four sided, and on each of the four sides there is a statue of Buddha that is also gold colored.

The museum is comprised of two buildings, with two rooms in each building. The main entrance houses relics from prehistoric and historic times and there are Buddha statues of different styles.

There are many display cabinets that contain various artifacts and wares; for example you can see various china wares from the different periods of Thai history. The secondary rooms lie below the main entrances on the ground floor. In these rooms you can see various utensils used in the everyday lives of Thai people such as fishing nets, cooking and serving utensils, machines used to make cloth and pottery, farming tools, and carts for transportation just to name a few.

## Vocabulary

### Single word

appreciate ประทับใจ

commemorate ระลึกถึง

example ตัวอย่าง

intricate สลับซับซ้อน

museum พิพิธภัณฑ์

pagoda เจดีย์

significance จุดเด่น

transportation การเดินทาง

beauty ความงาม

establish ก่อตั้ง

grandeur ใหญ่โต

library ห้องสมุด

ornate งดงาม

prehistoric ก่อนประวัติศาสตร์

surround ล้อมรอบ

### Noun phrases

abbot's residence กุฏิเจ้าอาวาส

Buddha statues พระพุทธรูป

Buddhist faith ความเชื่อในศาสนาพุทธ

China wares เครื่องปั้นดินเผา

bell tower หอระฆัง

Buddhist church โบสถ์

Buddhist seminary ศาลาการเปรียญ

different styles รูปแบบที่แตกต่างกัน

cooking and serving utensils	ภาชนะปรุงและใส่อาหาร	west bank	ฝั่งตะวันตก
display cabinets	ตู้จัดแสดงผลงาน	farming tools	อุปกรณ์การเกษตร
fishing net	แห	former abbot	เจ้าอาวาสรูปก่อน
golden pagoda	เจดีย์สี่ทอง	ground floor	ชั้นล่าง
intricate inlays of tile	กระเบื้องวางซ้อนเป็นชั้นๆ	main entrance	ประตูใหญ่ ทางเข้าวัด
monk's residences	กุฏิพระ	national library	หอสมุดแห่งชาติ
national museum	พิพิธภัณฑสถานแห่งชาติ	opening ceremony	พิธีเปิด
ornate gold carvings	ภาพแกะสลักสี่ทองเหลืองอร่าม	provincial district	อำเภอเมือง
temple courtyard	ลานวัด	temple grounds	บริเวณวัด
various scenes	เหตุการณ์ต่างๆ	various shades	หลากสี

### Proper name

Wat Bot Monastery วัดโบสถ์  
In Buri district อำเภออินทร์บุรี

Chao Phraya Riverแม่น้ำเจ้าพระยา  
Luang Po Fan หลวงพ่อฟัน

### Wat Sing Monastery

Wat Sing Monastery is located between Road No. 301 and the Chao Phraya River in Singburi Province. Wat Sing's grounds are different from those of other most monasteries because the grounds contain many nature trees, this makes it even more unique because Wat Sing is located in the city limit. Another thing that differentiates Wat Sing is that it contains ruins that are presumably from the Ayutthaya period.

When entering the grounds the first building we see is the church. The church is elegantly decorated with elaborate carvings of Naga (mythological Thai snake) along the eaves. On the face of the church below the center eave there is an intricate carving of a Garuda (mythological bird) and above the Garuda there is a carving of the god Narai (in the Hindu faith Narai is one of the three high gods ; the Garuda is known for being the steed of Narai).

Inside the church there are many Buddha statues, but the principal one is called "Luang Pa Maw". The statue is in a sitting position known as the "subduing devil posture". Behind the principal statue there is standing Buddha statue called "Luang Pa Net" it is here that Thai people offer sacrament to the Lord Buddha. The

church was built a hundred years ago and was recently renovated in 2003.



The next building is the crematorium and it is here where the souls of the deceased are freed so that they can pass on to the afterlife. After the crematorium on the left we see a large meeting hall, it is here that the people of the community gather during Buddhist holyday to give tambon (make merit). Behind the meeting hall there are several Chedis (large ornate pagoda shaped structure that contain remain). The ashes of the people cremated in the crematorium are placed here.

Across from the meeting hall there is a small pavilion, and inside this pavilion there is a statue. This pavilion serves as a monument to “Luang Pa Chen”. He was a very well know monk in the Singburi area. It is said that those who wore a Buddhist amulet blessed by him would be impervious to injury from those who wished to harm them. Across from the pavilion and meeting hall there is a large unadorned building. The build serves as a dining hall where the monks have their meals. As with most monasteries the grounds are scattered with various animals (chickens, dogs, ect.), these pets are tended by the monks and are kept because it is a Buddhist tenet that

one must be kind to all living things. According to the Buddhist tenet Buddhist monks can not kill any living creature.

## Vocabulary

### Single word

bless	ปลุกเสก	community	ชุมชน
cremate	พิธีฌาปนกิจ	crematorium	เมรุ
deceased	คนตาย	decorate	ตกแต่งประดับประดา
differentiate	ทำให้แตกต่าง	eave	ชายคา
elegantly	อย่างสง่างาม	gather	มาประชุมรวมกัน
harm	ทำอันตราย	impervious	คงกะพัน
intricate	สลับซับซ้อน	injury	บาดเจ็บ
Monument	อนุสาวรีย์	Pavilion	ศาลา ปะรำพิธี
presumably	สันนิษฐานว่า	principal	ประธาน
renovate	ซ่อมแซม	ruins	ซากปรักหักพัง
sacrament	ดอกไม้ธูปเทียน	soul	วิญญาณ
tend	เลี้ยงสัตว์	unique	ลักษณะเฉพาะ

### Noun Phrases

Buddha statue	พระพุทธรูป	Buddhist amulet	พระเครื่อง
Buddhist holyday	วันธรรมะสวณะ	Buddhist monks	พระสงฆ์
Buddhist tenet	ข้อห้ามในศาสนาพุทธ	city limit	เขตเมือง
differentiate	ทำให้แตกต่าง	dining hall	หอฉัน
Hindu faith	ความเชื่อในศาสนาฮินดู	living creature	สัตว์โลก
meeting hall	ศาลาทำบุญ	mythological bird	นกในเทพนิยาย
mythological Thai snake	งูในเทพนิยายไทย	nature tree	ต้นไม้ตามธรรมชาติ
principal statue	พระพุทธรูปพระประธาน	sitting position	พระพุทธรูปนั่ง
standing Buddha statue	พระพุทธรูปยืน	steed of Narai	พาหนะของพระนารายณ์
subduing devil posture	ปางมารวิชัย	unadorned building	อาคารที่ไม่มีการตกแต่ง
carving of the god Narai	รูปปั้นพระนารายณ์		
elaborate carvings of Naga	งานปั้นรูปนาคที่งดงาม		
intricate carving of a Garuda	งานปั้นรูปครุฑที่มีลวดลายสลับซับซ้อน		

### **Proper name**

Ayutthaya period สมัยอยุธยา

Lord Buddha พระพุทธเจ้า

Luang Pa Maw หลวงพ่อมาว

Naga นาค

Garuda ครุฑ

Luang Pa Chen หลวงพ่อเชน

Luang Pa Net หลวงพ่อเนตร

Narai นารายณ์

### **Wat Nong Bua Khaw Monastery**

Wat Nong Bua Khaw Monastery is located on Khao Samyod sub-district, Muang district, Lopburi province. Its total area is about 440 sq km. It is surrounded by the villagers' houses. It was established in 1932 by the villagers in this area.

The best way to get there is by car. From the city of Lopburi, take High way No.1 (Phahon Yothin Road) via Lopburi hospital, pass Erawan intersection, then U-turn at Lopburi Lawo Technology School and turn left into Soi Wat Nong Bua Khaw for 1.5 kilometers. You can find Wat Nong Bua Khaw Monastery on the left. The total distance from the city to this temple is about 9 kilometers.

Wat Nong Bua Khaw Monastery consists of various buildings. The first building on the right of the entrance is the crematorium. On the left of the crematorium we can see the old pavilion. Behind the crematorium there are large trees, a new pavilion, the kitchen and the spirit house.

On the left of the new pavilion there is the old church which is beautifully decorated with colorful glazed tiles. Inside the church there are many Buddha statues, the principal statue is the most beautiful and the oldest one. The church was built in 1975.

Across the church there is the most outstanding seminary building in the entire monastery, the seminary was built in 1955. Behind the seminary there are two monk's residences and on the left there are the other two ones. Beside the monk's residences you can see a restroom and a bell tower. Across the restroom there are big trees, a small pavilion and the abbot's residence. The present abbot is "Phra Prasong Yadasjitto".

The most striking aspect of Wat Nong Bua Khaw Monastery is the seminary. The gable of the seminary shows elaborate painting of Lord Buddha meditating under the Bodhi tree. The two separated stair cases are crowned by Nagas.

One of the most popular annual festivals in Wat Nong Bua Khaw Monastery is the Wat Nong Bua Khaw Fair. This is premier cultural attraction for Nong Bua Khaw village. Every year in April villagers and other people gather here to buy and sell the local products.

There are many events at the fair, for example: Chinese Tai-Kek dancing contest, singing and dancing contest, beautiful contest.

Besides the contests there are many rides and shows that give the fair a carnival feel. One of the big attractions is Li-Khae, traditional folk play performance. There are a lot of food stalls. You can enjoy eating a lot of delicious food such as, barbeque chicken, sticky rice, noodles, and various kinds of meat balls. A lot of souvenirs such as, fruits, folk arts, Buddhist amulets are sold here too.

For children, there are a lot of fun toys and amusement parks. We can also make merit and wish for best luck.

Wat Nong Bua Khaw Monastery is an old small monastery that is located in Wat Nong Bua Khaw village, so there are only villagers and a few other people know here. Although, the temple is not famous, you can come to make merit, pay homage to Buddha Statues and wish for good fortune.

## Vocabulary

### Single word

besides นอกจาก

establish ก่อตั้ง

meditating นั่งสมาธิ

restroom ห้องน้ำ

souvenirs ของที่ระลึก

contests การประกวด แข่งขัน

gable หน้าจั่ว

noodles ก๋วยเตี๋ยว

seminary ศาลาการเปรียญ

surround ล้อมรอบ

### Noun phrase

amusement park	สวนสนุก	barbeque chicken	ไก่ย่าง
Buddhist amulet	พระเครื่อง	elaborate painting	ภาพสีน้ำมันที่สวยงาม
food stall	แผงขายอาหาร	fun toy	ของเล่นเด็ก
meat ball	ลูกชิ้น	spirit house	ศาลพระภูมิ
sticky rice	ข้าวเหนียว	total area	พื้นที่ทั้งหมด
total distance	ระยะทางโดยรวม		
traditional folk play performance	การละเล่นพื้นบ้าน		
two separated stair cases	บันไดแยกเป็นสองทาง		
most outstanding seminary building	ศาลาการเปรียญที่โดดเด่นที่สุด		
most popular annual festival	เทศกาลประจำปีที่เป็นที่รู้จักมากที่สุด		

### Proper name

Bodhi tree	ต้นโพธิ์	Erawan intersection	สี่แยกเอราวัณ
Khao Samyod sub-district	ตำบลเขาสามยอด	Li-Khae	ลิเก
Lopburi hospital	โรงพยาบาลลพบุรี	Lord Buddha	พระพุทธเจ้า
Phahon Yothin Road	ถนนพหลโยธิน		
Wat Nong Bua Khaw Fair	งานวัดหนองบัวขาว		
Wat Nong Bua Khaw Monastery	วัดหนองบัวขาว		
Lopburi Lawo Technology School	โรงเรียนเทคโนโลยีละโว้ ลพบุรี		

Wat Yang Na Rangsi Monastery and Lopburi Traditional Local Boat Museum

***A unique opportunity to experience the traditional lifestyle of the local people of Central Thailand***





For over 200 years before the modernization of Siam, the local peoples of what would become Thailand traveled via a well connected internal system of canals, waterways, and rivers. The Lopburi Local Boat Museum will provide you a unique opportunity to glimpse into that lifestyle that was a part of Thailand's Central Region and serviced all Thai people from the mightiest of kings to the average commoner.

Wat Yang Na Rang Sri is located in Talung Subdistrict, Muang District, Lop Buri province. The monastery is famous for the many rubber trees that once populated the grounds; this is where the monastery derives its name (Yang, a Thai word, means rubber ). A featured attraction is the large rubber tree that is centrally located on the grounds of the monastery. This rubber tree is over 100 years old and is easily the oldest rubber tree in Lopburi and one is of the oldest in Thailand. The circumference of the tree measures 10 meters (or if it is easier to picture it is equal to 13 people standing in a circle with out-stretched arms holding hands) and it is 50 meters in height.

Before the modernization of Thailand, Thai people traveled by river not by road. What is even more interesting is that you can see the importance that the river played in the daily lives of the people till this very day. This is because many of the residents who live along the river still own and operate boats. Also many locals still travel to visit their neighbors by river not road.

By visiting here you will be able to enjoy traveling along the Lopburi River accompanied by local guides. Traveling and sightseeing tours along the picturesque Lopburi River is nothing short of breath taking. You will be able to truly experience and share in the traditional lifestyle of the local people while sampling exotic and indigenous fruits such as mangoes, bananas, sugar apples, and coconuts. Visitors can also taste organically grown vegetables such morning glory and various others that are grown alongside the Lopburi River itself.

Nearly all temples ministering to local people have a primary

school. This comes for earlier times when temples were the only place where one could get a formal education. Here you are welcome to visit the smiling children in classes with their teacher. You are also welcome to share your experiences of traveling, Thailand, and your home countries.

The Lopburi Local Boat Museum is located on the grounds of Wat Yang Na Rang Sri Monastery. The main boat museum is a traditional Thai wooden pavilion, this in its self is special because most of these wooden pavilions have been demolished and replaced with concrete ones. The museum itself houses over 100 boats of various makes and sizes all of which were either sold or donated to the museum by people from the surrounding area.

Siam, the local peoples of what would become Thailand traveled via a well connected internal system of canals, waterways, and rivers. The Lopburi Local Boat Museum will provide you a unique opportunity to glimpse into that lifestyle that was an important part of Thailand's Central Region and serviced all Thai people from the mightiest of kings to the lowest farmer.

According to boat builders there are essentially two ways to build a boat: the first is by using wooden planks joined together along a frame to form the boat. The second one is called reua khut (one log boat) and is made by splitting a log in half, and then hollowing out and shaping that log to create a boat. When you enter the museum you will see the second type of boat on the upper level and you can see the plank variety on the lower level. The largest of the reua khut boats is a barge that measures 15 meters long and is nearly 1.5 meters wide. To give you an appreciation of the size of this boat, it is capable of transporting 20 full grown adults, and in the center there is a shelter that provides lodging to passengers during rough weather. Boats of this size were used when great distances needed to be traveled.

These larger boats were propelled by oars that were on average four meters in length, so the oarsmen had to not only been highly skilled, but quite strong to handle these long heavy oars.

There are also smaller canoes that served as daily transportation, this is important because long ago river travel was the quickest most convenient form of transportation.

If you compare Thai boats to traditional western boats you will notice the bows (front) and sterns (rear) are elongated, this design has a practical purpose. Boats are normally controlled by two people one sitting at the bow and the other sitting at the stern. The person sitting at the bow serves as the navigator and gives signals to the person sitting at the stern who in turn guides the boat.

The traditional Thai pavilion that acts as the museum is built entirely out of wood. The pavilion itself is over 100 years old and is a splendid example of late Ayutayan era architecture. This type of architecture is marked by evenly spaced round support posts that taper at the top. On this particular pavilion each of the posts (over 30 total) is fashioned from a single log which spans nearly 20 meters. This gives one an appreciation for the intricacy and manpower that this style of architecture demanded.

The second museum building also houses boats and traditional carts. These traditional carts were often pulled by pulled by buffalo or cows and served as the primary means of overland transportation. They also served farmers when it was time to transport crops from their fields to the market.

Besides boats there are many other items for you to see that are on display; these range from hand tools and farming implements, many of which are centuries old and remarkably well preserved. These items offer you a chance to glance into the past and experience what life was like centuries ago. Since Thailand's Central Region has long served as the breadbasket for the nation, most of the displays here are agricultural in nature.

Another fascinating aspect of Thai monasteries and temples is that you will find the grounds teeming with animals. Most monasteries and this one is no exception, will have many dogs roaming around the grounds. The reason for this is because there is a Buddhist tenant a monk must be kind to all living things and therefore cannot harm any living creature. Not to worry though, the dogs here are quite gentle and friendly, and the grounds themselves are impeccably clean.

Usually Buddhist monasteries have a main church that is used for religious ceremonies and for those who wish to practice their faith in the Buddhist religion. The church is easy to identify because it is usually the most beautiful and ornate building in the compound.

According to Thai beliefs and customs the deceased are cremated not buried. The remains of the deceased are then placed in chedies (large ornate pagoda-shaped structures). These chedies serve as a memorial where family members can visit and pay tribute to their loved ones. This is often done on special occasions (namely holidays, anniversaries, and birthdays). The chedies surround the church.

How to get there:

Starting from Lopburi city take Lopburi - Praek Rd. (route 3196) north until you reach Wat Yan Na Rang Sri. Wat Yang Na Rang is 10 kilometers from downtown Lopburi or a 10 minute drive by car.

## Vocabulary

### Single Word

appreciation ความซาบซึ้งใจ ประทับใจ

Boat เรือเล็กสำหรับคนนั่ง

canal คลอง

concrete คอนกรีต

create สร้าง

derive มีที่มาจาก

donated บริจาค

experience ได้รับประสบการณ์

famous มีชื่อเสียง

frame กรอบ

ground บริเวณ

height ความสูง

impeccably หมดจด ไม่มีมลทิน

join เข้าร่วม

log ท่อนซุง

barge เรือบรรทุกเรือขนาดใหญ่

bow หัวเรือ

circumference ขนาดโดยรอบ

control ควบคุม

demolished ทุบ

design ออกแบบ

elongated ยืดออก ขยายออก

exotic แปลกใหม่

form ก่อตัว รวมตัว

glimpse แวะชมในเวลาสั้นๆ

handle ที่จับ

house สร้างอาคารครอบ

intricacy สลับซับซ้อน

lifestyle วิถีชีวิต

manpower กำลังของมนุษย์

measure วัดความยาว  
monastery วัด  
normally ตามปกติ  
oarsmen คนพายเรือ  
opportunity โอกาส  
populated มีมากมาย  
propel ขับเคลื่อน  
river แม่น้ำ  
shelter เพิง ศาลา  
size ขนาด  
splitting ผ่า แยก  
taper ทำให้เรียว (ปลายเรียว)  
transporting การเดินทาง

modernization อารยธรรม  
navigator ผู้นำทาง ผู้บอกทาง  
notice สังเกต  
operate ใช้ประโยชน์  
passenger ผู้โดยสาร  
Provide จัดหาให้  
replace แทนที่  
served ใช้ รับประทาน  
signal สัญญาณ  
special พิเศษ  
sterns ท้ายเรือ ส่วนหางของเรือ  
tribute เครื่องสัมภมทาน  
unique เป็นหนึ่งเดียว เอกลักษณะ

## Noun Phrase

average commoner ชาวบ้าน  
Central Region ภาคกลาง  
featured attraction จุดที่น่าสนใจ  
great distance ระยะทางไกลๆ  
local people ชาวบ้าน  
practical purpose วัตถุประสงค์ในเชิงปฏิบัติ  
river travel การเดินทางทางน้ำ  
splendid example ตัวอย่างชั้นเยี่ยม  
traditional lifestyle วิถีชีวิตแบบดั้งเดิม  
unique opportunity โอกาสที่โดดเด่น  
Wat Yang Na Rang Sri Monastery วัดยาง ณ รังสี  
late Ayutayan era architecture สถาปัตยกรรมสมัยอยุธยาตอนปลาย  
Lopburi Local Boat Museum พิพิธภัณฑ์เรือพื้นบ้าน  
traditional Thai wooden pavilion ศาลาไม้ทรงไทยแบบดั้งเดิม  
traditional western boats เรือแบบตะวันตกดั้งเดิม  
exotic and indigenous fruits ผลไม้พื้นบ้านแปลกๆ

boat builder ผู้สร้างเรือ  
daily transportation การเดินทางประจำวัน  
full grown adult ผู้ใหญ่ที่เจริญเติบโตเต็มที่  
large rubber tree ต้นยางขนาดใหญ่  
long heavy oar ไม้พายที่ยาวและหนัก  
religious ceremonies พิธีกรรมทางศาสนา  
single log ไม้ท่อนเดียว  
surrounding area บริเวณโดยรอบ  
wooden plank แผ่นกระดานทำด้วยไม้