FLY & RIDE
MOTORCYCLE TRAVEL

2026 ENHANCED EDITION · VERSION 5.1

THE RIDER'S GUIDE TO THAILAND

PART 4 — ICONIC & REGIONAL RIDES

FLY & RIDE MOTORCYCLE TRAVEL

RIDE PREPARED, NOT SURPRISED

30 road journeys across Northern, Western, Central, Eastern, Northeastern & Southern Thailand

ABOUT THIS EDITION

Ride Thailand, Not Just the Famous Loop

Thailand offers far more than a handful of famous northern loops. This guide brings together 30 road journeys across the country for riders renting a motorcycle for anything from a single day to a multi-week trip.

WHAT EACH PROFILE PROVIDES

- A practical route spine, planning distance, time window, bike fit and difficulty.
- A suggested riding rhythm and the hazards most likely to affect the day.
- A Fly & Ride Roadbook covering viewpoints, overnight bases, coffee or food stops, fuel strategy and worthwhile detours.

IMPORTANT

This is an inspiration and planning guide, not live navigation. Roads, businesses, park access, ferries, border controls, weather and rental conditions change. Recheck every route and named stop before departure, download offline mapping, and keep a paved main-road alternative.

LIVE BORDER WARNING

Thailand and Cambodia fought two rounds of border fighting in 2025 — five days in late July and a further stretch in December — that together killed close to 150 people and displaced roughly 300,000. A ceasefire agreed on 27 December 2025 still holds but remains fragile, with isolated incidents reported into 2026 and Thailand continuing construction of a permanent border fence as of mid-2026. Land checkpoints are closed along the entire Thailand-Cambodia frontier, not just one stretch of it, and government advisories have called for avoiding travel within 50 km of the border generally. The heaviest fighting and recurring incidents have concentrated on the interior Dangrek Mountains stretch — Sa Kaeo, Surin, Si Sa Ket, Buriram and Ubon Ratchathani —

and no ride in this guide crosses that stretch. Chanthaburi's Ban Laem/Ban Pakkad and Trat's Hat Lek checkpoints are also closed, and both provinces sit inside government advisory buffers, even though that coastal sector has not seen active fighting. This is a live, evolving security situation: check official advice from your own government and Thai authorities before entering any border province, and keep the Chanthaburi-Trat ride to its coastal and main-road corridors, well clear of the interior checkpoints.

HOW TO USE THE RIDE PROFILES

Choose the Ride That Fits the Day — Not Just the Bike

DISTANCE

A planning range. Detours, hotel location, viewpoints and navigation choices will change the total.

RIDE TIME

Days shown include stops and daylight margin. Thailand rewards early starts and unhurried finishes.

BIKE FIT

A minimum practical suggestion, not a rule. Rider skill, luggage, passenger weight, tyres and weather matter more than badge size.

DIFFICULTY

Easy: mostly straightforward sealed roads. Moderate: sustained bends, traffic or longer stages. Challenging: steep, remote or technically demanding sections.

ROUTE FORMAT

Loop, point-to-point or out-and-back. Confirm whether your rental permits one-way travel, islands, border provinces and off-base use.

BEFORE YOU GO

Five Checks Before Every Ride

- Licence and insurance cover the motorcycle you will actually ride.
- Rental contract permits the route and expected kilometres.

- Tyres, brakes, lights, chain/belt, fuel and luggage are ready.
- Weather, air quality, park access and local road reports are checked.
- Offline map, emergency contact, water and a daylight cut-off plan are set — download vector maps in advance with an app like Maps.me or Organic Maps, both of which work with no signal once downloaded.

FUEL TYPES AT THE PUMP

Major-brand stations (PTT, Bangchak, Shell, Caltex) in towns and along highways typically stock Gasohol 91, Gasohol 95, Diesel and sometimes Benzine (a higher-octane, ethanol-free petrol some older or high-performance bikes need). Rural and unbranded roadside pumps — including drum stations in remote hill areas — often carry only Gasohol 91 and Diesel. Check your rental bike's fuel sticker or ask the rental shop which grade it needs before you leave the city.

THE 30 RIDES AT A GLANCE

National Ride Index

Every profile follows, in order. Tap a ride to jump straight to it.

01 **Mae Hong Son Loop**
Northern Thailand — 4-6 days

02 **Nan & Bo Kluea Mountain Loop**
Northern Thailand — 2-3 days

03 **Golden Triangle & Phu Chi Fa Circuit**
Northern Thailand — 3-5 days

04 **Samoeng Loop**
Northern Thailand — 1 day

05 **Doi Inthanon & Mae Chaem Loop**
Northern Thailand — 1-2 days

06 **Tak To Umphang Sky Highway**
Western Thailand — 2-3 days

07

Kanchanaburi To Sangkhlaburi

Western Thailand

3-4 days

08

Khao Kho & Phu Thap Boek Highlands

Lower North

2-3 days

09

Ranong Andaman Coast

Southern Thailand

2-4 days

10

Phuket - Phang Nga - Krabi Circuit

Southern Thailand

3-5 days

11

Doi Ang Khang Ridge Ride

Northern Thailand

2-3 days

12

Doi Tung & Mae Salong Loop

Northern Thailand

1-2 days

13

Chiang Mai To Chiang Rai Via Route 118

Northern Thailand

1 day each way

14 **Chiang Mai To Phayao Backroad Ride**
Northern Thailand 1-2 days

15 **Lampang - Phrae - Nan Heritage Traverse**
Northern Thailand 2-3 days

16 **Pai To Ban Rak Thai Highlands**
Northern Thailand 2-3 days

17 **Phayao - Chiang Kham - Phu Chi Fa**
Northern Thailand 2 days

18 **Loei - Phu Ruea - Chiang Khan Loop**
Northeastern Thailand 2-3 days

19 **Upper Mekong Road Journey**
Northeastern Thailand 3-5 days

20 **Khon Kaen & Phu Pha Man Circuit**
Northeastern Thailand 2-3 days

21 **Sukhothai & Si Satchanalai Heritage Loop**
Lower North 1-2 days

22 **Erawan & Srinagarind Reservoir Loop**
Western Thailand 2 days

23 **Hua Hin - Sam Roi Yot - Prachuap Coast**
Central Thailand 1-2 days

24 **Nakhon Nayok & Khao Yai Perimeter**
Central Thailand 2-3 days

25 **Chanthaburi - Trat Coastal & Orchard Loop**
Eastern Thailand 2-3 days

26 **Rayong Coast & Laem Mae Phim**
Eastern Thailand 1-2 days

27 **Krabi - Ao Luek - Phang Nga Karst Loop**
Southern Thailand 1-2 days

28

Trang - Satun Andaman Coast

Southern Thailand

2-3 days

29

Khanom - Sichon - Nakhon Si Thammarat Coast

Southern Thailand

2-3 days

30

Songkhla Lake & Southern Heritage Loop

Southern Thailand

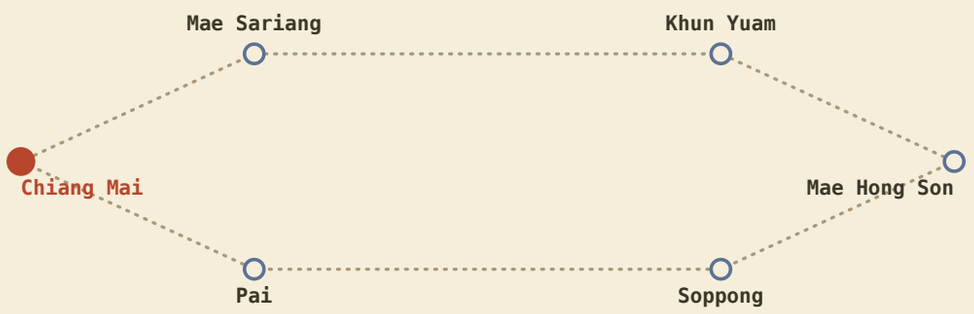
2-3 days

RIDE 01 · NORTHERN THAILAND

Mae Hong Son Loop

Chiang Mai → Pai → Soppong → Mae Hong Son → Khun Yuam → Mae Sariang → Chiang Mai

Distance	Time
600-700 km	**4-6 days**
Best Window	Bike Fit
Nov-Feb	**300 cc+ recommended**
Difficulty	Format
Moderate – Challenging	**Loop**



ROADS ON THIS ROUTE R1095 · R108

WHY RIDE IT

Thailand’s benchmark mountain loop: constant bends, changing elevation and proper journey rhythm rather than a single sightseeing road.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Chiang Mai to Pai via R1095.
2. Day 2: Pai to Mae Hong Son, with Pang Mapha or

Tham Lod as a side trip.

3. Day 3: Mae Hong Son to Mae Sariang via Khun Yuam on R108.
4. Day 4: Mae Sariang to Chiang Mai; add Mae Chaem or Doi Inthanon for a fifth or sixth day.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- R1095 rewards restraint: blind bends, vans and polished surfaces can all appear together.
- Start with a full tank and refuel in the main towns. Avoid night riding.
- Clockwise versus anti-clockwise is preference, not a safety rule; choose the direction that suits weather and stops.
- Burn season (typically February-April) brings heavy agricultural haze across the north, cutting visibility on scenic viewpoints and affecting air quality — check Air4Thai before riding and consider a mask or rescheduling if PM2.5 is high.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Doi Kiew Lom viewpoint; Ban Jabo ridge; Su Tong Pae Bamboo Bridge

Suggested Stay

Mae Hong Son: Fern Resort; Mae Sariang: Riverhouse Hotel

Coffee or Food

Ban Jabo noodles with a view; Sook Coffee & Farm Stay near Mae La Noi — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fill in Chiang Mai, Pai, Mae Hong Son and Mae Sariang. Top up before leaving each overnight town. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Ban Rak Thai and Pang Oung need at least half a day.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

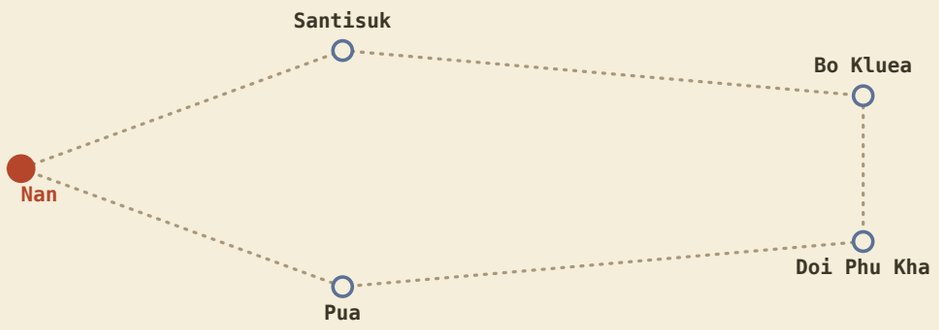
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 02 · NORTHERN THAILAND

Nan & Bo Kluea Mountain Loop

Nan → Pua → Doi Phu Kha → Bo Kluea → Santisuk → Nan

Distance	Time
250-330 km	**2-3 days**
Best Window	Bike Fit
Nov-Feb	**300-500 cc**
Difficulty	Format
Challenging	**Loop**



ROADS ON THIS ROUTE R1256 · R1081

WHY RIDE IT

A compact northern classic built around R1256 and R1081: ridgelines, forest, salt-well country and some of Thailand’s most photogenic tarmac.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Nan to Pua, then climb R1256 across Doi Phu Kha to Bo Kluea.
2. Day 2: Return to Nan by R1081 and Santisuk, or

overnight east of Nan for a slower loop.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Expect steep gradients, broken edges and debris after rain.
- Fuel in Pua and Bo Kluea; do not assume every small pump is open.
- In burning season, check visibility and Air4Thai before committing.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

R1256 ridge viewpoints; Doi Phu Kha; Sapan valley

Suggested Stay

Bo Kluea: Boklua View Resort; Sapan: Oun I Mang

Coffee or Food

Yud Wela Cafe or Oun I Mang in Sapan —
Open in Google Maps ↗

Fuel Strategy

Fill in Nan or Pua; top up in Bo Kluea and do not rely on small rural pumps late in the day. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Sapan village and the 1081 ridge road if weather is clear.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

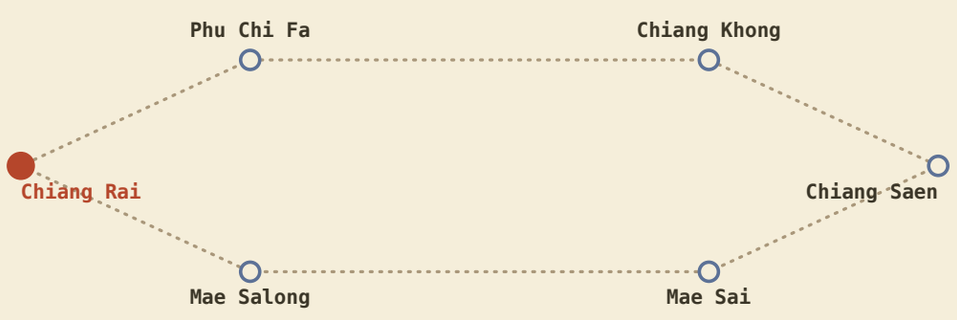
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 03 · NORTHERN THAILAND

Golden Triangle & Phu Chi Fa Circuit

Chiang Rai → Mae Salong → Mae Sai → Chiang Saen → Chiang Khong → Phu Chi Fa → Chiang Rai

Distance **500-650 km**	Time **3-5 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **300-500 cc**
Difficulty **Moderate**	Format **Loop**



WHY RIDE IT

A varied northern circuit combining tea-country ridges, border history, the Mekong and the high eastern viewpoints above Laos.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Chiang Rai to Mae Salong and Mae Sai.
2. Day 2: Mae Sai to Chiang Saen and Chiang Khong along the Mekong.
3. Day 3: Chiang Khong to Phu Chi Fa or nearby Thoeng.
4. Day 4: Sunrise viewpoint, then return to Chiang Rai.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Treat border viewpoints as stops, not border crossings. Carry identification and follow signs.
- Fog can be dense around Phu Chi Fa before sunrise; descend slowly.
- Some tiny ridge roads shown by navigation apps are concrete farm lanes—keep to numbered roads unless confirmed locally.
- Burn season (typically February-April) brings heavy agricultural haze across the north, cutting visibility on scenic viewpoints and affecting air quality — check Air4Thai before riding and consider a mask or rescheduling if PM2.5 is high.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Mae Salong tea ridges; Golden Triangle viewpoint; Phu Chi Fa sunrise

Suggested Stay

Chiang Khong: Fortune River View; Phu Chi Fa: local mountain guesthouse

Coffee or Food

Chivit Thamma Da in Chiang Rai; tea stop in Mae Salong — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Reliable fuel in Chiang Rai, Mae Sai, Chiang Saen, Chiang Khong and Thoeng. Fill before Phu Chi Fa. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Doi Pha Tang if daylight and visibility are good.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 04 · NORTHERN THAILAND

Samoeng Loop

Chiang Mai → Hang Dong → Samoeng → Mae Rim → Chiang Mai

Distance **100-130 km**	Time **1 day**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **150 cc+**
Difficulty **Moderate**	Format **Loop**

ROADS ON THIS ROUTE R1269 · R1096

WHY RIDE IT

The best short introduction to northern Thai curves, with enough cafés and viewpoints to make a relaxed day rather than a speed run.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Ride clockwise via Hang Dong and R1269, stop around Samoeng, then return through Mae Rim on R1096.
2. Reverse the loop if weather or traffic makes the western side preferable earlier.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Popular with local riders and tour traffic on weekends.
- The road is narrow in places and villages sit directly on the route.
- Avoid turning it into a timed lap; it is a public road with dogs, pickups and driveways.
- Burn season (typically February-April) brings heavy agricultural haze across the north, cutting visibility on scenic viewpoints and affecting air quality — check Air4Thai before riding and consider a mask or rescheduling if PM2.5 is high.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Samoeng Forest viewpoint; valley overlooks on R1269 and

R1096

Suggested Stay

Chiang Mai or Mae Rim; no overnight is needed for the standard loop

Coffee or Food

Mae Sap Cave-area cafés or a Mae Rim coffee stop on the return — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fuel in Chiang Mai, Hang Dong, Samoeng and Mae Rim; begin with a full tank. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Mon Jam only if weekend traffic is manageable.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

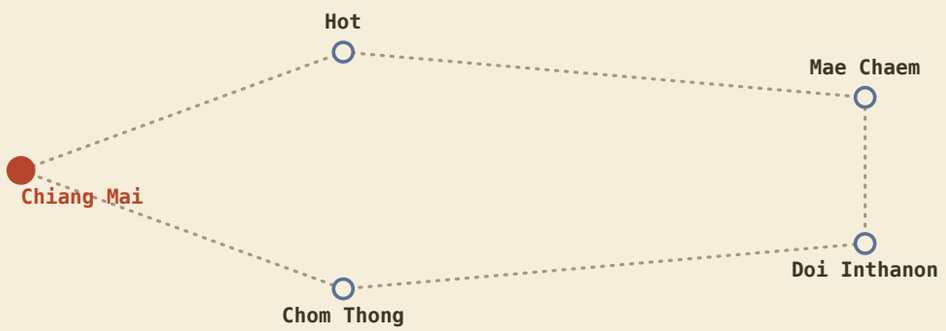
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 05 · NORTHERN THAILAND

Doi Inthanon & Mae Chaem Loop

Chiang Mai → Chom Thong → Doi Inthanon → Mae Chaem → Hot → Chiang Mai

Distance	Time
280-360 km	**1-2 days**
Best Window	Bike Fit
Nov-Feb	**300 cc+**
Difficulty	Format
Moderate – Challenging	**Loop**



ROADS ON THIS ROUTE R1009 · R108

WHY RIDE IT

Thailand's highest-road experience paired with Mae Chaem's quieter valleys. Cold summit air and long descents make it feel far from Chiang Mai.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Ride south to Chom Thong, climb R1009 to the summit area, then descend toward Mae Chaem.

2. Overnight in Mae Chaem or continue via R108 through Hot to Chiang Mai.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- National-park entry rules and opening hours can change; confirm before departure.
- Temperatures at the summit can be dramatically lower than in Chiang Mai.
- Use engine braking on long descents and allow for tourist traffic near major viewpoints.
- Burn season (typically February-April) brings heavy agricultural haze across the north, cutting visibility on scenic viewpoints and affecting air quality — check Air4Thai before riding and consider a mask or rescheduling if PM2.5 is high.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Wachirathan Waterfall; twin pagodas; Ang Ka boardwalk; Mae Chaem valley

Suggested Stay

Mae Chaem Hotel or a verified park-area guesthouse

Coffee or Food

The Garden Inthanon Cafe at Ban Khun Klang — [Open in Google Maps ↗]

Fuel Strategy

Fill at Chom Thong; fuel is available around Mae Chaem and Hot. Do not climb nearly empty. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Mae Ya Waterfall only with enough daylight.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 06 · WESTERN THAILAND

Tak To Umphang Sky Highway

Mae Sot → R1090 → Umphang → Mae Sot

Distance **330-360 km return**	Time **2-3 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **300-500 cc**
Difficulty **Challenging**	Format **Out-and-back**

ROADS ON THIS ROUTE R1090

WHY RIDE IT

Remote, relentless and memorable. R1090 crosses high country through hundreds of bends before dropping into isolated Umphang.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Mae Sot to Umphang with an early start and generous photo stops.
2. Day 2: Local rest day or waterfall excursion arranged locally.
3. Day 3: Return to Mae Sot on the same road.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- This is not a casual day ride. Fuel, daylight, fatigue and weather all matter.
- Mobile coverage can be intermittent; share your plan and carry offline maps.
- Check local conditions after heavy rain and never chase a schedule into darkness.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

R1090 high passes; roadside sea-of-mountains viewpoints; Umphang valley

Suggested Stay

Umphang: choose a central resort or guesthouse with secure parking

Coffee or Food

Local coffee shops around Umphang market — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fill in Mae Sot. Top up where available on R1090 and arrive in Umphang with reserve fuel. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Arrange Thi Lo Su access locally; it is seasonal and not a casual motorcycle detour.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

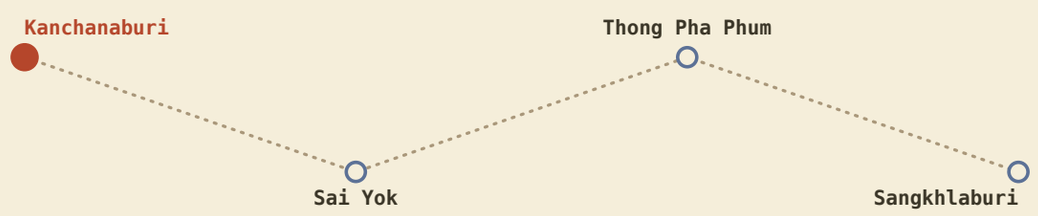
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 07 · WESTERN THAILAND

Kanchanaburi To Sangkhlaburi

Kanchanaburi → Sai Yok → Thong Pha Phum → Sangkhlaburi

Distance **430-500 km return**	Time **3-4 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **300-500 cc**
Difficulty **Moderate**	Format **Out-and-back**



ROADS ON THIS ROUTE R323

WHY RIDE IT

A long western run following R323 from river country into forested border highlands, finishing near the wooden Mon Bridge.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Kanchanaburi to Sai Yok or Thong Pha Phum.
2. Day 2: Continue to Sangkhlaburi and explore locally.
3. Day 3: Return, or break the trip again near Sai Yok.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- R323 carries fast pickups and trucks; hold a predictable line.
- Do not follow map shortcuts toward restricted border or dam roads.
- Fuel at the larger towns and avoid dusk, when animals and low visibility add risk.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Vajiralongkorn reservoir; Three Pagodas Pass area where permitted; Mon Bridge

Suggested Stay

Sangkhlaburi: P Guesthouse or a verified lakeside property

Coffee or Food

Baan Unrak Bakery in Sangkhlaburi —

Open in Google Maps ↗

Fuel Strategy

Fill in Kanchanaburi, Sai Yok, Thong Pha Phum and Sangkhlaburi. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up

(see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Pilok only as a separate day after checking road and weather conditions.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

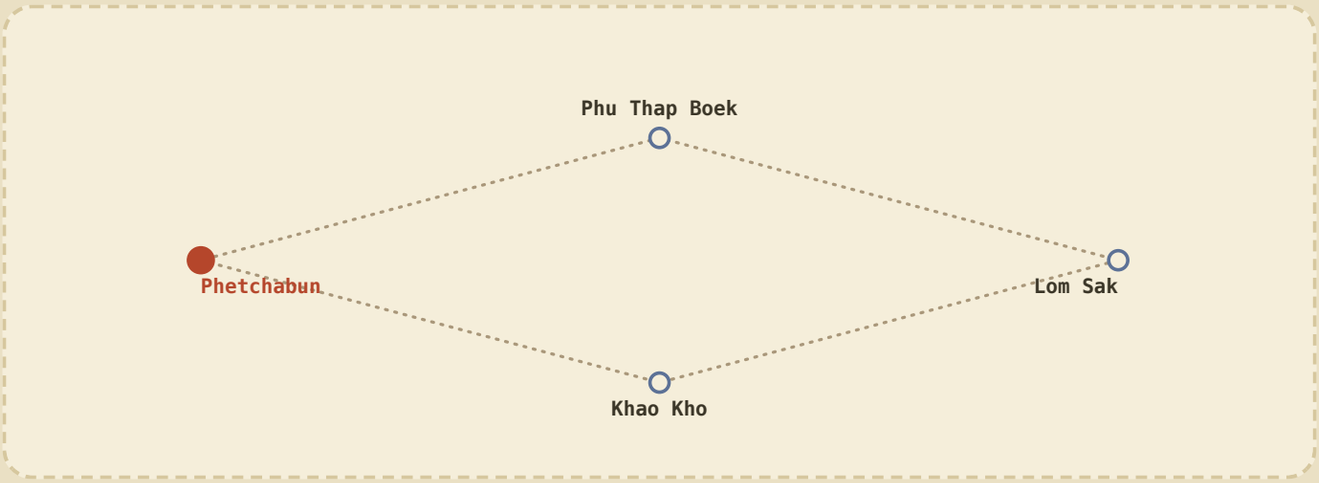
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 08 · LOWER NORTH

Khao Kho & Phu Thap Boek Highlands

Phetchabun → Khao Kho → Lom Sak → Phu Thap Boek → Phetchabun

Distance **220-320 km**	Time **2-3 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **300 cc+**
Difficulty **Moderate – Challenging**	Format **Loop**



WHY RIDE IT

High viewpoints, cool air and steep mountain roads make this one of Thailand’s strongest rides outside the far north.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Phetchabun to Khao Kho using scenic secondary roads.
2. Day 2: Khao Kho to Lom Sak and Phu Thap Boek, then return or overnight nearby.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Holiday traffic can be intense and accommodation scarce.
- Phu Thap Boek has steep grades and tight turns; use low gears downhill.
- Cloud can erase visibility quickly—wait it out rather than pressing on.
- Burn season (typically February-April) brings heavy agricultural haze across the north, cutting visibility on scenic viewpoints and affecting air quality — check Air4Thai before riding and consider a mask or rescheduling if PM2.5 is high.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Khao Kho viewpoints; Wat Pha Sorn Kaew; Phu Thap Boek summit road

Suggested Stay

Khao Kho: Imperial Phukaew Hill Resort or a verified ridge hotel

Coffee or Food

Pino Latte near Wat Pha Sorn Kaew — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fuel in Phetchabun, Khao Kho, Lom Sak and Lom Kao. Fill before the summit climb. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add the Weapon Museum or a slower Khao Kho ridge circuit.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 09 · SOUTHERN THAILAND

Ranong Andaman Coast

Chumphon → Lang Suan → Ranong → Kapoe → Khura Buri or Khao Lak

Distance **430-560 km**	Time **2-4 days**
Best Window **Dec-Mar**	Bike Fit **300-500 cc**
Difficulty **Moderate**	Format **Point-to-point**

ROADS ON THIS ROUTE R4

WHY RIDE IT

One of Thailand’s most underrated touring corridors:

jungle-backed highway, hot springs, estuaries and the wet, green character of the Andaman side.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Chumphon to Ranong with coastal or waterfall detours.
2. Day 2: Ranong to Khura Buri or Khao Lak via R4.
3. Add a rest day in Ranong if you want hot springs or a local boat excursion.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Ranong is among Thailand's wettest provinces; rain can occur outside the expected season.
- R4 mixes fast traffic with sweeping bends—leave overtaking margins.
- Watch for standing water and leaf litter in shaded sections.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Khao Fa Chi viewpoint; Ranong hot springs; Andaman roadside overlooks

Suggested Stay

Ranong: FarmHouse Hotel or Tinidee Hotel

Coffee or Food

J&T Restaurant area or a central Ranong café —

Open in Google Maps ↗

Fuel Strategy

Reliable fuel in Chumphon, Lang Suan, Ranong, Kapoe and Khura Buri. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Laem Son National Park only after checking rain and park access.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

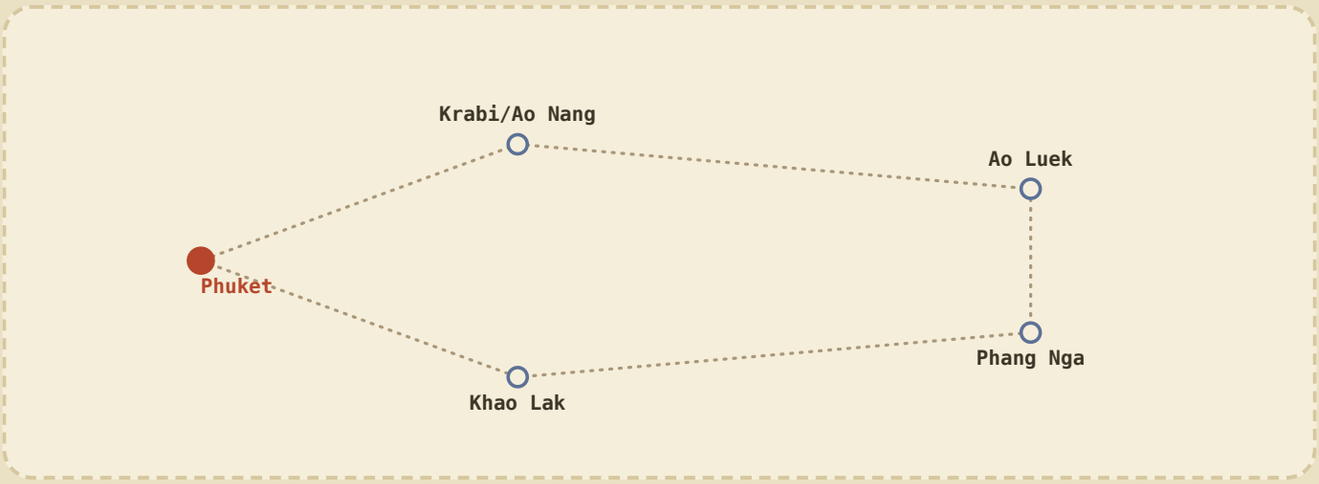
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 10 · SOUTHERN THAILAND

Phuket - Phang Nga - Krabi Circuit

Phuket → Khao Lak → Phang Nga → Ao Luek → Krabi/Ao Nang → Phuket

Distance	Time
450-600 km	**3-5 days**
Best Window	Bike Fit
Dec-Mar	**300-500 cc**
Difficulty	Format
Moderate	**Loop**



WHY RIDE IT

A complete southern fly-and-ride circuit combining limestone karst, Andaman coast, working towns and enough inland road to escape the beach traffic.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Phuket to Khao Lak.
2. Day 2: Khao Lak to Phang Nga and Ao Luek.
3. Day 3: Ao Luek to Krabi or Ao Nang, then return to Phuket; add rest days in Krabi or Khao Lak.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Phuket traffic is the least enjoyable part—depart early and avoid commuter peaks.
- Confirm rental permission for off-island travel and kilometre limits in writing.
- Monsoon rain and road spray can be severe; December to March is generally the easier window.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Samet Nangshe; Phang Nga Bay karst; Ao Thalane/Ao Luek scenery

Suggested Stay

Krabi: Deevana Plaza Krabi; Khao Lak: a central property with covered parking

Coffee or Food

Bay View Cafe near Samet Nangshe or a Krabi Old Town café — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fuel is frequent on main roads. Fill before rural Ao Luek and Thap Put detours. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add a rest day in Krabi or Khao Lak rather than rushing both coasts.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 11 · NORTHERN THAILAND

Doi Ang Khang Ridge Ride

Chiang Mai → Chiang Dao → Fang → Doi Ang Khang → Chiang Mai

Distance **330-420 km**	Time **2-3 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **300 cc+**
Difficulty **Challenging**	Format **Loop/out-and-back**

WHY RIDE IT

Steep ridge access, agricultural highlands and cold-season views. It is short on kilometres but big on concentration.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Ride Chiang Mai to Fang or Chiang Dao on day one.
2. Climb Doi Ang Khang early, then return by the safer main-road option selected for current conditions.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Approach roads can be exceptionally steep; avoid if brakes, tyres or confidence are marginal.
- Navigation apps may suggest tiny shortcuts. Ask locally before using them.
- Carry a warm layer and expect fog in the cool season.
- Burn season (typically February-April) brings heavy agricultural haze across the north, cutting visibility on scenic viewpoints and affecting air quality — check Air4Thai before riding and consider a mask or rescheduling if PM2.5 is high.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Doi Ang Khang viewpoints; Royal Agricultural Station area; ridge villages

Suggested Stay

Fang: choose a central hotel with secure parking

Coffee or Food

Coffee at Doi Ang Khang village or the agricultural-station area — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fill in Chiang Dao or Fang before climbing; do not depend on ridge pumps. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Arunothai only after confirming the chosen mountain road is open and suitable.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 12 · NORTHERN THAILAND

Doi Tung & Mae Salong Loop

Chiang Rai → Doi Tung → Mae Sai → Mae Salong → Chiang Rai

Distance	Time
220-300 km	**1-2 days**
Best Window	Bike Fit
Nov-Feb	**250 cc+**
Difficulty	Format
Moderate	**Loop**

WHY RIDE IT

A compact Chiang Rai loop with royal-project gardens, tea mountains, border viewpoints and excellent ridge roads.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Start early for Doi Tung, continue toward Mae Sai, then turn west for Mae Salong.
2. Overnight in Mae Salong or return to Chiang Rai before dark.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Tour buses use the Doi Tung approaches.
- Village traffic and farm vehicles appear without warning.
- Do not photograph military or sensitive border facilities.
- Burn season (typically February-April) brings heavy agricultural haze across the north, cutting visibility on scenic viewpoints and affecting air quality — check Air4Thai before riding and consider a mask or rescheduling if PM2.5 is high.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Doi Tung; Mae Fah Luang Garden; Mae Salong tea terraces

Suggested Stay

Mae Salong: 101 Tea Green View Resort or a central guesthouse

Coffee or Food

101 Tea Plantation café or Sweet Mae Salong — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fuel in Chiang Rai, Mae Chan and Mae Sai; top up before the Mae Salong ridges. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add the Choui Fong tea plantation if it fits the direction of travel.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

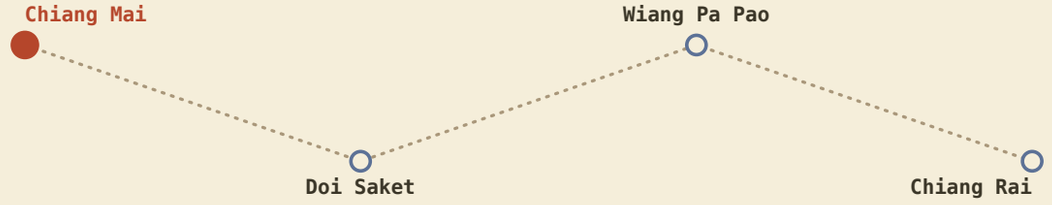
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 13 · NORTHERN THAILAND

Chiang Mai To Chiang Rai Via Route 118

Chiang Mai → Doi Saket → Wiang Pa Pao → Chiang Rai

Distance **185-210 km one way**	Time **1 day each way**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **250 cc+**
Difficulty **Easy – Moderate**	Format **Point-to-point**



ROADS ON THIS ROUTE R118

WHY RIDE IT

A practical transfer that still feels like a ride, crossing forested hills and hot-spring country between the north's two main rental hubs.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Leave Chiang Mai after the morning rush, follow R118 through Doi Saket and Wiang Pa Pao, and reach Chiang Rai mid-afternoon.
2. Use a different multi-day return via Phayao if the rental permits one-way distance.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Sections are fast and carry buses and trucks.
- Roadworks and rough patches can change frequently.
- Treat wet painted lines and bridge joints with care.
- Burn season (typically February-April) brings heavy agricultural haze across the north, cutting visibility on scenic viewpoints and affecting air quality — check

Air4Thai before riding and consider a mask or rescheduling if PM2.5 is high.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Mae Kachan hot springs; R118 mountain passes; Chiang Rai temples on arrival

Suggested Stay

Chiang Rai: Nak Nakara Hotel or another central property with parking

Coffee or Food

Charin Pie Garden Resort on R118 —
Open in Google Maps ↗

Fuel Strategy

Fill before leaving Chiang Mai; reliable fuel in Doi Saket, Wiang Pa Pao and Chiang Rai. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Use Phayao as a different return route for a two-day circuit.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 14 · NORTHERN THAILAND

Chiang Mai To Phayao Backroad Ride

Chiang Mai → Doi Saket → Wang Nuea → Phayao

Distance **190-250 km**	Time **1-2 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **250 cc+**
Difficulty **Moderate**	Format **Point-to-point**

ROADS ON THIS ROUTE R118

WHY RIDE IT

A quieter alternative to the direct Chiang Rai run, finishing beside Kwan Phayao with mountain and rural sections along the way.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Use R118 initially, then connect through Wang Nuea and southern Phayao using confirmed numbered roads.
2. Stay beside Kwan Phayao and continue to Chiang Rai or Nan the next day.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Several plausible map routes differ greatly in surface quality. Keep offline alternatives.
- Refuel before leaving larger towns.
- Agricultural smoke can reduce visibility in late dry season.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Wang Nuea highlands; Kwan Phayao lakeside; rural valley overlooks

Suggested Stay

Phayao: Phayao Gateway Hotel or a lakeside hotel with parking

Coffee or Food

Lakeside coffee stop on Kwan Phayao —
Open in Google Maps ↗

Fuel Strategy

Fill around Doi Saket or Wiang Pa Pao, then again in Wang Nuea or Phayao. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Continue to Chiang Rai or Phu Chi Fa instead of retracing the same road.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 15 · NORTHERN THAILAND

Lampang - Phrae - Nan Heritage Traverse

Lampang → Phrae → Wiang Sa → Nan

Distance	Time
320-380 km	**2-3 days**
Best Window	Bike Fit
Nov-Feb	**250 cc+**

Difficulty	Format
Easy – Moderate	Point-to-point

ROADS ON THIS ROUTE R101

WHY RIDE IT

An excellent connector between historic northern towns, combining teak-country scenery, old centres and gentler roads before Nan's mountains.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Lampang to Phrae, with time for the old town.
2. Day 2: Phrae to Nan via R101 and optional rural detours.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- R101 is efficient but not empty; expect trucks and town traffic.
- Avoid adding too many minor-road detours late in the day.
- This ride pairs naturally with the Nan-Bo Kluea loop.

- Burn season (typically February-April) brings heavy agricultural haze across the north, cutting visibility on scenic viewpoints and affecting air quality — check Air4Thai before riding and consider a mask or rescheduling if PM2.5 is high.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Lampang old town; Phrae teak-house district; Nan riverside and temples

Suggested Stay

Phrae: Huern Na Na Boutique Hotel; Nan: a central hotel with secure parking

Coffee or Food

Erabica Coffee in Nan or a Phrae old-town café — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fuel is readily available in Lampang, Den Chai, Phrae, Wiang Sa and Nan. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Combine with the Nan-Bo Kluea loop for a stronger multi-day journey.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

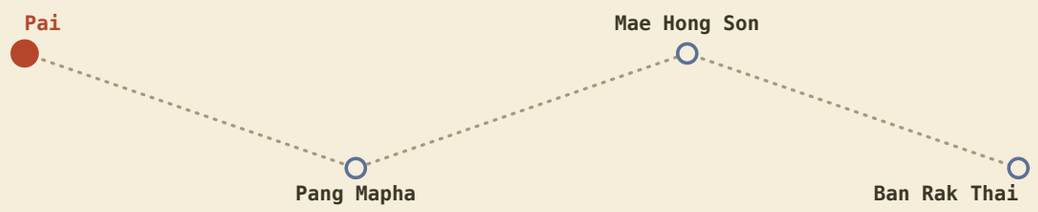
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 16 · NORTHERN THAILAND

Pai To Ban Rak Thai Highlands

Pai → Pang Mapha → Mae Hong Son → Ban Rak Thai

Distance **155-180 km one way**	Time **2-3 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **300 cc+**
Difficulty **Challenging**	Format **Point-to-point**



ROADS ON THIS ROUTE R1095

WHY RIDE IT

A dramatic extension beyond Pai to limestone country,

Mae Hong Son and the tea-growing border village of Ban Rak Thai.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Pai to Mae Hong Son via R1095 with a Pang Mapha stop.
2. Day 2: Early ride to Ban Rak Thai and Pang Oung, then return to Mae Hong Son.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- The Ban Rak Thai approach is steep and narrow.
- Morning mist can be heavy; local traffic still moves quickly.
- Border-area roads can have checkpoints—carry identification and follow instructions.
- Burn season (typically February-April) brings heavy agricultural haze across the north, cutting visibility on scenic viewpoints and affecting air quality — check Air4Thai before riding and consider a mask or rescheduling if PM2.5 is high.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Doi Kiew Lom; Ban Jabo; Pang Oung lake; Ban Rak Thai

Suggested Stay

Mae Hong Son: Fern Resort; Ban Rak Thai: verified lakeside accommodation

Coffee or Food

Ban Jabo noodles; tea stop at Ban Rak Thai — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fill in Pai or Pang Mapha and again in Mae Hong Son before climbing to Ban Rak Thai. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Su Tong Pae Bamboo Bridge on the return to Mae Hong Son.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

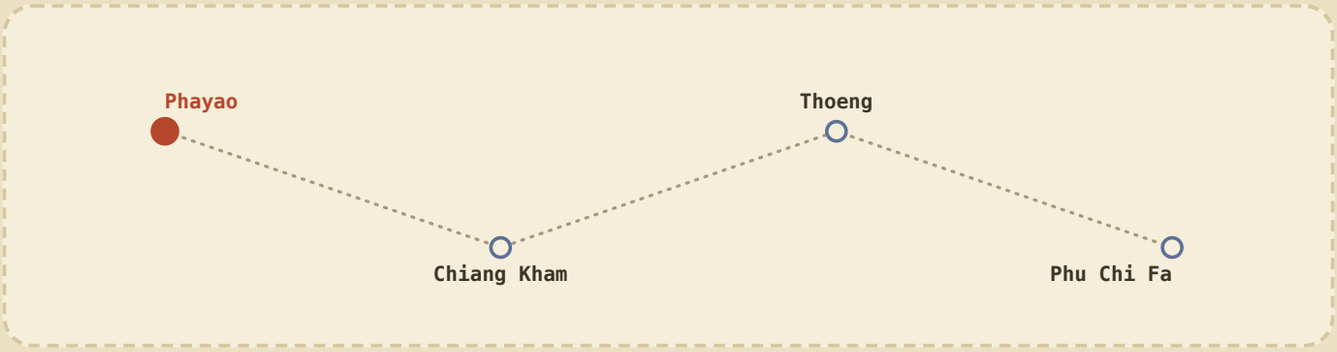
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 17 · NORTHERN THAILAND

Phayao - Chiang Kham - Phu Chi Fa

Phayao → Chiang Kham → Thoeng → Phu Chi Fa

Distance	Time
140-180 km one way	**2 days**
Best Window	Bike Fit
Nov-Feb	**250 cc+**
Difficulty	Format
Moderate	**Point-to-point**



WHY RIDE IT

A rewarding eastern-north connector through rice country into the Mekong-facing mountains, ideal between Phayao and Chiang Rai.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Ride Phayao to Chiang Kham and Thoeng, then climb toward Phu Chi Fa for an overnight.
2. After sunrise, continue to Chiang Khong or return toward Chiang Rai.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Book highland accommodation in peak cool-season weekends.

- Carry a warm layer and expect fog.
- Top up in Chiang Kham or Thoeng before climbing.
- Burn season (typically February-April) brings heavy agricultural haze across the north, cutting visibility on scenic viewpoints and affecting air quality — check Air4Thai before riding and consider a mask or rescheduling if PM2.5 is high.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Kwan Phayao; Chiang Kham countryside; Phu Chi Fa sunrise

Suggested Stay

Phu Chi Fa: local guesthouse; alternatively stay in Thoeng

Coffee or Food

Roadside coffee in Chiang Kham or Thoeng before the climb — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fill in Phayao, Chiang Kham or Thoeng; start the final climb with adequate reserve. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Continue to Doi Pha Tang and Chiang Khong as a separate second day.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

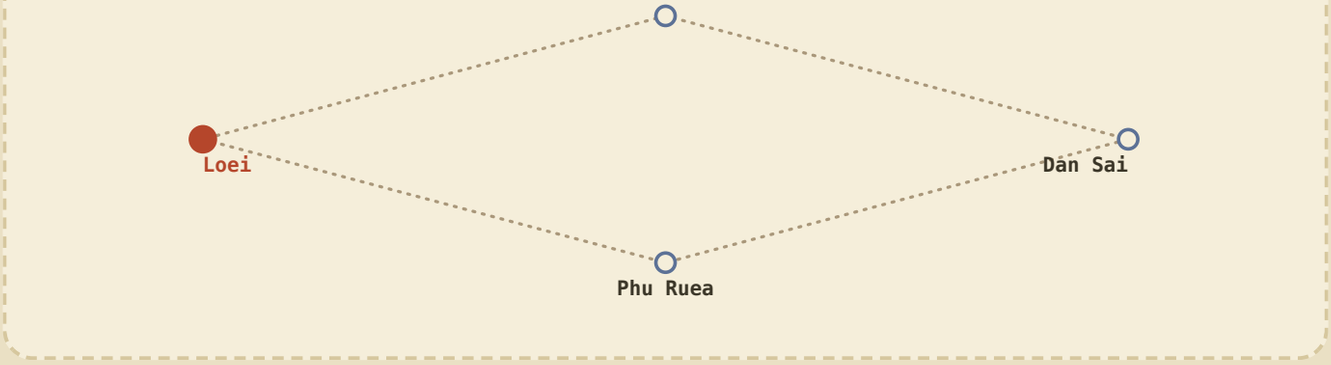
RIDE 18 · NORTHEASTERN THAILAND

Loei - Phu Ruea - Chiang Khan Loop

Loei → Phu Ruea → Dan Sai → Chiang Khan → Loei

Distance **260-360 km**	Time **2-3 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **250 cc+**
Difficulty **Easy – Moderate**	Format **Loop**

Chiang Khan



WHY RIDE IT

Cooler Isaan highlands, the Mekong at Chiang Khan and relaxed regional roads with far less tourist traffic than Chiang Mai.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Loei to Phu Ruea and Dan Sai.
2. Day 2: Cross to Chiang Khan for a Mekong sunset.
3. Day 3: Return to Loei by the river and local roads.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Fog and cold mornings are possible in December and January.
- Chiang Khan is busy on weekends; secure parking matters.
- Do not let wide, quiet roads encourage excessive speed.
- During cane harvest (roughly December-April), sugar cane trucks are common on Isaan back roads and can leave slick stalk debris or spillage on tight, blind corners — brake early and expect reduced grip.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Phu Ruea; Dan Sai temples; Chiang Khan Mekong promenade

Suggested Stay

Chiang Khan: With A View Hotel or another riverside property with parking

Coffee or Food

Husband & Wife Guesthouse/Coffee in Chiang Khan — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fuel in Loei, Phu Ruea, Dan Sai and Chiang Khan. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Kaeng Khut Khu for a short Mekong-side extension.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

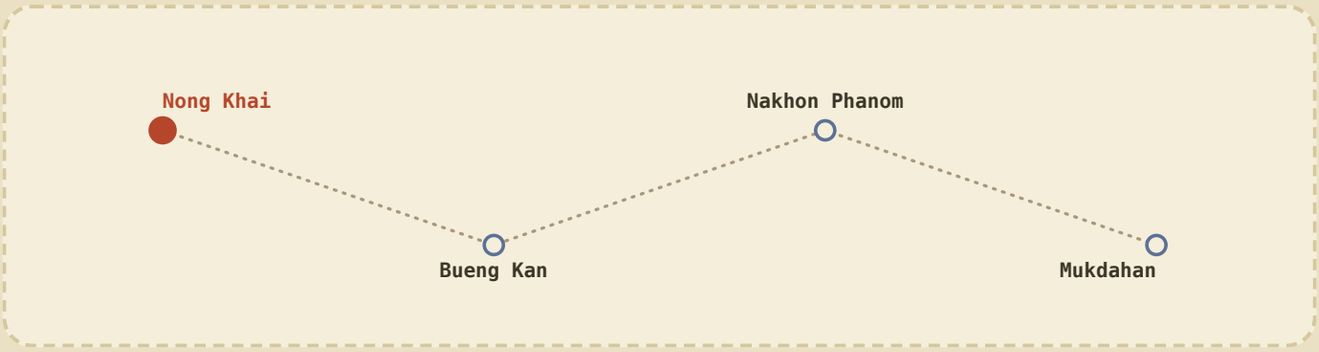
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 19 · NORTHEASTERN THAILAND

Upper Mekong Road Journey

Nong Khai → Bueng Kan → Nakhon Phanom → Mukdahan

Distance **430-500 km direct**	Time **3-5 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **250 cc+**
Difficulty **Easy – Moderate**	Format **Point-to-point**



WHY RIDE IT

A long, culturally rich ride shadowing the Mekong through laid-back towns, temples and broad river scenery.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Nong Khai to Bueng Kan.
2. Day 2: Bueng Kan to Nakhon Phanom.
3. Day 3: Nakhon Phanom to Mukdahan; add a rest day

for local loops.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- River-adjacent roads are not continuous; navigation will move between highways and local roads.
- Watch for slow farm vehicles, dogs and school traffic.
- Border bridges are international crossings—do not assume a Thai rental can leave the country.
- During cane harvest (roughly December-April), sugar cane trucks are common on Isaan back roads and can leave slick stalk debris or spillage on tight, blind corners — brake early and expect reduced grip.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Nong Khai riverfront; Wat Phu Tok area; Nakhon Phanom promenade; Mukdahan tower

Suggested Stay

Nakhon Phanom: Fortune River View Hotel; break the ride in Bueng Kan if needed

Coffee or Food

Riverside coffee in Nakhon Phanom old town — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Reliable fuel in every provincial capital and larger Mekong town; refill each morning. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Wat Phu Tok only with time for the climb and appropriate footwear.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

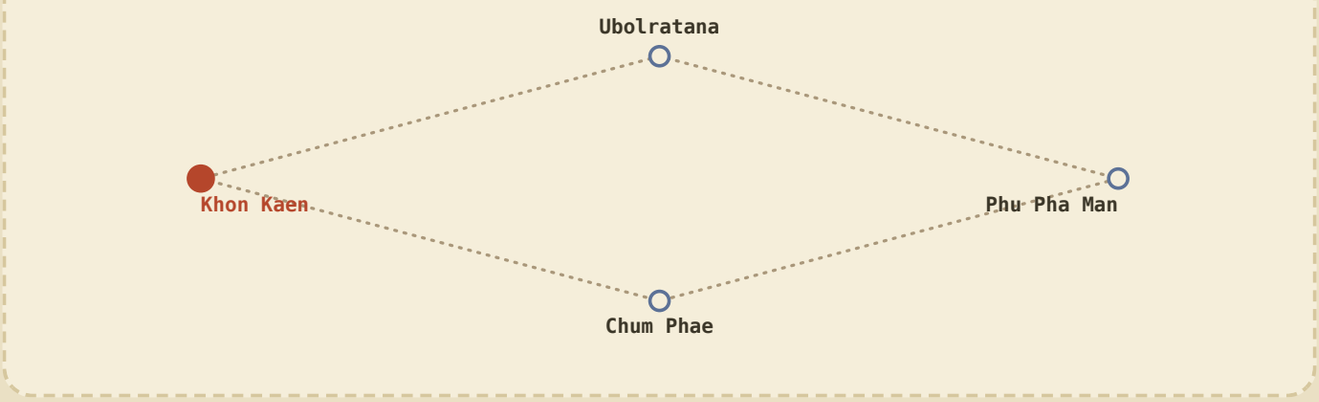
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 20 · NORTHEASTERN THAILAND

Khon Kaen & Phu Pha Man Circuit

Khon Kaen → Chum Phae → Phu Pha Man → Ubolratana → Khon Kaen

Distance **330-430 km**	Time **2-3 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **250 cc+**
Difficulty **Easy – Moderate**	Format **Loop**



WHY RIDE IT

Limestone landscapes and quiet Isaan backroads make this an accessible alternative to the mountain north.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Khon Kaen to Chum Phae and Phu Pha Man.
2. Day 2: Return via Ubolratana Reservoir, using daylight for the smaller roads.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Caves and park sites may have seasonal or daily access limits.
- Livestock and agricultural vehicles are common.
- Carry water: heat can be severe outside the cool season.
- During cane harvest (roughly December-April), sugar cane trucks are common on Isaan back roads and can leave slick stalk debris or spillage on tight, blind corners — brake early and expect reduced grip.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Phu Pha Man limestone landscape; Ubolratana Reservoir; rural Isaan viewpoints

Suggested Stay

Phu Pha Man or Chum Phae: verified local resort with secure parking

Coffee or Food

Coffee or lunch in Chum Phae before entering the quieter roads — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fill in Khon Kaen and Chum Phae; top up before Phu Pha Man backroads. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add a cave or park stop only after confirming current opening hours.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

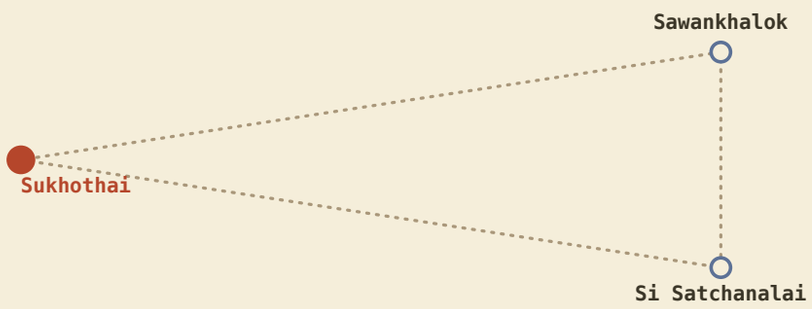
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 21 · LOWER NORTH

Sukhothai & Si Satchanalai Heritage Loop

Sukhothai → Si Satchanalai → Sawankhalok → Sukhothai

Distance **150-190 km**	Time **1-2 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **150 cc+**
Difficulty **Easy**	Format **Loop**



WHY RIDE IT

A gentle cultural loop linking two major historical areas and rural roads—ideal for riders who want exploration without demanding mountain work.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Ride north early to Si Satchanalai Historical Park, continue through Sawankhalok, then return to Sukhothai.
2. Add a second day for the Sukhothai park and surrounding countryside.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Park zones are for slow sightseeing, not through-riding.
- Expect bicycles, pedestrians and animals around villages.
- Midday heat can be intense; start early.
- Burn season (typically February-April) brings heavy agricultural haze across the north, cutting visibility on scenic viewpoints and affecting air quality — check Air4Thai before riding and consider a mask or rescheduling if PM2.5 is high.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Sukhothai Historical Park; Si Satchanalai ruins; Yom River countryside

Suggested Stay

Sukhothai: Legendha Sukhothai or another Old City property with parking

Coffee or Food

Old City café near Sukhothai Historical Park —

[Open in Google Maps ↗]

Fuel Strategy

Fuel in New Sukhothai, Sawankhalok and Si Satchanalai. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Allow a separate morning for Sukhothai Historical Park by bicycle or on foot.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

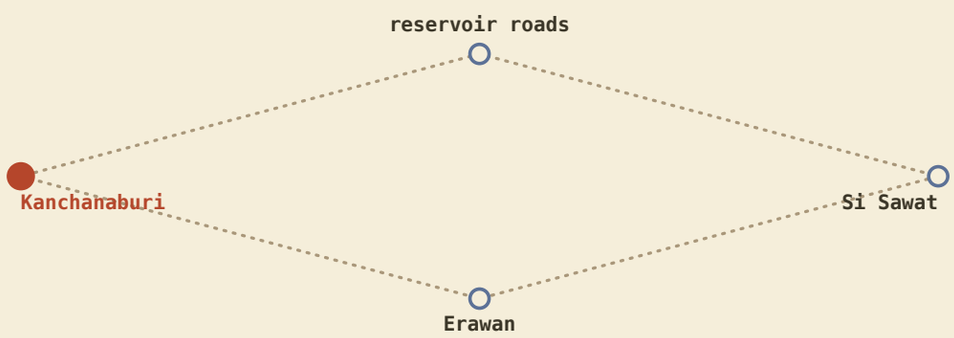
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 22 · WESTERN THAILAND

Erawan & Srinagarind Reservoir Loop

Kanchanaburi → Erawan → Si Sawat → reservoir roads → Kanchanaburi

Distance	Time
250-350 km	**2 days**
Best Window	Bike Fit
Nov-Feb	**250 cc+**
Difficulty	Format
Moderate	**Loop/out-and-back**



WHY RIDE IT

Reservoir views, forest roads and Erawan make a strong shorter alternative to riding all the way to Sangkhlaburi.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Kanchanaburi to Erawan and Si Sawat.
2. Day 2: Return using a confirmed open route around the reservoir or retrace the main road.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Do not assume ferries or minor dam roads are operating; confirm locally.

- Park access and waterfall conditions can change after heavy rain.
- Monkeys and wildlife near visitor areas require low speed and no feeding.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Erawan Waterfall; Srinagarind Dam; reservoir overlooks

Suggested Stay

Si Sawat: verified reservoir-side resort; Kanchanaburi for a simpler base

Coffee or Food

Coffee or lunch near Erawan/Si Sawat —
Open in Google Maps ↗

Fuel Strategy

Fill in Kanchanaburi and Si Sawat; confirm fuel before taking reservoir roads. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Use a local ferry only after confirming that it is operating and carries motorcycles.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

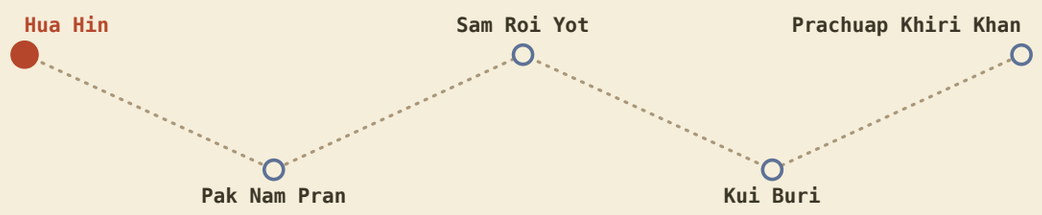
RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 23 · CENTRAL THAILAND

Hua Hin - Sam Roi Yot - Prachuap Coast

Hua Hin → Pak Nam Pran → Sam Roi Yot → Kui Buri → Prachuap Khiri Khan

Distance **230-320 km**	Time **1-2 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **150 cc+**
Difficulty **Easy**	Format **Point-to-point/loop**



ROADS ON THIS ROUTE R4

WHY RIDE IT

A relaxed Gulf-coast ride mixing fishing villages, limestone peaks and quieter beach roads south of Hua Hin.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Follow the coast through Pak Nam Pran and Sam Roi Yot, rejoining the main corridor only when needed.
2. Overnight in Prachuap and return inland or by selected coastal sections.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Some coastal lanes dead-end at waterways or private property; keep a main-road fallback.
- R4 is fast and busy—use it as a connector, not the attraction.
- Wild elephants can occur around Kui Buri; never approach or block them.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Khao Kalok; Sam Roi Yot limestone peaks; Ao Manao

Suggested Stay

Prachuap Khiri Khan: a seafront hotel with secure parking

Coffee or Food

Memory House Cafe in Nong Kae, en route to Pak Nam

Pran, or a Prachuap seafront café —

[Open in Google Maps ↗]

Fuel Strategy

Fuel is frequent in Hua Hin, Pran Buri, Kui Buri and Prachuap. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Khao Daeng or Phraya Nakhon only if there is time to park and walk.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

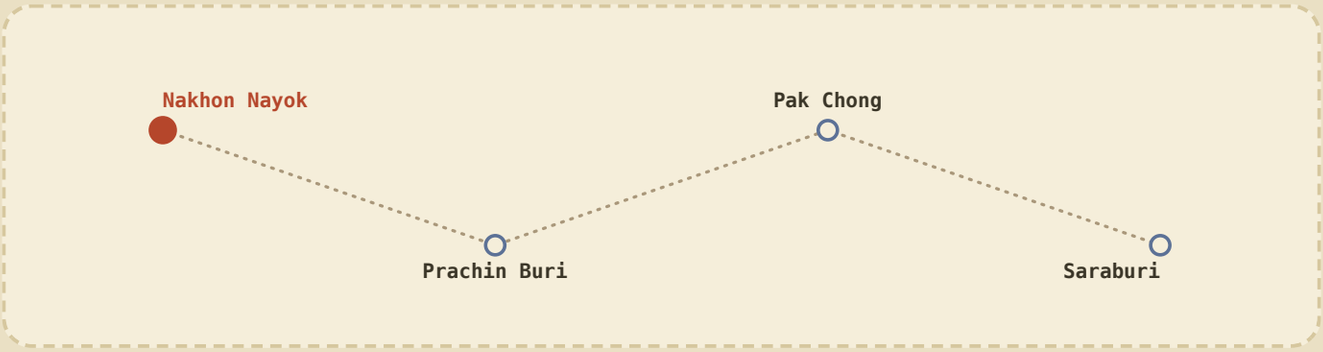
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 24 · CENTRAL THAILAND

Nakhon Nayok & Khao Yai Perimeter

Nakhon Nayok → Prachin Buri → Pak Chong → Saraburi

Distance	Time
300-420 km	**2-3 days**
Best Window	Bike Fit
Nov-Feb	**250 cc+**
Difficulty	Format
Moderate	**Loop**



WHY RIDE IT

Waterfalls, foothills and vineyard country around Khao Yai, designed as a perimeter ride rather than assuming through-access inside the national park.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Nakhon Nayok to Prachin Buri foothills.
2. Day 2: Follow open public roads around the park toward Pak Chong.
3. Day 3: Return via Saraburi or Ayutthaya.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Motorcycles are currently permitted on the Khao Yai through-road subject to entry fees, a park-wide 60 km/h limit and temporary closures; loud or modified exhausts risk a fine under the park's noise-limit checks. Confirm current park notices before riding it.

- Weekend traffic around Pak Chong is heavy.
- Wildlife is possible near forest edges; slow down before dusk.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Khun Dan Prakan Chon Dam; Khao Yai foothills; Pak Chong viewpoints

Suggested Stay

Pak Chong: a central hotel with off-street parking

Coffee or Food

A Pak Chong or Khao Yai roadside café with easy motorcycle access — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fill in Nakhon Nayok, Prachin Buri and Pak Chong; park fuel is not required for the perimeter route. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Ride through Khao Yai only when current park rules, hours and wildlife conditions permit.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 25 · EASTERN THAILAND

Chanthaburi - Trat Coastal & Orchard Loop

Chanthaburi → Laem Sing → Khlung → Trat → Chanthaburi

Distance **260-360 km**	Time **2-3 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **150 cc+**
Difficulty **Easy – Moderate**	Format **Loop**

Trat

WHY RIDE IT

Old-town character, fruit country, mangroves and Gulf coast—one of the best low-stress touring areas within reach of Bangkok.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Explore Chanthaburi and ride to Laem Sing.
2. Day 2: Continue toward Trat through Khlung, then return on a different confirmed route.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Fruit-season traffic and roadside activity can be intense.
- Coastal roads may flood after heavy rain.
- Land checkpoints at Ban Laem/Ban Pakkad and Hat Lek are closed and this loop does not need them; check current government travel advice before any detour toward the interior border districts.

Viewpoints & Stops

Chanthaburi waterfront; Laem Sing; Noen Nangphaya coastal viewpoint

Suggested Stay

Chanthaburi: Baan Luang Rajamaitri Historic Inn or a central property with parking

Coffee or Food

Koff House Coffee Bar & Eatery in Chanthaburi — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fuel in Chanthaburi, Khlung and Trat; remain on established coastal and main roads. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Khung Wiman only while staying well clear of the Cambodian border warning zone.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

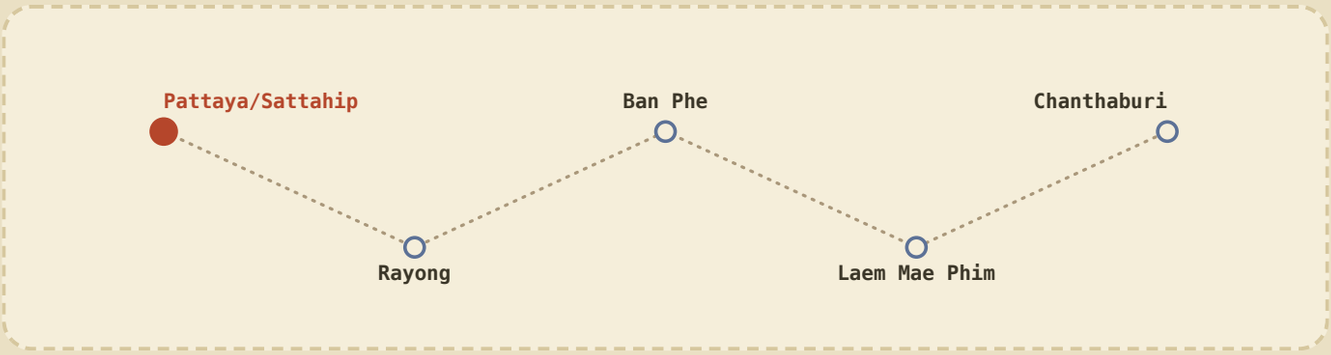
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 26 · EASTERN THAILAND

Rayong Coast & Laem Mae Phim

Pattaya/Sattahip → Rayong → Ban Phe → Laem Mae Phim → Chanthaburi

Distance **220-300 km**	Time **1-2 days**
Best Window **Nov-Feb**	Bike Fit **150 cc+**
Difficulty **Easy**	Format **Point-to-point**



WHY RIDE IT

An easy coastal connector with seafood towns and beaches, best when the smaller seafront roads replace long stretches of Sukhumvit Highway.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Leave the urban coast early, pass Rayong and Ban Phe, then continue to Laem Mae Phim.
2. Overnight locally or continue to Chanthaburi.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Sukhumvit carries dense traffic and frequent U-turns.
- Sand can collect at beach-road junctions.
- Ride defensively around weekend resort traffic.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Khao Laem Ya; Ban Phe waterfront; Laem Mae Phim

Suggested Stay

Laem Mae Phim or Chanthaburi: choose a property with covered parking

Coffee or Food

Beach-road coffee stop at Ban Phe or Laem Mae Phim — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fuel is frequent in Sattahip, Rayong, Ban Phe and Klaeng. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Khao Laem Ya when park access and daylight allow.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

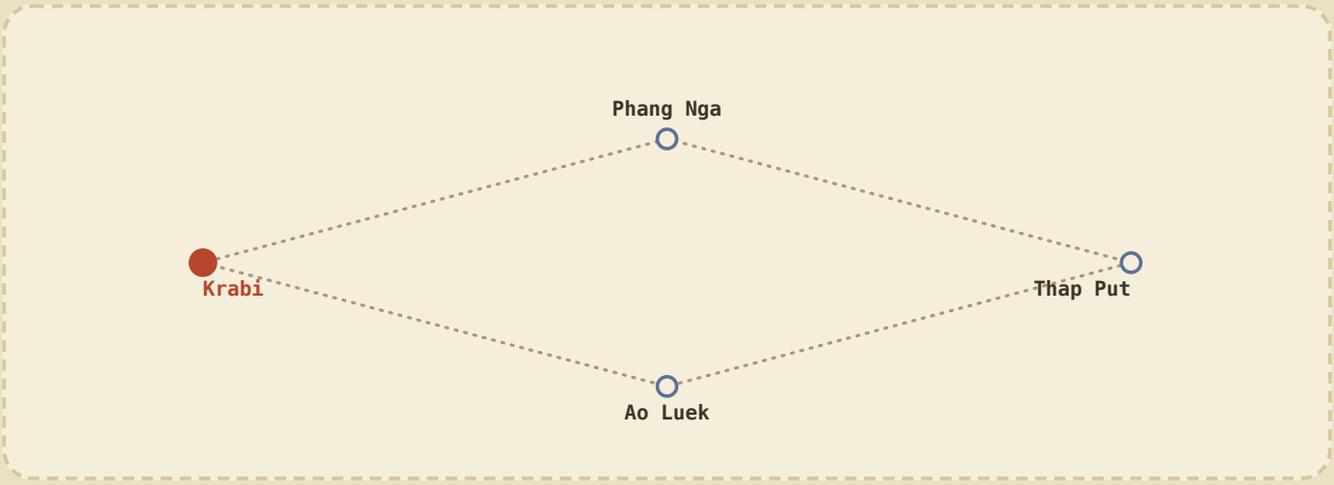
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 27 · SOUTHERN THAILAND

Krabi - Ao Luek - Phang Nga Karst Loop

Krabi → Ao Luek → Thap Put → Phang Nga → Krabi

Distance **250-340 km**	Time **1-2 days**
Best Window **Dec-Mar**	Bike Fit **250 cc+**
Difficulty **Moderate**	Format **Loop**



WHY RIDE IT

Limestone towers, rubber country and quiet inland roads provide a far better riding day than simply circulating around Ao Nang.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Ride north from Krabi to Ao Luek, cross toward Thap Put and Phang Nga, then return by a different numbered route.
2. Add an overnight if combining caves, viewpoints or a boat trip.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Rain makes shaded limestone roads slick.
- Do not rely on tiny unnumbered roads through plantations.
- Fuel in the district towns before taking rural detours.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Ao Luek karst; Wat Maha That Wachiramongkol; Phang Nga viewpoints

Suggested Stay

Phang Nga or Krabi Town: central hotel with secure parking

Coffee or Food

Cafe Amazon or an independent café in Ao Luek/Thap Put for a reliable break — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fill in Krabi, Ao Luek, Thap Put and Phang Nga. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Samet Nangshe as an early-morning extension.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 28 · SOUTHERN THAILAND

Trang - Satun Andaman Coast

Trang → Pak Meng → Kantang → La-ngu → Satun

Distance **260-360 km**	Time **2-3 days**
Best Window **Dec-Mar**	Bike Fit **250 cc+**
Difficulty **Easy – Moderate**	Format **Point-to-point**

WHY RIDE IT

A quieter southern coast with fishing communities, karst scenery and access points for Trang and Satun islands.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Trang to Pak Meng and Kantang.
2. Day 2: Continue south through La-ngu to Satun, using confirmed coastal roads where practical.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Many island highlights require a separate boat day; secure the bike and luggage.
- Respect conservative local communities and dress appropriately away from beaches.
- Check monsoon and marine conditions before building the ride around ferries.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Kantang old town; Pak Meng coast; Pak Bara waterfront

Suggested Stay

Trang: Rua Rasada Hotel; Satun or Pak Bara: verified local hotel

Coffee or Food

Trang old-town coffee or a Pak Bara waterfront café — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fill in Trang, Kantang, La-ngu and Satun; fuel is regular on the main corridor. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add a boat day separately; never leave unsecured luggage on the motorcycle.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

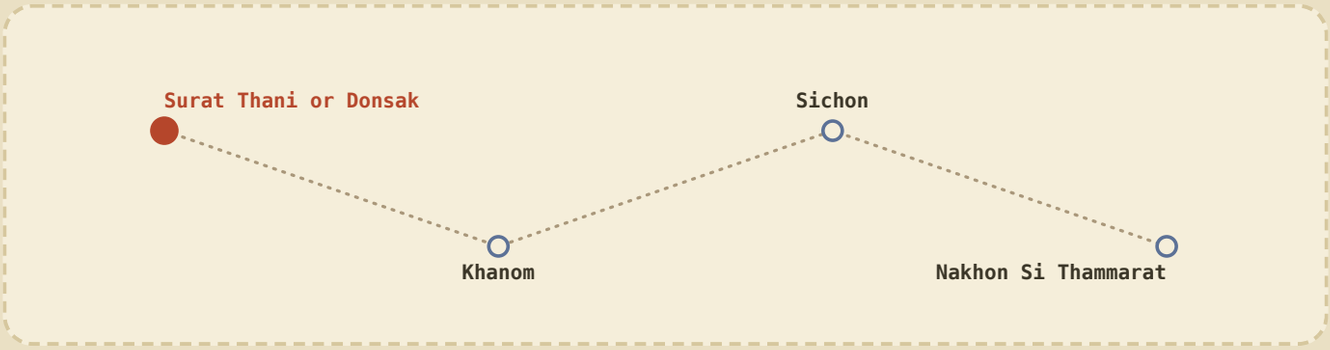
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 29 · SOUTHERN THAILAND

Khanom - Sichon - Nakhon Si Thammarat Coast

Surat Thani or Donsak → Khanom → Sichon → Nakhon Si Thammarat

Distance	Time
220-320 km	**2-3 days**
Best Window	Bike Fit
Jan-Aug	**250 cc+**
Difficulty	Format
Easy – Moderate	**Point-to-point**



WHY RIDE IT

A scenic Gulf-side alternative to the Andaman coast, with quiet bays, coconut country and a strong local-food finish in Nakhon Si Thammarat.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Ride from Surat Thani or Donsak to Khanom.
2. Continue along selected coastal roads through Sichon to Nakhon Si Thammarat.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- The Gulf weather cycle differs from the Andaman; late-year rain can be heavy.

- Watch for sand, dogs and local traffic on narrow beach roads.
- If arriving from an island ferry, do not plan a long ride after dark.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Khanom coastal viewpoints; Nai Phlao Beach; Sichon coast

Suggested Stay

Khanom: Aava Resort & Spa or another beach-area property with secure parking

Coffee or Food

Khanom beachfront café or Sichon coastal coffee stop — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fuel in Donsak, Khanom, Sichon and Nakhon Si Thammarat. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Khao Wang Thong cave only through a legitimate local operator.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

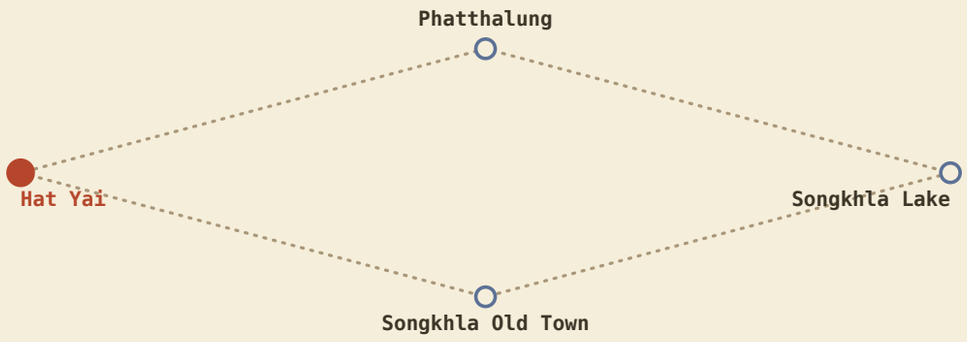
WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

RIDE 30 · SOUTHERN THAILAND

Songkhla Lake & Southern Heritage Loop

Hat Yai → Songkhla Old Town → Songkhla Lake → Phatthalung → Hat Yai

Distance **300-420 km**	Time **2-3 days**
Best Window **Jan-Aug**	Bike Fit **250 cc+**
Difficulty **Easy – Moderate**	Format **Loop**



WHY RIDE IT

Old-town streets, lake landscapes and southern food culture, offering a rewarding inland alternative to beach-only itineraries.

SUGGESTED RHYTHM

1. Day 1: Hat Yai to Songkhla Old Town and the lake shore.
2. Day 2: Continue toward Phatthalung, then return to Hat Yai on open main and rural roads.

RIDER WATCH-OUTS

- Review current government travel advice before riding in Thailand’s deep south.
- Keep to established routes and avoid sensitive sites or demonstrations.
- Heat, thunderstorms and flooded low roads can change the day quickly.

FLY & RIDE ROADBOOK

Viewpoints & Stops

Songkhla Old Town; Samila Beach; Songkhla Lake; Phatthalung viewpoints

Suggested Stay

Songkhla Old Town or Phatthalung: verified central hotel with secure parking

Coffee or Food

Songkhla Old Town café or lakeside coffee in Phatthalung — **Open in Google Maps ↗**

Fuel Strategy

Fuel is readily available in Hat Yai, Songkhla and Phatthalung. Confirm your fuel grade before filling up (see "Fuel Types at the Pump," p.3).

Worth the Detour

Add Thale Noi as a separate early-morning extension after checking current conditions.

Named businesses are suggestions, not endorsements. Confirm operating status, parking, opening hours and location before riding.

WEATHER · FUEL · OFFLINE MAP · DAYLIGHT CUT-OFF · RENTAL PERMISSION

SEASONAL PLANNING

Thailand Does Not Have One Riding Season

Weather is increasingly unpredictable. Treat these as planning patterns, not guarantees, and use the Thai

Meteorological Department plus local reports immediately before riding.

Area	Typical Window	Rider Implication
North & highlands	November–February	Cooler and usually drier. Mornings can be cold or foggy at elevation.
Northern burning season	Often February–April	Smoke and PM2.5 can make scenic rides unpleasant or unhealthy. Check Air4Thai.
Andaman coast	Usually December–March	Generally the easier dry-season window; heavy rain remains possible.
Lower Gulf coast	January–April most dependable	May–August is often rideable but hotter and more changeable. October–December typically carries the greatest heavy-rain and flooding risk.
Nationwide wet season	Broadly May–October	Expect local variation, flash flooding, landslides, poor visibility and sudden storms.
Isaan cane-harvest	Roughly December–	Sugar cane trucks are common on Northeastern back roads and

traffic	April	can leave slick stalk debris on tight, blind corners.

SAFETY, ACCESS & LEGAL REALITY

The Route Is Only Good If You Are Legal, Covered and Able to Finish It

LICENCE AND INSURANCE

Carry a valid motorcycle licence from your home country and an International Driving Permit recognised in Thailand, with motorcycle entitlement shown where applicable. Requirements vary by issuing country; verify the correct permit before travel.

Read the motorcycle section of your travel insurance: engine-size limits, licence conditions, helmet requirements, passengers and exclusions vary significantly.

RENTAL PERMISSIONS

Get off-island, out-of-province, kilometre-limit, breakdown and recovery conditions in writing. Do not surrender your passport if a copy and deposit can be agreed. Photograph the bike, tyres and existing damage at collection.

PARKS, BORDERS AND RESTRICTED ROADS

National-park access, fees, opening hours and motorcycle rules can change. Confirm directly before relying on a through-route. Never assume a Thai rental motorcycle can cross an international border — most rental contracts prohibit it.

ROAD SURVIVAL

Thailand has a serious motorcycle crash risk. Wear a properly fitted helmet and protective gear, avoid night riding, and assume every blind bend contains a stopped vehicle, animal, gravel or oncoming overtake. If the weather, smoke, fatigue or bike condition is wrong, change the plan — a missed viewpoint is cheaper than an evacuation.

DISCLAIMER

This guide is shared for planning and inspiration and is not travel, legal or safety advice. Roads, borders, national-park rules, weather and the named businesses in each Roadbook can all change without notice. Named hotels, cafés and other businesses are independent suggestions, not bookings or endorsements — confirm them yourself before relying on them.

Motorcycling in Thailand carries real risk. You ride at your own risk and are responsible for your own licensing, insurance, equipment, judgement and decisions on the road. This guide was compiled and fact-checked with the help of AI research tools alongside editorial review; confirm anything safety-critical with official and local sources before you go.

No liability: Fly & Ride Motorcycle Travel and this guide's contributors accept no liability for any loss, injury, damage or expense arising from use of, or reliance on, this guide. Share and ride freely, but verify locally.

SOURCES & LIVE CHECKS

Use Current Sources Before Departure

[Tourism Authority of Thailand ↗](#) Destinations and regional information

Thai Department of Land Transport ↗	Licensing and vehicle information
Thai Meteorological Department ↗	Forecasts and warnings
Air4Thai ↗	Official air-quality monitoring
Department of National Parks ↗	Park announcements and access
Tourist Police Thailand ↗	Traveller assistance

Plus your government's own travel advisory for current security and entry advice.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

191	Police
1669	Emergency medical services
1155	Tourist Police
199	Fire and rescue
1193	Highway Police

FLY & RIDE MOTORCYCLE TRAVEL

RIDE PREPARED, NOT SURPRISED

The Rider's Guide to Thailand — Part 4 · Iconic & Regional Rides · Version 5.1